

## FRIENDS MEETING TO BE ON SEPTEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>

Dr. **Carl Broadhurst**, president of the Campbell University Friends of the Library, announced that the 2007 meeting of the group will be September 28th at Marshbanks Cafeteria. Officers are currently working on plans for the meeting and details will be in the next newsletter, which will be published in July.

Members of the FOL organization will be able to attend the meeting free of charge, but non-members will be levied a modest fee of \$10 per person. Tickets will be available at the Carrie Rich Memorial Library by the time of the next newsletter.



## FAREWELL TO A DEDICATED STAFF MEMBER



**Rosalie Ferrell**

On May 31, after 34 years of excellent service at the Carrie Rich Memorial Library, Mrs. **Rosalie Ferrell** will retire. Few workers have been so dedicated to serving the University community over the years. She has worked with serials for her entire time of service in the Creek and has been both a fixture and a part of the institutional memory of the Library. Rosalie will be gone but certainly not forgotten!

Mrs. Ferrell's connections to the University go back well before she started work at the Library in 1972. She attended high school at Campbell back in the 1940s when the institution still had a high school program. All three of her sons, Jack, Tony, and Mike, graduated from Campbell.

Mrs. Ferrell always stayed "on top" of the periodical situation by ordering, checking in, paying invoices, and making claims if things did not arrive on time. She always kept very thorough files on everything she did and could tell you who ordered a specific periodical as far back as the 1970s. Contemplating her possible

retirement in 2003, Dr. Ronnie Faulkner said that the Library would be "in a bit of a quandary as to just what we will do when she ultimately retires." Even now, he states that it would be "virtually impossible to find anyone with the same level of dedication to the job as exhibited by Rosalie! She is one of a kind."

"I have enjoyed working at Campbell," reflects Mrs. Ferrell. "Campbell has been very good to me. Working at the Library has been a learning experience and I will miss not seeing all my friends here on a daily basis once I retire."

## CHAT REFERENCE LAUNCHED ON TRIAL BASIS!

On March 5<sup>th</sup> the librarians gathered for the first Library Lunch and Learn session. The topic of this session was **chat reference**, which involves real time interaction via the Internet with a librarian on duty at the Reference desk. **Ron Epps** presented information about the various methods that chat could be implemented. In the discussion that followed the librarians decided that we could implement chat reference here at Campbell by using **Instant Messaging (IM)**. In the days that followed IM accounts were created for the library using **AOL**, **Google Talk**, **MSN**, and **Yahoo!**. These accounts are monitored using a website called meebo ([www.meebo.com](http://www.meebo.com)). In the first month that the service was available to patrons, the librarians received approximately 10 IM questions. This is without any publication of the service beyond a link on the library homepage ([www.lib.campbell.edu/collections/chat.html](http://www.lib.campbell.edu/collections/chat.html)). For any persons interested in using the service, the Buddy Name is **CarrieRichLib** for **AOL**, **Google**, **MSN**, and **Yahoo!**.

## WHAT WOULD LINCOLN DO?



The North Carolina General Assembly of late has been engaged in an action that is not only extremely silly, but is indicative of the sin of hubris. Hubris is defined by Webster's as "overbearing pride or presumption." Such, however, is the result when modern politicians take it upon themselves to apologize for slavery.

Politicians are rushing from both sides of the aisle to sign on to this so-called "apology." The bitter irony of Republicans, members of a party founded on the principle for emancipation, signing and voting for such a measure seems to escape almost everyone.

One might reasonably ask: Why North Carolina Legislators are empowered with the right to apologize for their ancestors? Also, was not the sin of slavery more than expiated for by the blood of the estimated 600,000 Americans who paid with their lives in the American Civil War?

In his second inaugural address, President Abraham Lincoln observed that it might be God's will that "every drop of blood drawn by the lash, shall be paid by another drawn by the sword." He then quoted Scripture, "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether." In other words, the price for slavery has already been paid by something far more meaningful and far more precious than an apology from the Tar Heel General Assembly.

Having lost most of his worldly possessions in the Civil War and freeing his own slaves before the hostilities, Robert E. Lee declared afterwards: "I am rejoiced that slavery is abolished!" He went on to say he would have gladly endured everything over again in order "to have this object attained." Apology enough for any true Southerner!

Nevertheless, if the Legislature, none of whom were slaves or ever held persons in slavery, has the presumption to apologize for slavery, then they should give some thought to what other past grievances might warrant an apology. How about apologizing to Native Americans for exterminating entire tribes and taking their land? Why not apologize to the Japanese for their World War II internment or for dropping the atomic bomb on Nagasaki and Hiroshima?

Wait, the country will soon have more Mexicans than African Americans. Why not apologize to the millions of illegal Mexican immigrants for the Mexican-American War and the theft of the Southwest? Then again, our Legislature may not have to apologize for that because, with the influx of illegal immigrants, the Mexicans may soon fulfill their dream of "*Reconquista*"—retaking the lands won from them in the Mexican-American War.

So, you see, there is no end to this apologizing once it is started!

Sadly, there are many things that the North Carolina General Assembly is imminently qualified to apologize for. Why don't they apologize to the voters of North Carolina for having elected Jim Black as speaker and putting the government up for sale in bathrooms? Why don't they apologize for creating gerrymandered voting districts reflecting their own wishes rather than that of the voters?

Finally, why don't the members of our esteemed Legislature apologize for being prideful...?

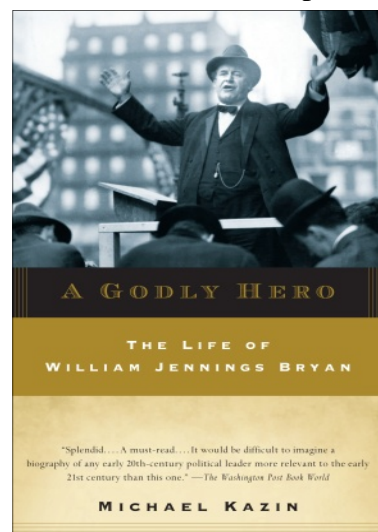
The truth is that the voters should not hold their breaths anticipating apologies for activities that members of the Legislature have actually had a role in perpetrating. No, that is too much to expect; they had rather apologize for something that ended over 140 years ago that they had no direct role in whatsoever.

**Ronnie W. Faulkner**

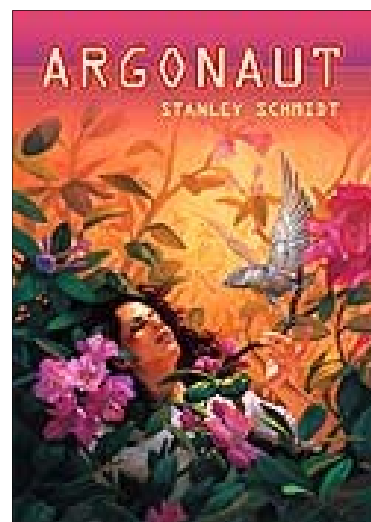
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## THE LIBRARIAN'S BOOK CORNER

Let me start with a few non-fiction books that I have read recently, including Pat Buchanan's State of Emergency (2006)—a truly depressing and frightening book about the threat to America posed by illegal immigration. Read and understand the dangers of unrestricted illegal immigration. Arthur C. Brooks' Who Really Cares? (2006) is a fascinating study of who gives to charity. The author set out to determine if liberals are more generous than other Americans—the conventional wisdom. He determined that secular liberals are the least generous Americans, while religious conservatives are the most generous. Brooks included a map that showed that the presidential election of 2004 tracked closely with charitable giving, with persons from Bush states giving more than those from Kerry states. What factors most explain this? Brooks identifies four factors as directly related to one's level of giving to both secular and religious charities: Religious activity, suspicion of government involvement in economic life, entrepreneurial nature, and a belief in personal responsibility. This book is well worth reading. Another insightful volume is Michael Kazin's book Godly Hero: The Life of William Jennings Bryan (2006). Written by a self-professed secular liberal with little sympathy for Bryan's religion, the author nevertheless paints Bryan in a fair and balanced manner. Kazin evaluated the connection between Jefferson and Jesus, which is to say between the political and religious realms, in the life of Bryan. He concludes that Bryan's evangelical faith explained both his role as a political reformer and later his role as an apologist for Christianity. For example, Kazin understands Bryan's actions at the famous Scope's Monkey trial as opposition to "the survival of the fittest" doctrine of Social Darwinism as much as it was a defense of the faith. Highly recommended as a lucid portrayal of Bryan and of evangelical Christianity.



Now, let me turn to some fiction works. Brian Aldiss's Supertoy's Last All Summer Long and Other Stories of Future Time (2001) is a collection of short stories of varying quality. The first story—the one listed in the title—is one of the more interesting tales and is the basis of the film "A.I." about a robot child who longs to be human. Unfortunately, the book was dull and cannot be recommend. Ray Bradbury's Dinosaur Tales (1996) is a collection of stories on the subject of dinosaurs. While there are a few interesting high points, such as traveling back in time to hunt dinosaurs and accidentally changing the present, the stories are not on a par with much of Bradbury's other work. Alison Goodman's Singing the Dogstar Blues (2002) is an unusual Australian novel about enrollment of an hermaphrodite alien named Mavkel (Mav for short) at a prestigious earth school for the study of time travel. The alien's roommate is an independent 18-year old girl named Joss Asonson, who was the product of a gene donor. The aliens have an interesting way of communicating through song. All and all Mav and Joss hit it off very well and even take an illegal trip back in time by which means Joss meets her true father. This book is written primarily for teens and should have considerable appeal to its target audience. Ursula K. Le Guin's The Lathe of Heaven (2000), originally written in 1971, is considered by many to be a classic tale though now a bit dated. It is account of George Orr, a man with the unusual ability to dream things into being. Orr wants the dreams to stop and goes to a psychiatrist, who, upon learning his secret, has his own ideas about using Orr's powers. The story is a play on the old adage about power corrupting. Stanley Schmidt's Argonaut (2002) is the tale of an invasion of planet earth by alien devices disguised as insects, birds, etc. Three humans set out to discover the source of the unusual insects, which turn out to be cleverly disguised nanotechnology. The story is fast paced, well executed, and highly recommended. Orson Scott Card's Xenocide (1991) is an account of the youth of Ender Wiggins. Recruited by the



government to fight an alien enemy, Wiggins is trained in combat simulation games, and only later learns that his final game was real and that he destroyed an entire planet. At first hailed as a hero, Ender later has to conceal his identity as a destroyer of worlds. Vincent Sweeney, a graduate from the CU Pharmacy School, authored his first science fiction novel Haven in 2006. The book is the tale of the crash of an earth ship on a threatening planet. The planet, unfortunately, is already occupied by unfriendly aliens who nearly destroy the colonists. There are a few stylistic and editorial issues with this novel, but it is a good first attempt. Jack Williamson's The Stonehenge Gate (2005) reminds one somewhat of the movie and TV series *Stargate*, involving as it does nearly instantaneous travel to other planets through an alleged "gate." Even the slave revolt chronicled in the book reminds one of similar revolts in the movie and TV series. While not an original premise, the book is exciting and is recommended, especially for *Stargate* fans. Thomas Burger's Regiment of Women (1973) is a bizarre novel of the future (a hundred years hence), when feminism has triumphed and sex roles have been reversed, creating effeminate men dressed as women and masculine women dressing and behaving like men. Viewed as anti-feminist, the story is a commentary on any type of extremism.—**Ronnie W. Faulkner**

## WHO IS NEW AT THE LIBRARY?

**New Staff** have been hired, including Mrs. **Anita M. Brown** of Dunn, who started as the new Reserves Assistant on April 2. Mrs. Brown holds a BS in Bible and Church Music from Holmes College, Greenville, SC, and formerly worked with Jerry Britt, CPA, Mount Olive, NC. She is available in the Reserves Office at x1309. Owing to the impending retirement of Mrs. **Rosalie Ferrell**, long-time Serials Assistant at the Library, Mrs. **Pamela Kay Guilliams** will start employment at the Library on May 16. Mrs. Guilliams holds a Bachelors degree in Elementary Education/Library Science from Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD, and currently lives in Lillington. She has had seventeen years of varied library experience and last worked with the Huron Public Schools, Huron, SD. She will soon be available at the Serials number x1464.

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