



BANCROFTIANA

Hubert H. Bancroft

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2008

Hundreds Attend Rededication of The Bancroft Library

PAUL BANCROFT III

Great-grandson of Hubert Howe Bancroft

Just five years ago in October 2003 I was honored to speak at the kick-off of the Centennial Drive for the renovation of this beautiful library. I am delighted again today because Dr. Faulhaber has asked me to say a few words about what the library meant to my great-grandfather, Hubert Howe Bancroft.

I was told from an early age by my great-uncle Philip, perhaps Bancroft's

favorite son, that shortly after his arrival in California in 1852, H.H. began to see, dimly at first, but with increasing clarity, that he was witnessing the final march of Western Civilization. From its beginnings in Asia, it worked its way through Europe, across the Atlantic and Eastern U.S. to the shores of the Missouri River where it paused—largely somnambulant except for Lewis and Clark and a few trappers and intrepid settlers, awaiting the summons of the Gold Rush, which turned California literally overnight from a sleepy Spanish

community into the last major development of the Western world.

Jim Holliday, a great friend of this library, documented years later that in 1847, just before gold was discovered, there were only 7,000 non-Indian residents, 7,000, living in the whole territory of California. Yet two years later, following the gold discovery, these 7,000 had grown to over 100,000. And these 100,000 immigrants had for the most part considerable levels of education and practical business experience. Thus, unlike previous his-

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UC President Mark Yudof's remarks impressed and amused Charles and Jamy Faulhaber, Carol and Tom Leonard, and the cheerful crowd.



From the Director

Remarks on the Rededication of The Bancroft Library

When the university bought The Bancroft Library in 1905, it was the largest library in the country dedicated to the history of a single region. It still is, but thanks to my predecessors George Hammond and Jim Hart, it is much, much more. Bancroft holds everything from 4000-year-old Egyptian papyri to medieval MSS to the foundational documents for Spanish and Mexican California to the archives of the Sierra Club to the papers of Michael McClure and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Joan Didion and Mark Twain, and so on, and so on, and so on.

This is a very proud day for us. I speak for all of my colleagues at Bancroft in thanking some very special people, but first of all I want to thank *them*. They pitched in enthusiastically to help us to design the building, thought hard about what they wanted and needed, endured three years of exile off campus, and even now are helping us to move back in. And all the while they were still doing their day jobs. They are extraordinary people. You will see them throughout the building this afternoon, and they will be glad to tell you what they do and how they do it.

The architects took a building gutted down to the bare walls and floors and created functional and beautiful space: Ratcliff, Noll & Tam, thank you!

Then the McCarthy Building Company took hundreds of pages of architectural plans and transmuted them, painstakingly, into steel and concrete, bronze and marble, limestone columns and warm cherry paneling.

All of this was supervised and managed by Ed Denton's splendid Capital Projects staff, who brought the building in on schedule and under budget, making everybody, especially the Chancellor,

very happy.

We have had tremendous support from California Hall, starting with Chancellor Berdahl at the beginning of the project, and now, at the end, from Chancellor Birgeneau.

My Library colleagues have been nothing short of spectacular. My boss, University Librarian Tom Leonard, has kept Bancroft at the top of the list of his priorities for almost seven years. Library Architect Fred Yasaki patiently carried out the often unenviable task of translating from library-speak into terms the architects could actually use and devising creative solutions to problems that stumped the rest of us.

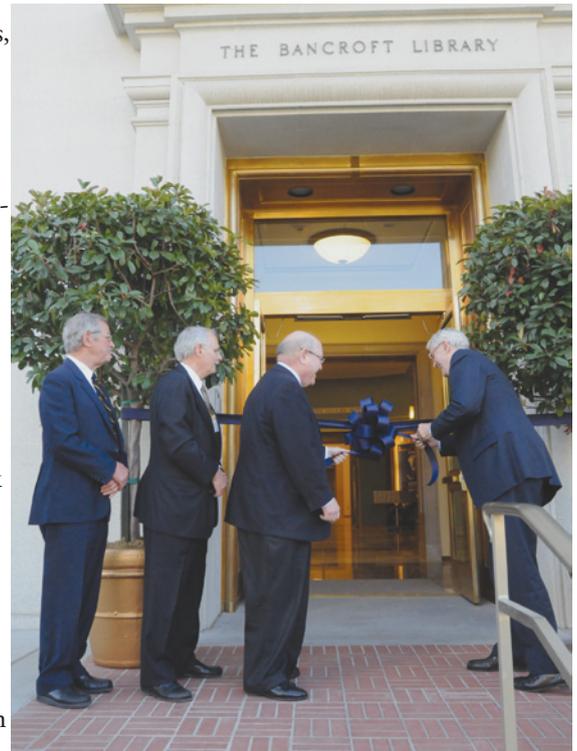
But all of this was predicated on money. Vice Chancellors Don McQuade and now Scott Bidy took Bancroft on as a personal challenge and gave us all the help we needed at University Relations and much good advice. And Dave Duer and his staff in the Library Development Office whole-heartedly and creatively provided the support that our Campaign Leadership Committee needed.

That Committee was chaired by Chancellor Emeritus Mike Heyman, who could not be here today, and Vice Chancellor Emeritus Mac Laetsch, who *is* here, new knee and all. They and the other members of the Committee met about every two weeks for three years to figure out how to raise the money. I cannot thank them sufficiently.

Nor can I thank sufficiently those of you who stepped up to the challenge. You gave almost \$35 million for this project in a little over three years. The key piece was a \$10 million gift from the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation, half outright and half as a challenge grant; and I am happy to see that their daughter Tamara Valley is here today. That challenge grant was a major factor in bringing in more than 700 individual grants and donations,

eighty of them for more than \$20,000.

As you walk into the building this afternoon, please know that this is your building. You paid for it, and as citizens of the State of California, it is your right to use it.



Chancellor Robert Birgeneau and President Mark Yudof untie the knot as Tom Leonard and Charles Faulhaber look on.

And when you do use it, think of these words:

"This is a special place, apart from care and strife and hurly-burly, a tranquil and welcoming place where you can spend as much time as you wish or need in the company of the men and the women who made our world what it is today, from ancient Egypt to the great figures of the Renaissance to the stalwart pioneers who rushed in to California from the four corners of the earth. We have treasures, and we will gladly spread them before you. All you have to do is ask."

Charles Faulhaber

*The James D. Hart Director
The Bancroft Library*

REDEDICATION *continued from page 1*



Paul Bancroft III

torical migrations, they brought instant civilization and urbanization with them in their sudden pursuit of gold.

Years later Bancroft wrote in his autobiography, “What was my task? It was first of all to save for the world a mass of valuable human experiences, which otherwise, in the hurry and scramble for wealth and status in this new land, would have been lost to posterity. These experiences were all the more valuable because the conditions attending their origin and evolution had never before existed in the history of

mankind, and never could again.”

Quoting further—“As an historical library it stood apart from any other, being the largest collection in the world of books, maps and manuscripts relating to one special territory, time and subject. Students of Califor-



John De Luca and Steve Silberstein admire the restored library.



The audience gathered for the dedication ceremony listens to Mariachi Ortega's rendition of "Adelita," the signature song of the Mexican Revolution of 1910.

nia, Oregon and the rest of these Pacific commonwealths may find here more complete material regarding their early history than Massachusetts, New York or any other American state, or than England, Germany, Italy or any other European nation. The reason is obvious: these older areas lost their opportunity; they did not record their history as it developed, and not one of them can resurrect the dead or gather from oblivion.

He continued, (although he may have been a bit prejudiced) “This Western Coast is the best part of the United States, a nation occupying the best part of the Americas, and is rapidly becoming one of the more intellectual and powerful in the world. Its short history of evolution and all the data collected in connection with it, is of corresponding importance.”

Then, with perhaps a touch of hyperbole, “Give to the United States one half of the five centuries Rome gave herself to establish that inherent strength which made her mistress of the world, and this great American republic cannot be otherwise, if she chooses. And when that time comes, California and the commonwealths around, up and down the Pacific seaboard, will be a seat of culture and power to which all roads shall lead.”

Hubert Howe Bancroft believed his collections and work would be a unique repository of knowledge about the amazing microcosm of this sudden confluence of historical events to produce the last full-fledged civilization in the world, all occurring in such a few short years. And he was right!

I might add parenthetically before closing that in *Literary Industries* he said “When it first came to be a library it occupied a corner of the second

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story of a bookstore on Merchant and Montgomery Streets.” This is right where Tommy Toy’s restaurant is today, across from the Transamerica Pyramid. Then in 1881 he moved it to a newly built brick fireproofed building on Valencia near Mission. There it barely survived the 1906 fire and, two weeks later, was brought here to Berkeley, only not at first into so grand a building as we see today.

Now, thanks to all of you for this magnificent new edifice you have wrought, let us go see what your contributions have brought.

MARK G. YUDOF

President, University of California

Good afternoon. It is a pleasure to be here on the Berkeley campus, the first UC campus, and a campus that sets the standard for public higher education around the world.

As President of the UC system, I am certainly not objective, but I do believe that the University of California is the world’s greatest public university.

And I know that the passionate supporters of Berkeley here today agree with me that our preeminent public university deserves the nation’s preeminent library.

I want to give a special thank you to Chancellor Birgeneau for his leader-



President Yudof and Mary Catherine Birgeneau celebrate the rededication of Bancroft.

“The purchase of The Bancroft Library marks a great day in the history of the University . . . it means the inevitable establishment at Berkeley of the center for future research in the history of Western America; it means the creation of a school of historical study at

the University of California; it means the emergence of the real University and research out of the midst of the Colleges of elementary teaching and training.”

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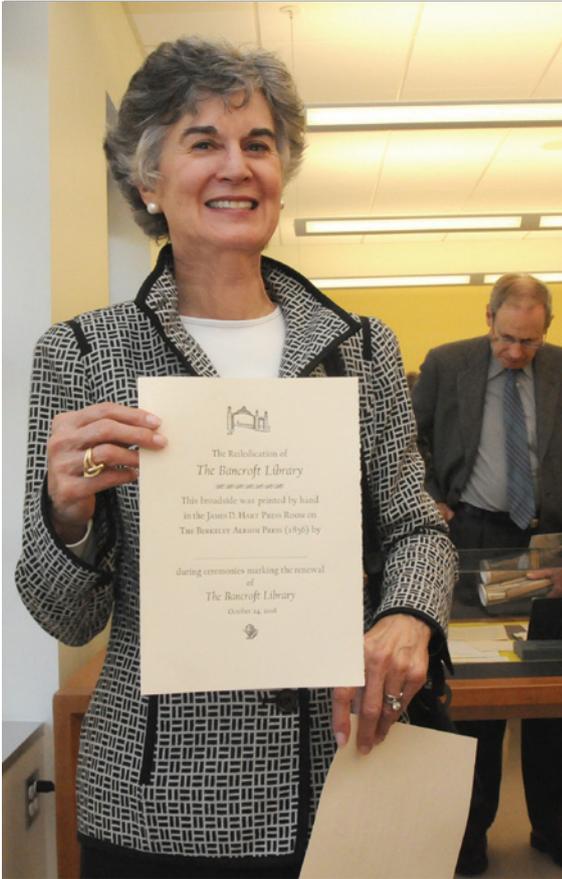
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ship in the renovation of The Bancroft Library. And I also want to thank Director Charles Faulhaber, who literally wrote the book on the Library. The book is entitled, *Exploring The Bancroft Library. The Centennial Guide to Its Extraordinary History, Spectacular Special Collections, Research Pleasures, Its Amazing Future and How It All Works*. Rolls right off the tongue! As you may know, The Bancroft Library was actually founded in 1860 as the personal library of Hubert H. Bancroft. Many generations ago, my distant predecessor, President Benjamin Wheeler, said the following in announcing the University’s acquisition of the Library:



Bancroft Friends Council member Midge Zischke thanks President Yudof for his eloquent remarks.



Carol Field, the daughter of former director James D. Hart, proudly displays her dedication keepsake, just printed on the 1856 Albion hand press in the press room named after her father.

Director Faulhaber for their efforts in working with Congressman Lantos to ensure that his papers would have the proper home.

On a personal note, I am a collector of antique maps. I view them as a window onto the culture of the time. I could spend days on end at Bancroft, examining any of the more than 20,000 antique maps that are part of the collection.

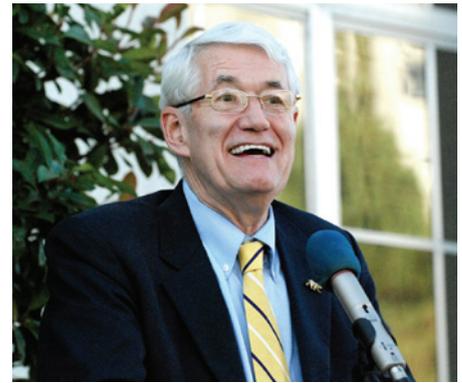
Some of you may be more interested in the Mark Twain Collection, or the manuscripts of Joan Didion, or fragments of the lost play of Sophocles. Bancroft has an incredible collection of materials to suit any interest.

Most importantly, this library will continue to be a critical resource to support the advancement of knowledge that is our mission at the University of California.

I congratulate all of you who have been engaged in this important endeavor,

I thank you for the opportunity to be here today, and I look forward to returning to The Bancroft Library for many years to come.

Thank you.



ROBERT BIRGENEAU
Chancellor, UC Berkeley

President Yudof, distinguished guests, Friends of The Bancroft Library

It didn't take me long after arriving at Berkeley to realize what a treasure we have in Bancroft. As everything becomes more digital and the world becomes more connected, the collections that will mark a great library are precisely the unique materials that can be found nowhere else: Mark Twain's papers, of course—and I urge you to visit the delightful exhibition in Bancroft's new gallery, "Mark Twain at Play"—, but also the ancient Greek papyri from Egypt, excavated by an expedition funded by Phoebe Apperson Hearst, or the manuscripts that Hubert Howe Bancroft rescued from the California missions.

For the first time in Bancroft's more than one hundred years on the Berkeley campus we now have a building worthy of the treasures it contains. And for the first time in its almost 150-year-history, The Bancroft Library is protected from earthquake and fire.

And it's a beautiful building, as you will see after we cut the ribbon behind me in a few minutes. I want to pay tribute to the Ratcliff and Noll & Tam architects, to our capital projects staff under Ed Denton, to the Library and Bancroft staff under Tom Leonard and Charles Faulhaber, and especially to the foundations and private donors who made this all possible. I am enormously grateful to all of you.



Les Ferriss helps master printer Jack Stauffacher and Jack's wife, Josephine, print their dedication keepsake on Bancroft's 1856 Albion hand press while George Smith and Bob Sproul look on. Photo: Randal Brandt

A TALE OF TWO COLLECTIONS

The Papers of Herbert Bolton and George Hammond

Our story begins in the summer of 2008 while I was processing the George P. Hammond Papers. I opened Carton 68 expecting to find seminar papers written by Hammond's students, and indeed the carton contained seminar papers. But were they from Hammond's courses? No. In fact, they came from the Herbert E. Bolton Papers, the other collection I was working on as part of a year-long project funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. It was clear—because the papers were labeled with Bolton's call number, and if there was one thing Hammond was good at, it was leaving a paper trail—that Hammond borrowed these papers from the Bolton collection for their research value. But he never returned them to that collection, and instead they were absorbed into his own papers, later donated to The Bancroft Library. As I put these materials back in their proper place in the Bolton collection, I considered how Hammond and Bolton were two of a kind—professors of Latin American history, directors of Bancroft, and adventurers in the field of historical research. Each man's collection contains fascinating materials related to the Spanish Borderlands (present day Northern Mexico and the southwestern United States), some of which I shall highlight here.

But first, a brief outline of the project. The Bolton Papers were originally processed in 1961 by long-time Bancroft staff member Vivian Fisher and have been heavily cited by researchers. The finding aid, however, did not meet current standards and was available for use only in the reading room. Hammond's papers were essentially inaccessible, with just a basic record in the online catalog and with little arrangement. The Spanish

Borderlands processing project* will make these collections available to a wider audience by improving their arrangement, adding substantially to the existing description, and publishing the finding aids in the Online Archive of California.

The Bolton Papers consisted of three parts, with Part I (Research Materials) and Part II (Correspondence) receiving the most use. The Research Materials are primarily transcriptions

and translations of archival resources from Mexico and Spain. In order to arrange the collection more transparently, I created three new series: Writings, Teaching Materials, and Professional Activities, all of which were previously lumped together in Part III. The correspondence required the most effort to process, but with the help of student assistants Alix Black and Rachel Gulbraa, we found a silver lining that made this normally tedious



George P. Hammond, adventurer, professor of Latin American history, and former Director of The Bancroft Library.

task more fun. Nearly every box of letters yielded a new personal name of interest—usually first names that long ago fell out of fashion, such as Halvor (meaning “rock guardian”) and Una. My other assistant, Arcadia Falcone, unearthed such treasures as a song about Sir Francis Drake, and limericks from a contest Bolton held to help his students learn history. Thanks to their work, researchers will now be able to access this collection on a much deeper level.

George Hammond (Cal '20), Bolton's student and protégé, carried the Borderlands torch out into other universities, namely North Dakota, Arizona, and New Mexico. While at the University of New Mexico, in 1940, Hammond and Bolton set out with a team to retrace the trail of Spanish explorer Francisco Vázquez de Coronado in honor of the exploration's 400th anniversary (the photographs accompanying this article are from the Hammond Papers). In 1946, Hammond returned to the University of California to take on the directorship of The Bancroft Library, which he held until 1964.

The two series in Hammond's collection that reveal the most about his life and work are Correspondence and Professional Activities. Both reflect the wide network he established while still a young man, one that he drew on while director and that remained strong through the 1980s. Hammond kept an office in Bancroft after his retirement and was especially active with the Friends of The Bancroft Library, which he helped to create in 1946, at a meeting in San Francisco's Bohemian Club. The Professional Activities series includes materials about The Bancroft Library and shows how his leadership helped the library become what it is today, with, for example, the incorporation of the University Archives and the Regional Oral History Office. This series also contains correspondence that documents his role in publishing works on the Borderlands, another way that he carried on Bolton's legacy.

Other highlights from the collections that will be of interest to



Herbert E. Bolton, also a professor of Latin American history and former Director of The Bancroft Library, following the Coronado trail in 1940.

researchers include Bolton's speeches, many of which were written on the backs of envelopes; materials on the Drake Plate of Brasse (declared authentic by Bolton, but then proven fake as documented in Hammond's papers and later confirmed by metallurgical analysis commissioned by Hammond's successor James D. Hart); photographs and slides from Hammond's many research trips (including a Fulbright fellowship in Spain in the mid-1960s); and materials from Hammond's work as an historical researcher on the Navajo Indians for Norman Littell, the tribe's lawyer.

It is my hope that researchers interested in the Herbert Bolton Papers will see the same value in the George Hammond Papers. They should consult this second collection not only for Hammond's connection to Bolton, but also to see how the history of California and the Southwestern U.S. was documented in the second half of the 20th century.

Anastasia Karel
Borderlands Project Archivist

* A third collection, the Abraham Nasatir Papers, will be processed after the other two are finished.

Making California Immigration History Public

The new year of 2009 marks the launch of www.WeAreCA.org, a dynamic new website developed by the California Council for the Humanities (CCH) that explores the history of California im/migration (international immigration and domestic migration). As the independent state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, CCH operates both as a grant-making organization and as a creator of public humanities programs. The most ambitious program it has yet undertaken, CCH's [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org) shows in vivid detail, and in English and Spanish, how im/migration has shaped, and continues to shape, California.

The website is unlike anything created before on California im/migration history: [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org) features narrative overviews and historical analysis written and reviewed by some of the top scholars working in California history. It is a feast for the eyes and ears because it includes photographs and multimedia materials drawn from the collections of The Bancroft Library and

other archives around the world. And it empowers website users by inviting them to write their own coming-to-California stories and post them to the website, along with their own images and video. The combination of scholarly expertise, illuminating gems from the archives, and moving first-person accounts results in a unique educational resource that can serve as the basis of conversation, further exploration, and even in-depth historical analysis for the public audience the website hopes to reach.

Over the past 18 months I have served as lead scholar for the [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org) project. Working with a group of distinguished California historians, including Inés Casillas of UC Santa Barbara, and Bill Devereaux of the University of Southern California, we have written and vetted the narrative and interpretive content that forms the basis of the website. Users of [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org) now have at their fingertips a remarkable resource: an accessible history of im/migration to California. This website tells this history in broad

sweep, from the impersonal forces of war and economic change that send groups looking for new homes to the personal stories of individuals who come to call California home.

California is nothing if not a multiplicity of voices, a variety of viewpoints. From the outset, the team that created [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org) was determined to incorporate this diversity into the website through a sustained exploration of the vast number of groups who have moved to California over the past several hundred years, from Spanish missionaries in the late 18th century to Pakistani immigrants in the dot.com boom of the late 20th century. The builders of [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org), however, knew that the diversity of im/migration stories would always exceed the ability of scholars to write about them. So the website invites users of all ages and backgrounds to share their own im/migration stories—or perhaps those of their parents or even distant ancestors. Only in this way will [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org) reflect the rich diversity of California.

Last summer CCH partnered with the California History-Social Science Project at UC Davis to give teachers around the state a sneak peek at the site. Jeff Pollard, a teacher from the Natomas Charter School, and I presented the website and lesson plans drawn from it to teachers in southern and northern California. The response was enthusiastic, and many of the teachers expressed interest in having their students not only use the website as an educational tool but contribute stories to it as well. When [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org) launches, the first batch of student-authored stories will be available for all to read. One high school senior from Glendale told her coming-to-California story with timeless prose, linking im/migrants in decades past with those today:



Northern Valley Yuki Indians hunting on San Francisco Bay, an image on the [WeAreCA.org](http://www.WeAreCA.org) website contributed by The Bancroft Library. BANC PIC 1963.002: 0368-B



This Dorothea Lange photo of a migrant family illustrates one of the many stories of immigration on the website.

“On April 4th 1998, it was the day when my family’s lives changed forever. My mom and sisters were very nervous like I was. We knew that we were going to start our new lives here and build our home in a country where we did not know anything

about. I was seven years old when I first stepped my foot in America. This was the most beautiful place I had ever seen. I was much scared to start school here because I did not know the language. I remember coming home from school and crying to my mother, tell-

ing her I want to go back to Armenia. After time passed by I started to adapt the new ways of things in this country. All in all, now I think that I can never go live in another country in my life.”

The WeAreCA.org website launches as we inaugurate a new President and as a new Congress begins session. And while the thorny issue of immigration reform did not become the political issue many thought it would in 2008, it is likely to return as a major concern, and possible subject of legislation, in 2009. WeAreCA.org does not aspire to influence politics, policy, or public opinion in any specific manner. But, as a scholar who contributed to the website, I hope that WeAreCA.org can serve as a starting point for dialog—between students and teachers, between parents and children, and between recent arrivals to California and those whose roots run deep in this land. And it is here that we find a shared mission between WeAreCA.org and The Bancroft Library: the desire to apply a deep knowledge of the past to the project of creating a vital present for California.

Martin Meeker
Regional Oral History Office

The doors are open and the researchers have returned to The Bancroft Library on campus. The staff began moving the collections back into the beautifully reconfigured new climate-controlled and secure space last July, continuing the move through the fall. The library opened officially to the public on January 5, 2009, and researchers returned in full force as the students returned to campus after the intersession.

The Bancroft Library, free and open to the public Monday through Friday from 10am until 5pm, is located at the center of the UC Berkeley campus, just west of the Campanile. The marble-floored entrance is stunning under the rotunda. On the ground floor, the new exhibit gallery currently features a display of “Mark Twain at Play,” including a rare early moving picture of Mark Twain having tea with his daughters. The Regional Oral History Office now occupies the ground floor, while the reading room is located on the second floor at the top of a grand stairway. Finally, The Bancroft Library is housed in a building which befits the superb quality of the collections.



Susan Snyder, Head of Public Services, and Baiba Strads, Acquisitions Assistant, assist the first patrons to return to The Bancroft Library on January 5, 2009. Photo: Peter Hanff

Class of '58 Donates \$1 Million to Mark Twain Project



Ed Peterson presents Bob Hirst with a miniature Mark Twain bench.

On Sunday, October 5, the last day of Homecoming Weekend for 2008, the Class of 1958 presented a check for \$1 million to Chancellor Robert J. Birgeneau as part of its 50th Reunion Gift to Cal. (The total gift, in excess of \$3.77 million, set a record for the largest 50th reunion gift in Cal his-

tory.) The \$1 million check presented that Sunday morning was earmarked for an endowment to support the work of the Mark Twain Papers and Project. With one stroke it created a sea-change in the way the Project can be funded, now and in the future.



Don Kosovac listens to Roger Samuelsen at the presentation ceremony.

Such an extraordinary gift to the University—and to all of Mark Twain's loyal fans!—was the result of almost six years of intense effort by the 50th Reunion Gift Committee, chaired by Ed Peterson who, with Roger Samuelsen and Don Kosovac, succeeded in marshalling the generosity of hundreds



Charles Faulhaber



Roger Samuelsen and Don Kosovac present Chancellor Birgeneau with a check for \$1 million while Ed Peterson looks on.



The Class of 1958 tours the Mark Twain at Play exhibit in the newly refurbished Bancroft.

of their classmates, almost two hundred of whom attended the presentation ceremony under the Campanile, and later got a brief look at the newly refurbished Bancroft Library, in

particular the Class of 1958 Reading Room within the suite devoted to the Mark Twain Papers. The original goal of the Class was set at \$580,000, but by dint of truly Herculean efforts and

generosity, the final total was nearly double that amount.

Robert H. Hirst
General Editor, Mark Twain Project



Ed Peterson and Roger Samuelsoen proudly display the plaque for the Class of 1958 Reading Room.



Mark Twain (aka McAvoy Layne) embraces Class of '58 member Carol Jackson Upshaw in the new Valley Rotunda.

Gifts Benefiting The Bancroft Library

July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008

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Western North America ca. 1840. Bronze medallion in the Valley Rotunda floor.

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THE FRIENDS OF THE BANCROFT LIBRARY

Spring 2009 Calendar

EXHIBITION

Through April 18, 2009

MARK TWAIN AT PLAY

Bancroft Exhibition Gallery

EVENT

Saturday, April 18

**ANNUAL MEETING
 OF THE FRIENDS OF
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Presentation of the Hubert Howe Bancroft Award to Bill, Jean, and Joan Lane, of *Sunset* magazine.

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ROUNDTABLES

An open informal discussion group featuring presentations by scholars engaged in Bancroft research projects. Sessions are held in the Lewis-Latimer Room of the Faculty Club on the third Thursday of the month at noon.

Thursday, March 19

R. TODD WELKER

John Francis Pyle and the Economic Culture of Rural California in the Late Nineteenth Century

Thursday, April 16

WILLIAM WAGNER

To Grow Up with the Country: Pioneers, Personal Narrative, and Historical Memory

Thursday, May 21

AUDREY CLARK

Little Postage Stamps of Native Soil: The Modernist Haiku during Japanese Exclusion

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