



Friends of the Wade

The Marion E. Wade Center

Wheaton College

The Papers of Joy Davidman and the Gresham Family

Insights about the seven Wade authors are often found in work by and about people who influenced their lives. Therefore, the Wade Center has always taken advantage of opportunities to enhance its holdings with materials related to family members, friends, and other close associates of the authors.

One such collection is the Joy Davidman Papers archive, consisting of recently discovered items deposited here by Joy's son, Douglas Gresham, this past year. Joy Davidman, C.S. Lewis's wife, was an author and journalist herself, publishing poetry, novels, and articles. This new collection of her papers contains correspondence, personal papers, and poetry and prose, much of which is unpublished material. Within months of its arrival, researchers interested in the life and works of C.S. and Joy Davidman Lewis were scheduling visits to examine this new material.

This latest acquisition enhances the holdings related to the Gresham family that the Wade Center has purchased or received over the years. In 1982, while working on his biography of Joy Davidman, *And God Came In*, Lyle Dorsett, second director of the Wade Center, purchased a sizeable collection of correspondence between C.S. Lewis, Joy Davidman, William (Bill) Lindsay Gresham,

Douglas and David Gresham, and Renée Gresham. With contents ranging from 1940 to 1982, these documents show first-hand the communication between members of the Gresham family as Joy Davidman and her sons relocated to England and came into contact with her future husband, C.S. Lewis. They also provide a look into Bill Gresham's life back in America. A subsequent deposit

of Bill Gresham's papers and published work contains an extensive collection of his articles, short stories, book drafts, personal correspondence, and books from his personal library.

A more personal item, donated to the Wade Center in 2003 by Peter Cousin, is the

colorful afghan that Joy made near the end of her life for C.S. Lewis. It was borrowed for the film *Shadowlands* (1993), appearing fleetingly when Joy, played by Debra Winger, is in bed during her final illness.

The Wade Center has become an important research repository for Davidman and Gresham studies, in addition to providing insights into Lewis's personal family life during this era.

For contents listings of these and other holdings at The Marion E. Wade Center, see our website: www.wheaton.edu/wadecenter/Collections-and-Services/Collection-Listings. **W**



Joy Davidman's registration document for alien residency in England

“Unfortunately, man cannot for long endure the common sense of God.”

—Joy Davidman



EDITING & DESIGN: Rachel Mink

The Marion E. Wade Center
Wheaton College
Wheaton, Illinois 60187

Phone: 630-752-5908
Fax: 630-752-5459
E-mail: wade@wheaton.edu
www.wheaton.edu/wadecenter

The winds of change blew through the Wade Center this past summer, bringing both joys and losses. Through the contributions of many of you, the Wade was able to raise the \$100,000 needed to begin the cataloging project, hiring Nicole Long on August 1 as Catalog Librarian. Nicole has quietly yet efficiently made herself a vital part of our staff, and we are grateful for her expertise and partnership. Shortly thereafter, Beth Hammer and Rachel Mink announced their departures. In early September, Beth and her husband Steve relocated their pastoral ministry to Minneapolis. For over three years, Beth served as Office Coordinator with alacrity, warmth, and foresight while enhancing the staff's collegial atmosphere. A few weeks later, Rachel left to prepare for graduate school in occupational therapy. Her contribution, like Beth's, extended beyond her stated duties as she supported the directors, edited and designed the Wade's journal and newsletter, and oversaw myriad special projects. Regrettably, we will be unable to rehire for her position until we reach additional funding through our Capital Campaign. However, the same wind that has blown us these changes has sent us Kendra Juskus, who comes with the skills for the part-time Office Coordinator position and to support the publications. As the writer of *Ecclesiastes* observes, none escape the winds of change—but thankfully these winds bring blessings as well as sorrow.

WITH ALL GOOD WISHES,



Did You Know?

If you have visited the Wade Center online recently, you probably noticed the change in our website. While much of the content is the same, it is newly formatted, making it easier to read and navigate, and matching it to the Wheaton College website. We have used this opportunity to add new content as well, such as additional author resources, new collection finding aids, and updated information on *VII*. Our RSS feed is unfortunately no longer available. You can continue to visit the Wade Center's Facebook page, however, where you can read of upcoming events and keep updated on the progress of the cataloging project. **W**



Up Close The Capital Campaign

In Spring 2011, the Marion E. Wade Center launched a capital campaign to address the Center's operational deficit and enable the realization of our long-term goals; this fund-raising initiative is now entering its public phase. First of all, this campaign will be raising funds to enable the Wade Center to remain financially autonomous and fully functioning in its fundamental mission, despite the considerable effect of the economic downturn on the endowment that funds our basic operations. Second, as we are approaching the Wade Center's 50th anniversary in 2015, we have reflected upon how to responsibly continue our work into the years that lie ahead. The needs for the collection and preservation of materials remain, even as we also craft better ways to promote the works of the seven Wade authors through teaching and publications. We are appreciative that although the Wade Center is financially independent of Wheaton College, as a College department we receive the support of the expert team of advisors in the Advancement Department. With their help, the Wade Center has identified the following five initiatives for funding:

Research Fellowship

As scholars study our authors, they are not only personally enriched but in turn share their insights and excitement with many others through their writing, lecturing, preaching, and teaching. Since financial support for research expenses is scarce, the Wade Center hopes to offer an annual Wade research fellowship grant for qualified researchers to conduct extended work at the Wade Center.

SEVEN Book Imprint

We envision expanding our list of publications through a book imprint. In addition to strengthening our academic journal *SEVEN*, this funding would allow us to publish new books about the authors, or reprint valuable

critical works that have gone out of print. This would also be a way to insure the ongoing availability of the works of the Wade authors themselves.

Summer Institute

Students, teachers, scholars, pastors, reading group members, and museum visitors have long expressed an interest in additional opportunities to learn about the Wade authors' writings in depth. This initiative proposes an annual Summer Institute consisting of week-long summer courses on the seven authors.

Symposium

As the scholars and societies committed to the seven authors transition through the years, we recognize the need to host an annual symposium at the Wade Center, bringing together select experts to develop a five- to seven-year plan for the intentional and unified promotion of each of the seven authors across disciplines and around the world.

Lectureship

It is a deep encouragement that in the early stage of this campaign, this particular initiative has already been accomplished! The Walter and Darlene Hansen Lectureship will be an annual lecture series starting in 2013, and will draw on Wheaton College faculty to give three lectures in each annual series, which will be subsequently published by the Wade Center. Through the gracious gift of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hansen, we will be able to reinforce our department's collaboration with Wheaton College scholars, and provide them with the opportunity and incentive to research and publish on the Wade authors.

To endow the four remaining initiatives described above, and to strengthen our operating budget, we are seeking to raise \$4 million. In view of our previous levels of fundraising over the last 45 years, this goal appears daunting. However, we sincerely believe that in seeking to fund these means to increase awareness and access to the works of the Wade authors, we are taking the next steps towards fulfilling Dr. Clyde S. Kilby's vision of sharing these transformative works in an engaging way with people of all ages and backgrounds.

As Friends of the Wade, many of you have given generously and consistently over the years, allowing us to embark on this next phase of enhancing access to the materials. Thank you for your continuing support on which we rely. In addition, many of you may be able to connect us with avenues for funding one or more aspects of the campaign. Please look for opportunities to tell others why you value and support the work of the Marion E. Wade Center, and to explain how they too can participate, by supporting one of the four remaining initiatives of the campaign or through unrestricted gifts. Of course, if any of these initiatives excite you and you have the means to consider funding them in full or in part, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss that possibility further with you.

We invite your questions and insights as we move forward with this fundraising campaign. Please feel free to contact Director Chris Mitchell at 630-752-5908 or at christopher.mitchell@wheaton.edu at any time. Thank you for your part in laying the foundation for the Wade Center's work in the coming decades. **W**

Spotlight on *SEVEN*

Volume 28

We are pleased to announce that the forthcoming volume of *VII: An Anglo-American Literary Review*, the annual journal of the Marion E. Wade Center. Volume 28 (2011) contains several hitherto unpublished materials by Wade authors. The first is C.S. Lewis's "Easley Fragment," two chapters of a realistic novel that Lewis abandoned early in his writing career but was preserved by his brother Warren in the Lewis Family Papers (now at the Wade). Also featured are drafts for an essay by G.K. Chesterton regarding George MacDonald, as well as related drawings. Of additional import and interest are several poems written for a village pageant by a young Dorothy L. Sayers that brought her public acclaim and foreshadowed her growing talents. We hope you enjoy these items, as well as the superb articles and reviews in this issue. **W**

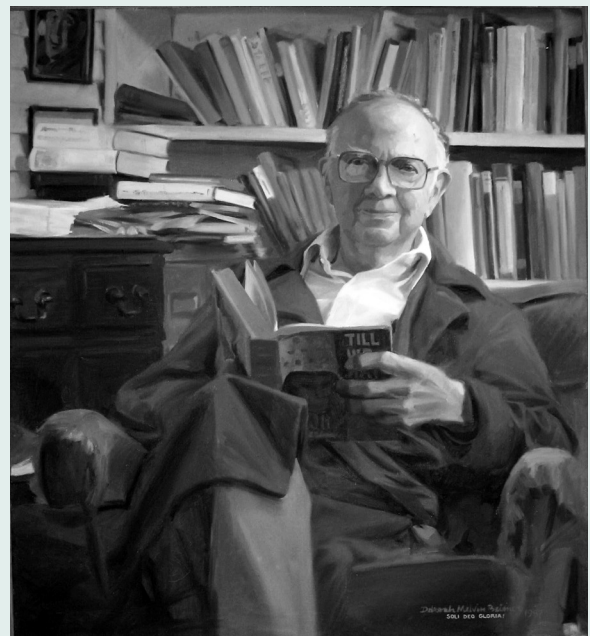
The Marion E. Wade Center
Wheaton College
Wheaton, Illinois 60187

Presorted Standard
Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Carol Stream, IL
Permit No. 6044

Highlights

Friends of the Wade / page 4

A beautiful oil painting of Wade Center founder Clyde S. Kilby was recently donated to the Wade Center by long-time Friend of the Wade, Leanne Payne. The artist, Deborah Melvin Beisner, shared some memories of Dr. Kilby and the painting of this portrait: “Enchanted by his person as well as his second-floor study, I convinced [Dr. Kilby] to sit for the portrait photos in 1981 after I completed some studies with portrait artist John Howard Sanden. God blessed the work, and I consider it one of my three best portraits. Dr. Kilby taught my mother at Wheaton College in the 40s, and my sister in the 70s, and I audited his Modern Mythology class in summer school. I named my third child Kilby after this man whose spirit exuded joy and mirth. I hope I caught some of that in the portrait.” **W**



Clyde S. Kilby, founder of the Marion E. Wade Center
Deborah Melvin Beisner, artist

© Deborah Melvin Beisner