

THE HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

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Photographs: The Ruth Roberts Collection

The Humboldt County Collection in the Library contains several unique photograph collections documenting various aspects of life and activity in Humboldt County at various time periods. One of the most interesting of these is the Roberts Collection which was given to the Library in the late 1960's by the anthropologist Arnold Pilling of Wayne State University. Ruth Kellet Roberts (1885-1967) lived on the lower Klamath River from 1915 to 1933 and then again from 1955 until her death in 1967 in Crescent City. She is perhaps best known for her work with the Del Norte County Historical Society in developing collections related to the Yurok and Tolowa Indians in northwestern California. Her collection of photographs, taken by her as an amateur photographer primarily in the period 1915-1933, reflects this interest and her friendship with those people whom she photographed.

Several important articles on the person and the collection have been published and are available in the Library. The photohistorian, Peter E. Palmquist, has described this collection and presented twenty-nine of the photographs in the *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology* (vol. 5, Nos. 1 and 2, pp.3-32, 1983). A tribute to Ruth Roberts by various anthropologists who benefitted from her knowledge and experience was woven together by Dale Valory in a commemorative essay in the *Kroeber Anthropological Society Papers* (No. 38, pp.1-10, Spring 1968). Finally, Arnold




Alice Spott; From Ruth Roberts Collection

Pilling, who also provided the index and notes to the collection, published an extended memorial in the *Del Norte County Historical Society Bulletin* (January 15, 1979, pp.3-5).


Ruth Roberts, the photographer, was most recently featured along with another local photographer, Emma Freeman, in an original production, *Shadow Catchers*, from Blue Lake's Dell'Arte Players in December 1993.

The Library receives regular requests for permission to reprint photographs from the Roberts Collections for various publishing purposes and other scholarly pursuits. One of the more appealing photos is included here. The Library would very much like to make this collection more widely available and is considering the possibilities of scanning it and producing a CD-ROM and also making it available on the Library Home Page. This is one of several projects which could follow from the pilot imaging project described in the last issue of this newsletter.

 Joan Berman,
Native American Studies Librarian

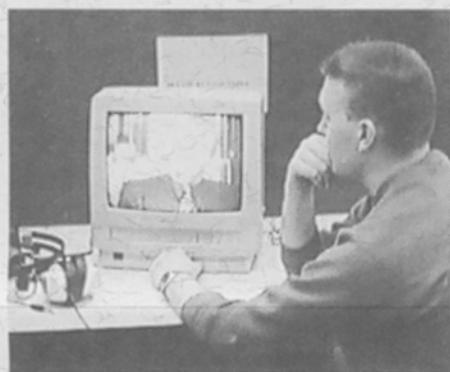
Planning for Technology

Planning and technology have each been an emphasis of the Humboldt State University Library in recent years and the two issues have come together recently. For each of the past four years, the Library has held a planning program at the close of the academic year to allow staff to reflect upon our accomplishments and look toward goals ahead. We'll do the same this year. During this same period, the libraries of the California State University have prepared a strategic plan to guide us and the system as a whole has been studying trends and future directions. One of the major issues has been the assessment of how to incorporate new technology into teaching and learning. With the advice of the University's Computing & Telecommunications Services, the Library is now drafting a technology plan to aid the Library in its future work. This should become an integral part of our broader planning effort.

 Rena Fowler University Librarian

Video Collection Expanding

Humboldt State University Library's video collection continues to grow each year. Among our 3,000 videotapes, some recent acquisitions include such popular PBS programs as: Ken Burns' *The West* and *The Civil War*, Bill Moyers' *The Wisdom of Faith with Huston Smith* and *Healing and the Mind*. Most of the videos are purchased to support the curriculum at Humboldt State University and includes videotapes on anthropology, biology, modern languages (including many foreign language movies), psychology and wildlife. Also in this collection are the lectures by prominent speakers on the Humboldt State University campus such as Richard Leakey and Helen Caldicott.



Eric Jacobsen, a senior political science major, views one of the many videos available in the library.

Student viewing of videotapes in the Study Lab is continuing to grow as students have become familiar with and taken advantage of this resource. The Study Lab, which is located in the lobby of the Library and is open the same hours as the Library, has 36 stations containing a variety of video and audio equipment to review nonprint materials. Each station is equipped with headphones.



Library Director, Rena Fowler, accepts CO-OP donation from John Corbett.

The video collection is a teaching resource of the Humboldt faculty and, accordingly, is subject to some restrictions. Only Humboldt State University faculty members are permitted to check videos out of the library. To assure availability to faculty, the videos cannot be removed from the Library or reserved by students or community members. Students and community members may, however, view videos in the Study Lab in the Library. Videos are shelved in the Study Lab by call numbers and are available for use for all library users.

Catalyst, the Library/Media Services online catalog, provides detailed information on the videos in the collection. The handouts entitled *How to Find Films and Videos* are available in the Study Lab and the information kiosk at reference. These provide information on searching for video titles available in the library. Also, there are copies of the video shelf

North Coast CO-OP Presents Donation

The North Coast Co-op presented the Humboldt State University Library with a \$100 donation recently in honor of Dr. Vis and Sally Upatisring, Co-op members.

According to John W. Corbett, General Manager, "The HSU library is especially deserving of this grant as 41% of your staff are also Co-op members."

The contribution is part of a broader program of support to Humboldt State University and the Partnership Program. The primary donors are Co-op members who give money, return cash dividends, and donate their 2% cash discount at the cash register for the co-op's 200% match.

list available in the Study Lab. This shelf list is produced as a supplement to Catalyst. The titles are listed in broad curricular categories in only one or two primary subject areas. You are encouraged to consult various categories to find titles which may interest you.

*Kumi Watanabe-Schock,
Media Distribution Coordinator*

The Library Newsletter is a quarterly publication dedicated to library news of interest to the community-at-large. Special thanks to all those who made this publication possible including the Library faculty and staff, University Relations and University Graphic Services. For additional information on the Humboldt State University Library or to become a Friend of the Library, please call:

(707) 826-3441 or e-mail:
friends@axe.humboldt.edu

**Editor: Kitty Yancheff
Development Officer**

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Historical Society Celebrates Fifty Years

In 1947 two Humboldt State professors, Dr. Hyman Palais and Dr. Kenneth P. Bailey, organized a group called the Humboldt County Historical Society. In late April of this year, in celebration of its first 50 years, the Historical Society staged a display in the Humboldt State University Library that featured photographs, historical artifacts and information about the Society. It also offered a premier glimpse of the Historical Society's newly issued book, *Celebrating 50*, which contains photographs from the Society's extensive collection.

Since its inception, the Society has aimed to serve residents and friends of Humboldt County by fostering greater awareness and appreciation of people, places, events, and activities of Humboldt County and related areas. To achieve its goal, the Society publishes a quarterly magazine, the *Humboldt Historian*; maintains a thorough reference library; prints historical books; records and transcribes oral histories of knowledgeable residents; archives valuable collections; and makes the information in those collections available to researchers.


The Historical Society, which has established its own library and research center, maintains close ties

with Humboldt State University Library. While the two facilities contain some duplicated information, each has valuable original material. Staff make constant efforts to be aware of what the other facility has to offer, and frequently refer researchers to each other.

Membership in the Historical Society has grown from its founding number of 117, to over 3,000 people.

"We believe there is no greater gift to the future than the careful preservation of the past," said Jerry Rohde, president of the Humboldt County Historical Society. "Through history, we discover how to make sense of the world, to find our place in it, and to change it if we desire. Through history, we explore what it means to live in Humboldt County today."


The Society's office and research center are at the Barnum House, 8th and H Streets, in Eureka. It is open from noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and from 4 to 8 p.m. on Thursday. Information about membership can be obtained by calling 445-4342.

 *Heather Verville*
Humboldt County Historical Society


Presentation Highlights University's Altruistic Personality and Pro-Social Behavior Institute

Friends of the Humboldt State University Library were invited guests to a presentation and video screening by Professors Pearl and Samuel Oliner, co-directors of the Altruistic Personality and Pro-Social Behavior Institute. Focusing on the altruistic personalities of the Holocaust the Oliners addressed a large audience of friends, faculty, staff, students and members of the general public during a two-hour presentation which culminated with a book signing and reception. Drawing from personal experience and years of research, including many interviews with survivors, Professor Samuel Oliner discussed the development of the altruistic personality and its place in history. Professor Pearl Oliner described the process of data collection and the resultant databases which have been established to enhance further study.

Further information on the Institute and altruistic behavior may be found on the Oliner's website at: <http://www.humboldt.edu/~spo1/altru.htm>

The spring program was designed to recognize National Library Week and the contribution of libraries to historical research and Holocaust Remembrance Day, May 4. 

Graduation Remembrance

What better way to commemorate that special graduate than to donate a book to the Library in the graduate's name? Your honored graduate will be remembered with a colorful bookplate which will include their full name and date of graduation. Complete the form below and submit it along with your minimum donation of \$40. We will notify the recipient of your gift. Your graduate will have the satisfaction of knowing that the tradition of excellence at Humboldt State University continues as students and faculty benefit from your generosity. For further information please contact Kitty Yancheff, Development Officer, Humboldt State University Library, Arcata, CA 95521 or telephone (707) 826-5586. 

BOOK DONATION Humboldt State University Library

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

in honor of in memory of : _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

You may may not inscribe my name on the bookplate:

Donor's name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to: Humboldt State University Foundation
Humboldt State University
Arcata, CA. 95521-8299

Serving the Community

As an academic library the Humboldt State University Library's mission is to support the students, faculty, and staff of the University. The University recognizes that it presents a unique and valuable resource to the local community and makes its collections available to the general public.


To this end our bookstacks are open to all persons. Local residents who are 18 years of age or older may borrow books and other circulating items for a fee. This fee is \$14 for four months, or \$35 for a year, and entitles one to most library privileges. Notable exceptions are access to search/hold services (we will not recall books), interlibrary loan services, and Media software collection and equipment checkout. We extend these same borrowing privileges to local residents who are members of any California State University Alumni Association. Humboldt State University Alumni Association membership costs \$25 per year.

Approximately 440 community/alumni borrowers actively avail themselves of borrowing privileges with us at a given time, and over the past 8 years have checked out about 20,250 items per year. This averages

46 checkouts per person per year. Our community borrowers come from all walks of life, but certain professions are quite heavily represented. Educators from local school districts and College of the Redwoods, and persons employed by various health care services are the two primary groups. There are also several representatives from natural resource agencies such as California Fish and Game, Redwood National Park, and U.S. Forest Service. Other groups include writers and publishers, persons

employed by engineering firms, and students from College of the Redwoods and Dell'Arte School of Physical Theatre.

The Humboldt County Library and its branch services offer a very good service for the general reading population, Humboldt State University is very pleased to be able to serve the public by making its own collections available.

 *Josh Washburn,*
Circulation Department Supervisor

The Library is Looking for:

Oftentimes the Library would like to purchase items which would be worthwhile and useful but simply cannot do so because of budgetary constraints. On occasion we will advise you of these items and ask for your support. If you are able to assist us and would like to make a contribution toward any of the following items please contact Kitty Yancheff, Development Officer, Humboldt State University Library, Arcata 95521, or telephone (707) 826-5586.

\$250 to purchase Photoshop Version 4

\$850 to purchase a Sony DSC-F1 digital still camera

\$1800 for a public scanner



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