

University of South Alabama

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USA Libraries Newsletter

University Libraries

11-2019

USA Libraries Newsletter, November 2019

USA Libraries

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University Libraries Newsletter November 2019

Library Resources & Events

VA Student Resource Room in Baugh Biomedical Library



The Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library (CBBL), in collaboration with the USA Office of Veterans Affairs, has embarked on a mission to increase support for student veterans on campus. The first phase was to allocate space on the 3rd floor for a VA Student Resource Room. Previously, this space housed the Historical Collection of the Biomedical Library.

Most of the resources stored in the space were moved to the McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library located on the 3rd floor of the Marx Library. A soft opening of the resource room began August 19th, ensuring the availability of the quiet study space for JagVets during the fall semester. Currently there is seating for 12 at square modular tables that can be moved as needed, a recliner for our Vets in need of a rest, and a new computer provided by the VA. In addition, the VA and the Biomedical Library will collaborate to develop future programming and services for our JagVets. This is an exciting endeavor for the Baugh Biomedical Library and two liaisons, Thalia Shaw and Heather Hoven-Glass, are available to provide assistance as needed.

A grand opening for the new VA Student Resource Room at CBBL will be held on Veteran's Day, November 11th. If you would like to donate to this project:

<https://giving.southalabama.edu/vetsroomnaming>

The Veterans Resource Room, Suite 1365, located in the Academic Services Center:

Mon- Fri: 8:00 am -5:00 pm.

The Veterans Resource Room, Room 328, in the Baugh Biomedical Library:

Mon-Thurs: 7:15 am - 9:45 pm

Fri: 7:15 am -5:45 pm

Sat: 9:00 am - 5:45 pm

Sun: 1:00 pm - 9:45 pm

Spooky Good Time during Haunted Places, Haunted Spaces



The Marx Library hosted its first ever "Haunted Places, Haunted Spaces: A Live Forum on the Ghosts of Mobile." On October 17th @ 6 pm. The library invited Elizabeth Palmer, author of *Haunted Mobile*, Mary Palmer, author of *Boyington Oak: a Grave Injustice*, Patsy Hamilton of the Richards DAR House and Marye Newman, Museum Manager at Historic Oakleigh House Museum to share about their haunted experiences. Photos courtesy of Dennis Palmer.

Free Webinar: Predators, Prey, and Open Access: Evaluating Open Access Publications

With the increasing availability of open access journals has come the corresponding problem of predatory publishing. Unlike many legitimate open access journals, predatory journals accept papers with little or no oversight, regularly foregoing the rigorous peer review and editorial standards expected of academic journals. Fortunately, librarians have been developing tools that help authors make the distinction between the two. Join our speakers as they look at scholarly integrity, discussing how to recognize both the hallmarks of reliable publications and the traits common to unreliable (predatory) ones. This webinar will be presented by Stephanie Ard, Social Sciences Librarian, Marx Library, University of South Alabama and Kathy Wheeler, Assistant University Librarian for Collections, University Libraries, University of South Alabama.

The webinar will start at 10 am, on November 19th, 2019. You can register at the following link: https://southalabama.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qmYSIVP1SpWtRRZTtf_9LA

McCall Library represented at the Oral History Association Conference in Salt Lake City



The University of South Alabama was well represented at the Oral History Association conference in Salt Lake City in October. McCall Library Interim Director, Deborah Gurt presented a paper on the panel Voices in the Archives.

Gurt (far L) also supported the Honors College team (pictured here L to R) of Ruby Staten, Candice Fairchild, Lex McKinnell, and HC Dean Kathy J. Cooke on their Alabama Humanities Foundation funded project centered on the Mobile-Tensaw Delta. Prof. Kern Jackson of English and African American Studies is also a member of the project team who made the trip to Utah.

Sawyer Oral History Project Interviews at the McCall Library



Professors Sarah Silkey of Lycoming College and Mike Fitzgerald of St. Olaf College were in the McCall Library this week continuing their research and digitization project with the Pickens Family papers. In collaboration with McCall Library Interim Director Deborah Gurt, oral history interviews were conducted with four African American descendants of the Pickens family of Hale County who owned the Umbria Plantation there. These interviews will contribute to enriching the historical record and preserving important perspectives on Alabama's history. Pictured L to R are: Eugene Pickens, Vickie Pickens

USA Libraries represented at the Senior Expo



The University of South Alabama Libraries provided a wealth of health information to the senior citizens of the Mobile, AL community at the annual Area Agency on Aging Senior Lifestyles Expo. The exhibit, held at the Greater Gulf States Fairgrounds on October 3, 2019, was bustling with approximately 1100 senior citizens from the community, including many veterans. This annual event brings resources that provide services to the senior community in one of the largest venues in the area. Receiving an All of Us Exhibitor Award through the

National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern Atlantic Region (NNLM SEA), Rachel Fenske and Paula Webb were able to bring awareness of the All of Us Research Program to our community, as well as the vast array of health information from the National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health. The exhibit won 1st prize in the education category among 57 vendors present.

The Marx Library Extends Hours



The Marx Library hours have been extended by one hour starting October 29, 2019.

The new hours are 7am - 1 am (extended from midnight).

The new hours are as follows:

October 29 – December 6 (New closing time begins)

Monday - Thursday - 7:00 am – 1:00 am

Friday - 7:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday - 9:00am - 5:00 pm Sunday - 1:00 pm – midnight

Marx Library hours are posted on the

webpage <https://www.southalabama.edu/departments/library/hours.html>

MARX LIBRARY FOOD DRIVE
October 1st - December 6th
SUGGESTED DONATIONS FOR JAG PANTRY

- Bottled water
- Granola bars
- Dry fruit
- Nuts
- Breakfast cereal
- Applesauce cups
- Jello, pudding, or fruit cups
- Meal replacement drinks (e.g. Boost, Ensure)
- Boxed or evaporated milk
- Dry pasta, pasta sauce
- Crackers, chips, snacks
- Jam/Jelly
- Ketchup, salad dressing, condiments
- Microwavable meals
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Soap
- Hand sanitizer

> Other items can be donated if they are nonperishable and within the expiration date.
> Nonperishable food items will be accepted.
> No family size packages or expired goods.
> Donations must be sealed, store-bought items (no homemade items).
> Small single-use products are accepted.

MARX LIBRARY DROP-OFF LOCATIONS ARE BY STARBUCKS AND 2ND FLOOR ENTRANCE.

Please e-mail usadonortodiners@gmail.com with any questions about donations or using the pantry.

Fines Amnesty Day!

Fines Amnesty Day is in conjunction with the Jag Pantry Food Drive. If you bring in a donation of food on your overdue books, the Marx Library will wave the fines.

**The Fines Amnesty day is
November 20th, 2019!**

USA Libraries Recent Professional Development

Muriel Nero - Muriel Nero, Head of Cataloging, is the current Chair of the University and College Library Section of the Southeastern Library Association.

Paula Webb - Paula Webb, USA Libraries Outreach and Communications Librarian, is the current Secretary of the University and College Library Section of the Southeastern Library Association.

Paula Webb - Paula Webb, USA Libraries Outreach and Communications Librarian, was elected Chair of the Southeastern Library Association Membership Committee.

Deborah Gurt named Interim Director of McCall Library



Deborah Gurt has been named Interim Director of USA Libraries' Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Ms. Gurt was appointed Assistant Librarian and Processing and Digital Archivist at the University of South Alabama in 2017.

She holds the Master of Library and Information Science from Rutgers University, the Master of Arts in Jewish Studies from Gratz College, and the Bachelor of Arts with distinction, Honors in Judaic Studies from the

University of Michigan. Ms. Gurt was a New Faculty Scholar at the University of South Alabama 2017-2018. She completed the Georgia Archives Institute in 2018, serving an internship in Emory University's Rose Manuscript Archives and Rare Book Library. Most recently, she completed archival certification, by which she attained membership in the Academy of Certified Archivists 2019-2024. She is a member of USA Libraries Leadership Team and has been a participant in USA Libraries Leadership Development Institute series since 2018. She serves as library liaison to the University of South Alabama Honors College. Ms. Gurt holds membership in the Academy of Process Educators, the Southern Jewish Historical Society, and the Society of American Archivists.

Prior to joining the University of South Alabama Libraries, Ms. Gurt completed an internship at the University of Southern Mississippi's Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage creating interview metadata for web accessibility, and independently piloting an oral history project with members of Hattiesburg's Jewish community. She later served in an NEH grant-funded position in the Technical Services department at USM's Cook Library cataloging the oral history collection, *The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi*.

Ms. Gurt's passion for fully representative archives led to her engagement with Mobile's Africatown as was highlighted in "Speaking of Africatown: A Case Study in Community-University Partnership in Archiving," published in the *Society of American Archivists Research Forum* (2019). Gurt presented this work at national and state conferences and in university exhibits. She also initiated a partnership with Invisible Histories Project and the Queer History South network to serve as a host repository for local collections with LGBTQ community focus. Her engagement with Mobile's Jewish community through

exhibits, collection development, and partnership with the Gulf Coast Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education, helped position the university for establishing a minor in Jewish and Holocaust Studies in 2018. In 2017, she secured funding for the traveling exhibit "Joseph Bloch: Father of Mobile's Music" which continues to tour Alabama and Mississippi. In association with university colleagues she is a supporting partner in the successful grant "Sharing Stories: Oral History in Blakeley Bluff and the Greater Mobile-Tensaw Delta," secured from the Alabama Humanities Foundation in 2019. Ms. Gurt serves as a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Contemporary Archival Studies*.

Ms. Gurt has been a member of the Board of Directors of Mobile's Ahavas Chesed Synagogue since 2017, where she currently serves as Vice President of the Congregation.

Current Exhibits & Programs November/December 2019

Grand Opening of the VA Resource Room and Ribbon Cutting

November 11th
Veterans Day Luncheon
11:30 am - 1:00 p.m.
Student Veterans Resource Room
Open House & Ribbon Cutting
Baugh Biomedical Library
Room 222A, 3 - 5 p.m.

Helen Keller Exhibit

November/December 2019
Gallery Hall

Poarch Creek Exhibit

1819: A Look at Creek Life
November/December 2019
Rodning Gallery, Marx Library

Dolls to Doodles: A Digital Odyssey

Susan Warley
November/December 2019
Gallery 181, Marx Library

Reception

November 20th @ 6 p.m.

Ahavas Chesed Synagogue: 125 Years of Jewish Life in Mobile

A Student Exhibit by Emily Ensor-Gibson
3rd Floor Hallway Exhibit Cases
November 2019

Upcoming Exhibits & Programs January/February 2020

Ryan Baldrop Exhibit

January/February 2020
Rodning Gallery of Art, Marx Library

Reception

February 6th, 2019 @ 6 p.m.
Rodning Gallery of Art, Marx Library

Russ Farris Exhibit

January/February 2020
Gallery Hall

Claudia McClure Exhibit

January/February 2020
Gallery 181, Marx Library



Mike Itaya, Library Technical Assistant I, set up this year's #CommonRead display in the Marx Library's first floor display about Japanese-American internment during World War II.

USA Anthropology student builds exhibit about the Ahavas Chesed Synagogue



Emily Ensor-Gibson, Anthropology student and Museum Studies minor, shared a little about herself and why she was interested in this topic: "I have been working in the McCall Library for the past year. I was really excited to have the opportunity to research and build an exhibit based on the collections within the archives. After completing an archival internship this past summer in Indiana at a Holocaust museum, I really wanted to delve into the story of the thriving Jewish community of Mobile. While the Ahavas Chesed

Synagogue has been moved from several locations all over the city, the congregation has remained constant in their dedication to preserving their cultural and religious traditions as well as building a strong community serving one another."

DOLLS TO DOODLES

A DIGITAL ODYSSEY

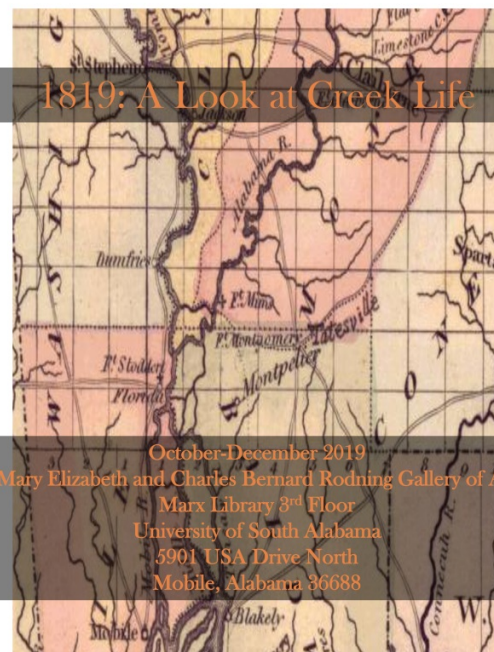
Susan Warley



GALLERY 181 NOV/DEC 2019

ART TALK NOV. 20TH

5901 USA Drive
Mobile, AL 36688



1819; A Look at Creek Life

October-December 2019
Mary Elizabeth and Charles Bernard Rodning Gallery of Art
Marx Library 3rd Floor
University of South Alabama
5901 USA Drive North
Mobile, Alabama 36688



NOV/DEC
2019
2ND FLOOR
STUDENT
GALLERY

MARX LIBRARY/
USA LIBRARIES
5901 USA DR
MOBILE, AL
36688

**WRESTLING
ALTER-
EGOS**



**AHAVAS CHESED SYNAGOGUE:
125 YEARS OF JEWISH LIFE IN
MOBILE**

A student exhibit by Emily Ensor-Gibson

The Doy Leale McCall Rare Book
and Manuscript Library
3rd Floor Hallway Exhibit Cases
November 2019



VETERANS DAY
NOVEMBER 11, 2019

Veterans Day Luncheon
11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Student Veterans Resource Room
Open House & Ribbon Cutting
3 – 5 pm

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
OFFICE OF
VETERAN AFFAIRS

University of South Alabama Libraries | 251-460-7028 | Email |
library.southalabama.edu

