

WINDOWS

The Official Newsletter of the Mary Couets Burnett Library | SPRING 2023



Alva Johnson, 1880-1900
Portrait in the collection of the Mary Couets Burnett Library

- 4 Trailblazer Behind the Mary Couts Burnett Library
- 6 TCU Press: New Book Releases
- 8 The Exciting Return of the Evening of Great Conversation Fundraiser
- 10 TCU Tales
Riff, Ram, Bah , Zoo
- 12 Library Exhibits
Shaping the Bible
Asia in the World Classroom
- 13 Lady Mary Every is the Art of Fashion
- 14 Friends of the Library
- 15 Celebrity Guests Visit Special Collections

TCU Mary Couts Burnett Library

WINDOWS

Editor

Shelda Dean

Administrative Team

Tracy Hull, Dean

Kristen Barnes, Associate Dean

Kerry Bouchard, Director of Automated Systems

James Lutz, Director of Administrative Services

Department Heads

Cari Alexander, Music/Media

Dennis Odom, Technical Services

Lydia Pyburn, Access Services



lib.tcu.edu/friends/windows



facebook.com/tcublibrary



twitter.com/tcublibrary



instagram.com/tcublibrary





THIS PAST YEAR HAS FLOWN BY! With TCU's Sesquicentennial, the library's "Evening of Great Conversation" fundraiser, and the phenomenal successes of our sports teams, it has been another exciting year.



For the library, the "Evening of Great Conversation" was the most exciting event of the year. We had a fantastic lineup of table hosts, and I heard from several people that they had a wonderful time. Many of the table hosts knew each other, and there was a lot of networking, laughter and just plain fun being had by all. Since the funds raised were being allocated to our new Special Collections endowment, it was only appropriate we highlighted some of our unique holdings. The Special Collections staff pulled together an impressive exhibit showcasing interesting documents, artifacts, maps and rare books from the collection. Guests were able to peruse the exhibit during the cocktail reception. Dave Lieber, who is the playwright of "Amon! The Ultimate Texan," spoke after dinner, providing a wonderful testimony regarding the importance of Special Collections, and how it provided the key material for his work. If you were able to attend, I'm sure you can attest to how fun it was. If you weren't able to be there, we hope to see you next time!

This spring semester has been focused on hiring. We welcomed a new Head of Access Services, Lydia Pyburn. This key hire will now enable Kristen Barnes to focus on her Associate Dean responsibilities full time. In the fall, our staff member who oversaw the Fab Lab took a position with the School of Medicine, but we were able to replace him with a new Innovation Collaborator, Christine Drake-Thomas who started in mid-May. Additionally, our Director of Special Collections and Head of Reference positions have been vacant due to retirements. While the Head of Reference position should be filled soon, the Director of Special Collections position remains vacant as we had an unsuccessful search this first round. Aside from these leadership positions, we have hired several Library Specialists to fill vacancies. In short, there are several new faces in the library.

As we look to summer, we start the first phase of a two-phase project to update the HVAC and electrical systems on the west side of the building. Phase 1 focuses on a portion of the HVAC. Next summer the remainder of the HVAC work will be completed along with the electrical updates, as well as, replacing flooring on the third floor that was damaged during the February 2021 flood damage.

Who said libraries were boring?!? As always, there's never a dull moment. While we have a lot going on this summer, I hope you and your families have a relaxing and restful summer. If you're looking for something to read during those hot days, or while you're at the beach, stop by and pick up one of our popular reading books.... and of course, please swing by my office to say hello.

Tracy L. Hull
Library Dean

A Donation to History: The Fabled Story of Mary Couts Burnett

originally published by Laura Lane Heathcott, TCU 360, March 2023
<https://tcu360.com/2023/03/07/a-donation-to-history-the-fabled-story-of-mary-couts-burnett/>



A portrait of Mary Coutts Burnett, painted by Emily Guthrie Smith, 1984, hangs in the TCU Library

The Unexpected Trailblazer Behind the Mary Coutts Burnett Library

When she was 61 years old, her husband had her declared insane and held in a private home in Weatherford, Texas.

The way the story is told, Mary Coutts Burnett thought her husband, Burk Burnett, was trying to kill her. His response was to have her committed. On the day he died, she fled their home and returned to Fort Worth. Burk

Burnett left his fortune to his granddaughter instead of his wife, but Mary Coutts Burnett was undeterred. She sued and was awarded half of the oil baron's estate — \$3 million, which she willed to Texas Christian University. Her name is now emblazoned on the library that looms over South University Drive. The donation remains the largest in TCU's history. In today's dollars it would amount to \$72,324,549.

Over time both the library and the legacy of Mary Coutts Burnett have evolved. The building is now a campus hub, anchoring the Intellectual Commons. Coutts Burnett's life provides a look into the role of women — even those with wealth — in the 19th century.

She is remembered as a refined and cultured woman who lived a purposeful and heroic life.

It Was 1923

Women in the U. S. had just earned the right to vote through the suffrage movement and America was deeply segregated, as Jim Crow ruled the South and racism was the norm in the North. And, Mary Coutts Burnett was about to make a donation that would shock many.

Coutts Burnett lived her life as a wealthy socialite. Born as one of five girls and one brother, her family was an affluent household in Weatherford, Texas. She was a member of women's clubs and also served as the president of the Fort Worth Library, donating artwork from her own personal collection.

Even with a respected place in society, Coutts Burnett was subjected to her husband's wishes while he was alive. But then she put up a fight. In addition to challenging her late husband's will Coutts Burnett, 62, contested the insanity conviction.

A Wealthy Socialite With A Philanthropic Passion

Coutts Burnett was a philanthropist who advocated for using money for more than just personal gain. Even before the lawsuit challenging her husband's estate was settled, she had contacted then-president of TCU, Edward McShane Waits. The *Fort Worth News Tribune* reported she planned to endow a trust with \$4.1 million, all the university needed to do was erect in her honor. The amount equivalent to \$72,324,549 after being adjusted for inflation today.

After setting aside \$150,000 to build the library, the rest was left in the trust. The trust kept the university solvent during the Great Depression that would come a few years later.

The *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* reported that "Mrs. Burnett's gift, it is said by those close to her, was prompted by a desire to help the boys and girls of the land and her belief that the best way to help people is to educate them."

Mary Coutts Burnett Believed In The Pursuit Of Education For All

With no formal ties to TCU, the large endowment was a surprise, but this is not entirely true. While it appeared random and somewhat of a shock to family members who desired to obtain some of the wealth, those who knew her said her decision was purposeful.



Samuel "Burk" Burnett



Mary Coats Burnett Library 1929-1930

Her attorney William J. Slay described her as “benevolent,” and during his announcement to the university of the gift, TCU President Edward McShane Waits spoke of Mary Burnett Coats, saying, “her aim is to serve youth that it may realize its fullest possibilities,” the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* reported in 1923.

Mary Saffell, senior archivist for TCU’s special collections, said there is information that Mary Coats Burnett wanted to honor her son, Samuel Burk Burnett, Jr., who died when he was 20.

Still, some questioned why she chose TCU.

“She was not a member of the Christian Church; she had no children attend TCU; she knew no university personnel. Mrs. Burnett had not even been solicited in university fund drives,” the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* reported.

The *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* went on to report her father admired TCU founder Addison Clark. Her attorney Slay and physician Dr. Charles H. Harris also

influenced her by speaking positively about TCU. Additionally, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* reported those who knew her said she had intended on making this type of donation for years. She considered different universities before deciding on TCU, in part “because of its non-sectarian character” and openness to diverse religions, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* reported in 1923.

Life Far From Simple

Before establishing her legacy at TCU, Coats Burnett was a mother. Her only child died of a rare cancer in 1916. He was remembered as “generous-minded,” wrote author Capt. Buckley B. Paddock in his book *History of Texas*. Even at a young age, Samuel Burnett had a selfless and generous personality that resembled his mother.

The Burnett marriage, already somewhat strained, became volatile after their son’s death.

“The death of his [Mr. Burnett’s] son, who had received every advantage of training and possessed many of the best qualities of his ancestry, was the greatest sorrow of Mr. Burnett,” Paddock wrote.

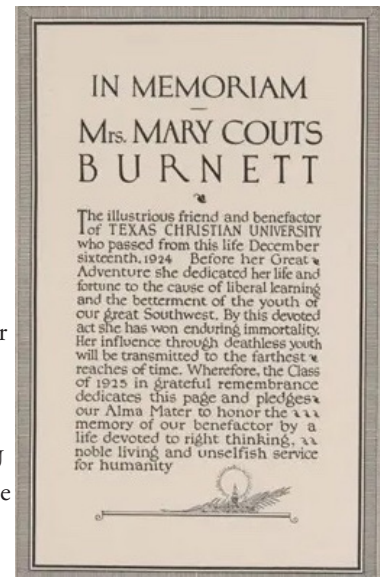
Burnett’s plan to leave his fortune to his granddaughter Anne prompted Coats Burnett to begin telling people he was going to kill her. On May 24, 1911, a jury found her of an “unsound mind.” Jurors answered “yes,” to the court’s question of if they believed her to be possessed. They also agreed restraint was necessary.

TCU archivist Mary Saffell said at the time, divorce was still a bit taboo. But a husband could have his wife declared insane, thus maintaining his reputation but still separating. If convicted, women stood to lose children, livelihoods, reputations and — most significantly — control of their wealth in many cases. There is little recorded of what was said in court during the trial, and Burnett’s true intentions are not known. Nonetheless, when Coats Burnett was declared insane, her husband gained control over her significant fortune.

A Toast To TCU’s History

It’s been 100 years since TCU President E. M. Waits announced the Coats Burnett endowment. “Mrs. Burnett has surpassed many of the great business men in Texas in making a wise and sound distribution of her fortune,” said Waits.

She never saw the completed library. Coats Burnett died in 1925 after suffering a stroke. She was 68 years old. TCU hosted a memorial and students — many female — gathered to pay tribute to her legacy. The TCU yearbook published after her death was dedicated to her by the Class of 1925. A copy of the first page with the dedication can be found displayed in the special collections area on the third floor of the library along with many other pictures, artifacts and documents that have been given to the university to celebrate her legacy.



Yearbook Official Dedication, 1925

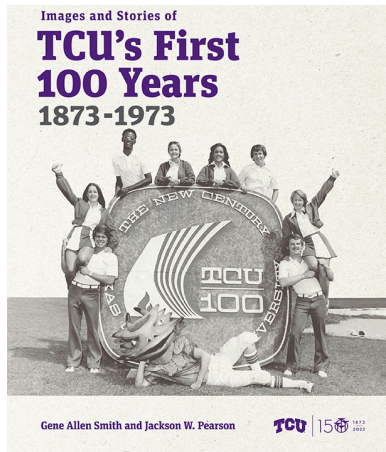
At the time of the official dedication in March of 1925, Eugenia Trinkle lauded the new building on the campus. “Its gracious columned exterior, sunken garden and lily pond were campus hallmarks,” said Trinkle.

Since then, the TCU library has undergone expansions and renovations. A flower bed marks the place of the original lily pond and its shape. The original windows in the reading room remain. The chairs are new, but they were built to look identical to those in the original building.

Through all the changes to the library, the students remain. With their heads buried in books, fingers typing away on laptops, friends giggling in hushed whispers -- Mary Coats Burnett’s legacy lives on.

TCU PRESS New Book Releases

Discover the latest book releases, including three books about TCU history: *Images and Stories: TCU First 100 Years, 1873-1973*; *Walking TCU: A Historic Perspective*, and *A History to Remember: TCU Purple, White, and Black*. These three books were extensively researched in special collections and many of the photographs featured in these books were provided by special collections.



Images and Stories: TCU's First 100 Years, 1873-1973

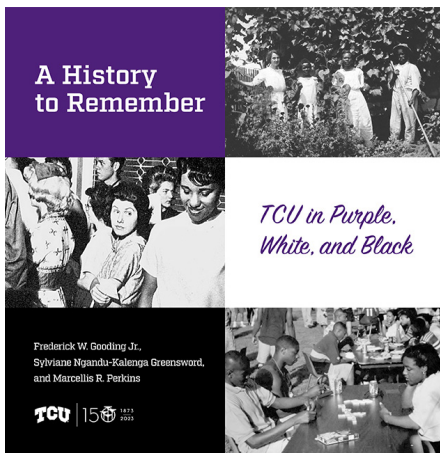
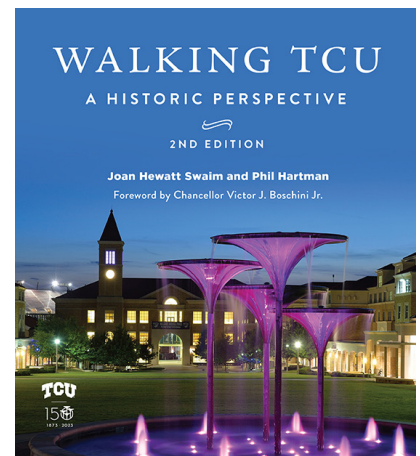
by Gene Allen Smith and Jackson W. Pearson

Did you know there was a plane crash on the TCU campus? Or that TCU once had an airport? Were you aware TCU began integrating during World War II? Discover these and other interesting tidbits in *Images and Stories of TCU's First 100 Years, 1873-1973*, which offers a visual and anecdotal history of TCU's evolution. *Images and Stories* examines the university's evolution as it moved from location to location, uncovering stories about TCU's students and faculty and following the growth and expansion, changes and challenges, and struggles and successes that led to the TCU Centennial 1973. Some of the images and stories are well known, but many will come as a surprise. Enjoy the ride!

Walking TCU: A Historic Perspective

by Joan Hewatt Swaim and Phil Hartman

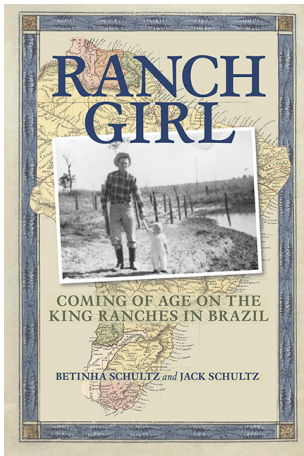
Founded in 1873, Texas Christian University is located on 272 acres about three miles from downtown Fort Worth, Texas. *Walking TCU: A Historic Perspective, Second Edition* describes the buildings on the Fort Worth campus, and before that those on the Thorp Spring and Waco campuses. The book provides an historical account of the various campus structures from the time of their initial construction to the present day. As the title suggests, the book is organized so that the reader can walk the campus, thereby gaining a greater appreciation for its inherent beauty and learning about those who have shaped TCU's past and present. Containing over 220 photographs, *Walking TCU* seeks to capture the essence of what makes TCU—and its campus—a magical place for so many.



A History to Remember: TCU in Purple White and Black

by Frederick W. Gooding Jr., Sylviane Ngandu-Kalenga Greensword and Marcellis Perkins

The first of its kind, this book chronicles and contextualizes the underexplored history of African American memory at TCU. It focuses specifically upon the understudied role of Black Americans within TCU lore from many perspectives: students, staff, faculty, administrators, and alumni. *TCU in Purple, White, and Black* explores the academic, athletic, artistic, and cultural impact of a group of people that was not formally included in the university for nearly the first century of its existence and is an honest look at the history of segregation, integration, and inclusion of Black Americans at TCU. Anyone interested in race relations, the function of memory and North Texas history will find the text and its layered analytical approach appealing.



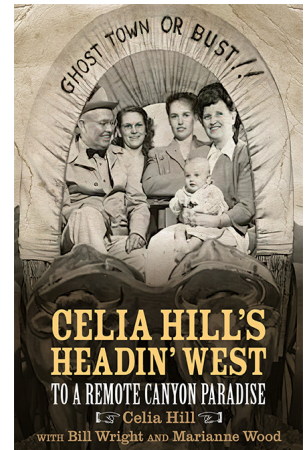
Ranch Girl: Coming of Age on the King Ranches in Brazil
 by Betinha Schultz and Jack Schultz

Ranch Girl: Coming of Age on the King Ranches in Brazil tells the story of a girl and her family’s eventful lives on three ranches in Brazil against the backdrop of a foreign culture and austere living conditions. The closest phone for the family was often an hour away and there was no electricity for long stretches. Eventually a TV was purchased so the family could watch the limited (one channel, four hours a day) programming, in case they were bored.

But life on the King Ranches was rarely boring for Betinha Schultz. From her earliest memories to the recollections of a fourteen-year-old about to be sent off to boarding school, Betinha recounts the challenges and trials, the richness and beauty, and the sometimes hard but always good life lessons she learned while growing up on the King Ranches in Brazil.

Celia Hill’s Headin’ West: To a Remote Canyon Paradise
 by Celia Hill with Bill Wright and Marianne Wood

Celia Smith Hill’s journal provides a glimpse of hardscrabble life in far West Texas during the first half of the twentieth century. Hill’s family moved to Texas from Tennessee in the late 1800s. After her death, Bill Wright and Marianne Wood researched the history of the area and interviewed family and friends to provide context for Hill’s colorful tale of endurance in an unforgiving landscape. Hill’s family suffered lean times during the Depression before cinnabar—mercury ore—was discovered on her family’s property. During World War II, the Fresno Mines supplied one tenth of all the mercury produced in the United States. After graduating college, Celia began a peripatetic teaching career that lasted decades, marrying and losing two husbands along the way. Finally, living alone along the most remote western border of Texas, Celia spent her later years selling snacks to the occasional visitor. Bill Wright met Celia at her La Junta General Store in Ruidosa, where she told him about her unfinished journal. With this book Bill fulfills his promise to share her courageous and fascinating life with others.



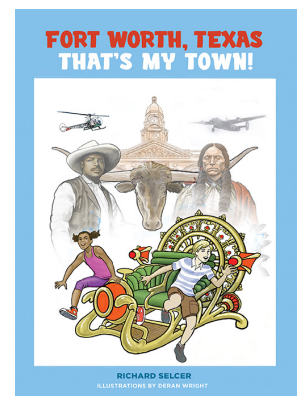
Texas State Parks: The First 100 Years, 1923–2023
 by George Bristol

Texas State Parks: The First 100 Years, 1923–2023 examines the history of one of Texas’s most treasured assets: our state parks. From the legislative establishment of the original Texas State Parks Board to the present, the development of our state and national parks over the last one hundred years has depended upon an evolving concept of public lands for public use and enjoyment.

One of America’s best ideas has been a parks system for all—first at the national level, then among the states. In Texas, leaders have emerged at every stage of this hundred-year history to lend their names and reputations to the cause of conservation and preservation, which has met growing acceptance among the public at large. This book explores the contributions of these giants at all levels. Together, they gave meaning to Teddy Roosevelt’s call to arms for the preservation of public lands as one of the country’s foundations of an “essential democracy.”

Fort Worth, Texas, that’s My Town!
 by Richard Selcer and Illustrations by Deran Wright

This is the first time since 1967 that Fort Worth kids have had a history book written about their town, just for them. Unlike the outdated school text of 1967, this is the story not just of heroic white folks but of all the people who have made up our community. Twenty years and more of research went into the writing, which incorporates the latest historiography. The wealth of illustrations by artist Deran Wright are an integral part of the book. Wright carefully researched the people and events for each full-color painting, reaching out to descendants for photos and researching what long-ago machinery and locations looked like. The result is the story of Fort Worth told equally in words and pictures.



The Exciting Return Of An Evening Of Great Conversation

Distinguished Horned Frogs and Library Supporters Celebrate the Intellectual Heart of Texas Christian University — the Mary Couets Burnett Library.



Table Hosts: Eric Bell, Kirk Saarloos, Marc Istook, Eric Nelsen, Dave Lieber, Bob Jameson, Krys Boyd, Patrick Newman, Pam Campbell, Bill Campbell and Carolina Alvarez-Mathies

The library's Evening of Great Conversation was a lovely evening inside the historic Gearhart Reading Room. The event brought together distinguished Horned Frogs and library supporters to celebrate the intellectual heart of Texas Christian University — the Mary Couets Burnett Library — and to help raise funds dedicated to expanding TCU's special collections with new acquisitions of historical importance.

Funds from this event are instrumental; they provide powerful and creative research and learning opportunities for our faculty and students with rare and unique primary source materials found in special collections.

What is a Special Collections item?

Generally speaking, it is rare books, archival and manuscript collections and in the library's case art. Another component of special collections is our archives. The archives related to TCU have seen a lot of use in the past few years considering they were beneficial to TCU's Race and Reconciliation research, and most recently, they have provided a vast amount of content and imagery related to TCU's Sesquicentennial Celebration.

In addition to the university archives, we house many other archives including, the papers of Jim Wright, Amon Carter, Ninnie L. Baird and the Mrs. Baird's Bakery archives, and the archives of the Van Cliburn competition. Finally, the library houses and cares for a large portion of the university's art work.





Guests mingling during cocktail reception

said KERA Host and Managing Editor Kryst Boyd.

We are so grateful and honored for our strong group of community leaders who agreed to serve as the evenings table hosts:

- Carolina Alvarez-Mathies** — Executive Director, Dallas Contemporary
- Eric Bell** — TCU Head Women’s Soccer Coach
- Kryst Boyd** — KERA Host & Managing Editor, *Think*
- Julie Butner** — President/CEO, Tarrant Area Food Bank
- Pam and Bill Campbell** — Founders, William Campbell Contemporary Art
- Sonny Dykes** — TCU Head Football Coach
- Marc Istook** — Anchor, *Daybreak*, WFAA
- Bob Jameson** — President/CEO, Visit Fort Worth
- Opal Lee** — Grandmother of Juneteenth, National Juneteenth Observance Foundation
- Dave Lieber** — Columnist, “The Watchdog,” *The Dallas Morning News*
- Jacques Marquis** — CEO/President, The Cliburn
- Eric Nelsen** — Actor and Producer, Recently Portrayed “Ennis” in *1883*
- Patrick Newman** — CEO/President, Botanical Research Institute of Texas
- James Riddlesperger, Jr.** — Professor of Political Science, TCU
- Kirk Saarloos** — TCU Head Baseball Coach

The evening kicked off with a cocktail hour featuring striking momentous displays of items from special collections, providing the perfect backdrop to this elevated evening. Guests mingled, conversed and clinked glasses with the featured guests. Then the library-loving crowd ambled to their tables for a classy seated dinner prepared by Bonnell’s Fine Texas Cuisine.

Dean of the Mary Coats Burnett Library Tracy Hull delivered inspiring remarks, followed by a rousing welcome from columnist with *The Dallas Morning News* Dave Lieber, making his first fundraiser appearance as one of the evenings table hosts. Lieber spent a significant amount of time utilizing the library’s archival collections to complete his playscript *AMON! The Ultimate Texan*. He graciously gave guests his perspective on the value of TCU’s special collections.

“It was a lovely evening, I adored my table guests, and really enjoyed hearing about the extraordinary ambitions the TCU library has for growing its special collections,”



Marc Istook engaged in table conversation

“I had such a wonderful time last night, said Marc Istook, Anchor, *Daybreak*, WFAA. “Thanks again for including me in the event! It was humbling to host a table alongside so many notable Frogs and folks making a difference in Fort Worth.”

The support from our incredible sponsors helped us host our most successful event yet. A special thank you to our Scholar level sponsors Molly and Rusty Reid and Higginbotham Insurance and Financial Services, and to McDonald Sanders Law Firm for supporting us at the Donor level.

Thank you to this year’s special guests and to the people who showed up to support the library, and for creating conversations for years to come. It was an evening of great fun and a success for the university and the library!



Opal Lee mingles with library supporter



Coach Kirk Saarloos enjoying conversation with his table guests



Sonny Dykes with Molly and Rusty Reid

One of the Oldest Cheers in Collegiate Sports

The words may be nonsense — yet they’ve survived in some way or another for more than 100 years and remain part of the TCU program to this day.

“Riff Ram” is the soundtrack to Game Day at TCU. It’s one of the oldest and most unique cheers in collegiate sports, dating back to the 1920s.

Riff, Ram, Bab, Zoo
Lickety, Lickety, Zoo, Zoo
Who, Wah, Wah, Who
Give ‘em Hell, TCU!

Horned Frogs yell this chant — arms pump up and down while the crowd sways from side to side. The chant starts slowly, then gains momentum until the stands are united in locomotion-induced fervor.

While pinpointing the exact origins of “Riff Ram” is difficult, a version of the cheer appears in the 1905 Horned Frog yearbook, with slightly different words:

Rip! Ram! Bayoo!
Lickety, Lickety! Zoo, Zoo, Zoo!
Who, woh, Woh, who!
Let her go! T.C.U.



T. C. U. Yells

Rip! Ram! Bayoo!
 Lickety! Lickety! Zoo, Zoo, Zoo!
 Who, woh! Woh, who!
 Let her go! T. C. U. !!

 Rackety, yackety, yackety, yack!
 Rackety, yackety, yackety, yack!
 Hollo baloo! Hollo baloo!
 Varsity! Varsity! T. C. U. !!

Yum! Yum! Fiddle didi bum!
 Hump! Stump! Flum a diddle!
 Arra! Bubah! Rigdum jigdum!
 Bodi! Modi! Kiro! Dilko! Diro!!

 Rickety! Rackety! Helabaloo!
 Sis! Boom! Whoopety do!
 Can they beat us? None alive!
 We're the Class of Noughty Five!

“Riff Ram” could have faded away had it not been for the efforts of alumni cheerleaders to revive the yell in the 1960s and ’70s. When Frog Camp started in 1993, “Riff Ram” was established as an important rite of passage to introduce incoming first-year students to TCU traditions.

Over the years fans have been teated to jumbotran hype videos with famous Frogs like Bob Schieffer ‘59, LaDainian Tomlinson ‘05 and Andy Dalton ‘11 making cameos reciting the last line of the beloved chant — ‘Give ‘em Hell TCU!’

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, “Riff Ram” became an embodiment to the 2022 Horned Frogs run to the National Championship. It’s exuberant, it unites the players and it speaks to the culture-shift Sonny Dykes brought with him to Fort Worth.

From the “Fight Song Chant” to “Yeah Purple, Yeah White, Yeah Frogs! Fight, Fight! Fight!,” the Frog faithful have always found the fun ways to show their spirit.

Frog Camp has also helped bring new life to the “Fight Song” chant. The chant replaces the original lyrics to the “TCU Fight Song,” which appears in early TCU yell books. TCU’s fight song was composed in 1926 by band director Claude Sammis.

We'll raise a song, both loud and long
To cheer our team to victory!
For TCU, so tried and true,
We pledge eternal loyalty.
Rah, Rah, TCU
Rah, Rah, TCU

Fight on boys, Fight with all your might

PEP SQUAD, T.C.U.



1920 TCU Pep Squad

*Roll up the scores for TCU.
Hail white and purple flag, whose heroes
never lag,
Horned Frogs, we are all for you!*

Beyond “Riff Ram,” TCU has had many cheers throughout its 150-year history. Another cheer first used in 1965 at TCU pep rallies is “Icky Dicky Doo-Wah.”

*Icky, dicky doo-wah (repeat)
What'll we talk about
The mighty mighty Horned Frogs
Gonna beat the (insert rival team here)
Umm kick one,
Umm kick two,
Umm kick three,
Umm kick four.*



“Icky Dicky Doo-Wah” is a chant cheerleaders made popular at pep rallies in the 1960s.

From time to time, TCU administrators have intervened to edit cheers. For example, it wasn’t until the 1970s cheerleaders were allowed to say the line “Give ’em Hell” in “Riff Ram.” Up to then, the line was “Let her go.”

Throughout the decades, TCU cheerleaders, marching band, SuperFrog (formerly known as Addie The Fightin’ Frog) and their spirit groups have kept Horned Frog fans’ energy high with various songs, chants and cheers.

One song that truly unites Horned Frogs across time is the TCU Alma Mater. Written in 1928 by student Glen Canfield.

The TCU Alma Mater is played at the end of sporting events and every day at the top of the hour from the bells located in Robert Carr Chapel.

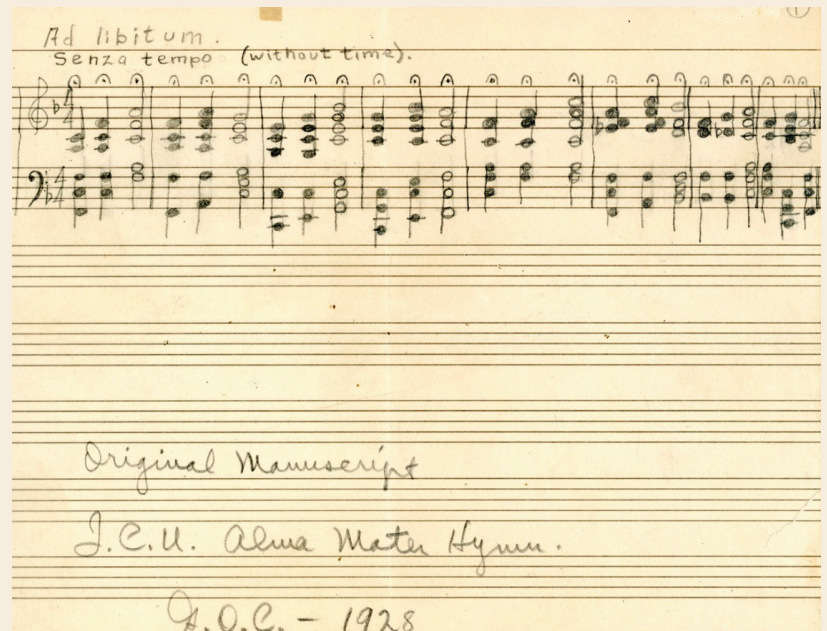
TCU Alma Mater

*Hail all hail, TCU
Mem’ries sweet, Comrades true
Light of faith, follow through
Praise to thee, TCU*

Stories like these TCU cheer traditions are waiting to be discovered in TCU’s Special Collections.



Cheerleaders, 1953



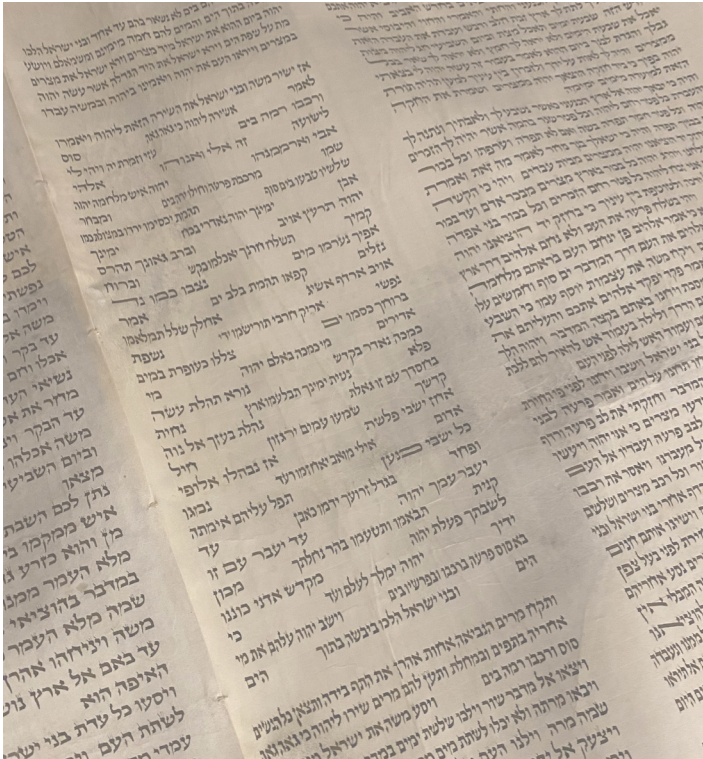
In 1928, TCU student Glen Cranfield wrote the TCU Alma Mater — a song that unites generations of Horned Frogs.



The Special Collections department collects and preserves rare and unique materials including rare books, oral histories, university archives, historical manuscripts, maps, photographs, art and artifacts. TCU Tales are compiled from photos, papers, memorabilia and documents in the University Archives.

SHAPING THE BIBLE

An Exhibit Of TCU's Rare Bibles: March 23 - June 23, 2023



The Song of the Sea is a poem that appears in The Book of Exodus of the Hebrew Bible: Exodus 15:1-18

While we think of the Bible as a collection of texts, it is the physical books housing those texts that ultimately channel their meaning. This exhibit pays homage to the diverse outer forms the Bible has taken as scribes, printers and other artists, using chisels and brushes, metal type and woodblocks, have provided the physical supports that allow the Bible to be read, shared, discussed and remembered, making it the most influential book in history.

Over time, Bibles have emerged for ever more distinct audiences. As new methods of book production and dissemination have emerged, so have groups and individuals to purchase them. Today, there is a Bible for every lifestyle. This may seem a distinctly modern phenomenon, but the role of the physical book in self or collective identity is at least as old as the fourth century. Followers of a new religion, laying claim to the same texts as their Jewish forebears, needed to represent their independence. Their solution was to adopt the new-fangled format, the codex, so-called from Latin caudex, tree trunk, for the wooden boards used to protect the leaves.

Since then, scribes, printers, artists and binders have employed a variety of methods and materials to create objects to express the texts' authority and to identify its readers. This exhibit pays homage to the considerable variety resulted from their efforts, showcasing items dating from the fifteenth to twentieth century.

Asia in the World Classroom

AddRan College's Asian Studies program is collaborating with the library to showcase the breadth of student-created productions, emerging from their Asian Studies attribute classes. TCU Asian Studies faculty worked with students, encouraging them to pursue research and creative-based projects that represent the cultures, languages and traditions of the Asia Pacific. From calligraphy and art to research abstracts, this exhibition promotes the diversity of the Asia Pacific in the TCU world classroom. It also represents the work students have done to promote Asian American Pacific Islander and Native Hawaiian (AAPINH) Studies. **The exhibition is on display in the library/Rees-Jones Hall Breezeway through May 31, 2023.**



Prominently displayed Chinese Scroll



Student Jules Lucid poses next to her artwork



From left: Dean Watson, Provost Dahlberg, and Dr. Ireland cut ribbon to kick off the exhibit



Photos by San Domenico Civic Museum

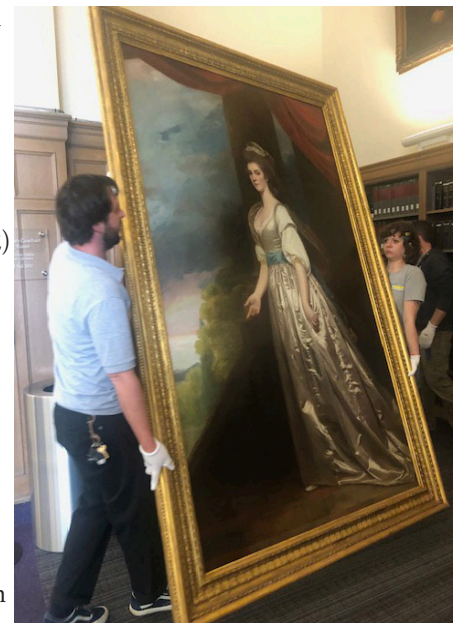
THE ART OF FASHION

In February 2023, the protrait of Lady Mary Every was transported to Italy to be displayed in an exhibit about changing fashion in art over the centuries.

Lady Mary Every, painted by British artist George Romney in 1780, was the focus of one of TCU's graduate students, Janelle Montgomery (2017), research paper for an Art History class. The paper titled "Art and Fashion in the Eighteenth Century," was later published by the Romney Society Journal in England. The purpose of the Society is to explore the art of eighteenth century with particular reference to the life and work of George Romney (1734-1802) and his contemporaries. The publishing of the research paper eventually lead to an invitation to have the painting of Lady Mary Every join the "Art of Fashion" exhibit in Italy.

The painting normally hangs in the library's alcove in the Gearhart Reading Room and is part of the TCU Permanent Art Collection, which contains more than 1500 objects from highly-regarded artists, including Rembrandt and Andy Warhol.

The Lady Mary Every painting is currently on display in **L'Arte della Moda ai Musei San Domenico**, an exhibit connecting art with fashion from the Ancien Régime to the second half of the twentieth century. More than 200 masterpieces of art and 100 dresses are part of this impressive exhibition, with a unique setting at the San Domenico Civic Museum. The exhibition runs through July 2, 2023.



Lady Mary Every heading to Italy

Friends of the TCU Library

Friends of the TCU Library, originally founded in 1972, is dedicated to promoting and enriching the resources, services and operations of the TCU Library. Friends hosts a series of programs each year for book lovers to become acquainted with each other and the many resources of the TCU Library. Friends of the TCU Library is committed to helping the libraries maintain their excellence and has funded over \$1,000,000 in materials and library services. Our mission is to build a greater realization of the importance of the library to the future development of the University.

MEMBERS

Jonathan Abdalla
Susan L. Anderson
Susan Ayers
Anna Baggs
Daniel Beauchamp
Joyce L. Beck
Robert Bennett
William R. Bond*
Scott Bowden*
Evelyn Breaux
Clara Jo Broyles*
Christen Coulter
Gerard Daily
William R. Davie
Bronson & Cathie Davis*
Elizabeth Davis
Jack & Gail Davis
Mike Denhof*
Stacie Donaldson
Michael Doran
Patricia Durham*
Glen Sample Ely*
Edward Fritz
Marilyn Gabler
Bunny Gardner

Johnnie Gunn*
Carol Harrell
Benita Harper
Matthew Henken
William Heroman
Robert Holloway
Dr. Harold Johnson*
Conrad Kalmbacher
JoAnn Karges
Linda King*
June Koelker
James Lehr
Roger Lester
Hayes Lewis*
Edward McMahan
Jane Myers McNamara
Jack Matthews
Sue Medford
Mr. and Mrs. Scott W. Mooring III
Patricia Murphy
Glenna Odom*
Harry B. Parker
Patricia S. Purcell
Larry & Cynthia Reaves
Joyce Gibson Roach*
Judith Sear*
Sue Scurlock*

Jon B. Sellin
James Smith
James & Colleen Stewart*
Mahala Stripling
Sue Sumner*
Joan Swaim
Mark and Randi Thistlethwaite
Jerry and Bridget Thomas*
Robert J. Turner III
Ronnie and Paula Tyler
William and Audrey Vanderhoof
Alan and Sue Winter
John Yowell

BOARD MEMBERS

Craig Barbolla
Stephanie Brentlinger '88
Holly Cimo*
Kevin Kuenzli*
Dhananjaya "DJ" Perera '01
Caroline Samis
Mary Kay Varley '89

*Life Members

In Memoriam

This year has marked the passing of two TCU alumni and past presidents of the Friends of the TCU Library Susan Hotard '64 (president 2004-2006) and Alex Cothran '54 (president 1992-1994). Both were very dedicated to supporting TCU and the TCU Library. The Library is a brick-and-mortar testament to the good work and community spirit that characterized their lives. Their passion for the improvement of the library and TCU community will be missed, but their enduring spirit lives on.



You Never Know What You'll Find Digging Through the Archives

Hours flew by like seconds as celebrity researchers graced special collections to sift through boxes of content and collect intriguing information for a project currently in the works — *The Will Rogers Story*.

Award-winning actor Eric Nelsen (Ennis in *1883*) along with director/producer Johnathan Brownlee are leading the development of this project. In March, they contacted our special collections in hopes of finding some hidden treasures to help bring this quintessentially American story to the world.

Assisting in their quest for knowledge, library specialist Allison Kirchner spent several hours sorting through invaluable memorabilia and providing interesting facts about Will Rogers. Such items found during their search included a pair of cowboy boots worn by Will Rogers, a scrapbook featuring Rogers' birthplace ranch near Oologah, Oklahoma, newspaper articles and tons of correspondence between Will Rogers and Amon G. Carter. The search revealed Rogers and Carter became friends in 1918 and remained close until Rogers' death in 1935. Through his friendship with Will Rogers, Carter had learned about the paintings of Frederic Remington (1861–1909) and Charles M. Russell (1864–1926).



Will Rogers and Amon G. Carter, 1932-1935

“Eric and Johnathan seemed to find a treasure trove in the Amon Carter papers,” said Kirchner. “It was great to hear their excitement when they found items in the collection they knew would be useful for their project. I can't wait to see the final product.”

Friends of the
TCU LIBRARY

TCU
MARY COUTS BURNETT
LIBRARY
THE PLACE FOR GREAT MINDS