In Memoriam:
Henry J. Blommer, Sr., C’26

In July 1992 the Georgetown University Library Associates lost a member whose impact on the library and the university as a whole has been of immeasurable significance. Henry Blommer, whose name is carried by the Blommer Science Library, the Blommer Information Center, and the Graduate Students Reading Lounge in the Lauinger Library, passed away at his home in Milwaukee, at the age of 87.

Mr. Blommer’s influence on the library and the university began decades ago, and his close relationship with Rev. Edward J. Bunn, S.J., president of the university from 1952 to 1964, allowed him to put some of his most important ideas into motion. For example, Mr. Blommer thought that the university needed a single building within which to centralize the science departments and, equally important, a single science library. He assisted Father Bunn in the fund raising required to pursue this vision, flying his small plane around the central part of the country with Father Bunn as his passenger, visiting alumni and friends who might be persuaded to share their dream. They succeeded. The Reiss Science Building was built and the Blommer Science Library was a significant component from the outset.

Endowment Established for Catholic Studies

In September 1992 Margaret Petzold, widow of the late Thomas Thompson Petzold, C’23, created a generous endowment fund at Lauinger Library in his memory. This fund will ensure the maintenance and expansion of Catholic studies resource materials at the library, as well as access to such materials held by other libraries.

Thomas and Margaret Petzold and their family were close friends and admirers of former University President Edward Bunn, S.J., and Mr. Petzold filled a leadership role in the university’s Progress Fund during Father Bunn’s presidency. Thomas Petzold maintained his strong support and love for the university until his death in 1989. His son William, C’62, is a Library Associate and has continued his father’s tradition of support for Georgetown. Three grandchildren are likewise Georgetown alumni.

Margaret Petzold, in concert with her children and grandchildren, made the decision to support Catholic Studies at Georgetown. This is a new program in which undergraduates may minor, taking a concentration of courses with distinctly Catholic approaches to various disciplines within the curriculum. It features such courses as “Catholicism and Society” and “Catholicism and the Scientific Mind,” among others. These courses strengthen the conviction that Catholic colleges and universities can be catalysts for intellectual and social improvement.

The entire university community is most grateful to Mrs. Petzold and the Petzold family for this enduring support of Georgetown’s leadership role in Catholic education.


**Welcome, New Associates**

Claudia Arnett  
Richard L. Bakman  
David Barillari  
Craig Bertero  
Robert Jan Bojdak  
Walter J. Burns  
John J. Gill, Jr.  
Bruce D. Chilton  
Joseph P. Coleman  
Alice and Anthony Coscia  
Beverly Coville  
Charles H. Cremens  
Eleanor Copley  
Paul Cuddihy  
Maria H. Donahue  
William E. Donnelly  
William E. Durkin  
Ruth McDonough Fitzpatrick  
Maria H. Donahue  
Bruce D. Chilton  
Nicole Edmund  
Stephany J. Freedman  
Stephen Greenberg  
Susan Ellen Nash Foster  
Beverly Coville  
Mary E. Evans  
Paul Howard Kavookjian  
Robert Ganton  
Harman Grisewood  
Eleanor Cropley  
William J. Troy, III  
Mrs. Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.  
Kyle J. Ray  
Mary Edana  
Patrick  
Ronald Lefrancois  
Maureen McNamara  
Lynn E. Norman  
Edward M. Nolan  
Paul Laghi  
Bretton G. Sciaroni  
William J. K. O'Brien  
Barbara Woodward  
Ellen Young  
Jennifer Ziemski

**Harman Grisewood Papers**

Among the library’s most celebrated manuscript collections are those dealing with Catholicism and literature. Last year another important archive was acquired – papers of the noted author and broadcast director, Harman Grisewood of Suffolk, England. This recently processed collection is now open to researchers.

Mr. Grisewood began his long association with the BBC in 1929 as a member of its repertory company. He subsequently held a variety of positions: announcer, assistant director of program planning, acting controller of the European Division (during World War II) and in 1948 he became controller of the legendary Third Programme. This was followed by the directorship of the Spoken Word, and from 1955 until his retirement in 1964 he was the chief assistant to the director-general of the BBC.

But the collection centers on the extensive correspondence he received from three close friends and fellow Catholics: the poet and painter, David Jones, author of In Parenthesis; René Hague, printer, artist and son-in-law of Eric Gill; and Christopher Sykes, novelist and biographer of Evelyn Waugh. The library already houses the Sykes papers, so happily both sides of this unique correspondence are now united.

The David Jones portion of the archive is of special interest, comprising a rich assortment of materials valuable for any study of this profound and complex figure. It consists of more than a dozen letters by Jones; a long series from Grisewood to Jones; numerous original sketches and manuscripts, including a typescript of an early text of The Anathemata with nine full pages of Jones’s manuscript corrections; galley pages for a section of In Parenthesis, heavily corrected by the author; and a lengthy series of letters about Jones from various friends: Tom Burns, Kenneth Clark, Douglas Cleverdon, T. S. Eliot, Philip Haggard, Walter Shewing, Michael Richey, John Rothenstein, and Nancy Sandars.

**Vatican Diplomacy**

A major diplomatic collection was recently donated by Ambassador William A. Wilson of Los Angeles, California. In 1981 President Reagan appointed Wilson, a prominent engineer and businessman, as his personal representative to the Holy See. At the time the United States was prohibited from establishing full diplomatic relations with the Vatican due to an 1867 American law. The law had originated during a period of considerable religious intolerance, but on January 10, 1984 the Senate confirmed Wilson as the United States Ambassador to the Holy See, the first in more than a hundred years. He resigned from the post in 1986.

The Wilson papers are a wonderful complement to the library’s Vatican-related collections and give an important insight into the foreign policy of the period. There is a large correspondence from diplomats and politicians: Julian Amery, Walter Annenberg, James Baker, George Bush, Agostino Cardinal Casaroli, Earl de la Warr, Paul Laxalt, Richard Lugar, Edwin Meese, Edward L. Rowney, George P. Schultz, William French Smith, and Vernon A. Walters. Other correspondents range from Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck to Archbishop Pio Laghi and John Cardinal O’Connor. In addition, the papers include a significant series of letters from Ambassador Wilson’s long-time friend, Ronald Reagan.
Correction

In the August 1992 issue of this newsletter, the donors to the Donald J. McDonough, Sr. Memorial Endowment Fund were incorrectly stated. The fund was established by the family and friends of Donald J. McDonough, Sr.

Spies and More Spies

The death on August 9th of Colonel Russell J. Bowen deprived the library of one of its most generous supporters. The continuing development of the Bowen Collection on Intelligence, Spying, and Covert Activities over the past dozen years, however, has left a very substantial memorial to Col. Bowen. Amounting to about 3,700 titles when first placed on deposit at Georgetown in 1980, the collection had more than doubled in size by the time Russ donated it to the library in 1980; today, thanks to his subsequent gifts, it numbers nearly 14,000 titles and is by far the strongest such collection in any American university library. Through an agreement reached early in 1992, a major endowment fund, derived from property transferred by Russ to the university, has been established to ensure the maintenance and continued growth of the collection that bears his name.

Thanks to the efforts of Joe Jeffs in packing and arranging for shipping, nearly 6,000 more volumes previously stored at Col. Bowen’s property in Maine and Massachusetts came to the library in October. Somewhat more than 2,000 of these are nonfiction; inevitably, they include quite a number to be added to the Bowen Collection, as well as more than 200 titles in Russian. The bulk of the books, more than 1,600 hardbacks and nearly 2,000 paperbacks comprising approximately 3,000 separate titles, constitutes a separate collection all in itself: spy fiction, the imaginary counterpoise to the reality documented in such depth in the Bowen Collection.

The earliest item in the collection of spy fiction, the anonymous Algerine Spy published in Philadelphia in 1787, is one of the first American novels. While it has little in common beyond the intimations given by its title with the genre that came to full flower two hundred years later in the work of such writers as John Le Carré and Len Deighton, it provides a convenient starting point for a collection that aims at comprehensiveness. The “greats,” from Van Wyck Mason and Dennis Wheatley through Ted Allbeury, Le Carré, Deighton, and their competitors, are all here in full strength, many in fine first editions in dust jackets. But the collection also covers in some strength the “second division” writers of exploitation novels in the manner of, or on the back of, Ian Fleming. Many of these books appeared only in paperback; many appeared in voluminous series (the “Nick Carter” series being almost certainly the longest). The presence in the collection of such curiosities of the 1960s as Rod Gray’s The Lady from L. U. S. T. and John Tiger’s I Spy #2 – Masterstroke reveals both the degree to which the genre captured the public imagination and that in which it existed symbiotically with the boob tube (remember “The Man from UNCLE”?).

Like the main Bowen Collection, the collection of spy fiction will be maintained in the Special Collections Division as a separate entity. Are there any Associates who are aficionados of this delightful genre? If so, Marty Barringer, head of Special Collections, would love to hear from you – as he would also if you wish to contribute to the Bowen Endowment Fund.
Judaica Holdings in Woodstock

For a theological research library in the Christian tradition, the Woodstock Theological Center Library holds a surprising wealth of Judaica. This is not only true of basic texts and commentaries related to the Hebrew Scriptures, but also in general reference and in background reading of Jewish tradition. Since the inception of the library in the late nineteenth century, the Judaic collection has grown systematically.

Several rarities have been obtained over the years, including an illuminated Jewish marriage document which is dated in Pisa, Italy, 1790. This document is on extended loan to the Jewish Memorial display in the Leavy Center, Georgetown University. At the Woodstock Library itself, there is on permanent display a Torah scroll which seems to have been made in East Europe by a young scribe in the early nineteenth century. The scroll was given to Woodstock in 1871 by Francis J. Barnum, who subsequently entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 1880.

The basic collection of commentaries and background material contains several thousand volumes in the regularly circulated books. Because of the nature of the volumes, different editions of the Talmud are found in the reference section: E. Goldschmidt's Der Babyloni­sche Talmud (10 volumes); C. J. Kasowski's Thesaurus Talmudis: Concordantiae Verborum (18 volumes); Thesaurus Mishnae: Concordantiae Verborum (4 volumes); J. Schachter's Hebrew-English Editions of the Babylonian Talmud (25 volumes to date); and J. Epstein's The Babylonian Talmud (35 volumes). All of these are in addition to standard sets of the old and new Encyclo­pedia Judaica. Naturally, there are many volumes on Hebrew Scripture, with commentaries, that are not specifically contained in the Judaic collection. Among the rare books there can be found Hebrew Scriptures in the Polyglot Bibles, as well as texts in Aramaic.

The library also has Soncino's Talmud Yerushalmi (8 volumes), the Warsaw, Blackman and Giessen editions of the Hebrew text of the Mishnah; the Neusner translation of The Tal­mud of the Land of Israel (35 volumes to date); the Soncino Press edition of translations of The Midrash (10 volumes); The Zohar (5 volumes); J. M. Wise's English translation of The Babylonian Talmud (10 volumes); K. H. Rengstorff's Rabb­inishe Texte, comprising the Tosefa (6 volumes to date); Tannaitische Midrashim (1 volume); and A. Wunsche's Bibliotheca Rabbínica (5 volumes). These editions of the Dead Sea Scrolls as well as hundreds of secondary sources on them.

In periodicals, the library has a complete run of the Jewish Quarterly Review (old and new series) as well as complete runs of the Hebrew Union College Annual and the Journal for the Study of Judaism (volumes 1-23). Incomplete runs include the Journal of Jewish Studies (volumes 30-42).

The Woodstock Library originated and remained for 100 years at Woodstock College outside Baltimore, the site of the Jesuit seminary. Moved from that site temporarily to New York, the library came to Georgetown in 1974 and by a 1990 agreement will remain here in perpetuum. It is housed on the lower level of the Lauinger Library.

Edmund Provides New Look for Associates

In November, following the fall meeting of the Library Advisory Council, Council member Robert Edmund spent a day at Georgetown working with library staff to revise and expand the way in which information about the library is conveyed to those who are or may be interested in becoming a member of the Associates.

Resulting from Mr. Edmund's visit will be a new look for the brochure describing the Library Associates and the handbook of information for people using the library. Since librarians tend to use professional jargon in their verbal and written communications, he has assisted library staff in examining the written communications that they produce, making them more readily comprehensible.

Within the coming months, the new Associates' brochure and the users' handbook will be accompanied by other changes in the way the library reaches out to its friends and supporters.

Mr. Edmund's assistance is just one example of the many ways in which members of the Library Advisory Council help to strengthen the library.
Library Associates Programs
Two programs were sponsored by the Library Associates at Georgetown University during the 1992 fall semester.

John Gilmary Shea
John Gilmary Shea was a pioneer historian of the Catholic Church in America, and a great book collector as well. In 1992 the library marked the centenary of Georgetown University's acquisition of the Shea library. Selected items from the library were on display in the Gunlocke Reading Room during the fall semester until January.

In the evening of October 16 some 50 to 60 members of the Associates gathered in the Murray Conference Room on the fifth floor of Lauinger Library to hear Rev. Gerald A. Fogarty, S.J. of the University of Virginia talk about why "It's tough to be first: John Gilmary Shea and the writing of American Catholic history." The occasion was special because a dozen members of the Library Advisory Council, in town for the next day's semi-annual Council meeting, were able to attend and meet the speaker.

In the Spirit of the Season
The traditional Christmastime gathering of the Associates came off on a Monday evening, December 14, in the always-favorite Riggs Library, with an attendance of more than 150. Associates and friends enjoyed a couple of hours of becoming better acquainted and making new friends, in addition to the festive ambience and refreshments.

The high point of the evening came when University President Leo J. O'Donovan, S.J. brought greetings and a brief message. A trio from the Georgetown Symphony Orchestra played baroque music and Christmas selections throughout the evening.

Stenography, Polygraphy, and Elliptical Steno-Phonography
The business of getting things down in writing accurately and yet with the speed of oral discourse has stretched man's talents and ingenuity for hundreds of years. Thanks to the generosity of Douglas Gersten the Library now holds a fine collection of more than 500 books tracing the history of that search from 1687 to the recent past. Strongest in English and American titles, the collection nonetheless includes the work of Dutch, French, German, Russian, and Spanish stenographic writers. Among the earlier volumes in the collection are the influential systems of James Weston (Stenography, 1727, "universally approv'd of, for the use of learmers of the art") and Aulay Macaulay's Polygraphy or Short-Hand (1747), as well as William Addy's shorthand Bible (1687) and Weston's Book of Common Prayer (1730).

The collection is strongest in materials from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as might be expected, but even among these more standard items there are some of particular note, such as early Canadian titles and one of the stenographic treatises of Alexander Melville Bell (Alexander Graham Bell's father), the formidably named Elliptical Steno-Phonography (1869). Rounding out the collection are partial runs of a number of periodicals, including the first eight numbers of Oliver McEwan's Short-hand Notes & Queeries (1893), and a number of reference books, of which the most important is the catalog by Brown and Haskell, The Shorthand Collection in the New York Public Library (1935).

Splendid Sets
Four recent publications in multiple volumes have come to the library recently through donations that highlight the various ways that Associates and others can aid the development of Lauinger's collections. The three-volume Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing came as the gift of Joseph P. Coleman, Jr., a recent Georgetown graduate, at the behest of The Wild Geese, an Irish-American cultural organization.

Kyocera/Diamond, Inc. presented its recently published eight-volume work on The Traditional Crafts of Japan, complete with accompanying videotapes.

Dr. John Esswein, a longtime Associate, gave 35 volumes published in the first edition series by the Franklin Mint, and he also contributed the funds to purchase the beautiful two-volume Random House set on the newly-restored Sistine Chapel.
A Note of Gratitude

University Librarian Susan K. Martin and staff wish to express deep gratitude to the donors of gifts-in-kind included here:

American Historical Association
- New imprints in American history

American Political Science Association
- New imprints in their field

James H. Bailey
- Cards from Rosa Porselle, et al.
- Document signed by Daniel Webster

Eleanor Cropley
- Papers of the Cropley and Libbey families

Paula Dobriansky
- Books and journals in government policy

Roderick M. Engert
- Addition to the Cornelius van H. Engert collection

Laurie England
- Fine printing ephemera
- Seven prints by William Hogarth
- Sotheby's sale catalogs

Robert Hopkins
- Additions to the Harry Hopkins collection

Daniel James
- Latin American books, journals and papers

Laura Joost
- Additions to the Nicholas Joost papers

Frederick LeComte
- First edition set of Francis Parkman's France and England in North America

Stephen S. Macfarlane
- Don Freeman's oil, "Sunday letter"
- Kate McCullough
- Books on international relations, some in Japanese

Fred W. Mershimer
- Two mezzotint plates

Theodore Moran
- Books in international business diplomacy

Elizabeth O'Connor
- Books in Chinese art, culture, and history

Leo J. O'Donovan, S.J.
- Books in a variety of fields

Pro Helvetia
- New imprints in French and German literature

Kyle J. Ray
- Lenin's Collected Works, 47v.

Paul Rohon
- Films for Richard Crane papers

Mrs. Archibald Roosevelt
- Persian dictionaries and other Mid-East material

Russell Shaw
- Documentary papers from Knights of Columbus

Eric Smith
- Original editorial cartoons

Genevieve Brunet Smith
- French literature

Donald H. Stevens
- Scrapbook of John F. Stevens, noted railroad engineer and explorer

Mrs. Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.
- Copies of Ambassador Stoessel's papers

Janet Van Grasstek
- Recent imprints in politics

Washington Print Club
- Seven fine prints

Brian Weinstein
- Books in linguistics and related studies

Harry Zimmermann
- Books in history

Henry J. Blommer

Together with his two brothers, Henry in 1939 founded Blommer Chocolate Company, the largest domestic manufacturer of bulk chocolate. The firm purchases chocolate internationally, processes it in the United States, and sells the processed chocolate to candy companies in the United States. Henry Blommer never tired of talking about the adventures that he had in other countries, pursuing a business understood by relatively few people, and his listeners would come away both educated about the chocolate business and fascinated by it.

Henry and his wife Viola helped to create more than a chocolate company; their immediate family has grown to include a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren. Henry's example led several children and grandchildren to attend Georgetown, and then become important participants in the Georgetown enterprise in their own right. Eldest son Henry (Hank) has just completed a term on the Board of Regents; grandson Peter is a recently elected member of the Library Advisory Council; and grandson Steven is on the staff of the Medical Center.

The library, and the Library Associates, will miss Henry Blommer immensely. He was a friend, a gentleman, a supporter; his legacy ensures that students and scholars of Georgetown will never forget him.

The Georgetown University Library Associates Newsletter is issued twice yearly, in February and August, by the Georgetown University Library. It is distributed to all Library Associates, to members of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and to selected others.