Spring 2017

Friends of Dacus Library

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Walter B. Edgar, professor emeritus at the University of South Carolina, and well-known host of the radio program “Walter Edgar’s Journal,” spoke to a large group of over 130 persons at Kinard Auditorium, Winthrop University, on March 22. His topic was “The American Revolution in the Carolina Backcountry.”

Edgar argued the importance of the 17 Carolina backcountry battles of 1780-81—15 of which were victories for the patriots—in leading up to the ultimate American victory at Yorktown, Virginia, on October 17, 1781. He noted that the historic Battle of Cowpens in Spartanburg County in January of that year was the “only pitched battle in the American Revolution where British troops ran from the field.”

Lord Charles Cornwallis, the British Commander, had already suffered gravely in the Palmetto State prior to the Battle of Guilford’s Courthouse on March 15. Even though that particular battle was generally viewed as a draw, Cornwallis’s losses convinced him to move into Virginia rather than retreat back to “the hornet’s nest” further south.

Edgar quoted directly from civilians, ministers, and soldiers involved in the conflict in Carolina to add flavor to his thesis of the backcountry’s impact on the Revolution’s final outcome. James Williams, who died at the Battle of Kings Mountain expressed that he took up arms out of necessity to defend his “rights and liberties” as well as those of his children.

The professor also related the courageous roles of women of the Revolutionary period like Martha Bratton of York County who refused to betray her husband in service with “Sumter’s army” and of young Jane McJunkin who bested a British officer in a tussle over a quilt.

Edgar likewise told the familiar story of 14-year old Andrew Jackson’s refusal to shine a British officer’s boots and having his arm slashed by a saber.

Less familiar is what happened to his younger brother Robert, age 13, who also refused and was struck on the head by a similar slash, dying two weeks later of gangrene.

At times, said Professor Edgar, Francis Marion’s famous band of fighters was a truly integrated unit consisting of whites, Catawba Indians, and African Americans.

He stressed that such were actual historical facts and not “alternative facts.” This elicited laughter.

Edgar made reference in his lecture to Mel

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Gibson’s movie The Patriot, which was a highly fictionalized account of the revolutionary conflict in the Carolinas. The movie, he said, did reflect the combination of idealism and revenge of the period, but many of the scenes were misrepresentations of actual events. The big battle in the movie, supposedly representing the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, was not in truth a total rout of the British as the movie suggests.

After the presentation, Dr. Edgar took questions from the audience and signed copies of his books.

FAREWELL FROM DR. RONNIE FAULKNER

Dear Friends of Dacus:

My last day with the Friends of Dacus Library will be July 31 and my official retirement from Winthrop will be on 9/15/17. I have enjoyed working with you for the past 7 years in development of the library at Winthrop.

I especially extend thanks to the officers and board of the organization for their work and cooperation in promoting library services. It is my hope that the Friends group will continue to grow and contribute to WU.

I will be returning to my rural home just outside of the town of Coats, NC, south of Raleigh. I hope to maintain continued contact with Winthrop and with the Friends of the Library as a Life Member of the group.

Until a replacement is found, I am certain that Dean Mark Herrling, who previously worked with the Friends, will be able to keep the Friends on an even course.

Again, thanks and farewell.

Most Sincerely,
Ronnie W. Faulkner
Secretary-Treasurer of Friends

FAREWELL FROM DR. ANTJE MAYS

Dear Friends of Dacus:

My relocation will occur by mid-June and my formal last day at Winthrop will be June 30, 2017. My new post as Director of Collections at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, includes leadership in managing the UK Libraries collections and collection assessment, plus lots of data analysis, visualization, curation, and stewardship. I’m excited about my new geeky adventure and deep dive into data science!

I have enjoyed working with the Friends of Dacus Library since I came to Winthrop in 1999, serving in varied capacities, including two terms as chair and more recently as webmaster, graphic designer, and photographer.

Thanks for your wonderful support over the years.

Warm regards,
Antje Mays
Friends Supporter and Former Officer
THE LONELY LOSS OF LARGESS...  Dean Herring

Cicero, whom I have read through, mainly in English, but also stutteringly in Latin, probably said it best when he wrote in his book on friendship that, “The rule of friendship means there should be mutual sympathy between them, each supplying what the other lacks, and trying to benefit the other, always using friendly and sincere words.”

As you’ve seen in these pages, we’re losing two very staunch friends, Dr. Ronnie Faulkner and Dr. Antje Mays. From both of these friends I have received what I lacked. I cannot explain in words what their loss will mean to Dacus, but it is my curse in this column to try.

Dr. Faulkner came to us only a few years ago. I had redesigned the position that his predecessor held, expanding the position to include the Friends of Dacus. Dr. Faulkner leaves us having established very a stable Friends of Dacus, a first-of-its-kind Friends Endowment Fund (now standing at almost $75,000), and a solidly stable Content Services Division that he and his team redesigned. I can think of no better tribute to him than to send gifts in his name to the endowment fund he established!

Dr. Mays was the first of the Dacus librarians to welcome me here eighteen years ago. She had not been here many months before I arrived.

Antje, by her own definition, is a wonk. She loves numbers, data, and what those numbers may mean. Antje, in a kind of numeric pareidolia in which there really is a pattern there but it takes an exacting mind to see, has explained to us what all our numbers mean. Antje speaks multiple languages, a real asset for an acquisitions librarian and shares with me a love of getting the most out of every state dollar we possibly can.

When she announced to me a few years ago that she would be pursuing an advanced degree, I knew then we’d lose her eventually. Dacus is too small for much advancement, and once the degree was granted, I knew some other institution would snatch her up. And so, the University of Kentucky has, to their great advantage, and our most significant loss.

We hope that any of you who are around will join us in our celebration of these two very devoted and loyal librarians on 10 May, from 3-5 in the afternoon.

Dr. Mark Y. Herring
Dean of Library Services

BELOW LEFT TO RIGHT AT MARCH 22 LECTURE: Dr. Ronnie Faulkner, Sec.-Treas. of the Friends of Dacus; Dr. Walter Edgar, USC Prof. Emeritus; and Dean Herring
A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

It has been a very good year for the Friends of Dacus Library. We began in the fall with Dr. Gregg Hecimovich’s talk on “The Life and Times of Hannah Crafts: The True Story of the Bondswoman’s Narrative” at the annual Friends Dinner. We followed that with a great spring meeting (over 130 people in attendance) with the distinguished South Carolina historian Dr. Walter Edgar bringing us a talk on “The American Revolution in the Carolina Backcountry.” For those of us not native to South Carolina it was an enlightening event. Special thanks go to Dean Herring, Dr. Ronnie Faulkner and the members of the Friends of Dacus Library who made both events possible. I am already looking forward to our next fall meeting and annual Friends Dinner on October 2 when we will have naturalist and South Carolina Public TV and Radio host Rudy Mancke as guest speaker. Save the date as it promises to be another great evening.

As we approach the end of the school year at Winthrop, and I begin to receive final research papers and projects from my students, I have been reflecting on the continuing importance of libraries in our lives. I become increasingly convinced that libraries are essential to a community—whether of scholars or leisurely browsers. I personally make use of both Dacus Library and the York County Library on a regular basis. Dacus Library is my go-to source for my costume history and design classes as well as my own design research. As a source for leisure activity—the Books on Tape that my husband and I listen to in the car on cross-county trips as well as the novels I keep by my bed to relax at night—libraries can’t be beat. Now with the advent of E-books we have even more choices to select from. I always feel great satisfaction when I can turn even a single student on to the infinite possibilities available to them at their local library. My hope is it will continue as a lifelong love of libraries for them as it has for me.

As always I encourage you to invite your friend to become one of our Friends! Have a great summer and I’ll see you in the fall.— Janet Gray
CURRENT ACTIVE/LIFE MEMBERSHIP LIST OF FRIENDS OF DACUS LIBRARY THRU THE YEAR 2017

Please check to see if your name is on this list to assure that your dues are paid up for the year 2017. For practical reasons spouses are treated as members if either join. If you feel that the omission of your name is an error, then notify Dr. Ronnie W. Faulkner, Secretary-Treasurer of the Friends, at faulknerr@winthrop.edu or call him at 803-323-2262.

Alicia Bagley
Ashley H. & George Barron
Dr. Roger R. Baumgarte
Angela C. Beavers
Dr. Joye Berman
Dr. Marsha S. & Mark Bollinger
Betty R. S. Buff (LIFE)
Rick & Kay Carlisle (LIFE)
Michelle C. Chase
Fred W. & Phyllis Faircloth III
G. Byrns & Alice B. Coleman (LIFE)
Caroline B. Cooney (LIFE)
Nancy Cornwell-Daves (LIFE)
Amanda B. Covington
Drs. Kelly & Beth Costner
Gloria O. Crank
Julie Epting (LIFE)
Fred W. & Phyllis Faircloth III
Dr. Ronnie W. Faulkner (LIFE)
Ms. Janet Gray & Russell Luke (LIFE)
James R. & Paula P. Hendricks
Dr. Mark Y. & Carol Herring
Lynn M. Hornsby
Kim & Rick Lee (LIFE)
Doris & Simms “Mac” Leitner
Lateshia Locklear-Theroux
David A. & Judy Lyon IV
Dr. Antje Mays
Joann Woods McMaster
Dr. Terry L. Norton
Louise Pettus (LIFE)
Joyce Plyler & Mark Horoschak (LIFE)
Dr. Marilyn S. & Roger Sarow
Dino Senesi

Dr. Spiro J. Shetuni
Baxter G. & Joyce Simpson Jr.
Michael & Lorraine Simpson
Gale Teaster & Henry Woods
Lindsay W. & Linda Walker
Dr. Jack W. Weaver (LIFE)
Mrs. Ruth K. Webb (LIFE)
David A. White
J. Spratt & Sandra White (LIFE)
Dr. Jane J. & Bill White (LIFE)

NATURALIST RUDY MANCKE TO SPEAK TO FRIENDS IN THE FALL OF 2017

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Dacus Library issued an invitation for Rudy Mancke, well-known environmental scientist and host of SC-ETV’s NatureScene, to speak at the Annual Friends Meeting on October 2 at 6 p.m. in Tuttle Dining Room, McBryde Hall.

Mancke is a popular speaker and has accepted the invitation. He will select an environmental topic of general interest for his talk to the group.

Please mark your calendar now for this event at which the officers and three new Board members will be elected.
Membership Application: The Friends of Dacus Library (Mail to address in box below)

Name: ____________________________________________
Mailing Address: ____________________________________________
Home Phone No.: ____________________________________________
Cell Phone No. (if different than home no.): __________________________
Primary Email Address: ________________________________________
Class Year (if applicable): ________ Relationship to Winthrop (check one):

__ Alumni  __ Faculty/Staff  __ Friend  __ Parent  __ Student

Amount of Gift: ____________ If you would like your gift to go to the Friends of Dacus Library Endowed Fund (Check): ___

Levels: Life (Individuals Only) $1,000.00+
Corporate (Businesses/Organizations Only) $500-$999.99
Patron $200-$499.99
Sustaining Member $100-$199.99
Member $50-$99.99
Winthrop Student $10-$49.99

If you wish to make a gift ___ in honor of, or ___ in memory of someone, please indicate whom:

Name/address of person to be notified about honor/memorial in box below:

Make check payable to: Winthrop University Foundation

Mail to: Winthrop University Foundation
302 Tillman Hall
Rock Hill, SC 29733

In memo line of check write: Friends of Dacus Library