

NO.56 FALL 2000
BENE LEGERE
 NEWSLETTER OF THE
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The Library Associates

Join more than 6,000 other friends, book lovers, alumni, and faculty who recognize that the influence of a great research library reaches beyond the university it serves to the many communities of which it is a part.

Library Associates receive complimentary copies of the quarterly newsletter *Bene Legere*, as well as invitations to special occasions at the Library. For more information on the Library Associates program, please write or telephone: The Library Development Office, Room 188 Doe Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-6000; telephone (510) 642-9377. Or, [check our website](#).

RECENT GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY

Library friends continue to demonstrate their generosity by providing us with a variety of gifts and gifts-in-kind. There is not space enough to name all of the special gifts that we have received recently, but we want the donors to know that all gifts are appreciated, not only as support for a particular Library collection or program, but also as an expression of loyalty and commitment to the Library in general.

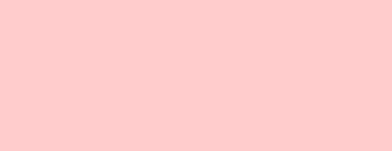
Following up on the gift that it made in 1997 to support the Judaica collections, the **Koret Foundation** has made another generous gift, which will also be dedicated to the Judaica collections. Jewish studies is a dynamic and growing area of study. In 1999 Cal established for the first time a four-course undergraduate sequence in Jewish studies, which, combined with existing graduate programs and a joint doctoral program with the Graduate Theological Union, requires the Library to increase its holdings in this subject area. We are most appreciative of the Koret Foundation.

Marie Otto '28 made a significant gift to the Library's French collections. Mrs. Otto has been supporting the Library's French collections since 1989. According to Alan Ritch, associate university librarian and director of collections, "French remains one of the two or three great languages of scholarly communication, important in the discourse of all disciplines.... To remain distinguished, our French collections depend increasingly on individuals who continue to recognize the language's enduring importance."

Noting that funding for the new East Asian Library and Studies Center remains an important University priority, **William ('65, MBA '69) and Laurel Lyman** have made a gift to that project. According to Bill Lyman, a Library Advisory Board member, "East Asia has always been an interest and we are certainly excited that Berkeley is confirming its leadership in East Asian scholarship by building a home fit for the quality of the collections."

The Wells Fargo Foundation is supporting an important new project initiated by the Friends of the Bancroft Library. They have created a series of audiotope recordings that highlight important events in the history of California (and reflect strengths of the Bancroft collections): California-Mexico relations, the California Gold Rush and its aftermath, and the literary works of Mark Twain. Thanks to the generosity of the **Wells Fargo Foundation**, these tapes will be distributed free or at a low cost to nearly 1,000 California public libraries, state officials, and every county supervisor. In addition, the **Wells Fargo Foundation** has arranged to have the tape on California-Mexico relations translated into Spanish and distributed to fourth grade classes in Los Angeles county.

Recognizing the importance of a recent Bancroft Library project to put on-line a catalog raisonné of the Robert Honeyman, Jr., pictorial collection of early Western Americana, an **anonymous donor** has provided the funding to publish the catalog raisonné in book form as well. According to Jack Von Euw, curator of the Bancroft pictorial collections, the book will be profusely illustrated with the best examples from the collection, and will contain several essays that will place the sketches, paintings, maps, and drawings from the collection in the context of the discovery, settlement, expansion, and building of urban centers in



California. We are delighted that the donor has chosen to support this worthwhile project.

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