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**Let's Keep in Touch!** Events which are still in development will be posted at [www.wmich.edu/library/friends/](http://www.wmich.edu/library/friends/). We are working developing an email list for updates, so please send us email contact information at

**Upcoming Events**

- Michael Nassaney  
March 14, 2012
- Jen Bervin  
March 28, 2012
- Annual Meeting  
May 3, 2012  
3:30-5 pm
- Donors of Time and Treasure Reception  
June 7, 2012  
3:30-5 pm
- Finals Finish (Spring) TBA
- Board meetings  
January 9, 2012  
February 6, 2012  
March 5, 2012  
April 2, 2011

# Friendly Notes

Friends of the Western Michigan University Libraries

## Preparing for a new facility: "For Generations to Come"

In these days of easy accessibility to e-books, e-journals, and a number of unique items conserved at WMU, I am delighted to report that our physical space is popular.

During the final exam period, Waldo Library is open until 3:00 a.m. five days a week. Up to 700 students study here, even after midnight, using quiet areas and group study spaces. Students catch "Z's," study for long periods and make final touches on a take-home exam or term paper. Library as place will take grander significance as we plan the WMU Legacy Collections Fa-

cility. A site has been approved north of Noble Lodge and south of the Gothic Reservoir Tower off Oakland Drive to house unique collections about our University, the community, and southwest Michigan. Equally important is ready and complete access to diverse users—students, researchers, children, and general public—who will come to this "Civic Resources Portal" to discover their origins, relational ties, and global futures to the community at large. Spaces in the building, such as a reading room, exhibition areas, and a classroom/lecture suite will

encourage this interchange. As faithful supporters and friends of University Libraries, you will be called upon in 2012 to assist me in guaranteeing the success of our campaign "For Generations to Come: the WMU Legacy Collections Facility."

- Dr. Joseph Reish  
Dean of WMU Libraries



## Annual Meeting: The WMU Authors Collection

The WMU Libraries have recently established a special collection of books by WMU authors. This collection is housed on the first floor of Waldo Library near the refer-



ence desk. For our Annual Meeting, this seemed like an appropriate venue to recognize some outstanding researchers from WMU.

Reference librarians will also be on hand to show off some of their favorite sites and databases and show Friends members some terrific research tools.

Of course, we will hold our annual brief business meeting and have some

refreshments and time for members to look around Waldo Library and catch up on the newest features and resources.

Free parking will be available in the Gilmore Theater Complex lot. A map will be posted on our website at [www.wmich.edu/library/.friends](http://www.wmich.edu/library/.friends) prior to the event.

**Attention Volunteers and Donors and Friends: Save the date! On June 7 from 3:30-5 in the Edwin and Mary Meader Room, we will be having our first Thank-you Reception for all Donors of Time and Treasure who help WMU Libraries do their job in supporting the students and faculty at Western and serving the southwestern Michigan region. Please join us!**

## Jen Bervin: Small Infinities and Gorgeous Nothings

And there you have the most decorative landscape in the world, a landscape all color, a dream landscape. Painters for years have been trying to put it upon canvas—this landscape of color, light, and air, with form almost obliterated, merely suggested, given only as a hint of mystery. Men like Corot and Monet have told us, again and again, that in painting, clearly delineated forms in mountains, valleys, woods, and rivers kill the true color-sensiment of the picture. The great struggle of the modern landscape artist is to get on with the least possible form and to suggest everything by hues of color, shades of light, drifts of air. Why? Because these are the most precious qualities in nature

en's Caucus, and the Gwen Frostic Reading Series to host poet and visual artist Jen Bervin for an exhibition, lecture, and poetry reading. Jen will also work in the KBAC studio to produce paper with needle-woven mends.

The Friends of the WMU Libraries are pleased to join the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center, WMU English Department Speaker Series, the Carole Ann Haenicke American Women's Poetry Collection at Waldo Library, the University Humanities Center, the WMU Women's

Jen Bervin's work brings together text and textile in a practice that encompasses artist books, poetry, large-scale art works, and archival research. Bervin teaches at Vermont College of Fine Arts and lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.. Her schedule will include:

### Exhibition:

Gorgeous Nothings

March 2-30

The exhibition will open March 2 during Art Hop, 6 to 9 p.m.

### Lecture:

March 28 4 p.m.

Small Infinities- Emily Dickinson's Manuscripts  
Waldo Library, Edwin and Mary Meader Room

Bervin will focus on visual and verbal conjunctions in Dickinson's manuscripts and how they intersect with earlier formal gestures in her herbarium, embroidery sampler, letters, and editions of books that she read, marked, or altered.

## FEATURED PHOTO



This bookplate is from Western's Music Library, named for first music department head Harper C. Maybee in 1948. WMU Libraries have a variety of bookplates. These often mark important steps in the history of the institution and some commemorate donors.

## Michael Nassaney, Featured Faculty Speaker

"Public Archaeology at a Long Lost Trading Post in Southwest Michigan: The Continuing Saga of the Fort St. Joseph Investigations" by Dr. Michael Nassaney will be held in the Meader Room on the 3rd floor of Waldo Library on March 14 at 4 pm.

During the 2011 field season, Western Michigan Univer-

sity archaeologists continued investigations at Fort St. Joseph, an 18th-century mission-garrison-trading post complex in southwest Michigan. Excavations are providing a better understanding of the activities in the area of the site that is accessible for study. In this presentation, Dr. Nassaney will discuss recent findings, their implications for under-

standing the fur trade, and the expanded effort to involve the community through public education



## Update: Friends Facilitate Book Clubs

The Friends of the Library Book Club was started at the beginning of the fall semester. It is open to students, faculty and staff. Our goal is to encourage reading primarily for enjoyment, and to promote reading as a social activity. The group meets weekly, and instead of focusing on a single

book, each member talks about what they are currently reading. Our discussions tend to drift from specific books, to genres, and to how literature influences and is influenced by popular media and culture as a whole. We discuss both fiction and non-fiction, classics and recent works, and everything

from best sellers to graphic novels. We are always open to new members. If you are interested in joining us, feel free to send an email to [Kevin.Barton@wmich.edu](mailto:Kevin.Barton@wmich.edu). Kevin Barton is a student in Film, Video, & Media Studies and works in the Libraries' Digitization Center.

### Friends of the Library Board

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