PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library Large-scale Digitization Project, 2007.
Major New Gift Puts Challenge Grant at Half-Way Mark

A major new gift from longtime Library Friends George and Sarah (Sallie) Patterson Pagels has moved the Library to the half-way mark in meeting its $3 million goal for the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant.

The gift forms the George and Sarah Patterson Pagels Endowment Fund for acquisitions, preservation, and improved access for the humanities.

"This gift marks the beginning of an important momentum in obtaining the necessary gifts to meet the challenge," says the Library's director for development and public affairs, Joan M. Hood. "This contribution is truly a leadership gift."

Adds University Chancellor Morton W. Weir, "As important Library benefactors, members of Library Friends, and as part of the University Librarian's Council, they have set a magnificent example of support and leadership."

The Pagelses have been generous contributors to the Library since 1983, when they decided to donate to the Library's endowment fund during the University's Campaign for Illinois fundraising effort. Since then, the Pagelses have contributed each year to help the Library.

The reason, according to Mrs. Pagels, is simple: "My husband and I really enjoyed the University when we were students there, and we can't think of anything better to support, really. The Library affects the whole University."

Mr. Pagels is president of the George Pagels Co., a millwork and custom woodworking company founded by his grandfather. He earned a B.S. in civil engineering at the UI in 1934. An excellent student, he was elected to the Bronze Tablet, Phi Kappa Phi, the national honorary fraternity, and Tau Beta Phi, the engineering fraternity. He also was a member of the Delta Upsilon fraternity and was on the production staff for two campus theatrical productions.

Mrs. Pagels earned her B.A. in 1935 with a major in French and a minor in English. "I enjoyed my courses and had very fine teachers," she says, "and lots of reading in the library." During her senior year, she served as associate manager of Star Course (then known officially as the University Concert and Entertainment Board) and was president of her sorority, Alpha Delta Pi.

The Pagels' enthusiasm for the University didn't stop after graduation, however—all three of their children attended the UI, and now a granddaughter is continuing the tradition. "She's working for Star Course too," adds Mrs. Pagels.

Making a financial contribution to the university that gave them so much just seemed to follow naturally. They chose the Library because they consider it a superior learning resource for the whole university, for the faculty, and for the students.

Adds Mrs. Pagels, "If you don't have the Library, you don't have the University."

The money raised through the Challenge Grant will be used to create an endowment whose income will be split approximately into thirds to support humanities acquisitions, preservation of humanities-related books and manuscripts, and bibliographic control of the Library's extensive manuscript and rare book collections.

Forty-eight percent of the Library's seven million volumes, and most manuscript and archival collections, are in humanities areas as defined by the NEH.
Private Life of H.G. Wells Documented in New Acquisition

As aficionados of H.G. Wells know, the well-known author led a rather unconventional private life. Although his sons George Wells and Anthony West both wrote about his private life based on their own knowledge, scholars have had limited direct access to this kind of information from the author himself.

Now, the Library has acquired additional documentation of his private life with the purchase from Anna Jane Blanco-White Kennard of 219 letters written by Mr. Wells to Mrs. Blanco-White, one of Mr. Wells' paramours, and to Anna Jane herself, his daughter by Mrs. Blanco-White.

Also included in the purchase are seventy-nine leaves of five fragments of unpublished drafts of manuscripts. The collection dates from 1906 to 1939. Funds for the purchase came from the E. Kenneth Gray Endowment Fund.

According to Gene Rinkel, curator of special collections, the letters are an important addition to the Library's extensive collection of H.G. Wells correspondence and publications. "We already had 2,000 of Wells' letters, mainly dealing with publishers or social groups wanting support from him, and about 60,000 letters to him, but many are either very formal exchanges, business correspondence, or social notes, such as invitations to dinners. None dealt with his personal life," explains Mr. Rinkel. "So, these new letters are a major addition."

In fact, Wells biographers have long speculated about the existence of such personal correspondence, especially in light of the fact that after the death of Mr. Wells in 1946, his secretary returned much of the correspondence he had received to the individuals involved and destroyed the rest.

Yale University does have copies of letters written by Mr. Wells to Rebecca West, the well-known author and another Wells paramour, which became the basis for Gordon N. Ray's book about the pair. Other letters revealing the personal side of Mr. Wells, however, seemed simply not to exist. "That's why, when Mrs. Kennard offered these letters to us, I immediately recognized that these were letters we had been waiting to see for a long time," says Mr. Rinkel.

The letters to Amber Reeves Blanco-White may be of particular interest to Wells scholars since many of the characters in Mr. Wells' numerous novels, such as the character Ann Veronica, are based on personal acquaintances of his. "The novel Ann Veronica, even at the time it was published, was considered to be autobiographical," explains Mr. Rinkel. "In fact, Amber Reeves is apparently Ann Veronica, so these letters will have a bearing on research into his novels."

Of additional value is the light these letters shed on the Fabian Society, a socialist political group that included Mr. Wells and George Bernard Shaw and which joined with trade unions in 1910 to form the Labor Party.

It was during this time that Mr. Wells became romantically involved with Amber Reeves, daughter of New Zealand's high commissioner to Great Britain and a Fabian Society member. "This was a period of time when, at least theoretically, free love was a philosophically supportable position, in the Fabian Society's view," says Mr. Rinkel. "Still, some principals in the Fabian Society were shocked by the scandal involving Amber Reeves."

According to David C. Smith in his book H.G. Wells: Desperately Mortal, after Amber Reeves learned she was going to have a child, she accepted an old marriage proposal from Rivers Blanco-White, a lawyer who belonged to the Fabian Society, thus ending her affair with Mr. Wells. Mr. Wells, however, provided rent for her cottage, and his wife Jane (Amy Catherine Robbins Wells) provided the...
baby's layette. Details about the relationship became known publicly only after Mr. Wells' death in 1946.

Explains Mr. Rinkel, "Wells tried to maintain friendly relationships with all of the women with whom he had a liaison, even though he didn't continue in an intimate relationship. Through it all, he remained married to Jane, who has often been cast in the role of the long-suffering wife. In fact, she was aware of these affairs and was socially involved in many of the relationships."

Although Mr. Wells kept up an amiable correspondence over the years with Amber, Anna Jane did not know that Mr. Wells was her father until she received a letter from him in March 1931, when she was nineteen. The letter is part of the new acquisition.

"For 19 years I have been doing my best to ignore your existence because of various humiliating and baffling things that occurred when you were born," he wrote to Anna Jane. "Now I have met you I love you very much. I do not know how that occurred when you were born," he continued. "I am not married and I am 21 years old." The letter is part of the new acquisition.

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This and the other Wells letters are now available for research to scholars in the Rare Book and Special Collections Library.

### Volunteer Helps Preserve Old Books

To most visitors, the Rare Book and Special Collections Library is the comfortable, carpeted reading room on the Library's third floor where there's always something interesting and beautiful in the display cases.

But behind a locked door in a special stacks area is a different world, a world of solvent cans, spray bottles, fungicides, and saddle soap.

This is the world of volunteer Lois Bamber. Nearly every week since 1981, she has sat at a small table amidst hundreds of shelves of rare books to give selected ones the individual care and attention they need to preserve their leather or vellum bindings.

"My husband, Lyle, had been doing volunteer work since he retired as the biology librarian in 1971," remembers Mrs. Bamber. "He was frankly bored as a retiree, so he did some volunteer work in the Rare Book Room. He told me there were quite a few people doing this book-cleaning job, and that's how I got started."

Preserving leather bindings, a volunteer project initiated in the late '70s by then Assistant Rare Book Librarian Mary Ceibert and now headed by Curator Gene Rinkel, is a labor-intensive, three-day job.

First, the book's pages must be dusted and wrapped in wax paper to protect them from moisture. Then, the covers and bindings must be gently saddle-soaped to remove centuries of dirt and grime. "I don't try to get every last bit off," says Mrs. Bamber, "because some of these bindings are rather fragile. So, I stop before I've rubbed off the rotten leather."

The books also receive a treatment of potassium lactate, a chemical that prevents red rot and acts as a fungicide. Then the book is ready to dry for a day.

On day two, books receive an oiling with Lexol, another preservative, and again are allowed to dry. On day three, the wax paper is removed, tags with catalog numbers are reinserted, and the books are ready for reshelving.

Although the process for leather books is time-consuming, it takes even longer to clean vellum-bound books, even though vellum books don't receive the potassium lactate or Lexol treatments.

"Each vellum book can take a half-hour to do, especially on the first day," explains Mrs. Bamber. "Maybe it's because they are pretty old, and their light color makes you more conscious of the dirt. Also, vellum tends to spread, and we must tie the books with three separate ties to keep them from buckling."

Working with books fits in with Mrs. Bamber's background as a librarian, although book preservation is not what she had in mind when she earned her B.S. (1936) and M.S. (1941) in library science at the UI. After marrying the UI's biology librarian, Lyle Bamber, after graduation, she took up gardening and weaving, and worked occasionally at her profession when the Library was in need.

Then, in 1981, she began her long-running volunteer job with the Rare Book and Special Collections Library. "We had quite a group back then," she laughs, "and it was quite a friendly session, although I always just sat back and listened. Now, space is so cramped that there's only room for one or two people to work at a time. We really need a new Special Collections Building to take care of the space problems here."

Over the years, Mrs. Bamber and other volunteers, who have included Kathleen Cairns, Helen Roberts, Esther Thudium, and many others, have oiled more than 10,000 books — work that could not have been accomplished without the dedication of volunteers.

In fact, when volunteers donate their time and talents, such as the 2,500 hours of time volunteers donated to the Music Library last year, the effect can be the same as having an additional full-time employee on staff.

No matter what your interests, talents, or time constraints, there's a job for you at the Library, whether it's oiling books, compiling computerized databases, or helping organize and run Library Friends receptions. To find out how you can help, contact Sharon Kitzmiller, the Library's annual funds development officer, at (217) 333-5683.

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**Photo Credits:**

- Image of Lois Bamber
- Image of Library Friend Helen Elliot Davies
- Image of More than 60 Library Friends who are Presidents Council members attended a special reception October 5 in the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, including (from left) Robert W. Rogers, Elizabeth Rogers, Stanley Balbach, Sarah Balbach, and Catharine Kappaul.
Endowed Book Funds Are Lasting Tributes

Looking for a lasting way to honor a close friend or relative? The Library may have the solution—a permanent, named endowed book fund.

For a minimum donation of $10,000, you can establish a named book fund in any subject area you wish. Specially designed book plates, with the fund’s name, are placed in every volume purchased through the fund.

How important are these funds to the Library? “I couldn't exist without ours,” says Mathematics Librarian Nancy Anderson.

The Mathematics Library is luckier than most—it boasts two funds, both in memory of UI mathematics professors. One, the Robert D. Carmichael Memorial Collection, was established in his memory by a grateful alumnus. The other, the Stewart Scott Cairns Memorial Collection, was established in his memory by his wife, Kathleen.

Last year, it was the Cairns fund that enabled the Mathematics Library to purchase Mathematics Review on CD-ROM and the Carmichael endowment that enabled it to purchase many important monographs.

“Says Ms. Anderson, “These are not special materials we’re purchasing, but the basics—the guts of mathematics materials. So, these funds are absolutely essential to me. I wouldn’t be able to support the needs of the Mathematics Department without the Carmichael and Cairns funds.”

The Evelyn E. Pflaum Endowment, in memory of her daughter Barbara Lynn Pflaum (M.S. in biology, ’68), gives the same kind of essential support to the Biology Library.

The fund, established in 1985, is earmarked solely for works dealing with natural history. “So many of the books we need to purchase nowadays deal with molecular biology,” says Biology Librarian Elisabeth Davis. “This fund is nice to have because it gives me a good reason to look for things in natural history, which I ordinarily wouldn’t be able to afford.”

The English Library’s William Young Endowment also provides funds for works that otherwise couldn’t be purchased, according to English Librarian William Brockman. “We’re using this fund to purchase works of contemporary literature, poetry, and fiction—things we normally couldn’t buy with our standard budget,” he says.

To learn more about establishing a named endowed book fund, contact Joan Hood at the Office of Development and Public Affairs, (217) 333-5682.

Commerce Library Puts World of Business at Your Fingertips

Can technology be the bane of a librarian’s existence?

For the Commerce Departmental Library’s M. “Bali” Balachandran, the answer may be yes and no.

He presides over the most comprehensive international business collection in the state, and one of the best in the nation. Over the past few years, he has made access to much of the collection as easy as pushing a few buttons on a CD-ROM (compact disc) workstation.

No longer do students or researchers have to plow through volumes and volumes of periodical indexes to find just what they need—with CDI Corporate Datatext, Wilson Business Periodicals Index, ABI/INFORM, and Public Affairs Information Service all on CD-ROM, finding that perfect citation is a snap. So what’s the problem?

“It used to be I’d show students the paper indexes and they’d use maybe one of them, get some silly citation, and be done with it,” says Mr. Balachandran, with a laugh. “But now we’ve made access so easy, they’re using more and more of our periodicals, and the periodicals are taking such a beating that they won’t last much longer. I’m really proud of these CD-ROM indexes, but I tell you, this is really scaring me!”

Maybe that’s because collecting to fulfill the needs of one of the University’s most renowned colleges is an expensive proposition, and funds have been in somewhat short supply recently.

Still, he’s been able to come up with the nearly $10,000 each of these CD-ROM products costs by combining Library funds with grants from the College of Commerce and even with grants from the students’ annual University-wide computer fees.

These workstations, however, represent only a fraction of the enormous wealth of information found through the double doors just to the left of the Library’s main entrance.

In fact, the Commerce Library is a businessman’s dream come true. Need to know how a Fortune 500 company has fared since it first began doing business? The Commerce Library has all their annual reports on microfilm, some dating as far back as the 1880s.

How about the latest 10-K reports for a publicly held company, or maybe Moody’s latest rating of a small, over-the-counter company? The Commerce Library has that, too.

But what Mr. Balachandran is most proud of is the international breadth of his collection.
"We have information on just about any country in the world, including information on economics and finance, gross national product, unemployment, population, and income. Some of these sources are almost as complete as the U.S. Census," he says of the quarterly Country Reports, published by the Economist Intelligence Unit of London's Economist newspaper. "Barely ten libraries in the country have this, and our run goes back twenty years."

Supplementing these are important sources like the International Tax and Business Service ("For any country, it will tell you more than you want to know about a country's taxes," he says) and Price Waterhouse's Information Guides for Doing Business Abroad. All of these, he adds, are invaluable for any company thinking of doing business abroad.

The Commerce Library also supports the research needs of faculty and students in finance and economics with an extensive collection of federal and state tax and tax-law information, investment services like Value Line, information on the business and financial side of the commodities markets, and a collection on econometrics.

"We have quite a good journal collection that not many libraries have," explains Mr. Balachandran, "and that's important nowadays. Business is different now than it was ten years back. Originally, it was only people in the sciences who were interested more in journals than in books because by the time a book would come out, the information would be outdated."

"Now, we are getting more like the sciences—75 percent of our usage now is periodicals. Unfortunately, these are very expensive, with the minimum prices usually around $150 each."

Augmenting traditional periodicals is a strong microfilm collection of working papers from virtually every major college and research institute in the world. "These are research papers that are disseminated before actual publication in order to save time," he explains. "More and more, however, these working papers are the only things available in a field because it takes so long to have them published in any other form. This is a significant collection for researchers."

The high cost of periodicals and working papers is not the only need Mr. Balachandran's limited resources, however. "The college's international programs are growing like crazy because that's where the country is going," says Mr. Balachandran. "I'm not sure I will be able to meet their demands in a few years unless I stop buying in other areas."

Already, there is a call for information on the international financial markets, a need he cannot meet.

"What we really need to do is buy everything that's published by organizations like the Institute of European Finance and the European Information Agency, but we don't have the money for it," he laments.

"And then there's the problem of getting up-to-the-minute information on foreign stock markets, like the Japanese stock market. What happens in Japan last night is important today. I can't even begin to give you an estimate of how much it would cost to have the Nikkei stock index on-line, but it would be a pretty penny, that's for sure."

Acquisition costs, in fact, are a touchy subject for Mr. Balachandran. He desperately needs $10,000 for a second CD Datatext workstation, $19,000 to obtain a more comprehensive ABI index on CD, and much more. "It's gotten to the point where people say, 'Don't talk to Bali—it costs money!'" he laughs.

But humor gives way to seriousness when it comes to the fiscal realities he's faced over the last few years.

"With the budgets I've had recently, I've only been able to meet the day-to-day needs of the faculty and students. I haven't been able to really build the collection, and that's not very satisfying. I can't buy with an eye for needs ten to twenty years from now because we can't starve today. But I'm an optimist. Another cycle of better budgets will come— you have to believe that."

And until then? "Keep buying a lottery ticket every day!"
Airport Fountain Dedicated to Second University Librarian

Phineas Windsor (1871-1965), one of the UI’s early library directors, is unquestionably one of the most important figures in the Library’s history.

It was during his long tenure, from 1909 to 1940, that the main Library building was constructed and the Library grew from 150,000 volumes to more than one million with the purchase of many of the Library’s most important collections.

Now, Mr. Windsor has been honored with the dedication in his memory of a lighted fountain at the UI’s newly renovated Willard Airport.

Funds to install the fountain were the gift of Library Friends Marian Thompson ('50), Mr. Windsor’s granddaughter, and her husband, Arnold ('50).

Mr. Thompson is president of Thompson Consultants International, the airport planning firm hired by the UI for the airport renovation project.

“We had talked a long time within the family about some kind of recognition for Phineas Windsor at the University, such as a painting,” explains Mr. Thompson. “Then, while I was working on the airport as a planning consultant, I saw that there would be some sort of formal landscaping plan, and that lent itself to some kind of symbol. It’s not a big deal, just a modest memorial to a unique man.”

According to Pat Stenstrom, the Library and Information Science Librarian who is writing a book about Mr. Windsor, unforgettable might be a more suitable description for Mr. Windsor.

“It’s just obvious that people who associated with Phineas Windsor held him in the highest regard,” says Ms. Stenstrom. “It’s amazing that one person could have had so much charisma, if that’s the word, to influence people the way he did.”

When he became University Librarian in 1909, the Library was housed in rather cramped quarters in what is now Altgeld Hall. Under his predecessor, Katherine Sharp, the collection had grown only modestly, hampered mainly by a lack of financial support from the University.

Nevertheless, in 1915, Mr. Windsor spearheaded a plan hatched by the Senate Library Committee to not only increase the collection to one-million volumes in ten years, but also to construct a new library building.

But not just any building — this was one that could be added to almost indefinitely to meet the needs of a continually growing collection.

By 1926, part of his plan was realized with the dedication of the new Main Library. The design indeed did accommodate future growth and influenced planning of university library buildings for years to come.

And although it took a bit longer than ten years to achieve the one-million mark in holdings, achieve it he finally did. “He did extremely well in terms of securing funding for materials, even during the Depression years,” says Ms. Stenstrom. “In fact, that is one of the reasons the Library outdistanced most in the Big Ten.”

But more than that, Mr. Windsor possessed an extraordinary ability to influence the powers that be. Playing poker every Friday night with the University president certainly didn’t hurt (he served under five presidents), but according to Ms. Stenstrom, the fact that he got along famously with all of them is unusual.

“Phineas Windsor just built a residue of good will that has been very hard to lose,” continues Ms. Stenstrom. “The work he did in public relations between the Library and the rest of the community was so great that every librarian since has, in a sense, ridden on his coattails. His legacy to the Library is that the faculty has always felt very positive towards the Library.”

The Thompsons, however, have other reasons as well for honoring Mr. Windsor. Mrs. Thompson lived at Mr. Windsor’s house while she was a student at the UI, trading housekeeping for her widowed grandfather in return for room and board.

“That’s how I met him, when I’d come over to get ready for a date,” remembers Mr. Thompson. “He loved to smoke a big, black Havana cigar after dinner, and we’d talk about things a young person and an old person would find interesting. He was a genuinely interesting person, fun to talk to, and someone you never forgot.”

That’s why, when Mr. Thompson realized the UI’s renovated airport would have formal landscaping, he decided to investigate placement of a fountain in a needed water retention pool.

“When I saw that the pool would become a real feature, instead of just a civil engineering requirement, I commented to my wife that I had seen some airport fountains in settings like this that were quite effective,” explains Mr. Thompson.

“The architect felt that in a prairie setting, one vertical spray would be an appropriate thing — sort of an accent, like an exclamation point — and that appealed to us very much. So, I talked to the University to see how they felt about it, and they were quite delighted with the idea.”

The fountain is easily seen both from the new Willard Airport terminal and from the access road leading to the airport.
Quotables

"I was in grade school the first time I was taken into the Library, by a family friend. I remember that we discovered the first issue of Life magazine, which seemed to me of incalculable antiquity. For many months in the mid-60s, I returned to the archives for a University Centennial project, paging through a century of back issues of the Daily Illini to compile "An Illini Century," a centennial memory of undergraduate life. It was an exciting time; I had the feeling that I might find most anything in those pages, and I did—from Lorado Taft's farewell to Urbana to Red Grange selling his car in the classified ads.

"As an undergraduate, I found the vast, high, light-filled reading room to be a sort of temple of learning—most of which I despaired of ever mastering—and in graduate school, after taking courses on the use of the library for research, I was even more awed by how much of human knowledge is contained in that building. Illinois is a great university, and the Library is its heart."

—Roger Ebert, class of 1964, Pulitzer-Prize-winning film critic for the Chicago Sun-Times and co-host of Sneak Previews.

The Library is Looking For . . .

$1,000 to purchase Manuscript 121 of the Monastery Library Einsiedeln for the Music Library. This is the oldest complete document of Gregorian Chant and includes 600 color pages. It will enable researchers to study previously restricted sources.

Donation to purchase Shoulder to Shoulder, the PBS series on the women's suffrage movement in England, for the Women's Studies/Women in International Development Reading Room. The series is especially important for undergraduate study of this subject. The entire series costs $900, or $175 for each segment. Partial donations are welcome.

$230 to purchase Drosophila: A Laboratory Handbook and Manual for the Biology Library. This two-volume work, published in 1989 by the prestigious Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, is the definitive work about this experimental organism, which is one of the most exciting fields of research in modern biology.

Mauritanian Dignitaries Visit University Archives

In 1987, History Professor Charles Stewart spent a year in Mauritania microfilming the priceless private library of the late Haroun ould Cheikh Sidiyya and deposited the microfilms in the University Archives.

On October 3, Mohammed Cheikh Sidiyya, eldest son of Haroun and the mayor of the country's capital, Nouakchott, visited the Archives as part of a State Department-sponsored visit to the United States. Accompanying him was Mauritania's cultural attaché, Mme. Turkiya Daddah, and State Department interpreter Charles White.

During the visit, Professor Stewart explained the history of his project and the procedures he used for filming and cataloging the collection. University Archivist Maynard Brichford also provided a tour of the Archives, which has an extensive collection of materials related to agriculture and international development in Africa.

The Archives visit was followed by a luncheon hosted by University Chancellor Morton W. Weir and a visit with Champaign's Mayor Dannel McCollum to discuss the common problems of city management.

Library of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Acquired through The Dr. E. Kenneth Gray Endowment

Bookplate for the E. Kenneth Gray Endowment Fund, reflecting Dr. Gray's love of fishing.
We Need Your Help

You can ensure the UI Library's continued excellence by:
- Telling others about the Library Friends and encouraging them to join
- Sending us lists of potential members and contributors
- Helping the Library solicit grants from foundations
- Obtaining your company's or organization's participation in a matching gift program
- Passing the information about Library Friends membership on in your newsletter or publications.

The Benefits of Membership

As a Friend of the University of Illinois Library, you receive:
- Circulation and stack privileges for Library materials
- Friendscript, the quarterly newsletter
- Annual Report
- Invitations to exhibits, lectures and receptions
- A 30% discount on University of Illinois Press publications.

The Friends welcome everyone interested in the continued excellence of the University of Illinois Library. There are now nearly 3,000 members of Library Friends.

Friendscript


YES, I would like to help support the UI Library's humanities collections by contributing to the NEH Library Challenge Grant Fund.

- University Librarian's Council at UIUC
- Patron, $500
- Sponsor, $100
- $5000
- Life, $3000
- Contributor, $35
- Benefactor, $1000
- Student, $10

Please make your check payable to UI Foundation/NEH Library Challenge Grant Fund, 224 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St., Urbana, Illinois 61801. All contributions are tax-deductible.

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City
State & Zip

Library Friends Board


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