

THE FELLOWSHIP OF *American* Bibliophilic Societies

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Rhode Island Redux 🍷 The John Quinn Auction 🍷 Parkinson's *Earthly Paradise*
Victor Hammer 🍷 Club News & Notes 🍷 The Collector's Bin

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From the Chair

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF THE BOOK?

WE ALL KNOW THAT we're on the brink of something new in terms of books and paper. But no one knows exactly what it is. Articles, books, and newspaper items continually issue numerous comments on this subject, creating a minor industry.

At one time, thoughts went straight from a writer's brain onto paper. Today, thoughts are dropped into an electronic limbo. Words float on screens.

Personal correspondence moves from computer to computer without ever achieving substance. Novels go through draft after draft without ever touching air. Authors leave no trace of corrections, or emendations and other tracks of frustration and creativity.

A handwritten manuscript page is an intimate encounter. You fleetingly occupy the mind of the author as you see him or her having second or third thoughts on the way to the final version. They make corrections . . . they make changes. And,

handwriting itself tells us a great deal about an author and his subconscious. You can look at the neat, brisk handwriting of Charles Dickens or—say—the sprawling scribble of a Thomas Wolfe and get a powerful sense of each man's very different personality.

Today's books are generated with no less effort than the masterpieces of the past. But they have a smaller material footprint. The finished book is there but the creative process and the artifacts that comprised the finished product have disappeared in the hard drive. Word processing has stranded these pages in history. So many of the millions of books being published today have no originals. We have allowed our literary currency to "FLOAT."

As Walter Benjamin observes: "The presence of the original is the prerequisite to the concept of Authenticity." So what happens when there is no original? What does this mean to the future of col-

lecting and to special collections? Provenance is the gold standard of what we do.

Computers are deceptive. They're hard things that you wouldn't want to drop on your big toe. Piled like bricks on our desk, they give the illusion of permanence. But so far, they have given every evidence of being the least reliable, least permanent, and most ephemeral media ever used for data storage.

An epic poem stored in the memory of an ancient bard had more chance of passing to the next generation, than a modern manuscript stored on a CD-ROM.

No one knows what the future is for books, certainly not this generation and maybe not the next, but, at least, children's books and the book arts should survive; and FABS will continue as long as books are published, read, and collected.

ROBERT H. JACKSON
Chair

FABS in Minneapolis & St. Paul, May 13-16, 2009

WITH THIS ISSUE of the *FABS Newsletter* THE AMPERSAND CLUB of Minneapolis and St. Paul officially invites all of you to come to the Twin Cities in May of next year. We will have no limits on registration, and we hope as many of you who can come, will. The more the merrier is our mantra. The registration form appears on page 5.

Our schedule is now virtually fixed, and while there may still be some subtle changes, the program will look something like this:

For early arrivals on **Wednesday, May 13:** Beginning at 1:30 we will tour the Walker Art Center & Sculpture Garden (www.walkerart.org), and/or tour the Bakken Library & Museum of Electricity & Life (www.thebakken.org). For those here and registered by 1:30, both tours will be available. Those coming later on will tour the Bakken only, if desired. That evening there will be a welcoming cocktail reception at our hotel (The Grand

Hotel – see the registration form on page 5), together with a mini-bookfair mounted by local booksellers. Dinner on Wednesday will be on your own.

Thursday, May 14: We begin our first full day of activities at the University of Minnesota Libraries, with visits to:

Special Collections
(www.special.lib.umn.edu),
The James Ford Bell Library
(www.bell.lib.umn.edu),
and

The Wangenstein Historical Library
of Biology & Medicine
(www.biomed.lib.umn.edu).

At the end of the morning we will board busses for a ride to St. Paul where we will have lunch at the Minnesota Historical Society (www.mnhs.org), and afterwards tour their library and collections. After the Historical Society we will take a short ride to the home of Rob Rulon-Miller and Rulon-Miller Books (www.rulon.com) for an afternoon reception, after which we will visit, in

groups, two or three private collections in St. Paul. Dinner on Thursday will be at the Minneapolis Club, and our speaker will be the explorer, writer, film-maker, & book collector, Ken Storm, Jr. (Don't try to Google him. He's made a point of staying way under the radar.)

Friday, May 15: For two-thirds of the day our group will split in two, one traveling north to Saint John's University to visit the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (www.hmml.org) showing early manuscripts and printed books, and to see the Saint John's Bible, the first manuscript Bible to be produced in over 400 years, created under the artistic direction of Donald Jackson (www.saintjohnsbible.org). After lunch on the campus, this group will return to the Twin Cities. The second group will travel south to Northfield where we will visit the fine collection of books in original boards at the home of Barbara and Jonathan Hill, after which we will visit the Kierkegaard Library at St. Olaf's College (www.st

olaf.edu/collections/kierkegaard). Lunch will be served at St. Olaf's.

The two groups will meet up again mid afternoon in downtown Minneapolis at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts (www.mnbookarts.org) for a tour and demonstrations of printing, papermaking, and other book arts. Dinner on Friday will be on your own.

Saturday, May 16: FABS Symposium on bookbinding: "Judging a Book by its Cover." The symposium will be held in the new Central Library in downtown Minneapolis designed by Cesar Pelli (www.mpls.lib.mn.us/central.asp).

The Symposium will consist of two sections:

1. Traditional Bookbinding will be moderated by Maria Fredericks, the Drue Heinz Book Conservator at The Pierpont Morgan Library in New York City.

2. Dust Jackets, which will be moderated by Tom Congalton, bookseller and owner of Between the Covers Rare Books (www.betweenthecovers.com) from New Jersey.

Lunch on Saturday will be at a local pub (an Ampersand favorite). The afternoon will be spent visiting several book artists' studios in downtown Minneapolis, including the Campbell-Logan Bindery (www.campbell-logan.com), and the personal collection of Greg Campbell; and the studios of Wilbur Schilling (www.indulgencepress.com), and Harriet Bart (www.harrietbart.com).

Our speaker at the farewell dinner on Saturday will be the printer and wood engraver Gaylord Schanilec, the first ever back-to-back winner of the prestigious Carl Hertzog Award and the Gregynog Prize for his books *Mayflies* and *Sylvae*

respectively, produced by Midnight Paper Sales (www.midnightpapersales.com).

Sunday, May 17: Mid-morning brunch will be available for those who are lingering. A special tour may be arranged to visit Gaylord Schanilec's print shop if there is enough interest. A late departure on Sunday will be necessary to do this.

The Grand Hotel. A block of rooms has been set aside at the Grand Hotel in Minneapolis at a rate of \$237 (all taxes included). The Grand Hotel will serve as our home base. For a sneak peek, the Grand Hotel website is www.grandhotelminneapolis.com. A list of other nearby hotels will be made available.

Answers to questions and spotty information may be had from:

Rob Rulon-Miller, Rulon-Miller Books, ruelon@ruelon.com, 651 290-0700.

Rhode Island Redux

DESPITE SHOWERS and cooler than normal temperatures, Club members from a dozen clubs were treated to an extraordinary bookish adventure in Newport and elsewhere in the "smallest of the 48." Superb planning and skillful execution by a coterie of John Russell Bartlett Society members insured that nothing was left to chance.

Participation was capped at 45 in deference to Newport's narrow streets and the cramped space in some of our venues. Headquarters, the Viking Hotel, a National Historic Landmark, was first class in accommodations, food, public spaces, personal services and, lamentably, cost. Actually, our full schedule left precious little time to enjoy the hotel's amenities.

Don Magee was the trip's architect. Don, his wife Molly, and Lisa Long, co-chaired the Study Tour Committee, ably assisted by Sarina Wyant, Russ DeSimone and Phil Weimerskirch, among others. They were indefatigable in their efforts to load and unload buses, connect with far flung venues on time, account for the occasional lost wanderer, act as tour guides around Newport and spout founts of local lore. And they did it all with smiling faces.

Wednesday noon arrivals (most of us) crossed Mt. Hope Bay to New Bedford.

First stop was the Whaling Research Library whose treasures were displayed by Director Michael Dyer. Then a short walk to the famed Whaling Museum with its awesome sperm whale skeleton, half size model of a whaler, scrimshaw and whaling memorabilia. That evening, at the Redwood Library and Athenaeum, the group enjoyed an opening reception and Mini Book Fair that included local rare book sellers.

Our destination Thursday morning was across Narragansett Bay to the University of Rhode Island at Kingston. Special Collections Librarian Sarina Wyant (only eight years on the job she told us) offered a delightful summary of URI's riches and permitted tour members to examine and hold the items on display. Some of us created a keepsake by pulling the bar on the library's antique Washington hand press. Then back to Newport for a sparkling afternoon at the oldest private lending library in the United States, the Redwood Library and Athenaeum.

To those who might ask: "Why 'redwood' in the 'Ocean State'?" the answer is that it was Abraham Redwood (1709-1768), a wealthy Quaker merchant, who donated funds for the initial purchase of books in 1747. The building was opened for patrons in 1750 and has been in busi-

ness ever since. Today, its circulating collection exceeds 200,000 volumes.

That night, courtesy of Campbell James, we enjoyed cocktails and dinner at the Clambake Club with its sweeping view of the Atlantic Ocean. Dinner was followed by an illustrated lecture on the Dorr War by Russ DeSimone.

Friday was spent ogling the bibliophilic riches of Providence. The first stop was the John Carter Brown Library (on the Brown University campus but a separate institution). Everything relating to the Americas, pre-Columbian to the early 19th century, is the JCB's mission, as described by curator of South American material, Ken Ward. At Brown's John Hay Library, our genial tour guide was Samuel Streit, special collections librarian, who led us through the fabulous Anne S. K. Brown Military Equipment collection. Later, our own Lubna Culbert, a native Palestinian, translated a piece of Arabic ephemera that happened to be on display, with an interesting message that the library had not catalogued.

After lunch at the Brown Faculty Club, we visited the Providence Athenaeum, another of the 17 remaining private lending libraries in the U. S. Founded in 1753, it now has several hundred thousand books in its lending collection. It has a

The Ampersand Club of Minneapolis & St. Paul invite you to the
FABS BOOK TOUR & SYMPOSIUM

May 13-16, 2009



Wednesday, May 13

AFTERNOON: Bus to Walker Art Center for tour of Library & Sculpture Garden, thence to the Bakken Museum & Library of Electricity & Life. 🍷 Evening reception & mini-bookfair at The Grand Hotel.

Thursday, May 14

MORNING: Tour three University of Minnesota libraries: the James Ford Bell Library, the Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology & Medicine, & the Elmer L. Andersen Library special collections unit. Lunch at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul. 🍷 **AFTERNOON:** Tour the MHC collections. Reception at the home of Rob Rulon-Miller & thence to view select private collections in St. Paul. 🍷 Dinner at the Minneapolis Club, with lecture by collector & explorer Ken Storm, Jr.

Friday, May 15

MORNING: Group will split up: one bus travels north to Collegeville to see the St. John's University Bible & tour the Special Collections Library; the other travels south to Northfield to tour the personal library & gardens of Jonathan & Barbara Hill & thence to St. Olaf & the Kierkegaard Library. Lunch at St. John's & St. Olaf's respectively. 🍷 **AFTERNOON:** Gather at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts for coffee & a tour with demonstrations. 🍷 Dinner on your own. Many fine restaurants are within walking distance of the hotel.

Saturday, May 16

MORNING: Gather at the new Pelli-designed Minneapolis Public Library for the FABS Annual Symposium, "Judging a Book by its Cover," featuring panel discussions on traditional bookbinding & dust-jackets led by Maria Fredericks and Tom Congalton. Lunch at a local pub. 🍷 **AFTERNOON:** Tours of Campbell-Logan Bindery & Greg Campbell's personal collection, & the studios of book artists Harriet Bart & Wilbur Schilling. 🍷 Closing banquet at the U of M's Campus Club, featuring dinner lecture by printer Gaylord Schanilec, winner of the Gregynog Prize & the Carl Hertzog Award for his two most recent books, *Mayflies* and *Sylvæ*.

Registration: The cost is \$625.00 per person & includes all the above activities, meals, transportation, & entry fees. Registration will close on March 1, 2009. Registrations cancelled after March 21, 2009 cannot be refunded in full. Communications by e-mail or telephone should be directed to Rob Rulon-Miller, rulon@rulon.com or 651 290-0700.

Please reserve _____ place(s) for Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

On May 16, I would like to visit (choose one) ____ Collegeville/St. John's University ____ Northfield/St. Olaf College

FABS Club affiliation: _____ Collecting interests: _____

I enclose a check for a total of \$ _____ payable to the Ampersand Club. Send registration & check to Rob Rulon-Miller, 400 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55102.

Tour headquarters: The Grand Hotel, 615 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55402. Twenty-four rooms for FABS attendees will be held until April 30, 2009, at a special discount rate of \$209 per night, plus taxes, for single or double occupancy. Please make your own reservations at the Grand Hotel by calling 866-THE GRAND or online at www.grandhotelminneapolis.com. Refer to the FABS rate when reserving.

substantial rare books library, non-circulating of course, presided over by Kate Wodehouse.

En route back to Newport we were entertained at the Barrington home of Dr. Phillip and Mrs. Niamh Maddock. Some time ago they redesigned their ample house to display his remarkable collection of Irish books and Niamh's skill as a landscape gardener. Surrounded by lush plantings and bluestone walks, the lawn would not have yielded a weed to a prospector crawling on his knees. The Maddocks, and their lovely daughter Lucy, regaled us with a spread of cakes and fruits. Dr. Maddock, the current president of Boston's Club of Odd Volumes, one of the eight founding clubs of FABS, gave us free reign to view and hold his books, not the least of which is one of five vellum copies of Daniel Berkeley Updike's chef d'oeuvre, the 1928 *The Book of Common Prayer*. With a bindery in the basement and books so accessible and tastefully displayed, our visit to the Maddocks was a highlight of the Newport biblioventure, at least for this participant.

The Redwood Athenaeum was the Saturday morning venue for the annual

Symposium, enlivened by a welcome change in the weather to full summer and the Redwood's elegant lecture hall. Each of the four speakers, Prof. John Hattendorf, Alice H.R.H. Beckwith, Nicholas Basbanes and Georgia Barnhill developed an individual theme, unlike previous Symposiums which have focused on a single topic.

Lunch at the Newport branch of the storied New York Yacht Club, arranged by past Commodore Harry Anderson, prepared us for our Saturday afternoon visits to private collections. Three were within walking distance, two required bussing. This writer visited the walking distance trio:

Col. Ted Gatchel, USMC retired, lives in a 1710 home. His reference library of WWI and II amphibious landings by US Marines brought back a bygone era for some of us.

Campbell James' house was built in Kingston, in 1708 and moved to Newport by Doris Duke, along with a number of other 18th century houses. A six panel map of the world, ceiling high, fills one entire wall. It was produced by the Jesuits in Japan from one drawn around 1602 by

Matteo Ricci, S.J. an Italian mathematician and cartographer who, as a missionary, spent his entire adult life in China.

The meticulously restored 1720-1750 home of Nicholas Sheetz contains his dazzling collection of 19th and 20th century press and art books, many of them association copies. Nick spoke easily and authoritatively about his collection. His black tulip: Fitzgerald's *Rubaiyat*. London, Quaritch, 1859. One of 250 copies in wrappers.

The two private libraries on the bus tour included the Slocum family house with its extensive multi-generational library including a first edition of Samuel Johnson's *Dictionary*. The group was welcomed at the home of George and Nannette Herrick to view their collection of Christmas and Commonplace books, Newport books, social club books, and their magnificent collection of bookplates.

After four days of bibliophilic triumphs and meticulously scheduled events, the final banquet was held at the Naval Officer's Club at the Naval War College.

GEORGE CHAPMAN SINGER
The Grolier Club

The Devil's Artisan



A Journal of the Printing Arts

The latest issue (62) is guest-edited by Martha Fleming and features an appreciation of the design work of her father Allan Fleming (1929-1977). Contributors include librarian Devin Crawley, designer Robert Tombs and publisher Andrew Steeves.

The Rogue of the moment is typographer Carl Dair, author of *Design with Type*.

A year's subscription (two numbers) costs just \$28 us.

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www.sentex.net/~pqj/DA.html

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GREAT AUCTIONS OF THE PAST

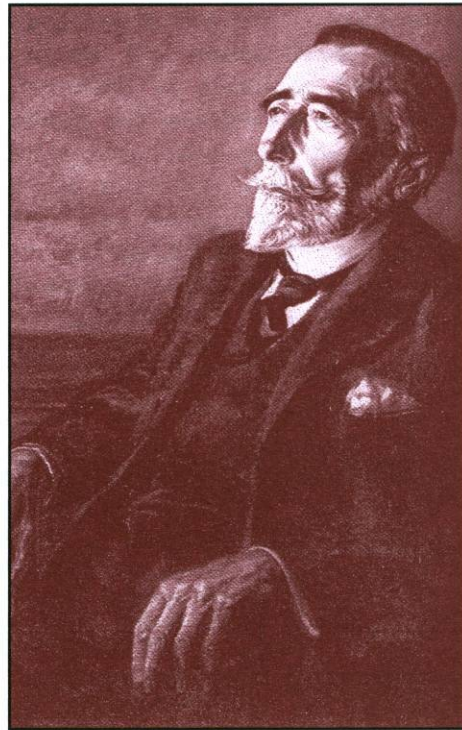
The John Quinn Auction

~ PART TWO ~

JOHN QUINN, art and book collector, died much too young: his greatest collecting years would have been ahead of him. As noted in the winter *FABS Newsletter* (2008), Quinn, an Ohio native of humble Irish-American stock, rose to become a vigorous and successful New York attorney. Quinn was a patron of the arts who promoted the famous 1913 Armory Show (officially the International Exhibition of Modern Art), which introduced modern and avant garde art to the American public. In the area of literature and book collecting, Quinn was an ardent supporter, in a very tangible way, of modernist writers such as Ezra Pound and T. S. Eliot and took a personal role in the promotion of Irish writers, particularly William Butler Yeats and James Joyce. Quinn organized Yeats' first American book tour (1914) and provided legal counsel to Joyce, in addition to Eliot and Pound, over censorship issues in America (1919). Quinn died of cancer at the age of fifty-four in 1924.

Quinn was, arguably, the greatest collector ever of modern editions, a collecting area that, again arguably, remains the most popular collecting area of contemporary bibliophiles. During the golden age of book collecting in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, however, the greatest collectors, such as Henry Huth, Robert Hoe, and Henry E. Huntington, were high spot collectors whose libraries, great as they were, were largely canonical and safe bets in terms of investment. For instance, Huth had his Caxtons and both Hoe and Huntington had Shakespeare's First Folio and Gutenberg Bibles, albeit Huntington acquired his Gutenberg at the Hoe Library auction. The strength of Quinn's library was based upon his profound literary taste and was developed through numerous friendships and patronage of individual writers. Indeed, it is difficult to isolate the personal Quinn from the professional collector as he himself noted in the introduction to the sale catalog: "I cannot go through or attempt to write about or to

tell what these books and manuscripts, which contain a world of beauty and romance or enshrine the records of friendships and of interests and enthusiasms, have meant to me, for they seem to me to be a part of myself, even though I may smile a little at my own feeling." The tragedy of his early death, then, must be reflected in what might have been in light of those first editions of great twentieth



JOSEPH CONRAD

century writers who would have been added to his collection and the support that Quinn would undoubtedly have given to those writers. Quinn's method of acquisition was, quite simply, to purchase new editions of writers he admired as their books came out. For instance, by the time of his death, Quinn had already acquired the three early publications of Robert Frost's poetry: *North of Boston* (London, 1914), *A Boy's Will* (London, 1913), *A Boy's Will* (New York, 1915), and *Mountain Interval* (New York, 1915). Had Quinn lived for another twenty years, and in accord with his own taste and predilections, he would have added mod-

ernist writers such as Ernest Hemingway and Virginia Woolf, modernist and Irish writers such as Samuel Beckett, and Catholic writers such as Graham Greene and Evelyn Waugh.

Rather than regret what might have been, however, it is better to examine what is undoubtedly the greatest strength of the John Quinn Library: his demonstrated acute insight in amassing great numbers of original manuscripts that today would be the envy of most research libraries. Among original manuscripts were those of Bliss Carman, "the Poet Laureate of Canada, and the special poet of nature, the *Open Road* and *Vagabondia* for all the world;" John Galsworthy, who "is well-balanced, with the poise and restraint of his class, but he has the imaginative insight of the artist and, good as most of his work has been, perhaps the best is still to come;" and George Moore, "purely a writer, not a propagandist [who] has no panaceas for social evils, no antidote for the obsessions of sex, no individual brand of Utopia."² Additional manuscripts and letters of such marginal authors (I jest, of course) as G. K. Chesterton, Henry James, and Robert Louis Stevenson, among many, were also part of the Quinn Library. But from a contemporary perspective, the most significant literary archives would be those of the great Irish writers, including James Joyce, John Millington Synge and William Butler Yeats, and the Polish expatriate, Joseph Conrad.

It would be the manuscript sales that would garner the greatest attention of the Quinn Library auction, which sold in five parts over five months: November 12 - 14 and December 10 - 12, 1923, and January 14 - 16, February 11 - 13, and March 17 - 19, 1924. The famous Anderson Galleries, under the leadership of the equally noted Mitchell Kennerley, conducted the sale. The *New York Times* announced the imminent sale of Joseph Conrad manuscripts in Part One of the Quinn sale with particular attention to Conrad's first novel, *Almayer's Folly*, "which contains

numerous corrections in the author's hand . . . Accompanying the manuscripts is its interesting chronological history, penned by Mr. Conrad himself." (November 4, 1923, pg. E16) *Almayer's Folly* sold for \$5,300 (\$67,700).³

Of the more than three dozen other original Conrad manuscripts, three did better than *Almayer's Folly*: *Chance* for \$6,600 (\$84,455), *Under Western Eyes* for \$6,900 (\$88,295) and *Victory* for \$8,100 (\$103,650). A portion of the original *Lord Jim* manuscript sold for \$3,900 (\$49,905).⁴ In total, Quinn's Conrad collection – manuscripts, typescripts, books – sold for \$110,998 (\$1.42 million) of the total \$120,461 (\$1.54 million) of the first four sessions of the sale. Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, who would play a major role throughout the Quinn auction, indeed, throughout any major auction of the period, acquired the greatest number of Conrad manuscripts although Jerome Kern did acquire the most expensive, *Victory*.⁵

The Conrad values proved to be an anomaly of the Quinn sale as projected expectations faltered during the remain-

der of the auction. On the first evening of the third part of the sale, the original autograph manuscript of James Joyce's *Ulysses* came up for bid. Promoting the work as Joyce's "colossal tour-de-force," Mitchell Kennerley had accepted John Quinn's \$2,000 reserve on it. Quinn, in fact, put reserves on all ten of his Joyce manuscripts. "Quinn wrote Joyce on January 21 to tell him the story of the bidding for *Ulysses* on Monday evening, January 14. Three bidders followed the treasure to \$1,900, where one dropped out; A. S. W. Rosenbach bid \$1,925, the remaining competitor, \$1,950, then Rosenbach took it at \$1,975 (\$25,270)." In light of the underperformance of the auction, Quinn disappointedly accepted the recommendation to let *Ulysses* go for less than the reserve. By today's standards, Dr. Rosenbach's acquisition of the manuscript of *Ulysses*, arguably the greatest novel of all literature, is also, arguably, the greatest bibliophilic acquisition of all time. Dr. Rosenbach would retain this treasure for himself and it now is a cornerstone of the great Rosenbach Museum & Library.

In addition to the disappointing auction, John Quinn also incurred antipathy from some of the writers whom he had patronized and promoted over the years. Conrad was not ambiguous in expressing his sentiment that Quinn had exploited him for years, although Conrad had readily accepted substantial cash payments during his less famous and more penurious early career. In private letters, James Joyce, too, expressed anger at Quinn. Joyce wrote Quinn "in what sounds like a cold rage, not so much at Quinn as at what seemed to him the coarse treatment and low valuation to which this record of his genius was being subjected." Quinn, therefore, experienced the bitter repercussions that can occur from the mixing of art and business. Quinn would greatly regret these accusations for the few remaining months of his life: an undeserved infliction.

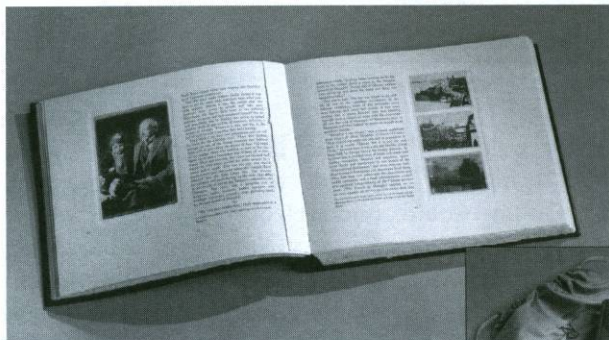
Fortunately, Quinn retained good relations with the Yeats family, in no small part due to his solicitous attention to the elder John Butler Yeats, who had relocated to New York many years earlier. Both his sons, Jack and William Butler, were

Saving His Life –from Sherwin Beach Press

By Lee Sandlin, illustrated with family photographs from the collection of Nina Sandlin.

Sandlin tells the story of the extraordinary life and bewildering illness of his father-in-law, Russian immigrant Nick Cherniavsky.

"The defining event of Nick's life happened before he was born. The Russian Revolution was one of those vast historical calamities that most Americans have been spared: it was a time when people who never thought of themselves as political, who never thought they'd have to choose sides about anything, were forced to make political choices that could easily cost them their homes, their families, and their lives. This was how it was for Nick's parents."



The book was designed by Martha Chipulis, set in Monotype Ehrhardt by Michael Bixler, and printed on handmade Twinrocker Taupe. Photo-etchings from family photographs were printed on Hosho, which are inset into the book. Trisha Hammer designed and executed a hidden crossed-structure binding in Nigerian goatskin with endpapers of Japanese silk, housed in a silk drawstring bag. 100 pp plus 3-color map, 9 7/8 x 11 1/4 x 1 1/2 inches. Edition of 50.

The price of *Saving His Life* is \$1900 until November 15, 2008, and will be \$2700 thereafter. An invoice will be included when your book is sent. As with any Sherwin Beach book, if you are not satisfied, there will be no charge for returns, provided the book is returned in the same condition in which you received it.



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cognizant of John Quinn's constancy and W. B. Yeats, especially, knew that John Quinn had launched his American success and was a constant promoter of his work to the end of his life. Unfortunately, the sale values did not improve. The highest valued W. B. Yeats manuscript, *J. M. Synge and the Ireland of His Time*, was among the earliest manuscripts up for bid and went under the hammer for \$380 (\$4,860). Subsequently, other important Yeats manuscripts showed a steady decline: *A Reverie Over Childhood and Youth*, \$340 (\$4,350); *The Wild Swans at Coole*, \$250 (\$3,200); and *Per Amica Silentia Lunæ*, \$170 (\$2,175). During the same last part of the auction as the Yeats' material, just days after St. Patrick's Day, 1924, the original manuscript of John Millington Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World* sold for only \$750 (\$9,600): not a great day for the Irish and a sad ending for a library auction that, except for the Conrad material, greatly underperformed. In the end, the grand total of sales at the Quinn action was \$226,350 (\$2.9 million). I can only speculate at what such materials would yield in

auction in 2008, but I do not think ten times that amount would be an unreasonable prediction.

I cannot end this auction article on the sad note of a foreshortened life of a great man whose last days witnessed enmity and disappointment. Rather, I will cite the concluding sentences of B. L. Reid's *The Man from New York: John Quinn and His Friends*. The quote refers to Quinn's art collection but applies equally to his library: "When Alfred Barr called Quinn the greatest American collector of the art of his day, he was not thinking of massive accumulation but of a man, who, in proportion to his means, garnered the greatest amount of excellence, in such a way and at such a time as would do the most good to artists and to art. Quinn had taste but above all he had nerve and susceptibility, bravery ready for bravery around him while it was still brave."

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NOTES

¹*The Library of John Quinn*. 2 vols. New York: The Anderson Galleries, 1923. This particular catalog is especially impressive with its extensive comment about the authors included in the library. In a touching note, John Quinn concealed the real reason for the sale of his collection, his impending death, and noted rather that a move to smaller quarters had compelled the sale.

²All author descriptions are from *The Library of John Quinn*.

³Figures in parentheses are converted 2008 dollars. Source: *Historical Currency Conversions of the Frink Server Pages* at futureboy.homeip.net/fsp. I would suggest, however, from my experience in acquiring literary manuscripts for a research library that the converted 2008 dollars would fall far short of the intrinsic value currently attributed to important literary manuscripts. N.B.: James Joyce's *Ulysses*, discussed subsequently.

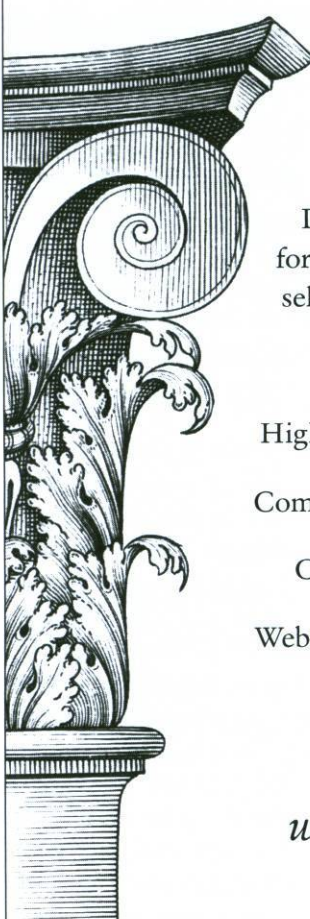
⁴Under the *Lord Jim* catalog entry, *The Library of John Quinn* cites Arthur Symonds: "To find a greater novel than 'Lord Jim,' we might have to go back to 'Don Quixote.' Like that immortal masterpiece, it is more than a novel; it is life itself, and it is a criticism of life . . . It is 'Lord Jim' in which his genius has attained its zenith."

⁵About the purchase of *Victory* there is some disagreement. The *New York Times* (November 14, 1923, pg. 21) reported Jerome Kern as the top bidder, but B. L. Reid in his Pulitzer Prize winning biography, *The Man from New York: John Quinn and His Friends* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1968: p. 602), designates Dr. Rosenbach as the purchaser of *Victory*. Because the *New York Times* article is contemporary with the auction, I favor that statement, though I would be happy to stand corrected.

Reid, p. 611.

Reid, p. 611.

Reid, p. 662.



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Call For Submissions

DISCOVERY BY ASSOCIATION:

Insights from Collectors About Their Books



The Caxton Club seeks submissions for a publication focused on *Association Copies*. The publication will include the stories of approximately thirty association copies as told by their current owners. The club may also organize an exhibition on the subject.

In the eighth edition of John Carter's *ABC for Book Collectors*, Nicolas Barker wrote: "This term [Association Copy] . . . is applied to a copy which once belonged to, or was annotated by, the author; which once belonged to someone connected with the author or someone of interest in his own right; or again, and perhaps most interestingly, belonged to someone peculiarly associated with its contents. Its extension to mean any book owned by a famous person can only be excused by establishing some point of real contact, other than the simple fact of possession."

Thus, Association Copy, as contemplated for the proposed publication, includes books that, in addition to their intrinsic importance, have at least a secondary value arising from their connection with a specific owner or donor. The association might be intellectual or personal; it might be of

literary or historical interest, but it results in making the specific copy more interesting than another copy of the same book. Thus, we seek association copies that evince a significant story about the association itself, and the process by which the association was uncovered and brought to light. Those stories, sometimes only known to the collector and almost certainly never before published — in essence the back-story to the association — are the focus of our project.

If you have association copies in your collection that you would like to submit for consideration, please send us a short description (100—150 words) of the nature of the association and how it was discovered. A jury will make the final selection. For books selected, we will request from the owners a more complete story of the association.

To submit your Association Copy for consideration, please send your description to Kim Coventry at coventryk@aol.com or by mail to 1250 N Dearborn, Ste 17C, Chicago, IL 60610, by November 15, 2008.

John Parkinson's *Earthly Paradise*

THERE HAS BEEN an interesting discussion in the *FABS Newsletter* recently, kicked off by Michael Russem's article about whether a finely crafted precious book is in fact truly readable. It caught my eye because I grew up with finely crafted books. On the one hand were my mother's. My mother, Ann Brunskill, made a series of hand-printed and illustrated limited editions for the tiny World's End Press which are part of important book collections around the world.¹ On the other hand, there were my father's copies of John Parkinson's *Paradisus Terrestris*, *Paradisi in Sole*. My father had two: the first edition, printed in 1629 and the second edition, which came out six years after the author's death in 1656.

I knew these books were precious. A hand coloured first edition of the *Paradisus* sold at Sotheby's last November for £11,250 (\$22,500). My father would tell the story that we were directly descended from the author as he slid one of them out of its hiding place and allowed me a glimpse of the frontispiece. However, beyond this I knew very little except that John Parkinson was an important herbalist credited with writing the first book about decorative gardens in English early in the reign of Charles I. Further information about him in sources such as the *English Dictionary of National Biography* was sketchy. No one knew much about him other than that he was James I's apothecary and that he published a second book, a herbal called the *Theatrum Botanicum* in 1640.

All this changed after my father died. I borrowed a copy of the *Paradisus* and took it home to read. I was immediately captivated by the fresh voice that spoke out of its pages. Reading it was like wandering through my own garden with a particularly wise and experienced plant lover whispering in my ear. I understood why John Parkinson has been an inspiration to naturalists and gardeners from John Evelyn and John Ray in the seventeenth century to Rosemary Verey and David Attenborough in our own day. It was clear how much he knew about plants that we have since forgotten, as the

tiny movement towards decorative gardening that he was instrumental in creating has become an all consuming passion, and modern medicine has allowed us to ignore natural remedies. The beauty, origins, and medicinal value of plants were all a part of John Parkinson's intense appreciation of them, and the *Paradisus* is so rich in information that is still relevant today, that I wanted people to be able to read it on the beach!



A short time later a copy of John Parkinson's other book, the *Theatrum Botanicum*, fell into my hands, when I went into Ardens, a specialist bookshop in the bibliophiles' capital of Hay on Wye. This massive volume describes the history and characteristics of over 3,500 plants that were used by London apothecaries in the seventeenth century. The information is based partly on the writings of Greek and Roman doctors since this still formed the basis of medicine then. But it was revolutionised by the author's own experience and new discoveries from the Americas and worldwide that passed through his eager hands. John Parkinson was a faithful adherent of the renaissance movement of discovery through personal

experiment that was sweeping Europe and breathing life into science. The result was two books that are 'often considered to be the greatest English books on herbs and plants ever published.'² Reading them is like opening a telescope on two thousand years of time, through which you can see the likes and dislikes, illnesses and activities of our ancestors in a way that is instantly recognizable through our tangible familiarity with the plants they used.

The dearth of information about this man, and the wealth of misinformation, inspired me to uncover his personal story, which turned out to be one of single-minded courage in the teeth of an extraordinarily turbulent period. John Parkinson was a contemporary of William Shakespeare, John Donne, and the first American settlers. The details of daily life that I have been able to piece together through this man's writings and his plants give a wholly fresh insight into a remarkable part of history. So I urge you to read the precious books in your collection, whether ancient or modern. You never know what you might find!

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POSTSCRIPT

My book about John Parkinson, *Nature's Alchemist*, is now widely available, but so far I have not been able to come up with an edition of the *Paradisus* that you can read on the beach. Dover Publications published a useful facsimile edition in 1976, but this too is now out of print. If anyone cares to join me in the project, I would still like to do it, but Michael Russem brings up an interesting point about how it should be done. John Parkinson was to some extent a victim of his own success. His diligence and honesty was admired by the Stuart kings and his books were expensively produced by Humphrey Lownes, the royal printer. Even then they were not cheap to own. Nicholas Culpeper, on the other hand, was a younger contemporary who was at war with the established doctors of his day. During the civil war he took their Latin remedies and published them in English to make them cheaply available. As a result, though his contemporaries considered him a far inferior herbalist to John Parkinson, and he was certainly a much less healthy one, his books have been cheaply available ever since and posterity assumes that he, rather than his much better informed contemporary, John Parkinson, was the voice of herbal medicine in the seventeenth century.

¹www.worldsendpress.co.uk

²From *The Herbalist*, newsletter of the Canadian Society for Herbal Research, Canadian Botanic Medicine Society.

Victor Hammer

INTEGRITAS, CONSONANTIA, CLARITAS

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, Norman Strouse prepared remarks to deliver at The Grolier Club. Because of ill health, he was unable to do so, and John Crawford, Chairman of the Program Committee, read them instead. Norman Strouse sent Victor Hammer a copy of the remarks on April 25th, and Victor responded:

... There is for you, a great hope in your attitude ... your attitude shows much self-criticism and you will need that when you work on your own. From this angle you will understand the four words 'ad maiorem dei gloriam' better. If this is the aim one must give one's best, however small that may be. It is not nice to cheat men, but one cannot cheat God.

In May, 1995 I had the enormous good fortune to see an exhibit of Russian sacred art in Atlanta, chiefly from the State Historical Museum in Moscow and the Novodevichy Convent, on loan for only a month. Among the treasures was an icon of the Last Judgment. The central scene depicts the triune God rendering judgment, with angels below reading out the verdicts. The blessed are rising with the angel's wings on the left side, and those who cheated either man or God are falling on the right. The last of the scenes in the sequence of panels charmingly depicts two angels in the act of folding up the sky – since it is the end of time, and its services are no longer required.

But we today are not quite there yet, and we cannot afford to fold up the sky. The role of the artist, as demonstrated to perfection in the work of Victor Hammer, is in fact just the opposite: to unfold, to unfold for us the visible forms that allow us to see, that provide for us a way of seeing reality as it is. This unfolding takes the form of a spiritual gesture, a gesture that unifies, that, as Victor Hammer says, "... opens the eyes of the beholder to the delight of seeing reality anew, seeing it undivided and as a whole, seeing it prepared for contemplation."

In no other single work does Victor Hammer achieve this end more completely than in the Chapel at the Chateau

Kolbsheim in Alsace. As a friend has said, it is "... Victor's greatest offering to God and the place where all of his gifts as an artist were united: architecture, sculpture, stone-carved letters, painting, the gold-smith's craft." Its unity, completeness, demonstrates Victor Hammer's belief that all forms of art are really architecture in disguise. Victor Hammer remarks in a letter: "I paint with the eyes of a sculptor, and sculpt with the eyes of a painter." And this is so for him because architecture necessarily and clearly bears the visible marks of the unifying spiritual gesture – a religious principle which is sensed in all works of art.

When the owners of the estate at Kolbsheim, Victor's patrons and friends Alexandre and Antoinette de Grunelius, were converted to Roman Catholicism, they thought it their duty to provide shelter for the Blessed Sacrament on their own land, adjacent to the parish church, which serves both Catholics and Protestants. Victor Hammer, knowing the task was possible, offered his services, and was accepted as the architect. As his patron writes in a description of the chapel:

I call it Victor's chapel because he drew the plans for it, and worked alongside the masons as they raised it stone by stone. He carved its sculpted figures over the door, placing on the left side a protecting Adam who shields Eve with one arm and with the free hand points to the figure of the lamb "Redemittit Nos in Sanguine Tuo" – carved in a block placed above the keystone, on the right he cut the figures of the elect, among whom one cannot mistake Dante, with the foreground figure pointing to the Agnus Dei. He carved its ornamentation inside and cut in stone the date of the building, 1935. He drew the plans for its stone altar and the four candlesticks on it – wood-turned and gilded – and gave the pattern for the altar cloth to a lacemaker in Austria who knit into the piece the words EGO + SUM + PANIS + VITAE in uncial letters. He modeled the door of the tabernacle. The iron metal work on the heavy doors and the door's handle in the shape of a fish are his designs hammered out by René in the village, who worked on these pieces in the smithy of 'Schmidt's Onkel' – while Schmidt's Onkel hammered the iron

bars together and flattened them into the two crosses that are fixed on the roof's edge. The hanging holy water font was made in brass from Victor's drawing in a shop in Strasbourg. He worked on the chapel for two years, and only small details of the sculptures were still unfinished and he had not painted the crucifixus to be hung above the altar. But 1937 was a restless and uncertain year and he felt that he must go home to Vienna. There all was uncertainty. In the early fall 1958, Victor Hammer returned to Kolbsheim with the finished crucifixus, which proved to be too small for the space, and so he repainted an enlarged version that now completes the chapel.

There is no facet of Victor's art, the use of no medium that is not brought together in the Kolbsheim chapel, and no single work which presents so clearly the meaning of Victor Hammer's art. As Victor Hammer writes of the experience:

When I began to build the chapel on the estate of my friends, I had no preconceived idea to go by. I did not want to copy a Romanesque or Gothic chapel, nor build an imitation of a small Greek temple. Modern 'interpretations' and 'originality' have never had meaning for me in my work. I had never before been asked to build a chapel. So, I just tried, with the help and trust of my friend and patron ... to 'create' it from stones and woods he provided. The main form, as I planned it, was sculptural in character: a prism with a quarter prism on top – simple and clear enough. Accentuating elements were the protruding doors and side walls ... (F 11, 9-10)

... My task was tempting: I had a perfect patron, one who knew exactly what he wanted, and since we both wanted the same thing any criticism from his side was helpful ... My patron acted his part well, while I gave the best I was able to give at the time. If it is not a great work of art we have produced, it is at least a genuine one. (VH/AT, 145-146)

Further clarifying the understanding of his responsibility as artist to his patron and to God, he writes:

... While working on the chapel, I was aware that we were building for a God. The site, in a backyard behind the apse of a parish church, was not propitious ... I was to give form, he was to accept the right form ... It was all God's grace. I had to use the raw material provided by Him, and had to imitate His act of creation by turning raw material into one liv-

ing whole. I had to show clearly where one wall joined and supported the other, and where walls ceased growing, expecting the roof to be laid upon them. A window was needed for God's light, a door for admitting us, mortals that we are. Light and shade were the intangible means for making these features apprehensible to eye and mind.

Thus ornament was not prepared before hand and then plastered on the structure, here, there and yonder; it was not used lavishly or sparingly according to taste or caprice, or furiously scrapped as useless – rather it was the expression of an act of humility, and that also is essential to the meaning of ornament. Since ornament sustains the life of buildings as long as their substratum (even in ruins) lasts, the use of ornament in architecture is a confession of human weakness, and, as such, a religious act.

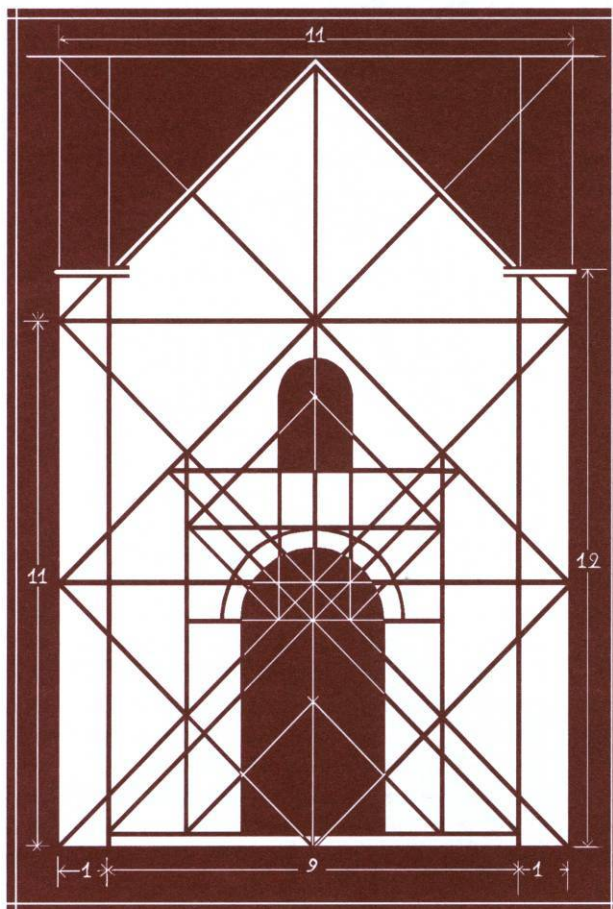
Victor Hammer here suggests that the proper use of ornamentation is the very means by which a visual unity and spiritual depth can be achieved, and a work made alive. As he drives home his point:

... To me, ornament is one thing, decoration another. Ornament distinguishes architecture from mere building, decoration does not. What is it that distinguishes a lump of clay from a man? God's breath. I have never attempted to explain ornament, I tried to show its use as God's breath, and words are not meant to explain mysteries. (VH /AT, 166)

We who have been transformed by Victor Hammer's vision, accept as he did, Thomas Aquinas' understanding of art, beauty, and truth (refined from Aristotle) whose requirements are three: INTEGRITAS, CONSONANTIA, CLARITAS. Indeed, at the suggestion of Jacques Maritain, Victor Hammer cut these words in Roman capitals into the library mantelpiece at the Chateau Kolbsheim, in 1934, at the time he was building his chapel. The wholeness, the unity of the work, and its harmony, its rhythm, combine to reveal a radiance that arrests the eye, stills the mind, and enchants the heart. True art, genuine art, is the vehicle of transformation for spiritual growth. Because it is made whole through an integrating spiritual gesture, it lifts us who observe, up to apprehend the sublime. Our consciousness is therein forever altered. All the art forms brought together in the chapel evidence this

understanding, made visible through the artist's unifying, spiritual gesture, and evidence this result in the eyes of the beholder. And this is so, because Victor Hammer worked insistently AD MAIOREM DEI GLORIAM.

Victor Hammer, after he came to America, imagines again sitting in front of the chapel in contemplation, and reflects:



The front wall of the Chapel at Kolbsheim as cut in brass by Victor Hammer.

Sitting there quietly, one might sense the harmony of clear mathematical proportions that appear in the whole and in the parts; in the ground plan, as well as in the elevations and cross-sections. The rise of the steps, the thickness and height of the walls, the centers of the arcs over door and window, the measurements of the corridors alongside, all are of one ratio. Entering the chapel one might intuit the same measurements everywhere, disguised, varied, and enhanced. The colors of the tabernacle and the crucifixus meet the colors of the exposed beams and rafters of the roof. The area allotted to the sacred precinct has been conceived as an enclosure open to the skies and within it, as if in a frame, the temple for the performance of the rites and the presentation and protection of the divine host. (VH /AT, 248)

Victor has noted that architecture – not building – is the creation of civilized men, the men who have raised the hal-
lowed walls of the city – and have separated the world of measured forms from the regular and enticing world of nature. Painting and sculpture, having the world of nature as a theme, are civilized arts only as they are seen as architecture in disguise, with all the necessities which

architecture requires. Preeminent among these is order, kosmos, both in the structure of the work, and in the symbolism which mirrors the activity of the artist, which has created order through forms, within the enclosure of the frame. It is kosmos itself, seen in the underlying structure that is made visible in the work, in the space that displays that visibility, apprehended luminously in the mind which has been arrested by its wholeness, fascinated by its harmony, and transformed by its radiance. This surely is justification of art and its healing force.

As the work of Victor Hammer demonstrates, the task of the artist – his responsibility and vocation – is to produce this visible order, to give the stability of form which can be visibly remembered and understood, for what otherwise are only fleeting perceptions. The artist gives us through the work a vision of the whole; sees for us the radiant whole of things in one particular thing, within the harmonic unity of the individual work. The artist tells us this truth, not with words, but with gestures, forms, symbols. The proper work of art, the genuine work, opens the eye of the beholder to see reality unfolded anew, undivided and whole, prepared for contemplation. Victor Hammer's art, especially the Chapel Kolbsheim, presents us with this vision, and teaches us to see genuinely with our eyes the spiritual depth and order of things, unfolded here for our benefit beneath the sky.

PAUL EVANS HOLBROOK, JR.

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BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE:

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Club News & Notes

PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND PUBLICATIONS

THE ALCUIN SOCIETY



AS USUAL, the Society maintained a presence at Word on the Street, a local celebration of books and reading, the Pacific Festival of the Book in Victoria, and the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts in Sechelt, B.C., all of which provide an opportunity to seek new members. The Society also held, for the second year, an exhibition of the work of local book artists at the West Vancouver Public Library.

It is hoped that a series of small informal, conversational events just for members will be started this year where they can meet practitioners in the book-arts. In May 2008, such an event allowed members to meet Bob Reid and Ib Kristensen who, as designer and pressman at the Redpath Press of McGill University, produced the widely acclaimed *Laurence Lande's Bibliography of Canadiana*. Other books produced by the two were also shown.

A major event, held in Nov '07, was the annual Yosef Wosk – Simon Fraser University-Alcuin Society Lecture which, this year, celebrated the work and career of typographer, designer, printer, and private-press publisher Robert R. Reid. Speakers included Takao Tanabe, Peter McNally, Eric Swanick, Gary McIlroy, Charlie Mayrs, and Rollin Milroy. Yosef Wosk delivered a particularly memorable speech which was reproduced in *Amphora* #148. Robert Reid was the first recipient of the *Robert R. Reid Award* which recognizes 'outstanding contributions to the arts of the book in Canada.' The Award certificate incorporated for the first time the crest from the Society's new coat of arms. A high quality DVD of this event is available.

Our third Biannual Wayzgoose attracted more than 20 presses and book artists from British Columbia and was attended by over 400 members of the public.

In April '08 Tim Inkster, one of the judges in town for the Book Design Competition spoke on his Porcupine's Quill Press in Erin, Ontario.

The Society will support, along with *The Canadian Bibliographical Society* and the *Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of Canada*, the *Award for Young Collectors* competition by taking responsibility for its poster. There were donated services of its design (Peter Cocking of Douglas and McIntyre publishers), which can be viewed on the Society's website, and printing (Hemlock Press). The first prize will be \$2,500 which will be provided by sponsors of the competition.

Publications. By September of 2007 most of the Society's first print-on-demand publication, *Dorothy Burnett, Bookbinder*, had been sold.

Designer Bob Reid then began work, with the assistance of Celia Duthie and Cathy Duthie Legate, on a compilation of many of the bookmarks produced for local bookseller Duthie Bookstores over their fifty year history. Not only were there a great many to choose from but they were of such a high artistic quality and originality that, it was felt, deserved of a more permanent celebration. In fact, Bob, while instructing at Emily Carr College of Art and Design in the early sixties, was involved in commissioning and printing many of the bookmarks. The book will contain the work of twenty-four artists whose biographies Howard Greaves researched. This publication will again take advantage of the lower print-runs permitted by the new 'print on demand' scanning process. Dr. Yosef Wosk generously assisted with the financing of the project.

There are plans to produce a newsletter, to be designed by Bob Reid, to accompany each mailing of *Amphora*. Its purpose will be to provide the membership with information about the Society's activities and, it is hoped, members will contribute. The first issue will be included in the July 2008 mailing of *Amphora* #149.

Amphora, the Society's journal, appears three times a year and is edited by Rollin Milroy of Heavenly Monkey Press who, after edition #150 in the Fall of '08, will hand it over to the new editor, Peter

Mitham, a Vancouver writer. Recent editions have featured tipped-in original woodblocks, funded by Dr. Yosef Wosk and printed by The Barbarian Press on paper supplied by Ralph Stanton.

Excellence in Book Design in Canada Competition. The 2007 Competition received a total of 254 books submitted by 91 publishers.

There were 35 winners, broadly representing 6 Canadian provinces: BC, 15; Ontario, 8; Alberta, 4; Quebec, 4; Nova Scotia, 3; and Manitoba, 1.

The winning books will be shown across Canada at 21 venues and also at the Frankfurt Buchmesse and the Leipzig Buchmesse, as well as at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo. This extensive exhibit program has been coordinated by Nicholas Collins. Talks are in progress to add London's Victoria and Albert Museum to the venues.

The Award ceremony will be held on October 2, 2008 at Emily Carr University, thanks to the help of Peter Cocking and Bonne Zabolotney, with presentations by Scott Richardson, author of the recently published and highly acclaimed novel *End of the Alphabet* and winner of an Alcuin Design Award for the Michael Redhill's novel *Conceit* and also Robert Bringhurst who will introduce his new book, *The Surface of Meaning: Books and Book Design in Canada*. The Award ceremony in Toronto will be at the Arts and Letters Club of Canada on October 6, 2008 where Scott Richardson will again make the presentations.

Written by Alcuin Chair Howard Greaves
Edited by Richard Hopkins

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

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 by July 15 for the fall issue and November 15 for the winter issue, preferably in Microsoft Word as an e-mail attachment. ♣ Subscriptions to institutions and individuals are not available at this time. ♣ Back issues may be ordered through the *Newsletter* Publisher at \$4.50 each plus shipping and handling. ♣ Submission of articles for publication is encouraged. ♣ Send your correspondence to the *Newsletter* Publisher.

programs reflect our members' varied interests and include: (1) regular meetings with a formal program preceded by wine and cheese socializing; (2) informal First Saturday sessions; and (3) field trips and other activities.

RECENT REGULAR PROGRAMS

January – Former Aldus Society President and Curator of the Ohio State University Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, Geoff Smith, spoke on the American Puritan Library when he talked about those books new to the New England colonies that had profound influence on later American thought and letters.

February – We celebrated Valentine's Day by welcoming Jared Gardner, Associate Professor of English & Film at the Ohio State University, for a presentation on graphic novels.

March – At our March gathering avid book collector and retired Professor of Speech Communication, Dr. Jerry Tarver, told us about his extensive collection of pre-1900 works on rhetoric, elocution, and oratory.

April – April was a special month when Boston publisher David Godine came to share his thoughts on children's illustrated books, with a few publishing anecdotes thrown in for good measure.

May – In our final regular program of the season, Steven Galbraith, formerly with the OSU Rare Books and Manuscripts Library and now Curator of Books at the Folger Shakespeare Library, returned to Columbus to share his recent bibliophilic adventures.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The 2008-2009 program year looks like another exciting one.

September 11 (Regular Program) – We begin our program season with a return visit from a long-time Aldus Society member, Bob Tauber, who will be updating us on recent activities at the Ohio State University's Logan Elm Press.

October 23 (Regular Meeting) – In October the Aldus Society will feature the next installment in its History of Text and Image series when Christopher Reed will speak on the Chinese tradition.

November 13 (Regular Meeting) – The November program will feature Nicholas Sheetz, who will feature CIA-related material.

December 8 (Holiday Dinner) – December will once again find members of the Aldus Society gathered together at La Scala for the annual Holiday Dinner and Book Auction to celebrate the wrap-up of another year.

January-May – Programming in 2009 will be covered in more detail in the next *FABS Newsletter*, but be on the lookout for presentations on collecting early medical books, fore-edge paintings, another "Aldus Collects" session, and a visit by Scott Brown, Editor of *Fine Books & Collections*. Stay tuned!

FIRST SATURDAY PROGRAMS

First Saturday programs are informal hands-on sessions, wherein members are invited to the Ohio State University Rare Books and Manuscripts Library to view and discuss materials selected from the OSU collection. Sessions let attendees explore books in depth with commentary by a subject specialist. Recent topics have included Jenny Robb, Associate Curator of the OSU Cartoon Research Library, who presented a program on selected rarities of that collection with an emphasis on nineteenth-century graphic arts. The First Saturday in June featured acquisitions made by the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library at the 2008 New York Book Fair and a discussion as to the rationale for those purchases. This fall Gerard Gardner of the Department of English will give a program on Penny Dreadfuls.

The First Saturday programs are held throughout the year (although during foot-



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ball season the dates do bounce around a bit to avoid home game Saturdays, when traffic and parking around OSU can be a nightmare). Check the Aldus Society website at www.AldusSociety.com for up-to-date schedules and topics.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

The Aldus Society does not have regular meetings during the summer, but frequently gathers for special activities. The longest day of the year provided ample time for Aldus members to spend a pleasant summer afternoon among the fascinating books at Miami University's Walter Havighurst Special Collections Library at the King Library in Oxford, Ohio. Betsy Butler, Special Collections Librarian, welcomed us. She researched, selected, and prepared 100 highly collectible/valuable items that were attractively laid out over 13 tables within the walls of the Special Collections department.

In July, we gathered for a picnic and hard-hat tour of the Ohio State University's Thompson Library, currently undergoing a \$109 million renovation.

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 about The Aldus Society, contact Ronald L. Ravneberg at AldusSociety@aol.com. or (614) 457-1153.

THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES



THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES schedule for 2008 is as follows. Please feel free to contact us for further information or to attend one of our meetings. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at the Johns Hopkins Club. Topics and dates are subject to change.

September 17 – Dr. William Noel, Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books at the Walters Art Museum, will speak on *The Archimedes Codex*. The Johns Hopkins Club. 6:00 p.m. Talk follows dinner.

October 16 – “Bill Blackbeard: The Collector Who Rescued Comics” presented by Jenny Robb, Associate Curator/Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University Cartoon Research Library. This talk examines the motivations and contributions of an extraordinary collector, Bill Blackbeard, the founder of the San Francisco Academy of Comic Art, whose ambition to document the development of American cartoon art led him to rescue material being discarded by libraries from around the country. His vast collection, which weighed more than 75 tons and consisted of millions of comic strip clippings and newspaper pages, was acquired by the Ohio State University Cartoon Research Library in 1998. Sponsored by the Friends of the Goucher College Library at 7:30 p.m. at Goucher College, Kelley Lecture Hall, Towson, Maryland. jrogers@goucher.edu.

November 20 – Annual Meeting. Highlight: Auction of books from members' collections. The Johns Hopkins Club. 6:00 p.m. Talk follows dinner.

For more information contact Binnie Syril Braunstein, Corresponding Secretary, at 410 486-6178 or bsbgs@aol.com.

THE JOHN RUSSELL BARTLETT SOCIETY



THE OPENING MEETING for The John Russell Bartlett Society will be on Sept. 20, 2 p.m., at the Redwood Library in Newport. The title of the lecture will be Art as Book as Art. Suzy Taraba of Wesleyan University and Laurie Whitehill Chong of the Rhode Island School of Design will be the guest speakers.

The rest of our schedule is not in place yet. For information on programs or the Bartlett Society, you can contact Pamela Rakowski, pam1348@cox.net, 401-751-5581.

THE BIXBY CLUB



WE WILL BE LOOKING forward to a new season of Bixby Club lectures this fall and will be hosting tours as well as our special Christmastime members' party. Subjects to be explored by Bixby Club members will range from the collecting of paperbacks (early Signet Classics) to Piranesi.

The Bixby Club's final guest speaker of the 2007-2008 season was Stuart Karu, the preeminent private collector of Franklinitiana. Stuart was the largest private lender to the Franklin Tercentenary Exhibition and his talk did not disappoint. This event was

an excellent example of cooperation between FABS Member Clubs. Stuart had originally spoken before The Delaware Bibliophiles and he came to St. Louis highly recommended.

Prior to dinner and Stuart's presentation at The St. Louis Mercantile Library, Stuart enjoyed a private tour of the Eric Newman Money Museum on Washington University's campus. The Museum is stunning, open to the public, and should not be missed if you're in the St. Louis area. Eric acted as tour director and provided fascinating insight into the collection and Franklin's contribution to the colonial monetary system and the financing of the War of Independence.

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

THE BOLTON SOCIETY



DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS the Society has been involved in three major activities: *Boltonia* newsletter number eight was published, the Society convened a general meeting, and held a symposium, “A Festival of Chemical Entertainment.” Highlights follow.

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED

The November 2007 issue of the Society's superlative newsletter, *Boltonia*, edited by James J. Bohning, carried a variety of fascinating articles, such as those on bookplates, author's autographs, ephemera, a Grolier Club exhibit of book covers, and a list of journal articles and books published by members (Beare, Debus, Greenberg, Patterson, Smeltzer, and Sparkman).

The 2007 Roy G. Neville Prize in Bibliography or Biography was presented in October to Michael D. Gordon for his biography, *A Well-Ordered Thing: Dimitrii Mendeleev and the Shadow of the Periodic Table*. The book “provides a fascinating glimpse of the world of imperial Russia and into the life of one of its most notorious minds.”

ACTIONS AT THE GENERAL MEETING ON APRIL 3

A symposium, “Classic Books V: Chemical Engineering,” organized by James J. Bohning, will be held at the ACS meeting in Philadelphia on August 18, 2008. A symposium will not be held in 2009, but one is underway for 2010 in Washington, D.C. on “The Language of Chemistry.” Program topics could include early nomenclature and symbols as well as modern, such as Wiswesser, line notation.

For the meeting, CHF Archivist, Andrew Mangravite, displayed 17 student notebooks from the CHF collections for examination. He classified these into four groups by date and subject as follows:

- I. 1787-1849 (3 items) Chemistry, as it was then taught, was passive. Students listened and took notes.
- II. 1862-1900 (6 items) Lectures slowly began to be augmented by teacher demonstrations and later on, by student experiments.
- III. The 1930s (4 items) Chemistry had clearly become a laboratory-based hands-on science.
- IV. 1948-1949 Student comments in four notebooks show how different students reacted to their idol, Professor R. B. Woodward.

The business session concluded with the usual hour-long "Collectors Showcase," in which attendees discuss new and unusual items from their collections.

Symposium Held. Of the 10,000 or more attendees at the American Chemical Society (ACS) meeting in New Orleans in April, 75 or so attended a "deliberately unorthodox" symposium, *A Festival of Chemistry Entertainments*, sponsored by The Bolton Society of the Chemical Heritage Foundation and the History of Chemistry Division of ACS. For an entire day, the audience feasted on "a cornucopia of whimsy."

Symposium organizer and moderator, Bolton Society member John H. Stocker, of the University of New Orleans, set the tone by wearing a fanciful court jester's cap. Stocker, incidentally, collected books in this genre for years, until his vast collection was destroyed during Hurricane Katrina.

The ten speakers ensured that there was never a dull moment. Intriguing snippets from titles and abstracts of the papers capture the flavor:

"Reese's pieces," "the good, the bad and the ugly," "rotten reviews," "versed scientific papers," "intriguing records from Chemical Abstracts," "ACS history in personal political debates," "scientific cross(ed) word puzzles" [with audience participation], "painful puns and priceless humor," and "from the pens of thirsty chemists and an occasional cat."

The most far-out paper, though, was *Curriculum Witty: Chemistry In Verse and Song*, which was sung by the author while playing the guitar to a Gilbert and Sullivan tune. The abstract of his paper reads in part:

"Tom Lehrer rhymed the elements with
humor and felicity,
But little in his ditty indicates periodicity, ...
What better place is there for songs, especially the secular,
Than New Orleans? I'll sing a few, atomic
and molecular,

I'll be an unconventional, but none the less
dress snazzily,
And maybe even try to update Lehrer's song
more jazzily!

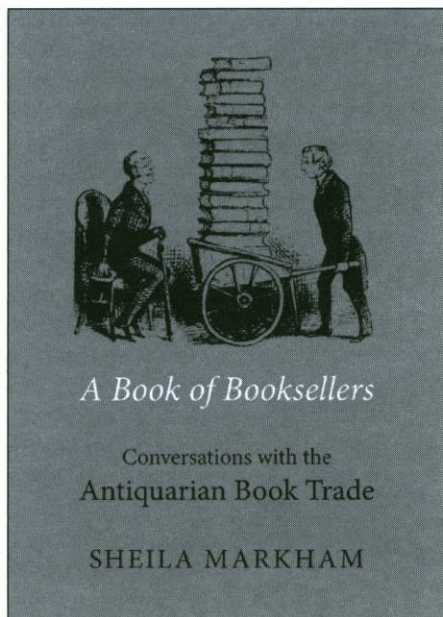
It is highly probable that these most unusual symposium papers will be published as a book by ACS.

For information contact Elsa B. Atson at 215 873-8205 or elsaa@chemheritage.org

THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA



THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA publishes interesting and unusual books with California and Western American themes. Although the Club traditionally issues books on historic topics, the 2008-2009 season marks several new directions in the Club's publishing program: for the first time, the Club will publish a children's book and a mystery story. Other projects include a lavish illustrated book, a major work on Yosemite, a work on the writing of California history, and two books on historic San Francisco printers. All books are issued in limited editions and are designed and produced by leading typographers and printers.



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The children's book is *Let's Play* by the Gearhart sisters, a charming Arts and Crafts style illustrated book originally intended for publication in 1929 and appearing now for the first time. In a series of 24 woodcuts, noted Pasadena artist Frances Gearhart shows boys and girls playing such games as leap-frog with accompanying text by her sister Edna Gearhart.

Artist and author Paul Madonna has created a mystery story illustrated with his distinctive views of San Francisco in his new book, *The Fall*. Told by a teenager as she copes with her father's death, it is a riveting tale. Madonna's weekly illustrations in the *San Francisco Chronicle* have received much acclaim.

Another illustrated book, this one with 30 original wood engravings, is *California in Relief* by Richard Wagener, a well-known printmaker who is collaborating with renowned printer Peter Koch to produce this sumptuous work. Wagener's stunning views in the Sierra Nevada and Los Angeles present both the pastoral and urban sides of California in the artist's sharp black and white images.

Although it is John Muir who usually comes to mind when thinking of the history of the Yosemite Valley, another man preceded Muir to the Valley by over a decade, one who was directly responsible for the spread of information on Yosemite's astonishing scenic wonders and who dedicated much of his life to preserving the Valley. That man was James Mason Hutchings, whose epic story is now being told in its entirety in Dennis Kruska's detailed, illustrated examination of Hutchings's life, *James Mason Hutchings of Yosemite*. Profusely illustrated and including a bibliography, this work presents never before published information and images, and is a major work in Yosemite literature.

Noted historian Kevin Starr has turned his talents to investigating how California history came to be written in *Clio on the Coast*, providing a clear picture of how bibliographers and historians such as H. H. Bancroft, Robert E. Cowan, Robert Glass Cleland and others came to document and interpret the Golden State.

Rounding out the schedule are two works on printing history, *James Weld Towne: Pioneer San Francisco Printer, Publisher, and Paper Purveyor* by Bruce L. Johnson and *Black and White: Grafton Tyler Brown's San Francisco Lithography 1861-1881* by Robert J. Chandler.

For information on joining the club and to receive notification of publications, contact Lucy Rodgers Cohen, Executive Direc-

tor, The Book Club of California, lucycohen@bccbooks.org or phone 415 781-7532.

EXHIBITIONS

June 30-August 25: Richard Austin, Type Designer, from the Collection of Alastair Johnston.

Alastair Johnston of Poltroon Press in Berkeley searched for Richard Austin and found two people: Richard Austin (1756-1832), the brilliant punch-cutter behind Bell & Stephenson's British Letter Foundry, and his son Richard T. Austin (1781-1842), a trade wood engraver. The exhibition features works from Johnston's collection of Austin and Austin-related books.

September 8 - October 27: A Delicious Obsession: Collecting the Works of M.F.K. Fisher.

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of M.F.K. Fisher, the exhibition represents a selection from the collection of Club member Randall Tarpey-Schwed. Included are first editions, fine press publications, magazines, broadsides, and foreign language translations. Mary Frances Kennedy Fisher was a prolific writer of food and life. Among her books are: *The Gastronomical Me*, *How to Cook A Wolf*, *An Alphabet for Gourmets*, *The Art of Eating*. She published numerous magazine articles and she famously translated Brillat-Savarin's *The Physiology of Taste*.

November 3 - January 5, 2009: Hand Book-binders of California (36th Annual Exhibition)

On display will be recent work of hand bookbinders whose goal is to celebrate the book: making books, their collection, care, and restoration.

PROGRAMS

LECTURES

September 8, 6:30 p.m.: Joan Reardon on M.F.K. Fisher

Joan Reardon is a culinary historian, cookbook author, and biographer. Her books on Fisher include: *M.F.K. Fisher, Julia Child, and Alice Waters: Celebrating the Pleasures of the Table* (1994), *Poet of the Appetites: The Life of M.F.K. Fisher* (2004), and *M.F.K. Fisher among the Pots and Pans* (2008). She publishes and edits the quarterly newsletter, *Panache, for Les Dames d'Escoffier Chicago*, and is on the Advisory Board of *Gastronomica*.

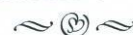
FIRST MONDAYS

Book Club Librarian, Barbara Jane Land, continues a series of talks about the Club's history through its publication program and collections.

DEMONSTRATIONS/WORKSHOPS

November 13 & December 11, 12:30-1:30: demonstrations on bookbinding and re-pairing.

THE CAXTON CLUB



LUNCHEON PROGRAMS 2008

ON Friday, September 12, 2008 at the Woman's Athletic Club, Malcolm Hast, Professor Emeritus of Head and Neck Surgery at Northwestern, will speak about his just-completed 15 year project: a first-ever complete translation of *Fabrica*, a 16th century anatomical atlas that came to form the foundation of modern medical science and, about its most gifted author, 28 year old Andreas Vesalius.

When Vesalius published his anatomical atlas in 1543, he became the major figure in establishing modern medical science, forever changing medical education in the West. As an active performer of numerous dissections of the human body, Vesalius insisted that direct observation was vastly superior to debate (so common with scholastics of the time), and *Fabrica's* 272 sumptuous illustrations (done by artists in Titian's studio), still today influence how we view our bodies.

Malcolm Hast, Professor Emeritus of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and former Professor of Anatomy at Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, has, for the past 15 years (along with Daniel Garrison, Classics), been translating and annotating the 1543 and 1555 editions of Vesalius's *De humani corporis fabrica (Fabrica)*. Dr. Hast's presentation (with slides) will also include how his monumental project (now complete) was accomplished and how this epochal scientific work has been taken out of the research library and is going to be made available to all. Definitely plan to attend.

On Friday, October 10, 2008 at the Woman's Athletic Club, Caxtonian Bruce Barnett will deliver an illustrated talk about his extensive *Dance of Death Collection*. Begun in the 14th century in response to the plague and other gruesome ends, *Dance of Death* abounds with skeletons and still today impacts our literature, art, and music.

DINNER PROGRAMS 2008

On Wednesday, September 17, 2008, at The Newberry Library, Ronald L. Ravneberg of The Aldus Society, will talk about *The Hawkesworth Copy: James Cook, John Hawkesworth and the 1773 "Account of the Voyages"*

James Cook was one of the most important explorers of any age. In the decade that stretched from 1768 to 1780 he led three voyages of discovery that circumnavigated the world, opened the Pacific Ocean to

European influence, and added to scientific knowledge in such fields as astronomy, anthropology, botany, navigation, medicine, and geography. The publications that presented the results of Cook's voyages to an eager public combined extensive narrative with detailed plates, charts, and maps, to produce some of the most eagerly anticipated published materials of the 18th century. For years they were among the most requested library resources, and in many cases were literally read to pieces.

In 2001, Mr. Ravneberg located and identified the hitherto unknown printer's copy used for the preparation of the second edition of one of the most popular books of the 18th century, John Hawkesworth's official account of James Cook's first voyage to the Pacific. The process of researching the volumes led down numerous paths and drew upon original library materials in such far-flung locales as London and Sydney. Along the way he encountered simple and not-so-simple typographical errors, problems in handwriting analysis, conspiracy theories, and other interesting diversions.

Join us for a review of this fascinating and influential character who was Captain Cook, and the equally fascinating story of one collector's quest.

On Wednesday, October 15, 2008, at the Woman's Athletic Club, Caxtonian Jon Lellenberg will speak about *Mothers, Don't Let Your Sons Grow Up to Be Biographers*.

Arthur Conan Doyle: A Life in Letters, edited by Jon Lellenberg, Daniel Stashower, and Charles Foley, is the first collection of correspondence by the creator of Sherlock Holmes and much more. It draws upon over a thousand unpublished letters previously locked away for decades, written over a 54-year period between 1867, when the eight-year-old boy left home in Edinburgh for boarding school in England, to the end of 1920 when his fame also included notoriety as the world's best known spokesman for Spiritualism. And the book has been a critical success: the British edition was a BBC Book of the Week, and the American edition has won two awards and been nominated for a third at this writing.

Along the way, though, it was an ordeal. The letters' thousands of sheets of paper were disorganized and scrambled, with over ninety percent of them undated as well, making the process of putting them into chronological order close to maddening at times. Their contracts called for a manuscript of 135,000 words; the eventual manuscript submitted was over 208,000, which caused consternation at the publish-

ers' end – followed by a request for another 10,000 words. The British publisher decided to jump the American publication date, starting a feud between the two publishers with the editors in the middle. Initial dust jacket designs struck the editors as not only wrong, but horrendously so in one case. And the struggle to correct the book's index, after being jobbed out by the British publisher to someone in the Third World unfamiliar with either the English language or British ways, against a ten-day deadline, was the worst experience the editors have ever had with a book – at least until it came out and the promotional campaigns got underway.

Jon Lellenberg will give us a lighthearted tour of their editorial misadventures, that he claims fulfilled Edward Gorey's comic description of authors' woes: "disappointing sales, inadequate publicity, worse than inadequate royalties, idiotic or criminal reviews, declining talent, and the unspeakable horror of the literary life." As the memory of it all recedes, a book remains that he and his collaborators are very proud of.

On Wednesday, November 19, 2008, at The Newberry Library, Samuel Crowl, Ohio State University, will speak about *From Page to Stage to Screen: The Shakespearean Cinema of Kenneth Branach*.



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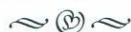


Almost a decade ago, Professor Crowl addressed The Caxton Club on the topic *Shakespeare in Film*. Now, by popular request, he has agreed to return to our midst with a talk that concentrates on one of the most skilled interpreters of the bard in modern times, Kenneth Branagh. From his *Henry V* (1989), which heralded a new era of Shakespeare in motion pictures, through *In the Bleak Midwinter* (i.e., *A Midwinter's Tale*, 1995), perhaps his most autobiographical work, and his uncut *Hamlet* (1996), to *Love's Labour's Lost* (2000), which wedded Shakespeare to movie musicals, Branagh has joined sensitive readings of the texts to his own unique cinematic vision, creating the most celebrated Shakespearean films since Olivier. Professor Crowl will illustrate his lecture with excerpts from the films.

On Wednesday, December 10, 2008, at The Newberry Library, the Caxton Club will hold its annual *Revels and Auction*.

For additional information concerning our Club, events or publications, please contact Hayward Blake at hrblake@earthlink.net.

THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES



THE FIRST HALF of 2008 The Delaware Bibliophiles met four times, beginning and ending with Show & Tell meetings, better described as Collectors' Showcase, that were held in the community meeting room of the Woodlawn Library in Wilmington. It is fascinating what one can learn from these sessions in addition to seeing a wide variety of interesting material that included: local authors and artists; past collectors; an early American map; a variety of encyclopedias; a scrap book; sheet music; chemistry and physics books; Patricia Highsmith's only juvenile; 19th century bindings by John Feely; Delaware Civil War items; a Pennsylvania German birth certificate; and an art deco trade catalog. This listing reflects the broad interests of our members.

The 31st annual dinner was held on March 27th at The University and Whist Club in Wilmington. Our member Linda Lapidus spoke on "Confessions of an In-correctible Collector of Children's Books." Starting as a collector of contemporary children's books she has since pursued early American children's books with a passion and has many treasures in both categories. She told about those who influenced her collecting and showed illustrations from some of her favorite authors, illustrators

and titles, including *Mother Goose*, *Slovenly Peter* and books published by McLaughlin Brothers. Her talk was stimulating and enlightening and her audience really hated to see it end.

We met in April at the Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford, PA for a tour of two exhibitions conducted by their librarian and our member Gail Stanislow. The first was on "Elihu Vedder and the *Rubaiyyat of Omar Khayyam*" and the second was the installation of the collection which was a recent gift to the museum by Howard Pyle Brokaw. This collection features numerous Howard Pyle paintings, drawings, books that he illustrated as well as books from his library, and family photographs and personal memorabilia. We also got to see the two volume *N. C. Wyeth Catalogue Raisonné of Paintings* that had just been published. Prior to the meeting, members got together for lunch at the museum's cafeteria overlooking the Brandywine.

We continue to publish *Endpapers*, the Club's semi-annual newsletter. The March 2008 issue was 36 pages and included articles on early science trade catalogs; an annotated bibliography of reference sources of printing in colonial America; three books on Delaware Lighthouses published in 2007; Thomas Bird Mosher's copy of Bret Harte's *The Lost Galleon and Other Tales*; Almanac Tidbits; selections from a collection of local author Nancy Sawin; Samuel Dodd, New Jersey bookbinders' tool maker; examples of Arthur Szyk's work; and Howard Pyle designs and costumes for a Broadway play.

Looking ahead to the rest of the year we plan to have a picnic in August; travel to see an out-of-town book exhibit; and hold a dinner/auction among other things. Please contact our president, Tom Doherty, at tsquare1787@aol.com for further details if you are going to be in our area. We welcome visitors.

THE BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT

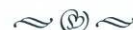


OUR BCD NEWSLETTER, "Speaking of Books," is heading to press. Kay MacKay has expanded this issue to ten pages and filled it with articles on past meetings, seminars, collecting, and much more. New President, Hedger Breed has led us through meetings on the Heidelberg Project (in the middle of a Detroit ghetto) with the authors Tyree Guyton and Jenenne Whitfield's book, *Connecting the Dots*, at our

headquarters, the Scarab Club. We met in Livonia at Ken and Cheryl McGuire's addition which contains their fairy tale collections. This is a remarkable building just for their fine book collection. Hedger continues to build a fine relationship with the Ann Arbor Book Festival and the Kerrytown Book Fest, as well as getting many of us to take out ads in the newsletter. We will have the annual book shop crawl, followed by an event on rare 18th-19th century bindings. Several private collections will add to our delight in being associated with the book. Jett Whitehead, Jett W. Whitehead Rare Books Modern Poetry Specialist, wrote two fascinating articles on his business and the development of collecting. Our Rhode Island FABS trip included six BCD members. Joan Knoertzer and Twyla Racz will attend the Miniature Book Society International Conclave in San Diego. But, we are especially proud to be hosting the 2010 FABS Book Tour and Symposium in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Joan Knoertzer will be chairing the event for the BCD and FABS.

We look forward to meeting and greeting you then. More information will come in the Fall 2009 issue of the *FABS Newsletter*. We can be reached at (734) 668-6815.

FINE PRESS BOOK ASSOCIATION

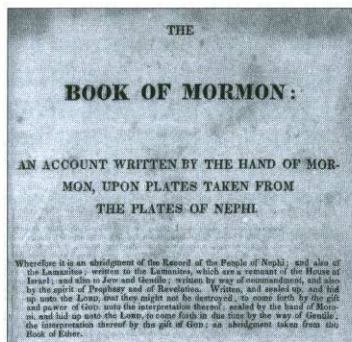


AS OF THIS WRITING, the Fine Press Book Association looks forward to its annual meeting, which will be held in New Castle, Delaware at the time of Oak Knoll Fest, October 4 and 5, 2008. We will also have a table at the Codex Book Fair in Berkeley, California February 8-11, 2009.

We are pleased to announce that Sean Donnelly (sdonnelly@ut.edu), who works at the University of Tampa in real life, has accepted the assignment of replacing Morva Gowans as Membership Secretary of the Fine Press Book Association, North American division. Morva has done yeoman's service in the role for many years. Send changes of address to Sean; continue to send membership forms (available on our web site, www.fpba.com) and payments to Carol Blinn, Warwick Press, One Cottage Street #36, Easthampton, Massachusetts 01027 USA.

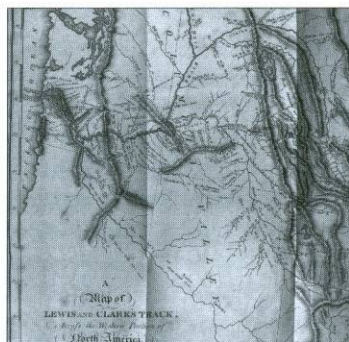
Parenthesis 14 was delivered to members in June; *P15* is expected to ship in early fall. Odd-numbered journals are edited by Paul Razell (inferno_press@mac.com) and published by North American branch. Even-

OFFER YOUR BOOKS AT AUCTION THROUGH PBA GALLERIES



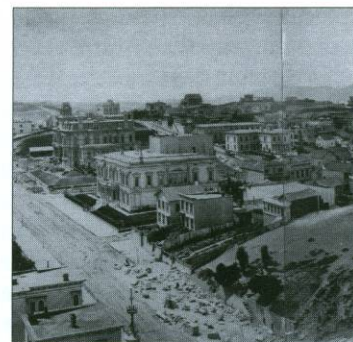
The Book of Mormon, First Edition, with bookplate and inscription by Paul M. Hanson, member of the Council of Twelve of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Sold for \$103,500



History of the Expedition under the Command of Captains Lewis and Clark to the Sources of the Missouri, 2 volumes, 1814, the first edition of the official account of the most famous and most important expedition of exploration in U.S. history. An exceptional copy, with the rare and highly important folding map.

Sold for \$212,000



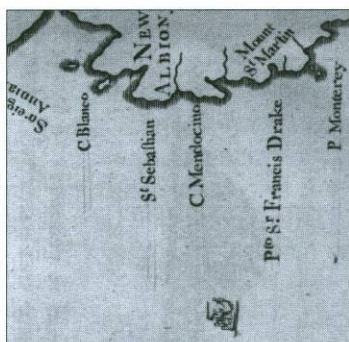
Eadweard Muybridge's stunning *Panorama of San Francisco, from California Street Hill, 1877*, the 11 albumen photograph panels framed consecutively to stretch over seven feet wide.

Sold for \$51,000



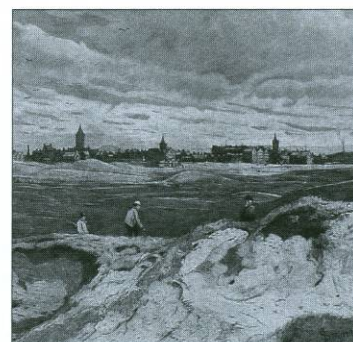
F. Scott Fitzgerald's *All the Sad Young Men*, an inscribed presentation copy with original sketch by Fitzgerald, in the first issue dust jacket.

Sold for \$37,375



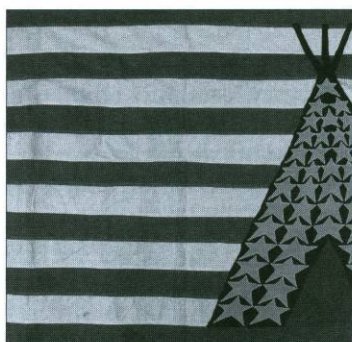
Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*
First Issue, large paper copy.

Sold for \$192,000



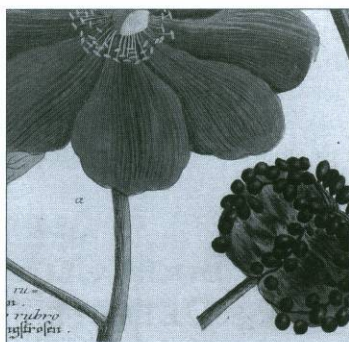
John Smart's *A Round of the Links*, with 20 etched plates of the best known Scottish golf links, one of the most sought after of all golf books, and one of the most difficult to obtain.

Sold for \$17,250



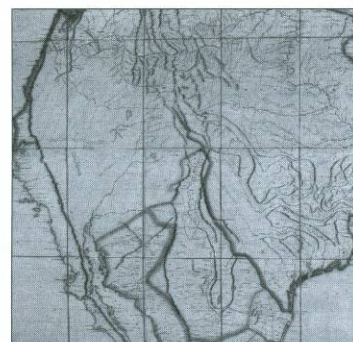
Original flag that flew over Alcatraz during the time it was occupied by Native Americans from 1969 to 1971, created by Penobscot Indian Luile Nall, a key symbol of the signature moment of the American Indian Movement during the 20th century.

Sold for \$69,000



Johann Weinmann's *Duidelyke Vertoning*, 4 volumes, 1736-1748, the Dutch language edition of *Phytanthoza Iconographia*, with 1,025 color plates.

Sold for \$137,000



John Melish's landmark 1816 map of the United States, the first large scale detailed map made in the U.S. that showed the entire country from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Sold for \$69,000

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numbered journals are edited by Sebastian Carter (sebastianc@waitrose.com) and published by UK branch.

FLORIDA BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY



THE FLORIDA BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY (FBS) again noted its 25th Anniversary at our May 2008 banquet. We installed Michael Bryan of the Seminole, FL, Public Library as our incoming President and Irene Pavese as our new Vice President. After a summer break, we resume meetings in September, alternating between Largo (Pinellas County – Go Rays!) and Tampa (Hillsborough County – Go Bucs and Lightning!). We normally meet on the third Sunday of the month. We will assemble at 1:30 p.m. on September 21 at the Heritage Village/Museum in Largo. Thereafter we will alternate: even months at the Kelce Library on the University of Tampa campus and odd months at Heritage Village. Two exceptions to this schedule will apply. December is our Christmas pot luck and auction and May is our annual banquet – dates and locations to be determined. Guest speakers and subjects for the coming meetings remain to be scheduled.

Contact Lee Harrer, 727-536-4029 or midbooks@tampabay.rr.com for more current information and directions to our meeting places.

FONTANEDA SOCIETY



ALL PROGRAMS are held on every third Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Bienes Museum of the Modern Book, 6th Floor, Broward County Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida unless otherwise noted.

September 21 – *So This is Florida: An Exhibition of Decorative Book Bindings and Book Jackets, 1873-1999*. Exhibit mounted by James Findlay and Lillian Perricone with materials from the Bienes Museum. Gallery talk by Jim Findlay. Exhibit runs from June 21-October 6, 2008. Visit the virtual exhibition at: www.digilab.browardlibrary.org/

October 19 – No meeting.

November 16 – *WPA Children's Books published by the Federal Writers' Project, the Milwaukee Handicraft Project, and the New York City New Reading Materials Program Exhibit: Oct. 13 - Dec. 31, 2008 at the Bienes Museum of the Modern Book*. Exhibit of Children's books published by the Federal Writers' Project and other agencies from

the WPA, 1935-1942. Exhibit mounted by James Findlay and Lillian Perricone with materials from the Bienes Museum. Gallery talk by Jean Fitzgerald, donor of many of the books.

December 14, 2008 – Annual Holiday Party. Show and Tell. Members provide refreshments.

For more information please contact Jim Findlay at the Bienes Museum, 954 357-8692 or Peggy Bing, Secretary, 954 785-2834.

THE GROLIER CLUB



THE ONE HUNDRED and twenty fourth annual meeting of the Club was held 24 January 2008. Again this year, the venue was the elegant Metropolitan Club, just down the street at East 60th street and Fifth Avenue. Following the meeting, several hundred members enjoyed a reception with sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and a delicious dinner.

In the wake of the election held at the Annual Meeting, the Grolier Club Council is constituted as follows: Officers: William H. Helfand, President; Florence Fearington, Vice President; Arthur L. Schwarz, Treasurer; David Alan Richards, Secretary. Committee Chairs: Lea Iselin, House; John R. Blaney,

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Councilors: William Beekman, Andrew L. Berger, Bruce J. Crawford, Richard M. Estes, David N. Redden, Mark D. Tomasko, Jack Gumpert Wasserman.

New Members since October, 2007: Fern Cohen, Sands Point, NY; Hersh Cohen, Sands Point, NY; William S. Eakins, New York, NY; Judith Glazer-Raymo, New York, NY; Robert Viscusi, Brooklyn, NY; Christina Geiger, Brooklyn, NY; Virginia Louise Davies, New York, NY; Kenneth Karmiole, Santa Monica, CA; David Spadafora, Chicago, IL; Vic Zoschak, Jr., Alameda, CA; James T. Curtis, New York, NY; B. Robert DeMento, Malvern, PA; Andrea Gray Stillman, New York, NY; Glen McLaughlin, Los Gatos, CA; Aron David Wahrman, Bala Cynwyd, PA; Carolyn Veatch (welcome back), Northampton, MA; Melissa Conway, Moreno Valley, CA; Connie Vinita Dowell, San Diego, CA; Paul Kennerson, La Jolla, CA; Nicholas A.G. Lamb, Manhasset, NY; David M. Lesser, Woodbridge, CT; Julie Melby, Princeton, NJ; Vivien Ranschburg Clark, New

York, NY; Edwin A. Bock, Syracuse, NY; Annabelle F. Prager, New York, NY; Cameron O. Smith, New York, NY; Charles Whittingham, New York, NY; Bruce Criddle Willsie, Princeton, NJ.

CLUB PUBLICATIONS

Includes titles published by others to accompany Grolier Club events.

Benjamin Franklin, Writer and Printer.

James M. Green and Peter Stallybrass. 2006. 8 1/2 x 11, 192 pp., color, b&w illustrations. Catalogue of the Grolier Club exhibition December 11, 2007-February 2, 2008. Cloth, d.j. \$40.

The Proper Decoration of Book Covers: The Life and Work of Alice C. Morse.

Mindell Dubansky, with essays by Alice Cooney Frelinghuysen & Josephine M. Dunn. 9 x 12, 107 pp., 119 color illustrations. Catalogue of the eponymous exhibition at the Grolier Club January 23-March 7, 2008. Designed by Jerry Kelly. 1,100 copies, wrappers. Gratis to members, additional copies @ \$28.

Facing the Late Victorians: Portraits of Writers & Artists in the Mark Samuels Lasner Collection.

Margaret D. Stetz. 2007. 8 1/2 x 11, 158pp., color frontispiece, 70 b&w illustrations. Catalogue of the exhibition held at the Grolier Club February 20-April 26, 2008. Designed by Jerry Kelly, pictorial wrappers. \$40.

Wayfarers All: Selections from the Kenneth Grahame Collection of David J. Holmes. 2008. 9 1/2 x 7 1/4, 48pp., color and b&w illustrations. Catalogue of the exhibition held at the Grolier Club March 19-May 23, 2008. Designed by Jerry Kelly. Pale green printed wrappers. Gratis to members. Additional copies @ \$12.

Anthony Powell & Friends from the Collection of William B. Warren.

Foreword by Warren. 2007. Catalogue of an exhibition at the Grolier Club 22 March-26 May, 2006. 9 x 6, 96pp., 11 tipped in color and b&w illustrations. Plain wrappers, sewn, stiff red embossed d.j., labels on cover and spine. 1500 copies printed letterpress at Thornwillow Press. Gratis to members, additional copies @ \$24.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

William T. Buice III (New York, NY) who has served the Club in many roles including President, has been named Chairman of the Board of Rare Book School at the University of Virginia. **John Bidwell** (Princeton, NJ) stepped down as president of the BSA, succeeded by **John Neal Hoover** (St. Louis, MO). **Eric Holzenberg** (Bronx, NY) has passed the presidency of APHA to **Paul Romaine** (West Nyack, NY). On October 18, **Alan Fern** (Chevy Chase, MD) lectured on Lucien Pissarro and the Eragny Press at the John Hay Library at Brown University. **Paul T. Ruxin** (Chicago, IL) has been elected Chairman of the Board of Governors of The

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Folger Shakespeare Library. Nicholas Basbanes (N. Grafton, MA) has a new book on book collecting, libraries and reading. *Editions and Impressions: Twenty Years on the Book Beat* is available from Fine Books Press. An exhibition of rare items from the collection of Jay I. Kislak (Miami Lakes, FL) opened on December 13 at the Library of Congress. *Exploring the Early Americas* features rare books, manuscripts, historic documents and maps, including the famed Waldseemüller map of 1507. Jerrold Mitchell (Wayland, MA) gave a talk in January, 2008 at the Club of Odd Volumes in Boston on reading, writing, and collecting books on wine.

LONG ISLAND BOOK COLLECTORS



AT OUR LATEST MEETING on June 11, 2008, the Long Island Book Collectors in collaboration with LIABDA were treated to a talk by Nick Taylor who spoke about his most recent book: *American-Made: The Enduring Legacy of the WPA, When FDR Put the Nation to Work*. A lively discussion about the WPA and the Great Depression ensued.

MANUSCRIPT SOCIETY



OUR ANNUAL MEETING presents the opportunity to visit outstanding venues for autographs, manuscripts, books, and art, to hear academic presentations pertinent to the collection, and to bond with fellow enthusiasts. This May's meeting in Arizona was a good example, with visits to Tucson and Phoenix/Tempe. Tucson sites visited included the Center for Creative Photography, the University of Arizona Library, the Arizona Historical Society, and the Arizona State Museum. The meeting moved to Tempe/Phoenix where the Arizona State Archives, the Heard Museum, Taliesin West, and the Arizona State University Archives and Special Collections were featured.

Members enjoyed the chance to add to their collection at a low-key auction following a tasty lunch in the historic "Old Main" building of Arizona State University. Interesting items auctioned included royalty (Elizabeth II), presidents (Buchanan), composers (Dello Joio), literary (Harriet Beecher Stowe), as well as two original cels from Disney's "The Jungle Book." The final day was spent in the desert at the Amerind Museum and the town of Tombstone.

The group was "treated" to a phenomenon rare in southern Arizona in May; a few days of rain! But perfect weather on the day of our desert excursions made the Native American art at the Amerind Museum and the historical reenactments at Tombstone memorable. The Taliesin West visit, being in a Frank Lloyd Wright masterpiece with excellent docents bringing the site alive, was highlighted by a special showing of letters and documents from the archives.

Manuscript Society annual meetings always feature excellent meals, the highlight of this one being the closing banquet at the "Steakout Restaurant" in Sonoita. Herb Rubin and our executive director Ed Oetting were the organizers of this memorable meeting. Next year's annual meeting is in Philadelphia, May 20-24, 2009, with details on the website: www.manuscript.org

Local meetings of Manuscript Society members were held this past winter. Southern California members visited the Clark Memorial Library of UCLA, where, in a special Saturday opening, chief librarian Bruce Whiteman told the story of the library and its founder. Recent acquisitions including letters of Samuel Johnson, James Boswell, and the Marquis de Sade were on display. Southern California contact is Beverly Hill at Beverly@goldbergcoins.com.

In Philadelphia's Chinatown, after a Chinese New Year's feast, member David Maxey presented the story of Samuel Wallis (1736-1798). Maxey, an emeritus member of the boards of the Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, brought to life this obscure colonial Philadelphia figure who acted as a go-between in the secret negotiations conducted by Benedict Arnold and the British in New York. The talk was illustrated with Maxey's collection of manuscripts and letters connecting Wallis and Arnold. This meeting also featured members Mike Axelrod and Jim Goldman making brief presentations of items from their collections (Philadelphia area contact is Barton Smith at ksmith3685@aol.com).

The Society's journal *Manuscripts*, edited by David Chesnutt for 30 years, continues to bring members educational and entertaining articles every three months. Recent issues, besides book reviews and auction reports, included articles about the website (www.americashistory.org), Robert E. Lee's random wartime notes, Scottish music, the author Lucy Montgomery, and a fascinating article about another obscure colonial figure, Thomas Cresap.

Other ongoing activities of The Society include replevin and scholarship grants. We

have a long history of assisting members whose ownership of manuscripts is challenged by government authorities – an action generally known as "replevin." The Society's role is educational, helping members understand their rights and on occasion entering "friend of the court" briefs to help judicial officials understand the legal traditions involved in such cases. The Society's efforts in this area are supported by a "replevin fund" which is rapidly growing through member contributions. In the last year alone, the fund has doubled to more than \$80,000.

The Society launched an ambitious initiative at its annual meeting last May to build an endowed fund of at least \$100,000 to support its scholarship program. Its signature scholarship, the Manuscript Society Richard Maass Research Grant, has become well known among leading universities because it provides \$5,000 in unrestricted funds to graduate students whose research is largely based on manuscripts. Research Grant applicants must be pursuing a graduate degree at an accredited College or University that holds institutional membership in The Manuscript Society and be formally sponsored by that institutional member. Institutions which support the Society's annual meetings frequently receive scholarship funds designed to attract student support for their institutional activities.

NORTHERN OHIO BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETY



NOBS CELEBRATED its 25th anniversary in 2008. In July and August of 1983, interested dealers from northeast Ohio discussed the formation of an organization that would "promote an interest in book collecting and the book arts." These book dealers, workers, and collectors, with a common interest in promoting the production, preservation, collection, and sale of fine and antiquarian books, and the preservation and protection of the heritage of the printed word began with twelve members. The Society now has over 300 members.

THE BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY OF ROCHESTER



THE SOCIETY concluded the 2007-2008 season in June with its annual banquet. Peter Henderson, long-time proprietor of the Brownbag Bookshop on Monroe Ave-

15 November 1832
1792

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My personal acquaintance with you and my knowledge of your liberality to the friends of our Country I will make no apology for troubling you with this letter I have been in conversation with my friend Colo Sd Henry Dyer upon a subject which I feel a deep interest

I have advised him to lay the blame of the heirs of Colo Henry Dyer before Congress and I hope you will give your aid to an amiable widow and creditable family which from the circumstance of Colo Dyers devoting his whole time to the service of his country has occasioned Colo Dyer to leave his

Family in an imbarised situation and much oppressed I myself entered the army with Colo Dyer and was well acquainted with his services and can say that the government cannot do a greater act of gratitude than to relieve his family from distrep which will be no more than justice from their country you will please to read this and show it to other members of your body and I hope they will appreciate this request - I must close with great respects your friend & obt servt

David Crockett

Fine Books and Manuscripts Monday October 13, 10am Los Angeles and New York

Preview

October 3-5, New York
October 10-12, Los Angeles

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Pictured: Crockett, David. Autograph Letter Signed ("David Crockett"), 2 pp, December 23, 1832, to Daniel Webster on behalf of the family of fellow Creek War veteran Colonel Henry Dyer, with integral autograph address leaf.
Estimate: \$30,000 - 50,000

Illustrated Catalog: \$35

For further information, complimentary auction estimates or to view and order catalogs, visit www.bonhams.com/us or call +1 800 223 2854.

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nue in Rochester, was honored at the banquet.

The Society begins its new season in September with a talk by Clarence F. Stephens, Jr., son of the well known mathematician, Clarence F. Stephens, a permanent inductee in the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, as part of "A Living History Project—Black Americans in the Sciences." Clarence F. Stephens, Jr. is a renown mathematician in his own right and holds a Masters Degree in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin—Madison. He will be speaking about his book collecting experience.

Plans for a highly interesting meeting for October are well underway, but have yet to be formally announced.

At the November meeting, we will hear from Martin Scott, who will be speaking to the group about Dr. Rudolf Kingslake and his role in founding the Institute of Optics at the University of Rochester in 1929. Kingslake subsequently taught at the institute for sixty-three years. Martin Scott, who had known Dr. Kingslake for over forty years, shares Kingslake's interest in photography and Victorian humorous poetry and prose. Martin will bring to his talk many objects from the Kingslake archive, which spans nearly one hundred years. This meeting will be held at the Plutzik Room of the Rush Rhees Library at the University of Rochester.

The December meeting will be held at the Printing Book Arts Center at 713 Monroe Avenue—the old firehouse. Mitch Cohen, the director of the center, will speak about letterpress printing, type, and type setting and their fascinating relation to 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 had throughout the bibliophilic season, as announced in the monthly mailing and through local news media. For information, please contact Ray Edinger by phone at 585-663-1339 or by email at redinger@rochester.rr.com.

THE ROWFANT CLUB



THE ROWFANT CLUB and its Arrangements Committee is looking forward to another highly diversified speaker season for Fall 2008 and through Spring 2009. The Committee is responsible for bringing all of our Wednesday Evening speakers to the

club. Its tradition has been to bring experts on the book to our podium—experts from all aspects of the world of books.

This season, we will be hearing from some 30 speakers on all these various aspects of the world of books. We have a kick-off speaker who is one of the leading special libraries experts in the United States. We will have a speaker on classical Greek history to honor our deceased member Maximilian (Maxl) Bloch in our next memorial dedicated to him.

We will also host a speaker on medieval manuscripts who will be our Jack Lang Memorial Speaker. Between those two we will host experts on printing and binding as well as authors on very diverse topics. And, as is part of our tradition, we will hear some wonderful musical performances as well. All in all, our Wednesday Evenings promise to be as lively and rich in content as they have been for many, many years.

We at The Rowfant Club are also delighted to see our wonderful Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) open again, albeit in stages, as its great expansion continues. This cultural treasure, not just of Cleveland, but truly of the entire world, offers to all who care to see the best of humankind's creativity on display. The Rowfant Club has often been involved in CMA programs and we look forward to continuing that tradition.

We are also delighted to be able to enjoy the Cleveland Orchestra in the marvelously refurbished Severance Hall. The Rowfant Club membership has always had another great passion besides books and that is music.

We are especially fortunate, and we know it, to live in such a culturally intense area. Besides these two beloved institutions, there are numerous other museums and institutions that enrich our lives and the lives of all in the University Circle and Greater Cleveland area.

Meanwhile, our Friday Lunch programs continue to give all members a chance to take the podium in Rowfant Hall and deliver their own talks on topics more wide ranging but still appropriate for a club of book lovers. These talks, like all Rowfant Club talks, are taped.

We also offer a Saturday Lunch program during season in which members and guests enjoy a "spirited" discussion of current events. It's an election year, so we expect the "spiritedness" of these luncheon sessions to be at a high point.

Thus The Rowfant Club continues in its traditional ways of offering avenues of reading and collecting and discussing

pleasures to its very bookish members. In our second century, we remain committed to encouraging the civility and joy that comes with a passion for books.

Changes in both the Wednesday and Friday programs have occurred, however. These are not changes in direction or policy but rather of management. Yours truly, who has been chairman or co-chair of the Arrangements Committee for some 14 years is stepping down to take upon himself the role of Friday Lunch moderator. Its most illustrious and genial host, Walter (Chick) Holtkamp, after nearly a decade of leadership and wit, has stepped down to "more enjoy the speakers from the audience side."

The new chairman of the Rowfant Club Arrangements Committee is Carter Edman. Carter and his committee will continue to place speakers of the highest and most appropriate quality before us on our Wednesdays.

Tradition runs The Rowfant Club and our tradition is based upon our passion for books and their marvelous capacity to astound, delight, and educate the mind. We are looking forward to celebrating all of that in the coming season.

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

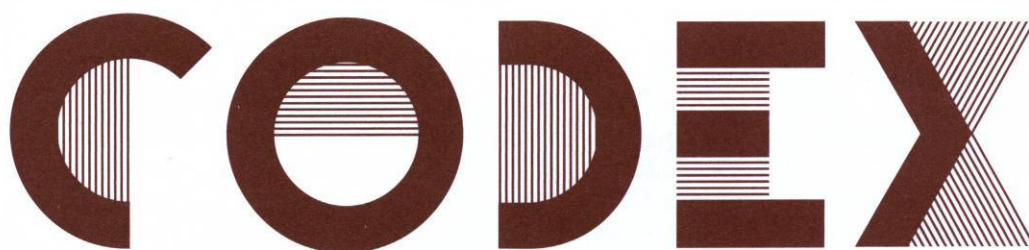
THE ROXBURGHE CLUB OF SAN FRANCISCO



THE ROXBURGHE CLUB of San Francisco, presents a renowned group of speakers for its 2008 Autumn/Winter meetings. On September 16, Robert Essick, distinguished professor of English at the University of California, Riverside, and one of three editors of The William Blake Archives, will deliver a talk entitled "Collecting William Blake: Past, Present, and Future." Dr. Sandra Hindman, Owner, Les Enluminures, Paris and Chicago, and Professor Emerita, Northwestern University, will present "Books of Hours in the Electronic Age: The Past Meets the Present" at the Club's October 21st meeting. On November 18, Anthony Bliss, Curator of Rare Books at the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, will give a talk entitled, "Pharaohs and Beatniks at The Bancroft Library."

Each Roxburghe Club invitation is specially printed by a Roxburghe Club printer/member; the Club is grateful to David Lance Goines, Andrew Hoyem, and Richard Seibert, the Autumn/Winter printers.

The World's Fair of the Book as a Work of Art



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THE SECOND BIENNIAL CODEX INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

WE ARE GATHERING TOGETHER ON THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY CAMPUS a congress of the world's finest book artists, artisans, private presses, curators, collectors, booksellers and scholars in the spirit of an Old West *rendezvous*. ▣ The CODEX bookfair will showcase contemporary artist's books, fine press and fine art editions. Exhibitors include: artists, printers, publishers, bookbinders, papermakers, booksellers, bibliophile organizations, and educational programs in the book arts. ▣ San Francisco Bay Area presses, libraries, book arts & bibliophilic organizations, and art galleries will be hosting social events, exhibits, & receptions during the week. Immediately following the CODEX events, the world's largest antiquarian book fair opens on Friday the 13th in San Francisco.

"A GRAND BOOK-WEEK IN THE STORIED SAN FRANCISCO TRADITION!"



THE CODEX SYMPOSIUM

Concurrent with the bookfair, the CODEX symposium at the University of California Berkeley Art Museum, will feature lectures by prominent writers & artists including:

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and artist presentations by:

KAREN BLEITZ ▣ CLEMENS-TOBIAS LANGE

EMILY MCVARISH ▣ TATE SHAW

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SACRAMENTO BOOK COLLECTORS CLUB



FOR THE PAST EIGHT MONTHS, the Sacramento Book Collectors Club (SBCC) has continued to provide varied monthly programs while implementing and working on projects.

On January 11, 2008, at the annual "Show-N-Tell" evening meeting, elections were held for the Executive Board of Directors for the club. Elected were Louisa R. Vessell, president; Daryl Morrison, vice president; Brad Casoly, treasurer; and Phyllis Ehler, secretary. For the board of directors the following members were elected: Dr. Jay Zil, Archivist; Lois Shumaker, Web Master; Vince Lozito, Member-at-Large; John Ohlson, Membership; Felicia Oropeza, Student Member; Miguel Hernandez, Field Trips; and Carl Burke, Past President. Geary Tracy continues as Newsletter Editor and Gerrilee Hafvenstein continues as Refreshments Chair.

We initiated a fundraiser to pay for the organization and cataloguing of our book club items at the California State Library. Gerrilee Hafvenstein who is a member of the book club, has begun the work cataloguing the club's archival materials at the California State Library under the direction of Gary Kurutz, Principal Librarian for the Special Collections Branch. He is also a member of the book club. The Library houses the club's publications, keepsakes, dinner fliers, newsletters, correspondence, photographs, minutes, meeting announcements, and other items.

We have reviewed our by-laws and are in the process of updating them and adding two new positions to the board of directors: Archivist and Student Representative. The Hewlett Foundation commissioned a report on Youth Involvement in the Arts and the findings apply to most non-profits. It addressed how non-profits need to succeed in recruiting, training, and keeping new leadership for our organizations, to how we can build younger audiences and cultivate new donors and supporters. One way to assist in achieving results is to have a young person on an organization's board of directors to get their perspective and learn what is the best way to communicate with young people to get them involved. This is particularly important because young people have so many ways of communicating with one another besides the telephone, conversation, and email.

In February, P. Scott Brown, Founder and Editor of *Fine Books and Collections Magazine*, spoke before the club at our annual dinner meeting which was held at Lions Gate Hotel and Conference Center in Sacramento. Mr. Brown told how his magazine has grown into the largest publication for book collectors and won an Eddie Award as the best enthusiast magazine in America in 2005. Among its regular columnists are Nicholas Basbanes, rare-books librarian Joel Silver, and map historian Derek Hayes.

On March 14, 2008, John Poswall, well known local attorney, spoke to the club about his new novel, *The Altar Boys*. The new book is a courtroom drama and legal thriller, set in Sacramento and praised by *New York Times* best-selling fiction writer John Lescroart who calls it "Audacious, brilliant and endlessly entertaining." Poswall's first book was *The Lawyers* and he gave a program on this book in 2007. The meeting was held at Richard L. Press Fine and Scholarly Books on the Arts. Mr. Press is one of the book club's members who owns the bookstore.

New York Times bestselling author, John Lescroart, spoke before the club in April discussing his latest book, *Betrayal* which reunites San Francisco defense attorney Dismas Hardy and his buddy, detective Abe Glitsky in a story filled with the big themes that are worthy of them – the intersection of love, betrayal, and a desperate search for the truth in a critical matter of national security. Lescroart's books have been translated into 16 languages in more than 75 countries.

In May, Eva Rutland was to present a program on her book, *When We Were Colored: A Mother's Story*, but was unable to attend the meeting. In her place, Ginger Rutland, her daughter, spoke to the club and did a PowerPoint presentation about the book and her family. Eva Rutland is the author of more than 20 novels and winner of the 2000 Golden Pen Award for Lifetime Achievement. She is the granddaughter of a slave and was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, and educated at Spelman College. Ginger Rutland, a former television news reporter in San Francisco and Sacramento, is an award-winning documentary maker and is currently an editor for the *Sacramento Bee*. Both Rutlands live in Sacramento.

The book club celebrated their annual June "culinary" meeting with Dr. Charlie Bamforth, guest speaker for the evening. He is Chair of the Department of Food Science & Technology and the Anheuser-

Busch Endowed Professor of Malting & Brewing Sciences at the University of California, Davis. Bamforth is also Editor in Chief of the *Journal of the American Society of Brewing Chemists* and has published several papers, articles and books on beer and brewing. He spoke about his latest book, *Grape versus Grain* (Cambridge University Press), which he states is a completely unbiased comparison of wine and beer. He also discussed his book on soccer.

For more information about the SBCC, contact Louisa R. Vessell at 916 451-2113, or lvessell@sbccglobal.net, or visit the website: www.sacramentobookcollectors.org.

THE TICKNOR SOCIETY



THE TICKNOR SOCIETY had a busy schedule of activities this past winter and spring. Among the offerings during the winter was the annual Collectors' Roundtable at the Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair on November 17. This year's theme was "Working Collections: Collectors Who Use Their Books." A packed room heard from carriage historian and curator Ken Wheeling on his collection of printed material on horse-drawn vehicles; garden historian Judith B. Tankard on her landscape research library; and graphic design professor John McVey on telegraphic code dictionaries ca. 1870-1930. Ticknor also had an information booth at the book fair, enhanced by an eye-catching book-related quilt specially made by Beth Carroll-Horrocks. In December Ticknor members were invited to a tour of the book collection of member Chris Morgan (which varies from Lewis Carroll related material to a copy of *The Maltese Falcon* signed by Dashiell Hammett to comic books) and a February tour of Brandeis University Library's Special Collections Department.

On Saturday, March 22, the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester opened its doors for a special Ticknor Society event, which included a variety of presentations and tours celebrating the founder of the Society, the "Patriot-printer" Isaiah Thomas. The Society's rich heritage and collections as they relate to the history of the American book was the primary focus with further discussion of forthcoming outreach programs, such as cataloging initiatives, academic seminars, and their new K-12 programs. As an additional treat, the Society's previous director, Marcus McCorison, discussed his forthcoming work on Isaiah Thomas's original collection gift.



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On April 7, internationally known British bookseller Roger Gaskell discussed aspects of the history of star atlases from 1482 to 1851 and various controversies over the naming of constellations and how the skies should be mapped through an illustrated lecture entitled "Star Wars: The Golden Age of the Celestial Atlas." Star atlases capture the sweeping grandeur of the heavens and are among the most beautiful scientific books ever made. They were works of science, first and foremost, but these atlases nevertheless have a universal appeal. The blending of star maps with constellation figures in a grand and monumental format is hard for anyone to resist.

In May, bookbinder and restorer Cynthia Fields-Belanger led an enthusiastic group in planning and creating three styles of Japanese-style stab bindings, using the beautiful papers and cords that she contributed. On June 3, Ken Gloss, proprietor of The Brattle Book Shop in Boston, was the guest speaker at the Annual Meeting in June. His lecture was entitled "Treasures in Your Attic: Old and Rare Books."

Ticknor events already scheduled for the fall include a tour of the rare books collection at the Museum of Fine Arts on September 24 at 6:00 p.m. and the traditional Collectors' Roundtable at the Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair on November 15.

For further information about events, please go to the Ticknor Society website, www.ticknor.org.

THE BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON



THE BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON continues to provide opportunities for local bookpeople of all genres to come together, enjoy each other's company, learn from each other, and support the culture of reading and collecting.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

The Annual Meeting was convened Sunday April 6 at 2:00 p.m. at the University of Washington Libraries in Special Collections. Following the short business meeting members enjoyed a presentation by Visual Materials Curator Nicolette Bromberg, "New Visual Materials in Special Collections: Architecture and Photography."

PUBLICATIONS

The BCW has produced a reprint of a rare and charming architectural pattern book *Craftsman Bungalows* by Jud Yoho. Yoho was a noted local design-builder of

workingman's craftsman cottages. The reprint includes a copy of the original coupon offered for a \$1.00 off on a set of plans from the catalog. The BCW website offers a more detailed description and an opportunity to purchase this title. www.thebookclubofwashington.org

The Journal of the Book Club of Washington. The Spring issue is available with an article on the history of bookdealers in Seattle. Claudia Skelton is the new editor of the Journal and, with the inestimable eye of Dana Cordray, the publication is taking on a new and more refined look.

Pamela Harer is our new *BCW Newsletter* which is now exclusively published online allowing links to event listings, websites, and other important information for our members. Check it out on the BCW webpage: www.thebookclubofwashington.org

A new Keepsake "Spring" a poem by Duane Niatum, was offered to the members this April. It was designed and printed by Springtide Press, Jessica Spring proprietor and the Elliot Press which is staffed by students at Pacific Lutheran University.

UPCOMING

We are all excited about the upcoming Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair & Book Arts Show 2008 featuring thousands of rare books, prints, maps, photographs and ephemera for sale by over 90 dealers from the United States and Canada, Germany and England. The 21st annual show will be held at the Seattle Center Exhibition Hall (on Mercer St. just east of 3rd Ave N. in Seattle) on Saturday October 11 (10 am to 6 pm) and Sunday, October 12 (11 am to 4 pm). Tickets are \$5 at the door (good for both days). The website has additional information: www.seattlebookfair.com. Or visit our e-mail: info@seattlebookfair.com

The Collegiate Book Collecting Contest winners will be awarded by Scott Brown, editor of *Fine Books & Collections* at the opening dinner on October 9th. The winners will spend the weekend in Seattle and attend the Book Fair. The keynote speaker for this event is Edward Nolan from the Washington State Historical Society. His topic will be the Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition 1909-2009 Centennial Celebration.

WASHINGTON RARE BOOK GROUP



THE WRBG FINISHED OUT the 2007-2008 event-year with a series of lectures and visits: in January, Debra Wynn (Library of Congress) spoke to the group in LC's Ros-

enwald Room about the Library's incomparable collection of materials by Rudyard Kipling, with a display of selected items; in February (rescheduled from November), Leslie Overstreet (Smithsonian Institution Libraries) gave a talk on the personal library of benefactor James Smithson, an 18th-century gentleman-scientist, again with a display of selected books; in March we went back to LC twice, first for a gallery talk about the Waldsee-muller map by Dr. John Hebert (LC Geography & Map Div.), and then for a tour of the Jay I. Kislak Collection exhibition "Exploring the early Americas," led by Arthur Dunkelman (LC Kislak Curator); April took us to the Folger Shakespeare Library for a tour of the exhibition "History in the making: How early modern Britain imagined its past;" and finally our annual meeting at the Ft. McNair Officers' Club in May featured Mark Dimunation (Library of Congress, Head of the Rare Books & Special Collections Division) speaking about the just-completed project of "Reconstructing the library of Thomas Jefferson."

Since this is being written in July, we can describe only our plans for 2008-2009, but the schedule is shaping up nicely. We hope to offer members and friends a "rare-books roadshow" with Allan Stypek (Second Story Books) and Allan Ahearn (Quill & Brush), to be taped for broadcast on "The Book Guys" radio program; visits to the historical library at Gunston Hall and to two private collections in Washington and its suburbs; a joint meeting with the Chesapeake chapter of the American Printing History Association for a talk by Dan deSimone at the Library of Congress; and curator-led tours of new exhibitions at the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Smithsonian Institution Libraries.

For additional information please contact Leslie Overstreet at www.washingtonrarebookgroup.org, or overstreetl@si.edu.

THE ZAMORANO CLUB



ZAMORANO MEMBERS attending FABS in Newport, June 4-7, 2008, thought it a superb experience full of good books and nice people. It was beautifully planned by Don and Molly Magee. Lisa Long of the Redwood Library, the new President of the John Russell Bartlett Society, deserves special accolades for allowing The Redwood Library to play such an important part in this FABS tour.

After a lapse of several years, the biennial

Zamorano/Roxburghe Joint Meeting is scheduled for October 24-26, 2008, using Cal Tech's Athenaeum as our headquarters and exploring the riches of Pasadena, the Claremont Colleges, local bookshops, and private libraries. Our banquet will be at The Huntington Library.

Following our usual custom, our meet-

ings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, October through June.

On October 1, Marieka Kaye introduced by Steve Tabor, will speak on: "Pop-ups and Overlays in the History of Science Books."

On November 5, Bob Weinstein, of the famed Southern California Book family, will be introduced by Gordon Van De

Water. His topic: "A Happily Retired Bookseller."

The December 3, "Guadeamus" program is yet to be announced.

On January 7, 2009, nonagenarian Glen Dawson, will present W. Michael Mathes who will talk on "The Beginning of Printing in The New World."

International Affiliates, et al

ABERYSTWYTH BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GROUP



THE ABERYSTWYTH BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GROUP was formed in December 1970 by members of staff of the National Library of Wales and the then College of Librarianship Wales, and issued its first program for the 1971-1972 season. The Group's members include librarians, academics, and others with an interest in bibliographical matters, and in addition to printed books, its interests extend to manuscripts, archives, maps, and printed ephemera.

The Group's activities include five meetings each season, with a speaker and a

question period, and an annual outing. The 2007-2008 program included meetings in October, November, January, and February, with addresses by Dr. Nicolas Bell, Curator of Music Manuscripts at the British Library, who spoke on *My Ladye Nevells Booke: The Keyboard Music of William Byrd*; Mr. Michael Freeman, Curator of the Ceredigion Museum, who spoke on *Sources of Information for the Traveler in 18th and 19th Century Wales*; Mr. Philip Henry Jones, who spoke on *From Llanidloes to Tsientsin: The Sad Odyssey of Mathew Lewis, Preacher, Novelist, Soldier*; and Mr. Gareth Edwards, who spoke on *The History of the National Monuments Record of Wales*.

The Annual General Meeting was held in March, followed by a talk by the Chairman,

Dr. Lionel Madden, on his career in librarianship. A visit to several private libraries in Powys is planned for September. The Group held its fourth members' exhibition in December and January at the National Library, including literary works, items of ecclesiastical and architectural significance, atlases, travel books, and musical publications.

The 2008-2009 program begins in October with an address by Dr. Keith Manley, formerly of the University of London Institute of Historical Research, on *The Writing of Library History: People vs. Institutions*.

The Group welcomes visitors to its meetings and the meals that follow. Details of the Group's activities can be viewed on its web site: tinyurl.com/nncr, and its email address is tjc@llgc.org.uk.

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THE PRIVATE LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION



THE Private Libraries Association (PLA) was founded in England in 1956, is headquartered in the London area, has over 600 members worldwide, and, as the name suggests, focuses on the private library.

The PLA holds two meetings each year: the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in May and a Book Sale in October or November. At the AGM this year, the PLA's Hon. President, the London book dealer Keith Fletcher, talked about his collection of motoring books. At the Book Sale, members each bring twenty or thirty books that are laid out on tables for examination and possible purchase by attendees.

Each year, the PLA issues two quarterly publications – a *Newsletter*, and its journal *The Private Library*. The four numbers of *The Private Library* for 2007 included essays on Locks' Press; the printing of *A House of Pomegranates*; John Soane's Library; *Dalziel's Bible Gallery*; Bill Fletcher's reminiscences; the Leaning Chimney Press; the Durning-Lawrence Library; bibliographical spoofs; and Alan Loney's press.

A Modest Collection, celebrating the PLA's first fifty years and containing eighty-three contributions on the beginnings and progress of the writers' collections, was issued at the beginning of June, and though of very narrow interest to the world at large, seems to have been well received by members. It is being published in the United States by Oak Knoll.

Private Press Books 2002 and 2003 were published in August, 2007. Work is in progress on 2004 to 2006, for possible publication in late 2008. Four books are in preparation for distribution to members: *The Fanfrolico Press*, John Arnold; *John Sharp*, the early nineteenth century publisher, Iain Bain; *English Country Bookshops*, photographs by David Chambers with notes by owners; and an account of the *Illustrated Periodicals of the 1860s* by Simon Cooke.

AMERICAN PRINTING HISTORY ASSOCIATION



THE APHA's, 33rd annual conference will be held on October 10-12 in New York City. The Conference features a keynote address at The Grolier Club on

Friday, October 10 by James Mosley, the distinguished type historian. He will discuss the preservation of both the materials and practices that are the primary sources of printing history.

The main proceedings on Saturday, October 12 will be held at Columbia University. Prominent curators, printers, type casters, scholars, technologists, and teachers from the United States and Europe will bring their unique perspectives and experience to inform and inspire conversation and plans, as we identify at-risk areas and urgent priorities.

Optional events before the proceedings include a sneak preview of *Typeface*, a new documentary film about the Hamilton Wood Type Museum; a visit to Bowne & Co. Stationers, an 1870s job printing shop in lower Manhattan, and an exclusive tour of a new exhibition of the work of the renowned Whittington Press at the Center for Book Arts.

After the conference, historian Paul Shaw will lead a walking tour of type and lettering used in midtown Manhattan.

Full details are available at the APHA website, www.printinghistory.org.

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Ernest Shackleton, *Aurora Australis*, first edition, first issue, the "veal" copy, East Antarctica, 1908, inscribed to George Buckley, from the Levinson Collection. Sold on May 24, 2007, for \$84,000.

The Collector's Bin



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

THE COLLECTOR'S BIN invites FABS readers to submit questions on all matters bibliophilic in an effort to further our understanding of books and the book community. The questions continue as this author confronts the pleasant task of offering thoughtful responses. Although, bibliophiles will not always agree, we stand united in our love of the book. Our fellowship is strong; our fellowship is true. In an age when people question the longevity of the printed book, this author shouts, "*Vive le livre!*"

Our last column on book scouting and finding treasures inspired many to write, posing variations on an obvious question. A FABS reader from Georgia who is involved with the communities Friends of the library annual book sale writes in part, "I believe we could generate more income by being better informed about the value of books donated for our sale. To that end could you suggest one or two books about book collecting for the beginner?" A New York reader writes, "You spoke about the internet bringing about the democratization of book knowledge in your last column . . . could you share some of the better web sites where I can learn about finding collectable books." A young Ohio reader who saw our last column asks, "Can you study book scouting at college? I would be interested in majoring in the subject." There is little doubt that the subject of searching for valuable books interests our readers. The question is how one acquires the knowledge in order to find valuable books. I selected the three questions mentioned because each reader speaks of a different source of knowledge: books, the Internet, and formal programs of study.

Of the thousands of books available on the subject of books (i.e., books about books), it would admittedly be very difficult to select "must reads." However, if pressed for a suggestion, John Carter's *ABC for Book Collectors* stands as a classic. Prospective readers must not be deterred by the dictionary format. I encourage bibliophiles to read this dictionary of the book and then hold onto it as a lifelong reference. All areas of knowledge have their own specialized language and the

book world is no exception. Master the language and you will be rewarded.

Dealer catalogs are an often-overlooked source of bibliophilic knowledge. These catalogs inform the reader about the current state of the book market (i.e., what is collectable and how much is it worth). Professional bookmen study dealer catalogs, religiously. When given the opportunity, request dealer catalogs and do not be reluctant to pay for the catalog if you are using the catalog as reference and do not intend to order books from the dealer. Many of these catalogs are lavish, scholarly productions and are well worth the nominal cost. You will find that some dealers have a gift for writing informative, engaging book descriptions. Since a few readers have taken me to task for not offering "specifics" in past columns, I will recommend specific dealer catalogs that I enjoy. Oak Knoll Books offers superb catalogs with a focus on the book, the book arts, and book collecting. Bauman Rare Books, one the country's preeminent antiquarian bookshops, regularly publishes catalogs that are both a visual and intellectual treat. Bauman deals in important antiquarian books and modern high spots. If modern first editions are your field of interest, I highly recommend the catalogs from Between the Covers, Inc. Some may be interested in children's books, and one can learn a great deal by reading the catalogs offered by Alphabet books. Obviously, I can go on and on but the point is learning who the prominent dealers are in your areas of interest and read their catalogs. Book collectors who only buy their books on the Internet may be interested to learn that dealers regularly quote collectable books to their established customers before listing the books online.

Speaking of the Internet, there is little questioning that the Internet is a source of book information without peer. However, this author issues a big note of caution, if not downright warning. A little information in the wrong hands is dangerous. That is to say that it is not uncommon for amateur book dealers to appropriate a professional description and use it to describe the book they are offer-

ing. These amateurs have no clue about important things like "condition grading" or the importance of edition. I have received e-mail from readers telling their woes of ordering books that are described as first editions only to find that they were later printings. Another reader told me of his experience at a "Friends of the Library" book sale. "They had a table on which they were selling collectable books. I was proudly told by the person staffing the table that a volunteer had looked up each and every book on the Internet and priced them fairly. I could not help but let out a loud laugh as I looked at a tattered, shaken, worn, and stained copy of Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls* with a former owner's gift inscription, lacking the Scribner's 'A', priced at \$1,000!" The special collectable table that these friends of the library were so proud and confident of was quickly dismissed by knowledgeable bookmen as the work of amateurs. The lesson here, besides *caveat emptor*, is that one does not become an expert in any field by merely looking things up on the Internet.

Becoming a good bookman requires experience and study. Do not fret, because for the true bibliophile it will not feel like "studying" because she is passionate about books. As for studying about book scouting in college, this author is unaware of any college in the United States offering an undergraduate major in book scouting. However, there are opportunities to study and learn about books at the college level. Many MLS (Master of Library Science) programs offer courses in "special collections, rare books, and conservation." Not to be overlooked is the University of Virginia's noted Rare Book School. This is a two-week program of intensive study on all aspects of the book. The advice that I give to the young adult attending college who is interested in becoming a book scout is to study liberal arts, and work hard to find a mentor. Bibliophiles love to share their knowledge and experiences. As a mentor once told me, "you don't find the good books . . . they find you."

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