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5th Annual Great Illinois Book Fair Set for Nov. 17 at IWU

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Illinois Wesleyan University

Illinois Wesleyan University News Service, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, IL 61702-2900

October 21, 1996

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5th Annual Great Illinois Book Fair Set for Nov. 17 at IWU Cent J

"I cannot live without books." --Thomas Jefferson

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Lovers of antiquarian, out-of-print, and rare books will have a field day next month, when Illinois Wesleyan University hosts the 5th Annual Great Illinois Book Fair.

About 30 book dealers will bring their wares to IWU's Shirk Center, Nov. 17, for book aficionados to browse through--and purchase. The 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. book fair will take place in the Shirk Center (Practice Gym). Book fair attendees should enter the Shirk Center from the East Parking Lot. The Shirk Center is located at 302 E. Emerson, Bloomington.

Admission and parking are free.

Jane Chamberlain, information services librarian at IWU's Sheean Library, is the book fair organizer.

"IWU and Sheean Library," Chamberlain said, "sponsor the book fair annually to provide a service to students and the Bloomington-Normal community.

"Even in the electronic age," Chamberlain added, "books and other paper materials have a value that goes beyond dollars and cents. The feel and smell of an old book can be captivating--and certainly what's inside that book can change someone."

One book collector told Chamberlain at last year's book fair that it attracts "true collectors not just browsers."

"He told me," Chamberlain said, "that he sold more books in the first 30 minutes of last year's book fair than he had up to that time for the entire year."

Door prizes will be awarded on the hour between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Among the prizes will be t-shirts and calendars.

The book fair is sponsored by IWU's Sheean Library and the Midwest Bookhunters, a consortium of about 150 book dealers, specializing in out-of-print, antiquarian, and rare books and other materials. The Antiquarian Booksellers of Illinois, a group of about 25 book dealers, also are expected to participate in the book fair.

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locals

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