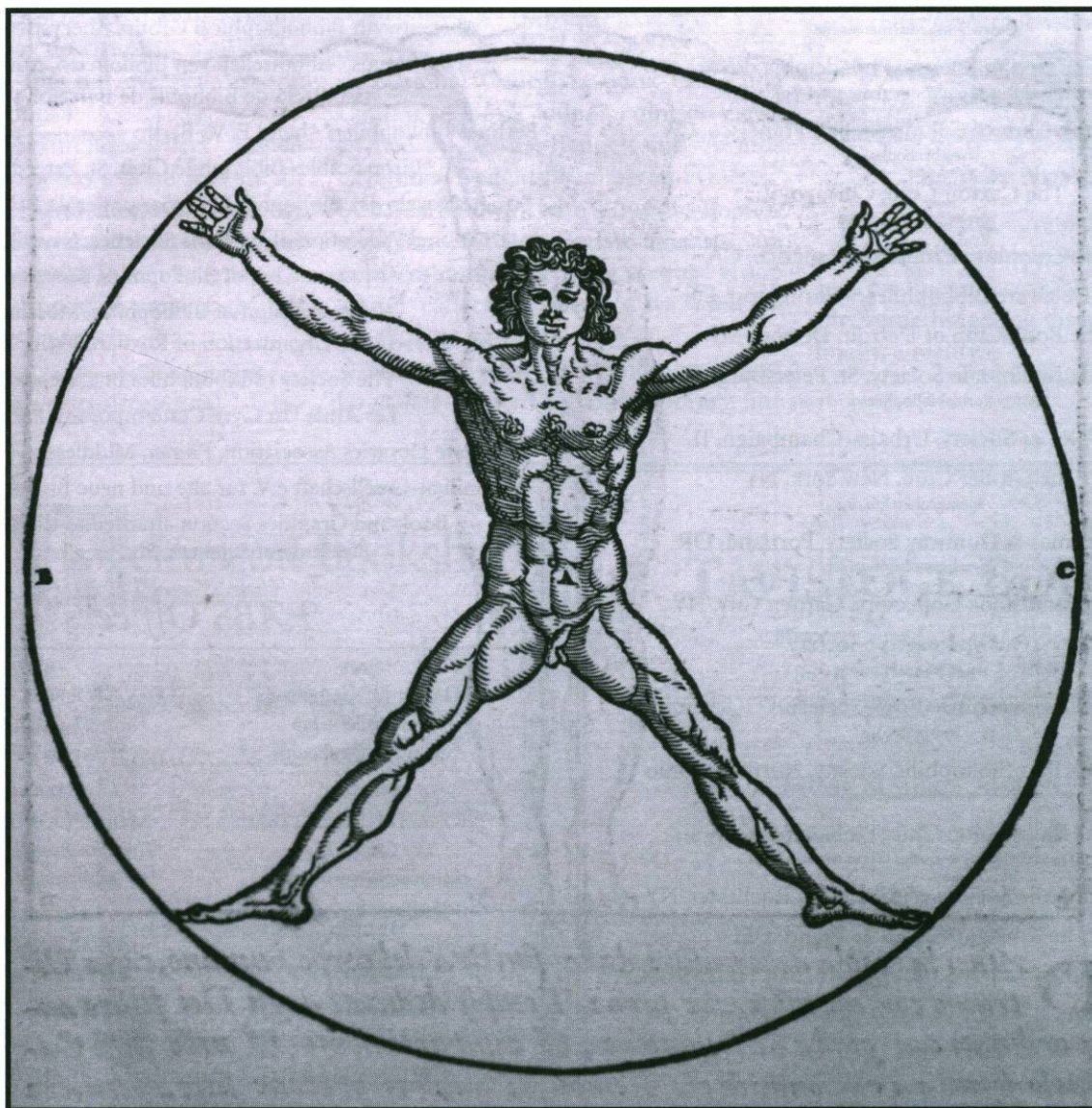


🍷 FABS Book Tour & Symposium 🍷 Pittsburgh 🍷 May 12-15, 2011 🍷

THE FELLOWSHIP OF *American*
Bibliophilic Societies

WINTER 2011

VOLUME XV • NUMBER 1



FESTIVAL OF THE ARCHITECTURE BOOK
1511-2011

National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest 🍷 Why I Collect What I Collect
New Website: www.fabsbooks.org. 🍷 Club News & Notes 🍷 Collector's Bin

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Over 7,500 copies of the *FABS Newsletter* publish twice annually. It is distributed during the first week of January and September to our 31 North American Member Clubs and 15 International Affiliates. **The cover image** is one of the images of "Vitruvian Man" depicted in *Della Architettura di Gio. Antonio Rusconi* (1590, Venice), a book that will be represented in the "Festival of the Architecture Book, 1511-2011." Another iteration of "Vitruvian Man" is faintly showing through the background from the verso of this leaf.

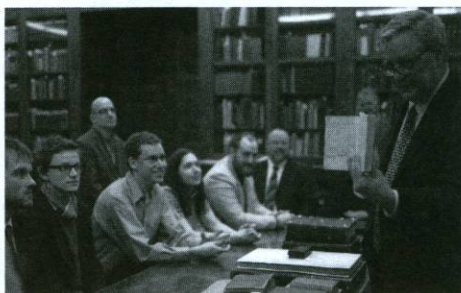
From the Chair

GOOD NEWS ABOUT WEBSITES

FABS now has an updated website in place thanks to the efforts of Kay and Virginia Kramer. Please take a moment to visit: www.fabsbooks.org. We expect this to be the perfect place, after January 1, 2011, to find the registration form and final itinerary for the upcoming FABS tour to Pittsburgh, May 12-15, 2011, for which more than half of the places are already reserved as of November 15. As we say down south, y'all come. (I do not say this but everyone else in Baton Rouge does.)

The Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America has a good website for its e-newsletter, and the latest issue has two excellent, brief, articles about the book collecting prize for undergraduates which FABS supported generously this year:

<http://hq.abaa.org/books/antiquarian/abaapages/e-newsletter6.html>



Mark Dimunation addresses undergraduate book collecting prize winners at the Library of Congress.

"National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest—From a Judge's Point of View" written by Stewart Bennett and "Awards Ceremony Delights Winners and Guests," by Sarah Baldwin, with a fine group photograph of the collegiate finalists, are excellent reminders of the very age group whose collecting interests we want so much to encourage.

You may want to attend the largest book fair devoted to contemporary fine

printing before attending the Antiquarian Book Fair in San Francisco. If so, I look forward to seeing you both places, easy to do because of coordinated schedules. The CODEX international book fair and symposium, organized by Peter Koch and Susan Filter, will be held on the campus at The University of California, Berkeley, February 6-9, 2011.

<http://www.codexfoundation.org/>

The 44th California International Antiquarian Book Fair will be held in San Francisco, February 11-13, 2011.

<http://www.sfbookfair.com/>

I would be most grateful if each person who receives a copy of this newsletter goes on-line to access the new FABS website, something long discussed, and now, finally, a reality.

DAVID CULBERT
Chair



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FABS in Pittsburgh: May 12-15, 2011

FABS will be going to Pittsburgh, May 12-15, 2011, and thirty of the fifty-five places have already been reserved. The final itinerary needs some further attention, but plans are very much in hand for what promises to be a splendid tour. The University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University are both eager to make our visit memorable. Thanks to Pitt's Chancellor, and Pitt's University Librarian, Rush Miller, we are able to stay at the Holiday Inn on the campus, at the Special University Rate. Pitt is next door to Carnegie Mellon, so we will be able to walk to many events, although the hotel provides complimentary shuttle service.

Most persons will want to arrive on May 11, and registration will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the lobby of the hotel. The tour proper will begin on Thursday, May 12, promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Our annual symposium, Saturday morning, May 14, will be held at the University Club, one block from the hotel. That afternoon we will visit Special Collections at Carnegie Library, two blocks from the hotel. Our final banquet will also be in the University Club, thus eliminating the need for a bus to take everyone around on May 14.

The optional tour to Fallingwater, the iconic Frank Lloyd Wright home, scheduled for Sunday, May 15, depends on how many want to go before a specific price can be finalized. If a small group is interested, a small bus (much less expensive) will be our choice. The registration form in this issue of the newsletter asks you to indicate your interest in the optional trip.

You will get an update about costs when we know how many want to attend.

Here are specific arrangements already made. The exact order in which they will occur is not absolutely finalized:

- Tour of the Stephen Foster Memorial, Heinz History Center, Fort Pitt Museum, and Special Collections at Carnegie Library (separate from Carnegie Mellon University, but right next door).
- Dinner at the Duquesne Club, considered the finest location for a private club in Pittsburgh; lunch or tea at the William Penn Hotel, the grand old downtown hotel (financial negotiations continue as of this writing).
- Visits to Special Collections, University Archives; and the Conservation Center, University of Pittsburgh.
- A visit to the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, perhaps the finest in the world, Special Collections at Carnegie Mellon University.
- A talk by Mary Catherine Johnsen, Special Collections Librarian, "90 Years of Fine Printing at Carnegie-Mellon" and a tour, of the Special Collections at Carnegie Mellon.
- A visit to the Andy Warhol Museum (Warhol was a Pittsburgh native).
- A tour downtown of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, including a special exhibition of historic newspapers.
- A tour of the Frick Art and Historical Center, including Clayton, the Pittsburgh mansion built by Henry Frick, with his entire library and a working Welte Orchestrion, an 1892 player pipe organ, whose snare drum and cymbal are not to be forgotten.

• Tours of private homes with splendid book collections, including John Block, Grolier Club member, who has a superb collection in a special room with its own climate control and security system. John's home is perhaps a ten-minute walk from our hotel.

• Our annual Symposium, whose speakers will soon be confirmed. The subject, "The Future of News," is appropriate. John Block, our host, is Chairman and Publisher *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* as well as the *Toledo Blade*, newspapers his family has owned for most of the twentieth century.

• A chance to visit several outstanding bookstores, including Caliban Books and Townsend Books, both perhaps a five-minute walk from our hotel.

• Our annual Saturday night banquet.

• Optional tour on Sunday May 15, to Fallingwater, the iconic Frank Lloyd Wright home where we will enjoy a Sunday brunch. The house is easily reached by bus, but is well beyond the city limits of Pittsburgh.

For registration, hotel rooms, and how to contact our conference coordinator, Joan Ardisson, please see the registration form on the facing page.

Here are three email addresses and telephone numbers, in case you need up-to-the-minute information:

Joan Ardisson, jardisson@post-gazette.com, 412 263-1861

John Block, johnrblock@theblade.com, 412 263-1861

David Culbert, dhculbert@aol.com, 225 324-1503

FABS BOOK TOUR & SYMPOSIUM

PITTSBURGH

May 12-15, 2011



Registration: The cost is \$450.00 per person, and includes a full schedule of activities each day, bus May 12-13, and most meals. The final itinerary will be sent to each participant by about mid-February 2011. Planning is well in hand, but the exact itinerary for each day needs some tweaking. The Tour begins at 8:30 a.m. on May 12.

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

Address: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: (print very carefully): _____

Collecting interests (will help planning to know what to show you): _____

FABS Club Affiliate: _____

Step 1. I enclose a check for a total of \$ _____ payable to **FABS Pittsburgh**. Send to Joan Ardisson, Assistant to the Chairman and Publisher, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 34 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Email: jardisson@post-gazette.com. Phone: 412 263-1861. Fax: 412 263-1609.

Step 2. Accommodation. The special hotel rate is \$127.00 per night, plus tax, available from Wednesday, May 11 until checkout on Monday, May 16. The reservation code is **FABS-booking ID No. 931905**. Daily parking is available at \$14 (usually \$20) per day. Please make you own reservations: Holiday Inn University Center, 100 Lytton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Phone: 412 682-6200.

Step 3. Optional Sunday, May 15, tour to Fallingwater: Please reserve _____ places for this tour. You will be contacted about projected cost, depending on how many want to go. A large bus is expensive, but may not be necessary.



JOE RUBINFINE



AMERICAN HISTORICAL AUTOGRAPHS

SOME MANUSCRIPTS WE HAVE HANDLED OVER THE YEARS

• **George Washington:** 47 war-dated letters to General Alexander McDougall including the only known report by him at the time of the Battle of Trenton in private care. • **Washington:** A letter moving troops 36 hours before the Battle of Princeton. • **Washington:** Two manuscript surveys done before the age of 20. • A complete set of autographs of **The Signers** of The Declaration of Independence. • **Button Gwinnett:** The best document example of this rare autograph; and another Gwinnett document individually. • **William Henry Harrison:** Four different documents signed during his brief administration including the best available. • New **President John Tyler's** letter of condolence to Harrison's widow. • **Robert E. Lee:** Three signed copies of his famous General Order Number Nine including the best available. • **T. J. "Stonewall" Jackson's** bank book. • The **Lexington Alarm** message carried by the original rider through eastern Connecticut on 20 April 1775. • A **Battle of Concord** muster roll. • **Thomas Jefferson:** A letter predicting the Civil War. • The famous angry letter by **Harry S Truman** to the newspaper music critic. • **Lincoln's** last letter, 14 April 1865. • A **Lincoln** order to "shoe Tad's horse." • A 1743 document in which **Lincoln** ancestors in Massachusetts acquire a slave. **Lincoln's** copy of **Charles Sumner's** speech on the origin of the Republican Party. • The early Confederate appointment of **John B. Jones**, the "Rebel War Clerk." • **Ponce de Leon:** 1511 letter, probably the earliest writing from the new world in private care. • An 18th century **slave ship log**. • A **Haym Solomon** check supporting his reputation for helping needy patriots. • **Henry Knox** to his wife on the day before crossing the Delaware to fight at Trenton, re-affirming his devotion to the cause. • **John Hancock's** commission as Major General of Massachusetts militia. • A bill of lading covering cash sent by France in 1781 to aid the Revolution, receipted by **Hancock**. • **Anthony Wayne's** last will and testament; likewise **Winfield Scott's**. **James Madison's** diary of his 1791 trip to New York State with Jefferson. • The earliest available Stephen F. Austin document, 1811. • **David Crockett** letter franked by him as a Member of Congress. • A letter by teenaged **John Wilkes Booth** closing with an exultant "Three Cheers for America!" • Fifty two letters by Confederate **General Stephen D. Ramsuer** who was killed in action. • Rare Commission of a Captain in the San Francisco vigilantes. • **Washington Irving's** letterbook while U. S. Minister to Spain. • **George A. Custer's** horse care manual. • War letters by **Robert E. Lee** and **J.E.B. Stuart**, intercepted by **Custer's** men and kept by him. • Governor **George Clinton's** appointment of the New York delegation to Congress, 1784. • **Benedict Arnold's** orders from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to take Ticonderoga. • Rare document signed by early rebel **Daniel Shays**—inventory of his property when bankrupt in 1803. • Well known **Alexander Hamilton** letter attempting to influence the 1800 election. • Washington aide Col. **Tench Tilghman's** oath of allegiance to the United States. • **Josiah Bartlett's** copy of fellow Signer **Benjamin Franklin's** *Experiments and Observations on Electricity*. • Colonial diary by Boston Town Clerk **William Cooper**. • Two complete sets of autographs of **Signers of the Constitution**. • A number of important **Revolutionary orderly books**. • Eyewitness accounts of **Little Big Horn**, **Pickett's Charge**, the **Lincoln Assassination**, and other major events.

Most of these manuscripts are now in important private and institutional collections, but we have others.

Joe Rubinfine, Post Office Box 1000, Cocoa, Florida 32923 (321) 455-1666 Joerubinfine@mindspring.com

Member: Art and Antique Dealers League of America; The Antiques Council; Professional Autograph Dealers Association; Florida Antiquarian Booksellers Association.

Festival of the Architecture Book

1511-2011

ON MAY 22, 1511, it has been reported, Fra Giovanni Giocondo, an eminent architect of his day, published in Venice his edition of Vitruvius' *De Architectura libri decem* (Ten Books of Architecture), especially noteworthy as the first printed illustrated architecture book.

Through the efforts of several Caxton Club members, a coalition of twenty Chicago area universities, libraries, and other institutions will celebrate the 500th anniversary of this event with a variety of exhibits and other programming throughout the year 2011 under the banner: "Festival of the Architecture Book, 1511-2011."

Marcus Vitruvius Pollio was a first century B.C.E. Roman architect whose "ten books" were well known before Fra Giocondo's edition, although it was not until the work by the Benedictine monks of Monte Cassino Abbey in southern Italy that the Latin text was standardized from the numerous versions that had been hand-copied since antiquity. The original Roman text is lost and Vitruvius' original illustrations did not survive even in copy form. Thus, the woodcut illustrations in Fra Giocondo's edition are entirely his own, and he went far beyond the few illustrations Vitruvius called out in the text, providing numerous additional historical and explanatory drawings.

This book, along with Fra Giocondo's 1513 octavo version (printed with Frontinus' *De aqueductibus* and the first illustrations for that work as well) and many of their progeny, will be featured at the University of Illinois at Chicago exhibit that is part of the Festival. The 1513 exemplar to be exhibited has inscrip-

tions suggesting previous ownership at Monte Cassino.

Books held and still hold an important place in the communication and dissemination of architectural ideas. In the 16th century, it was not uncommon for a patron to either commission or purchase

achieved through books or more modern media, even for the well-travelled.

An exhibition of all of the important published architecture books would be impossible given the immense range of Renaissance and more modern works. Architecture books are represented by

numerous categories, often having quite different characters. These include books by architects, works about one architect or one style or period, military architecture, civil architecture, religious architecture, landscape architecture, construction, engineering, urban planning, city views, books for the public, books for the builder, technical treatises, representations of a specific building type, promotional pieces, illustrations by wood block, engraving, photography, and drawings. The Festival's programming will demonstrate the broad range of this medium and represent many of the highlights of the Western tradition. By having numerous venues under separate curatorship, the series hopes to achieve both a fairly comprehensive survey, and several in depth "takes" on specific aspects of the medium. It is expected that up to 300 books will be displayed as well as additional related materials.

A website for the series will be hosted on the Graham Foundation website (www.grahamfoundation.org). This website, which will have its own URL, www.1511-2011.org, should be consulted for schedules, addresses, and other up-to-date information, including web links to the participants' programs.

Jeffrey Jahns
The Caxton Club
jjahns@sefearth.com



a drawing, painting, or sculpture of a distant artist and import it to his home. However, the primary methods of communication and dissemination of architectural ideas in these early days were through travel and the printed book. While the best understanding of architecture is achieved by experiencing "live" and in context, few had that luxury, and even today most of our knowledge of architecture in foreign countries is often

National Book Collecting Contest

AND THE PRIZE WINNERS ARE!

FOR THE FIRST TIME, The Fellowship of Bibliophilic Societies partnered with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the Library's Rare Book, Special Collections Division, and the ABAA in 2010 to co-sponsor the National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest. By mid-July FABS judges Dr. John C. Carson, Arthur S. Cheslock, and Lawrence N. Siegler had copies of the 29 entries submitted by young collectors who had won their school's book collecting contest. All the entries proved diverse, challenging, and engaging. "It was fun!" e-mailed judge Larry Siegler. The panel chose the ten collections that it considered best fulfilled the Contest's primary criteria: "the intelligence and originality of the collection and the potential of the entrant to evolve the collection and develop new collections." A second panel represented each of the cosponsoring organizations. Panel members were Robert H. Jackson for FABS; John Cole for the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress; and Stuart Bennett who is a recent president of the ABAA. That panel convened by telephone, reviewed the chosen entries, and then rendered their decision.

The prize winners are:

- First prize, Andrew Fink, University of Puget Sound, for his collection "An Interdisciplinary Survey of 20th Century Propaganda"
- Second prize, Ryan Julian, University of Chicago, for "The History of Mathematics"
- Third prize, Philipp S. Penka, Harvard University, for "Temporary Spiritual Sustenance: The Print Culture of Russian

Displaced Persons in Post-War Germany (1945-1951)"

- Best Essay, Bailey N. Pike, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, for "The Mythology of Mozart."

The Jay I. Kislak Foundation generously underwrote the prizes as well as acting as a catalyst for the continuance of the Contest under new sponsorship.



Bailey Pike (Essay Prize Winner), Philipp Penka (third prize). Andrew Fink (first prize – see article on facing page), and Ryan Julian (second prize).

The awards ceremony at the Library of Congress on October 15th began with Mark Dimunation, Chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, meeting with the prizewinners and sponsors in the Rosenwald Room. There he talked about the importance of private collectors to the Library, beginning, of course, with Thomas Jefferson. Mark displayed the Koran Jefferson purchased while studying law at William and Mary,

and the splendid Dunlap printing of the Declaration of Independence. Peter Force had the prescience to collect an extraordinary 15th century astronomy text commissioned by Charles V, highly illustrated and with volvelles, in the Lessing Rosenwald Collection and from the Jay I. Kislak Collection, deBry's *Admirandia Narratio* (1590), a compilation of early accounts of

the New World from Spanish, French, English, Italian, and also Dutch sources. The select audience was enthralled.

Carol Fitzgerald opened the awards ceremony proper with an illustrated talk titled, "Collecting Mid-Twentieth Century Regional Americana." A chance purchase of a *Rivers of America* title at a Miami, Florida book fair in the 1970s led to her compiling a collection of *The Rivers of America* series and then of *The Series Americana*.

John Cole announced the prize winners, encouraging each to describe what sparked their collecting, with Arthur Dunkelman presenting the prizes on behalf of the Jay I. Kislak Foundation.

The intelligence and eloquence with which each prize winner spoke of his or her collection delighted all those gathered to celebrate. Book collecting, amid e-books, digitized texts, and PODs, continues to intrigue and engage a new generation of collectors.

Please Support the National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest with your donation:

Friend	\$10 - \$99
Supporter	\$100 - \$499
Benefactor	\$500 - \$1,499
Sponsor	\$1,500 - \$4,999
Founder	\$5,000 or more

Sponsors and Founders will be accorded permanent acknowledgment. Friends, Supporters, and Benefactors will receive acknowledgment upon receipt of annual support. All donations are fully-tax deductible and will receive written acknowledgment. Donations may be made by check payable to the "Elisabeth Woodburn Fund," noting "Contest" on the memo line, and sent to the ABAA, 20 West 44th Street, #507, New York, NY 10036-6604. Donations also may be made at abaa.org at "Contest Support."

Why I Collect What I Collect

A COLLECTOR'S COLUMN

THE TITLE OF MY COLLECTION, "An Interdisciplinary Survey of 20th Century Propaganda," is a bit long winded for my tastes, but I feel that is the only way to adequately convey the aim and purpose of my collection. I also feel that it requires a basic definition, which I want to begin with here. I consider propaganda, in this context of this collection, to be statements made in a spoken or visual medium with intent to convince the reader to adhere to some particular ideology or belief. This statement might be a bit broad (it does not, for example, consider how that persuasion might be accomplished) but I feel that broadness is necessary, for the topics and interests reflected in this collection are broad by necessity. This can be best understood, if you first understand how I came to assemble this collection in the first place.

This collection is actually a segment of a much larger body of work focused on the concept of political language and political theory which I have assembled for the last seven or eight years. From my earliest interests in the political fiction of George Orwell, I began to branch out into philosophy, including many works concerned with politics in democratic and totalitarian regimes. Around this time, I also began collecting various pieces of propaganda, such as religious pamphlets, political cartoons, essays, advertisements and posters. All of these forces collide in this collection, which, as a result, is hardly coherent in terms of appearance or form. Among the mediums present in this collection (though this is not an exhaustive list) are: literary fiction, pamphlets, art books, philosophical treatises, and collections of newspaper articles. Many of these pieces were not sought out, but discovered by chance. For example, two of the pieces featured here were found in restrooms: "We are Americans" was found in a rest stop on I-90 crossing Washington State, and "A Winning Message: Equality" was found in a restroom at my university. Others were collected for related reasons, and

ANDREW FINK graduated this spring from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. His collection received first prize in the 2010 National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest.

found their way into the collection, either through my work in a class, or my research on political language and sincerity.

I have attempted here to pare down this larger collection in order to provide a more cohesive focus, while still trying to reflect the number of interests and approaches which led to the gathering of these works together in the first place. This connection is the concept of propaganda, and while not all of these works examine propaganda explicitly, I feel that some aspect of them is useful in our efforts to understand this social phenomenon and its influence on the contemporary era. I have also attempted to bring together works which focus on the same political regime or ideology from different perspectives, and in my annotation, I have attempted to make these connections evident. However, the most important aspect of this collection, which I do not feel the annotations address sufficiently is the interdisciplinary nature of this collection which I want to speak about here.

I have pulled these works from three loose disciplines: philosophy and political science; history and sociology; and art and literature. I want to speak briefly about these three disciplines, and how they connect to one another in crucial ways. The first of these approaches the topic of propaganda from a theoretical perspective, and the primary questions that work in this discipline are: What is propaganda?, Who controls it?, How is it created?, and How can it be utilized, destroyed, or counteracted? Some see propaganda as a simple method of persuasion and rhetoric. Others find the phenomenon much more insidious. However, without this theoretical basis, it

is difficult to understand the worth of the rest of the collection. Each theorist, in a sense, offers another lens through which the social forces that influence our decision making can be viewed, any of which could fall under the large umbrella term of propaganda.

The second of these disciplines is historical analysis, and concerns itself with specific examples of primary sources, as well as secondary sources which examine the influence and impact of these works in their historical and cultural contexts. These works range from the infamous and hateful to the socially progressive. What holds them all together is that they attempt to use rhetoric and emotion to influence the decisions of others, or in many cases, have been used to influence the decisions of others. The theoretical can only carry us so far; if we want to understand the real effects propaganda has had on politics and culture, we must examine these historical sources, as well as secondary sources which attempt to understand how these effects came to be.

However, history and philosophy are only part of the equation, because propaganda while certainly a relative of rhetoric, is a close cousin of art as well. A large amount of historical propaganda took the form of images, cartoons, posters, and literary fiction. Without understanding art's role in propaganda, we cannot grasp why propaganda affects us the way it does, especially at an emotive and intuitive level. It is my firm belief that we are so affected by propaganda not because of its smart use of rhetorical devices, but because it inspires a vision of the future which people want to strive towards. To best show this, I have included a selection of "speculative" art and literature. Many of these works not only address the topic of propaganda, but are examples of propaganda themselves, and they do this by offering visions of the future which humans either desire (utopias), or seek to avoid (dystopias). Only with this final fact can we really understand why propaganda can have such power over us and our decisions.

YOU, OUR READERS, are invited to share your personal collecting vision with your fellow collectors in "Why I Collect What I Collect." This is a standing invitation open to all members of FABS North American Book Clubs and International Affiliates. One personal account will be selected and appear in each of the two annual issues. The text should focus on the "why" and "what" of the column's title. This is your opportunity to share your collector's vision and focus on your collecting interests.

Strange, but true stories of collecting mania will surely make for some fascinating reading. Entries should be between 800 and 1,200 words and may include up to three images. Submit your entry to George Singer at:

ashleybkco@aol.com.

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*Other People's Books:
Association Copies and the Stories They Tell*

216 pages, 112 illustrations, 51 authors

Friday, March 18, 2011, 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The Newberry Library, Chicago

Cocktails and book signing, dinner, and short program

SYMPOSIUM

Other People's Books: Collecting Association Copies

Saturday March 19, 2011, 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

The Newberry Library, Chicago

Three speakers and a panel discussion:

Heather Jackson

Professor of English, University of Toronto.
Author of *Marginalia: Readers Writing in Books* (2001)

Tom Congalton

Proprietor of Between the Covers, ABAA,
Gloucester City, New Jersey

David Pearson

Director of Libraries, Archives and Guildhall Art Gallery, London.
Author of *Books as History* (2008) and *Provenance Research in Book History* (1994)



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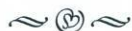
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Club News & Notes

PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND PUBLICATIONS

THE ALCUIN SOCIETY



THE ALCUIN SOCIETY continues to work in four major areas of activity: publications, programs, Canadian book design competition, and website.

PUBLICATIONS

A few years ago the Society launched its *Printing and Book Arts* series of limited edition books. The first book in the series titled *Dorothy Burnett, Bookbinder* featured the work of a pioneer British Columbia bookbinder. The second titled *Duthie's Bookmarks* featured an historical overview of the imaginative and well-designed printed bookmarks produced by a leading Vancouver independent bookseller. The third, just out, is titled *Takao Tanabe: Sometime Printer* and features the work of Tak Tanabe, poet and master printer "whose typographic imagination could run riot." For more information please see www.alcuinsociety.com.

PROGRAMS

The Alcuin Society can be proud of the key role it played in the revival of The Vancouver Antiquarian Book Fair after a hiatus of some twenty years. The Fair was spearheaded by Board Member Richard Hopkins and by longtime member Charles Purpora. Other key players were Dr. Yosef Wosk who provided both financial and moral support for the initiative and ABE Books who advertised the event to both booksellers and book buyers and provided a chance for booksellers to socialize at an early morning brunch.

The Fair was declared a success by those who participated. Naturally some booksellers sold more books than others but all involved reported having a good time. The book buying public was delighted to see the return of a decent sized book fair with 33 booksellers from Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, B.C., and California. The Vancouver Public Library as the hosting

venue benefitted by receiving substantial revenues for both room and staff rentals.

There is a strong consensus to keep the Book Fair going but whether on an annual or a biennial basis is still a topic for discussion. Other questions for the future involve time of the year, venue, two or three day event, etc.

The Society must also be cognizant of the fact that its biennial Wayzgoose celebration of printed objects is due to run again in October 2011.

Whatever the configuration of future book fairs in Vancouver, long may printed books, reading, and book fairs flourish!

BOOK DESIGN COMPETITION

The Chair and Committee are currently gearing up to solicit books designed by Canadian book designers during the 2010 publishing year. Awards have been proudly handed out at two ceremonies for the 2009 winners one in Vancouver at Emily Carr University and one in Toronto at The Arts & Letters Club. The winning books from Canada have been shipped to the international book design competition in Leipzig and other copies have been and continue to be shipped to many exhibitions in Canada and around the world. We are happy to say that our latest venue is in Norwich, England where the Millennium Library will exhibit the books before sending them on to the Norwich University College of Art.

WEBSITE

The Society values the traditional printed book and the book arts in all of their forms, but that does not stop it from using contemporary technology to spread the word about its activities. Our young webmaster, photographer, and blogger Jason Vanderhill is both book savvy and media savvy and is not averse to using more recent technologies like Facebook and Twitter to get the Alcuin message out. For those of you more traditionally oriented please note with some relief that Jason is also an avid collector of printed books and ephemera!

THE ALDUS SOCIETY



IN 2011 THE ALDUS SOCIETY will be continuing our Tenth Year Anniversary celebration. We have many activities planned. Our monthly programming during the first part of 2011 includes:

January 13: Aldus Collects: Five Aldus members will give short presentations on favorite books and highlights in their collections. This program has always been well-received. Planned presenters at press time include bookseller George Bauman sharing his collection of books on book-selling; Jay Hoster on books written by Fred Schwed Jr., author of *Where are the Customers' Yachts?*; and Marcia Preston on fine press books in her collection.

February 10: We will learn the fascinating story behind the Walter H. Siebert Collection housed at the Ohio Historical Society. These papers contain correspondence, notes, manuscripts, student papers, maps, and photographs relating to the Underground Railroad in Ohio. A teacher of history at Ohio State during the 1890s, Siebert asked his students to provide names and addresses of individuals who might have first-hand knowledge of the Underground Railroad. He then developed a seven-question circular to generate information. During vacations Siebert traveled Underground Railroad routes, conducted interviews, and kept extensive research notes. After his retirement, Siebert collected his research materials and bound them in volumes according to geographic location. At age 80, Siebert took an office at the Ohio State Museum, where he wrote his final book, *The Mysteries of Ohio's Underground Railroads* (1951).

March 10: Our Annual Ravneberg Lecturer this year is Ken Sanders, ABAA. Sanders has been engaged in buying, selling, appraising, and publishing new and old books, photography, cartography, and documents for over 30 years. As ABAA Security Chair, he has been responsible for

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bringing numerous book thieves to justice. As an expert on forgeries, he has become the "go-to" person on Mark Hofmann, whom he has called "the greatest forger of the 20th century." Hofmann forged many Mormon documents as well as the signatures of numerous famous authors. Most recently Sanders was involved in the apprehension of John Gilkey, who was the subject of the book, *The Man Who Loved Books Too Much*.

April 14: "All Things Dewey" will be presented by Larry Olszewski, director of the OCLC library. Do you remember the information explosion in the 1960s? The litany went like this: Since the end of World War II in 1945, the sum total of knowledge was doubling every seven years. Libraries were running out of shelf space. Card catalogs were growing to immense size. Costs were soaring. Against this backdrop, Ohio libraries came together to create a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the public purposes of furthering access to the world's information and reducing information costs. This organization came to be OCLC, which originally stood for Ohio College Library Center. Among OCLC's many notable achievements was the establishment of WorldCat, which holds tens of millions of bibliographic records that represent

more than one billion items. WorldCat encompasses hundreds of languages and all formats, including rapidly growing numbers of electronic resources and digital objects.

May (date to be announced): We will have a program in conjunction with Ohio State's international symposium celebrating the 400th anniversary of the original publication of the King James (or Authorized) Version of the Bible. The conference, scheduled for the first weekend of May, will focus on the making of the KJB and its range of influence from Milton and Bunyan to Faulkner, Woolf, and Toni Morrison. Events will include plenary lectures and discussions, scholarly panels, and reading by contemporary writers. There will also be an exhibit mounted by the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library.

June: we will hold our annual Aldus Picnic, a wonderful potluck event for members and their guests.

In addition to our regular programming, Aldus holds First Saturday programs in the Rare Books and Manuscripts room of the Thompson Library on the OSU campus. And this year, in conjunction with our Tenth Anniversary activities, Aldus members are preparing a keepsake, tentatively titled "Aldus Remembers." The keepsake

will be printed by Logan Elm Press, a unit of the OSU Libraries, which was featured in an article on collegiate fine presses in today's high-tech publishing world. The article, "Teaching the Book Arts" was in the magazine's March/April 2007 issue.

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

THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES



THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES schedule for 2011 is as follows:

Thursday, March 10, 2011. David R. Godine discusses the history of his publishing business. The Johns Hopkins Club. 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 10, 2011. Karen Stakem Hornig, "Jane Austen on Estates and Trusts." The Johns Hopkins Club. 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 22, 2011. Nancy Patz. "Who was the woman who wore the hat?" The Athenaeum, Goucher College Library. 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 16, 2011. Annual Meeting & Election of Officers. Douglas McElrath, The print culture of antebellum

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Baltimore, with particular emphasis on the generation of printers, publishers, and booksellers that emerged around 1820. The Johns Hopkins Club. 6:00 p.m.

The newly elected Executive Committee for 2011: President, Larry Wilt; Immediate Past President, David Fishman; Recording Secretary, Clare Imholtz; Treasurer, Arthur S. Cheslock; Corresponding Secretary, Binnie Syrrill Braunstein.

Our At-Large members are Nicholas Rosasco, Frank Batavick, Nancy Perlman, and Mike Bowler. Ex-Officio Members of the Executive Committee: Membership Committee, Nancy Magnuson and Newsletter Editor/Program Committee: Binnie Syrril Braunstein.

Please check the Baltimore Bibliophiles web site for further details. <http://www.baltimorebibliophiles.org/> or feel free to contact the group's program chair, Binnie Syrril Braunstein: bsbgc@aol.com.

THE JOHN RUSSELL BARTLETT SOCIETY



IN SEPTEMBER the Society met at the Redwood Library in Newport, RI to hear Dr. Philip Weimerskirch discuss "Some

Notable Newport Naturalist" as part of the "In Pursuit of Natural History" exhibition he curated drawing upon the Redwood collection of rare books on botany, mineralogy, ichthyology, and other natural sciences. The meeting was followed by a luncheon at the White Horse Tavern, said to be the oldest tavern in America. Just in time for Halloween, our October program was at the John Hay Library, Brown University where local author Rory Raven related tales from his recent book *Haunted Providence: Strange Tales from the Smallest State*. Following the talk he took Society members on a walking tour of haunted Providence. The November program, "From Harvard to the Street: A Local Archivist Enters the Auction World," was presented by Rick Stattler, former Rhode Islander and now Director of Printed and Manuscript Americana at Swann Auction Galleries. Accompanying this program the Bartlett Society conducted a mini silent book auction for its members.

The winter program will begin in February in celebration of Black History Month when noted historian Ray Rickman will discuss the *Memoirs of William J. Brown*. Written in 1882 by a man of color this autobiography provides important insight into daily life in 19th-century

Providence's black community. Our March program will be the annual meeting of the society, and in addition to the election of new officers members will conduct a show & tell of gems from their collections. The last meeting of the season will be in April when the Society conducts its well-known Stillwell Prize. This judged prize goes to book collecting undergraduates from any Rhode Island colleges or universities.

The Society is pleased to announce the recent publication, *The John Russell Bartlett Society at 25*. This booklet celebrates the Society's silver anniversary and is finely printed in a limited edition of 200 copies. It contains an introduction by Norman Fiering, Emeritus Director of the John Carter Brown Library and founder of the Bartlett Society, as well as the essay "My Life With Books: A Brunonian Reflection" by Wilson H. Kinnach. Copies of this collectable work can be had by contacting the Society's treasurer at pam1348@cox.net. The Society's website is:

http://www.brown.edu/Facilities/John_Carter_Brown_Library/jrb/about.html.

If there are any questions about the John Russell Bartlett Society or any of its programs, please contact Pamela Rakowski at pam1348@cox.net or 401 751-5581.

Acquire a Collector's Item A Sue Allen Booklet

In 1851 following his *Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote *A Wonder-Book for Girls and Boys*, witty stories based on Greek myths. Child readers wrote letters begging for more stories. In 1892 Walter Crane produced an illustrated edition, critically acclaimed as "far and away the most beautiful of this year's crop of Holiday books." In recent times came the rescue of the brilliant brasses used to stamp the cover. The brasses are shown for the first time in the booklet recounting the *Wonder-Book's* history, written and designed by Sue Allen, with twelve illustrations, eleven in full color.

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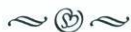
THE BIXBY CLUB



OVER THE WINTER The Bixby Club will be hosted with parties, panels, and posters, along with other bookish events. Friday, February 12, the annual St. Valentine Day party will be held at the home of Bixby Club President, John Hoover, who will be presenting a talk on famed 20th century book designer and artist, George Salter. February also marks the 247th anniversary of the founding of St. Louis, and The Bixby Club will be invited to a publication party for the newly translated edition of the *Narrative on the Founding of St. Louis* written late in life by the fourteen-year-old boy who later became the city's most regarded patriarch, Auguste Chouteau. This key document has been part of the collection of the St. Louis Mercantile Library for nearly 150 years. Over the winter Bixby Club members will also be invited to the opening of a major circus poster exhibition at the Mercantile, which will include a 200 square foot model layout/diorama of the arrival of the circus train and unloading of the animals and tents of circus days gone by. We hope many readers will join us under the Mercantile's "Big Top"!

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

THE BOLTON SOCIETY



AN ORGANIZATION of chemical bibliophiles, the Society encourages the collection of printed material devoted to the history of chemistry and supports the Chemical Heritage Foundation's Donald F. and Mildred Topp Othmer Library of Chemical History as a primary repository for such material.

NEW CHIEF BIBLIOPHILE, 2011

Gary D. Patterson (Carnegie Mellon University) becomes Chief-Bibliophile serving a two year term beginning January 2011.

SYMPOSIUM

The Bolton Society symposium at the fall 2011 American Chemical Society (ACS) meeting in Denver, CO will be a celebration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Roger Boscovich. The focus will be on Boscovich's importance as a chemical natural philosopher and will be part of the ACS/HIST division program.

OTHMER LIBRARY EXHIBITS

Franklin in Paris – Mini-exhibit in the Othmer Library – James R. Voelkel

"... Othmer Library mounted a mini-exhibit entitled 'Franklin in Paris,' which focuses on the period late in Benjamin Franklin's life when he lived in Paris as a diplomat and representative of the brand new United States of America. Franklin was by that time a widely-recognized scientist and savant, and had already been named one of eight foreign associates of the Academie Royale des Sciences. One case focuses on Franklin's scientific reputation and activities during this time. It features the greatly-expanded second edition of his *Expériences et observations sur l'électricité faites à Philadelphie* (Paris, 1756), which established his scientific reputation in France. Once in Paris, as a scientific elder statesman, Franklin undertook certain duties for the Academie, for instance witnessing ballooning experiments, which is illustrated by Barthélemy Faujas-de-St.-Fond's *Description des expériences de la machine aérostatique de MM. de Montgolfier* (Paris, 1783). He was also the ranking member of a royal commission investigating the scientific claims of Mesmerism. The resulting *Rapport des commissaires chargés par le roi de l'examen du magnétisme animal imprimé par ordre du roi* (Paris, 1784) is open to the page showing the names of the commissioners, with Franklin's given pride of place as the first signatory.

The second case focuses on Franklin's contemporary, the young Antoine-Laurent Lavoisier, and the essential role he played in Franklin's mission, namely the provision of gunpowder for the American Revolution. Lavoisier was at that time still early in his career but had already, crucially, undertaken a wide-ranging rationalization of French gunpowder production. One of his first acts was to arrange a prize competition for the best essay on the production of saltpeter. His announcement of the prize, a rare pamphlet *Prix extraordinaire proposé par l'Académie Royale des Sciences pour l'année 1778* (Paris, 1775) is on display. Also shown is Lavoisier's book, published under the auspices of the new Gunpowder Administration, on the artificial production of saltpeter, *Instruction sur l'établissement des nitrières et sur la fabrication du salpêtre* (Paris, 1777). Finally, an autograph document from the Gunpowder Administration signed by Lavoisier and two of the other administrators was displayed briefly, and has since been replaced by a facsimile."

– James R. Voelkel, Rare Book Curator

Color Chemistry: The Elements of Art
– Ashley Augustyniak

"The exhibit *Color Chemistry: The Elements of Art* highlights the Othmer Library's holdings of first and secondary sources on pigments and colors. The compounds that make up colors can be unstable and affected greatly by their environment or neighboring color pigments. A bad choice of material either in paint, surface, or varnish, can have devastating and irreversible consequences. One example is 'the hydrogen sulphide produced when coal or gas is burned acts upon the lead carbonate and lead hydroxide of which lead white is composed and changes them to lead sulphide which is yellow, orange or black.' (Fischer, 1930) After these paint choices are made, it is often a conservator's job to step in, but is not as easy as cleaning dust off an item, it involves analyzing the original chemical compounds in an effort to halt or slow the chemical reactions that may change or destroy the artist's intent. Some color chemists have presented classification systems for paint based on factors such as chemical composition and derivation that would make it easier for the painter to decipher what paints are 'stable'. Other color chemists argue that art schools need to have more rigorous chemistry education. In any case, the key to good color chemistry is to preserve and appreciate each shade."

– Ashley Augustyniak, Reference Librarian

The Bolton Society's newsletter *Boltonia* is issued in electronic form. A full complement of the society's retrospective newsletters can be found on the Chemical Heritage Foundation's website.

For more information about the Chemical Heritage Foundation *Library * Museum * Center for Scholars* <http://www.chemheritage.org> or contact Elsa B. Atson at 215 873-8205 or elsaa@chemheritage.org.

THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA



THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA is now ensconced in our our handsome new quarters and the club library committee, under the direction of committee chair Henry Snyder, is hard at work. The first order of business is to provide online access to our growing collection via the web. Our librarian, Barbara Land, estimates we have 2,400 separately cataloged books accessible

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THE FORTHCOMING ISSUE OF PARENTHESIS FEATURES

Stephen Chambers on Artists Books at the Royal Academy · Thorsten Sjolín on Karl-Erik Forsberg
Dave Farey on Type for The Times · Sebastian Carter on the Circle Press · Dennis Hall on Ron King
Charles Chadwyck-Healey on the Literature of Liberation · Andrew Hoyem on Selling the Goods
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only through our card catalog. As of November, 2010 we have downloaded 1,308 records from OCLC to form the nucleus of an online catalog. The next task is to match these to the collection, and then to create new records for the remaining items. These include not only the estimated 1,100 items in the card catalog but not in the OCLC extract, but also some 1,000 gifts received just this year from poet and printer, Clifford Burke, Carol Cunningham, Barbara Land, Don Fleming, and others. We are also sorting our unique ephemera collection and pulling out all separately bound pamphlets and small books. We will create individual records for them and shelve them with the books in the main library. We have eight volunteers who will be working on our projects.

Our splendid new library room in the new Club quarters gives us a golden opportunity to dramatically increase both the scope and depth of the library. The Library Committee is actively soliciting both individual books and whole collections to build a library truly representative of the aims and mission of the BCC — to support fine printing related to the history and literature of California and the West.

With our new facility and enlarged collections, we are also planning an ambitious educational program. We intend to support book arts programs in Bay Area schools by providing a venue for classes using materials in the collection; by creating a reference and research collection to introduce K-12 students the beauties of the book; and by offering programs on fine printing for service clubs and other local organizations.

We seek books, pamphlets, and ephemera in three collection areas: fine press books and ephemera printed in California and elsewhere in the West; books on printing history and the book arts to serve as a reference and teaching collection; and reference books on California history, authors, and literature to supply background for the content of the books in the fine press collection.

We also welcome your gifts of funds to support purchase and processing of new acquisitions and library maintenance. Library committee chair Henry Snyder can be contacted at library@bccbooks.org.

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THE COLOPHON CLUB



THE COLOPHON CLUB MEMBERS are again enjoying meetings held at the Berkeley City Club. The Julia Morgan designed building is located near the campus of The University of California. At September's meeting we enjoyed cocktails and dinner with a lecture "World Wide Web Books," by Brewster Kahle, Digital Librarian and Founder of the Internet Archive.

In anticipation of the exhibit "The Art of the Book in California: Five Contemporary Presses" to be held at The Kantor Center for the Visual Arts at Stanford University June 11- August 28, 2011, The Colophon Club will feature talks from all the exhibitors: Felicia Rice, Moving Parts Press, spoke last March; Peter Koch, printer and publisher, spoke on his latest book *The Lost Journals of Sacajewea*, a collaboration with the novelist and poet Debra Magpie Earling, at the October meeting; Carolee Campbell, Ninja Press, will address the club January 11; Larry Van Velzer and Peggy Gotthold, Foolscap Press, March 8; and Sandra & Harry Reese, Turkey Press, May 10.



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November will bring a Fiesta Mexicana with Adan Geigo from Stanford University Library and Theresa Salazar from the Bancroft Library giving a joint talk on the Mexican revolution and bicentennial. On December 14, our Annual Wayzgoose Party featuring festive food and plentiful libations will end the year. In February the third biennial Codex Foundation International Book Fair and Symposium "Borders & Collaborations" will be held once again in Berkeley. Colophon Club members are invited to join the exhibitors at the final Codex Gala Dinner on February 9. Chronicle Books' Brian Singer will be discussing The 1000 Journals Project April 12.

The Colophon Club continues to meet for cocktails, dinner, and a talk the second Tuesday of the month from September through May. Any interested people finding themselves in the San Francisco area and wishing to attend one of our functions, are welcome to make arrangements by contacting the Secretary, Nancy Wickes at: nancy wx @comcast.net.

2010-2011 Colophon Club Officers: Susan Filter, President; Tom Ingalls, Vice-President; Nancy Wickes, Secretary; and Klaus-Ullrich Rotzscher, Treasurer.

THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES



WE STARTED OR ENDED, depending on how you count, our program year in August attending a minor league baseball game of the local Blue Rocks team. The DB's subsidized the event which included a typical baseball meal of hot dogs and fries. The game attracted a few members we don't see often. In September we were invited to a member's home to see their ornithological illustrations in books as well as on their walls. The owner gave us a brief biography of three artists she featured: Mark Catesby, Alexander Wilson and John James Audubon. The prints were spectacular and included some from Audubon's Double Elephant Folio. Our hostess also told about a manuscript for a children's book she has written based on the journal that her great, great grandmother wrote about her family's trip from Vermont to the "wild west" of Ohio when she was 11 years old. It was a very informative meeting on a beautiful fall day.

The first October meeting was in conjunction with Oak Knoll Fest which included not only the fine press fair with stunning typography and illustrations but also the 20% discount we were given by both Oak

Knoll Books as well as the dealers in The Bookshop in Old New Castle. And once again we were invited to enjoy the wonderful hospitality at the reception held at the home of Bob and Millie Fleck.

The second meeting was towards the end of October which was a Collector's Showcase of recent acquisitions or material the member wanted to feature. Items or books discussed included F.O.C. Darley's print of "Sherman's March to the Sea" by one member and another showed a very large broadside/prospectus for "10 years Among the Mail Bags" that included a Darley illustration. We were intrigued with a purchase made by a member in the last week which was the application in 1922 for a pension by a Confederate Soldier in Mississippi where one of the questions asked was "Were you in active service at the surrender?" with the answer given as "No" and reason being "in prison at Fort Delaware." The fort is located on Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River. Another member discussed a variety of law books including Blackstone's Commentaries on the Laws of England as well as Laws of the State of Delaware. Other subjects included an early 1800's Bill of Lading for the duPont Company who was shipping gun powder to the arsenal in Philadelphia; a stock certificate for the Philadelphia and Wilmington Turnpike of 1814; a collection of Delaware Victorian trade cards from cities and towns in Delaware other than Wilmington; original manuscript page of Dawn Powell; and a small collection of books on poisons, the earliest being from 1818.

We, like most other FABS members, look forward to reading about other Club's programs and activities. This provides us with ideas we can use and potential speakers or topics. Upcoming meetings will be the annual dinner/auction in November and another dinner with speaker in December. We will report on these in the next issue. For information about future meetings or questions about our Club in general please contact our president Tom Doherty at tsquare1787@ aol.com. Visitors are always welcome.

THE BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT



SEPTEMBER FOUND US HOSTING Peter & Donna Thomas who are well known for their miniature, fine press, artists' books, and handmade papers. Their home base is in Santa Cruz, California. If one googles up

Peter & Donna Thomas, Books, lovely photographs of the gypsy wagon they travel in, some of their fantastic handmade books, and additional relevant information is available. They enchanted us with their books and their Adventures of the Wandering Book Artists.

We celebrated the 175th anniversary of the birth and 100th year since the passing of Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens) with the Friends of the Detroit Public Library in October. The DPL Burton Historical Collection displayed for us some of their Twain manuscripts and family photo treasures. Then Dr. Lawrence I. Berkove, Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Michigan, Dearborn, and co-author of *Heretical Fictions: Religion in the Literature of Mark Twain* (University of Iowa Press, 2010) discussed the evolving views that scholars have held and hold about Twain over the last century. There was plenty to think and talk about when we retired to the Burton's Reading Room to share conviviality.

Speaking of conviviality, plans are set for the Club's annual Holiday Dinner in early December to have a 'Victorian Christmas.' A number of book dealers have donated choice titles for our auction that evening.

Looking into 2011, several exciting events and a website are in the planning stages. If you are in this area please give Joan Knoertzer a call (734.668.6815) at The Library B&B.

FLORIDA BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY



THE MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY are gearing up for a packed calendar for the upcoming winter and spring seasons after just finishing up a full schedule of activities this past fall.

At the May 22 banquet the new officers took office for the 2010-11 club year. Irene Pavese took the gavel to serve as president, moving up from vice president. Switching seats with Irene, out-going president Michael Bryan is now vice president.

Not only are interesting and knowledgeable speakers lined up for our January meeting in Pinellas County and February meeting in Hillsborough County, but also members are preparing to volunteer their time at the package check-in desk at the 30th Annual Florida Antiquarian Book Fair at The Coliseum in St. Petersburg from March 11-13. The FBS has been operating the package check-in desk for almost as many years as the book fair has been in

operation. The Society uses this volunteer opportunity to chat up potential new members.

This year there will be a special incentive to join the Society during the days of the book fair — a colorful Florida Bibliophile Society tote bag free with each membership check. Club Newsletter editor and retired graphics artist, Sue Tihansky, designed a special logo for the tote bags, which are sure to be attention-getters among the huge crowds on the selling floor of the book fair. One of the founding FBS members, Mike Slicker, owner of Lighthouse Books in St. Petersburg, helped organized the very successful Florida Antiquarian Book Fair 30 years ago.

The annual banquet is scheduled for March, where the new officers take their posts and the members review the past year's success over a delicious lunch before our summer break. One of the favorite portions of the banquet program is the auction of member-donated books, with everyone's favorite auctioneer, Lee Harter, who provides interesting tidbits about each book as he seeks the highest bid.

A field trip is planned for members to tour the special collections of the library of the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota. Society members found cramped conditions at the old library above the museum on their last visit to the institution about five years ago, but are anticipating seeing the newly constructed facilities behind the great art institute, which was left to the citizens of Florida by the circus magnate couple, John and Mabel Ringling.

The changing of the FBS Newsletter from a monthly to a quarterly publication has been very successful. With the new publication schedule, editor Sue Tihansky has a longer lead time to produce a quality Newsletter with more pages, longer articles and three times the number of club photos. The annual holiday party was scheduled for December at FBS President Irene Pavese's new bookstore, Book Lover's Café, in St. Petersburg. As in years past, members anticipated all fall the great tastes of all the potluck dishes.

To keep updated on the activities of the FBS visit its newly redesigned Web site at FloridaBibliophileSociety.org.

THE NO. 44 SOCIETY



THE NO. 44 SOCIETY, the book collecting club of Champaign-Urbana, meets once a month on the second Wednesday

during the academic year in The Rare Book & Manuscript Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Now in our fifth year of existence, the club has embarked on another series of interesting and informative programs and events for 2010-11.

At the September meeting, we were fortunate to have Professor George Greenia of the College of William & Mary talk to us about book behemoths. His talk, "The Archaeology of Really Big Medieval Books" was occasioned by our library's recent acquisition of two Spanish "antiphonals," both over 50 cm tall and 11 cm thick.

In other club business at the September meeting, Dennis Sears was elected Club Secretary for 2010-11. Marten Stromberg was invested as the club's first Archivist.

In October, Winton Solberg, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Illinois, spoke about "The Enlightenment and Cotton Mather." Referencing Mather's "Biblia Americana," a six volume manuscript commentary on Christian scripture that is only now being published. Solberg meticulously traced the intellectual climate behind this and other works of Mather, putting the New England minister and pamphleteer at the center of the Enlightenment's ferment, and positioning Spinoza as the original stirrer of the pot.

Though not strictly a No. 44 Society event, a number of club members were also able to attend an October 16 lecture by Terry Belanger, the former director of Virginia's pioneering Rare Book School. Belanger's talk was entitled, "Rare Book Librarians: Where Do They Come From and What's to Become of Them?" Belanger traced the origins and evolution of the rare book librarian and offered that their collections were likely to see many changes as a result of declining support and digitization.

In November, Ian Fleming collector extraordinaire Michael VanBlaricum, presented an overview of his many decades of chasing down Bondiana. The founding member of the Ian Fleming Foundation, which has managed to preserve (among other things) a number of the automobiles and concept vehicles from the Bond movies, Van Blaricum ranged far and wide through the history of the collector's market for Fleming, and concluded with the bittersweet observation that the success of his collecting efforts has finally priced himself out of some of this now wildly popular market.

December's meeting will be a Holiday Cheer Party and a special farewell appreciation for Alvan Bregman, the RBML Cura-

tor of Rare Books. Bound for the University of British Columbia, we will wish Alvan well on his new position and thank him for his many years of service in RBML and to the profession of Special Collections curation.

For February, Alex Petit, Professor of English at the University of North Texas, will talk about Samuel Richardson and Aesop. Pettit specializes in Restoration and eighteenth-century British literature, textual studies, and modern and contemporary drama. His edition of Samuel Richardson's early works is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

In March, Stephen Ennis the Eric Weinmann Librarian at the Folger Shakespeare Library's in Washington, DC will talk about the trans-Atlantic trade in literary archives, an area in which Ennis has been a recognized leader.

In April, David Price, Professor of Religion and Jewish Studies, UIUC, will speak on "Johannes Reuchlin and the Jewish Book Controversy," a dramatic moment in 16th-century history when all Hebrew books in the Holy Roman Empire were nearly destroyed. The talk will also introduce a special exhibition on Johannes Reuchlin in The Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

We will end our year of programming in May, 2011 with the announcement of our book collecting contest winners. Every year, The No. 44 Society sponsors contests for University of Illinois undergraduate (Harris Fletcher Award) and graduate (T.W. Baldwin Prize) students. At this meeting all placing collections and contest winners will be celebrated. Contest winners will also have the opportunity to exhibit selections from their collections in the Library's Marshall Gallery.

The No. 44 Society is also very pleased to announce that Bailey Pike, last year's co-winner of the T.W. Baldwin Prize has also gone on to win the "Essay Prize" in the National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest. Pike's essay describing her collection of Mozartiana was singled out as "elegant" and "displayed the possibilities available to young collectors bitten by subject-specific collecting bugs."

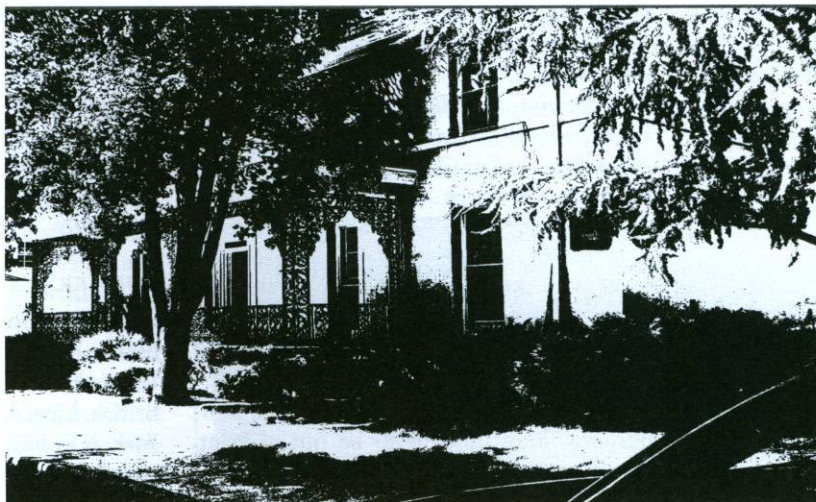
THE GROLIER CLUB



CLUB ACTIVITIES: LOOKING AHEAD

Bibliography Week in New York happens each year at the end of January when the principal national organizations devoted to

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bibliography and book history have their annual meetings.

Tuesday, 25 January, 2011. 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the Grolier Club: A Panel Discussion. Artists Clarissa Sligh, Susan Mills & Emily Speedwell will speak about artist's books in connection with the Grolier Club exhibition "Hand, Voice & Vision: Artist's Books from Women's Studio Workshop." On view December 7 through February 5, 2011.

Wednesday, 26 January, 2011 at the Grolier Club. Opening reception of the exhibition "Printing and the Brain of Man," from the collection of Eugene S. Flamm. Opening 5:30 p.m. Business attire. Guests welcome.

Friday, 28 January, 2011 at the Grolier Club. The annual meeting of the Bibliographical Society of America. Papers from new scholars at 2:00 p.m. with a meeting at 4:00 p.m. Speaker: Carol Clark, William McCall Vickery 1957 Professor of the History of Art and American Studies at Amherst College, on "Haunted Pictures and Prints: Charles Deas, (1818- 1867)." Reception follows.

15 February - 30 April, 2011. Enchantress: Emma, Lady Hamilton. Curated by Jean Kislak and Arthur Dunkelman.

17 May - July 30, 2011. The Best of Both Worlds: Livres d'Artiste Finely Printed. Curated by Jerry Kelly, Riva Castleman, and Anne H. Hoy.

CLUB PUBLICATIONS

For Jean Grolier wins AIGA Award. Congratulations to Jerry Kelly and the many other Grolier Club members involved in the production of *For Jean Grolier & His Friends: 125 Years of Grolier Club Exhibitions & Publications 1884-2009*. The book has been selected by the American Institute of Graphic Arts as one of the "50 Books/50 Covers for the year 2009."

A Scottish Miscellany (1479-1995): Highlights from the Collection of Janet Saint Germain. The Grolier Club, New York, 2010. 9 x 6, 14 pp., self wpps., sewn. Checklist of an exhibition at the Grolier Club.

John Wiley & Sons: 200 Years of Publishing. 10 x 8, viii, 183 pp., wpps., 16 color illustrations. By Peter Booth Wiley and Frances Chaves. Catalogue of an exhibition at the Grolier Club. Member Price \$20.

Copies of two desirable Grolier Club publications, long thought to be out-of-print, have recently been discovered and may now be ordered through the Club:

The Grolier Club Iter Hibernicum. 1998. Printed by the Ascensius Press. 9 x 6, xiv, 153, (1) pp. 325 copies in quarter dark green cloth over olive green boards. Member price \$75.

Stamped with a National Character: Nineteenth Century American Color Plate Books. 1999. By William S. Reece. Designed and produced by Ink, Inc. 11 x 8-1/2, 120 pp., 1500

copies, cl., d.j., 77 color illustrations. Catalogue of an exhibition at the Grolier Club. Member price \$45.

NEW MEMBERS

Lord Browne of Madingley, 25 Cheyne Walk, London SW3 5HH, England; **Stephen Roe**, 19 Dukes Avenue, Finchley, London N3 2DE, England; **Timothy D. Barrett**, 1302 Ginter Avenue, Iowa City, IA 52242. A hearty welcome back to **Martin Antonetti**, Smith College, Neilson Library, Mortimer Rare Book Room, Northampton, MA 01063. (Martin was the Director of the Grolier Club 1991-1997).

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Matthew Young (Hopewell, NJ) has published his first book, *Field & Tuer, The Leadenhall Press* (Oak Knoll Press and The British Library, 2010) ¶ **Ward Smith** (New York, NY) has been elected a member of the board of directors of Poets House. He joins fellow Grolierites Margo Viscusi, who is President Emerita of the organization, and **Michael Sillerman** ¶ **Donald Etherington** (Summerfield NC) announces publication of his new book, *Bookbinding & Conservation: A Sixty-Year Odyssey of Art and Craft* (Oak Knoll Press, 2010) ¶ An article by **Marcus McCorison** (Worcester, MA) titled "Printers and the Law: the trials of publish-

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Marc Chagall, *Bible*, one of 275 signed sets, Paris, 1956, sold on November 10, 2009 for a record \$108,000.

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ing obscene libel in early America," an account of Fanny Hill's unwelcome reception here, has been published in *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*, June, 2010. ¶ **Terry Belanger** (Charlottesville, VA) will be speaking on "Scrambled Eggs": The Rise and Fall of the Bibliographical Press" at the annual conference of the American Printing History Association (APHA), October 15-16, 2010, which is being organized by fellow member **Mark Samuels Lasner** at the Corcoran Museum of Art, Washington, D.C. ¶ On May 26 at the New York Academy of Medicine **William H. Helfand** (New York, NY) delivered an illustrated presentation on medical prints and caricatures dating from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries, drawn from his own collection. ¶ The discovery by **Robert Peck** (Philadelphia, PA) of Audubon's first engraved image of a bird made international headlines and was featured on NPR's "Morning Edition" in early August.

THE HIMES & DUNIWAY SOCIETY



THE HIMES & DUNIWAY SOCIETY OF Oregon has had an active summer and fall with a garden party hosted by members Brian and Gwyneth Booth and a dinner and book fondling hosted by members Jack Walsdorf and Charles Seluzicki.

The garden party at the Booths' was a delightful summer evening with both host and hostess sharing treasures from each of their collections. Gwyneth Booth regaled us with the story of the Black Sun Press and its founders Harry and Caresse Crosby. The books published by the Black Sun Press included works by a number of then struggling authors including James Joyce, Ernest Hemmingway, D. H. Lawrence, T. S. Eliot and Ezra Pound. The suicide of Harry Crosby at the age of 31 put an effective end to the Black Sun Press. We had the pleasure to look at many fine examples of his work.

Brian Booth took us on a different adventure through largely Northwest literature. Starting with the adventures of Webster "Oregon" Jones, we learned of an early attempt to identify and develop a list of the 100 books of the Northwest. Webster Jones did not finish this work. The ten most important books on Oregon history, as determined by Mr. Jones, can be found in an article on this Society's web site.

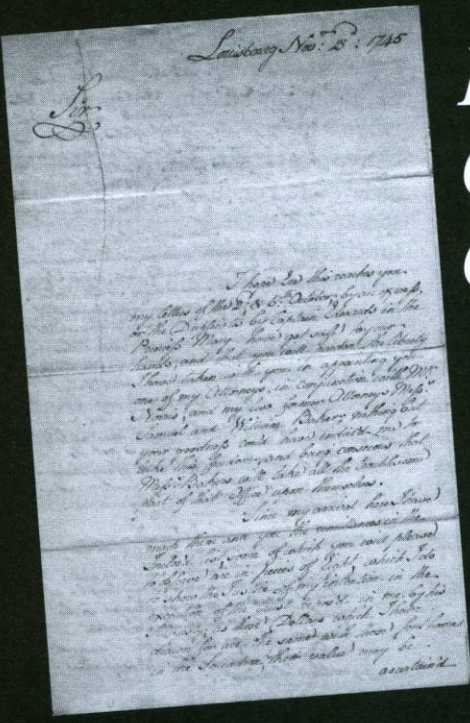
Mr. Booth then shared with the gathered group a whole series of Northwest-based

books and their wonderful inscriptions. One example of the inscriptions was in a book owned by C.E.S. Wood of love poetry which was inscribed adoringly to Mr. Wood's first wife. When Mr. Wood divorced this wife, he marked out the inscription and inscribed this same book to his second wife Sara Bard Field. It was a lovely night with the event enjoyed by Society members and their guests.

Our member, Jack Walsdorf, is no stranger to FABS. His article "The Mysterious Mr. Morris: I Paid the Fare and Ran!"

has been a popular read on the FABS web site. Titled "Not in the Morgan, Not in the Huntington: a Dozen Treasures All My Own," our members and their guests had a wonderful dinner put together by member Charlie Seluzicki, followed by comments by Jack Walsdorf and a tour of his library. Among the many significant collections were a William Morris collection, a Julia Symons collection, and a Green Bay Packers collection.

Our next meeting is our annual meeting set for late January 2011. Let us know if you



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are going to be in Oregon (info@himesduniway.org). Information about our Society and its events can be found at www.himesduniway.org.

LONG ISLAND BOOK COLLECTORS



WE BEGIN OUR NEW SEASON of meetings enthusiastically with the re-election of Marjorie Rosenthal, collector of illustrated children's books, as President. She will also retain the role of Corresponding Secretary. Jarron Jewell, whose interests are in children's fiction and folklore, was elected as Vice President. Mike Marrell, collector of cartoonists, chess and tennis, was elected Recording Secretary, while Dave King, whose collecting interests lie in Rolls-Royce & Bentley automobile materials, was re-elected Treasurer. Myron Sywak (art books, semiotics and pre-1960 paperbacks) will represent LIBC to FABS.

Jarron Jewell informed us that the archives of the Long Island Book Collectors have been deposited and indexed in a digital database at the Special Collections and Archives Department of the B. Davis Schwartz Library on the C. W. Post Campus of Long Island University. The LIBC papers

contain minutes and other documents dating back well over forty years to the founding of LIBC when meetings were held in members homes. We currently meet in the so-called Hunt Room of the main administrative building of the C. W. Post Campus which was formerly the home of Marjorie Merriweather Post.

Our October meeting, however, was held in the Library of the C. W. Post Campus where Special Collections Librarian Conrad Schoeffling displayed some of the special treasures of their remarkable Winthrop Palmer collection of French and Irish Literature. His associate, Jarron Jewell, described the progress being made in cataloging the outstanding American Juvenile Collection under the auspices of its founder and curator, Professor Emerita Diana Spirt.

We look forward to our annual November luncheon featuring Matthew Haley of Banham's Auction House as speaker. Our December meeting will feature LIBC member, traveler and writer, John Woram, who will speak on "Darwin in Patagonia". Future meetings will feature "French Bindings" by LIBC member and noted book restorer, Paul Belard. Other sessions will cover "Collecting Limited Editions", and "Collecting Modern Authors" as well as an occasional "Show and Tell" session at which notable new acquisitions are

displayed. We expect to conclude the 2010-2011 season with our informal annual joint dinner meeting with the Long Island Antiquarian Book Dealers Association.

We welcome visitors to our meetings which are usually held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at the C. W. Post Campus of Long Island University. We attempt to vary the content of our meetings between nominally formal presentations of collections, or aspects thereof, to meetings at which members are encouraged to display new acquisitions in a more casual atmosphere. Many of our recent sessions have dealt with the impact of the new electronic technological developments on the field of book collecting. It is expected that we will publish a new edition of our occasional Journal shortly.

THE MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY



THE SOCIETY'S GRAND CONCLAVE XXVIII under the guidance of Kathleen Bryson, James Birchfield, and Paul Holbrook, was held in Lexington, KY, over Labor Day weekend.

Registrants were welcomed in the Hyatt lobby with our newly redesigned traveling

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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*.

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book exhibit and the viewing of a video made 30 years ago at the original organizational meeting of the Society.

Highlights included a visit to the delightful Headley-Whitney Museum to view Neale M. Albert's "Brush Up Your Shakespeare" exhibit with over 100 miniature books either by or relating to Shakespeare. All had been redone in designer bindings commissioned by Neale and ranged from the classic to the fanciful. The display included a model of the Globe Theatre and a miniature architectural bookstand with a copy of "Brush Up Your Shakespeare" from Neale's Piccolo Press.

A champagne reception followed the viewing with the reading of a proclamation from Lexington's mayor welcoming the Society to the city. The evening finished with a Silent Auction, which is an annual fundraiser for the Society.

The next day brought presentations from Lisa Ohmer of European Papers in Columbus, Ohio, on novel ways to display miniature books. Jan Kellett of De Walden Press, Qualicum Beach, BC, discussed the materials used in bookbinding. Jan has an exceptionally detailed blog that offers extensive information on how she works: (<http://booked-out.blogspot.com>).

After lunch attendees were bused to the King Library Press at the University of

Kentucky. Director Paul Evans Holbrook provided a brief history of the Press and then set us to work, helping each person to use a handpress to print a sheet with Herman Melville's duodecimo classification of whales. Under the direction of James Reid-Cunningham, President of the Guild of Book Workers, we folded and cut, turning the sheet into a book. After using a hot press to print the title on the cover sheet, we sewed our work together to create our own miniature publication for 2010.

The annual fund-raising auction in the evening was presided over by Father Joseph Curran, who kept things lively as always.

Sunday's Book Fair at the Hyatt was strictly for attendees of the Conclave in the morning, but open to the public in the afternoon.

The evening reception and banquet marked the official end of the Conclave. Stephen Byrne of the Final Score Press in Huddersfield, England, received the Anderson-Yarnell Award for significant contribution to the Society; Karen Nyman of San Diego, CA, was recipient of the Norman W. Forgue Award for outstanding contribution to the world of miniature books; while Gabrielle Fox, bookbinder from Cincinnati, OH, received the Glasgow Cup for her special dedication and friendship to the membership.

2010 Distinguished Book Award winners were: Maria Victoria Garrido Biancini of Spain for her accordion bound pop-up book *Four Seasons*, Okuyama of France for *No*, a French text on No masks, and Jan & Jarmilla Sobota of the Czech Republic for *Black Cat*, an Edgar Allen Poe text designed to pop out of a box. With the announcement of the winners, attendees received copies of the catalog of entries for this year's competition.

The evening completed with James Birchfield, curator of books for Special Collections & Archives at King Library introducing the evening's speaker, James Reid-Cunningham, Chief Conservator at Boston Athenaeum, whose topic was "Eye, Hand, Tool: the Collision of Art, Craft and Conservation in the Contemporary Book." He discussed the overlap among the three and pointed out that in the 1970s and 80s conservation replaced repair when people began to quit trying to impose improvements for the sake of preserving the original work.

Those who were able stay the next day were treated to a trip to Larkspur Press in Monterey, KY. Under the direction of Gray Zeitz and in a wonderful building that he designed and built on his farm, the Press produces the work of regional authors, from the well-known, such as Wendell



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Berry and Bobbie Ann Mason, to unknowns that they feel should have an audience. Books can take as much as two years to produce since all work is done by hand from setting type to designing art work to printing and binding.

At Saturday's Membership meeting it was announced that next year's Conclave would be held in Dublin, Republic of Ireland, at the Davenport Hotel in the center of the city next to Trinity College grounds. Official dates are July 29 to August 1, 2011. Stephen and Marian Byrne are working on details, which will be available at a later date. There is the possibility of a reception at Trinity College and the optional trip would be to Malahide Castle.

THE PHILOBIBLON CLUB



THE PHILOBIBLON CLUB speakers for the 2010-2011 Season (October 2010 through April 2011) includes Tom Kinsella and Don Farren speaking on the life and achievements of the late bookbinding historian and conservationist Willman Spawm; John Anderies of Haverford College giving

the history of the identification of and eventual return of from Haverford to the Institut de France of the 1641 Rene Descartes letter "liberated" from the Institut by M. Libri in the 19th century; Michael Winship of the University of Texas speaking on the iconography of 19th century American bookshops; Samuel Streit, Brown University, retired, relating the progress on his new guide to the history of the rare book and manuscript holdings at Brown; Chris Stray, UK, on the spoon tradition in colleges in England and the United States; and, of course, the Club's traditional Members' Meeting where exchanges of personal collecting interests and histories and collected examples occur. The Club hopes to partially resume visitations to regional libraries and archives this season.

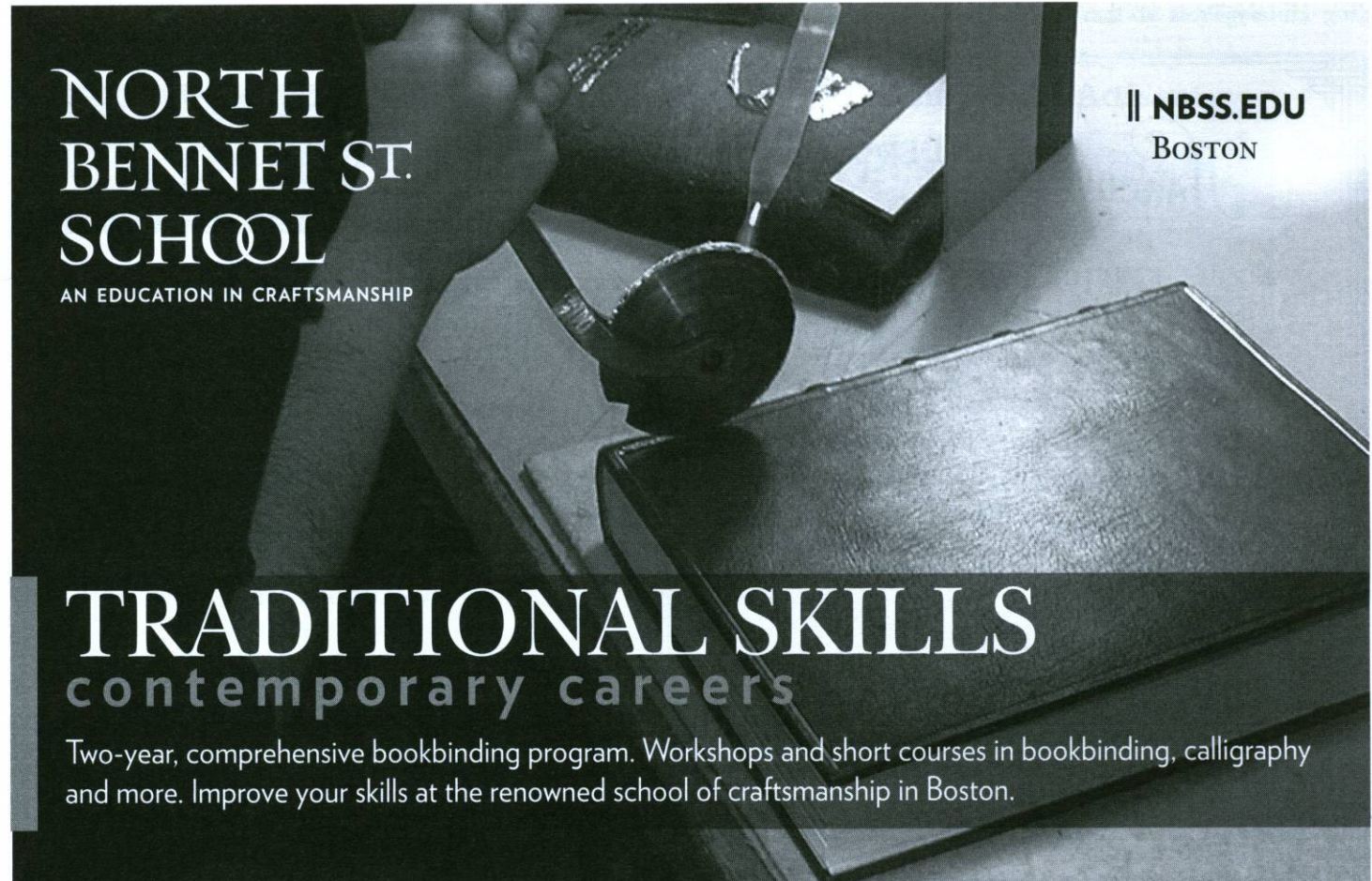
THE BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY OF ROCHESTER



AT THE OCTOBER MEETING the Bibliophile Society was pleased to have Cathy Petruccione and Ron Sollome of The Old Scrolls Book Shop in Stanley, New York, give a presentation on helping book

lovers decide what to collect, what to consider when purchasing old books, where to find them, and the resources available to help them. Located in a restored 1850 farmhouse, The Old Scrolls Book Shop contains 8,000 books including modern first editions, travel narratives, mysteries, military history, natural history, and a large selection of Modern Library editions. The store's website is www.oldscrolls.com. Cathy Petruccione, in addition to working at Finger Lakes Community College, is also media editor for www.bookthink.com and her interviews for that site have included Sue Grafton, John Dunning, and many other authors.

At the November meeting, Gene Kramer, a member for many years, gave a talk on Winston Churchill's *World Crisis* series of books on World War I. Churchill's five-volume first war memoirs are all but forgotten, but they are much rarer than his famous World War II histories, and in the opinion of some, better written. At the beginning of the war, Churchill, aged 39, was First Lord of the Admiralty but was forced to resign when he became the scapegoat for the Gallipoli disaster. A goal of *World Crisis* was to set the record straight. Gene has been fascinated by the literature of the Great War



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since as a teenager he came across a dusty copy of *Over The Top* by Arthur Guy Empey, a big bestseller in 1916. He is an admirer of Churchill's early books, especially *World Crisis*.

The December 16 meeting was held at the George Eastman House. The presentation was led by Dr. Anthony Bannon, who gave a discussion on the poet Robert Lax. Dr. Bannon is director of the George Eastman House, International Museum of Photography and Film. He has held that position since 1996, previously serving as director of the Burchfield-Penny Arts Center and director of Cultural Affairs on the campus of the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Painter and printmaker Robert Marks will be the presenter at the January 12 meeting. Mr. Marks graduated from the University of Illinois in 1953 and has exhibited at the Franz Bader Show in Vienna, the International Exhibition of Graphic Art in West Germany, and at the Smithsonian, among others. Much of his life has been spent teaching at various universities including Syracuse University, the Fulbright School of Art in India, SUNY Brockport, and the University of Wisconsin. His work has been honored with numerous awards, including the Rochester Finger Lakes Ex-

hibition Award. His works are in the permanent collections of many museums, including the Museum of Modern Art.

At the February 9 meeting, we will hear from Todd Gustavson, Curator of Technology at the George Eastman House.

Scheduled for March 9 is a talk by John Westerberg, a founding member of the Bibliophile Society of Rochester and longtime bookseller. He will discuss being in the book business for forty years.

Details about the April meeting will be announced in a forthcoming monthly flyer. As usual, the May meeting will feature readings by members.

The society will conclude the bibliophilic season on June 8 with its gala Annual Dinner, where presentation of the "Book Person of the Year" award will be made.

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



HERE'S TO A BOOKISH NEW YEAR! The traditions of New Years in our culture evoke a kind of book closing and a book opening. The book of the near past closes and the book of the future year opens. In terms of our club and its members average age, many of us have several shelves of such books to thumb through, now and then.

In those many books we look at now, "When to the sessions of sweet silent thought, as Shakespeare wrote, we "summon up remembrances of things past." In those memories, in those pages are many members of our club that are no longer with us in our bookish pursuits.

There is also history in those volumes from generations past. What were the burning issues of the day 50 years ago? What passions drove us 75 years ago, 100 years ago? Even farther back, the volumes of memory point us to a greater significance than the champaign glasses we raise each year. Who spoke on what 50 years ago? What were the topics 75 years ago?

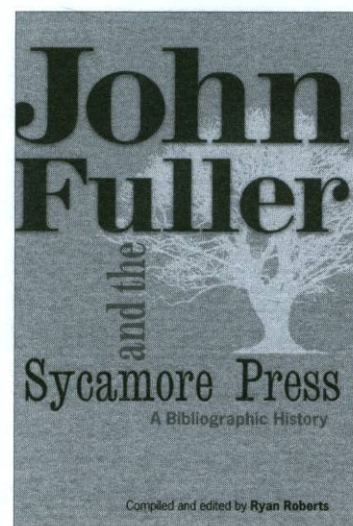
The passage of time is somehow especially clear for book club members. Perhaps

Oak Knoll Press presents

John Fuller & the Sycamore Press A Bibliographic History

by Ryan Roberts

This book, full of entertaining anecdotes about the hazards of small book publishing, also provides invaluable advice for small press printers. Operating from a garage, the Sycamore Press published established authors, such as W. H. Auden, Philip Larkin and Peter Porter, as well as promoting young poets, including James Fenton and Alan Hollinghurst. In addition to a full descriptive bibliography, the book includes an evocative foreword by John Fuller, who wryly describes the trials and tribulations of 'garage' publishing. Personal reflections by Sycamore Press authors, such as Andrew Motion and Thom Gunn, illuminate the publishing process further.



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this is because we see our own shelves filling up and greet each new year with a touch of sadness. Yet, no matter how many times we have said Happy New Year! to our friends and loved ones, it cannot be said without a good measure of joy.

Time seems a tyrant, but it is also generous. For there is indeed an abundance of memories to contend with, some sad and some not – but there are also the memories to come and be cherished in turn.

New Year's celebrations evoke a need to reminisce; it's part of a global tradition. So we remember the past year often with some fondness and sometimes with some sense of good riddance. 2010 was such a typical year, full as it was with tragedies, comedies, and some mixtures of both.

We mourn for those who have left us in the past year and rejoice in those who remain with us. We look forward and back as well, but always standing with confidence in the here and now. Nothing gives one as much confidence as literacy in this vale of tears we live in. Similarly, a respect and love for books allows us to contemplate the coming year with a bit more hope than we otherwise might have.

We think of that great line from La Fontaine, "Plus ça change, plus la meme chose." You must have a full shelf or two in your memory to appreciate his comment.

Who knows what the year will bring us, as a club, as a country, as a world? More wars? Disasters of all manner? Or, prosperity and peace? Perhaps even more "replacements" for traditional books? Time will not tell until it is past.

If you have spent some time reading history and literature and developed a respect for book collecting and the other better products of civilization, you can look forward to some portion of the coming days of 2011 with great expectations.

Some of those expectations for Rowfanter have to do with our Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday schedules for the first half of 2011. These note we will bring speakers from other parts of the world and from our own membership to address us on the various aspects of books and related topics to "please the mind of man." So 'Welcome 2011; we're ready for you.'

THE ROXBURGHE CLUB



IN MID-OCTOBER 2010, The Roxburghe Club of San Francisco hosted a three-day weekend Joint Meeting with the Zamorano Club of Los Angeles. The program included

visits to The Bancroft Library at Berkeley, the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park, rare book dealers and a book auction house, two private collections, the Internet Archive, and a banquet at the St. Francis Yacht Club. The meetings scheduled for 2011 are as follows: On January 18, Dr. Joseph Goldyne will speak on "Rarer books I have collected as an artist and their influence on my work." On February 15, Marcia Reed, of the Getty Center Library, will speak on "China on Paper." On March 15, Professor Michael Coe, of Yale University, will speak on "Soviet vs. Tory: The Cold War and the Maya Decipherment." On April 19, Dr. Arthur Lyons will speak on "The Pictures of Health and Otherwise, from a Medical Book Collection." On May 17, Dr. William Noel, of the Walters Art Museum, and Dr. Reviel Netz, of Stanford University, will speak on "The Archimedes Codex." FABS members are welcome to attend by prior arrangement. Meetings held at the University Club, cocktails at 6:00, dinner at 7:00.

SACRAMENTO BOOK COLLECTORS CLUB



THE Sacramento Book Collectors Club continued its 71st year with an exciting program focused on California local history, recent research in a scholarly publication, and featured an important Western Americana collection.

The September program featured Alton Pryor on "Joaquin Murieta: Was He an Historical Person or Fiction?" Pryor is the author of 19 books on California and Western history including *Little Known Tales in California History* (Roseville, CA.: Stagecoach Pub., 1997). One of the greatest obstacles an historical researcher must overcome is the wide-spread and long-standing legends regarding controversial, historical figures. Joaquin Murieta (ca. 1829-July 25, 1853?), also called the Mexican or Chilean Robin Hood or the Robin Hood of El Dorado was a semi-legendary figure in California and the California Gold Rush of the 1850s. He was portrayed either as an infamous bandit or a Mexican patriot, depending on one's point of view. Murieta was partly the inspiration for the fictional character of Zorro. His name has, for some political activists, symbolized resistance against Anglo-American economic and cultural domination in California. (From Wikipedia). Mr. Pryor reviewed the myths

about Joaquin Murieta and considered that Murieta was likely a fictional character.

In September, the club also participated in the Sacramento Fall Antiquarian Book Fair with a membership table that featured some of our fine print keepsakes. The book fair is always an opportunity to see incredible books and add to members' collections.

In October Kathryn S. Olmsted, Professor of History at the University of California, Davis, discussed her recent book *Real Enemies: Conspiracy Theories and American Democracy from World War I to 9/11* (N.Y.: Oxford U Press, 2009) a revealing study on the impact of conspiracy theories in American society and politics. Controversial episodes included the U. S. entry into World War I, Pearl Harbor, the McCarthy Red Scare, Watergate, Iran-Contra, and 9/11. Prof. Olmsted described how conspiracy theories affect our understanding of these events and their impact on the policy process. Staff from the Department of Special Collections, General Library, University of California, Davis exhibited some examples from its holdings of rare pamphlets on conspiracy theories.

The November meeting featured a panel of speakers from Special Collections at the Shields Library, University of California, Davis on *Michael Harrison: Connecting the Old West with the New Millennium*. The Michael and Margaret B. Harrison Western Research Center of over 21,000 volumes was described as one of the premier Western Americana collections built by a private individual, Mike Harrison (who was also a charter member of the Sacramento Book Collectors Club). John Skarstad discussed the life of Mike Harrison; Daryl Morrison described the influence Mike Harrison had in western circles as evidenced from his private correspondence; and John Sherlock connected the past to the present and future of the collection.

For additional information about the Sacramento Book Collectors Club contact Daryl Morrison at dmorrison@ucdavis.edu or call 530 752-2112.

THE BOOK CLUB OF TEXAS



THE BOOK CLUB OF TEXAS continues its publication program. It ushered in the holiday season, 2010, with an edition of a never-before-published play by Josefina Niggli, "The Defeat of Grandfather Devil," edited, with an afterword, by William M.

Fisher, illustrated with woodcuts by Artemio Rodriguez, and designed by Bradley Hutchinson. Based on a 12th-century Spanish shepherd's play, performed yearly at Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico, Niggli's play is both comic and tender, enlivened by the charming Rodriguez illustrations. In spring 2011, to coincide with several anniversaries, The Book Club will publish Everett Wilkie's *The 1861 Texas Printings of the Ordinance of Secession, A Declaration of the Causes, and An Address to the People of Texas: An Illustrated Descriptive Bibliography Commemorating the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of Their Adoption and the Secession of Texas from The United States of America*.

For more information about these books and other activities, contact Pamalla Anderson at 214 768-0829 or consult the Book Club's web page: smu.edu/cul/degolyer/pub_booktx.htm

THE BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON



AFTER A VERY FULL AUTUMN SEASON consisting of a myriad of educational and enjoyable events, the Book Club of Washington held our annual holiday Dinner and auction in early December. The winter and spring calendar will duplicate the previous season in the variety and number of activities planned.

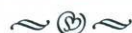
January brings a series of lectures and discussions on the essentials of book collecting. These will be hosted by our esteemed member, Pamela Harer.

In February and March we have scheduled several visits to various members' private book collections. During this same period we will continue to hold some lunch time events featuring local authors. These are open to the public.

The annual meeting of the Book Club of Washington takes place on May 1. The focus will be the Native American Population of the Northwest and its bibliography.

All FABS members are welcome to attend all our events. Our website and Facebook page lists what's happening in Seattle, Washington.

THE WASHINGTON RARE BOOK GROUP



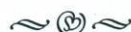
OUR 2010-2011 EVENT-YEAR started off with a visit to the Waverley/Quinn auction house in September for a preview

of an upcoming book auction and a practice run to familiarize participants with auction practices and procedures. In October we had a curator-led tour of the Smithsonian Institution Libraries' new exhibition on pop-up and moveable books, and in November we visited a private collection of early prints and maps of Washington D.C. with its curator Dr. James Goode, renowned Washington historian.

In our schedule for the rest of the year we hope to include the following, although none has been confirmed yet or the dates set: January: a visit to the American Revolution collections and current exhibition at the Society of the Cincinnati; February: a tour of the new exhibition "Beyond Home Remedies" at the Folger Shakespeare Library; March: a visit to the rare-book collection at the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration library; April: a presentation on the Archimedes palimpsest by William Noel at the Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore; May: our annual lunch at the Ft. McNair Officers' Club, with Leslie Overstreet giving a talk on her research on Mark Catesby's "Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands" (London, 1731-1743).

For more information about any of these events, please contact Leslie Overstreet or Bill Baxter, Co-Presidents, at overstreetL@si.edu or baxterw@si.edu, respectively.

THE ZAMORANO CLUB



THE BIENNIAL ROXBURGHE/ZAMORANO meeting started at the beautifully redone headquarters of the Book Club of California on Thursday, October 14, 2010, with Thomas Pinney speaking on George Saintsbury, better known to most of us as an authority on French and Victorian literature than as an oenophile. It was this latter aspect which was the subject of Pinney's talk and book *Notes on a Cellar-Book*.

On Friday, October 15th Charles Faulhaber and Peter Hanff gave us a tour of the newly redone Bancroft Library with its catalogued exhibition of Mexican Independence, 1810, 1910, and 2010, its Papyrus collection, and the Mark Twain Collection.

In the evening each visiting Zamoranan was hosted by a Roxburgher — a new and very thoughtful idea which is certain to be a tradition.

The California Academy of Sciences (a Renzo Piano production) and its splendid book collections began our Saturday ses-

sion. Librarian, Rebecca Morin, allowed us to inspect and enjoy everything from a Darwin 1st of *On the Origin of Species*; Audubon's *The Birds of America*, and Gould's *The Birds of Great Britain*.

Walking across the street to the De Young Museum, we were given an architectural history of both organizations by historian Diana Ketcham (arranged through her husband, Master of the Press Andrew Hoyem).

The evening banquet at the St. Francis Yacht Club, with a special viewing of the club's collection of ship models led by Ron Young, occasioned the exchange of keepsakes. The quality standard of previous years was more than upheld.

The medical history library of Arthur E. Lyons, M.D. started our Sunday excursion and his treasures were beautifully displayed, described, and handled. There was a Vesalius 1st and a dust-wrapped *From a Surgeon's Journal* by Harvey Cushing, among a collection full of highlights and companion pieces.

We met in the home of David Rumsey who is digitizing his collection of 150,000 maps which will be housed ultimately in its own building at Stanford. The knowledge, enthusiasm, dedication, and inventiveness shown by Rumsey was an inspiration to all of us.

The morning ended with a tour of Brewster Kahle's Internet Archive established in a former Christian Science Church, with facilities capable of digitizing 1,000 books weekly. What Kahle is doing, an archive of the Internet, would seem an overly ambitious and/or impossible task until one listens to this dot com pioneer (who has no touch of grey in his hair) and is carried on the crest of his insight and knowledge to the conclusion that he can do it. Indeed, he is doing it.

Brewster Kahle's wife, Mary Kay Austin, co-founder with Book Club of California President, Kathleen Burch, of the San Francisco Center for the Book, mused one lunch hour as to why there was no organization of artists' book devotees. She promptly contacted friends throughout the country who agreed with her, and such an organization will be developed sometime during Peter Rutledge Koch's CODEX conference in the days preceding the San Francisco Book Fair of 2/11/11. Contact Mary Kay Austin at mka@archive.org

Our Sunday luncheon was in the French Parlor of Market Street's timeless Palace Hotel, a fitting conclusion to a thoughtfully conceived and mind-stretching experience.

International Affiliates

BIRON STABLES BIBLIOPHILE CLUB



NEWLY AFFILIATED WITH FABS is the "Biron Stables" Bibliophile Club, founded in 1988 at St. Petersburg, Russia. Limited by its Charter to 75 members, the name of the Club is taken from the building in which it was founded and continued to meet, The Imperial Stables in St. Petersburg, now a museum. The Club meets monthly, except in the Summer. In July, the Club celebrated its 200th meeting. A special commemorative invitation is printed for each meeting, and are avidly collected in their own right, many containing wood-engraved illustrations from the original block. Reports and talks given at meetings are devoted to private libraries, the history of State collections and libraries, the antiquarian book trade, recent publication, other bibliophile societies, etc. Major exhibitions are organized from time to time to commemorate well-known writers, book illustrators, designers, or historical personages. The Club has published over 20 books. Five more are in progress.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF EX-LIBRIS SOCIETIES



THE "FABS" OF THE BOOKPLATE WORLD, FISAE (an acronym based on its name in French) was formally established at Hamburg, Germany, on 28 July 1966, although it had informally existed and arranged meetings from the late 1940s. Its membership comprises solely bookplate societies, and not natural persons. There are about 45 active society members at present who collectively unite up to 10,000 bookplate collectors around the world. Every two years an international ex-libris congress is held under FISAE auspices to which all are welcome, whether members of constituent societies or not. The Congress in 2010 was held at Istanbul; in 2012 it will be in Finland and in 2014, in Spain. FISAE awards certificates and medals for outstanding contributions to the world of bookplates. For several years FISAE has promoted experimentally computer-designed ex-libris and now is emphasizing bookplates designed by and for children through competitions and exhibitions.

The sole permanent officer of FISAE is the Executive Secretary. The President and two Vice Presidents rotate every two years, the President being chosen by the host country of the FISAE Congress and then become successively a first and then second vice president. Full details on the FISAE website: www.FISAE.org.

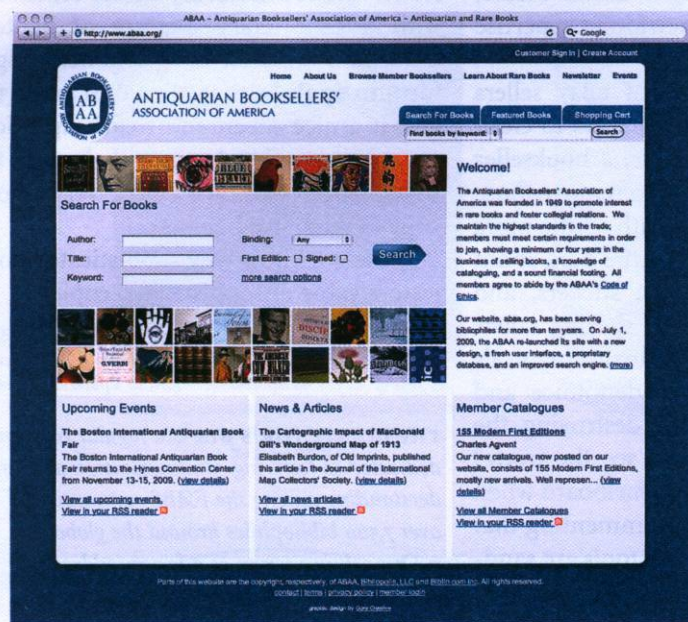
NATIONAL UNION OF BIBLIOPHILES



AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING at Samara, Russia, in May 2010 the ORB decided after spirited discussion to seek formal legal status and terminate its existence as an unincorporated association. On 22 October 2010 twenty-two members of the ORB met in Moscow to found the National Union of Bibliophiles (NUB) as a noncommercial partnership under Russian law.

The NUB is the legal successor of the ORB, whose formal constitutive meeting after State registration will be held in January 2011. Igor Bykov has been elected the Executive Director of the NUB and has assumed responsibility for its day-to-day operations.

Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America Launches New Website



Our website, abaa.org, has been serving bibliophiles for more than ten years. On July 1, 2009, the ABAA re-launched its site with a new design, a fresh user interface, a proprietary database, and an improved search engine.

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The Collector's Bin



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

IT IS SIX YEARS since the *Collector's Bin* began its mission of fostering communication and understanding among our worldwide FABS community of over 7,500 bibliophiles. Your questions and comments continue to provoke discussion and debate amongst members of the world's leading bibliophilic societies.

While recent columns addressed lofty philosophical questions about the nature of book collecting, it is time for us to come out of the clouds and address some practical questions. Several readers ask the same interesting questions. Should we clean our books? What is the proper way to clean a book? On the same topic, a New York bibliophile raises an analogy between collectable books and antique furniture. He writes, "As a long time *Antiques Roadshow* viewer, I have heard the Keno brothers repeatedly declare, 'if you hadn't cleaned the piece and left it alone, it would be worth much more... collectors love to see the decades of grime, scratches, and wear.' Can the same be said for books?"

My response is based on a little research, as well as my own book-cleaning experiences. First, before you attempt to clean anything, make sure you know the value of what you are cleaning. We suspect far fewer people would be disappointing the Keno brothers if they knew they were about to clean an 18th century early American highboy worth a small fortune. Likewise, people would think twice about cleaning that dirty, old dust jacket, if they knew the value of that iconic *Great Gatsby* jacket on the book they inherited from grandpa. Like the Keno brother episodes, stories abound in the book world of owner's attempting to clean their books to disastrous ends. Whether its furniture or books, the forlorn owner typically replies, "I didn't know."

Book collectors seek books as close to the original state as they can find or afford. Books that have not been altered are known in the trade as unsophisticat-

ed copies. The collector can then decide how to best proceed with any cleaning or repairs. I don't think many would disagree with the advice that if a book is scarce and valuable, cleaning and repairs is best left to a professional. However, the vast majority of books are neither scarce nor exceedingly valuable. What then about cleaning the average used book?

As stated earlier, I have attempted cleaning only to find myself harming the book. The time I applied leather dressing to a new acquisition, only to find myself holding two detached boards when I opened the book ended my book-cleaning career. The Keno brother's philosophy towards furniture, speaks to me when they advise, "leave it alone?" However, are we just avoiding our reader's questions? "Leave it alone," sounds so simple. Fueled by a desire for complexity and erudition, this author turned to the internet to conduct research. Did you know we all become experts on any subject by spending a few minutes on the Internet? What I learned about book cleaning has been a revelation. When it comes to cleaning books, I learned that I was an uninformed ignoramus. Please, allow me to share my newfound expertise with you.

On one site, I read of eBay sellers using Windex and baby diapers to clean books. At another website, a bookseller suggests applying bleach to remove those unsightly brown spots. With a little more surfing, we discover an entire blog about removing library stamps, stickers, and markings. Along with sharing their methods, often entailing toxic chemicals and hazmat suits, they denounce and revile the librarians for destroying the books. Does anyone else see the irony? We fell off the proverbial surfboard when coming across a dealer commenting that his favorite book cleaning tools are sandpaper, hairspray, and Clorox . . . *Sacre bleu!*

Book buyers and collectors beware; what started as benign research to answer

a few reader questions, has resulted in the discovery of biblioclasts, parading as book dealers, attempting to sell their "cleaned" books to us, the unsuspecting customer. It is understood that potential customers are entitled to accurate and honest book descriptions. Professional book dealers strive for honest and accurate book descriptions. We suggest that an accurate book description for these "cleaned" books might read in part, bottom edge heavily sanded with 80-grit to remove remainder mark; formally soiled jacket is now bright and clean after a soaking in bleach. The bleach worked so well on the jacket, we applied some on the yellowed endpapers, and fore-edges, and the stained pages. Since the bleach has damaged the paper fibers, be prepared for the book to literally fall apart in your hands sometime in the near future. Borrowed the wife's hairspray to remove underlining and had her iron flat a few dog-eared pages along with a library embossed blind stamp. Book sprayed with Lysol and stuck in a garbage bag filled with kitty litter for three weeks to mask the musty odor of mold and cigarettes. Stubborn library sticker removed with a proprietary mixture of lighter fluid, paint thinner, and goo gone. Pledge furniture polish sprayed on dust jacket to give it a nice sheen and matching color shoe polish rubbed on cloth boards to cover damp staining; else a very good copy looking just like new.

Now, we know why sophisticated collectors value unsophisticated copies.

KENNETH J. PALKO

PO Box 21323, Cleveland, Ohio 44121
kenpalko@aol.com or kpalko@ndc.edu

THE COLLECTOR'S BIN is a regular column dedicated to fostering communication and understanding among the FABS community of over 7,500 bibliophiles around the globe.

■ Our column serves as a forum addressing questions submitted by readers, similar to online blogs and Internet forums, only that many FABS readers prefer things the old-fashioned way . . . ink on paper.

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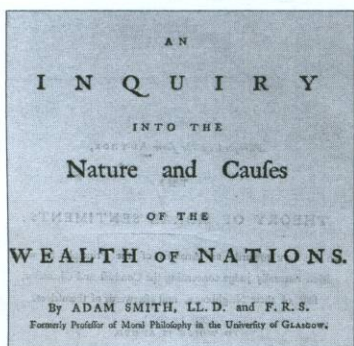
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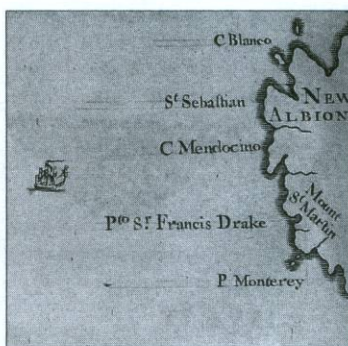
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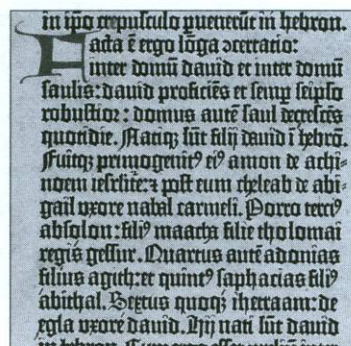
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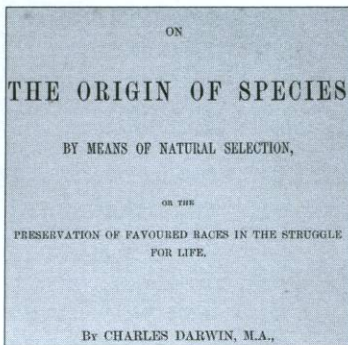
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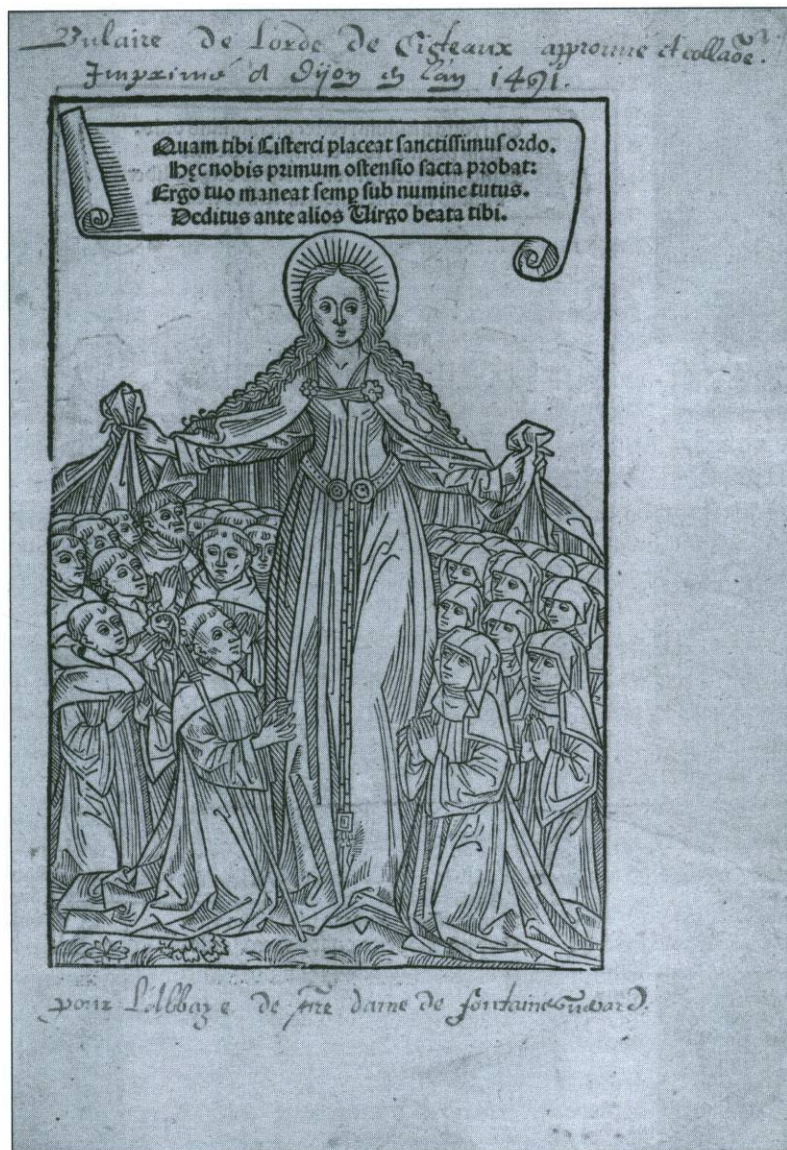
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