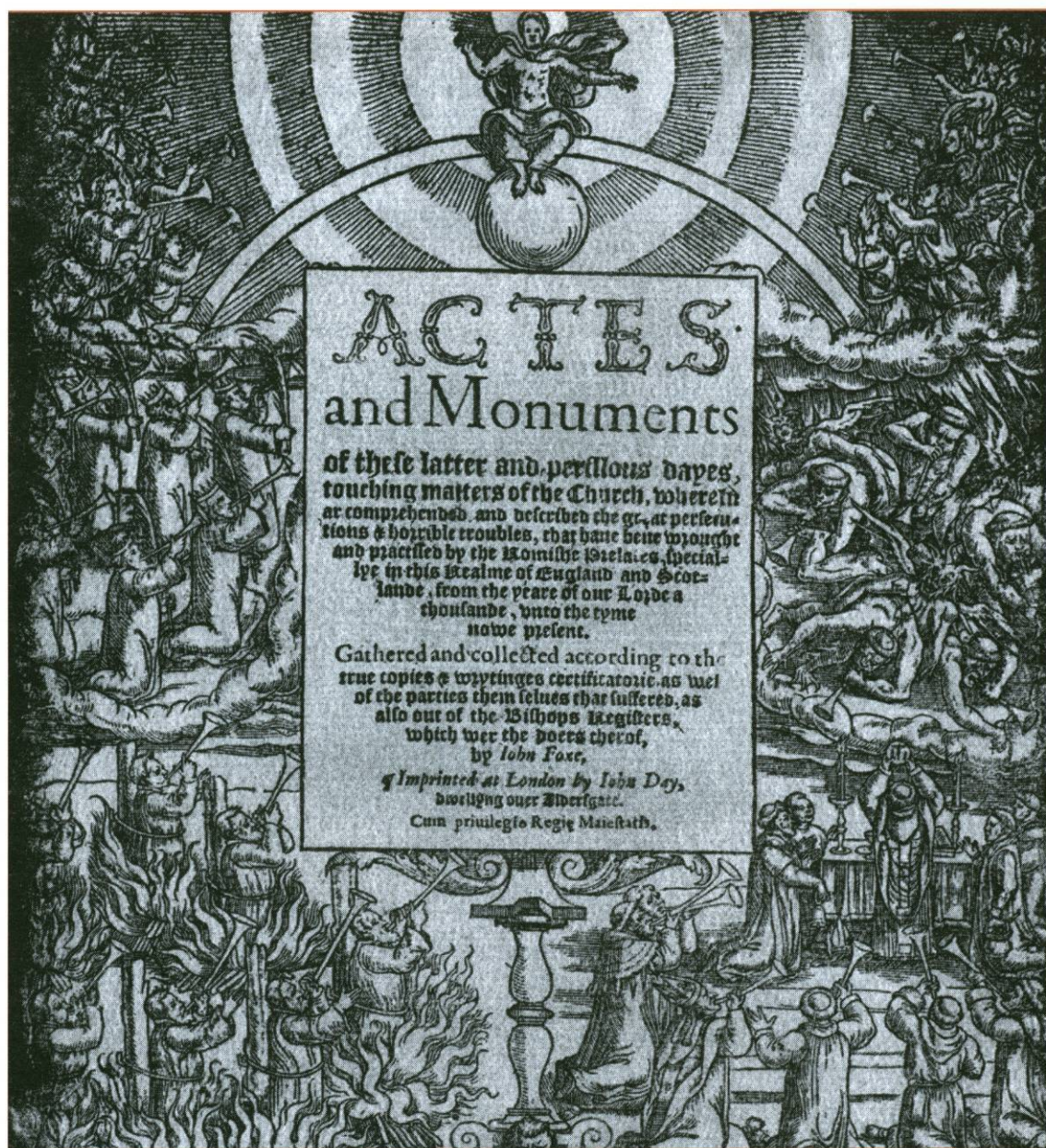


THE FELLOWSHIP OF *American* Bibliophilic Societies

FALL 2006

VOLUME X • NUMBER 2



The Ashburnham Library Auction PART TWO Book Talk: *Relevant & Readable*
Morgan Library Reopens The Mysterious Mr. Morris The Collector's Bin

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From the Chair

THE SEATTLE FABS GATHERING was a rousing success and some sixty travelers reveled in the bibliophilic treasures of the northwest. They were warmed by the thoughtful organization of the Emory-inspired and Greene-led introduction to a spectacular region.

It was a wonderful mix of institutional and personal libraries, art museums, booksellers, the Bloedel Gardens, a walking tour of Seattle architecture, a ferry trip to Bainbridge Island, and a visit to the Washington State Historical Society in Tacoma.

A recent letter from one of our FABS Clubs asked: "what is expected in terms

of responsibilities associated with hosting a FABS Book Tour & Symposium."

In enumerating the myriad tasks and activities involved, and noting that both Larry Siegler and I produced "Running a FABS Bibliophilic Tour" (available upon request) I suggested that the Club check with Paul Romaine of New York, John Hoover of St. Louis, and Martin Greene of Seattle, the three most recent leaders. Every host, freely admitting the countless hours involved, has felt amply rewarded for their efforts.

Leslie Overstreet has mapped out the FABS program for October 10-14, 2007, in Washington D.C., and sometime in

April or May, 2007, the Rowfant Club contemplates a trip to Great Britain, and, of course, everyone looks forward to any Grolier Club event.

Bob Jackson's *Book Talk: Essays on Books, Booksellers, Collecting, and Special Collections* has just published and takes the reader on a tour of some major ideas and controversies now current in the book world. Most of these essays originated as talks given under the sponsorship of FABS. The book is available through Delaware-based Oak Knoll Press and is specially priced for FABS members. A great bargain at any price!

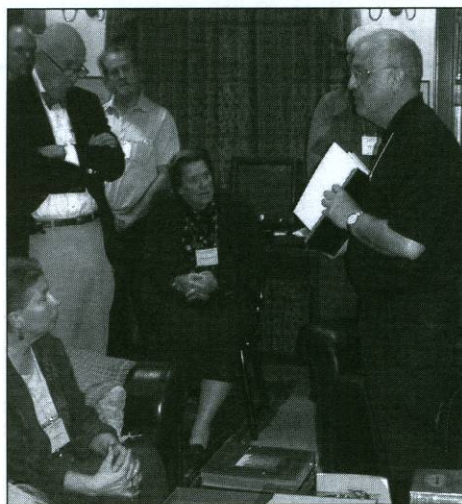
JOHN C. CARSON, M.D., *Chair*

MOUNT RAINIER WAS 'OUT' FOR THE *FABS Seattle Book Tour & Symposium*

A TOTAL OF SEVENTY-FIVE registrants assembled in Seattle on Wednesday at noon, May 10, for the first event of the 2006 FABS Book Tour & Symposium. Participants came from 15 states. Aside from the state of Washington, Ohio, California, and Michigan led in number of attendance.

The Seattle Asian Art Museum, our first stop, took me by complete surprise because it is Art Deco inside and out. It was built 1931-33. It is ranked in the top ten collections of Asian art outside Asia. A charming vaulted gallery was recently restored and currently shows deco sculpture from the 1930s that replaced jade exhibits. For the record, we did tour the museum library.

The next morning our two busses took us to red square at the University of Washington. There stands the great Suzzallo Library. The second floor reading room is awesome. It resembles the nave of a cathedral measuring 65 feet high, 52



Dr. Martin Greene elaborates on his Pacific Northwest Collection of travel and exploration before a rapt FABS audience.

feet wide and 250 feet long. Again I was surprised when I learned that the architect of the library also was the architect of the deco Asian Art Museum. He was Carl F. Gould, (1873-1939). The library build-

ing is described as an example of the Collegiate Gothic style; ground was broken for it in 1923.

A major collecting interest in Seattle is exploration of the Pacific Northwest. An icon of this was displayed in the UW special collections library for us. It was the first American edition of Biddle and Allen's 1814 narrative of the Lewis and Clark expedition. It is in two volumes in original boards, largely uncut, and has the original Samuel Lewis engraving of William Clark's map of the West.

Next in UW's special collections was the Book Arts. Sandra Kroupa, Book Arts/Rare Books curator, has been involved for 38 years working with students and artists who make a statement with one of a kind or limited edition books. Her talk about the books displayed and how they came to be made me want to stay as her student. On Friday Bainbridge Island she joined our hosts who showed us their Buxton-Sears Book Arts collec-

THE FELLOWSHIP OF AMERICAN BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETIES is an organization whose goal is to inform Member Book Clubs of news, events, publications, and activities that take place in the book world during the year. 📖 The *FABS Newsletter* publishes on September 1 and January 1 to facilitate that goal. 📧 Member Clubs are requested to have information for "Club News & Notes" to the Editor thirty days in advance of the publication date, preferably in Microsoft Word as an e-mail attachment. 📖 Single subscriptions to institutions and individuals are not available at this time. 📖 Back issues may be ordered through the Editor, based on availability, for the cost of shipping and handling. 📖 The submission of articles for publication is encouraged. 📖 Please send correspondence to the *Newsletter* Editor.

tion. The Buxtons built their house especially for the purpose of displaying their collections. The house is also used for retreats and meetings.

The much anticipated visit to the new Seattle Public Library started at 2 p.m. Friday and lasted a little over an hour. We entered at the 5th street entrance rather than the main entrance on 4th street. I had not seen pictures of the library nor read much about it beforehand. Thus, it was a somewhat overwhelming tour. I remember the bright colors and open spaces surrounded by the unconventional architecture. There is a lot about the development of the library as well as many great pictures of it available on the internet.

The Rainier Club, site of the dinner Thursday, has a splendid Bierstadt painting of Mt. Rainier in the lobby. Also impressive is a four figured Remington bronze. I sat next to Jeff Coopersmith who was hosting a tour of his American history collection on Saturday. His rapid fire conversation was a prelude to over an hour non-stop presentation in his home.

The FABS Symposium on Saturday morning was held in the Frye Art Museum auditorium. The Frye, with a splendid art collection, was another one of the surprises on our tour.

There were two speakers who spoke about their collections. Dr. Donald W. Miller, Jr's topic was, "On the Collecting Road with Writers of the Beat Generation." Meade Emory, retired UW law professor who was a deputy director of IRS in the 1970s, gave us a magnificent 20 page handout on his topic, "Late 18th Century Northwest Coast Maritime Exploration: A Bibliographic Tour."

The two serious collectors were followed by P. Scott Brown, Editor of "Fine Books & Collections" magazine. His topic was, "Current Fashions in Collecting." He was followed by Dr. Terry Belanger, head of the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia. Terry's topic: "The Ties That Bind-What Do Collectors Have to Say to Each Other?"

Some of Terry's remarks served to deflate some of the pretensions of the serious collector such as the search for

icons and the collector's sense of the importance of his collection to others. He played down fashions in collecting, stating that even dust jackets were once considered a fashion and were not listed in early catalogues. However, he was encouraging towards book collecting and referred us to John Carter's book, *Taste & Technique in Book Collecting*.

Speakers at the closing banquet were Pat and Rosemarie Keough with their son Glen. The Keoughs had spent six months in Antarctica making photographs for a book they produced. With twin slide projectors they told the story of their project for this limited edition book.

There was so much more that we saw in addition to the above. But the people that I met and talked with were the highlight of the tour for me. Many thanks are due to the FABS Seattle committee, The Book Club of Washington, all the site hosts and Symposium participants. The next FABS Tour will be in Washington, D.C. on October 10-13, 2007.

BERNARD ROST
The Caxton Chair

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Delivery: April 2007.

Prospectus available from Richard Kuhta, rkuhta@folger.edu, (202) 675-0327.

FABS in Washington D.C., October 10-14, 2007

THE WASHINGTON RARE BOOK GROUP will be the host and Washington, D.C., the site for the 2007 FABS Book Tour and Symposium sponsored by the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies.

The tour will be in October next year, not the late Spring as usual; this is to make the visit more enjoyable, affordable, and hassle-free. (From Easter to Labor Day, D.C. is swarming with school groups from all over the country, families on vacation, and busloads of foreign tourists. This puts hotel rooms and chartered buses at a premium and makes for long lines through Security at all of the museums and public buildings on the tour. In October the crowds should be at a low ebb, and it is hoped that the weather will be more tolerable – warm days and coolish nights, rather than hot and humid around the clock.)

There's so much to see in Washington that the program will be three-and-a-half days, with an optional day of additional activities. Visits to rarely seen Federal and institutional libraries will be featured, along with bookshops, conservation labs, and private collections. With the tour more than a year away, details are still being worked out, but the following summary will give an idea of the plans.

A block of rooms is being arranged for FABS participants at a hotel in the central downtown area, near Union Station and the Metro. All transportation will leave from and return to the hotel, and WRBG members will be stationed in the hotel lobby every day to answer questions and provide assistance.

The libraries to be visited will be scheduled geographically to minimize travel-time. This will entail some short-distance walking during the day, but of course chartered buses will carry participants between farther-flung stops. Given the size of past Book Tour groups, and the fact that the libraries can't accommodate everyone at once, participants will be offered several choices of collections, labs, exhibitions, etc. at each stop, in order to divide into smaller groups. Lunches will

bring everyone together for rest, sustenance, and conversation at mid-day.

The 2007 Book Tour & Symposium will start on the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 10, with visits to marvelous private collections and bookshops in historic Georgetown. In the evening participants will be welcomed at an opening reception at the tour hotel.

On Thursday, Oct. 11, the group will be based on the Mall, visiting libraries in the arts and sciences: the National Gallery of Art library and prints collection, and the rare-book rooms in the museums of the Smithsonian Institution, including the Freer Gallery of Art, the National Museum of Natural History, and the National Air & Space Museum, among others. An early-evening reception at the Smithsonian is planned.

Friday, Oct. 12, will focus on literature, history, and law on Capitol Hill: the magnificent Rosenwald, Kislak, and map collections at the Library of Congress; the unparalleled literature and history collections at the Folger Shakespeare Library; and august law library at the Supreme Court.

The Symposium will be held in the morning on Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Library of Congress. Robert Jackson is organizing the speakers for what will be, as always, a fascinating and informative session. Following lunch the group will visit several stunning private collections around the city, and the day will culminate with cocktails and the tour banquet.

On Sunday, Oct. 14, transportation to Reagan National Airport will be provided in the morning. For those with the energy to stay on, there will be a further day of visits to two libraries with very special connections to American history: those at the Society of the Cincinnati in the city and at Mt. Vernon in northern Virginia. (There will be an extra charge for lunch at Mt. Vernon and the entrance fee to the estate.) The return trip to the city will include another stop at the airport for those with late flights.

The final schedule and full details, with costs and hotel information, will be published with the registration form in the Winter newsletter. The Washington Rare Book Group looks forward to welcoming you to D.C. next Fall!

FABS Members Invited to Visit

Booklover's Britain

Spring 2007

The Rowfant Club is inviting all FABS Club members to join a tour of "Booklover's Britain" April 22-May 5, 2007: Oxford's Bodleian Library, Pepys' Library Magdalene College Cambridge, and Edinburgh's National Library are among the cultural wonders of the tour. Also on the itinerary are:

- Prehistoric Stonehenge
- Roman ruins in Bath, Chester, and along Hadrian's Wall
- Viking England in York
- Medieval Gothic York Cathedral, medieval fortresses in Edinburgh & Caernarfon
- The Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge
- The Radcliffe Camera and the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford
- King's College, the beautiful Backs, and scientific centers in Cambridge
- A palatial country home at Castle Howard
- The Georgian Britain architecture of Bath and Edinburgh
- Wordsworth's Lake District . . . and much, more.

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The Ashburnham Library Auction

~ PART TWO ~

ANY BOOK AUCTION becomes, in essence, an evaluation of a library before its dispersal. The complete library—so carefully gathered, so subtly evolved over the years—remains as a totality only during the final viewings by prospective bidders prior to the auction. Upon the first bang of the gavel after the first lot, the library is no longer complete and its inexorable disintegration begins. And so it was with the Ashburnham Library as Sotheby, Wilkinson, & Hodge put the books before the public in three portions over twenty days in June and July of 1897, December 1897, and May 1898.

The dispersals of libraries follow two general paths: those of collectors who wish their libraries to remain intact and, typically, end up at an institution, and, those of collectors who, apparently having enjoyed the hunt themselves, decide

to cast their books back onto the free market. Nicholas Basbanes, in *A Gentle Madness: Bibliophiles, Bibliomanes, and the Eternal Passion for Books*, cites from the will of bibliophile Frank J. Hogan: "I had thought of bequeathing my valuable books . . . to some institution to be permanently kept together as a collection, but this idea I have abandoned in favor of a plan that will accomplish their dispersion among those coming after me . . . I do not deem it fitting that these friends of many happy hours should repose in unloved and soulless captivity. Rather, I would send them out into the world again to be the intimates of others whose loving hands and understanding hearts will fill the place left vacant by my passing."¹ In the case of the Ashburnham Library, we may never know what Bertram, the Fourth Earl of Ashburnham, would have wished, for he died twenty years

before the sale, which was precipitated by fiscal exigency. The wonderful sale catalog, compiled by the auction house, remains the primary document for assessing the wealth of the collection and interpreting the vision of the collector.²

The Ashburnham Library was a high spot collection with an emphasis on Bibles and other religious works. Individual lots over the course of the sale included 228 Bibles, 8 breviaries, 45 Books of Hours, 18 Psalters, 15 Missals, 51 Prayer Books (most commonly *The Book of Common Prayer*), 6 Imitatio Christi's (meditations on the life and teachings of Christ), and 93 Testaments: 464 of the 4,075 lots, or over 11% of the total. These figures do not include related religious works such as John Foxe's *Actes and Monuments*, i.e., *The Book of Martyrs* (including four of the 1563 first edition and two of the greatly expanded and

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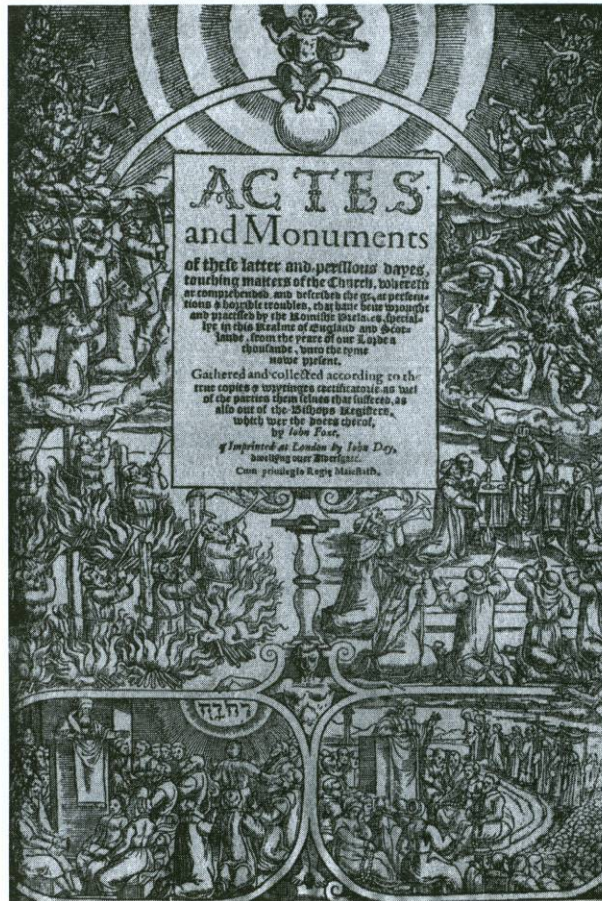
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very rare 1570 second edition; the finest 1563 edition went to Quaritch for £150 [\$18,940].³ The Ashburnham Library included, as well, numerous ecclesiastical histories, such as John Knox's *The Historie of the Reformation of Religioun within the Realme of Scotland*, printed in 1584 (Bain, £31 [\$3,914]), and sermons, such as Hugh Latimer's *The Fyrste (To the Seventh) Sermon preached before the Kynge's Majestie . . .*, 1548-9 (Bain, £25 [\$3,153]). Also, in the vein of religious exhortation, the library was rich in books on witchcraft, over forty titles. Among the more famous of these were King James' *Daemonologie, in forme of a Dialogue, divided into three Bookes*, the 1597 Edinburgh edition (Bain, £25 [\$3,153]); an unbound copy of Cotton Mather's *The Wonders of the Invisible World; an Account of the Tryals of Several Witches lately executed in New England*, London, 1693 (W. Brown, £12 [\$1,512]); and, Reginald Scot's *The Discoverie of Witchcraft, wherein the lewde dealing of Witches and Witchmongers is notably detected . . .*, 1584 (A. Jackson, £52 [\$6,552]).⁴ Ashburnham's goal, however, was not only to attain the most important works, but also the most beautiful copies with a particular attention to printings on vellum and fine bindings, qualities that the sale catalog certainly emphasized: "*Biblia Sacra Latina, Editionis Vulgatae*

. . . Venetiis, Georgius de Rivabensis, 1487 . . . printed on vellum; extremely rare" (Quaritch, £106 [\$13,370]), or "*Biblia Sacra* . . . 1556 . . . A remarkable specimen of French binding of the period, probably done by Etienne Roffet for the King, in celebration of his Victories in Italy and Germany" (Ellis & Elvey, £50 [\$6,307]).⁵

Without questioning Lord Ashburnham's piety, there appears to be a greater dimension to his collecting vision than simply religious high spots, abundant as they may be. I suggest that the Ashburnham Library was a conscious effort to document the greatness of the British nation. In addition to establishing Britain's religious foundation, with an emphasis on Reformation history, the Library is also an authoritative guide for the British

aristocracy that includes chronicles on governance; books on voyages and travels that exalt the breadth and influence of the British empire; utilitarian books on husbandry and sports; and aesthetic books on art, music, literature, and the attendant printing industry. In brief, the Ashburnham Library speaks to the triumph of the British people: their vision, their culture, and their legacy.



The title page of the first edition of John Foxe's *Actes and Monuments*, i.e., *The Book of Martyrs*, printed in London in 1563 by John Day.

Lord Ashburnham possessed a particularly fine collection of English chronicles, over thirty in number, that describe the ascent of the British nation and affirm its prominence and duration. Among them were Grafton's *Abridgement of the Chronicles of Englande*, 1570 (Quaritch, £70 [\$8,861]), which was not only a history book, but also a book of history, for it had belonged to "Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, who was beheaded (June 2nd, 1572) on Tower Hill, for supposed complicity in plots against Q. Elizabeth in connection with Mary Queen of Scots."⁶ The Library was a repository, especially, for early English histories, including four

later translations of the Domesday book and the three-volume, "*photozincographed facsimiles*" (1862-63) of that monumental document (D. Y. Bruton, sh 14 [\$89]); *Chronicle of St. Albans* (1483), the second book printed at St. Albans (J. & J. Leighton, £180 [\$22,787]); and, as part of his supreme collection of Caxton's, *Chronicles of England* (988), albeit an "excessively rare second" edition (Pickering & Chatto, £610 [\$78,652]).

The Ashburnham Library was also replete with landmark volumes of voyages and explorations, first cousins of chronicles and harbingers of English imperialism. This portion of the collection, in fact, is particularly conspicuous for the number of primary British sources to the virtual exclusion of exploration history from other nations. Granted the distinguished international print history of voyages and explorations from the Spanish, French, Dutch, and others, British accounts, in their own right, are considerable and were well represented in the Ashburnham sale. Among them were Captain James Cook's *Three Voyages Round the World* in ten volumes (1773-1784) (H. Sotheran, & Co., £3, sh 10 [\$449]) and Lieutenant William Bligh's *Voyage to the South Sea, with an Account of the Mutiny on the Bounty* (1792) (Edwards, sh 9 [\$58]). The Ashburnham auction also yielded sales of the venerable

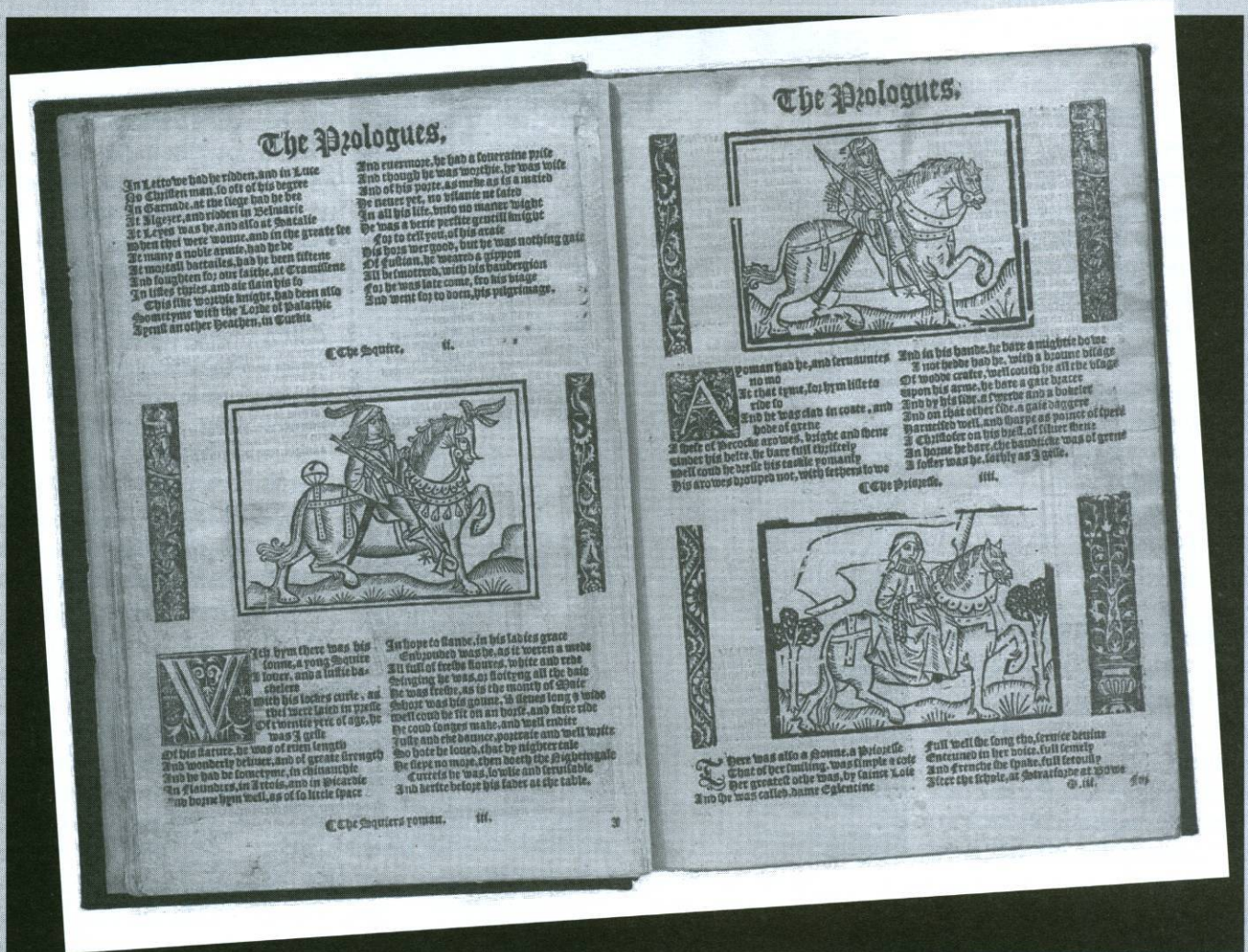
Richard Hakluyt's *The Principal Navigation, Voiages, Traffiques, and Discoveries of the English Nation* . . . with rare maps of the Drake and Standish voyages (1598-99-1600) to H. Stevens, Son & Stiles for £275 (\$34,670) and the formidable John Smith's *True Travels, Adventures, and Observations* . . . (1630), also to Stevens, for £17, sh 10 (\$2,206).

In accounting for literacy rates in the early print era, it has been suggested that the middle classes were generally more literate than the aristocracy, who were more attuned to their horses, hunting, and other sporting affairs, to capitalize upon stereotypical perceptions.⁷

Of course Lord Ashburnham lived four hundred years after the advent of printing and his library surely suggests that he

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was an advanced reader, but still, his collection of sporting books attests to the ongoing aristocratic tradition of recognizing the importance of sport to the landed classes. Over sixty in number, Ashburnham's sporting books address guns, shooting and hunting, fencing, riding, fishing, and swimming. The Library was rich in books on falconry and Lord Ashburnham owned twelve separate editions of Dame Juliana Barnes' *The Bokys of Hawking and Hunting* . . . including the first edition printed in St. Albans in 1486 (Quaritch, £385 [\$49,773]). Especially impressive were Lord Ashburnham's holdings of Isaac Walton's *The Compleat Angler*, particularly Lot 3931, which included the "first five editions of Isaac Walton's *Angler*, being all genuine copies in their pristine condition, as issued by the publisher, and forming probably a unique set . . ." sold to Nattali for £800 (\$101,547).

The Ashburnham Library is too rich and too broad to be able to cover, in a short article, all his collecting interests, such as art and music, classical authors, herbals and husbandry, science, and more. Suffice it to say, once again, there was frequent recurrence of the emphasis on British sources, such as Meyer's *Illustrations of British Birds, with some Eggs*, no date, sold to Nattali for £15 sh 10 (\$1,967) or Gervase Markham's *Country Contentments; or the English Huswife* . . ., 1623, sold to J. & M. L. Tregaskis for £1 sh 6 (\$165). Even with his foreign classics, Lord Ashburnham most frequently had an English translation to accompany the original version and, in the case of Cervantes, every one of his nine titles are English translations, including *The History of the Valourous and Wittie Knight-Errant Don Quixote*, 2 volumes, 1612-20, the first English edition (H. Sotheran & Co., £106 [\$13,703]).

One final strength of the Ashburnham Library deserves attention, however: what one could call the British canonical collection. Lord Ashburnham was not a collector of "modern firsts," his modern firsts being nineteenth-century books. Within the collection, there are no Dickens, no Trollopes, no Eliots, no Austens. There is a pseudonymous Thackeray, *The Irish Sketch-Book* by Mr. M. A. Titmarsh, 1843 (Maggs, £3 sh 7 [\$424]),

but *The Irish Sketch-Book*, humorous as it is, is a travel book that fits well with Ashburnham's interest in that genre. Similarly, there are three Walter Scotts, one novel, *Waverly*, 1814, that sold to Pickering & Chatto for £78 (\$9,867), but the other two books are non-fiction: *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, fifth edition, 1812 (Sotheran, sh 9 [\$57]), a work that speaks to Ashburnham's interest in the indigenous arts; and *The Existence of Evil Spirits Proved* . . ., 1853 (Pickering & Chatto, sh 2 [\$13]), an apparent reprint or abstraction from Scott's earlier *Letters on Demonology and Witchcraft* (1830) and a fitting addition to the witchcraft books in the collection. In the poetic arts, there are no Shellys, Keats or Byrons; no Tennysons, Arnolds or Brownins. There is one Wordsworth, but it is the iconic *Poems, including Lyrical Ballads* . . ., a later 1815 printing of the 1798 edition though some new poems were included in this edition (Bryant, sh 10 [\$63]).

No, Lord Ashburnham did not collect "modern firsts," but his collection of earlier great English writers is broad and representative of what would have defined the British literary canon for the nineteenth century. In Part One of this article, I mentioned the Chaucer editions from the presses of Caxton and Wynken de Worde, the first Caxton Chaucer, 1478, going to Pickering & Chatto for £720 (\$92,788). Ashburnham's four Shakespeare folios were not sold as a set, but individually with each going to a different dealer: the 1623 first folio to H. Sothern & Co. for £585 (\$74,036), the second (1632) to Pickering and Chatto for £90 (\$11,373), the rare third (1664) to Quaritch for £190 (\$24,011), and the fourth (1685) to Bain for £55 (\$6,950). Among the nineteenth-century literary canon are the early editions of Bacon, Beaumont and Fletcher, Congreve, Defoe, Donne, Dryden, Fielding, Milton, Pope, Sidney, Skelton, Smollett, Spenser, Sterne, and Swift, just to give a sampling of the richness of this historical literary collection. But as impressive as early editions are, Lord Ashburnham was equally concerned with simply having the texts of milestones of the British literary heritage, and among his books was a critical edition of Beowulf: *Anglo Saxon Poets, with Translation, Glossary, Preface and*

Notes by J. M. Kemble, 2 volumes, 1835-37 (Quaritch, £1 [\$129]) and *The British Drama Comprehending the Best Plays in the Language, Ancient and Modern, including Shakespeare's Works*, edited by Sir Walter Scott, 10 volumes, 1804-6-10 (Ridler, £1 sh 11 [\$200]).

When the final gavel came down on May 14, 1898, the final sales total for the Ashburnham Library was £62,712 7s 6d. or, the equivalent in 2006 American dollars of close to \$8 million. The magnificent Ashburnham Library had been dispersed and, with it, one of the great documentations of the British people, their faith and heritage, their customs and culture.

GEOFFREY D. SMITH

Professor and Head, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Room 327, The Ohio State University Libraries
1858 Neil Avenue Mall, Columbus, Ohio 43210
614 292-5938 fax 614 292-7859 smith.1@osu.edu

NOTES

¹New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1995, p. 221.

²*Catalogue of the Magnificent Collection of Printed Books, the Property of the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Ashburnham*. Compiled by Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge. London: Dryden Press, J. Davy and Sons, 1897-1898. (Henceforth, referred to as Catalogue.)

³Auction values will be followed, in parentheses, by the 2006 American dollar equivalencies as established through the "Historical Currency Conversions" web site at <http://futureboy.homeip.net/fsp/dollar.fsp>. I also provide the name of the buyer, which is always a firm in the examples from this article.

⁴The Catalogue entry elaborates that "this was Utterson's copy, supposed to be unique and was bought at his sale by the late Lord Ashburnham for £50. Many copies were burnt by order of King James I. . . . Shakespeare, it is well known, made great use of this work." (50) Works as influences for English writers is a leitmotif of Ashburnham's collection. Edward Vernon Utterson (1776-1852) was an art and book collector and an original member of the Roxburghe Club. His library was sold at Sotheby's in April and May of 1852.

⁵The single most important book was, of course, the Gutenberg on vellum discussed in Part One of this article, FABS Newsletter: 10.1 (Winter 2006), 6-9.

⁶Catalogue (11). The entry notes further that the book's value was enhanced by an extensive autographed letter from the Duke of Norfolk at the volume's end: his final oath of faith and farewell to family and friends.

⁷On this debatable issue I paraphrase broadly, if not shamelessly, from Elizabeth Eisenstein's *The Printing Press as an Agent of Change: Communications and Cultural Transformation in Early-Modern Europe*, Volume I and II. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1980, p. 60-66. Professor Eisenstein's fuller discussion of literacy and readership is insightful and detailed.

⁸Catalogue, p. 109.

⁹As noted in Anthony James West's *The Shakespeare First Folio: The History of the Book* (Oxford University Press, 2003), this specific first folio was purchased for The Shakespeare Centre at Stratford-upon-Avon, which had retained H. Sotheran to bid up to £600. That first folio still resides at The Shakespeare Centre. The purchase price was a bargain compared to the latest first folio sale at Sotheby's, July 13, 2006, for over \$5 million dollars, even considering adjusted value and the exceptional condition of the copy at this most recent sale.

Don Quixote

Barry Moser Supports OSU Library Renovation with Don Quixote Print

Artist and author Barry Moser has generously donated his time and talent to create a special printed edition of his image of Don Quixote in support of the \$100 million William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library renovation currently underway at The Ohio State University.

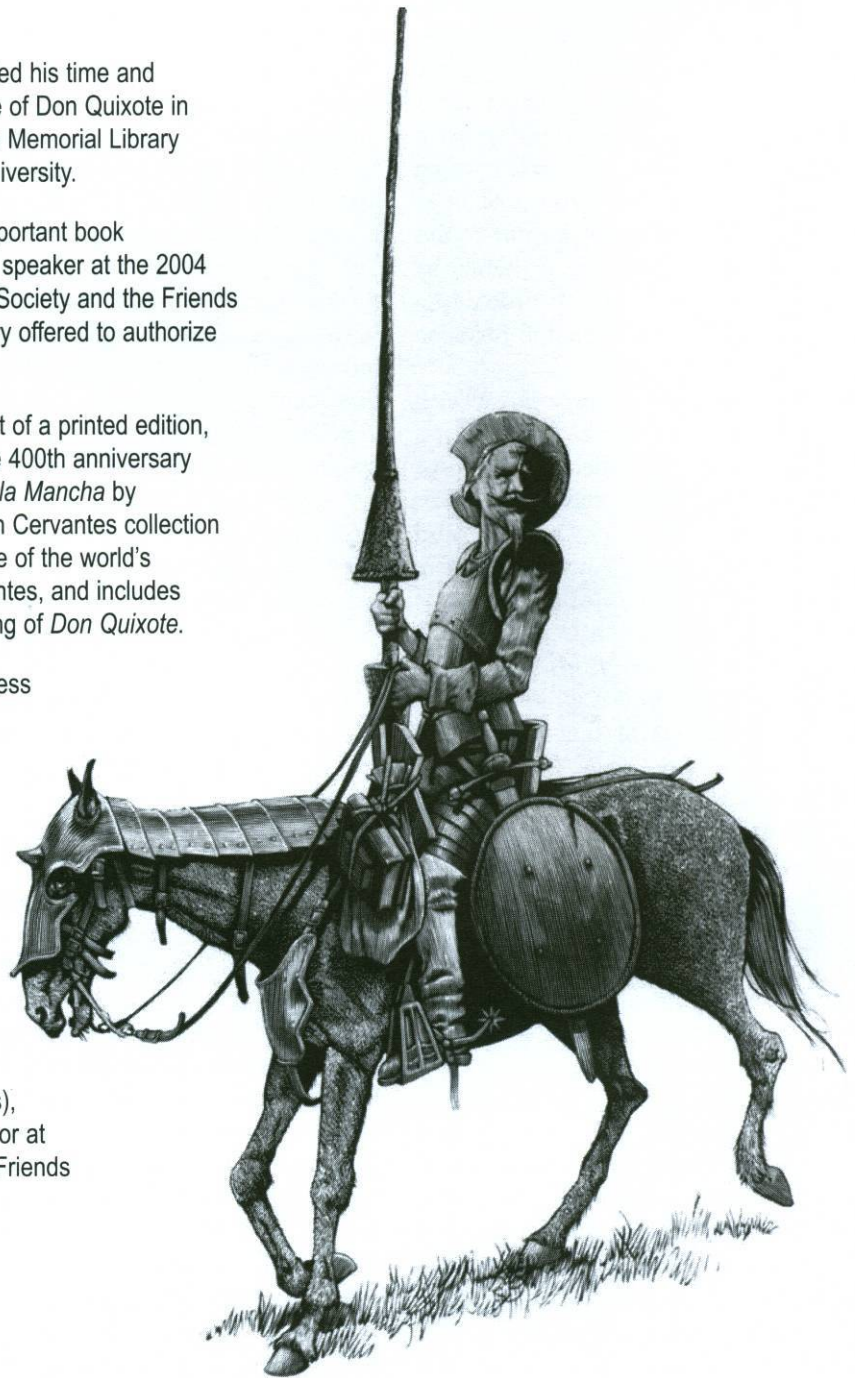
Moser, whom Nicholas Basbanes calls "the most important book illustrator working in America today," was a featured speaker at the 2004 *Celebration of the Book* co-sponsored by the Aldus Society and the Friends of the OSU Libraries. It was during his visit that Barry offered to authorize an edition to help with the renovation project.

The image, which has never before been the subject of a printed edition, was released at the end of 2005 to coincide with the 400th anniversary of the publication of the first part of *Don Quixote de la Mancha* by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra. The Talfourd P. Lynn Cervantes collection in OSU's Rare Books and Manuscripts Library is one of the world's most significant collections of publications by Cervantes, and includes a copy of the extremely rare first 1605 Madrid printing of *Don Quixote*.

Moser's Don Quixote is printed on Mohawk Letterpress Superfine, off-white, eggshell finish 80# stock. The print size is approximately 12.5" x 19" and the centered image is approximately 8" x 12.5."

The print is available in a signed and numbered edition of 100 prints at \$250 each. An additional 125 unsigned prints are available for \$150 each. Both versions can be obtained exclusively through the Aldus Society and the Friends of the OSU Libraries. Proceeds from the prints will benefit the Thompson Library Renovation Campaign.

If you are interested in acquiring one or more print(s), please contact the Aldus Society at (614) 457-1153 or at **AldusSociety@aol.com**. You can also contact the Friends of the OSU Libraries office at (614) 292-3387.



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BOOK TALK:

ESSAYS ON BOOKSELLERS, COLLECTING, & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

AS A LONG-TIME, but not a big-time collector, I have ventured forth in my avocation, quite half educated. I suspect a sizeable proportion of collectors, even serious ones, are “in the dark” about the important but subtle intricacies of buying and selling books. Of course, one converses with collectors, dealers, and librarians, especially as a member of a book collecting club or at book fairs and gatherings such as those of FABS. But what we learn is incomplete and often only partially true. *Book Talk* is directed to several symbiotic audiences: collectors, dealers, and special collections librarians. Many sophisticated book-collectors and the majority of unsophisticated collectors need to better understand the dynamics of collecting. This book is a valuable resource.

Not since the extraordinary volumes of Carter, Sadleir, and Pollard has such broad coverage of the current book-world appeared. Special collections librarians will enjoy these provocative essays and discover trends and the perspicacious outlooks of their colleagues. Dealers in rare books also will appreciate the viewpoints of these prominent dealers and bibliocentric visionaries. Something for everyone? The answer is certainly, if the reader has any connection to the book world.

The 18 essays are drawn from recent FABS symposia and are concise, pertinent, and well written. Bruce Whiteman, head librarian at UCLA’s William Andrew Clark Library, investigates the differences of rare and really rare books and how easily these definitions can change. Geoffrey R. Smith, head of the Rare Book Library at Ohio State University, creatively outlines new areas of collecting. Rodger E. Stoddard, retired senior curator at Harvard’s Houghton Library, tells of his odyssey in Europe seeking bibliographically important Russian, German, and French texts. Samuel Streit from Brown University outlines surprising new trends

and sectors in collecting away from the standard canon.

Essays by Arthur L. Schwartz, Martin L. Greene, Paul T. Ruxin, and Robert H. Jackson will be savored by collectors who know similar joys, impediments, and solutions. Schwartz humorously relates his entry into the vortex of bibliophilia that virtually changed his life. Greene gives an account and profound analysis of his special focus of collecting. Jackson considers the role of the collector as donor, which like most deacquisition techniques is a generally neglected endeavor. Ruxin’s lucid vision of current conditions and future trends is very perceptive.

Book designer and printer Peter R. Koch presents his experience on a special project of fine printing and publishing. Jason Epstein, a veteran publisher, provides insights into commercial book publishing’s probable future. Daniel De Simone’s item on woodcuts in 15th century Ferrara provides an interesting *amuse-bouche* between the various bibliocentric delicacies this book serves up.

Viewpoints and predictions by seven prominent dealers, including four former presidents of the ABAA, are a *sine qua non* for anyone who buys collectible books. It is a rare occasion when we can learn what dealers think, anticipate, and fear. These dealers have one feature in common: they have sloughed off their losers and emphasized their strong suits to survive and prosper. What dealers do and plan is, to say the least, consequential to collectors.

Ken Lopez notes recent trends in the book business: more accessible information on price and availability, more books offered, many new but less informed dealers, reasons for recent price explosions, and why dealers in specialized markets remain essential. Tom Congalton describes the historical “saviors” of the book market: rich Japanese and Arabs, institutions, movie industry plutocrats, and the like. He asks, who will be the next

“messiah.” He tells of the rise and fall of bookstores, book fairs, price guides, and bibliography. Congalton also outlines valuable caveats when trading on the Internet. John Crichton relates the interesting history of his firm and tells us how it adapted by using the same tools and services in innovative ways. His tale of survival shows how knowledge, respect, and flexibility by dealers will provide collectors benefits they can rely upon. Peter Kraus’ long experience as a dealer has allowed him to sense changes in supply/demand and channels of distribution. He has specific advice on the value and limits of book fairs, auctions, the Internet, and ebay-type sites. He tells us why dealers will continue to play an essential role for the serious collector. Priscella Juvelus shows how she learned how to survive in new collecting niches in the book business. She follows the adage of her famous tutor John Fleming to not only follow trends but to start them as well. Anthony Garnett’s charming account of his 40 years in the business shows how a dealer coped with great changes in supply and demand, especially transactions with libraries and the trade. He also shows how the Internet has been an aid to dealers. Garrett Scott examines “low spot” collecting. His essay informs us of the value of the unlikely pursuit of items that are intriguing to imaginative collectors.

Beautifully designed by Scott J. Vile, edited by Robert H. Jackson and Carol Z. Rothkopf, and published for FABS by Robert Fleck’s Oak Knoll Press, this book belongs in all collectors’ libraries.

In the often evasive and quirky cosmos of the book world, each participant needs to be knowledgeable to successfully accomplish his or her goals. In my opinion, this book should be read by the wide range of people who buy, sell, and collect books.

LARRY SIEGLER
The Rowfant Club

FABS and Friends

WHERE THE ONE-EYED MAN IS KING!

A RECENT "Collector's Bin" column tells readers, "Over 6,000 bibliophiles read the *FABS Newsletter*." This started me wondering how many of these readers also support their local Friends of the Library associations?

There is a congruency of interests between bibliophiles and members of Friends organizations who are dedicated to the support of their local libraries. Both are devoted to the preservation of the printed word with the goal of seeing books passed on to new readers rather than becoming recycle fodder or, worse yet, landfill. Friends of the libraries advocate for and support their local libraries. Much of this support in financial terms is derived from the book sales that the Friends groups sponsor. These may be annual or semi-annual sales or, in some cases, monthly sales. Ongoing Friends-sponsored sales of books within public libraries can also be an important source of income.

Inevitably, there is a great deal of work involved in preparing for these sales. Before their sales, friends receive donations of books, sometimes in a trickle and other times as an avalanche. These may be library withdrawals, collections of books contributed by generous donors who are downsizing or moving or they may be garage or estate sale remnants. Sometimes books may be mildewed and fit only for the trash barrel, but far more often they are books that owners have valued. These are the ones that can be sold quickly at attractive prices and will be seized by buyers eager to add them to their own collections. Volunteers do the always interesting, sometimes challenging, and occasionally arduous work of receiving, storing, sorting, pricing, and arranging the books for display and sale. They're all bibliophiles in one way or another; they don't want to see books discarded and share the common goal of finding new homes for older books.

A challenge facing every book sale manager and book sale volunteer is identifying bibliophilic treasures before they are put out for 50¢ or perhaps a dollar or two. Of course, the chance of finding such a treasure is what keeps many collectors, scouts, and even the lay public haunting book sales. It's all in the game, but the local library is the loser when an unrecognized "rarity" finds its way onto the bargain shelf. Many smaller Friends of the Library groups may not have access to a knowledgeable bookperson who may be somewhat aware of book values.

Here's where members of FABS can serve their communities in a meaningful way. Simply contact your local Friends of the Library and find out where they prepare for their book sales. Wander on in some day when volunteers are sorting and pricing and see what's going on. Your expertise will be welcome. You may recognize a high-value item where others may not. You may be in a position to help move such items into markets or to dealers where they will command amounts well above what could be expected at Friends' periodic book sales where buyers may be unwilling to pay the going price. Understandably, you may not view yourself as a broad-based expert in book and

ephemera values, but one need only recall that in the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king; and moreover, the one-eyed woman is empress!

My own experience derives from having been associated, with my wife, for some 12 years with the monthly book sales sponsored by Friends of the Palo Alto Library. During this time our annual gross income has increased from \$15,000 to \$200,000. This remarkable increase is attributable to many factors, including more donations and improved quality of donations along with a growing number of dedicated volunteers and devoted customers. A significant contributing factor has been more realistic pricing. This includes identifying special items, both books and ephemera, and finding appropriate markets for them. It's gratifying to see the operation working so well and to see that it has such broad public support.

The suggestion offered here will not appeal to all. But it can result in the satisfaction of knowing that you are serving your community and its libraries while, at the same time, making new friends among Friends. It's a worthy endeavor for a bibliophile and a good way to put your expertise to work.

THOMAS WYMAN

Board Member,

Friends of the Palo Alto Library



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The Morgan Library & Museum

REOPENS WITH MAJOR EXPANSION & RENOVATION

THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM, closed for almost three years while undergoing a major expansion, reopened to the public on April 29, 2006. The \$106-million building project provides the museum and center for scholarly research with double the exhibition space for its world-renowned collections. It is the most dramatic expansion and renovation in the Morgan's history.

The Morgan marked the occasion with a week long series of special activities. The celebration included a press preview on April 25 and a civic dedication on April 26 with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg.

In addition to expanded exhibition space, the project includes a dramatic new welcoming entrance on Madison Avenue; a spacious four-story court that serves as a gathering place in the spirit of an Italian piazza; a naturally lit reading room; a new performance hall; much-needed storage space for collections; and

a number of visitor amenities, such as new dining facilities and a larger shop.

The new design integrates three historical buildings, including the original 1906 Morgan library, designed by Charles McKim; the 1928 Annex building, designed by Benjamin Wistar Morris; and the nineteenth-century Morgan house, with three intimately scaled pavilions that create an accessible and inviting setting. With more than fifty percent of the square footage below ground, the new buildings are modestly sized and respectful of the Morgan's traditional architecture and the surrounding neighborhood. The glass-enclosed central court connects the buildings and seamlessly joins the old and new.

"The design preserves The Morgan Library & Museum's unique charm and intimate scale," said architect Renzo Piano. "The Morgan experience will now be greatly enhanced and more public."

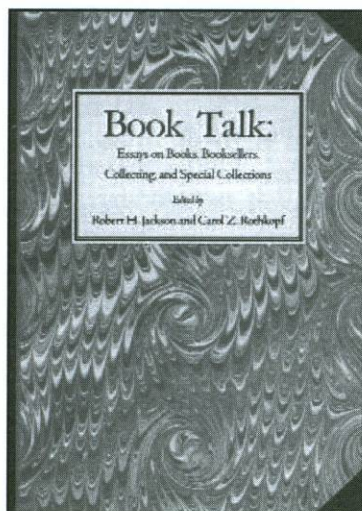
"The reopening marks a very important milestone in the history of The Morgan Library & Museum," said Director Charles E. Pierce, Jr. "We will now be able to exhibit more of our collections than ever before and serve the scholarly community in new and better ways. This dual purpose has always been at the heart of the Morgan's mission."

The Morgan expansion adds about 75,000 square feet to the complex. The increased exhibition space will enable the public to rediscover the Morgan's collection of more than 350,000 objects. The collection represents the finest, rarest, and most beautiful examples of master drawings and prints, medieval and Renaissance illuminated manuscripts, literary, historical, and music manuscripts, printed books, and ancient pictorial seals.

PATRICK MILLIMAN

The Morgan Library & Museum

212 590-0312 media@themorgan.org



Book Talk

*Essays on Books,
Booksellers,
Collecting, &
Special Collections*

Edited by Robert H. Jackson
& Carol Z. Rothkopf

Following in the tradition of John Carter, Graham Pollard, and Michael Sadleir, *Book Talk: Essays on Books, Booksellers, Collecting, and Special Collections* takes the reader on a tour of some major ideas and controversies now current in the rare book world. Robert H. Jackson has assembled these writings of an eminent group of scholars, publishers, librarians, booksellers, and collectors that address issues facing contemporary society. Topics such as the future of the book in a printed format, the Internet, and collecting trends are some of the issues discussed. This important work belongs on the reading list of all book lovers.

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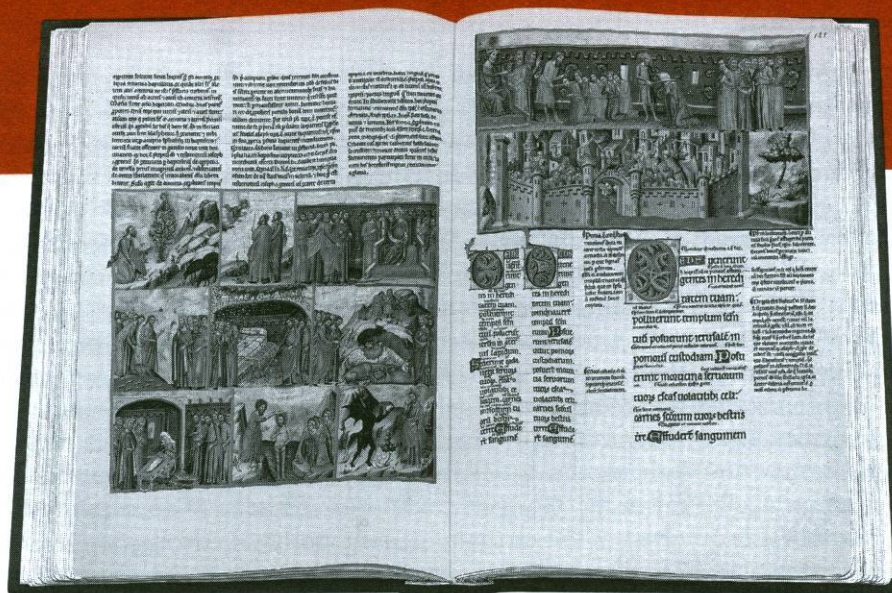
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FABS IX.06

The Mysterious Mr. Morris

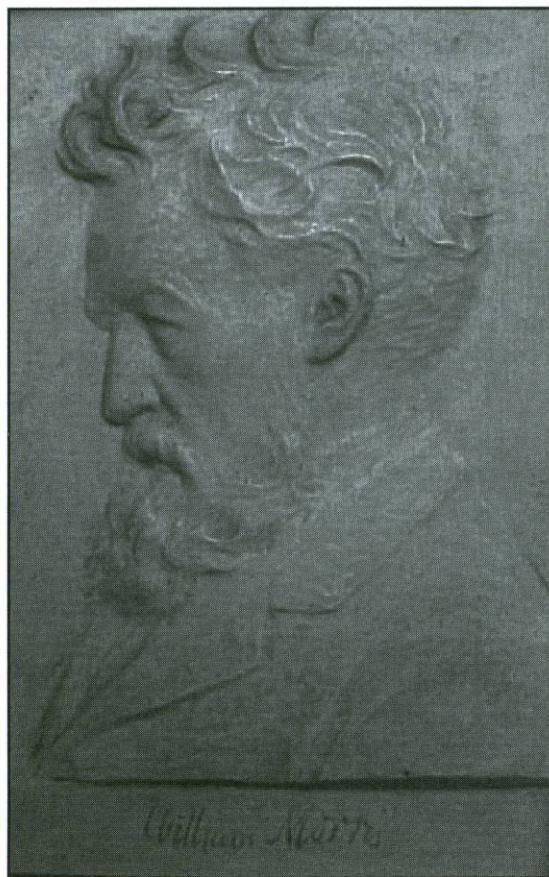
I PAID THE FARE AND RAN!

EACH OF US, at one time or another, has played the parlor game "What Book?" The question is asked, of course, in relation to being stranded on a deserted island, or in the face of a devastating flood or fire. So, then, what single book would you take or save? Such was also the question I put to myself in chapter four of my book, *On Collecting William Morris: A Memoir*, recently published by The Printery. But I cheated. Given that my library of William Morris totals over 1,000 items of all kinds (Kelmscott Press titles, pamphlets, first editions, works about Morris, and even objects relating to his life and work), I cheated and listed ten treasures I would save.

Many of those treasures are truly unique, such as the handwritten poem "Birdling, Whither Away" (perhaps written out by Morris himself); the Jessie M. King illustrated edition of Morris' *The Defence of Guenevere and Other Poems*, wonderfully inscribed to a "Mrs. Mavor" by Jessie King; or the copy of Hermann Zapf's *William Morris Sein Leben und Werk*, which he has inscribed to me using large, blue initials "J" and "W" along with the Morris quote: "The letters should be designed by an artist, and not an engineer."

There were also, among the 990 or so items I could not "save," treasures large and small that I had to leave behind. There is, for example, the large framed original piece of calligraphy by Lloyd J. Reynolds. Reynolds was a professor at Reed College in Portland, Oregon, where he taught art for some fifty years. Internationally he was known as a pioneer in the Italic handwriting revival, and his book *Italic Calligraphy & Handwriting* is used the world over as a teaching tool. The Morris quote he executed for me in 1977 reads: "A true source of human happiness lies in taking a genuine interest in all the details of daily life and elevating them by art." Another art treasure that did not make my saved list was the por-

trait of William Morris, done in 1974 by Barry Moser. It was this etching of Morris, limited to 50 copies on Arches paper, that first brought the name and work of Barry Moser to my attention, and eventually led to a small book we worked on jointly called *Men of Printing*,



"The Mysterious Mr. Morris."

Take a look at this plaque. Have you ever seen this before? Have you ever seen a reference to it? Have you ever seen it in a book?
A dealer's catalogue?

published in 1976 by the Pennyroyal Press. These are just some of the Morris treasures that tempt me still, the also-rans, that almost made my top ten list. But there is one single item that remains at the top of my "This could be great" list, a William Morris item which, to all visitors, is introduced as "The Mysterious Mr. Morris!"

Some background first. In the spring of 1999 I attended a library conference at the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

At the end of the conference I was approached by a librarian friend, a fellow book collector, and we agreed to use our free time, prior to our flights home, to book hunt. Our morning was spent in a rather futile attempt at trying to find a good used bookshop. Someone finally suggested we try a place in Oklahoma City called the Antique Co-Op.

This location offered what are sometimes called antiques, or even collectibles. While searching one of the booths, what should my eyes spy but a rather small plaque, about 5 3/4 by 7 1/4 inches, framed in hand rubbed walnut, with a plaster relief of William Morris, facing left in profile, with a signature "William Morris" carved at the bottom. I found the price rather daunting, all \$2.50, plus 21 cents in tax, but not being one to argue or dicker, I paid the fare and ran!

So what did I get for my grand sum of \$2.71? It is, of course, "The Mysterious Mr. Morris!" Every visitor to my home library, every Morris collector, each Morris scholar is asked the same question: "Take a look at the mysterious Mr. Morris. Have you ever seen this before? Have you ever seen a reference to it? Have you ever seen it in a book? A dealer's catalogue?" No, No, No, and more no's are my only replies.

What I do know is that the plaque is based on a photograph of Morris taken by Frederick Hollyer in 1887 that is now located in the William Morris Gallery, Walthamstow. I also know that the frame is expertly made, routed at various points to allow for the depth of the plaster work, which at certain points is up to one-half inch thick. I also know, from very close examination of both the front and verso, that there is absolutely no makers mark of any kind.

So there you have it, perhaps my greatest Morris treasure—or is it?

JACK WALSDORF

18820 N. W. Astoria Drive

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503 645-5176 jackjuno@teleport.com

The Collector's Bin



An opportunity for our readers to ask questions, share experiences, express concerns, or simply comment.

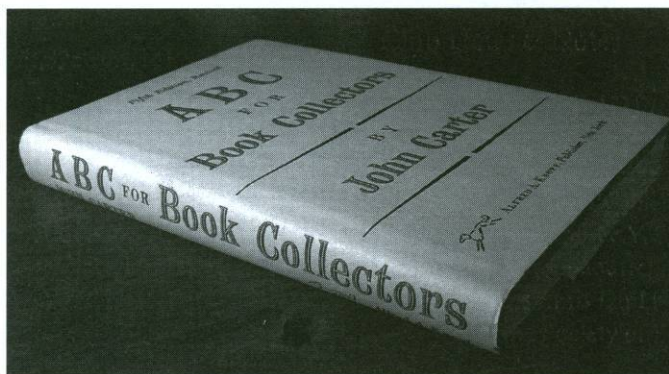
THE COLLECTOR'S BIN invites readers to submit bibliophilic questions in an effort to generate a discussion from which all can benefit. We have received a variety of questions and comments over the months which we hope to address in the column. However, there is one question that is repeatedly asked which begs a thoughtful response.

A New York *FABS Newsletter* reader writes: "I consider myself a knowledgeable collector of illustrated children's books. Finding and ordering books over the Internet has been a double-edged sword for me. I have found beautiful books at agreeable prices that I thought I would never find; but I have also ordered books that upon arrival made me wince with disappointment. My last purchase was a major disappointment. The relatively expensive book was poorly packaged and shipped in an envelope which, I believe, caused the bumping of corners during shipping; the book was musty and missing an illustrated plate. I thought I was ordering a clean, complete copy of the book. Although the dealer (I use the term loosely) eventually took the book back and refunded my purchase, it was a battle that I do not wish to pursue a second time. How can one be confident that they are purchasing a book from a professional bookseller?"

Unfortunately, this *FABS* reader is not alone. Given the number of questions centered on ordering books over the Internet, it appears that many readers have their own version of the "disaster purchase." How can a collector avoid buyer's regret?

Fortunately, there are several steps that can be taken to help ensure satisfaction when purchasing books from Internet book dealers. These include scrutinizing the book description, contacting the dealer directly, inquiring about membership in professional organizations, and browsing "like" dealer stock.

Since most individuals who purchase books over the Internet find a desired book before they find the book dealer, it is natural to start with the first information the individual encounters—the bibliographic description. The description should be intelligently written, complete, and accurate. An intelligently written description means that the professional bookseller will use the terminology of the book trade. Specialized terms are essential in communicating accurate and complete information. John Carter's classic work, *ABC for Book Collectors*, collects



and defines these terms. Also, a crucial part of an Internet book description is a grading of condition, and an account of all faults. Unlike purchasing a book in an open shop, the Internet buyer does not physically inspect the book until after the purchase. A professional condition report will give the buyer a clear and accurate "mental picture" of the book. If a bibliographic description is not intelligent, complete, and accurate, or if the description lacks reference to condition, "red flags" will be waving for the informed collector. Wise collectors demand professional book descriptions before they purchase any book. Professional dealers will often augment the bibliographic description of collectible and expensive books with more detailed information addressing the question, "Why is this book important?" For example, this could include information about signatures and inscriptions, provenance, or a special binding. Professional book dealers take the time and make the effort to research

and describe their books with completeness and accuracy. On the issue of an accurate description, several of the questions received from our readers describe the experience of ordering what were described as "First Editions," only to find that they were NOT . . . a classic "disaster purchase." Again, professional book dealers do not make guesses or have gut feelings about editions; they do the necessary bibliographic research and make an accurate statement of fact.

In the "wild, wild west" of Internet book selling, where the barriers of entry into the profession have become almost nonexistent, it is advisable to make direct contact with the book dealer after finding their book. Yes, it takes additional time to place a phone call or send an e-mail, but the information garnered will be invaluable. Don't hesitate to ask direct questions such as "How do you know that your book is a first edition?" If you mention terms

such as "points of issue" and the seller (we hesitate to use the term book dealer) is confused about basic bibliographic terminology . . . run for the hills! Likewise, when you inquire about returning a book you are dissatisfied with and the dealer has no established policy for returns, do not order the book. Establishing professional rapport between collectors and dealers is important for both parties. Most dealers are bibliophiles who indeed love their books and they will want to be assured that the book has found a "good home." Unfortunately, to the dismay of both dealers and collectors, many book selling sites are making direct dealer contact increasingly difficult and in some cases impossible.

Finally, inquiring about professional organizations that the book dealer may belong to and "browsing" their stock can help avoid the "disaster purchase." Organizations such as the AABA (American Antiquarian Booksellers Association) and IOBA (Independent Online

Booksellers Association) demand that their members abide by a bookseller's code of ethics. A book dealer's membership in professional organizations, including libraries and historical societies, indicates that the dealer is active in the larger book community. However, we would never rule out purchasing a book from a dealer solely because they do not belong to a professional organization. Undoubtedly, there are many fine book dealers who choose (for any number of reasons) not to join groups and organizations.

Some book sites will allow a customer to "browse" an individual bookseller's

stock. Browsing a book dealer's online stock will help one obtain an idea of the quantity and quality of the books available for purchase. For example, if we were contemplating the purchase of an expensive illustrated children's book from an online dealer, it would be reassuring to know that the dealer has other collectible children's books for sale and hence some experience with the genre.

It is unarguable that the Internet is a valuable resource for today's book collector. Knowing that there are tens of thousands of online booksellers with widely varying degrees of experience and professionalism requires us to remember *caveat*

emptor and conduct our due diligence before we purchase books online. Let the buyer beware and ask: Is the book described intelligently, completely, and accurately? Have I contacted the dealer? Does the dealer belong to book organizations? Have I browsed the dealer's stock for "like" books? We believe that if collectors address these questions, they can avoid disappointments and realize the Internet's potential as a resource for the collector.

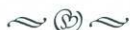
KENNETH PALKO

PO Box 21323, Cleveland, Ohio 44121-0323
212 838-6690 fax 212 838-244
kenpalko@aol.com

Club News & Notes

PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND PUBLICATIONS

THE ALCUIN SOCIETY



TIME SEEMS to fly by and it only seemed like yesterday since I wrote the last report and the same applies to the Alcuin Society, as we have had a full plate since the beginning of 2006.

In early January we sent out the 'Call for Entries' for the annual Alcuin Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada, for those books published in 2005. The entries came flooding in and we finally received 296 entries, from 9 Provinces and 101 publishers. This competition just gets bigger and bigger each year along with some extremely fine examples of excellence within the Canadian publishing world.

When the final judging was done on April 1st, our three judges (Robert Bringhurst, renowned poet, linguist, and typographer, British Columbia; Sue Colberg, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Visual Communication Design, University of Alberta; and Glenn Goluska of Imprimerie Dromadaire, Montreal, book designer, typographer, and letterpress printer) selected 36 winning titles.

This year the winning books will be exhibited internationally at the Frankfurt and Leipzig Book Fairs. In Canada the books will exhibit in Wolfville, Nova Scotia; Montreal, Toronto, Edmonton, Vancouver; and Victoria, British Columbia.

This year our catalogue of the winning books was bilingual and copies are available from the Society for a small fee. Also,

the winning books are the official entries for Canada in the Stiftung Buchkunst in Germany.

For additional information about the annual Alcuin Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada competition, please feel free to contact Leah Gordon at awards@alcuinsociety.com or 604 732-5403.

In March we had a very interesting talk by Richard Smart of Old English Bindery, North Vancouver on *The Seventh Book of Remembrance*.

This book was commissioned by the Canadian Government in conjunction with the Canadian Legion and is the latest book remembering all those who have given their lives in active service for Canada in the Canadian Armed Forces.

This talk was the story of the creation of the seventh book. A work of art from the inside out with calligraphic names on delicate vellum sheets, intricately illuminated by hand. The sheets were then bound in full morocco with copious gold tooling both inside and out. This talk highlighted the binding of the book from sewing to gold tooling in preparation for its unveiling on Remembrance Day, November 11th, 2005 in Ottawa.

Richard Smart, a third generation bookbinder who has been binding for nearly 20 years, starting with a seven-year apprenticeship with his father and then continuing to work and learn in his father's bindery in England. Six years ago he moved to Vancouver and set up his own antiquarian bookbinding. He now specialises in

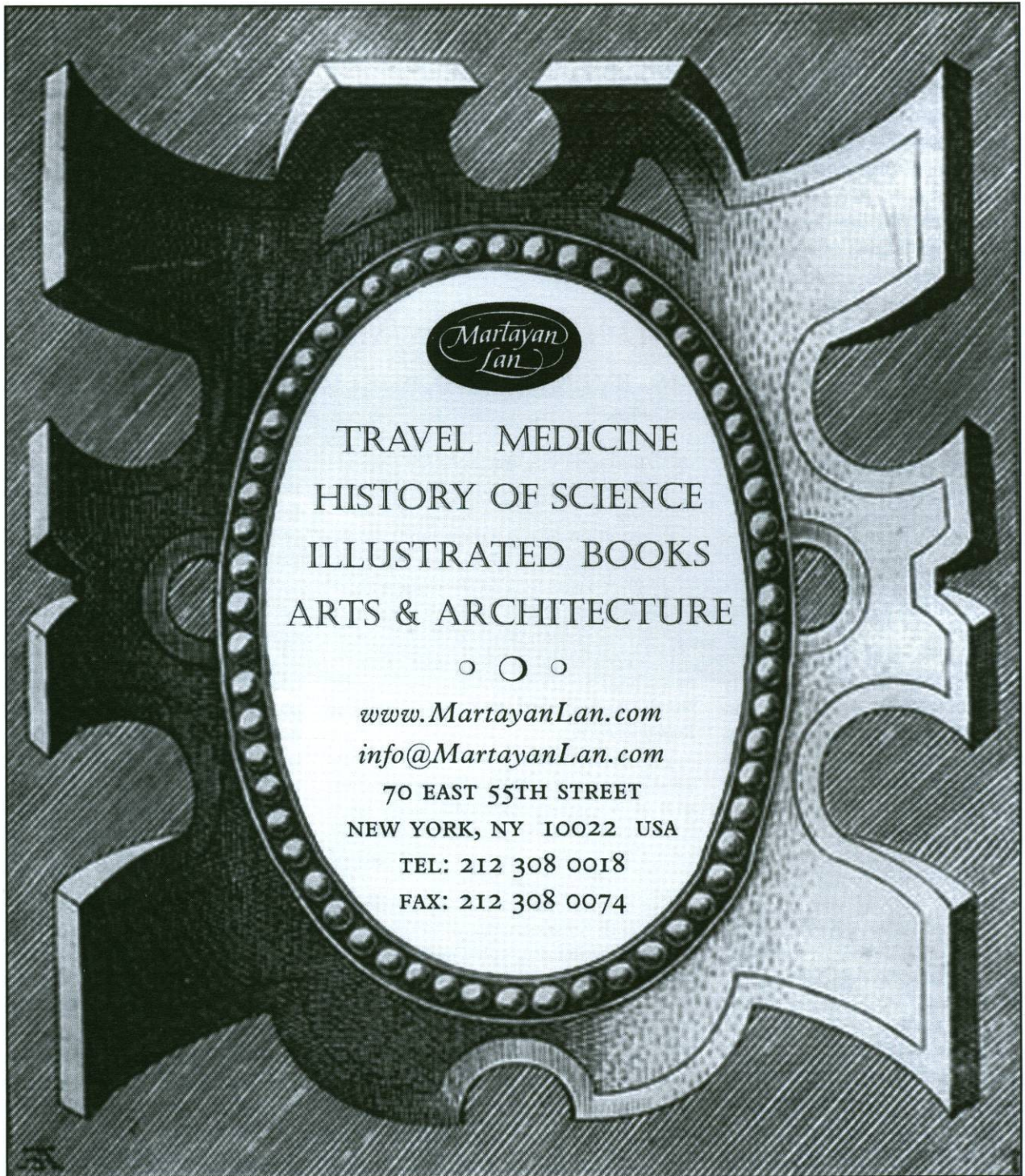
restoration and period bindings and often undertakes designer bindings with a traditional flair. This talk and slide show was a complete sell-out. This was co-sponsored with the friends of the BC Book Arts Guild and the Vancouver Public Library.

Also in late March we had another exciting and interesting talk by Glenn Goluska, who was introduced by Robert Bringhurst. Glenn Goluska is a book designer, typographer, and sometime letterpress printer with no formal training but a lifelong love of type. He gained an invaluable education working at the Coach House Press in Toronto and designed many limited editions for his private press, and taught typography at York University. This was co-sponsored with the Vancouver Museum.

Again in March we sponsored with the Special Collections at Simon Fraser University a lecture by Dr. Andrew Feenberg on 'Collecting on the Barricades during the Paris May Events of 1968.' Dr. Feenberg was in Paris in May, 1968 and viewed the riots firsthand and collected posters, broadsides, leaflets, newspapers, etc. during the strike. It is an interesting collection and a wonderfully interesting story.

In April and May we co-sponsored talks by Jim Rimmer, typographer extraordinaire and Kara Sievwright, artist, author, and zine writer, with the BC Book Arts Guild and Special Collections at Vancouver Public Library.

In June we held our Annual General Meeting with the election of some new Directors. We also awarded certificates to



the winners in The Alcuin Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada. Many of the winners turned up with a good sprinkling of members and we sat down to a great dinner at the University Golf Club in Vancouver.

During the remainder of the summer and fall, the Society will be represented at the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts in Sechelt, BC and the annual 'Word on the Street' festival in Vancouver, in late September.

On October 11th, in conjunction with Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books, there will be a talk by David Carlin on collecting the Boston Publisher, Ticknor & Fields, at the Wosk Centre of Simon Fraser University. Also on November 25th, there will be a celebration of Jim Rimmer, noted typographer, type designer, illustrator, teacher, and supporter of many book related people and projects. Jim operates the Pie Tree Press in New Westminster, BC.

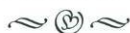
On November 18th, we have the fun event of the year, certainly for me, in the Alcuin Society "Famous" Auction, where you may buy beautiful books at bargain prices. Our celebrity auctioneers will be Ralph Stanton from Special Collections, University of British Columbia, Dr. Richard Hopkins, a retired Professor from UBC, and yours truly. Ralph has assured me that he has been taking lessons from a used car auctioneer and is now able to talk at the rate of 300 words per minute! This is a must event for all members and don't forget to bring along friends and neighbours.

We also produced a chapbook this year entitled "Thoreau MacDonald: Canada's Foremost Book Illustrator" by Terry Stillman, in a hand-stitched and a stapled edition. A few copies of the stapled edition are still for sale and copies may be purchased from me on behalf of the Society. In addition to the resumption of our chapbook editions, we have redesigned our journal "Amphora". Dr. Richard Hopkins has handed over the Editorial duties after many years of fine stewardship to Rollin Milroy. Rollin's first issue was #143, which included a wonderful article on Charles Van Sandwyk, the Vancouver artist and book designer, whom I rank as the modern day Arthur Rackham. Amphora #144 will be mailed out in late September.

No doubt, one of the highlights of the year, if not the highlight, was the acceptance of Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D. Governor General of Canada, as the Patron of The Alcuin Society.

The majority of our events are free and fully open to the general public. The Alcuin Society's newly designed web page is www.alcainsociety.com and we sincerely hope that you will check it out for up-to-date information on our events, programs, and activities. For additional information about the Alcuin Society, please contact John King at 604 883-2544 or e-mail to antbook@aol.com.

THE ALDUS SOCIETY



THE ALDUS SOCIETY is a group for lovers of books and the printed arts. Members include book collectors, archivists and preservationists, book lovers and booksellers, writers, small press printers, calligraphers, artists, and librarians. Our programs reflect members' varied personal and professional interests and fall into three categories: (1) regular meetings with a formal program preceded by wine and cheese socializing; (2) informal First Saturday sessions wherein members are invited to the Ohio State University Rare Books and Manuscripts Library to view and discuss selected books from the OSU collection; and (3) field trips and other activities.

SPRING ACTIVITIES

May – Fred Pfening, past President (1986-89) of the Circus Historical Society, shared his long-time passion for circus collectibles. Fred and his father have assembled world-class collections of memorabilia related to the vanished world of the traveling circus, and many of the most interesting items were available for examination.

FIRST SATURDAY PROGRAMS

Just 10 days before his 300th birthday the January session featured an item Benjamin Franklin worked on as a printer in London, work from the Franklin Press in Philadelphia, first edition of his *Autobiography*, and associated items. February's program featured African-American holdings in commemoration of Black History month. The March installment focused on Samuel Beckett and other Irish materials in appreciation of St. Patrick's Day. April focused on contemporary American manuscripts and included William T. Vollmann, winner of the National Book Award for fiction in 2005, William S. Burroughs and Raymond Carver. After a month's hiatus, June found attendees examining many of the 19th century English literature holdings. July's program pulled together some highlights from OSU's antiquarian holdings in the history of science.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

The Aldus Society does not have regular meetings during the summer, but frequently gathers for special activities. In July a number of members took a field trip to Indiana University's Lilly Library where Lilly Curator of Books, Joel Silver, shared many of the library's treasures. Items enjoyed by participants included a first printing of the Declaration of Independence, Ian Fleming's typed manuscript of *Goldfinger*, a Coverdale Bible, Caxton *Canterbury Tales*, a pristine copy of Edgar Allen Poe's *Tamerlane*, and many other exceptional holdings.

August found members of the Aldus Society in two hands-on workshops where they learned paper marbling techniques.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The 2006-2007 program year is coming together, and it looks like it will be another exciting one.

September 14th (Regular Program) – It's been 300 years since Benjamin Franklin was born, and the Aldus Society will open its regular program season on Thursday, September 14th with an anecdotal presentation by Kay Michael Kramer that celebrates Franklin as author, publisher, and printer.

October 12th (Regular Meeting) – Jack Matthews, noted Ohio author and collector, will be returning to the Aldus Society to share more stories related to book collecting. Jack was one of our speakers in 2001, and all are looking forward to his return.

November 9th (Regular Meeting) – John Crichton, proprietor of San Francisco's Brick Row Book Shop and Past President of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America will be joining us and speaking on the antiquarian book trade.

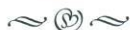
December (TBA) – December will once again find members of the Aldus Society gathered at the annual Holiday Dinner to celebrate the wrap-up of another year.

Please join us! Members of other FABS affiliates are always welcome at Aldus Society gatherings. Regular meetings of the Aldus Society are held at 7:30 p.m. at the Thurber Center, 91 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. Socializing begins at 7:00 p.m. First Saturday programs are held at 10:00 a.m. at the Ohio State University Archives, 2700 Kenny Road, Columbus, Ohio.

Check the Aldus Society website at www.AldusSociety.com, to find up-to-date information about our programs and activities and in-depth articles about many of our speakers.

For additional information please contact Ronald L. Ravneberg at 614 457-1153 or AldusSociety@aol.com.

THE AMPERSAND CLUB



JIM CANARY, preservationist extraordinaire and environmental director at the Lilly Library, Indiana University, presented his talk on printing and papermaking in Tibet at the Ampersand Club's annual dinner May 19. In addition to his work at Indiana University, Jim is proprietor of Cold Mountain Bindery and Iron Bird Press, and has dedicated over 30 years of his life to studying Tibetan language and culture. He currently works with the International Tibetan Archive Preservation Project in Lhasa which has begun conservation on three million Tibetan government documents, some more than a thousand years old. Nearly 60 people attended the wonderfully illustrated event which was held adjacent to the prestigious Oak Room on the top floor of the old Dayton's Department Store in downtown Minneapolis.

Jim also talked about his journeys on the road with Kerouac's *On the Road* typescript scroll of which he is temporary custodian, and he was brave enough to enter the early hours of the following day with some

members of the club who seemed intent on keeping him awake until his flight home the following morning.

In recess during the summer, Ampersand will make an informal trip this August to Stockholm, Wisconsin to visit the print shop of Gaylord Schanilec, Midnight Paper Sales, to preview his latest work which, while not being able to contact Gaylord at this writing, we will keep a secret lest his idea for what might prove to be an extraordinary publication escape the confines of his hill-top acreage. Gaylord was this year's winner of the Carl Hertzog Award for excellence in book design for his book *Mayflies of the Driftless Region*, the limited edition which is still available from him directly at <http://midnightpapersales.com>. The deluxe edition is now out of print.

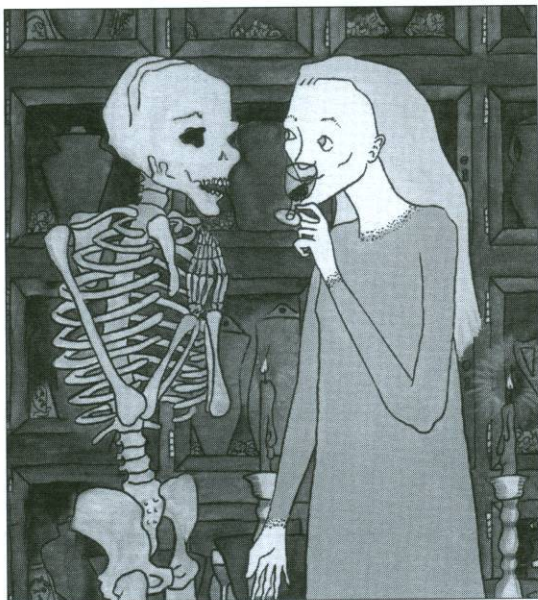
Members of Ampersand and the Ampersand website (theampersandclub.org) were recently queried with regard to its publication in 1996 of *On the Rocks*, a glossary of alcoholic terms found in an old spiral notebook in the library of M.F.K. Fisher which the late writer had apparently found in someone's trash. Ampersanders, ever the hardy and swarthy group, managed, on Super Bowl Sunday that year, to bring a printing press to the middle of White Bear

Lake where in one day, with temperatures hovering at minus 20 degrees, they managed to print off this fine, little chapbook. One hundred copies were printed and distributed to the Ampersand membership. The night before the adventure, Gaylord Schanilec carved the little wood engraving that adorns the title-page, and the book is destined to become, if it isn't already, a Schanilec rarity. The book is now, sadly, out of print.

The recent flurry of correspondence about the book was in connection with the upcoming M.F.K. Fisher bibliography. Said Fisher collector, Randall Tarpey-Schwed, who is proofing the new bibliography by Donald Zealand, "My own collection is over 300 items, and I believed that I either owned or knew of just about everything written and published by or about Fisher either during her life or after her death. So, you can perhaps imagine my surprise at just last week learning about the quite unusual publication "On the Rocks" which was printed by the Club in 1997 (sic) at, of all places, the frozen White Bear Lake, Minnesota."

As a footnote to this story, the following year Ampersanders printed a sequel, *In the Rocks*, a glossary of mining terms which

Considering Poisonous Plants at Table?



A black-and-white detail from one of Audrey Niffenegger's full color illustrations

If you've been stumped how to plan a seasonal menu featuring poisonous plants, help is soon at hand. *Poisonous Plants at Table*—incorporating selections from *Poisonous Plants In Field and Garden* by the Reverend Professor G. Henslow, with "Poisonous Plants at Table" (selected menus and recommendations) by Dr. E. Coffin, and featuring "Prudence: The Cautionary Tale of a Picky Eater," written and illustrated by Audrey Niffenegger—should provide the information and inspiration you need.

Professor Henslow's field guide will help you identify the plants, and tell you which parts are poisonous. The four seasonal party menus accompanied by the illustrated story of Prudence should then put you in the mood. For your convenience, field guide and menus are cross-referenced with convenient icons.

See *Poisonous Plants* at these upcoming events:

Oak Knoll Fest XIII—New Castle, Delaware
October 7 & 8, 2006

9th Biennial Pyramid Atlantic Book Arts Fair and Conference—Silver Spring, Maryland
November 18 & 19, 2006

The Codex Foundation International Book Fair and Symposium: The Hand Printed Book in the 21st Century—Berkely, California
February 12–15, 2007

More info at www.sherwinbeach.com

"...wonderful examples of the bookmaker's art... meticulous, straightforward and beautiful."

—Russell Maylone,
Northwestern University,
as quoted in *Fine Books and Collections*.

For more information, or to arrange to view our books, contact: Priscilla Juvelis [Kennebunkport, ME] 207-967-0909; Joshua Heller [Washington, DC] 202-966-9411; Vamp and Tramp + Califia Books [Birmingham, AL] 205-824-2300; or PABA Gallery [New Haven, CT] 203-773-3665.

was printed in the old Tower Soudan Mine on the Iron Range in northern Minnesota, approximately 2,340 feet below the surface, which book Ampersanders believe is the furthest underground (and closest to the center of the earth) that any book has been printed.

Events on the schedule this autumn are less rigorous. Ampersander Dale Schwie, who is also a member of the Thoreau Society Board of Directors, will speak September 19 at Minnesota Center for Book Arts on collecting Thoreau. In October, Paulette Myers-Rich and Paul Maravelas will offer a joint presentation: Paul on his book *Letterpress Printing: A Manual for Fine Press Printers* recently published by Oak Knoll Press; and Paulette, winner of this year's Minnesota Book Award for fine printing (beating out Gaylord's *Mayflies!*) for her *Ghost Poems for the Living: 13 Sonnets by Shakespeare with Distillations* – Paulette, who will offer a tour of her studio and print shop.

In November Ampersanders will have a publication party for the long-awaited book by John and Molly Harris, *Minnesota Ephmera*, published by the University of Minnesota Press.

In December we will get a tour of the new quarters of the Minneapolis Athenaeum in the new Minneapolis Public Library designed by Caesar Pelli.

THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES



THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES schedule for Fall 2006 is as follows. Please contact us to attend one of our meetings.

September 20 – 6:00 p.m. Jack Fruchtman, Jr., the author of *Atlantic Cousins: Benjamin Franklin and His Visionary Friends*, will lecture in celebration of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary: “Unrespectable and Reluctant Radical: Benjamin Franklin as a Revolutionary.” The Johns Hopkins Club. Cocktails and dinner precede the talk.

November, 15 – 6:00 p.m. Annual Meeting and Election of officers. Dr. Ronald Smeltzer's illustrated presentation will be based upon his exhibition at the Grolier Club: “Four Centuries of Graphic Design for Science.” The Johns Hopkins Club. Cocktails and dinner precede the talk.

For information on future programs contact Binnie Syril Braunstein, Corresponding Secretary and Program Chair, at 410 486-6178 or bsbgc@aol.com.

THE JOHN RUSSELL BARTLETT SOCIETY



IN SEPTEMBER Jerry Mueller will speak on his new book about John Russell Bartlett, the Club's namesake.

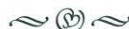
In October, probably at the John Hay Library, Lisa Long will talk about what to do if your rare book collection is subjected to a water disaster (from a hurricane for example).

In November we hope to meet at the new Rhode Island School of Design's Library to hear a talk by Laurie Whitehill-Chong on the special collections housed there.

Future programs are planned utilizing the Dragonfly Bindery and including a lecture on Dard Hunter.

For additional information please contact Pamela Rakowski at 401 455-8135 or PRakowski@provlib.org.

THE BIXBY CLUB



THE FALL AGENDA has been roughed out with additional promising events still in the planning stages.

Jack Walsdorf, the consummate William Morris collector and scholar, will address us at an October dinner meeting with tales of his search for Morrisiana. Jack is a book collector, a sometime book dealer, and a bonified Arts and Crafts aficionado. He will regale us with stories of the chase, the discovery, and the occasional big catch.

In December we gather at the University Club for a rare evening with Irene Tichenor. Irene has an MS in library science from Columbia University. After fifteen years of administering academic and research libraries, Irene now concentrates on writing about the history and tradition of printing and publishing in America.

In her recent landmark biography, *No Art Without Craft: The Life of Theodore Low DeVine*, Irene focuses on DeVine as innovator, printer, scholar, and historian. The book is not only a fascinating history of The DeVine Press, but a chronicle of life in nineteenth New York, and DeVine's struggles with labor, costs, and quality.

John Hoover will again host his popular annual Valentine's Day soirée at his home in February. He will display and discuss some selected and sometimes little known book collecting categories with examples from his personal collection.

For information about The Bixby Club please contact John Hoover at 314 516-7245 or jhoover@umsl.edu.

THE BOLTON SOCIETY



THE BOLTON SOCIETY has had republished Henry Carrington Bolton's *A Select Bibliography of Chemistry, 1452-1892*. This 1,212 page work of 12,031 titles is not likely to be surpassed in either scope or content any time soon. However, if interest warrants, supplements to the bibliography published in 1899 and in 1904 could add 3,803 titles. Bolton (1843-1903) was truly a Renaissance man – a chemist, world traveler, academic, alpine climber, folklorist, bibliographer, historian, and bibliophile.

At the American Chemical Society National Meeting in Washington, D.C., 28 August – 1 September 2005, the Bolton Society and the History of Chemistry Division of ACS cosponsored a symposium, “Landmark Chemistry Books of the 20th Century: A Symposium in Honor of the Fifth Anniversary of the Bolton Society.” James J. Bohning, editor of *Boltonia*, organized the event. Attendance exceeded 100 persons, and several presenters and audience participants indicated that the subject should be continued at future meetings. Three members of The Society presented: Ronald Smeltzer, Bar-tow Kulp, and Ned Heindel.

Ned Heindel has organized the next symposium for the ACS National Meeting in San Francisco, 10-14 September 2006: “Classic Chemistry Books of the 20th Century II: Organic Chemistry.”

At its April meeting, The Society considered and accepted three new proposals:

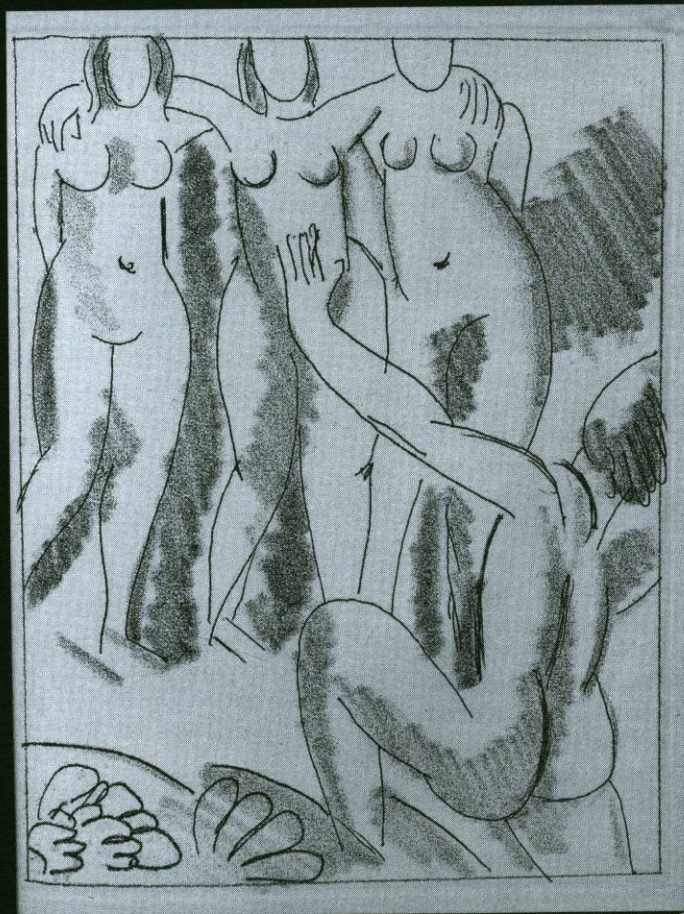
1. That The Bolton Society embark on a series of oral histories of authors of published works including philatelists, bibliographers, and related disciplines in chemistry, chemical technology, and chemical engineering. The person or persons selected for an oral history need not be a member of The Bolton Society.

2. That The Bolton Society sponsor an ongoing series of symposia (at least one each year) relating to “landmark” books in a particular chemical or allied field in collaboration with another affiliate of the Heritage Council.

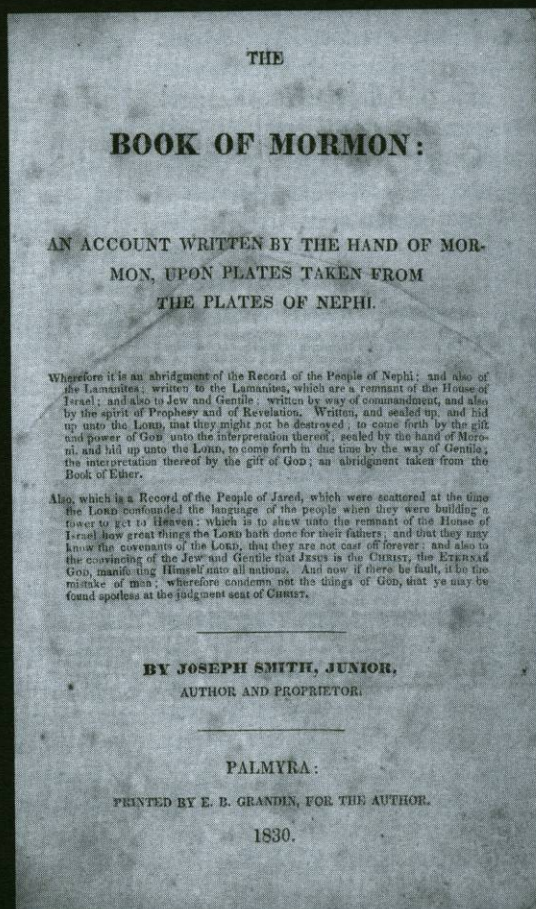
3. That the CHF establish an annual Roy G. Neville Prize in Bibliography or Biography. The prize will be administered by the CHF and will be presented to the recipient by the President of the CHF.

Society membership as of April 2006 is 74 members. Members currently reside in 25 U.S. states plus one international mem-

BOOKS & MANUSCRIPTS AT AUCTION



*Limited Editions Club, Ulysses,
illustrated by Henri Matisse*



*Rare First Edition of The Book of Mormon,
Joseph Smith, Palmyra, New York, 1830*

Sunday, November 19, 2006 at 11 a.m.

63 Park Plaza, Boston

For further information, please contact Stuart Whitehurst at 978.779.6241
or email: books@skinnerinc.com

ber each in Israel, Italy, Northern Ireland, Pakistan, South Africa, Sweden, and three members in England. The membership directory has been updated and reformatted for distribution. It includes a list of the bylaws, officers, charter members, membership name list, membership e-mail list, membership analysis, list of book dealers, and an index of professional associations and subject collections.

For more information about the Bolton Society please contact Elsa B. Atson at 215 873-8205 or elsaa@chemheritage.org

THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA



THIS HAS BEEN a year of changes for the Book Club of California. Permit me to use this opportunity to introduce myself. I am Lucy Rodgers Cohen, the new Executive Director of the Book Club of California.

Ann Whipple, into whose shoes I am stepping, has formally retired after 13 years of capably steering this organization.

The Book Club of California events this year have been well attended thanks to the attentive and imaginative programs of our

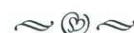
Public Programs Chair, Roger Wicker and Exhibitions Chair, Adela Roatcap. Highlights of our programs include: The exhibit "Recent Visitors: Poets & Publishing on the Bolinas Scene in the Seventies" opened to a packed house and many (young) visitors came over the 2-month period of the exhibit. The launch party for our book on the WPA Federal Art Project *Printmaking in California 1935-43* combined a lecture by the author, Elizabeth Gaede Seaton, a recognized authority on American prints and remarks by printer Pat Reagh. That evening we also recognized the many years of service of Gary F. Kurutz who retired after steering the publications program at the Book Club for 16 years. Among his other accomplishments, Mr. Kurutz edited our other fine publication for this year, *Knights of the Lash. Stagecoach stories of Major Benjamin C. Truman*.

In February we held the annual Oscar Lewis Award party honoring Robert V. Hine for his contributions to Western History and Peter Rutledge Koch for his contributions to the Book Arts. In May Michael Thompson, Chair of the Grants Committee, announced that grants totaling \$91,500 were awarded to six individuals and ten institutions.

Our Fall schedule looks to be just as eventful too, with a "New Members Night" in September – our membership drive resulted in 60 new members. Santa Cruz printer Felicia Rice will give a talk October 16th entitled "Moving Parts Press: New Work and Observations."

Modernizing the Club's administrative and communications systems has been pre-occupying – and successful. We're pleased to say that the information on our website www.bccbooks.org is up to date – and will stay so. Please do use it to keep up with upcoming events and publications and introduce friends to the Book Club.

THE CAXTON CLUB



THE NOBEL PRIZE reading committee of the Caxton Club has been meeting throughout 2005-06, its fifth year, and has read a number of authors during the first 10 months, to pare down to a final four; these four will be read by all, and at a September 2006 meeting the group will make its choice for nomination for the Nobel Prize. The nominating letter will be prepared by a Professor of Literature, and sent to the

ON COLLECTING William Morris A Memoir



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Chris Vincent — Special Collections, University of Colorado at Boulder

I love to show ANTARCTICA to students and faculty and watch their jaws drop. Then I explain what went into the making of this book — artistic vision, technical quality, production values, and painstaking attention to every detail — and watch their jaws drop even farther. It's an absolutely stunning addition to our growing Artists' Books Collection.

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Nobel Committee. In 2005, the group selected William Styron.

The reading for the current year included Sherman Alexie, Margaret Atwood, William Gay, Oscar Hijeulos, Cormac McCarthy, Tim O'Brien, Philip Roth, Orhan Pamuk, Marilyn Robinson, and John Updike.

The September meeting will focus on the final four: McCarthy, Pamuk, Roth, and Updike. Members of the committee are assigned "pro" and "con" positions for discussion for each author, and the group votes for the final choice.

LUNCH PROGRAMS 2006

Friday, September 8, 2006, Buffet 11:30 am; Program 12:30-1:30 p.m. Speaker: James Grossman. Topic: "Settle That Dispute! The Encyclopedia of Chicago."

As project manager and co-editor of this well received book (10 years-in-the-making, 1,117 pages, 1 million words), Jim will include in his talk details about the creation of the Encyclopedia, challenges along the way, astounding facts he learned about Chicago and reader reaction and his response to it.

Jim is also Vice President of Research and Education at the Newberry, a professor at the University of Chicago, and author of

several books. He was one of the seven recipients of the *Chicago Magazine's* 2005 "Chicagoan of the Year Award."

Come and hear about an innovative and monumental work that has "blown the dust from urban history." A not-to-miss afternoon.

DINNER PROGRAMS 2006

September: Alistair Black, Topic: "Libraries in Britain and Ireland."

Dr. Black, of the University of Leeds, England, is the principal editor of the Cambridge History of Libraries in Britain and Ireland, and the author of many important studies on English libraries in the 19th century. The monumental three volume history from the Cambridge University Press is due to be published in the latter half of this year.

Dr. Black will be visiting at the University of Illinois in Urbana during the fall, and will come to Chicago to speak to us about the subject he knows best, the history of libraries in Britain and Ireland.

October: Gordon Turnbull holds an undergraduate degree from The Australian National University, and an M.A., an M. Phil. and a Ph.D. from Yale University, where he is the General Editor of The Yale

Editions of the *Private Papers of James Boswell*. Previously he has been, among other academic assignments, on the English department faculties at Yale and Smith College, and the University of Newcastle (New South Wales). He is the author of numerous critical and scholarly essays and articles on James Boswell, the noted biographer of Samuel Johnson.

A truly engaging and entertaining speaker, Dr. Turnbull will address us on "Why James Boswell never met Robbie Burns." Burns, Scotland's greatest lyric poet, and Boswell grew up together in Ayrshire, Scotland, only a few miles apart, and knew, and were known by, many mutual friends and acquaintances. Burns even mentioned Boswell in his poetry, and wrote to him. Why they never met has long remained a mystery in literary scholarship.

Documents buried deep within the thousands in Yale's great Boswell Collection, including many rediscovered sensationality and improbably early in the twentieth century, offer clues to this intriguing 200 year old puzzle. The story, told with the greatest of skill by Dr. Turnbull, offers a remarkable window on the world which existed before our own, shedding light on the later eigh-

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teenth century's sometimes comical and sometimes painful collisions of Enlightenment secularism and religious tensions.

November: Joseph Parisi joined Poetry magazine in 1976, and was editor-in-chief from 1983 to 2003, the longest tenure after that of Harriet Monroe, the founder. He studied at the College of St. Thomas, and received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He has also served as executive director of the Modern Poetry Association, known now as the Poetry Foundation. He was awarded a Guggenheim fellowship in 2000 and is a by-fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge.

Chicago publisher Ivan R. Dee has recently released Dr. Parisi's *100 Essential Modern Poems*, and he will speak to us on "100 Essential Modern Poems, or, What to Take to a Desert Island." Of the many thousands of excellent poems published over the last century, which are the most meaningful and memorable, truly the ones everyone should know? He will answer this question with astute selections and short, lively introductions, and provide a guide for anyone who wants to understand and enjoy modern poetry.

Dr. Parisi will explain how he chose these 100 masterpieces, set them in their cultural

contexts, and reveal fascinating and illuminating details about the lives of their authors.

December: Sure enough, if not soon enough, the Holidays will be with us again, and Caxton's Holiday Revels will feature the ever-more exciting auction of books and ephemera, with something for everyone, no matter your interest or price range. Fed by the generous contributions of Caxtonians and others, organized by our own Tom Joyce and Dorothy Sinson, stage-managed by Dan Crawford, fresh from another successful Newberry Book Sale.

This is an evening of pure fun, with entertainment and refreshments sure to please both expectant buyers and watchful onlookers. You do not want to miss the building tension as the evening's offerings are bid up to their true value, and all Caxtonians benefit from the proceeds.

Special Program: At a date soon to be decided, but most likely this November, we will have a special and private opportunity to visit the exhibition entitled "Printing for the Modern Age: Commerce, Craft, and Culture in the R.R. Donnelly Archive" at the Regenstein Library at the University of Chicago. The exhibition will be curated by Caxton's own Kim Coventry, who will be

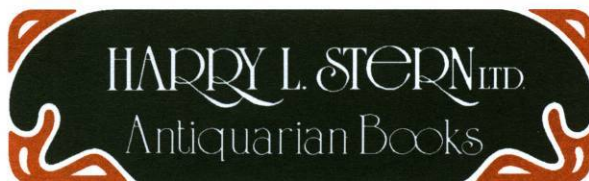
the speaker, and organized by our own Alice Schreyer and Susan Levy. The evening will offer a private viewing and a dinner at the University's Quadrangle Club. Space will be limited, and it would be helpful if those interested would notify Paul Ruxin (paultruxin@jonesday.com). Details will be forthcoming soon.

For additional information please contact Hayward R. Blake at 847 864-9800 or hrblake@earthlink.net.

THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES



THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES were the guests of the Delaware Art Museum on Sunday, February 19th and were given a private tour of the new Helen Farr Sloan Library by Sarena Fletcher, Head Librarian and Joyce Schiller, Museum Curator. A sampling of library treasures were laid out for our perusal which included works by many of the Brandywine school of American illustration. The tour, which also included the book stacks, manuscript collections as well as their rare book room, was a special treat as these areas are not usually open to visitors.



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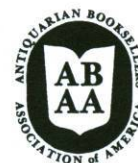
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The 29th annual dinner was held on March 29th at the University and Whist Club in Wilmington with 36 attending. We celebrated the 300th birthday of Benjamin Franklin by having Dr. Keith Arbour speak on "Small Things appearing great to those in small Circumstances? Benjamin Franklin's Earliest Delaware Printing." He discussed in some detail the Pennsylvania General Loan Office Mortgage Register of 1729 and subsequent Franklin Mortgage Register and Bonds as well as the General Loan Office Mortgage Bond of Delaware, 1730, Kent County (a copy of which is held by the Historical Society of Delaware). Obtaining the contract to print Delaware currency and other legal documents helped insure Franklin's financial success as a printer. Keith believes that there are still undiscovered Franklin printings of these Mortgage Indentures in attics and small historical societies and he challenged us to help discover them.

Numerous members of the DB's recently have been involved in creating and/or exhibiting art, or writing books, catalogs and for magazines. Paul Preston Davis wrote the feature article for the Summer 2006 issue of the English magazine *Illustration* on "Howard Pyle 1853-1911." Lew Jaffe has

created an interesting blog on bookplates at bookplatejunkie.blogspot.com. This spring the Delaware Art Museum exhibited the lithographic works of Charles Shannon (1863-1937) from the collection of Mark Samuels Lasner. This was the first comprehensive exhibit of Shannon's prints ever held in the United States.

Kevin Moore wrote and published *Lewes, Delaware: Celebrating 375 Years of History* in conjunction with the 375th anniversary celebration. In April Ray Nichols and Raven Press at the University of Delaware celebrated the move to their new facilities with a lecture given by the well known type designer Matthew Carter. *Sleepyhead Bear* by Lisa Peters, the most recent book illustrated by Ian Schoenherr, was issued in May 2006. *Pip & Squeak*, the first book both written and illustrated by Ian, will be issued on January 30, 2007. The Atrium Art Gallery at Rockford Map and Globe in June was the site of a very successful exhibition of paintings and prints of local scenes by Bob Walsh.

The DB's welcome visitors and we plan to have a number of events this fall including our ever popular dinner and auction in November. Contact our president, Tom Doherty at tsquare1787@aol.com if you

plan to be in our area or need information on our events or publications.

THE BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT



ALICE NIGOGHOSIAN, newly retired head of Wayne State University Press and past-president of BCD, always begins our year with a Wayne State University Press book. David Clements, author of *Talking Shops: Detroit Commercial Art*, treated us to a show of colorful buildings and signs created by local artists and business owners over a span of thirty years.

We set up booths in April for the WSU Local History Conference and in May for the ever expanding Ann Arbor Book Festival. In September we not only had a booth at the fourth annual one-day wonderful Kerrytown BookFest, but we helped host the Miniature Book Society Conclave XXIV. This was an International event co-chaired by members Joan Knoertzer and Twyla Racz. President Meg Schwedler and board member Laura Lauer organized an opening reception at the Piquette Plant, Henry Ford's first Model "T" assembly line. Members Gerald Mitchell and Mike Skin-

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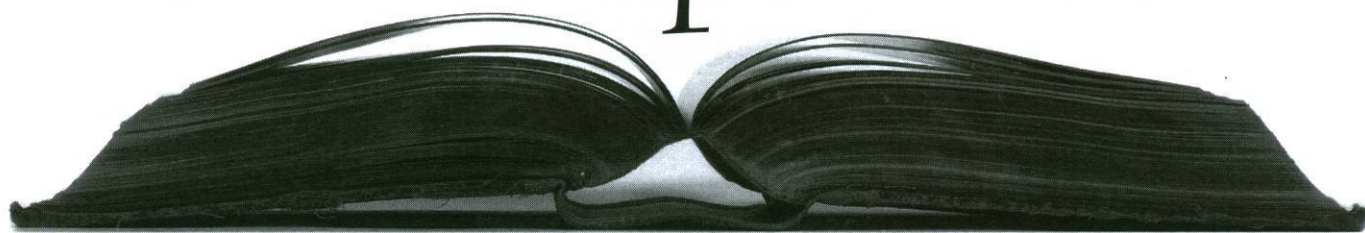
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
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The Fate of the Art



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hand papermakers, booksellers, bibliophile organizations, and educational programs in the book arts.  The San Francisco Bay Area's libraries, book arts, and bibliophilic organizations will be hosting additional events, exhibits & receptions during the week and immediately following the Codex Book Fair, the 40th California International Antiquarian Book Fair will open in San Francisco on Friday, February the 16th.  This will be an historic "bookweek" on the grand scale, following the great San Francisco tradition!


THE CODEX SYMPOSIUM

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SYMPOSIUM LECTURES

 BREYTEN BREYTENBACH, South African writer, painter and activist
"BOOK AS THE BETTER PART OF BEING HUMAN..."

 ROBERT BRINGHURST, Poet, translator & typographer
"SPIRITUAL GEOMETRY : the book as a work of art"

 SARAH BODMAN, Research Fellow, Centre for Fine Print Research, UWE
"THE HYBRID LEXICON: an overview of contemporary artists' publishing in the UK"

 FELIPE EHRENBURG, Neologist, Mexican Cultural Attaché in Brazil
"CUTTING AND PASTING : metaphor of life"

 DR. STEFAN SOLTEK, Director of the Klingspor Museum, Offenbach, Germany
"VERSO RECTO : bookart as a matter of sidesteps ..."



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www.codexfoundation.org

ner have been heavily involved in the restoration process. The Detroit Institute of Arts, the Bentley Michigan Historical Library, the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library of the University of Michigan Special Collections, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, the William L. Clements Library of Americana, and American Culinary Arts, were all glorious stops for these book lovers. The miniature book publishers set up with the Kerrytown BookFest on Sunday, where several miniature book panels were presented. Member Joan Knoertzer commissioned a one-of-a-kind miniature which she wrote on "Jeanne d'Arc." Randy Asplund was the medieval artist. It took two years and was presented to the Clements Library. Many of us also attended the awards banquet on Sunday evening.

In April we met at the Grosse Pointe Historical Society's Provencal-Weir House (1823). Members Mike Skinner and Jean Dodenhoff provided us with this unique trip into the past with a tour of the charming library and restored stripfarm home.

In May, nine BCD members traveled with FABS to Seattle. We viewed the many west coast collections. The weather was outstanding. The collections and fellowship were impressive, and Mt. Rainier made an appearance every day!

In June, we headed to Lansing where Hedger Breed arranged a meeting with curator Peter Burg, Michigan State University Special Collections. Their strengths are many, but comic books, social issues, agriculture, and Michigan authors collections stood out.

In July, Joe Ajlouny organized our annual BookShop Crawl. We met at John L. King's Books, home to over a million volumes. It was a sad and happy event as we met in the art book room of the rare book building and paid tribute to Thomas Schlientz who recently passed away. He was the manager of King's and BCD has lost its' last founding member. John King remarked, "We'll never be able to replace this bookman. He was the most knowledgeable bookseller in the country!"

In October we host eight of our outstanding collectors from the BCD with our 4th annual "Collectomania." This event returns to Detroit for dinner, presentations, and great book conversation.

In November, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Andrea Doria with a memorial of the event and the presentation of a newly released book on the subject by the author.

In December we end our 49th year with our annual business meeting at the head-

quarters (Scarab Club) and our fund-raiser book sale.

Our special thanks to all members. Kay MacKay our newsletter editor keeps churning out magnificent newsy publications which we look forward to with the love of every reader and bookie.

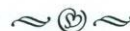
If you are in town, call Joan Knoertzer at 734 668-6815. She can arrange meetings with other book lovers. Hope to see you in Washington D.C. for the next year.

FINE PRESS BOOK ASSOCIATION



THE NEXT ISSUE OF OUR JOURNAL, "Parenthesis," is being produced on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean (we alternate issues); both the N.A. and U.K. branches of F.P.B.A. are tuning up their e-mail systems so that we can communicate with members between issues of the journal; our printer-members are working, as always, on their next books; and we invite you to check our web site: www.fpba.com.

FLORIDA BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY



WHILE OUR FALL schedule is almost finalized we are working hard on January-May 2007, which will include the celebration of our first quarter century. Our meetings are held the third Sunday of the month (September through May) at 1:30 p.m. We alternate between the library at the University of Tampa at Tampa and the meeting room at the historical Heritage Village in Largo. Visitors are welcome.

September – Our guest will be James Tapley of Sarasota. He is a master bookbinder. Those of us who have attended his past presentations are very enthusiastic about hearing him again.

October – Bill Scheuerle has arranged for us to visit the Special Collections at the University of Florida Library in Tampa. Visits like this are always well attended and may end with a visit to a nearby bookshop.

November – We are in the process of finalizing the appearance of a well-known woodcarver. His specialty is carving animals and he has a comprehensive nature reference library. We will see both samples of his work and the books he uses.

December – Our annual holiday party and book auction. Proceeds from the auction go to support selected "good works."

For additional information contact us at our web site: floridabibliophilesociety.org.

FONTANEDA SOCIETY



ALL PROGRAMS are from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Bienes Center for the Literary Arts, sixth floor, Broward County Main Library, 100 South Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida unless otherwise noted.

October 19 – "Books as Aesthetic Objects" a documentary video on the Arthur & Mata Jaffe Collection at FAU. Talks by Arthur Jaffe and Susan Rosenkranz, video director. FAU Campus.

November 20 – Bienes Center Exhibit: "The Game of War: Books, Toys, and Propaganda" from the Mickey Wolfson, Jr. Study Center. Tour of the exhibit with a gallery talk by Mickey Wolfson.

December 14 – Annual Holiday Party. Show and tell. Refreshments provided.

For more information please contact: Peggy Bing, Secretary at 954-785-2834 or Peggy5791@aol.com

THE GROLIER CLUB



UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, all exhibitions are held at The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022. Many of these events are open to non-Grolier FABS members; those interested should contact Eric Holzenberg directly.

September 14 - November 4 – Members' Exhibition: Miniature Designer Bookbindings from the collection of Neale Albert. Sponsored by the Committee on Modern Fine Printing.

September 16 – Panel Discussion: "Designer Bindings: What Are They, and How Do I Get One?" Participants will include binders, book artists, and collectors. Moderator: Priscilla Juvelis. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

September 20 - November 25 – Public Exhibition: Guild of Book Workers Centenary Exhibition. Curated by Peter Verheyen.

September 20 – Grolier lunchtime buffet: Speaker: Barbara Kretzman, proprietor of the Cutleaf Bindery, and 2005 Grolier Club Library Fellow, on binding historian Lansing Moran. At the Club, luncheon noon to 2:00 p.m., speaker 2:00-3:00 p.m. \$35.00 per person. Reserve through Maev Brennan at the Club. Luncheon open to Grolier Club members only, lecture is open to all.

September 20 – Inaugural Bernard Breslauer Lecture. Roger Stoddard on Bernard Breslauer. 6 p.m. Reception follows. Co-sponsored by the American Trust for the British Library.

October 3 – Visit: Grolier members and their guests are invited to see contemporary

fine arts prints in progress at the studio of Two Palms—some for our upcoming “Hot Off the Press” exhibition. Director-founder David Lasry will discuss traditional and nontraditional processes at the firm’s attractive Soho loft. Collaborated artists will include Chuck Close, Sol Lewitt, Mel Bochner, Kiki Smith, and Elizabeth Peyton. The talk and reception, organized by the Prints, Drawings, and Photographs Committee, takes place 5:30–7:30 p.m., at 476 Broadway (between Grand and Broome), 3rd floor. Grolier Club members only.

October 10—Symposium: The Future of Fine Press Books. (Speakers TBA). 5:00–7:30 p.m.

October 18—Curator’s Chat: Neale Albert will guide a tour of his exhibition “Miniature Designer Bookbindings.” 5:30 p.m.

November 1—The 2006 Robert L. Nikirk Lecture: Peter Stallybrass speaking on “Erasable Notebooks, 1500–1900.” 6:00 p.m. Grolier Club members only.

November 16–January 12—Members’ Exhibition: “Gotthard de Beauclair and Modern Book Design” from the collection of Jerry Kelly.

November 18—A Grolier Gathering in Boston: In town for the Book Fair? Join

President William Helfand, Director Eric Holzenberg, and other fellow Grolier Club members for an evening of drinks, hearty hors d’oeuvres, and book-chat. (Details TBA).

December 6—Curator’s Chat: Jerry Kelly will give a guided tour of his exhibition of “Gotthard de Beauclair and Modern Book Design.” 5:30 p.m.

November 13–February 3—Public Exhibition: “Hot Off the Press.” Curated by Janice Oresman. Sponsored by the Committee on Prints, Drawings, and Photographs.

All of our public exhibitions are open free of charge Mondays to Saturdays from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. All other events are open to Grolier Club members only. We invite you to visit our exhibitions and our website at www.grolierclub.org.

LONG ISLAND BOOK COLLECTORS



THE LONG ISLAND BOOK COLLECTORS had an interesting and stimulating year in 2005–06. In September, 2005 we discussed Print-On-Demand technology and book design led by our in-house author,

John Woram who has had extensive experience with both while writing his book, *Charles Darwin Slept Here*. October’s meeting was a showcase of our favorite poetry and the books from whence the poems were taken. In November, our annual luncheon was addressed by Tom Wirth, Vice President of Philip Weiss Auctions in Oceanside here on Long Island who informed us about disposing of one’s collection through auctions. December brought us an update on Daveen Herley’s fabulous collection of pop-up and movable books.

The Spring of 2006 was enlivened by a show and tell of our members’ latest and newest favorite recent acquisitions; a look at the comic book collection of Arthur Vidro, including a first edition of Superman; a visit to the home of Julie and Mike Marrell to see their extensive children’s book collection; a visit from Christine and Michael Von der Linn of the Swann Gallery, and part two of disposing of one’s collection; and a survey of the methods of book preservation and storage utilized by our members. Our final meeting of the year in June was an end-of-the-year party with the Long Island Antiquarian Book Dealers Association where we feasted and were



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addressed by Jane Cleland, author of *Consigned to Death*, a mystery about an antiques dealer in New England. Jane and her ex-husband owned Cleland Books in New Hampshire. She enlightened us on the connection between being a book/antiques dealer and writing fiction about it.

To start the season in September, 2006, Marjorie and Ronald Rosenthal will show their collection of books on and about education in the 19th and early 20th century and discuss what it was like to go to school then. October's meeting will feature Len Geller's collection of Passover Haggadahs.

For additional information please contact Marjorie Rosenthal at 631 271-1399 or mrosenth@suffolk.lib.ny.us.

NORTHERN OHIO BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETY



THE 24th Annual Akron Antiquarian Book Fair was held for the first time at the John S. Knight Center in downtown Akron. As an added attraction this year, Wendy Duke and several young actors organized a tribute to Samuel Beckett in

celebration of the 100th anniversary of his birth. Planning for the 25th annual Akron fair is underway. An October 2006 book fair in Cleveland is also being planned.

NOBS Night Akron and the Cleveland-based NOBS Forums featured speakers on a variety of topics including a history of pop-up books, collecting publishers' trade bindings, the author Owen Wister, Civil War books, and "Book Collecting 101."

Additional information regarding NOBS activities can be found on the NOBS website at www.nobsweb.org or by contacting President Larry Rakow at 216 932-3084 or Lrakow@earthlink.net.

PITTSBURGH BIBLIOPHILES



THE PITTSBURGH BIBLIOPHILES generally holds meetings six times per year: October and November, and February through May (the annual dinner meeting), usually on the evening of the third Thursday of the month. The 2006-2007 meeting schedule is still being planned, and will be announced early in the Fall. For inquiries in the meantime, please contact

Charles Aston, Treasurer 412 648-8191 or cea@pitt.edu.

THE BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY OF ROCHESTER



THE BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY of Rochester concluded the 2005-2006 season in June with its annual banquet. Honored at the banquet was Mr. Vincent Lenti, who received the Society's annual "Book Person-of-the-Year" award "in recognition of his significant contributions to the Rochester book scene." Mr. Lenti is a faculty member and the historian of the Eastman School of Music. His *For Enrichment of Community Life: George Eastman and the Founding of the Eastman School of Music* was published by the University of Rochester Press in 2004.

The Society begins its new season in September with "An Eyewitness to the Great London Fire," a talk by Edith Lank about renowned diarist Samuel Pepys.

At the October meeting, we will hear from Alexander Wieber, University of Rochester Professor Emeritus of Modern

Recent Limited Editions

¶ *A Day in the Bleachers* by Arnold Hano, a baseball classic about the first game of the 1954 World Series, illustrations by Mark Ulriksen, \$700.

¶ *The Memoirs of Benjamin Franklin*, with a booklet on the rediscovery of the original manuscript of the "autobiography" in 1867, \$600.

¶ *Gloria*, poetry by Bill Berkson, with 25 etchings by Alex Katz, \$2,500; extra suite of prints, \$10,000.

¶ *A Coney Island of the Mind*, poetry by Lawrence Ferlinghetti, with prints by R. B. Kitaj, \$650.

¶ *Orlando*, by Virginia Woolf, with 93 color photographs by Diana Michener, \$900.

¶ *The Theory of Relativity* by Albert Einstein, commentary by Richard A. Muller, \$500.

¶ *The Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton, introduction by Diane Johnson, 32 color photographs by Stephen Shore, \$850.

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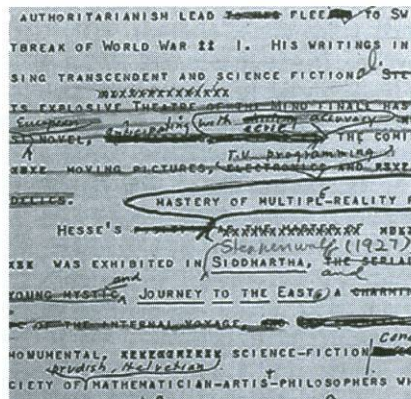
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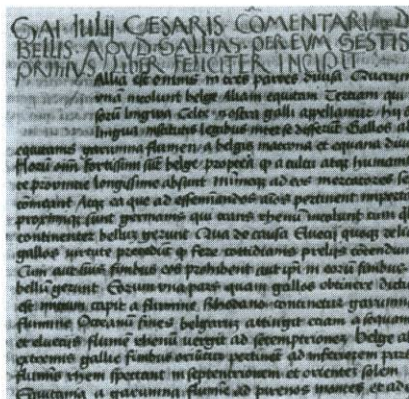
The North American Indian. Portfolio Volume V, by Edward S. Curtis, with 36 photogravure plates.
Sold for \$43125.



Original typescript for Timothy Leary's autobiography, Flashbacks, published by J. P. Tarcher in 1983.
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Languages. Mr. Wieber will read from his memoirs covering Stalin's Russia to Hitler's Germany.

In November, Richard Henshaw, retired Professor of Biblical Studies, Colgate Rochester Theological Seminary, will give us a talk about religions associated with sex and goddesses in the ancient Near East.

Vince Lenti will be the speaker at the Society's traditional December holiday party. The topic for his talk will be his lifelong fascination with Frank Baum's Wizard of Oz books.

All meetings are open to the public and are usually held on the second Wednesdays of September through May in the Community Room at the Barnes & Noble bookstore in Pittsford Plaza, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Occasional field trips are enjoyed throughout the bibliophilic season, as announced in the monthly mailing and through local news media.

For additional information, contact Ray Edinger by phone at 585 663-1339 or e-mail at redinger@rochester.rr.com.

THE ROWFANT CLUB



AS OF THIS WRITING co-chairman Al Sogg and I are still working out the details and scheduling issues for our next season. However, it does promise to be one of our most exciting with speakers ranging in topics and interests from paper making to calligraphy, from literature to history to collecting and publishing. We will have several speakers this next season from outside the United States who will present to us on some of the oldest and most illustrious libraries in the western world. We will also have several speakers on some of the greatest writers in history including William Shakespeare, Homer, Dante, and Dickens. We will also host two special speakers, as we do every year, who will honor and memorialize two of our departed members. One of these is the Jack Lang Memorial talk on manuscripts and the other honors Maximilian "Maxl" Bloch with a speaker on "classics:" archeology, Greek and Roman literature, history and language. We also will have two black tie, members only talks this year, as always, the opening event and the closing. This coming season will be, as have all of our Wednesday evening events, dedicated, as is The Rowfant Club itself, to The Book, in all its aspects. To that end, and as often is the case, we will have at least one speaker come to discuss the future of the book as well. Many predict that the book as we have

known it for centuries is doomed and that the future lies within the flat screen world which more and more of us inhabit. Perhaps so, but not yet, so let us linger awhile. The book at The Rowfant Club, however, remains our cause, our delight, our topic, and our passion. Our upcoming season is dedicated to all of that and more.

For more information contact George A. Weimer, IV at weimer4@yahoo.com.

SACRAMENTO BOOK COLLECTORS CLUB



OUR CLUB meets the second Friday of each month except July and August. FABS members are encouraged to join us for our free programs.

Our January meeting is our traditional "Show and Share Meeting." This format allows members to "show" samples of their collections and the printers of the Club to "share" samples of work from their presses by donating keepsakes to those in attendance. A special thanks to Bob Dickover, Vincent Lozito, and John Ohlson for contributing keepsakes.

The most imaginative presentation was by Lois Schumaker who presented items from her "Literary" Cookbook Collection. To be included an item needs a literary quote and at least one real recipe. It was called to our attention that the Madeleines being served were inspired by Marcel Proust's "... Ode to the Madeleines of his youth." Those who generously displayed their collections were Bob Dickover, Carmela Ruby, John Ohlson, John Zil, Burt Thompson, Vincent Lozito, and Gary Kurutz.

We were honored to have Susan Hildreth, State Librarian of California, as our February Annual Meeting speaker. Speaking before a sell out crowd at the Dante Club, Ms. Hildreth entertained us with her stories of being a librarian in pre-library card days in Benecia and of the difficulties overcome while working as a Librarian in San Francisco. Whether it was dealing with boa constrictors used as personal adornment or the media looking for a story, she handled it with aplomb and grace. We are very fortunate to have her as the State Librarian and a member of our Club.

Our March Meeting featured Jo Ann Levy. We had the distinct honor of meeting in the new Library and Courts Building at 900 N Street in downtown Sacramento. The floor design was by SBCC Honorary Club Member and book artist Joseph

D'Ambrosio. If you are ever in Sacramento you must visit this repository of archival papers pertaining to the State of California. This institution is in the capable hands of Honorary Member and past-President Gary Kurutz. The building served as a wonderful backdrop for a very elegant author, Jo Ann Levy. She is famous for her work in women's studies and has written many articles and books on the contribution of women to our state prior to and during the Gold Rush: *For California Gold, They Saw the Elephant, Women in the California Gold Rush* and her latest book, *Unsettling the West, Eliza Farnham and Georgiane Bruce Kirby in Frontier California*.

John Poswall was our guest speaker for April. He is a well known attorney and author in Sacramento. He has written two highly acclaimed books *The Lawyers Class of '69* and *Altar Boys*. His work as a barrister, whose cases and causes have reached national recognition, uses his experience to write popular murder mysteries.

"Tales of the Rails" was our subject for May. Paul Trimble, author of many railroading books, spoke to us on the Sacramento Northern Electric Railway. Mr Trimble came dressed as a Conductor with an authentic conductor's cloth cap. What made his presentation fascinating was old 16mm color footage of the SNER as it traveled through Sacramento in the late 1930s. His dress, knowledge, composure, eloquence, and his book collection attracted a large audience.

Our June Culinary meeting (aka Potluck) was a success again thanks to Darrell Corti of Corti Brothers, 5810 Folsom Boulevard in Sacramento and Roxanne O'Brien of American River College's Culinary Arts Program. Darrell's talk was on drink menus and small party menus. He has a large collection of restaurant drink and dinner menus. Most were fine press menus with some very elaborate, similar to illuminated manuscripts. It was interesting to see the different prices and looking to see which wineries were still in business. Survivors included Wente, Concannon, Italian Swiss Colony, and Louis Martini.

Darrell was presented by the Club with an early drink menu from the (in)famous Old Poodle Dog of downtown San Francisco. Among the benefactors of the collection will be the University of California Davis, Shields Collection.

Lastly, Lois Schumaker, our website majo-domo, has added pictures from the FABS in Seattle Book Tour May 10-13, 2006. Word is the Book Club of Washington did an exceptional job and is worthy of praise! See

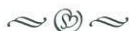
www.sacramentobookcollectors.org for a look!

The purpose of the Sacramento Book Collectors Club is to promote the printed word and to publish from time to time such books, pamphlets that reflect Club interests as determined and selected by a consensus of the membership.

The Sacramento Book Collectors Club meets at 7 p.m. the second Friday of each month except for July and August. We welcome and encourage fellow members of FABS to attend our free programs.

For additional information please contact Carl Burke at sbclub@gmail.com, or visit our website www.sacramentobookcollectors.org or call 916 747-8781

THE TICKNOR SOCIETY



THE TICKNOR SOCIETY is an organization of book collectors, booksellers, librarians, historians, archivists, conservators, printers, publishers, writers, and all lovers and readers of books. We are dedicated to the enjoyment, promotion, and support of books and book culture. We gather approximately six times a year to

socialize with friends and colleagues, listen to and present papers, share information and research, take workshops, and spread good cheer. Programs include lectures, collectors' roundtables, visits to exhibitions and private collections, behind-the-scenes tours of area libraries, and work-shops. There is an annual meeting with a featured speaker.

Membership is open to anyone who loves and appreciates books; annual dues are \$20 per individual. For more information, visit us online at www.ticknor.org or contact us at baileykar@gmail.com or 617-495-2509.

EVENTS

"Benjamin Franklin: Printed Corrections and Erasable Writing," Wednesday, September 20, 5:30 pm, Houghton Library, Harvard University: The evening includes a lecture by Peter Stallybrass, Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania, followed by a reception. The Houghton Library exhibition, "Benjamin Franklin: A How-To Guide," will be on view before the program.

"Inside the Redwood Library and Athenaeum," Saturday, October 14, Redwood Library, Newport, RI: Join us for a day trip featuring a guided tour of the Redwood

Library and Athenaeum, the oldest continuously circulating library in America.

"Collectors' Roundtable," November 17-19, Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair, Hynes Convention Center: Ticknor Society annual tradition at the book fair continues with the Ticknor Society information booth on Cultural Row and the very popular Collectors' Roundtable, featuring several collectors who will share their experiences in the process, as well as the passion, of rare book collecting.

"John Adams Unbound," December, Boston Public Library: Join us for a curator's tour of a major exhibition of the personal library of John Adams, which is held at the Boston Public Library.

BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON



THE BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON is back in the swing of things with several activities planned for members and guests this fall. Starting off the year will be a tour of the Dead Sea Scrolls at Pacific Science Center on Thursday, September 28th. Members will be treated to a tour of

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BACKGROUND: Autograph letter signed from Thomas Jefferson, U.S. Minister to France, to Thomas Lee Shippen dated March 11, 1789, from Paris.

the rare biblical fragments as part of a limited national tour. This is limited to members only due to the few tickets available.

On the contrary, our next activity is open to all and we welcome book loving guests from around the country. The Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair will be held at the Seattle Center from October 13-15th. The Book Club of Washington will be hosting its annual dinner in honor of the Fair on Friday the 13th (no, we are not superstitious!) at McCormick and Schmick's Harborside restaurant. Featured speaker will be Nicholas Basbanes, renowned writer on book collecting. We are expecting a sellout crowd for this event and welcome all who wish to hear Mr. Basbanes and to enjoy the Antiquarian Book Fair. Please contact Anne Repass at annerepass@aol.com to make your reservations.

Later that month, book club members are treated to a tour of the private collection on Egyptology by member Dr. Ben Harer. This is also limited to club members.

Finally, we celebrate the Holiday Season with our annual Holiday Dinner and Auction held this year at the University of Washington Club on campus on December 14th. Again we welcome all members and guests who are in the area. Auction donations are particularly welcome.

FABS members who are planning to visit the area during any of our events are welcome to join us. Contact Anne Repass at 206 213-0660 or annerepass@aol.com, for reservations and directions.

WASHINGTON RARE BOOK GROUP



THE WASHINGTON RARE BOOK GROUP had a year of wonderful events from Fall 2005 through May 2006, kicking things off with a September Social at the Smithsonian Institution Libraries.

SIL's Cullman Library of Natural History welcomed members and friends to a display of Recent Gifts and Purchases. The highlight was the Russell E. Train Africana Collection, a magnificent assemblage of books, manuscripts, newspapers, photographs, and original art documenting the history of African exploration from the 18th through the 20th centuries.

In October the Group visited the research library at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, and received in addition a tour of the "Masonic Temple," all the way up to the top-most observation deck with its marvelous

views across the Potomac River to Washington, D.C.

November took us to the National Gallery of Art for a tour of the exhibition "Origins of European printmaking: Fifteenth-century woodcuts and their public" led by Curator Peter Parshall, followed by lunch in the Gallery's Garden Café.

In January the Library of Congress hosted our winter lunch, with guest speaker and WRBG member Joshua Heller giving an illustrated talk on the art of the book. Since 1985 Joshua and Phyllis Heller have established themselves as premier dealers in contemporary fine printing and beautifully illustrated books, the Private Press Movement, modern fine bindings, and books about books. Mr. Heller shared his scholarly as well as artistic appreciation of the book arts with a fascinated audience.

Continuing the book-arts theme, in March the Group visited the library and research center at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, where Library Director Sharon Wasserman displayed and discussed book-cover art by women and bookplates from the Maria Messenger Collection.

On a Saturday in April we traveled to the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore for a tour of the exhibition "Interpretation by design: Contemporary bookbinding by Stanley M. Sherman." Mr. Sherman and his wife Claire Sherman, who curated the exhibition, gave the Group an informal tour of the stunning bindings on show, followed by a look at historic bindings in the Walters's collections under the auspices of Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books Will Noel.

The event-year ended in May with our traditional lunch and Annual Meeting at the Officers' Club at Ft. McNair on the Washington waterfront. Member Dr. Ronald Smeltzer gave an illustrated talk on "Four centuries of graphic design for science," an exhibition of selections from his personal collection mounted at the Grolier Club in New York in the winter of 2004-2005, to a large and appreciative audience.

The Group's planning committee is lining up a great series of events for the coming year and most especially is looking forward to hosting the FABS Book Tour and Symposium next October!

THE ZAMORANO CLUB



THE ZAMORANO CLUB meets on the first Wednesday of October through June at the University Club of Pasadena.

The joint meeting of the Zamorano and Roxburghe Clubs will be in San Diego

September 15-17, 2006. Lynda Corey Claassen, Head of Special Collections at UCSD is Chair, and her Co-Chair is Connie Vinita Dowell, Dean of the Library at San Diego State University.

Acting on the suggestion of Thomas F. Andrews, now the Head of Special Collections at Azusa Pacific University, Zamorano President, Judy Harvey Sahak, has appointed Larry E. Burgess, Director of The Smiley Library in Redlands, California, chair of a committee to undertake a companion volume to the Zamorano Eighty, which was published in 1945.

All who have been involved in such projects know how difficult such an undertaking is, and no time table has been set, but Zamorano's 80th Anniversary is in 2008.

Michael Gallucci is our Vice President, with Hugh Tolford, Treasurer, and Doyce Nunis, Secretary. Huntington Library's, Laura Stalker, continues as Program Chair. Andre M.V. Chavez, MD, and William J. Warren, are newly elected Governors. Zamorano regrets that the press of outside activities did not allow Charles A. Goldsmid to continue as a Governor.

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATES



LES AMIS DU LIVRE CONTEMPORAIN

IN 2005, the Board of Trustees of Les Amis Du Livre Contemporain (ALC) met in Paris twice and once in Geneva, Switzerland, admitted 15 new members to bring total membership to 170, selected Francois Cheng of the Academie Francaise to write a new book, and published "Que nos instants solent d'accueil." In January 2006, ALC held its general meeting at the Guimet Museum in Paris, received reports from the Chairman and Treasurer, and heard a lecture by Francois Cheng.

ASSOCIACIO DE BIBLIOFILS DE BARCELONA

IN 2005, the Association held ten meetings of its Board of Directors, was one of the sponsors of "The Book and Reading Year," at which over 1,900 activities relating to the book took place, and attended presentations of books relating to the foregoing Exhibition; promoted an Exhibition of the books of Catalan artists at the Catalonia Museum of History; organized and made visits to special Libraries in Barcelona; visited the historic Archives of the Ebro River Lands; participated in the television pro-

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gram "Reading Room;" participated in the VIII International Antiquarian Book Fair in Barcelona; visited an exhibition on Book-Binding at the Library of Catalonia; attended a conference on "Piero de la Francesca and de Arezzo's Cycle;" attended the exhibition "Ismael Smith Revindicated" at the Palau Foundation and the exhibition on "Don Quixote: A Paper Hero, The Hero's Paper;" participated in the inauguration of exhibitions on Cervantes and on Private Collections/Singular Books; participated in the presentation of the book *Little History of The Physicians Saint Cosme and Saint Damian* (written by an Association member); and visited the exhibition on "Classics and More: Barcino Publishing House and

Mr. Josep Maria Casacuberta" at the Catalan Museum of History.

THE SOCIETY OF BIBLIOPHILES IN CAPETOWN

IN the period April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006, the Society held its 2005 Annual Meeting (on April 2) and heard a talk on Don Quixote, and its 2006 Annual Meeting (on March 31) and heard a talk on the Books and Manuscripts of Ethiopia. The Society also held seven additional meetings that included a Bibliophilia Africana No. 8 conference with the title "Papyrus to Print-out: The Book in Africa" visits to the Archives of the Dutch East India Company; to the Afrikaans Language Museum in

Paarl; to Genadendal, site of the oldest mission station in South Africa; to the home and extensive library of Society-member Angel Tordesillas, who gave a talk on Erotica accompanied by illustrations from his collection; and to the Rare Books and Special Selections section of the Jagger Library at the University of Cape Town, where members heard talks on and discussed Censorship; and a reception in honor of the Society's founder, J.S.F. (Frikkie) Botha and his wife Monica. In addition, the Society produced three issues of its journal "Philobiblon," one issue of which was devoted to the diplomatic career and the lifetime of bibliomania of Frikkie Botha.

The Guild of Book Workers' Centenary Exhibition

SEPTEMBER 20 – NOVEMBER 25, 2006

THE GROLIER CLUB will have the "Guild of Book Workers' Centenary Exhibition" on display in their exhibition space in New York beginning September 20. The Guild was founded in America in 1906 to "establish and maintain a feeling of kinship and mutual interest among workers in the several hand book crafts." Among its early members were such well-known artist-craftsman workers as bookbinder Edith Diehl and printers and typographers W. A. Dwiggins and Frederic W. Goudy.

The exhibition, consisting of both a juried selection drawn from the Guild's approximately one thousand members, and an historical retrospective of work produced by the Guild, will reflect the maturation of this venerable organization and highlight its many contributions to the book arts. From a small group originally based in New York, the Guild has now evolved into a national organization whose members' activities encompass artist's books, bookbinding, calligraphy, conservation, and decorated papers. As it marks its centenary, the work produced by Guild members has evolved from being primarily focused on the art of traditional "fine" binding in leather with ornate gold tooling to more conceptual works embracing the artists' book

movement, embracing sculptural books and innovative structures.

The Centenary exhibition consists of two parts. The Retrospective of work by notable Guild members from the group's inception to the present was curated by bookbinder/conservator Peter Verheyen, and the traveling exhibition of contemporary work was juried by book artists Karen Hanmer, Richard Minsky, and Don Rash.

The retrospective portion of the exhibition showcases the rich diversity of backgrounds, talents, and interests that has been a hallmark of the Guild membership. Shown among the works are Richard Minsky's controversial *Birds of North America* and the *ur-flagbook*, as well as *April Diary*, by Hedi Kyle. Other works highlight the English, French, and German traditions of bookbinding as represented by Don Etherington, Deborah Evetts, Monique Lallier, Louise Genest, Fritz Eberhardt, and Arno Werner, who among many others contributed much to the North American tradition of binding through their teaching and work. Also represented are the creative works of conservators, calligraphers, and decorative paper makers, many of whom are skilled in a number of aspects of the book arts.

The juried traveling exhibition will

highlight recent works by many of the bookbinders and artists who make up the membership of the Guild.

Entries range from traditional bindings and historic structures, to pop-ups and other playful book forms, to purely sculptural works. Leather bindings stand alongside works fashioned from aluminum or PVC. Text and imagery are produced by numerous printmaking methods, calligraphy, photography and digital output. The wide variety of content is another reflection of the diverse interests of Guild members, encompassing classic texts, political viewpoints, personal histories, and, above all, the sensory experience of reading a book.

The Guild of Book Workers Centenary Exhibition will be on view at The Grolier Club from September 20 November 25, 2006, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and open to the public free of charge.

A full color-illustrated catalogue is available at The Grolier Club, or on-line from the Guild of Book Workers' website at palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/, or from the Guild of Book Workers, 521 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10175-0038. An electronic version of the complete exhibition will also be online at the Guild of Book Workers' website, accompanied by a catalogue order form.

Technology Rewrites the Book

THE PRINT-ON-DEMAND BUSINESS

THE PRINT-ON-DEMAND BUSINESS is gradually moving towards the center of the marketplace. What began as a way for publishers to reduce their inventory and stop wasting paper is becoming a tool for anyone who needs a bound document. Short-run presses turn out books economically in small quantities or singly, and new software simplifies the process of designing a book.

As the technology becomes simpler, the market is expanding beyond the earliest adopters, the aspiring authors. The first companies like AuthorHouse, Xlibris, iUniverse, and others pushed themselves as new models of publishing, with an eye on shaking up the dusty book business.

These newer ventures also produce bound books, but they do not offer the same hand-holding or the same drive for the best-seller list. Blurb's product will appeal to people searching for a publish-

er, but its business is aimed at anyone who needs a professional-looking book.

Blurb.com's design software, which is still in beta testing, comes with a number of templates for different genres like cookbooks, photo collections, and poetry books. Once one is chosen, it automatically lays out the page and lets the designer fill in the photographs and text by cutting and pasting.

The software is markedly easier to use – although less capable – than InDesign from Adobe or Quark XPress, professional publishing packages that cost around \$700. It is also free because Blurb expects to make money from printing the book. Prices start at \$29.95 for books of 1 to 40 pages. As more companies enter the market, they are searching for niches. Some companies continue to produce black-and-white books. Lulu.com is a combination printer and order-fulfillment house

that prints both color and black-and-white books, takes orders for them and places them with bookstores.

Lulu works from a PDF file, an approach that forces users to rely on basic word processors or professional design packages. If this is too complex, Lulu does offer a special design package that will create a book's cover from an image and handle the specialized calculations that compute the size of the spine from the number of pages and the weight of the paper. These packages are adding features that stretch the concept of a book, in some cases undermining the permanent, fixed nature that has been a part of the book's appeal.

A 6 x 9 inch softcover book with 150 black-and-white pages from Lulu would cost \$7.53 per single copy.

PETER WAYNER

Excerpts from the *New York Times*, July 20, 2006

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