



ANNUAL REPORT 1996

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FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Two years ago the Library Trustees and staff adopted VISION 2000, a long-range plan that renewed the Library's commitment to public service and to broadening its base of support and membership. In 1996 the staff made significant progress toward the plan's goals in technology, programming, collection development, branch activities, fund-raising, and professional development.

The Library has actively updated its on-line public access catalogue (VTLS) and is preparing for the introduction of the third-generation catalogue software, VIRTUA.

A review of the periodicals collection resulted in the addition of journals on business, the social sciences, and Asian-American, Native-American, and Hispanic-American topics. The collection development team streamlined selection and cataloguing processes, using computer services made available by our book suppliers.

We established full-time professional reference coverage and implemented a system of subject analysis using reference statistics to refine the collections. A new Ready Reference Collection and a Community Information File supplemented the regularly updated Reference Collection.

New computers and upgraded software aided the CAMPAIGN 2000 initiative, which this year has focused on submitting funding proposals and appeals to foundations, corporations, and individuals. Development staff have laid the groundwork for an international Friends of the Library, a planned giving program, and the autumn, 1997, membership drive.

Staff participated in various forums sponsored by their professional associations, thereby widening the resources on which the Library can draw and enabling us to remain at the forefront of best American library practice. Staff also liaised with area libraries, exchanging visits and strengthening our ties with the broader French community.

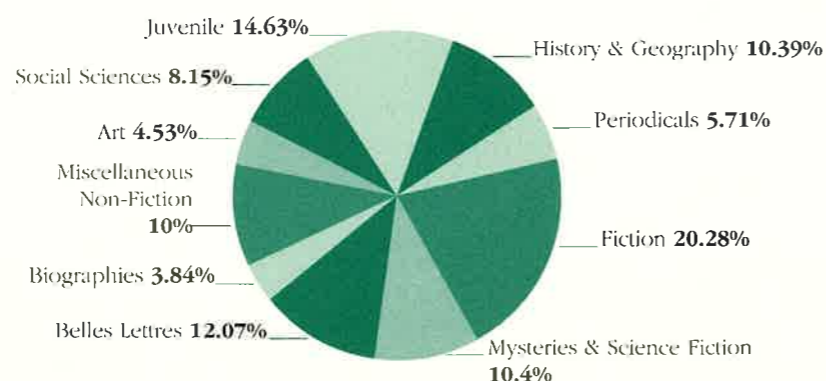
The staff continue to work toward the goals of VISION 2000 in consultation with Library Trustee Dr. Brooke Sheldon, past president of the American Library Association, and Dr. Paul Wasserman, a member of the USA Foundation Board of Directors and past president of the International Federation of Library Associations.

—Kay G. Rader

THE COLLECTION

ADDITIONS IN 1996		AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1996	
ADULT BOOKS	3,768	ADULT BOOKS	86,756
CHILDREN'S BOOKS	274	CHILDREN'S BOOKS	7,850
AUDIOVISUAL	162	AUDIOVISUAL	2,454
		PERIODICALS	340

CIRCULATION OF THE COLLECTION, 1996: 89,094 ITEMS LENT



ALP IN CYBERSPACE: 1,534 VISITS TO THE ALP HOMEPAGE AT
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/alp/>

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1996

GALA IN HONOR OF WILLIAM STYRON

U.S. Ambassador Pamela Harriman hosted a gala dinner in honor of William Styron at the Ambassador's Residence on June 4. Trustee Lynn Kelley chaired the event. Mr. Styron has joined the USA Foundation's Board of Directors.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Library's Annual Christmas Party was held in the Grand Salon of the American University of Paris. The guests of honor were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gaines. The party, organized by Trustee Lynn Kelley and sponsored by the Mona Bismarck Foundation, featured a puppet theater and readings by Mr. Gaines and Mary Jo Salter.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECEIVES PARIS AND U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS

The Board of Trustees held a reception for Mme Hélène Macé de Lépinay, Deputy Mayor of Paris for Cultural Affairs; Michel Killitsch, Deputy to the Mayor of the 7th Arrondissement; and James Hogan, Cultural Affairs Attaché at the U.S. Embassy. The guests were given a Library tour by Trustees Catherine Coste, Michèle Gompel, Whitney de Courcel, Tom Rose, and John Riggs.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION GIFT TO CAMPAIGN 2000

In July Trustee Nancy Webster and Director Kay Rader attended the American Library Association annual meeting in New York City. At the ALA council meeting, Association President Betty J. Turock presented \$10,000 to CAMPAIGN 2000 in celebration of the Association's role as founder of the Library.

UPDATE ON CAMPAIGN 2000

The success of CAMPAIGN 2000 in 1996 was made possible by the vision and hard work of Tom Rose and Robert Pingeon, co-chairs of the CAMPAIGN 2000 committee, as well as the efforts of the Trustees and the entire Library staff. If you are interested in helping, please call Kay Rader or Anne Lechartier at the Library.

RECEPTION HONORS COUNT RENÉ DE CHAMBRUN

The Library staff gave a reception in honor of Count René de Chambrun, whose mother, Countess Clara de Chambrun, was a past President of the Board of Trustees.

ENCOURAGING ENGLISH LEARNING AMONG DISADVANTAGED FRENCH SCHOOLCHILDREN

In cooperation with the Association "A travers la Ville," the Library sponsors a bimonthly program for nine- to twelve-year-olds, using the medium of the story hour to help them with their English vocabulary and pronunciation. Most of the youngsters come from homes on the city's northern periphery.

GREGORY PECK TOURS LIBRARY

Gregory Peck made a spontaneous visit to the Library in April. After a tour, he generously offered to send the complete *American Film Institute Catalog of Motion Pictures Produced in the United States* as a gift.

SALON DU LIVRE AND LE TEMPS DES LIVRES

This year the Library participated for the first time in both the 16th Salon du Livre, a five-day spring book fair at the Porte de Versailles, and Le Temps des Livres, the Ministry of Culture's two-week national and international celebration of books and reading. Both helped strengthen the Library's links to the broader community.

GIFTS TO THE COLLECTION

The Annenberg Foundation made possible the purchase of books on art, civilization, history, and geography for children and a multimedia workstation. The gift included the 34-volume *Grove Dictionary of Art*.

Nancy Willard Magaud established in honor of her mother a collection of books aimed at children learning either French or English (The Joyce R. Willard Children's Language Collection).

Professor Paul Goodman bequeathed his professional library of 5,000 books on American history.

Paule Lafeuille bequeathed her English-language library, including many books about the theater.

Harry N. Abrams, Inc., presented 300 Abrams books on art history.

OPEN HOUSE AND BOOK SALE

As always, the annual book sale drew crowds. In addition to raising money for the Library, the sale serves to introduce our services to a wider public.

PETE SEEGER DONATES BUST OF ALAN SEEGER

Pete Seeger's nephew Nick Seeger visited the Library and presented a bust of the World War I poet Alan Seeger. The bust is a gift from Pete Seeger and David Marlowe. Mr. Marlowe's great-grandmother, Mary Brush, sculpted the statue.

WEEKLY CHILDREN'S STORY HOURS

These weekly events remain very popular, often drawing standing-room-only audiences of three- to five-year olds with events such as George Washington's Birthday, Saint Patrick's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Black History Month, April Fools' Day, American Independence Day, Halloween, Dr. Seuss's Birthday, and Native American Month.

GIFTS-IN-KIND

IBM-France gave five Aptiva computers for the Development and Accounting Offices and for CD-ROM reference tools and subscriptions.

CIGNA Insurance Company of France donated three personal computers for the Research Center and staff offices.

Count René de Chambrun donated a first edition of Alan Seeger's poems, which includes a dedication by Charles Seeger, the World War I author's father.

Dianna Bond donated a collection of books-on-tape.

J.P. Morgan-Paris presented a collection of books on many subjects, including art and gardening. The collection includes *In August Company: The Collections of The Pierpont Morgan Library* and *French Master Drawings from The Pierpont Morgan Library*.

Adam Gopnik and **Martha Parker** donated over a hundred first-edition children's books that Adam Gopnik had read and commented on in his annual children's literature roundup for *The New Yorker*.

EVENINGS WITH AN AUTHOR

JANUARY

■ "Jazz Homage to Martin Luther King," featuring a film and readings on Dr. King's life. Sponsored by The Harambé Association and organized by Association Director Chansse Evanns.

■ *Pharos: Poetry and Prose from Paris*, a group reading of poetry and fiction by contributors to the Paris literary magazine *Pharos*.

FEBRUARY

■ Dr. Charles Cogan, *Charles de Gaulle: A Short Biography with Documents*.

■ Maria Donovan, "Is Humor Dead?"

MARCH

■ David Guterson, *Snow Falling on Cedars*, sponsored by Editions Seuil.

■ Word for Word Theater Troupe from San Francisco, performing *Berenice* by Edgar Allan Poe and *The Standard of Living* by Dorothy Parker. Sponsored by The Florence Gould Foundation with the support of Air France.

■ "The Chemistry of Cheese" presented by Sister Noella Marcellino, sponsored by the American Institute of Wine and Food (France).

APRIL

■ Alice and Daniel Jouve, *Paris: Birthplace of the USA*, a walking guide for the American patriot.

MAY

■ "Writers at Work," sponsored by the Paris Alumni Network. Paris-based writers spoke on how to write a book and get it published.

JUNE

■ **William Styron**, book-signing party with the Pulitzer Prize-winning author.

■ Nancy du Plessis, sung and spoken interpretation of the author's prose-poem, "Notes from the Moroccan Journals."

SEPTEMBER

■ "An Evening with John Peter," *The Oral History of Modern Architecture: Interviews with the Greatest Architects of the Twentieth Century*, sponsored by Jouve & Associés.

■ *Pampille's Table, Recipes and Writings from the French Countryside*, a translation and adaptation of Marthe Daudet's 1919 classic, *Les Bons Plats de France*, presented by Shirley King, sponsored by the American Institute of Wine and Food (France).

OCTOBER

■ Hugo Vickers, "The Private World of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor," a slide-illustrated talk.

■ *Pharos: New Poetry and Prose from Paris*.

■ Marianne Buchwalter, *Memories of a Berlin Childhood*.

■ William Wharton, *Houseboat on the Seine: A Memoir*.

NOVEMBER

■ Phyllis Michaux, *The Unknown Ambassadors: A Saga of Citizenship*.

■ John Baxter, *Steven Spielberg: The Unauthorized Biography*.

DECEMBER

■ Rachel Kaplan, *Little Known Museums In and Around Paris*.

SPRING GALA DINNER IN HONOR OF WILLIAM STYRON

THE AMERICAN
AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
JUNE 4, 1996

Hosted by
The Honorable Pamela Harriman

Chair

Mrs. Lynn Kelley

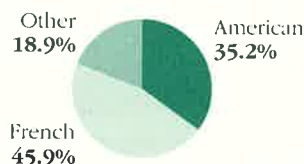
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MEMBERSHIP BY NATIONALITY



BRANCHES

The American Library in Paris has branches in four cities: Angers, Nancy, Montpellier, and Toulouse. Branch collections number between 15,000 and 20,000 volumes.

In 1996 we put into practice our new program of annual meetings of branch directors. With the help of Trustees Whitney de Courcel and Christopher Mesnooh, this year's addressed the issue of harmonizing the contracts that define the services the American Library in Paris provides each of the branches. The meeting also featured a workshop on book selection, ordering, and cataloguing procedures. The Director is developing a new branch policy.

BOOKS CATALOGUED FOR THE BRANCHES 1,875

INTERLIBRARY LOANS TO THE BRANCHES 871

**AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS
MEMBERS: 2,329**

BRANCH MEMBERS: 2,161
INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS: 1,383
TOTAL: 5,873

DAY USERS, 1996: 1,821

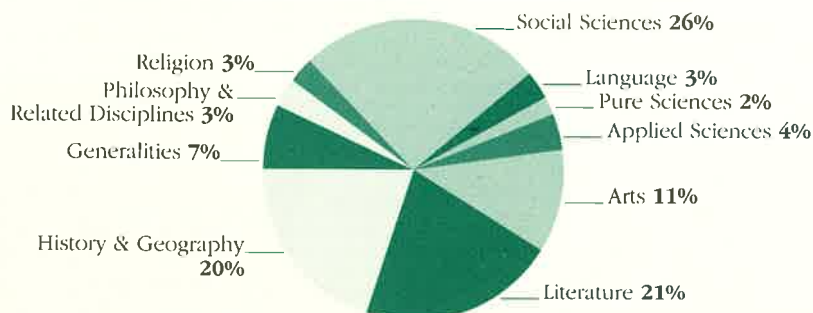
*Patrons who paid a fee
for one-day use of the Library*

72.5% FRENCH
14.66% AMERICAN
12.84% OTHER

LIBRARY VISITS, 1996: OVER 31,215

*Based on daily counts of
the public entering the Library*

REFERENCE QUERIES BY SUBJECT



FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

This past year marked more progress in the development of the American Library in Paris. With the celebration of our 75th anniversary behind us, we concentrated on completing the financial and operational restructuring of the Library and its four branches begun in late 1993 and on fund-raising efforts in connection with CAMPAIGN 2000. The campaign is intended to permit a long-needed renovation and an increase in the endowment so as to extend the financial resources available to support future Library operations and development. By the end of 1996, we had raised one third of our targeted \$3 million for these purposes, and 1997 will see further progress on CAMPAIGN 2000.

Once sufficient funds are available, we will begin the renovation, which will significantly expand book display areas and reading room capacity. The Children's and Young Adults' Center will be enlarged by sixty percent, helping us to respond to this important demand, thus fulfilling a vital objective of your Library's mission. Aesthetic and essential technological improvements will also be made.

Part of CAMPAIGN 2000 has been the renewal of the American Library in Paris's USA Foundation, a U.S. not-for-profit foundation with IRS charitable status. Stephen Newton, a longtime Paris resident now based in Houston, has assumed the chair of the foundation, which will become an important vehicle to raise funds for and promote the Library in the United States.

As detailed elsewhere in this Annual Report, your Library's community and children's activities were expanded in 1996, and the Library has become better known in France, the United States, and elsewhere.

Please keep your Library in mind for contributions (tax-deductible in France and the United States within legal limits), especially during CAMPAIGN 2000.

—John H. Riggs

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ADMINISTRATION

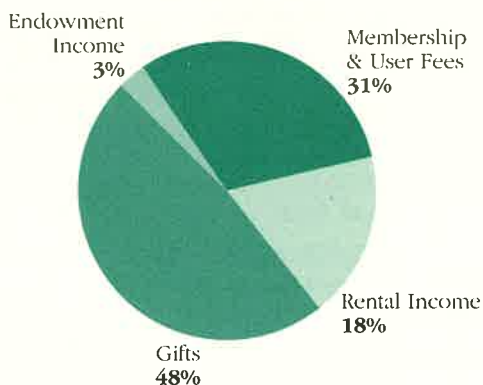
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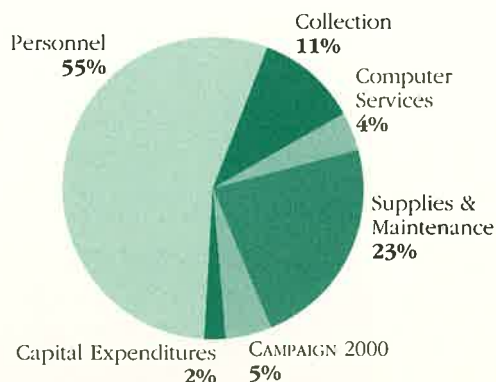
1996 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUES (FRF)



OPERATING REVENUES	2,631,000
Includes Rental Income and Membership & User Fees	
GIFTS	2,551,000
ENDOWMENT INCOME	131,000
TOTAL	5,313,000

EXPENSES (FRF)



OPERATING EXPENSES	4,503,000
Includes Personnel, Collection, Computer Services, and Supplies & Maintenance	
CAMPAIGN 2000	133,000
CAPITAL EXPENSES	99,000
TOTAL	4,735,000

**DONORS TO THE ANNUAL CAMPAIGN, CAMPAIGN 2000, 1996 SPRING GALA,
THE GREGORY USHER CULINARY COLLECTION, AND THE PAULE LAFEUILLE MEMORIAL FUND**

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The Berger-Mittlemann Family
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One of our most important resources is the numerous gifts we receive each year. Although space does not permit us to mention all the individuals and companies who donated books and materials in 1996, the following contributors deserve special recognition for their ongoing generosity.

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Agence Littéraire Michelle Lapautre
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Mrs. Edgar Kerestedjian
La Nouvelle Agence de Mary Kling
Mrs. Joan Palevsky
Jacques G. Richardson

VOLUNTEERS

In 1996 sixty-eight volunteers contributed a total of 3,548 hours to the Library under the supervision of Adele D. Witt, Assistant Director. In addition, three student interns from the U.S. and three others from France completed internships.

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Virginia Becart
Janine Benveniste
Peter Blackwood
Helle Boesen
Rebecca Brite
Franck Byetibier
Carmen Castelli-Pochon
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