

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN A WEEK

PEOPLE MENTIONED OR ALMOST MENTIONED IN A WEEK:

THE REVEREND WILKES ALLEN OF CHELMSFORD



**“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY**



THE PEOPLE OF A WEEK:

REVEREND WILKES ALLEN

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1728

November 18: Elnathan Allen was born in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, a son of Israel Allen (Israel was a son of Elnathan who was a son of Elnathan, all of Shrewsbury).

REVEREND WILKES ALLEN

NOBODY COULD GUESS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT





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1737

By this year Thankful Hastings was born in the West Precinct of Watertown now known as Waltham, Massachusetts (she may have been born as early as 1735).

REVEREND WILKES ALLEN



**LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARD?
— NO, THAT’S GIVING TOO MUCH TO THE HISTORIAN’S STORIES.
LIFE ISN’T TO BE UNDERSTOOD EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.**

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1775

July 10, Monday: [Wilkes Allen](#) was born in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts to Elnathan Allen and Thankful Hastings Allen. The infant would be christened “Wilkes” because of the popular political riotous street shouting “Wilkes and Liberty” in favor of John Wilkes, a randy libertine¹ member of the English Parliament (and member of the notorious Hellfire Club) who was currently being acclaimed for his support of American Independence. A younger brother, for similar reasons, would be named “Liberty.”



1. We may note the wide-legged stance in this period cartoon, with the hand suggestively concealing the crotch, and the pole suggesting a hard erection — and, of course, the leer.



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1779

February 20, Saturday: Mary Morrill was born.

REVEREND WILKES ALLEN



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1797

At first [Wilkes Allen](#) had labored on his father's farm, and had studied at Phillips Academy and Andover Academy, then in charge of Mark Newman, but at the age of 18 he had apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade. He constructed, for instance, the pews of the church at Bolton, Massachusetts. In this year at the age of 22 he matriculated at [Harvard College](#). During his vacations he would teach school. He played the base viol, and as a schoolmaster he taught singing. He was short and thick-set.

NEW "HARVARD MEN"

CHANGE IS ETERNITY, STASIS A FIGMENT




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1801

 [Wilkes Allen](#) graduated from [Harvard College](#), and at the commencement delivered one of the three lengthy poems which he had been composing. He would study divinity with the Reverend Increase Sumner of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts and with the [Reverend Thaddeus Mason Harris](#) of Dorchester.

NEW "HARVARD MEN"

[The Reverend Harris](#)'s DISCOURSES, DELIVERED ON PUBLIC OCCASIONS... (Charlestown: Printed by Samuel Etheridge, 5801 [1801]). Also, a 2d edition of his BEAUTIES OF NATURE DELINEATED; OR, PHILOSOPHICAL AND PIOUS CONTEMPLATIONS ON THE WORKS OF NATURE, AND THE SEASONS OF THE YEAR (Charlestown: Printed and Sold by Samuel Etheridge).

DO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION? GOOD.




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1803

 November 16, Tuesday: After preaching his first sermon from the pulpit of the [Reverend Thaddeus Mason Harris](#) of Dorchester, [Wilkes Allen](#) was settled as the minister at Chelmsford. His ordination sermon was preached by the Reverend Increase Sumner, under whom he had studied in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. This ordination sermon would be printed. His ministerial salary would be merely \$500, but with the position came “ministerial lands” which during the week he would be able to farm. He would during part of the year teach a private school in his house, fitting boys for college, and he would be active on the Town School Committee. He was a Mason and would attain the highest honors of that society, becoming the society’s Chaplain in several stages of his ascension. He would deliver several Masonic discourses.

THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT






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1805

 November 13, Wednesday: French troops marched into Vienna, unopposed.

The [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) got married with Mary Morrill, a daughter of Deacon James Morrill of Boston, in Boston or in Chelmsford, Massachusetts. It was probably at about this time that the house the Reverend Packard had built in Chelmsford was purchased as his parsonage. The couple would produce five boys who would grow to maturity: James Morrill Allen, Charles Hastings Allen, John Clark Allen, Nathaniel Glover Allen, and Wilkes Allen. Three of these would attend college.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 13 of 11 M 1805 / This day my brother James has sailed for NYork expecting to go to sea. My mind is often drawn forth in supplication for his preservation & enlargemnt in the best things. may the All protecting hand go with him wherever he goes & may he be obedient to its directions

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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1806



July 1, Tuesday: Overtura Chinaesa by Carl Maria von Weber was performed for the initial time, in Breslau (Wroclaw).

The [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) was commissioned as the Chaplain of the 3d Regiment, 2d Brigade, 3d Division.

THE FUTURE CAN BE EASILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT



October 5, Sunday: James Morrill Allen was born to Mary Morrill Allen and the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 5 of 10 M / To me meetings were rather dull but better than at sometimes. In the forenoon O Williams spoke nearly the following "My mind has been introduced into deep exercise & travel [travail?] of spirit before the God of mercy & truth, that he would be pleased to open the understandings of the peoples for it has appear'd to me to be a time of great insensibility, as every one looking at, or leaning on his Neighbor"

Took tea at J Denniss in company with John Rodman, in the evening we drew into silence & dear Hannah was concern'd in supplication. The wing of ancient goodness seemed to spread over us, & our minds experienced the refreshing dew, for which I desire to be thankful & keep in remembrance

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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1809



March 11, Saturday: Charles Hastings Allen was born to Mary Morrill Allen and the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

[Friend Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*7 day 11 of 3 M / The mind still lean & barran insomuch that I
scarsly dare mintion its religious State*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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1810



The [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#)'s Thanksgiving sermon, "Divine Favors Gratefully Recollected," was printed.



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1812



November 15, Sunday: John Clarke Allen was born to Mary Morrill Allen and the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

At about the midpoint of November the [Shelleys](#) returned from London, without Elizabeth Hitchener, to Tremadoc.



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1813



The [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) recorded a donation of \$49 to pay for new furnishings for the pulpit, etc., and a donation of \$27 for a new suit of clothes, by Mrs. Baldwin, Rhoda Parker, and others.




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1814

 August 8, Monday: The [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#), who had been in 1806 been commissioned as the Chaplain of the 3d Regiment, 2d Brigade, 3d Division, was honorably discharged.

Peace negotiations between Great Britain and the United States of America began at Ghent.

To the distress of [Princess Charlotte Augusta Hanover of Wales](#), her mother [Caroline Amelia of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel, Princess of Wales](#) on this day departed anonymously (as the “Countess of Wolfenbüttel”) from Britain to take advantage of the settlement arranged by her father [George, Prince of Wales](#) of an annual allowance of £35,000 payable for so long as she continued to absent herself from England and England’s dominions. As the ship left the harbor she was observed to be weeping.

WHAT I’M WRITING IS TRUE BUT NEVER MIND
YOU CAN ALWAYS LIE TO YOURSELF



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1815



January 15, Sunday: Israel Allen was born to Mary Morrill Allen and the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in Chelmsford, Massachusetts. Israel would die in infancy.




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1816

 [John Farmer](#)'s AN HISTORICAL MEMOIR OF BILLERICA, IN MASSACHUSETTS. CONTAINING NOTICES OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS IN THE CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS OF THE TOWN, FROM ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT TO 1816. BY JOHN FARMER. PUBLISHED BY REQUEST. AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE, R. BOYLSTON, 1816, a pamphlet of 36 pages printed in Amherst, New Hampshire.



[Note that John Farmer (1789-1838) is a different person from the mapmaking John Farmer (1798-1859).]



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This historical memoir would be of significant assistance to the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in his preparation of his 192-page THE HISTORY OF CHELMSFORD..., to be issued in 1820. In this year or the following one, the Reverend would be creating a public library which he would keep in his own house in Chelmsford.



January 22, Monday: Captain [Oliver Hazard Perry](#) took his new 44-gun frigate USS *Java* out from the harbor of [Newport, Rhode Island](#) on its way to the Mediterranean in the face of a bitter gale (a mast would snap with 10 men aloft, killing 5).

Nathaniel Glover Allen was born to Mary Morrill Allen and the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2nd day 22nd of 1st M 1816 / This Afternoon in company with the womens committee as volunteer I visited Mary Goddard (late Gould) in consequence of her having lately Married out of the order of society. Our minds were accompanied with much poverty but we endeavor'd to discharge what Seemed to be our duty, which she seemed to take kind - My mind has for sometimes been drawn toward her & I feel a little legacy of love due as a friend & relation which I now feel glad I Submitted to pay. - It has been my practice ever since the decease of My late Dear Father, to commemorate The Day he left time, by reading a letter which I wrote on the occasion to Uncle & Aunt Stanton giving an extract of my journal at the time - Yesterday was the day, four Years ago that he was taken (I trust) to a better World, & it entirely escaped my mind till this evening- Somedays previous the subject was before me when I read the letter alluded to, & recorded his Death in Mothers Bible. - My H watched last night with Br Davids little Abby who is very ill but better today -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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1818



May 24, Sunday: Mary Allen was born to Mary Morrill Allen and the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in Chelmsford, Massachusetts. Mary would die in infancy.

The forces under General Andrew Jackson recaptured the port of Pensacola, Florida. British subjects Alexander Arbuthnot and Robert Ambrister were detained upon charges of aiding the Spanish, their native tribal allies, and the Black Seminoles presumed on the basis of skin coloration to be mere “runaway slaves.”



“...The conflicts of Europeans with American-Indians, Maoris and other aborigines in temperate regions ... if we judge by the results we cannot regret that such wars have taken place ... the process by which the American continent has been acquired for European civilization [was entirely justified because] there is a very great and undeniable difference between the civilization of the colonizers and that of the dispossessed natives....”



— [Bertrand Russell](#),
THE ETHICS OF WAR, January 1915



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1820



The [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#)'s THE HISTORY OF CHELMSFORD, FROM ITS ORIGIN IN 1653, TO THE YEAR 1820 — TOGETHER WITH AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE CHURCH, AND A BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE OF THE FOUR FIRST PASTORS. TO WHICH IS ADDED A MEMOIR OF THE PAWTUCKET TRIBE OF INDIANS. WITH A LARGE APPENDIX. BY WILKES ALLEN, A.M. PASTOR OF THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY IN CHELMSFORD. / Tell ye your Children, and let them tell their Children, and their Children, another generation. — *Prophet Joel.* / "Majorum Gloria posteris lumen est;" —Sal. (Haverhill: Printed by P.N. Green. 1820) was printed in 400 copies at the expense of the Town. This octavo volume of 192 pages has the distinction of being the very 1st such town history to be issued in such form, in this entire nation. The Reverend Allen's effort had been considerably enabled by a 36-page pamphlet issued in 1816, FARMER'S MEMOIRS OF BILLERICA.

HISTORY OF CHELMSFORD

For the following about headman [Wannalancet](#), refer to page 157:

A WEEK: In these parts dwelt the famous Sachem Pasaconaway, who was seen by [Gookin](#) "at Pawtucket, when he was about one hundred and twenty years old." He was reputed a wise man and a powwow, and restrained his people from going to war with the English. They believed "that he could make water burn, rocks move, and trees dance, and metamorphose himself into a flaming man; that in winter he could raise a green leaf out of the ashes of a dry one, and produce a living snake from the skin of a dead one, and many similar miracles." In 1660, according to [Gookin](#), at a great feast and dance, he made his farewell speech to his people, in which he said, that as he was not likely to see them met together again, he would leave them this word of advice, to take heed how they quarrelled with their English neighbors, for though they might do them much mischief at first, it would prove the means of their own destruction. He himself, he said, had been as much an enemy to the English at their first coming as any, and had used all his arts to destroy them, or at least to prevent their settlement, but could by no means effect it. [Gookin](#) thought that he "possibly might have such a kind of spirit upon him as was upon Balaam, who in xxiii. Numbers, 23, said 'Surely, there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel.'" His son Wannalancet carefully followed his advice, and when Philip's War broke out, he withdrew his followers to Penacook, now Concord in New Hampshire, from the scene of the war. On his return afterwards, he visited the minister of Chelmsford, and, as is stated in the history of that town, "wished to know whether Chelmsford had suffered much during the war; and being informed that it had not, and that God should be thanked for it, Wannalancet replied, 'Me next.'"

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A WEEK

THOMAS HUTCHINSON



THE PEOPLE OF A WEEK:

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 June 11, Sunday: Sarah Allen was born to Mary Morrill Allen and the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in Chelmsford, Massachusetts. Sarah would die in infancy.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1st day Our Morning Meeting was not quite so large as I have sometimes observed but proved a season of blessed triumph to the Truth, it was remarkably quiet the first testimony was short from Geo Dean & of the merits I must suspend judgement Then followed Caleb Macomber in a long testimony which began on a low key but he rose in the life & held the attention of the people in a remarkable manner - he was favored to close with it, when a few words was spoken by a young man in my judgement out of the life of Authority, but Solemnity was soon restored & the Meeting broke. -

In the Afternoon the Meeting was very large Daniel Haviland — Haverland & Mary Allen were the public laborers & tho Truth did not rise into dominion as it did in the Morning yet I believe no loss was Sustained. -

In the eveng the company at our House fell into silence & Thos Anthony was engaged in testimony very pertinently to some states present.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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1823



September 8, Monday: A sermon was preached by the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) at the interment of the Reverend Henry Cummings, D.D., of Billerica. There would be two editions of this sermon printed.

Ferdinand Herold's opera L'asthenie to words of Chaillou was performed for the initial time, in the Paris Opera.



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PEOPLE MENTIONED IN A WEEK

1830



December 30, Thursday: [Wilkes Allen](#) was born to Mary Morrill Allen and the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) in Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

Hon. [Wendell Davis](#) died in Sandwich. The body would be interred at [Plymouth](#).

Hector Berlioz reluctantly left Paris for Rome to fulfill his Prix de Rome obligations. He intended to stop at his home, La Cote-St.-Andre along the way.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 30th of 12 M 1830 / This day 49 Years ago I was born in [Newport](#) - I do not know as I can say much on the event. - I have much to be thankful for - have passed thro' some trials & recd many blessings & favours - & my heart is often deeply fraught with gratitude, & desires raised that some due returns of devotion may be made to HIM who has cared for & protected & preserved me all my life long - Thro' the step - by paths of youth, to sober man hood, & to the advance of Old Age. - But I have nothing of my own to offer. - all is thro' his mercy & the Intercession of Christ our Holy Redeemer - For some time past it has been a season of favour with me. - The love of my youth & the days of mine espousals have been remembered & in some degree renewed - We are now situated at the Yearly Meeting Boarding School in [Providence](#) where we have an ample field to exert ourselves in the promotion of the good cause & devote ourselves to the service of the Society which both me & my dear wife love & wish to serve.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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John Randolph writes from London, sick, on his way back from a fruitless mission to Russia:

"... Congress and the Virginia Assembly both meet this day, and I pray God to send us, the people, a safe deliverance.

It will be very unlucky in case of a general war in Europe, which some look forward to, that we shall have eaten all our wheat, for I learn that there is a total destruction of Indian corn.

...A great discovery has been made on the Continent, far surpassing any of Archimedes or Newton. The people have discovered the secret of their strength; and the military have found out that they are the people...

Commend me earnestly to all my old friends ... I shall be among them (dead or alive) next Summer. I have provided for a leaden coffin, feeling as I do an inexpressible desire to lie



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by the side of my dear mother and honored father at old Matoax."
(Source: Bouldin, Home Reminiscences of Randolph, p227)

12/07 Jackson delivered his annual message to Congress. He "crowed over his triumphs in foreign affairs, the wisdom of the Maysville Road veto and [progress towards paying] the National Debt [and] argued the right ... to use his veto at will to implement his reform program (as opposed to only vetoing on the basis of unconstitutionality)." (Source: Remini, Jackson, vol 2, p301) (Text of the Annual Address)

The first issue of the Washington Globe, published by Francis Blair. It carried advertisements and was sold by subscription in a move to avoid party dependency. (Source: Derr, Fronteirsman, p178)

12/10 - A deep freeze sets in in Boston - "All Boston shrank, braced and blued with a steady cold that deepened without a break from December 10 through Christmas. ... 'God save the poor,' Emerson wrote in letter after letter. (Source: Richardson, Emerson, p117)

12/16 Abraham Lincoln, age 21, with John Reed, "having been called on to apprais an Estray Mare ... Do find her to be four years old next Spring a bright bay 14 hands high -- a Small blaze and a Snip in her face -- right hind foot white ... appraised to 30 Dollars". (Source: Basler, Works of Lincoln, vol 1, p3)

12/25 - Snow began to fall in Illinois and accumulated to a depth of several feet for many days, accompanied by temperatures 10 and 20 degrees below zero. "Cattle died; deer and turkey which had been numerous were nearly exterminated. Of wild animals, only the wolves survived (other sources say that, after slight rain caused a crust to form on the snow, wolves were able to get around on the snow, while hooved animals, like cattle and deer, were trapped). (Source: Beveridge, Lincoln, vol. 1, p104)



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1832



November 16, Friday: As of the 29th anniversary of his ordination in 1803, the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) requested release as minister at Chelmsford. He was short and thick-set, and in his mature years had become bald. A grandson would report that “He was grave and dignified, as was usual with persons of such authority as the country parson of those days. I have been told that he was a rather dull preacher; but I suspect that this also was usual, when ministers were settled for life, and in the lack of books and intellectual society and the pressure of many cares and duties, were likely to become intellectually rusty.” Mary Morrill Allen had inherited considerable property, and the couple would spend their later years on a pleasant small farm in what is now North Andover, Massachusetts, participating in choir singing.



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1845

December 2, Tuesday: [Wilkes Allen](#) died in North Andover, Massachusetts after falling down the stairs of his barn. His body would be buried in the Unknown Forefathers Burying Ground of Chelmsford near the bodies of several children who had died in infancy.





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1864

Mary Morrill Allen died. Her body would be interred in the Unknown Forefathers Burying Ground of Chelmsford, near her husband and several of their children who had died in infancy.

REVEREND WILKES ALLEN



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1903

November 16: A grandson of the [Reverend Wilkes Allen](#) of Chelmsford, the Reverend Charles A. Allen, preached a memorial sermon on the 100th anniversary of his grandfather's ordination in 1803: "In memory of REV. WILKES ALLEN, for 29 years Pastor of the First Church and Society in Chelmsford; born in Shrewsbury July 10, 1775; Graduated Harvard University 1801; ordained November 16, 1803; retired November 16, 1832; died in Andover December 2, 1845."



"MAGISTERIAL HISTORY" IS FABULATION, HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY



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"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



Prepared: April 15, 2014



THE PEOPLE OF A WEEK:

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PEOPLE MENTIONED IN A WEEK

ARRGH AUTOMATED RESEARCH REPORT
GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.



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Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.