12-2017

December 2017, Volume 13, Number 4

Winthrop University Archives and Special Collections

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/retrospect

Part of the Archival Science Commons

Recommended Citation

Winthrop University Archives and Special Collections, "December 2017, Volume 13, Number 4" (2017). Retrospect: News from the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections at Winthrop University. 38.
https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/retrospect/38

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Dacus Library Publications at Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Retrospect: News from the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections at Winthrop University by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact bramed@winthrop.edu.
Manuscript Collection Spotlight
By Andrew Johnston, Asst. Dir. of Archives and Special Collections

Albin O. Bauer Letters - Accession 526 - M225 (272)

Albin O. Bauer was a professor and the director of music at Winthrop from 1907 to 1913. He resigned and moved back to Germany in 1913 just before the outbreak of World War I. The letters provide a nostalgic glimpse of life in Rock Hill in the early twentieth century and provide information from the German point of view about World War I by a former resident of the United States. The letters detail the struggles Prof. Bauer endured while attempting to reconcile his admiration of the U.S. with his love of Germany and the German Culture that was threatened during World War I. The letters also relate what life was like following the defeat of the Germans in the war. Most of the letters were written to the Fewell family of Rock Hill, SC with whom he lived with while working at Winthrop.

For additional information about Prof. Bauer’s letters please see the article titled “World War I Through the Eyes of Albin O. Bauer” April 2008 edition of Dacus Focus p. 2

For more information on the Manuscript Collection, contact Andrew Johnston, Asst. Director of Archives and Special Collections at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.

Quote of the Quarter

Winthrop’s first student newspaper was the Winthrop Weekly News. It took on the name The Johnsonian in 1923. In the December 15th edition that year there was an editorial on the meaning of Christmas. The sentiments seem as relevant today as they did 94 years ago.

[Christmas] is a time of thinking and planning and living for others. It is interest in others which gives the season its significance. Much of sordid commercialism—current evil of our age—has attached itself to the celebration of Christmas. But the thing that lifts the season above the capitalization of a noble impulse is the noble impulse itself. What a marvel that the mercenary keepers of the stalls of trade have catered to the impulse to give? What matters that the high priests of business have sought profit in exploiting the universal desire to do something for others? The fact remains that the most beautiful feature of the Christmas season is the evidence it offers of the preference of others over self.

Click here to see the full text of the December 15, 1923 issue of The Johnsonian.

For more information concerning the Quote of the Quarter please contact Gina White at (803) 323-2334 or whitegp@winthrop.edu.
Update on Louise Pettus Papers
By Carson Cope, Processing Archivist, Louise Pettus Papers

The Louise Pettus Papers will soon provide a wealth of information on local history and genealogy. From information on the Battle of King’s Mountain to information about prominent local families such as the Whites and the Morrows, this collection has a little bit of everything when it comes to the history of the Catawba Region. Currently, there are four tasks left to complete before the collection will be available to the public. First, the articles which Louise wrote and/or published in local newspapers will be listed in the collection’s finding aid. Second, the genealogical research which Louise compiled will be sorted by family name and listed in the collection’s finding aid. Third, the photographs will be placed in special folders and listed in the collection’s finding aid. Finally, the miscellaneous memorabilia will be placed in special containers and listed in the collection’s finding aid. We estimate that it will take until the end of the Spring 2018 semester for this material to become officially available to the public. However, do not hesitate to come to the archives or contact us if you have inquiries about articles, books, etc. that Louise Pettus has written and published. Although the collection has not been totally completed, we have had much success in helping researchers locate useful information from this collection. We look forward to completing this collection soon to help serve your research needs!

For more information on the Louise Pettus Papers contact Carson Cope at archives@winthrop.edu or (803) 323-2334.

Rare Book Collection Spotlight
By Gina Price White, Dir. of Archives and Special Collections

In our juvenile rare book collection there is a volume titled Mother Goose and Favorite Fairy Tales. The John C. Winston Company of Philadelphia published it in 1917. A century old this year, the flyleaf is inscribed “To my dear little daughter Susanne Rutledge Johnson, from Mother. Xmas 1925, 4 ½ yrs old.” Susanne was the youngest child of Winthrop founder and first president David B. Johnson and his wife Mai.

Little Jack Horner

Little Jack Horner,
Sat in a corner,
Eating a Christmas pie;
He put in his thumb,
And pulled out a plum,
And said, “What a good boy am I!”

For more information on the Rare Book Collection, contact Gina White, Director of Archives and Special Collections at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.
News Flash from the Past
By Charlene Drummond, Archivist

Did you know that one of the best-selling musical groups of all time performed at Winthrop’s Christmas Dance in 1963? Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, who became internationally successful in the 1960s and 1970s, were the entertainers for the holiday event which took place on December 14, 1963. They were joined by the Catalinas, a group from Charlotte. The Johnsonian ran an article about the dance in the December 13, 1963 issue.

Christmas Dance Set For Tomorrow Night: “Four Seasons” to Perform

Tickets are on sale today for the annual Christmas dance tomorrow night, featuring popular recording artists, The Four Seasons. Students may purchase tickets in the post office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. tomorrow. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Price is $3.00 per couple.

Music for the semiformal will feature the Four Seasons quartet of Vee-Jay Record, Inc. and the Catalinas from Charlotte.

The dance will be held in the college dining room from 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Students attending the dance will be given a free 1:00 late permission slip.

The Four Seasons have become popular through their unique sound. The originators of “Sherri” which sold over a million copies in four weeks, the Four Seasons also popularized “Big Girls Don’t Cry”, “Soon” and “Candy Girl”. Their latest album is “Ain’t That That a Shame.”

Frank Valli is the lead singer of the Four Seasons and is known for his distinct sounds. Bob Gandio plays the organ and piano as well as being a songwriter. He wrote both “Sherri” and “Short Shorts”. Nick Massi sings bass and is the vocal director of the group. Tom Devito sings tenor as well as playing the guitar.

The Catalinas are 20th Century Fox recording artists. They appeared in the feature roll in the movie “College Capers”. The Catalinas were managed by Stan Allan of L.C.S. Corporation in New York. They performed at Winthrop College in 1962 at the Sweetheart Ball.

Jane Stacy is the Chairman of the Dance Committee. Other members include Pat Hioett, Brenda Bumgarner and Dawna Jo Cole from the senior class; Babs Barefoot, Dorris Stevens, and Penny Floyd from the junior class; and Martha Wilkinson, Dianne Thompson and Bet Williams from the sophomore class.

For more information on the Winthrop newspaper files in the Archives contact Charlene Drummond, Archivist at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.
Furen Prints

We love to receive beautiful artwork in the Louise Pettus Archives. Recently, the archives received a collection of small prints depicting the life of Jesus Christ, which belonged to a Winthrop Class of 1914 alumna, Alice Henrietta Gregg. These amazing prints arrived with an equally amazing story. Created by the Furen University painters from the Lung Fu Temple in Peiping, China, these prints were inspired by the Four Gospels of the New Testament and represent an era of Chinese-Christian artwork. The original paintings were created to portray Christian themes with traditional Chinese art style, supporting links between Christianity and Chinese culture. Alice Gregg was a Christian missionary in China at the time of the Furen University painters, and like many other missionaries, she used these prints in her missionary teachings. When she was forced to leave in 1950, Alice Gregg returned to the United States, bringing many of her treasured objects with her, including these beautiful Furen University prints. The prints pictured here are just a sample of these beautiful new additions.

Thank you for reading!

For access to the complete collection or further information, please contact Kaitlin Burdette, Archivist at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.
On November 7, The Louise Pettus Archives was pleased to welcome Mr. Phillip Vorwald. Mr. Vorwald is a contributing historian and member of the Louise Brooks Society and came to Pettus archives to speak on Louise Brooks and Martha Graham. In his lecture to a group that consisted of students, faculty, staff and community members, Mr. Vorwald examined the remarkable lives and impact of these two fascinating women. He used archival documents, interviews, photographs and videos to show his audience how monumental these two women were in the world of dance. He illustrated the separate paths that each woman took to rise to fame revealing the role Graham had in the creation of modern dance and Brooks’ influence on the Hollywood silent screen star system of the 1920s. Mr. Vorwald also told how Winthrop had its own role in the life of both Graham and Brooks by being fortunate enough to have both women perform here. In fact, a program that told of Louise Brooks visit to Winthrop that was found in the Louise Pettus Archives is what initially led Mr. Vorwald to Winthrop and specifically Tillman Auditorium where Louise Brooks performed. By sharing his knowledge and expertise on Louise Brooks and Martha Graham, Mr. Vorwald was able to share with his audience of the Creative Genius and Enigmatic Lives of these two women.

For more information on the Photograph Collection, contact Brittany Pigford, Archivist at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.
Little information is readily available about Julius Friedrich Haasis’ life and work outside the scope of the collection housed at the Pettus Archives which was in the keeping of two of his grandchildren, Cuthbert Wead Haasis and Eleanor Wead Haasis, whose papers form the bulk of the collection bearing their name. From early genealogical notes and bible records, a New York supreme court case about his estate (1888) and a few internet references, we know that Julius Haasis was born February 4, 1827 in Böblingen, the son of Augustus Friedrich Haasis [1786-1853] and his wife Christiane Frederike “Nanette” von Kraft Haasis [1790-1855].

Interestingly, during his youth, he appears to have been involved with the establishment of the first modern Sporting Association in Heilbronn, Germany in 1845. We don’t know exactly when he immigrated to the New York area, but on Dec. 28, 1854 in Providence RI, he married Fanny L. Jaeger [1836-1913]. Brooklyn-based, Haasis was involved in printing and map making in Manhattan by 1858—starting a business with his nephew, Charles Lubrecht before 1861, and publishing the first German biography of Pres. Abraham Lincoln in 1865.

The most interesting holding relating to Haasis in the Archives is a small hand-written, hand-illustrated 40 page, hand-sewn codex, 6.25”x 7.75”, which he titled “Physik Heft” or Physics Notebook. Written almost entirely in German, with occasional jottings in French, English, Italian, Latin, and Greek, he methodically records observations and formulae dealing with the laws of the leverage of bodies. The writings, which are mostly in kurrentschrift (based on medieval German handwriting) move from studying and measuring the deceptively simple act of balance to more complex applications of leverage as used in crossbows, for instance—all of which are illustrated with pristine little drawings in pen and ink, some hand-coloured, appearing to be based on locally observed activities in German-speaking Europe in the 1840s.

However, it is his doodles that are as interesting or even more so than the mathematical equations. On one page, along with applications of simple kinds of leverage, including shears and a nutcracker, he includes a domestic scene with a woman fetching water while a dog sits by a parlour stove; and a church bell labeled “Concordia” being rung—to signal an announcement—again with the use of a lever, possibly reflecting the political turmoil in the German states in the 1840s. Another drawing, (perhaps drawn from life) of the future Alexander II of Russia, labeled “Alexander the Great”. It is known that he was in Vienna in 1839.

While some information about time and place of origin are currently unknown, the notebook appears to be the work of a student, given the subject matter, not to mention the doodling of names and letters of the alphabet in many different scripts, and that it was executed in Europe in the 1840s, given the dress of the subjects. Some clues point to its possible composition in Vienna or Heilbronn (Baden-Württemberg), but further investigation, analysis and translation may be needed to clear that up.

To read Fred’s complete findings relating to Julius Haasis, please go to the digital commons record and download his report (Haasis Family Papers, Acc 234).

If you have questions or enquiries, please contact the Pettus Archives archives@winthrop.edu or (803) 323-2334.
The Louise Pettus Archives held an Exhibit and Reception on November 9th in honor of Veterans Day. The Exhibit featured materials from the Veterans History Project, while the Reception featured keynote speaker was Major Chunka Smith.

The Veterans History Project Exhibit featured materials from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, and Desert Storm. Specifically, the exhibit featured memorabilia from Seaman William Bennett, Signalman Robert Henry Christ, Private Carroll Timothy Duncan, Corporal John Lind, Sergeant David Morris, Captain Tom Hovland, and Specialist Matthew Walkowiak. The pictures and memorabilia featured in the exhibit were donated to the Louise Pettus Archives by the individual veterans when they gave an interview for the Veterans History Project. The Veterans History Project started in 2000 with the Veterans’ Oral History Project Act, which directed the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to establish a program to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of American war veterans. The aim of the project is to: “collect, preserve, and make accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war” (Library of Congress, 2017).

The keynote speaker, Major Smith, a Bronze Star Recipient, is the Chair and a professor of the Military Science Department at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. Major Smith spoke on the motivations and reasons for veterans’ service in the United States military. He talked about how it is not for the thanks of citizens, but rather for the person “on [their] right and on [their] left.” He emphasized that veterans are not looking for sympathy, but rather respect.

We hope you’ll be able to stop by and see our Veterans Day Exhibit next year!

Seaman Bennett’s U.S. Navy photograph, circa 1944. He is pictured in his Undress White Service Uniform. Seaman William Robinson Bennett served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He served in the Pacific Islands on the USS Houston. He received Asiatic Pacific Theater ribbons for the battles he fought there. This picture was donated by Bennett as part of his Veterans History Project interview, and was displayed during our Veterans Day Exhibit and Reception.

Please contact Emily Cranwell at cranwellv@winthrop.edu or 803-323-2257 and she will be happy to discuss how to preserve or donate the materials.
The Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company Oral History Interviews
By Alex Windham, Graduate Student

The Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company was established in 1929 and employed thousands of Rock Hill citizens until 1998 when it closed its doors. The stories of the people who worked there are beginning to disappear or be forgotten.

The newest addition to the Pettus Archives Oral History Collection includes some of these workers’ stories. The oral history interviews give their perspectives on what Rock Hill was like from the 1940s until the present. The workers offer their viewpoints on life at the Bleachery, as the textile plant is known locally, especially regarding racial relations, worker to worker relationships, worker to management relationships, and the overall feeling of being like a big family. The interviews show that, generally, the Bleachery was a good and fair place to work.

The decline of the textile industry was a difficult time which is emotionally expressed through the workers stories and experiences. To illustrate the evolution of the plant, the interviews cover the transition from the Lowenstein & Sons Company to the Springs Corporation. Interviewees include the individuals representing both Springs and the “Old Bleachery” or those who worked during the time Lowenstein owned the plant. This interesting dynamic brings in perspectives relating to the local union presence at the Bleachery, which was a relatively new challenge to the traditionally non-union Springs Corporation.

Finally, as a bookend, the conversations cover the demise of the Bleachery in 1998, what the interviewees have done since the end of their careers in the textile industry and the future of the Bleachery site. Both former employees and civic leaders share their opinions on the City of Rock Hill’s current plans for the site which include a transformation to University Center at Knowledge Park, a multi-use residential and commercial development. The addition of these interviews to the Pettus Archives creates a valuable resource for information concerning a pivotally important aspect of the history of an otherwise under documented portion of the local workforce and will be vital to understanding the overall history and impact of the Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company.

For more information, contact the Pettus Archives at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.
Collegiate Contemplations  
By Gina Price White, Dir., Archives and Special Collections

One hundred years ago the world was embroiled in a savage world war. Winthrop students were not immune to the effects of the conflict and often thought of those on the front lines. Below is a poem from the December 1917 issue of the Winthrop Journal written by Christine Davis, Class of 1919.

**Do You Wonder?**

Do you wonder that your heart beats  
As the sun descends the sky,  
And you know the day is finished  
And the night is drawing nigh?  
Over yonder in the tumult,  
With defiance on his face,  
He is fighting for the victory  
That is to care for our race.  
We are blessed with home and comforts;  
He is far away—alone—  
Does he know that we are praying  
For his safe return to home?

Yet on and on he presses,  
As brave as one can be,  
And his heart is growing stronger,  
For he fights for you and me.  
As we near the Merry Christmas  
With the joyous song and dance,  
Let us not forget the “Sammy”  
Who now strives “Somewhere in France.”

For information on the Archives’ collections and holdings, how to donate historical material, or how you can help, contact:

Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections  
Telephone: (803) 323-2334  
E-Mail: archives@winthrop.edu  
Website: www.winthrop.edu/dacus/archives/

Click here for previous issues of Retrospect