



# Among Friends of Jackson Library

Volume 1, Issue 2

Fall 2000



## Betty Watson Exhibit Opens September 25

Betty Watson has exhibited at the National Academy of Design and the Waverly, Sachs, and Kornblee galleries, all in Manhattan, as well as galleries in Massachusetts, North Carolina, and numerous other states. Her first one-person exhibition was at the Newsweek Gallery 10 in New York City.

**Betty Watson  
Explorations:  
Paintings, Sketches, and  
Drawings**

**September 25 –  
November 1, 2000**

**Special Collections  
Jackson Library, 2nd Floor**

*Special Collections is open from  
8-5  
Monday-Friday*

An art student at the Art Students League in New York City and later at Wellesley College, she received an MFA in art at UNCG in 1965. In 1952 she married Robert Watson, founder of the MFA Writing Program at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The exhibition in Jackson Library features work related to her recent book, *Betty Watson Paintings: Five Decades*, and some of the work on display portrays figures important in the history of the writing community on the UNCG campus.

The exhibition is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the MFA Writing Program at UNCG.

## Friends of the Library Book Sale October 11-13



*Among Friends* is a publication of Jackson Library designed to communicate with the Friends of the Library about programs, events, resources and services. With it, we hope to keep you informed about new developments, staff accomplishments and other news. Please send any comments, suggestions or story ideas to Special Projects Librarian Barry Miller, who can be reached by email at [barry\\_miller@uncg.edu](mailto:barry_miller@uncg.edu) or by phone at 334-3741.

Friends of the Library memberships run from January 1 to December 31.

The Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held October 11-13 in the Main Lobby of Jackson Library. Prices will be \$2 on the first day, \$1 the second day, and \$.50 on the third day. Please come out, pick up some bargain books and help us raise money to support the collections and services of Jackson Library. Friends of the Library members who wish to donate books or help in setting up the sale should call Barry Miller at 334-3741 or Betty Morrow at 334-5781. Drop boxes for book donations may be found at the front entrance to the Library.

## Class of 1950 Makes Major Gift to Jackson Library

Jackson Library is extremely pleased to be the beneficiary of the 50th Reunion gift of the Class of 1950. The class raised more than \$210,000 to create a Preservation Endowment for the University Archives and Special Collections and to microfilm the records of Charles D. McIver, the founder and first president of the institution that is now The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Special thanks go to the members of the Gift Committee, Saralou Debnam Caliri, Barbara Sternberger Cone, Betty Crawford Ervin, Lee Mahan Evans, Barbara Brown Kendrick, Ruby Rumley Paul, Pat Gary Selby, Eulene Fisher Shepherd, Marilyn Moeller Simpson, and Melrose Moore Stocks.

The gift committee adopted the project enthusiastically because of an interest in doing something to preserve the history of the school. "We thought we had died and gone to heaven!" wrote University Archivist Betty Carter in her Tribute to the Class of 1950 published last spring in the newsletter *Library Columns*.

Officials in UNCG's Development Office said that 65 percent of the class members contributed to the gift, and ten members of the class made leadership gifts of \$10,000 or more.

"My thanks to the Class of 1950 for this wonderful gift," said Chancellor Patricia Sullivan during the annual meeting of the Alumni Association on May 13. "We will use these funds to be good stewards of the University's past."

### Friends of the Library Membership Categories

<u>Individual</u>		<u>Corporate</u>	
Member	\$25	Corporate Friend	\$100
Associate	\$50	Corporate Tower	\$500
Patron	\$100		
Benefactor	\$250		

## Robert Morgan to Speak at Friends of the Library Spring 2000 Event

Author Robert Morgan will address the Friends of the Library on March 29 at 7 p.m. in the Performance Hall of the School of Music Building. Mr. Morgan's book *Gap Creek* was recently chosen as an Oprah Book Club selection, and he will share his views on the impact of the Oprah Book Club phenomenon on his career and on the nation's reading habits.

Mr. Morgan has had a distinguished career since graduating from the MFA Writing Program at UNCG in 1968. He also holds a B.A. in English from UNC Chapel Hill. Now Professor of English at Cornell University, he has received the Southern Poetry Review Prize, the Eunice Tietjens Prize for Poetry, the Hanes Poetry Prize and the North Carolina Award in literature, as well as a Guggenheim Fellowship. From his first book of poetry, *Zirconia Poems*, in 1969 through his latest books, *Gap Creek* and *The Balm of Gilead Tree*, he has often written about life in the Blue Ridge Mountains where he grew up. His hardworking characters are often based on stories handed down from previous generations.

Because Cone Ballroom will not be available in the Spring of 2001, there will NOT be a seated dinner this year prior to Mr. Morgan's remarks. There will be a reception in the School of Music Building instead. Additional details about the Spring event will be provided to the Friends of the Library early next year.

### Elsewhere at UNCG

UNCG alumnus Bonnie Angelo will speak at 4 p.m. on October 29 at the Alumni House about her book *First Mothers: The Women Who Shaped the Presidents*. When she became Time magazine's London bureau chief in 1978, Ms. Angelo was the first woman to head a major Time foreign bureau. She became the first woman to head a major U.S. Time bureau in 1985 when she was named bureau chief in New York. She became the magazine's first Correspondent at Large in 1990, specializing in interview and profiles of major figures.

The event is free and open to the public.

# The Heart of Jackson Library

While seated around a conference table in Jackson Library this summer, a group of the Friends of the Library Board of Directors began talking about trying to communicate to the Friends of the Library something about what Jackson Library is like. There are lots of ways to do that, of course. We often use statistics, such as the number of books in the Library, the number of databases, the number of people who come in and the number of books that go out. Still, there's more to Jackson Library than the numbers can relate. An important part of Jackson Library is the people who work here - people who care a great deal about the folks who use libraries and about the people who will use them in the future.

One recent project highlights this concern - Jackson Library's partnership with Greensboro's Wiley Elementary School. Beginning last September, eleven members of Jackson Library's staff started volunteering to help Wiley's students. Each of the eleven was paired with at least one and sometimes several young people, most of them in kindergarten, first or second grade. The volunteers went to Wiley for an hour every week throughout the school year. Each week, we worked on an assignment with the child as directed by the teacher. Sometimes that meant practicing spelling words. At other times we were to hear them read or read to them. Occasionally it meant collaborating on a writing assignment or practicing math facts. Over time, the bond between the volunteers and the children grew. The children became "our" children.

At Christmas, some of the volunteers bought books to give to the children. When the children responded with thank you notes, the volunteers, like any proud parents, promptly posted them, not on the refrigerator but in a display window in the Library. At the end of the year, the UNCG publication *Campus Weekly* featured the Library volunteers in a lead article that included a photo of one of our young charges. When given a copy of the article with his photo in it, the young fellow promptly RAN to the principal's office to show off his picture. A caring and compassionate educator, the principal

posted the child's picture in the school's media center for all to see.

Why did Jackson Library's volunteers participate in this project? What does any of this have to do with Jackson Library's mission? In the broadest sense, it has everything to do with our mission. We believe that every student can learn, and that such learning is made easier when someone cares about them, not only as students but as people. We believe that learning makes us better people, and we believe that what makes the least of us better makes all of us better.

Someday we hope some of these children will attend UNCG. Some may work here one day. As they progress, we hope that they will learn and grow and become better children today and better parents, neighbors, and citizens tomorrow. Isn't that part of what a great university does, even for those we serve indirectly? Whenever students, faculty or staff come into Jackson Library, we want them to succeed, whether that success comes from finding the right resource for a class assignment or preparing groundbreaking research. We feel the same way about our Friends of the Library members. Whenever you visit us, whether in person, by phone or "on the web," we want you to know that we care about making your experience with us pleasant and beneficial. We want you to be better for the experience.

Tell us about your successes. Who knows? Maybe we'll post them in a display window.

—Barry Miller

## Did You Know....?

In 1999-2000, Jackson Library received over 748,000 visitors through its doors, and there were 5.6 million visitors to its web pages

Jackson Library patrons borrowed over 380,000 items last year, but more than 660,000 additional books and journals were used within the Library and reshelved.

Jackson Library has over 988,000 books among its over 2.6 million books, documents and microforms.

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500 copies of this document were printed at a cost of \$66.70 or 13 cents per copy. The cost was underwritten by library friends.

Friends of the Library memberships run from January 1 to December 31.

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UNC Greensboro  
P. O. Box 26175  
Greensboro, NC 27402-6175

## Calendar of Upcoming Library Events

September 25- November 1 8 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday  
BETTY WATSON: EXPLORATIONS – Paintings, Sketches and Drawings  
Special Collections Division, 2nd Floor

October 10 7:00 p.m.  
Friends of the Library Board of Directors Meeting, Jackson Library

October 11-13 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 8 a.m.– 4 p.m. Friday  
Friends of the Library Book Sale  
Lobby, Jackson Library

March 29, 2001 7:00 p.m.  
Friends of the Library Spring Event featuring author Robert Morgan

**Friends of the Library members are invited to all of these events.**