Author Richard Côté will talk about *When the Earthquake Returns to South Carolina*, a program about Charleston’s 1886 earthquake, what South Carolina learned from it and how its residents can prepare to survive the “Next Big One.” Forget Hugo. For its size, and in its time, the earthquake of 1886 is easily the most destructive force ever to hit the Lowcountry. “August 31st, up until that evening, was probably the single most boring day in the history of South Carolina,” said Côté.

*City of Heroes: The Great Charleston Earthquake of 1886*, by Richard N. Côté, is a riveting, action-packed, heavily illustrated non-fiction book filled with gripping, first-hand accounts of the earthquake, drawn directly from newspapers, personal diaries, journals, and letters of the earthquake survivors. It also follows the earthquake scientists who descended upon Charleston to discover what caused the disaster. But above all, it identifies the noble and heartwarming acts of numerous unsung heroes, black and white, inspired and led by Charleston’s extraordinary mayor, William A. Courtenay. Working together, they saved numerous lives, nursed the wounded, fed the hungry, sheltered the homeless and enabled Charleston to make a full recovery from the massive disaster in only fourteen months. (from a general synopsis found on several book sellers web sites)

Richard N. Côté, a Connecticut native and Vietnam War veteran, studied political science and journalism at Butler University. After serving on the staff of the South Carolina Historical Society, he turned to writing about the nineteenth-century South. In 2004 he was awarded the Bobby Gilmer Moss Award in History by the Daughters of the American Revolution for his outstanding contributions to historical writing. He lives in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, where he writes, lectures, and serves as Editor-in-Chief of Corinthian Books.

Mr. Côté has generously agreed to donate 10% of the proceeds of his book sold at the event to the Friends of Dacus.

*Plowden Auditorium is in the Richard W. Riley School of Education in the Withers/WTS Building. Guests should take the elevator to the 3rd floor. Parking is available in the lot behind Dinkins Student Center, with entrances from Charlotte Avenue, College Avenue, or Myrtle Drive.*
Fool’s Gold: Why the Internet Is No Substitute for a Library is Dean Herring’s fourth book since 1999 and his most outspoken one to date. Fool’s Gold dismisses the nonsense that the Internet is making libraries obsolete by pointing out the vast wasteland’s many defects. Herring strikes a blow for libraries and for information literacy. It’s a one-two punch that should be of interest to anyone who cares about the quality of information, scholarship, libraries and liberty. Chapters tackle Google, Wikipedia, link rot, reading literacy and more. This is a must have book if you’re in school, or college, have children there, or simply care about the quality of democratic freedom. Jefferson argued that “If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.” And yet the Web threatens our literacy with its ocean of misinformation floating mere islands of knowing.

Dot Medlin’s New Publication
British-French Exchanges in the Eighteenth Century / edited by Kathleen Hardesty Doig and Dorothy Medlin. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2007. ~ France and Great Britain, so close geographically but separated by language, culture and history, had been exchanging merchandise, visitors, rulers and ideas for hundred of years before the eighteenth century. The flow of traffic only quickened during this period, and became a flood, in the direction of Great Britain, during the decade following the Revolution. While certain of these exchanges, such as Voltaire’s sojourn abroad, have been studied in detail, others are coming into focus only as scholars study secondary figures in the host country and the interactions of various groups with its citizens. ~ British-French Exchanges in the Eighteenth Century gathers together fourteen recent essays by scholars from Great Britain and the United States who have examined various parameters of the subject. Correspondences and translations are obvious forms of cultural sharing and are in play in many of the essays. Others recount and analyse the stories of persons who actually visited the other country in circumstances ranging from pure tourism to emigration to a hostage exchange. A final group of essays treats intellectual influences in realms as diverse as encyclopaedism, cultural analysis, connoisseurship, and cosmopolitanism in the arts. ~ Dr. Medlin has graciously agreed to give a copy to Dacus Library, where this volume will be a welcome addition for the study of history, literature, and culture.

Drs. Doig and Medlin are also currently collaborating on a critical edition of Morellet’s Mémoires (Centre international d’étude du XVIIIe siècle, forthcoming).
Dacus Volumes Dedicated to Bettye and Earl Wilcox

On February 15, the board met and made a secret motion and vote to give Earl and Bettye Wilcox a book of their choice, in recognition of their service to Friends of Dacus Library. The following books were given in their honor:


Some major sets recently given by Friends members

*The Grove encyclopedia of classical art and architecture*, 2-vol. set. Vol.1: Abacus to Lyson and Kallikles tomb, Vol.2: Macedonia to Zygouries / Gordon Campbell. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2007. This glorious 2-volume set fills a gap in Dacus Library’s collection and was given by Elizabeth Patrick. It is the most comprehensive reference available on artistic and architectural details and movements from the Greco-Roman era through the fall of the Roman Empire. Winthrop University is one of only two libraries in South Carolina fortunately enough to own this set.

*History of financial disasters*, 1763-1995 (3-volume set) / edited by Stefan Altorfer, Benedikt Koehler, and Mark Duckenfield. London: Pickering & Chatto, 2006. This in-depth history and economic analysis of the financial system and the economic factors surrounding each crisis was given by Elizabeth Patrick. This set provides important historic analysis for the study of economics and finance, but its price puts it out of most libraries’ reach. 99 libraries worldwide own this encyclopedia, and Winthrop is among these fortunate few.

*Women and war: a historical encyclopedia from antiquity to the present* / edited by Bernard A. Cook. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, c2006. This 2-volume set was given by Louise Pettus in honor of Mary Schweitzer and in memory of Mary Elizabeth Massey, 2007. 120 leading scholars from around the world bring us the first ever comprehensive history of the role of women in war. War is a man's game—or so goes the standard wisdom. But from the beginning of recorded history, women have played an integral part in war: leaders to warriors, resistance fighters to resisters, providers-of-aid to aides-de-camp. This set is a wonderful library addition to support women’s studies, political science, sociology, and history of warfare.
Next year’s slate of officers

- Judith Aplin, Board Member
- Joye Berman, Board Member
- Nancy Davidson, Board Member
- Jim Johnston, Treasurer
- Mary Jean Martin, Recording Secretary
- Antje Mays, Vice Chairperson
- Sally Archer, Chairperson
- Martha Ann McFadden, Ex Officio

Save the Date! Tuesday, November 6 – Dr. Connie Myers presents “Winthrop’s Mary Elizabeth Massey: Feminist in Mufti” - Mary Elizabeth Massey, the only female Winthrop history professor and a trailblazer for future waves of professional women. More information to follow! Watch your mailbox. This will surely be an insightful presentation.

Friends of Dacus Library
Winthrop University
Rock Hill, SC 2973

For online forms for membership renewal: http://www.winthrop.edu/dacus/about/friendsformfinal.pdf