

Spring 2000

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EDITORIAL STAFF

TOBY GRAHAM
CAROL GREEN
DEE JONES
SHERRY LAUGHLIN
BARTON SPENCER
SARAH SPENCER

Web design by
Erica.Coe@usm.edu

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Anytime, Anywhere Access to Library Databases

— Dr. Carol Cubberley, Director, Technical Services

Sandra B. is researching causes of birth defects in oysters. At four in the morning she wakes up with a brilliant idea for a new search strategy in one of the electronic databases she uses. Her home computer is ready to go, and she can dial in to the University library. However, she has to be on campus to access the database, and she wants to try this search **RIGHT NOW. Frustration!**

Chang L. has registered for a course offered at a site in the northern part of the state. He meets with his professor and classmates three times during the semester. Much of the course work is offered online at a web site, and he communicates with his professor and with his work group by email and chats. However, there are some electronic resources he needs that are not available in his local library. The University library owns them, but they are not available off campus. He has to make a trip to Hattiesburg if he wants to use them. **Disgust!**

Professor R. is attending a conference in Australia, where he is presenting a paper. At the last minute, he realizes that he has forgotten to verify a reference. He needs access to a proprietary database that is only available on-site at his University library. He doesn't have time to visit a library in Sydney that has the database, and he is denied access when he dials in to the University library with his laptop. **Panic!**

With remote access now provided through a proxy server and Squid software, this frustration, disgust, and panic will no longer afflict USM faculty and students. By simply supplying their Ocean username and password once for each session, they will be able to access most USM Libraries' electronic resources just as if they were on campus. This is a capability now available with our new catalog, Anna, that was not possible with our old catalog, Oscar.

Many of the electronic resources purchased by the library are restricted to use on campus for a very good reason. It is expensive for the publisher to gather, organize, and make the data available, and, if anyone from anywhere could access the library's web site and use it, publishing wouldn't be financially worthwhile. So publishers require the library to sign license agreements that include restrictions either to on-campus use or to authorized users. In this way, publishers ensure that only registered students and current faculty and staff can access the data. Most publishers' licenses allow in-library use by individuals who are not students, faculty, or staff.

"Squid" is a most appropriate name for the software that allows access to electronic resources by authorized users. A squid disguises or camouflages itself by squirting out a cloud of ink. This software allows authorized library users to camouflage their locations by making it appear that they are on campus. Since unauthorized users will not have an Ocean username and password, they will be able to search nonrestricted databases, such as the library catalog, Anna, but, once they try to use a restricted database, they will be blocked.

There are just two requirements for qualified users to access the USM Libraries' electronic resources. First, they must have an Ocean account with a current password. Second, they must make a one-time setting change in their browsers. Directions for making this setting change are available on the library web site at <http://www.lib.usm.edu>. For more information, contact Information Services at 266-4249.

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Caldecott Medalist's Artwork Donated to de Grummond

— Dee Jones, Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection



The King and the Noble Blacksmith by Jacob Blunk, illustrated by Louis Slobodkin, Houghton Mifflin, 1950.

The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection of The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries is pleased to add the distinguished work of Caldecott Medal recipient Louis Slobodkin to its holdings. This impressive donation from Slobodkin's elder son, Lawrence, includes sketches, illustrations, dummies, typescripts, and proofs for thirty-four of his titles. Included are *Colette and the Princess*, *The Cowboy Twins*, *The Moffats*, *Evie and the Wonderful Kangaroo*, *Gogo the French Seagull*, *The Hundred Dresses*, *Robin Hood and His Merry Outlaws*, and *Many Moons*, the title for which he received the Caldecott Medal in 1944. Dr. Slobodkin has generously loaned the Caldecott Medal presented to his father to the de Grummond Collection.

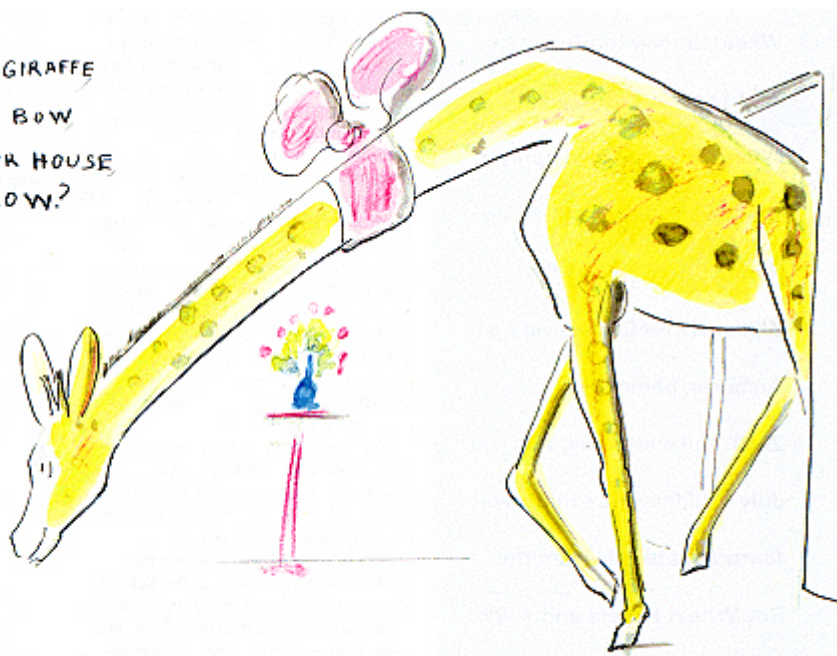
Slobodkin's entry into the world of art was as a sculptor. From the day his younger brother gave him a piece of red modeling clay, he was captivated by the process. He tolerated grade school and high school, waiting for the day he could begin his art studies. In 1918, at the age of 15, he entered the Beaux Arts Institute of Design, where he studied sculpture, drawing, and composition for six years. During those six years, he received twenty-two medals for life study, composition, and drawing, and was the recipient of the Louis Tiffany Foundation Fellowship.

It was not until 1941 that Slobodkin made his debut as a children's book illustrator, when his friend Eleanor Estes suggested he illustrate one of her books, *The Moffats*. He and Estes went on to collaborate on five other books. The success of these and other books led Slobodkin to write his own stories.

Slobodkin married Florence Gersh in 1927, and they had two sons, Lawrence and Michael. Florence was an author, and together they produced five books from 1958 to 1969. During his distinguished career he illustrated nearly 90 titles, 50 of which he also wrote. Slobodkin died in 1975, several years after his last children's book, *Wilbur the Warrior*, was published.

We appreciate the generosity of Lawrence Slobodkin and are pleased that he has chosen the de Grummond Collection to preserve these significant works of art. Slobodkin's original works join those of fellow Caldecott recipients Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire, Maud and Miska Petersham, Roger Duvoisin, Berta and Elmer Hader, Lynd Ward, Marcia Brown, Feodor Rojankovsky, Barbara Cooney, Marie Hall Ets, Ezra Jack Keats, Nonny Hogrogian, Evaline Ness, Ed Emberley, Gail E. Haley, Peter Spier, and Trina Schart Hyman, and are now available for study by the scholarly community.

OR DO YOU THINK A TALL GIRAFFE
WEARING A NICE PINK BOW
COULD FIT INTO OUR HOUSE
IF HE BENT DOWN LOW?



Nomi and the Lovely Animals by Louis Slobodkin. Vanguard, 1960.

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Cook Library Teleconferencing Facilities

are now available for groups of sixty or fewer
For more information, contact Suzy Elkins at 266-4358

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Electronic Journals Available Through USM Libraries

— Sherry Laughlin, Head, Information Services

USM Libraries has become a participating institution in JSTOR, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping the academic community take advantage of advances in information technology. In January 2000, the Libraries added Phase I of the JSTOR database, containing the scanned backfile images of 117 major research journals in a variety of disciplines. While many full-text electronic resources provide only the most recent few years of a journal title, JSTOR is unique in offering researchers access to high-resolution, scanned images of journal pages, some of which date back more than 100 years. Because of license restrictions with publishers, the JSTOR database does not include the most recent three to five years of each title.

Students, faculty, and staff can now conduct direct, online research from many of the most important journals in the arts, humanities, sciences, and social sciences. JSTOR allows the USM Library to ensure that complete journal sets are available at all Southern Miss campuses and provides a vital component of the digital library of the future.

A collaborative effort between libraries, publishers, and the academic community, JSTOR helps libraries meet the challenge of maintaining and storing the growing volume of scholarly research. Originally begun in 1994 as a pilot project of The Andrew Mellon Foundation, JSTOR is committed to providing a reliable archive of selected scholarly journals and to making it accessible electronically to researchers at all participating sites. Future JSTOR collections will provide access to selected journals in the sciences, business, ecology, botany, and literature.

The JSTOR electronic journals are available from computers on USM campuses at Hattiesburg and the Gulf Coast. They can be accessed from the JSTOR site at <http://www.jstor.org>. Additionally, links are being provided in Anna, the Library's catalog, so that searches for JSTOR titles will link directly to the full text of the journals.

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Esteemed Professor's Children's Literature Collection Comes to de Grummond



— Dee Jones, Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection of The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries is pleased to announce the recent acquisition of the Glenn E. Estes Collection. Estes was Professor and Associate Director of the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee at the time of his death in 1996. He began his university teaching career in 1966 as an assistant professor at Clarion State College in Pennsylvania, and moved to the University of Tennessee the following year.

While at the University of Tennessee, Estes began collecting children's books to use in his teaching and writing. Over the years, the collection grew to include nearly five thousand works of children's literature. The books date primarily from the 1950s to the mid-1990s, with an emphasis on fairy tales, folklore, Appalachian stories, African American authors and illustrators, art, poetry, and the classics. Estes was particularly interested in Beatrix Potter, and many of her books and figurines of her characters are included. The children's books are supported by an extensive reference collection of author biographies, bibliographies, critical essays, and genre studies.

This extensive contemporary collection of children's books is an exceptional addition to the more than 65,000 books already held by the de Grummond Collection. We appreciate the generosity of Professor Estes' widow, Elizabeth, and their children for providing this outstanding collection through a combination donation and purchase agreement. The USM Libraries' online catalog, Anna, will provide holdings information for the collection, and a special note in each cataloging record will distinguish the Estes books from others in the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection to allow for easy retrieval.

Glenn Estes, a nationally recognized speaker and author, served as a mentor to thousands of school librarians whom he educated during his thirty year tenure. Estes served as editor of three significant reference works, *American Writers for Children Before 1900*, *American Writers for Children Since 1960: Fiction*, and *American Writers for Children Since 1960: Poets, Illustrators, and Nonfiction Writers*, all included in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography* series published by Gale Research. Estes also published articles in *Horn Book Magazine*, *Book Links*, *Tennessee Education*, and *School Media Quarterly*. He served as a book reviewer for *School Library Journal* and was the editor of the first seven volumes of *School Media Quarterly* from 1972-1979.

Estes also served the library profession through numerous committee appointments, most notably as a member of the Newbery/Caldecott Awards Committee in 1972 and again in 1978. In 1980 he was chair of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award Committee and in 1993-1994 chaired the May Hill Arbutnot Lecture Committee. He was President of the Tennessee Library Association from 1973 to 1974 and Vice-President of the American Association of School Librarians from 1981 to 1982. Estes was well-known as an exceptional organizer and served as the director of many workshops and conferences, including the prestigious Loughborough International Seminar on Children's Literature in 1982.

Glenn Estes freely shared his knowledge and expertise during his lifetime and we are pleased that the legacy of his book collection will enrich the scholarly materials available to de Grummond Collection researchers for years to come.

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Electronic Instruction Room Now Available

— Kay Wall, Director, Public Service and Special Collections

With information use and manipulation becoming more dependent on computer technology, faculty often need to conduct a few classroom sessions in a hands-on computer environment. The problem faculty encounter is that most fully equipped classrooms are not available for occasional use. In response to this need, USM Libraries has equipped a computerized instruction classroom. Although the classroom is not a substitute for classes requiring semester long computer use, faculty, staff and graduate teaching assistants may schedule up to two consecutive class sessions in the Library's Electronic Instruction Room. The room is located in Cook Library room 207, just behind the second floor elevators.

The room provides twenty computer workstations for students, in addition to a teacher workstation connected to a data video projector. The workstations are equipped with the following software: Netscape, Internet Explorer, Eudora Lite, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft Access. Faculty may request use of the room either by completing the reservation form under Library Instruction on the USM Libraries' web site <http://www.lib.usm.edu>, or by telephoning (601) 266-4249.

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Have You Met Anna?

—Sarah Spencer, Information Services Librarian

SELECTING "ANNA" AS THE NAME FOR
THE WEB BASED LIBRARY CATALOG
IS A FITTING TRIBUTE TO THE WOMAN
WHO DEVOTED HER CAREER TO
DEVELOPING USM'S LIBRARY
COLLECTIONS

Perhaps you have noticed a name that has been circulating around campus during the past months. While waiting in line at Seymour's or at the post office, you may have overheard someone say, "I've got to check Anna for that," or "Anna said . . ." "Who is Anna?" you may have wondered.

Anna is the USM Libraries' new web-based library catalog. Anna replaces the older version of the library catalog that was known as "Oscar." Anna provides call numbers and other information for the holdings of Cook Library, McCain Library and Archives, the Music Resource Center, Gunn Education Materials Center, and Cox Library on the Gulf Park campus. Anna is available both on campus and off campus from any computer with Internet access. Interested individuals can access Anna through the USM Libraries' web site at <http://www.lib.usm.edu>.

The holdings of all USM Libraries can be searched together, and searches can also be limited to specific locations such as McCain Library or the Music Resource Center. Anna offers both simple searching and complex searching. The system defaults to a quick search screen that allows basic searches for materials by title, author, subject, and series. Anna's complex search features more searching options. In a complex search, limits such as year, language, item type, and location can be applied. Anna also allows searching by an item's call number.

Because Anna is a web catalog, it provides users with services and capabilities that were not available with Oscar. According to Kay Wall, Director of Public Services for USM Libraries, "The USM Libraries' move to a web-based catalog offers tremendous opportunities to enhance access both to resources and to services. Anna not only provides information on library holdings but also brings some of those resources right to the desktop."

Unlike Oscar, Anna contains live links to the URLs of journals that are available electronically to USM faculty, staff, and students. The electronic journals are indicated in Anna by the word "online" in the record, and the URLs appear in the section of the record labeled "electronic access." While all of the electronic journals available through the USM Libraries are not currently linked in Anna, these titles are being added to the catalog at a rapid pace.

Another feature that is available because Anna is a web catalog is the ability to have links within records that retrieve information about related library holdings. For example, in a record, the patron can click on the name of the author to pull up the titles of other works by the author that are held in the USM Libraries, and clicking on subject links within records will retrieve other library resources about the subject. Other useful capabilities of Anna are enhanced keyword searching and easy printing, downloading, and emailing of records.

Anna's "Request" feature can be used to place online Interlibrary Loan orders for materials not available at USM. Another service offered through Anna is the Reserve Desk, which allows patrons to look up numbers for items instructors have placed on reserve. Future Anna enhancements will include online access to reserve materials and online renewals of circulating materials. "We have not completely implemented all of the system features we plan to provide through Anna," Kay Wall said. "We look forward to the feedback patrons provide after using Anna, and one way to contact me is through the 'Contact Us' button on the USM Libraries' web page at <http://www.lib.usm.edu>."

The new library catalog is named in honor of Anna Margaret Roberts, USM's first professional librarian. Roberts was USM's library director from 1926 until her retirement in 1962. She also designed, established, and chaired the first undergraduate library science program at USM. Speaking about the library catalog's name change, Dr. James R. Martin, Dean of Libraries, said, "None of us were particularly pleased with the name "Oscar," and thought this was an opportunity to change the name of the catalog. Many suggestions were made, and few were satisfactory to the library faculty and staff until the discussion of linking the name of the catalog with some sort of USM tradition."

Selecting "Anna" as the name for the web based library catalog is a fitting tribute to the woman who devoted her career to developing USM's library collections. Anna Roberts began in 1926 with a collection of 7,567 volumes, and, by 1962, the

number had grown to over 122,732 volumes, including many rare books and numerous unique items related to Mississippi. Roberts served as library director during the administration of USM's first six presidents, and she witnessed the institution undergoing three name changes.

During Roberts' thirty-six year tenure at USM, she must have been a well-known figure to students and faculty as they sought her assistance with research projects. The phrase "I need to ask Anna Roberts how to find that book" likely was heard often as students walked across campus. Library research has changed since Roberts' years at the University, and she would certainly be amazed to see the ways in which technology has transformed the USM Libraries. However, links between the University's past and present are definitely evident today as students and faculty are again encouraged to "Ask Anna."

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Libraries Begin Formal Fundraising Effort

— Barton Spencer, Assistant to the Dean for Development

There is a growing trend at universities for dedicated fund raisers, known as "constituency fundraisers," to be placed in university departments and colleges. University libraries nationwide are becoming increasingly involved in such endeavors. In late 1998, USM Libraries joined the University's development efforts by creating the position of Library Development Officer. Former USM librarian Barton Spencer serves in this position, which is now known as "Assistant to the Dean for Development."

With the creation of this position, USM Libraries began its first formal program for fund raising. Several fund raising initiatives have been developed for USM Libraries, the most important of which are the Fund-A-Book program, the USM Libraries' Scholar Society, and the creation of library endowments.

The Fund-A-Book program helps add new books to the Libraries' collections and allows donors to receive recognition for small donations. For each \$50 donation, a personalized bookplate is placed in a new book at USM Libraries.

Another successful program for increasing funding for book purchases is the Scholar Society. There are three levels of annual giving within the Scholar Society:

- Ruby Level \$200 - \$499 donated annually
- Emerald Level \$500 - \$999 donated annually
- Diamond Level \$1,000 - \$4,999 donated annually

Donors who give large amounts are recognized in two additional ways. Those who have an accumulated level of giving that exceeds \$5,000 will have their names added to a plaque in Cook Library called the "Scholar's Crown." Those who contribute more than \$10,000 will have their names placed on individual plaques in Cook Library and will be named Life Members of the Scholar Society.

Endowments are vitally important to libraries. They provide sources of funding that can be relied upon in perpetuity, regardless of the twists and turns of the university budget. Two new endowments have already been established in the year 2000.



Mr. J.V. Mathis (left), of Hattiesburg, signs papers for the creation of an endowment with Barton Spencer, Assistant to the Dean of Libraries.

The John E. and Melissa P. McCarty Geology Library Endowment will provide exceptional resources to benefit geology students and others who wish to learn more about this field. The McCarty's have another library endowment, created several years ago, that benefits the reference collection at Cook Library.

The Ora Jo Mathis Library Endowment for Genealogy and Special Collections was created in memory of Mrs. Mathis by her husband, J. V. Mathis. Mrs. Mathis, who passed away just before the new year began, was an avid genealogist. She used the resources of McCain Library and Archives extensively and directed several donations toward the library over the last few years. The contributions from Mr. Mathis, who is retired, are enhanced by a 3-to-1 match from Exxon Corporation. The endowment is expected to be fully funded and active in 2005. Mr. and Mrs. Mathis are Scholar's Crown members.

Donations to USM Libraries can benefit every person on campus, as well as the Hattiesburg community. Donors may designate which department or collection will benefit from their donations. For example, one Scholar Society member split her donation so that half was used for biology materials and the other half for music materials. One may also consider the fact that couples who have different majors can give to the library and support those majors simultaneously.

Contributions, planned gifts, and pledges to USM Libraries may also entitle one to become a member of The University of Southern Mississippi's Honor Club. Those who create endowments are eligible, but one need not create an endowment to reach the Honor Club level of giving. Within USM Libraries we have two Honor Club members: Dr. James R. Martin, Dean of Libraries, and Mrs. Nancy Kaul, Head of Collection Management.

Businesses are also providing valuable resources and services as a result of the Libraries' development efforts. Michaels, the arts and crafts store, provided frames and framing services for a permanent exhibit of photographs in McCain Library's Cleanth Brooks Reading Room. These handsomely framed photographs are representative of those that were displayed last year in the *Faces of Freedom Summer* exhibit, featuring photographer Herbert Randall. The photos capture Civil Rights activity in Hattiesburg during Mississippi Freedom Summer 1964. We thank Mr. Jesse Hahn, store manager, for his support and assistance.

Office Max of Hattiesburg generously provided the Information Services department with a flatbed scanner in 1999. The Umax brand scanner is being used, in part, to scan photos and documents for use on USM Libraries web pages. We thank Mr. John Freeman, store manager, for his support of USM Libraries.

We invite you to contact us if you would like more information about how you can support USM Libraries. We have a number of brochures we can mail to you and will also be pleased to speak with you in person at your convenience. The Library Development web site is located at <http://www.lib.usm.edu/~develop/>. You may call us at 266-6375 or write to Library Development, Box 5053 USM, Hattiesburg, MS, 39406-5053.

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USM Libraries to Award Student Scholarship

EBSCO Industries Inc., of Birmingham, Alabama, has chosen to fund the first ever award of the USM Libraries Student Library Employee Scholarship. EBSCO is one of the primary vendors for USM Libraries, providing information management services and journal and periodical subscription services.

The scholarship was designed in 1999 to be an important part of the Library Development program. A goal was established to provide at least one \$1,000 scholarship award each school year for a deserving student library employee. The upcoming award, which will take place between April and June of this year, will be the only one ever awarded by the library.

EBSCO is an acronym for Elton B. Stephens Company. The company employs 4,000 people and owns subsidiaries in 21 countries.

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The Wheat among the Tares: A Tribute to Roy Mitchell Wheat

— Yvonne Arnold, Archives Specialist, McCain Library and Archives



J.C. and Stella Wheat at the Medal of Honor Presentation, September 23, 1968.

In celebration of
Memorial Day,
an exhibit titled
"The Wheat among the Tares:
A Tribute to Roy Mitchell Wheat,"
will be on display in the
Cleanth Brooks Reading Room
(Room 305) of the William D.
McCain Library and Archives,
beginning on May 1, 2000,
and continuing through July 4, 2000.
The exhibit will feature materials
from the Roy Wheat Papers
and will be open to the public.

"Let both grow together until the harvest;
and in the time of harvest I will say to the
reapers, Gather ye together first the tares,
and bind them in bundles to burn them;
but gather the wheat into my barn."
—Matthew 13:30

For Lance Corporal Roy Mitchell Wheat, United States Marine Corps, harvest time came on August 11, 1967, on the Liberty Road in Quang Nam, Vietnam. On that day, just eighteen days after his twentieth birthday, Roy was leading a team assigned to provide security for a Navy construction crane, when he accidentally triggered a bounding type antipersonnel mine. He yelled for team members, Vernon Sorenson and Bernard Cannon, to run; then flung himself onto the mine, as it exploded, absorbing the tremendous impact with his body. Roy was killed, but his companions were spared certain injury and possible death. For his extraordinary act of heroism, the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's most prestigious military decoration, was awarded to him, posthumously. He was Mississippi's only Medal of Honor recipient for service in the Vietnam War.

Born on July 24, 1947, in the small rural community of Moselle, Mississippi, Roy Wheat was the eldest of four sons born to J. C. and Stella Wheat. His father was employed by Jones County as a heavy equipment operator, and his mother was a seamstress at the Reliance Manufacturing Company in Hattiesburg.

Roy was fairly typical of boys in rural communities. He became adept with guns at an early age, and enjoyed hunting squirrels and other small game in the woods near his home. He was too small to play football but served as manager of the Moselle High School football team, where he earned the nickname "Doctor" because he liked to treat injuries. He dropped out of school in 1965, during his junior year at Moselle High School, and went to work at Winn-Dixie Supermarket in Hattiesburg. In a short time, he worked his way up from bagging groceries to managing the produce department.

On September 19, 1966, Roy enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps. He received basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, and infantry training at Camp Le Jeune, North Carolina. In February 1967, he was promoted to Private First Class and sent to

Camp Pendleton, California. From there, he was dispatched to the Republic of Vietnam, arriving in Chu Lai in March 1967. He was assigned to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. In June 1967, he was promoted to Lance Corporal and assigned to lead a security team whose responsibility it was to check for booby traps before other personnel entered an area.

While in Vietnam, Roy was wounded in action twice. On April 10, 1967, a fragment of shrapnel from a mortar round tore a hole in his helmet and grazed his forehead, as he was alighting from a truck. Then on July 30, 1967, he was wounded when a hand grenade thrown by a Viet Cong exploded near him. Doctors were unable to remove shrapnel imbedded in his right thigh, and he was told the scrap of metal would have to remain there. For the former wound, he was awarded a Purple Heart, and in lieu of a second Purple Heart, he received a Gold Star for the latter. Other medals bestowed on Roy Wheat include

- The Navy Commendation Medal
- The National Defense Service Medal
- The Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars
- The Vietnam Military Merit Medal
- The Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm
- The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal



Roy's medals are on display in the Roy M. Wheat Post Office at 220 South 40th Avenue in Hattiesburg. The facility was named in Roy's honor, by Act of Congress, on August 22, 1995, but it was not the first such honor. On July 5, 1979, a street aboard the Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma (Nevada) was renamed "Wheat Loop," and, on September 11, 1985, the enlisted men's galley at the Meridian Naval Air Station (Meridian, Mississippi) was designated "Wheat Galley."

Roy is interred in Eastabuchie Cemetery, Eastabuchie, Mississippi. A large American flag flies above a massive monument, to mark the spot. At the base of the monument rests a special Medal of Honor marker.

Roy's heroism was not widely known until it was brought to the attention of Mr. Charles Sullivan, chair of the Social Studies Department at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston, Mississippi, in March 1990. Mr. Sullivan and photographer Winfried Moncrief had recently coestablished a series of historical publications and videotape documentaries titled "*The Magnolia Series*," and, from the moment they heard about Roy Wheat, they knew they wanted to produce a documentary film about him. The result was *Magnolia Series Number Four, No Greater Love: Roy Wheat in Vietnam*. In order to make the film, Mr. Sullivan persuaded Roy's parents, J. C. and Stella Wheat, to loan him all of Roy's letters, photographs, and memorabilia they had lovingly preserved over the years. The film is narrated by Brigadier General Thomas Draude, USMC, who eloquently explains why people like Roy do the things they do:

"Marines don't fight for their country, and they don't fight for the Marine Corps. They don't fight for apple pie, motherhood, Sally Lou, or Lost Overshoe, Iowa. They fight for



their buddies."

In describing Roy Wheat to Charles Sullivan, Bernard Cannon, one of the men whose lives Roy saved had this to say:

"That slender Mississippi country boy had more love and compassion in him than all the rest of the company put together. Whatever you put in your documentary, it could never tell the whole story of what Roy meant to us."

Mr. Cannon was most likely correct in his assessment. However, the film is beautifully executed, and it is difficult, if not impossible, to maintain dry eyes while viewing it. At its conclusion, it is clear that, in Roy Mitchell Wheat, the Marines found one of the "few good men" for which they continually search.

In September 1992, J. C. Wheat donated Roy's letters, photographs, and other materials used in creating the documentary to The University of Southern Mississippi for inclusion in the USM Libraries' collections. And, shortly after J. C. Wheat's death in December 1999, Roy's brother, Dale Wheat, donated an additional two cubic feet of memorabilia, per his father's instructions.

The Roy Wheat Papers chronicle the life, death, and awards of this remarkable young man. The heart of the collection is a series of correspondence between Roy and members of his family, through which the reader gains insight into the personality of a young man from rural South Mississippi who finds himself in the rice paddies of South Vietnam, fighting a war that is very unpopular back home. Recurrent themes in his letters are love of family, God, and country, and he wants nothing more than to return to Mississippi, purchase land adjoining his parents' property, and raise cattle and hogs for a living. He also misses his mother's home-cooked peas, butterbeans, and okra, and his red 1960 Chevrolet. Roy's down-home sense of humor is reflected in such expressions as, "Vietnam is as hot as a goat in a pepper patch," and "I slept on the side of a hill so steep I thought I was sleeping standing up."

Among other items in the collection are photographs; school yearbooks; certificates documenting Roy's medals; rubbings of his name from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D. C.; materials generated by Charles Sullivan during production of the documentary film; and a copy of the film, *No Greater Love: Roy Wheat in Vietnam*. In addition, there is a reel-to-reel tape (which has also been transferred to cassette) on which Roy's voice is preserved. The tape was made in Vietnam by Roy's friend and fellow Marine Daryl Tribe. Most of the tape contains messages from Daryl to his family, but, for a few minutes, Roy speaks, revealing a soft, unmistakably southern drawl.

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