

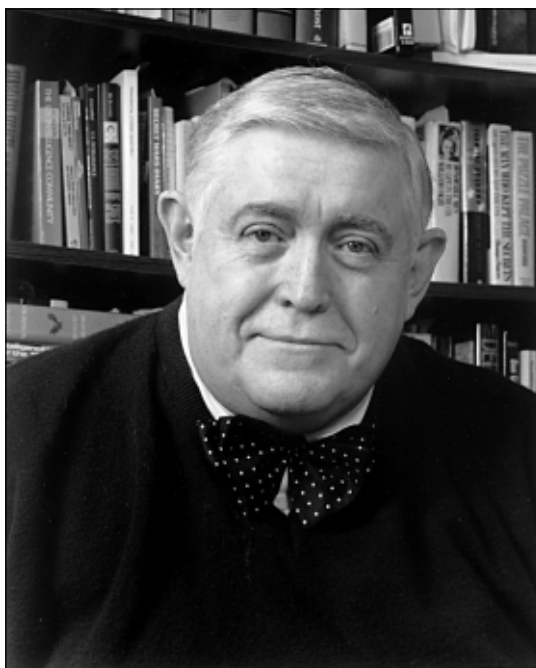


There is no frigate like a book...  
**Voyages** - EMILY DICKINSON

Edward C. and Mary Peple Lecture  
**Benjamin Franklin's Internet**

The Friends of Boatwright Library are proud to have James Srodes, author of *Franklin: the Essential Founding Father*, as the 2005 Peple lecturer on February 22, 2004. Mr. Srodes will deliver a talk on *Franklin and his Internet, His Greatest Invention*. Mr. Srodes asserts that "Franklin used his skill with words, both to advance himself and to create a uniquely American culture that made independence from England inevitable. His Internet was a combination of the printing press with the vastly improved postal delivery service through the colonies and his uniquely American language (Native American, French, German, Irish and Scottish) creating a powerful cultural force. Against this, Franklin's founding of free libraries, colleges, his work on a phonetic alphabet and his friendship with a young Noah Webster all transcend his discoveries of electricity, his inventions and his political triumphs."

Mr. Srodes was born in Newcastle, Pennsylvania, and currently lives in Washington, DC, with his wife, Cecile, who is an attorney. He has had a forty year career in Washington as a financial journalist and broadcaster. He was a White House and economics beat reporter for United Press International and the bureau chief in Washington for both *Forbes Magazine* and *Financial World*. He was also a regular contributor for some thirty years to such publications as the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, the *Sunday Telegraph* of London and the French Press Agency. His weekly commentary for the BBC's radio World Business Report is in the top three programs in global listener response.



**James Srodes will present the 2005 Peple lecture on Tuesday, February 22 at 7:30 pm at the Jepson Alumni Center.**

Mr. Srodes is also the author of eight books. With *Daily Telegraph* financial editor Ivan Fallon, he wrote a bestselling biography of the notorious car executive, *Dream Maker: The Rise and Fall of John Z. DeLorean*. Exhaustively researched and detailed, the book warns to be wary with whom you entrust your dreams. Srodes and Fallon teamed up again to write *Takeovers*, a book dealing with hostile takeovers and the players involved. The book was praised as "crisply written" with "gifts of portraying character, together with a strong narrative drive which keeps the interest engaged even in contests where the outcome is already known."

Srodes was commissioned by the sister of Allen Dulles to write her brother's biography. With access to previously inaccessible family papers, Srodes' *Allen Dulles: Master of Spies* was another critical success.

• The Association of Former Intelligence Officers gave Srodes their 2000 Book Award for this book.

• Most recently, Mr. Srodes wrote *Franklin: the Essential Founding Father*. *Franklin* reveals the complete man: diplomat, tradesman, author, inventor, celebrated wit, spymaster, propagandist, military leader, and quartermaster. Incorporating previously neglected archival material, Srodes offers insight into this complex man and how his ability to divide his life into discrete compartments allowed him to accomplish so much in so many different areas.

• Please mark your calendar and join the Friends for what promises to be an enjoyable and informative evening.

—Betty Dickie

# From the PODIUM

by J. Earle Dunford, Jr.

President of Friends of Boatwright Memorial Library

If, as I do, you read a lot—and I'm sure that as a member of the Friends you do—you've probably noticed recent magazine and newspaper articles about the decline in book-reading by young Americans.

The availability of the Internet and the constant blare of television are a couple of the culprits. Some college students, we are told, seldom leave their dormitory rooms to read a book—even for an assignment. Fortunately, Boatwright Memorial Library has a steady stream of students even into the late evening.

This is simply a plea for each of you not only to continue reading books but also to encourage your friends—especially students at all levels—to open a book with regularity. I do not consider it pedantic to ask, "What are you reading now?" or "Got any good books to recommend?"


We're heading into the final segment of the academic year and the second of my two years as your president. It has not been our most active year, but there are several events in the offing and the possibility of even more activity next year.

David Robbins and our own newsletter editor, Betty Dickie, have spoken this year, and we still have on tap the Peple lecturer, James Srodes, author of *Franklin: The Essential Founding Father*. That's on February 22.

And the annual meeting will be April 24.

As for next year: there is the possibility of our renewing the book sale, which for years was our biggest fund-raiser and generally a lot of fun for everyone. A committee of the Friends executive council is exploring how we could have the sale in conjunction with Arts Around the Lake in the fall. Of course, we don't have space in the library, but we may be able to hold the sale elsewhere on campus. There are various problems, but we are optimistic.

Renewing the book sale was recommended by the Ways and Means Committee after the Budget Committee reminded us that our dues were barely enough to cover basic expenditures. We made a small amount of money through a promotion with Barnes & Noble, and we are exploring a couple of other ways to raise funds. We'll keep you posted.

Happy reading! 

## The Friends of Boatwright Memorial Library

### Executive Council

<b>President 2003-2005</b> .....	J. Earle Dunford, Jr.
<b>Vice-President 2003-2005</b> .....	Dr. Edward C. Peple, Jr.
<b>Past President</b> .....	Dr. Margaret R. Bradley
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b> .....	James Rettig
<b>University Advancement</b>	
<b>Office Representative</b> .....	Sarah McComas
<b>Newsletter Editor</b> .....	Betty Dickie

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##### *Term Expires 2005*

Joanne Bowman  
Roger Brooks  
Robert A. Buerlein  
Dr. Daryl Dance  
Dr. Jennifer Erkulwater  
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Harmon

##### *Term Expires 2006*

Virginia Carlson  
Betty Dickie  
Betty Ann Dillon  
Tom Howard  
Marjorie B. Rozum  
Anne Sterling  
Rebecca D. Wood

##### *Term Expires 2007*

Dr. Akiba Covitz  
Rozanne Epps  
Dr. & Mrs. Randy Fitzgerald  
Cathy Herweyer  
Mr. & Mrs. Andre Nielson  
Micky Hale Smith  
Miriam Spector

### Membership Report

As of January 21, 2005, there are 317 current members in the Friends of Boatwright Memorial Library. This includes the members of the Class of 1954 who were awarded honorary memberships. There are no new life members to report.

# Welcome New Librarians and Staff

## Andrew Rouser, Digital Resources Librarian



Originally from Edina, Minnesota, Andrew graduated from Yale Divinity School in 1993 and entered the doctoral program in religious studies at UVA in 1994. He spent a summer at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and taught religion at Hollins University.

Finding himself increasingly more interested in the tools and resources being developed for scholarship through information technology, he found a part time job at UVA library's Electronic Text Center. He found the world of electronic texts and computers, in which all things are ordered, very refreshing.

His graduate student position led to a grant supported position as project manager for development and maintenance of the Center on Religion and Democracy's web site. When that grant came to an end, Andrew began investigating other positions which led to his present position with the University of Richmond. His position is dedicated to one cooperative project between UR and Tufts University—the digitization of Civil War era newspapers. Two things about the project appealed to him: having a voice in establishing standards for an evolving digital library and being involved in all phases of it. He received his PhD in 2004.

Andrew and his wife, Rose, have one young son, Julian.

## William Parkin, Government Information Associate



Born and raised in Harrisburg, the state capital of Pennsylvania, William grew up in very close proximity to Hershey, known for its chocolate and Lancaster, known for its largely Amish community. He attended James Madison University and majored in Sociology and

minored in Criminal Justice. He spent his free time writing, working at the university's police department, and even spent a summer as a ranch hand outside of Lemmon, South Dakota. After graduation, he traveled out west where he studied at Arizona State University and subsequently received a Master of Science degree from ASU's School of Justice Studies.

In 2004, William and his wife moved to Richmond when she started a graduate program in theatrical scene design at VCU, and soon after he came to work at Boatwright.

## Jonathan Megill, Social Sciences Librarian



Jonathan was born in Canberra, the capital of Australia. Before working in libraries, he spent time in London and Munich. In London he worked with software engineers, newspaper columnists and bomb sniffing dogs (whose gratefully accepted reward is playing with a fluorescent orange ball

for ten seconds). In Munich he taught English and each weekend hiked the beautiful countryside.

He studied drama and astronomy at the University of Virginia and worked at Clemons Library there. Jonathan attended the University of Kentucky where he received his MSLS. He worked as a graduate assistant at UK's School of Library and Information Science and volunteered as a reference associate at Lexington Community College.

## Kirsten Stank, Administrative Assistant




Born in Rochester, New York, Kirsten grew up in a small farm town nearby. She attended the State University of New York at Genesee and received a BA in Interpersonal and Organization Communication. The day after graduating she moved to Richmond

to be near her parents and three siblings. She has worked in the human resources department at MCV and as staffing supervisor at a home health agency. Most recently she worked in the risk management department of Richfood. Kirsten has become a valued liaison between the Friends and the Library.

## Christa LaPrade, Access Services Associate



Born in Connecticut, Christa was raised in New York City just a few blocks from Chinatown and Little Italy. She holds an IB from the United Nations International School, a BA in American Culture from Vassar, and an MA in Children's Literature from Hollins.

She has been a recruiter for a study abroad program, trained customer service and sales representatives for Time-Life, taught preschool and first grade, was assistant manager of the Barnes & Noble near Willow Lawn. She was a library assistant at the Library of Virginia and three courses shy of her MLS when her twin sons were born. Having lived in California, Florida and Sweden, Christa loves to travel and is actually a certified SCUBA diver. 

## Antique Chest at Boatwright

Along with the new chairs, tables and lamps in the quiet study area on the second floor of Boatwright, a seventeenth century Spanish Baroque storage chest has been added. Donated to the Lora Robbins Gallery by Mary Danzol, the utilitarian chest would have been used to store clothing and other household goods.

Intricately carved, the chest features the four virtues of Justice, Faith, Hope, and Charity on the front panel. On the left, Justice holds her famous scales along with a sword that represents punishment. To her right, Faith grasps a shepherd's staff to symbolize Christian watchfulness, and she holds a book denoting the Holy Scriptures. Next is Hope holding the chain to an anchor to signify a



Christian's immoveable hope and trust in God. Hope also presents an open book which represents truth and revelation. On the far right, Charity is surrounded by children to symbolize love and compassion.

Come see it on Boatwright's second floor in the large reading room. 

—Betty Dickie

## Recommended Reading

***Walking a Literary Labyrinth: A Spirituality of Reading***, by Nancy M. Malone. Nancy M. Malone's reflections on the deeper meaning of reading turns out at times to be a surprisingly intimate memoir. Although, or perhaps because, she is an Ursuline nun, Malone's observations are accessible, and yet they are offered from a perspective that is intriguingly complex to most of us. She shares her views on all types of writing, secular as well as religious in nature. By regarding reading through a different prism, her insights are familiar, yet distinct. Walking Malone's labyrinth is a quiet pleasure in an otherwise hectic world.

—Micky Smith

***The Five People You Meet in Heaven*** by Mitch Albom. This is a small novel with a big heart. Eddie is a wounded war veteran living out his life fixing rides at an amusement park. He feels his life has been useless and uninspired. When he is killed on his 83rd birthday trying to save a little girl, he finds himself in heaven, where he meets five people who explain what his life was about. The author of *Tuesdays with Morrie* delivers a beautifully told story of hope and love.

***Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***, by Mark Haddon. Christopher is a 15 year old mathematically gifted autistic boy who finds his neighbor's dog impaled on a garden fork. Initially blamed for the killing, he decides to solve the mystery himself, against his father's wishes. The social worker at his school encourages him to write about his adventure and the result is an original, charming and genuinely moving novel.

***Rule of Four***, by Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason. This is an intellectual suspense novel in the vein of *The Da Vinci Code*, only smarter. Two gifted Princeton roommates become involved in decoding the *Hypnerotomachia*

*Poliphili*, a real 15th century document said to hold the secret to a buried Roman treasure. Sounds pretty dry, but it actually keeps the reader going with intrigue, romance, and plots within plots.

***Hour Game***, by David Baldacci. Speaking of thrillers, Baldacci brings back the two agents from his last book, *Split Second*, and sets them up against a serial killer who mimics notorious killers from the past. The pace is fast and the plot has the usual twists and turns and a definitely surprising ending.

***Eventide***, by Kent Haruf. A sequel to his celebrated *Plainsong*, this novel focuses on the McPherson brothers, Harold and Raymond, and their ward, Victoria and her daughter Katie. New characters and situations are introduced, but it is the brothers and their story that dominates this beautifully written book. While it is a sequel, it reads quite well on its own.

***Odd Thomas***, Dean Koontz. If you are looking for something completely different, this is it. The title character, yes, that's his real name, is 20 and working as a fry cook in a small California town. Despite a talent for writing and an agile brain, he is happy doing what he's doing because of his other talent. He sees and converses with ghosts and can detect bodaches, malevolent spirits that feed on pain and presage violent events. He uses this talent to help the local police chief, one of a handful of people who know his secret, solve and prevent murders. When a weird looking stranger arrives in town with a bevy of bodaches in tow, Odd knows something is going to happen and tries to stop it. What follows is a fast-paced, tension filled, thriller you won't be able to put down.

—Betty Dickie

# Boatwright Planning More Improvements

The Boatwright Library staff has started their year with clipboards and yardsticks in hand. They are working methodically through all of the stacks measuring the amount of vacant space on each shelf and recording that on data sheets. All of this is in preparation for the first phase of the eventual expansion and transformation of the library into a state-of-the-art early 21st-century academic library.

The first phase, a \$3.4 million project planned for 2006-07, will renovate the B1 and B2 levels of Boatwright. These levels currently hold the circulating book collections for all fields and the reference book and journal collections for the sciences. The plan calls for additional study space, improved lighting, new carpet, and reorganization of the collections to take advantage of the space savings created by use of compact shelving.

Compact shelving consists of sections of shelving mounted on rails. The sections roll on the rails, changing the location of a single aisle shared by five or six sections of shelving. A mechanical crank at the end of each section easily moves multiple sections simultaneously to create the aisle between two sections to allow a user to browse those sections.

## Librarians on the Silver Screen

***It Happened Tomorrow*** (1944) presented John Philliber as Pop Benson, a newspaper librarian who befriends Dick Powell. After Pop dies his ghost returns to give Powell copies of the next day's paper for three successive days. (The TV show "Early Edition" used the same idea.)

***Spellbound*** (1945) On the lam in New York City, Ingrid Bergman as Dr. Constance Peterson is considered harmless by a hotel detective because he thinks that she looks like either a librarian or a schoolteacher.

***The Asphalt Jungle*** (1950) Sam Jaffe played inmate "Doc" Erwin Reidenscheider who gets to work in the prison library for good behavior.

***The Man Who Never Was*** (1956) Gloria Grahame as librarian Lucy Sherwood has a pivotal role in convincing a Nazi agent of the legitimacy of a bogus allied plan to invade Greece, not Sicily.

***The Desk Set*** (1957) Bunny Watson (Katherine Hepburn), research librarian for a radio and TV reference library, and her assistants take on a computer and win.

***The Music Man*** (1962) brings us the famous "Marion the Librarian" played by Shirley Jones.

***Soylent Green*** (1973) In 2022, Detective Thorn (Charlton Heston) and Sol Roth (Edward G. Robinson) find out that librarians have all the power because they are the only ones who have information or know how to get it.

(From *The Whole Library Handbook*, Chicago, ALA, 1995.)

The "well" made by an indentation in the outdoor patio brings natural light to the B1 level. This currently vacant area will also be upgraded to meet its aesthetic and practical potential.

Library staff is measuring the collection thoroughly so that librarians will have the data they need to determine the best way to reorganize the collections. Some materials lend themselves better than others to compact shelving. So the floor plan for the library stacks—both conventional and compact—and the plan for distributing the books on those stacks need to be coordinated carefully. It's like putting together a very large complex jigsaw puzzle! The plan is due at the end of April.

The second phase, date yet to be determined, will expand the building and create a dramatic nave from the current front entrance to the back of the building towards Stern Plaza. There, a second entrance, equal in visibility and importance to the existing entrance, will unite the two sides of the campus symbolically and practically. The expansion will allow for a reorganization of services in ways that make related information and technology services more convenient and accessible to students.

—Jim Rettig

## A Whole New Entrance

Boatwright Memorial Library's lobby area took on a new look at the start of the new year. An attractive new wall of wood and glass has been erected along the line where carpet and tile formerly met. The wall has several purposes.

Last winter staff working at the new Main Service desk near the front door learned that when the temperature dropped outside, it also dropped inside. The wall should save them from having to wear a coat or gloves at the desk!

The increased use of the library and the attraction of the coffee shop just inside the front door have greatly increased the traffic in and out of the revolving doors. These doors are not quiet; nor are footsteps on the tile floor. With increased traffic there has been increased noise, sometimes making it difficult for the staff at the service desk to converse with the students they are serving. The wall has improved the working environment in several ways.

—Jim Rettig





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**EDITOR:**

*Betty Dickie*

## Friend's Programs Spring 2005

**Tuesday, February 22, 7:30 p.m.**

**Peple Lecture:** Robins Pavilion, Jepson Alumni Center. Reception and Book Signing to follow.

**Speaker:** Mr. James Srodes  
Author, *Franklin: the Essential  
Founding Father*

**Topic:** "Franklin and his Internet: His  
Greatest Invention."

**Sunday, April 24, 2:30 p.m.**

**Annual Meeting,** Quigg Room, Jepson Alumni Center. Reception to follow.

J. Earle Dunford, Jr., President, Friends of  
Boatwright Memorial Library, Presiding

