

Collins Library Newsletter – Fall 2008

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Say hello to our new Government Documents & Electronic Services Librarian, Ray Walling



Please join us in welcoming Ray Walling to Baker. Ray has been hard at work in the library since early August, but we want to take this opportunity to fill you in on the particulars. Ray received his MSI (Masters of Science in Information) at the University of Michigan in the spring of 2008. Ray got interested in government documents his first semester in graduate school and followed that with an internship in the Documents Center at the University of Michigan, an outstanding depository library.

The internship involved indexing the questions asked by census-takers down through the years. They provided him with a pretty interesting look at cultural sensitivity and change. The question about disabilities from the 1870 census grates on our ears today. Imagine asking if anyone in the household is “deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.” Apparently, the definition of “idiocy” was to be determined by “common consent of the neighborhood.” Questions from 1910 included questions asked of Native Americans about whether any of their wives were sisters. In another century, the question from the 2000 Census about when an individual usually leaves home to go to work may sound just as peculiar.

Although he majored in history, working with US government documents wasn't the obvious next step for Ray, who did his undergraduate honors thesis at Westminster College (New Wilmington, PA) on Sparta before and during the Peloponnesian War. However, his interests are wide-ranging and include playing a variety of musical instruments (clarinet, sax, string bass, bass drum – looks like he's only missing a brass instrument) and singing.

In the short time he's been at Baker, he's done a bang-up job of moving the rather complicated library website into the new University website. This spring he'll be heading up a serious review of the current library website. The current website was recognized as an exemplary college library website a number of years ago, but "exemplary" is a moving target and Ray will be calling on members of the Baker community to reach that target over and over again.

Ray, we're so glad you're here.

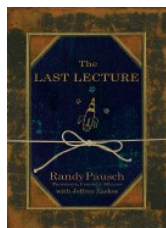
Barbara Pressgrove assumes role as Quayle Collection Coordinator



Longtime mail and copy center staff member Barbara Pressgrove joined the library family a couple of months ago as coordinator of the Quayle Rare Bible Collection. She has been hard at work in the collection, Monday and Thursday afternoons, examining the items and ensuring they're in good condition and in their proper locations; scheduling docents, who welcome guests and answer their questions on Sunday afternoons; and marketing the Quayle to schools, churches and other interested groups in the surrounding area. We're quite happy to have Barbara on board.

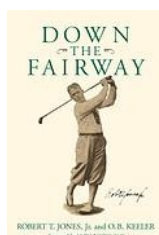
Baker Reading Shelf – Lowell Jacobsen

Rhodes Professor of International Business Lowell Jacobsen sends us his reading list for the Fall 2008 edition of Baker Reading Shelf.



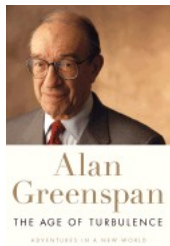
The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch

No doubt, every college professor is familiar with this recent bestseller. This book is poignant, terribly sad at times, brutally honest, sometimes funny, and so inspiring. Pausch reminds teaching is indeed a noble profession. Certainly, as teachers, we want to help our students learn how to learn as Pausch acknowledges. However, he posits it may be more important "to help students learn how to judge themselves" and be "more self-reflective". Get *The Last Lecture* via [interlibrary loan](#).



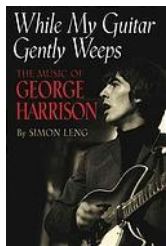
Down the Fairway by Robert T. Jones, Jr. and O.B. Keeler

This is the autobiography of a most remarkable golfer and person at just the age of twenty-five. In 1927, Bobby Jones had just accomplished in one summer what no golfer had done before him – i.e., he won both the US Open and British Open. Before going back to Emory University to complete his law degree, he co-wrote this book with the noted golf journalist, O.B. Keeler. Three years later he won the Grand Slam resulting in a total of 13 majors and promptly stopped playing championship golf. At age 28, Jones established his reputation as the most successful amateur golfer who would ever live. Not even Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods achieved such success as golfers. Bobby Jones was one of the world's greatest sportsmen and as a result golf is still regarded as game for gentlemen and gentle ladies. It should be added his degree from Emory followed degrees from Harvard and Georgia Tech. Yes, he was very much a "gentleman and a scholar". Get *Down the Fairway* via [interlibrary loan](#).



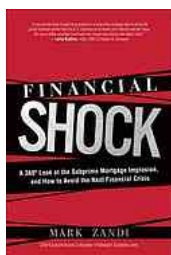
The Age of Turbulence by Alan Greenspan

From 1987 to 2006, Alan Greenspan was the "second most powerful man in the world" as chairman of the Federal Reserve. In this autobiography, Greenspan opens with the telling of his flight back to America from a central bankers' conference in Switzerland. As his plane is crossing the Atlantic, he is told the plane must turn back. It was the morning of September 11, 2001. Can you imagine his thoughts?! Of course, he shares those thoughts with the reader. What an extraordinary opening to a book that is most interesting and not just to economists especially given the fact Greenspan does not use "Fed-speak" (for which he is famous!) in his writing style. During his near two decade tenure as Fed chair, Greenspan confronted many challenges in the US and global economies. On balance, his handling of monetary policy was adroit despite the harsh criticism he received during and since his tenure. Baker has a copy of *The Age of Turbulence* on reserve, but you can request it via [interlibrary loan](#).



While My Guitar Gently Weeps: The Music of George Harrison by Simon Leng

This is not just another book about The Beatles. Leng offers unprecedented analysis of and appreciation for George Harrison as a songwriter and guitarist. Though Lennon and McCartney are generally recognized for their unassailable song-writing skills, it was "Harrison's critical role in turning songs from ideas to finished recordings" with his guitar arrangements that had no less than the "greatest impact on the Beatles." McCartney even said "the Beatles would not have been the Beatles, if not for George." Further, Harrison's brilliance as a musician became obvious to everyone after The Beatles. His contributions to Lennon's *Imagine* album as well as Ringo's first album are no less than significant. Then, of course, there is Harrison's magnum opus, *All Things Must Pass*. This masterpiece is generally acknowledged as the best album by a former Beatle and one of the greatest in rock and roll history. Indeed, this is something of book for the aficionado. Get *While My Guitar Gently Weeps* via [interlibrary loan](#).



Financial Shock by Mark Zandi

Zandi is a well-respected economist who provides a compelling explanation of the current financial crisis. He is one of those rare economists who can provide rigorous analysis and insights that the trained economist can appreciate and, yet, be meaningfully understood by others. Yes, I am afraid the current financial crisis will be compared to that of the Great Depression. However, we will overcome this one, too. Baker has a copy of *Financial Shock* on reserve, but you can request it via [interlibrary loan](#).

President's Display Case – Election 2008

Tech Services Librarian Nate Poell created this fall's display, focused on the presidential election. In the display are a variety of materials; candidate biographies, presidential election statistics, presidential election fiction, and political science/election articles written by current and former Baker faculty and students. Additionally, late this past spring, Nate and former Gov Docs librarian Julia Todd created a webpage devoted to resources providing 2008 elections coverage. Check it out [here](#).

Library Christmas tree decoration

This year, the Collins Library Christmas tree will be decorated by student group Earth We Are. We at the library are looking forward to what Earth We Are comes up with to decorate the tree. If you are a member of a student group and are interested in decorating next year's tree, please [contact Kay Bradt](#).

Quayle Student Open House

The Quayle Rare Bible Collection will hold an open house for students on December 4th, starting at 7:00 p.m. The Baker University Speech Choir will perform during the open house, and hot cider will be served. Please join us on the 4th!

Finals Library Hours

Finals hours will be in effect December 5-12.

Friday	8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	3:00 p.m. - Midnight
Monday - Thursday	8:00 a.m. - Midnight
Friday	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.