

4-15-2017

Founders Keepers Newsletter 2017-04-15

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Recommended Citation

NIU Libraries, "Founders Keepers Newsletter 2017-04-15" (2017). *University Libraries Archive*. 61.
<https://huskiecommons.lib.niu.edu/ua-library/61>

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Founders Keepers

Upcoming Events

- Apr. 24, 7:30p, DeKalb Public Library:: Jeff VanderMeer *Borne* Reading, Q&A, Book Signing
- May 4: Spring Semester ends
- May 5: Reading Day & Friends Ice Cream Social & Annual Meeting (3-5p in RBSC)
- May 6, 8-12: Final Exams
- May 12, 13: Commencements
- June 10: Friends Trip to Printers Row Lit Fest
- June 19: Summer Session classes begin

Upcoming Friends Activities, by Angie Schroeder

New York Times best-selling author Jeff VanderMeer will present a reading, Q&A session, and book signing of his book *Borne* in the Yusunas Meeting Room at DeKalb Public Library, 309 Oak Street in DeKalb, at 7:30pm on Monday, April 24. Copies of *Borne* will be on sale, or you can pre-order a copy from Anderson's Bookshop in Naperville. This event is co-sponsored by NIU STEM Read.

On Friday, May 5, 3-5pm, the Friends of NIU Libraries will hold an ice cream social in RBSC with frozen custard from Ollies with all the trimmings, and the world's shortest annual business meeting.

On Saturday, June 10, the Friends of DeKalb Public Library, the Friends of NIU Libraries, and the Friends of the NIU Art Museum are coming together for a trip to Chicago's 32nd Annual Printers

Row Lit Fest (formerly Printers Row Book Fair). This two-day celebration of all things literary includes an outdoor book fair with over 200 booksellers from across the country displaying new, used and antiquarian books and a literature festival jam packed with readings, discussions and presentations by almost as many authors and publicists. The Printers Row Lit Fest takes place over five city blocks of historic Dearborn Avenue, between Congress and Polk. Plenty of food vendors and local eateries are available. Get up close to hear your favorite authors. The Printers Row Lit Fest is the largest free literary event in the Midwest drawing over 120,000 book-lovers to the two day celebration. Let's get a large group of our local bibliophiles together so we can get a big comfy bus! **RSVP by 5/23.**

Departure: 8:30 a.m.
Expected Return: 8:30

Price: Member of two or more Friends' Programs \$20; Member of one Friends' Program \$25; Non-Member \$30. (Ticket price includes transportation. Meals and incidentals not included.)

Three pick up locations: NIU Campus, DeKalb Public Library, and Fox Valley.

To reserve your seat on the bus, please contact the NIU Art Museum office, 815-753-1936 or email Education Coordinator Stuart Henn.

Please be sure to provide a phone number where you can be reached, if necessary, on the day of the trip. Payment may be made by check, cash or credit (Visa, American Express, Discover and Mastercard) and must be made in advance to guarantee your seat. Individuals who pay upon boarding the bus should pay with cash in the exact amount due (we cannot provide change), or with a check made out to NIU.

Research Associate Position Posted, by Matthew Short

A research associate position for the Albert Johannsen Project (#4744) has been posted on the University Libraries' website. This is a full time, three-year SPS position. Information posted includes the following:

Primary Function: This three-year term position serves as the Project Director for the Council on Library and Information Resources Hidden Collections Grant, "The Albert Johannsen Project: Digitizing the House of Beadle and Adams and their Nickel and Dime Novels." Reporting to the Digital Collections and Metadata Librarian at Northern Illinois University Libraries, the Project Director will be responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the grant project.

Duties and Responsibilities (generally): The goal of this CLIR grant is to digitize the dime novels of Beadle & Adams, the first and most important publisher of the format. A total of 5,400 volumes will be digitized and made freely available to read and download via the website Nickels and Dimes. In addition, the project will incorporate metadata from Albert Johannsen's The House of Beadle and Adams and their Nickel and Dime Novels (1950), one of the most significant works of dime novel scholarship and bibliography of the 20th century. This will include relationships between stories, editions, and authors, which will be published as open linked data on dimenovels.org.

The Project Director will have primary responsibility for digitizing the Johannsen collection, as well as coordinating metadata entry in dimenovels.org with Villanova University. They will assist in interviewing, hiring, supervising, and training three (3) undergraduate imaging specialists; participate in scanner maintenance, calibration, and testing; perform rigorous quality control on digital images produced by undergraduate imaging specialists; process and prepare dime novels for digitization; prepare files for publishing to the Nickels and Dimes website; resolve or advise on complex imaging problems, including those that may require special handling of fragile materials; track the progress of digitization and provide regular time and cost estimates; and prepare annual reports on the project's progress for the Council on Library and Information Resources.

Minimum Required Qualifications for This Position:

The successful candidate will be required to possess:

- A bachelor's degree, preferably in library and information science, photography, digital media, digital humanities, or a related field
 - Two or more years experience planning, coordinating, and/or directing the activities of a group or team of employees
 - Ability to manage a variety of simultaneous projects within tight deadlines, including excellent organizational and time management skills
 - A subjective eye for detail, as well as the ability to make aesthetic decisions as they relate to digital images
 - Ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a dynamic team
 - Ability to supervise undergraduate students
 - Excellent organizational and leadership skills
 - Excellent verbal and written communication skills

Education and Experience Preferred:

- A master's degree in library and information science, photography, digital media, digital humanities, or a related field
 - Two or more years of digital imaging experience, which should involve solving complex imaging problems
 - Experience managing objective and subjective quality control assessments and performing color correction and image manipulation with software such as Photoshop
 - Experience working with digital repository and content management platforms (e.g. Islandora)
 - Understanding of the physical structure of books, and proper handling of rare and fragile materials
 - Experience developing policies, procedures, and best practices
 - Knowledge of best practices for digitization
 - Prior grant management experience

The full job ad can be found at <https://employment.niu.edu/postings/23587/>

Good News from RHUA!

Last week Regional History and University Archives staff learned that Sarah Cain has completed all requirements for the Society of American

Archivist's Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) Certificate, including passing the Comprehensive Examination in February. Congratulations,

Sarah! This is an important step for her career and for the RHUA unit's future plans.



The Last Word

Since the announcement that I will retire this June, I have received questions about my plans. I have many. In fact, I probably don't have time for everything I would like to do! These are some of the top things I will spend time on:

1. Travel. Tim and I have always placed traveling as a high priority, even when it was primitive tent camping out of a compact car. We once sold a car just to finance a trip to Germany and Switzerland. Now we have 6 more grandchildren to take on major trips (the oldest went with us to Spain last summer). They get to choose from a short, parent-approved list of countries, and then help plan our activities. Tim and I also have trips planned for just the two of us (that hasn't happened in a long time!) and the occasional trip with one of my siblings. This summer? Scotland.

2. Gardening. My flower beds, as you may remember, are full of wildflowers and perennials. I don't bother with annuals because of all the shade we have, but I learn more about wildflowers and perennials every year. I'm also asking Tim to help with the flowerbeds since he often brings wildflowers to me for inclusion. With our eclectic tastes in plants and the help (?) of squirrels digging up and replanting bulbs according to their preferences, mine are unusual flowerbeds, but I like them that way.

3. Sewing. I have made clothing for family and myself for at least forty years. I continue to improve and can now customize many of the available patterns to suit my grandchildren's whimsies. I have a small fabric store's worth of material to use before I have to shop for that important element!

And my spools of thread are arranged by color in a large printer's type tray that hangs on the wall. Tim thinks it looks like a rainbow.

4. Reading. Of course I would include reading! Reading for long hours! Uninterrupted reading! Reading all of a favorite author's titles before moving on to another author! I have a long list of recommended reading, which will probably take me several years to get through. Then I can start with another list. I'm sure you understand...
5. Babysitting. The thing about being a grandparent is that you are likely to love your grandchildren with a depth and purity that was impossible with your children simply because you don't have to anguish over every mistake you and they make, anticipating every awful consequence they might face

and every danger they might encounter. You enjoy your time together and don't obsess. My daughters say I was a good mother, but they understand how hard that job is. Grandmother ("Giggy" to my grandchildren) is much better.

6. Cooking. Believe it or not, I'm pretty good at it, although my favorite apron says, "Don't make me poison your food."
7. Activism. I intend to register voters and march in protests whenever I wish. What freedom!
8. Volunteering. There are many organizations that need help: libraries, schools, hospitals, homeless shelters...The needs are great. I won't run out of opportunities.

I have no doubt about my ability to keep busy!