

THE FELLOWSHIP OF AMERICAN BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETIES

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The Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies

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From the Editor

The “feature” of this issue is a selection of accounts of the FABS tour in Philadelphia in June, and there are more such accounts (and lots of pictures) on the FABS blog, “Book Talk,” which can be found at <http://fabclubnews.blogspot.com/>. I wish to thank all of the contributors, and one in particular for her comprehensive report of the tour, published in full on the blog, but excerpted below—Joan Knoertzer, a member of the Book Club of Detroit, the Florida Bibliophile Society, and the Miniature Book Society.

Another word of grateful thanks must be extended to Bruce McKittrick and Kiley Samz, who organized the itinerary, logistics, correspondence, and finances of the entire trip. It is also worth noting that there was not a loss on the expenses of the extended weekend for FABS.

I would like to remind our readers that any FABS club member may submit book reviews (current-year publications), feature articles, interviews, or personal essays on book collecting or book culture—please e-mail richard.ring@trincoll.edu. Book reviews can be 750-1,000 words, and features should be 1,500-3,000 words. All submissions of content, including features, club news, or advertisements, are due on July 30 (for the Fall issue) and October 30 (for the Winter issue).

—Richard J. Ring, *Editor*

From the Secretary

FABS is pleased to announce a new website (www.fabsocieties.org), and acknowledges with gratitude its new webmaster, Samuel V. Lemley. The platform of the original website was no longer supported, and consequently the site had been inactive for some time. The process to develop the new site began on May 20 with my first contact with Mr. Lemley. Not quite one month later, on June 18, the new site went live with a crisp design and improved features. It was not possible to recapture the original FABS web address, however Mr. Lemley was able to obtain a very appropriate new address for FABS.

The new website was updated with the information the Secretary had at hand. We hope the responsible person at the member-organizations will review the information on the “Member Clubs” page (<http://fabsocieties.org/members.html>) and submit any corrections required. For routine matters associated with the member-club listings, the webmaster (svl6fy@virginia.edu) is the primary contact for updates to the information on the website. For matters relevant to the business affairs of FABS, please contact, as usual, the appropriate FABS officer.

—Ronald K. Smeltzer, *Secretary*

MEMBER CLUBS

The Alcuin Society, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
The Aldus Society, Columbus, OH
The American Book Collectors of Children's Literature, Newtown, CT
The Ampersand Club, Minneapolis, St. Paul, MN
The Baltimore Bibliophiles, Baltimore, MD
The John Russell Bartlett Society, Providence, RI
The Baxter Society, Portland, ME
The Bixby Club, St. Louis, MO
The Book Club of California, San Francisco, CA
The Caxton Club, Chicago, IL
The Colophon Club, Berkeley, CA
The Delaware Bibliophiles, Wilmington, DE
The Book Club of Detroit, Detroit, MI
Ephemera Society of America, NY
Florida Bibliophile Society, St. Petersburg, FL
The No. 44 Society, Urbana-Champaign, IL
The Grolier Club, New York, NY
The Himes & Duniway Society, Portland, OR
Long Island Book Collectors, Garden City, NY
The Manuscript Society
Miniature Book Society
Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society, Northern Ohio
The Philobiblon Club, Philadelphia, PA
The Rowfant Club, Cleveland, OH
The Roxburghe Club of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
Sacramento Book Collectors Club, Sacramento, CA
The Book Club of Texas, Dallas, TX
The Ticknor Society, Boston, MA
Washington Rare Book Group, Washington, DC
Book Club of Washington, Seattle, WA
The Zamorano Club, Los Angeles, CA

For member club websites, please visit <http://www.fabsocieties.org/members.html>

Publication Notices

J. David Archibald (Zamorano Club), emeritus professor of biology at San Diego State University, is the author of a recent Columbia University Press title, *Aristotle's Ladder, Darwin's Tree: The Evolution of Visual Metaphors for Biological Order*. According to Archibald, "possibly the catalyst that jump-started this project came from a book I found in the now defunct Wahrenbrock's Book House in downtown San Diego. Behind the counter the proprietor, Chuck Valverde, placed several shelves of leather bound books, which according to him appealed to those who wished to decorate with leather bound books. One book caught my eye, labeled Hitchcock's Geology. I knew of Hitchcock as the discoverer of dinosaur footprints in the Connecticut River valley and president of Amherst College, but this *Elementary Geology* was new to me. The frontispiece folds out into a hand-colored sheet with two paleontological-based trees showing plant and animal relationships. This edition was 1851 and the first edition with the same frontispiece was 1840, which surprised me because Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* did not appear until 19 years later in 1859. Had I stumbled on an earlier evolutionary visual representation? No, the text explained that for Hitchcock, God created new forms over vast stretches of geological time. As I explored further, I found a half-dozen clearly non-evolutionary trees dating from the first two-thirds of the 19th century. I published some papers about these trees as well as some little known Darwinian tree diagrams, and gave some lectures on the topic, including one to Zamorano some years back. This topic clearly necessitated a book-length treatment."

Paul Belard (Long Island Book Collectors) has published *Vernon Howe Bailey's America* (Linden Press), available for purchase by sending a message to pbelard@hotmail.com. Vernon Howe Bailey (1874-1953) was an American artist and newspaper illustrator from Camden, NJ, who attended academies of art in Philadelphia, London, and Paris. He worked for the *Philadelphia Times* and the *Boston Herald* from 1892-1901 covering (graphically) urban crime, trials, fires, shipwrecks, and the political campaigns of 1900. "An inveterate traveler," says Belard, "Mr. Bailey worked with a sure hand, rendering meticulously scaled drawings from the back alleys of Paris to the bookstalls of London to the sidewalks outside Manhattan's Grand Central Station. So enamored was he of Spain that he published three books on its scenic landscapes in watercolor. Even when perched atop a skyscraper, formally dressed in suit and tie, his eye never failed to capture the majesty of the modern age."

In honor of the 85th birthday of **Lloyd E. Cotsen (Grolier)** in 2014, the Cotsen Children's Library at Princeton University published *Jack Whirler's*

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Alphabet; or, The St. Paul's Primer, a celebration of the engaging eighteenth-century children's books produced by three generations of the Newbery firm. The Cotsen holds the world's largest collection of Newbery children's books. Designed by Mark Argetsinger, it was printed letterpress in black and red and hand-bound at the Press of Robert LoMascolo in Union Springs, New York in an edition of 200. To order a copy, contact Bromer Booksellers, who is distributing the book for the Cotsen Children's Library.

Tricks of the Trade: Confessions of a Bookbinder is a new book (Oak Knoll Press) by **Grolier** member **Jamie Kamph**, proprietor of Stonehouse Bindery in Lambertville, New Jersey (www.stonehousebindery.com). "In it," says Kamph, "I consider what is not taught—but probably should be—about binding and rebinding books. I delve into the gray area between technical discipline and artistic invention, bringing quirky but effective binding techniques out of obscurity and into the professional repertoire. Here are tricks binders can use to polish and refine their bindings, as well as suggestions for repairs that may add value to collections."

A posthumous collection of works by **Richard Landon (Grolier)**, compiled, edited and introduced by his wife and partner, **Marie Elena Korey (Grolier)**, was published by Oak Knoll under the title *A Long Way from the Armstrong Beer Parlour—A Life in Rare Books: Essays by Richard Landon*. In 1967, Richard Landon (1942-2011) joined the staff of special collections at the University of Toronto, which would later become the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. He established his reputation as a collector (for the institution and for himself), and often shared stories of his acquisitions in lectures, exhibition catalogs, and other publications, which are herewith compiled.

Their Families by Betty Bard MacDonald is the first of a series of chapbooks to be published by the **Book Club of Washington**. Betty Bard MacDonald, Washington State's first best-selling author, published this in the local arts and culture periodical, "The Town Crier," in 1933 under her maiden name, Betty Bard. *Their Families* is a two-part short story about a young Seattle couple who find romance despite the foibles and follies of their eccentric families. The forty-eight page chapbook published in a limited edition of 350 is letterpress printed on Hahnemuhle Biblio paper by Evolution Press in Seattle and hand bound in two editions by Puget Bindery. Jennifer Kennard designed the book and created the illustrations. Orders can be placed through the website (bookclubofwashington.org).

The Book in Society: An Introduction to Print Culture by **Solveig C. Robinson (Book Club of Washington)** "provides an overview of the rise of the book and of the modern publishing and bookselling industries. It explores the evolution of written texts from early forms to contemporary formats, the in-

terrelationship between literacy and technology, and the prospects for the book in the twenty-first century. The second half of the book is based on historian Robert Darnton's concept of a book publishing "communication circuit." It examines how books migrate from the minds of authors to the minds of readers, exploring such topics as the rise of the modern notion of the author, the role of states and others in promoting or restricting the circulation of books, various modes of reproducing and circulating texts, and how readers' responses help shape the form and content of the books available to them."

Portraits & Reviews by **G. Thomas Tanselle (Grolier)** is another Oak Knoll publication, which brings together a selection of the biographical sketches and reviews that Tanselle has written since 1959. There are twenty-eight biographical accounts of collectors, booksellers, librarians, scholarly editors, publishers, bibliographical scholars, and scholars of literature and history. There are forty-two further articles which include book reviews, responses to essays, introductions, and retrospective assessments—all pertaining to the world of books and bibliographical and textual scholarship.

The **Ticknor Society** has just released *Curiosities of the Ticknor Society: Contributions from Members, 2014-2015* (Boston: Ticknor Society, 2015), edited by Scott B. Guthery. Featuring seventeen essays, the book "is a result of an invitation to members . . . to share personal stories about aspects of their love of books." Copies are available on-demand through Amazon.com.

Finally, although he is not a FABS member, I would like to notice Donald Kerr's new book, *Hocken: Prince of Collectors* (Dunedin, NZ: Otago University Press, 2015). Dr. Thomas M. Hocken (1836-1910) was a successful M.D. and surgeon, and an influential figure in the cultural community of Dunedin. His collection of books, maps, newspapers, pamphlets, manuscripts, paintings and photographs relating to New Zealand and the Pacific—donated to the University of Otago in 1910—became his greatest legacy. **Dr. Kerr** is a member of **Private Libraries Association** and president of the Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand.

FABS Study Tour Memories: Philadelphia, June 3-7, 2015

Leonard Banco (Ticknor Society)

The tour began on Wednesday evening with a cocktail reception and book fair with 17 dealers. It was difficult to keep food and wine away from the books in the same room, but there were some very interesting items, ranging from the medieval to modern. Jonathan Hill brought only one item but graciously gave everyone a copy of his recent and very elegant catalog.

Thursday we all took a bus to the Free Library of Philadelphia which was quite remarkable. We visited the William Elkins room, the original wood-paneled library moved from his home and reinstalled at the library. The two most amazing items were George Percy's handwritten account of the "Starvation Time in Jamestown colony" ca. 1617, and even more incredible, the account of testimony by Abigail Hobbs taken at Salem Village on April 19, 1692, provided in question-and-answer format. It reads like the dialogue Arthur Miller used in *The Crucible*, and for all I know, he used this as a reference.

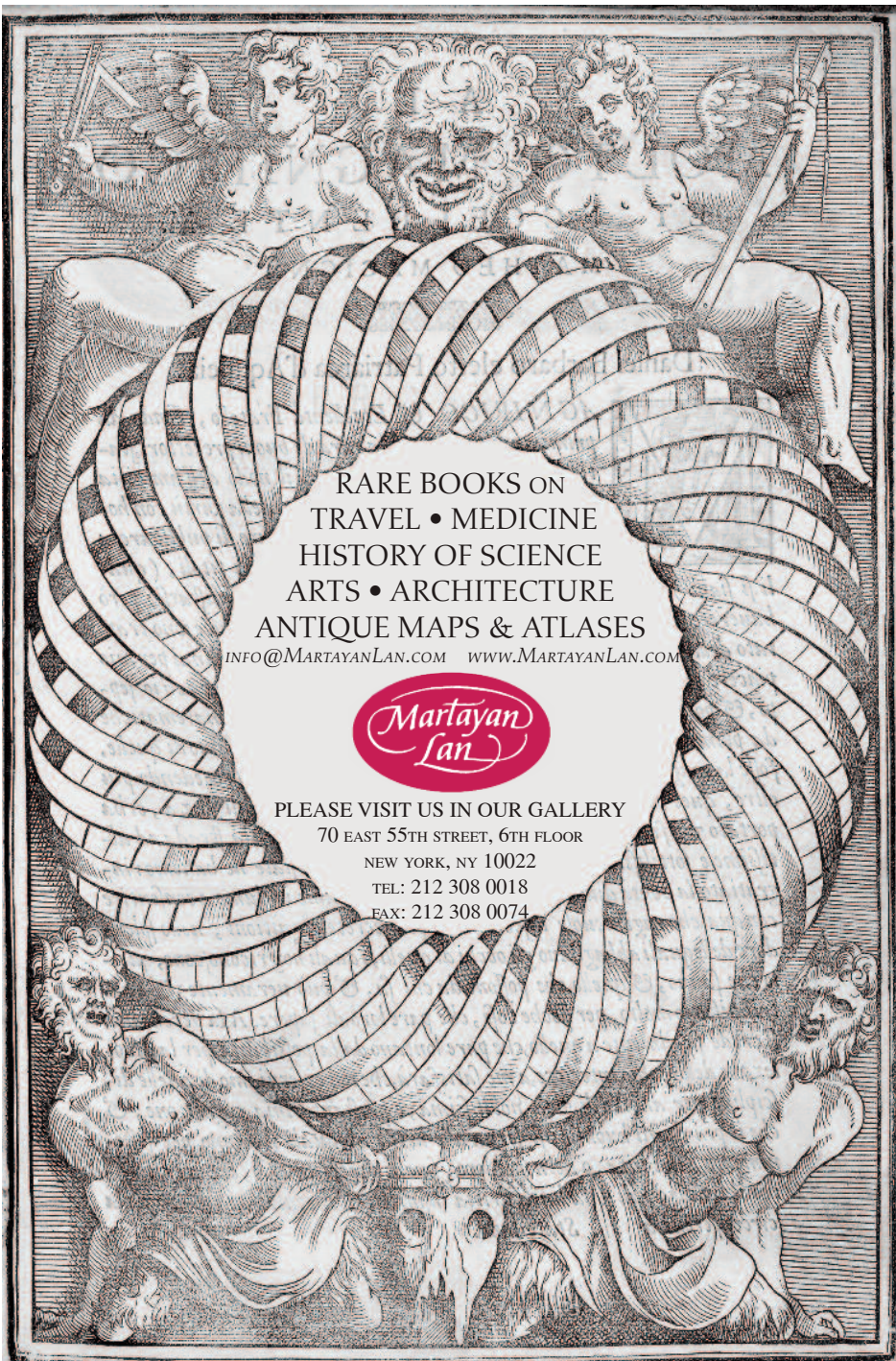
A more modern work was the only complete manuscript of *The Raven*, by Poe. I was surprised to learn that the library has the largest collection of Beatrix Potter in the U.S., including the very rare privately printed first edition of *Peter Rabbit*, which was on display.

We finished the morning at the Barnes Museum, where I decided to focus on a couple of key artists—Cézanne and Matisse—among the mostly but not exclusively French and American impressionist artists. It was an hour well spent, since their collection of both artists is top-notch.

After the Barnes and a stop for lunch at a Chinese restaurant large enough to serve all of us at once, we visited the Library of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and then were back on the bus to the University of Pennsylvania's Rare Book Department (Kislak Center) and Fine Arts Library. This gave us an opportunity to visit the Charles Lea library, another wood-paneled library moved *en bloc* to the Center, which holds many wonderful treasures including illuminated manuscripts. The Fine Arts Library looks like a mash-up of a Victorian-era academic building and train station! It has been restored to past glory, and aside from its contents, is worth a walk inside just to be enveloped by its bizarre style and mass of sandstone, terra cotta, iron beams and glass. A cocktail hour and buffet dinner followed.

Friday began with a walk around the corner to the Library Company of Philadelphia. Jim Green, the head librarian, is of the belief that the materials should be touched and held, so the level of interaction here was probably greater than in any other of the facilities we visited. One of the items was a history of Louisiana with a map of the Mississippi River. This copy was taken by Lewis and Clarke on their famous expedition, since the map was the best existing map of the river and land beyond at that time—though largely erroneous and probably of little help to the explorers. It is amazing that it survived the expedition, as an inscription by Clarke on the front pastedown attests. We were then given a tour of the current exhibition, "The Genius of Freedom: Northern Black Activism and Uplift after the Civil War."

Just one door down is the Pennsylvania Historical Society, where we ex-



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amined a first-person, hand-written account of George Washington's death, which subsequently became the basis for all of the published accounts of his deathbed scene. We also saw Washington's account book as president, Martha Washington's hand-written cookbook, William Penn's purchase of land from the Indians, and a contemporary copy of the Articles of Confederation in German.

Lunch was taken at the Franklin Inn Club one block away, and then we walked four more blocks to the American Philosophical Society, the Athenaeum of Philadelphia and the Center for Judaic Studies. We saw a first edition of *Common Sense* printed in Philadelphia, 1776; the first letter sent by balloon across the English Channel by William Franklin (estranged son of Benjamin) to his own son who was living in France with Benjamin at the time; a first edition of Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* with an accompanying signed letter, and a hand-written full page list of words in the Indian language of a tribe on Long Island and their English counterparts.

The Athenaeum, still an active membership library, is housed in a wonderful classical building with some interesting holdings on display. Last, and perhaps most different, was the Center for Judaic Studies, formerly Dropsie College and now part of the University of Pennsylvania. They displayed material which was quite amazing, particularly in that it has survived—such as a Passover Haggadah from the 12th century, retrieved from the Genezah of the Cairo Synagogue. In this version, previously unknown, there were only three questions, not four (the requirement to recline during the Seder was omitted) and the story about the four sons was omitted completely. They also had a rare Samaritan scroll in a type of ancient Hebrew script, and closer to home, a peg board from 1800 in Pennsylvania used to count the days of the harvest (Omer) between Passover and Pentecost (Shavuot).

Our last stop was the Chemical Heritage Foundation to see an exhibit on alchemy, a permanent exhibition on chemistry and associated technology, and rare scientific books. As a former Chemistry major in college in the 1960s, it is humbling to recognize that the “cutting-edge” equipment I was using back then is now in a museum! Thus we all become part of history. A modest cocktail reception followed.

A special treat on Saturday morning was to hear presentations by four bibliophiles with 30 or more years of collecting experience each. Their passions were on display as they explained how they began collecting, and how the collections became honed over time. The presenters were Eugene Flamm, a prominent neurosurgeon and collector of 16th- and 17th-century medical books; Peter Kraus, a book dealer and collector of Indian miniatures; Susan Tane, a businesswoman and collector of Poe, Twain, Melville and Whitman;



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and Steve Rothman, president of the Philobiblion Society and omnivorous collector of comic books (now at the University of Pennsylvania), Sherlock Holmes, and most assiduously, Christopher Morley. The collective insights on many years of book buying (and selling), decisions of what to collect, and even how a spouse lives with a bibliophile/bibliomaniac, were by turns entertaining, humorous and meaningful.

The five days spent in Philadelphia were very rewarding and we look forward to next year's expedition to San Francisco.

Cathy Compton (Book Club of Detroit)

Our tour of the library and facilities of The Philadelphia Orchestra was very poignant for me for many reasons. I have recently retired from the viola section of the Detroit Symphony after playing in that orchestra for 41 years. Growing up, my very favorite orchestra was The Philadelphia, under the direction of Eugene Ormandy. I loved their recordings for RCA. Their famous "Philadelphia sound" included very lush string playing, just my cup of tea.

Eugene Ormandy once conducted my student orchestra at the Interlochen Arts Camp. When I approached him at the end of the rehearsal, he said I "could be his adopted daughter," because of my red hair. I was thrilled.

I am also fond of Philadelphia because my grandparents lived nearby, and it was the home of the fine violin dealer William Moennig & Son, where I bought my best instruments and bows.

Joan Knoertzer (Book Club of Detroit, Florida Bibliophile Society, Miniature Book Society) [excerpted and edited due to space limitations, but please see her extensive and comprehensive report on the FABS blog, "Book Talk"]

The tour of the American Philosophical Society began with Charles Michaelstein, Librarian, who told us the history behind this prestigious scholarly institution. It was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743 and its members included Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and many prominent Americans. The Museum holds over 300,000 books and important documents, 11,000,000 manuscripts, maps, scientific specimens and instruments, and many other artifacts. Exhibitions work to link history, art and science, and currently there are three exhibitions concerning Thomas Jefferson. In 1769 the Society became unified and began promoting useful knowledge to the public. In 1959 it moved to the present building across from Independence Hall. Collections include Benjamin Franklin's papers (with over 60 feet of shelf space), some 600 letters of Charles Darwin (the largest outside of Eng-

land), and the papers of Franz Boaz (the “Father of Modern Anthropology”).

There are many more impressive materials there, and one interesting story involves a letter. Jean-Pierre Blanchard (1753-1809), a French balloonist, asked his friend, American physician John Jeffries to fly with him over the English Channel to France. They would be taking a packet of letters, and so the first international, airmail delivery would take place. However, as they flew over the White Cliffs of Dover, the balloon began to slowly descend. So they started shedding weight: the barometer, then one bottle of brandy; the guide wires on the basket went into the channel, then they dropped their anchors overboard, and finally they took off articles of clothing, one by one into the deep, and finally they began to slowly ascend to a landing in Felmores forest, near Guînes, France. Only one letter survived the crash, and the museum has it. Blanchard was quite the experimenter. He took a dog ballooning and made a parachute for it, which must have worked, because he tried the same thing on himself. However, his ending was tragic as he fell out of his basket over the Hague, incurring injuries which led to his death. His wife, Marie, took up the sport, and several years later she also perished from a crash. Before these events, George Washington watched Blanchard launch his balloon from Washington Prison Yard, in Philadelphia. Blanchard landed in Gloucester County, New Jersey—not quite where he wanted to go!

Jennifer Larson (Miniature Book Society)

This was my second FABS tour and it was as exciting as the first. The people who host and attend FABS are a special breed, as friendly and welcoming as they are passionate and knowledgeable about books. Whatever the topic, their enthusiasm is contagious. It is a privilege to learn from people who know a subject through and through, whether it’s early printing in Brittany, the “modern synthesis” of Darwinian theory and population genetics, or the contents of Thomas Jefferson’s library. Throughout the tour this year, I felt the spirit of Ben Franklin smiling on us. My favorite memories include Grip the Raven (Arthur Kidron’s inspiring and entertaining discussion of the collection at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies), the John Dee map in the Elkins Room at the Free Library, and the Eliot Indian Bible in the Rosenbach Museum. The one item I’ll never forget is Darwin’s draft title page for his *Origin of Species*. Among so many treasures at the American Philosophical Society, it stood out, and I could hardly believe it was real. I’m looking forward to seeing more of my favorite people and books next year.

Susan Tane (Grolier Club)

I was delighted to be able to participate in this year’s FABS Study Tour



FABS Study Tour Memories: Philadelphia, June 3-7, 2015



in Philadelphia. We saw many wonderful treasures on the tour, but as a Poe collector, the highlight for me was seeing the treasures at the Free Library of Philadelphia. The Gimbel Collection of Edgar Allan Poe materials is world-renowned, and it was wonderful to see some of its highlights. Their manuscript copy of “The Raven” was my favorite item, of course, but it was also very nice to see their copy of Poe’s first and rarest book, *Tamerlane and Other Poems*—particularly since my copy is in nicer condition!

FABS Study Tour 2016 *San Francisco, June 15–19*

San Francisco beckons bibliophiles to return for a sumptuous sampler of its cultural, academic and book arts sites during the FABS 2016 Tour and Symposium, June 15–19.

Sponsored by the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies and hosted by The Book Club of California (BCC), which was founded in 1912, FABS members and friends will experience an array of activities related to book making, fine printing, design, typography, architecture, and scholarship. Participants will also enjoy fine dining and additional options for attending arts events. Meeting surroundings include select new or recently renovated museums, libraries and art centers that have added distinction to the San Francisco Bay area since the BCC hosted one of the very first FABS tours in 2000. The 2016 Tour fee is \$650. There are 50 places available, first come, first served. BCC members and staff will be your friendly guides throughout the tour.

Registration at the elegant BCC rooms begins **Wednesday** afternoon followed by a welcome reception honoring local printers and binders.

Thursday morning we will bus across the new Bay Bridge to the University of California, Berkeley campus and have a special presentation at the C. V. Starr East Asian Library, a treasure-trove of rare books and special manuscripts from China, Japan and Korea. We will also spend time in the rare books collection of the venerable Bancroft Library, one of the largest and most heavily used libraries of manuscripts, rare books, and unique materials in the United States. Lunch will provide another Bay Area FABS group, the Colophon Club, with the opportunity to host at the Berkeley City Club, designed by Hearst Castle architect Julia Morgan. Our speaker will be a representative from the Mark Twain Project. The remainder of the afternoon

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includes a visit to the spacious San Francisco Center for the Book in Potrero Hill, which is celebrating its 20th year. Next stop will be the California Historical Society, founded in 1871, at its quarters on lower Mission Street. Staff will present a sampler of excellent materials from CHS's renowned Kemble Collection on Western Printing and Publishing. A short stroll then leads us across Market Street to 49 Geary, where BCC past-presidents John Crichton and John Windle will host a reception with other local booksellers. Dinner Thursday is on your own. Theatre/opera/symphony groups (not part of registration fee) may be arranged in advance.

Friday morning is on your own. Around the corner from Hotel G is the Commonwealth Club of California, the nation's oldest and largest public affairs forum, where we will be enlightened by noontime speaker Dr. Catherine Williamson, who is director of the Fine Books and Manuscripts department at Bonhams & Butterfields, LA. A light grab-and-go lunch will follow with a short walk and/or local transit to San Francisco Civic Center and the magnificent gold dome of San Francisco City Hall. Across from City Hall plaza is the San Francisco Public Library. The Marjorie G. and Carl W. Stern Book Arts & Special Collections Center houses major collections on printing history, calligraphy and lettering, wit and humor, little magazines, and early children's books. Next door is the Asian Art Museum, the largest museum in the United States devoted exclusively to the arts of Asia, from Turkey to India and China to the Philippines. A curated tour with pauses, including the gift shop, tailored for FABS folks is highlighted by a special presentation of the C. Laan Chun Library collection which has many materials, both rare and scholarly, not available elsewhere. Friday evening at 7:00pm we will gather for the FABS Gala Dinner at City Club of San Francisco with Book Club of California, Roxburghe Club and Sacramento members. The City Club is housed in The Stock Exchange Building, an art deco jewel in the heart of San Francisco's financial district, designed by Timothy Pflueger (1892-1946). Former international mergers & acquisitions attorney, and local favorite author and humanities lecturer, George Hammond will share compelling thoughts on his passion for wisdom and the merits of book technology across time and space.

Saturday morning the 2016 FABS Symposium at the Book Club of California considers "Rare Books, Manuscripts and Special Collections: The State of Collectors and Book Culture in the Golden State." Among the Symposium speakers are Gary Kurutz, Executive Director of the California State Library Foundation; Susan Allen, Director of the California Rare Book School at UCLA; David Levy, San Francisco collector and bibliographer; Ken Karmiole, Los Angeles bookseller/collector; Andrew Nadell, collector;

and Claudia Skelton, California-bred, now a Seattle-based collector and editor. Discussions will continue during a lunch buffet, then the tour heads west by bus through Golden Gate Park stopping at the California Academy of Sciences, a scientific and educational institution made to explore and sustain life on Earth. After sampling the live aspects of the Academy, time will be set aside to see the Library & Archives Rare Books collection. Then a brief visit to Internet Archive, a non-profit digital free library of universal access to books, movies & music, as well as 479 billion (and counting) archived web pages. We continue west into the Presidio National Park to Arion Press, which publishes deluxe, limited-edition books, and houses M & H Type, the oldest and largest type foundry in the United States. Final stop of the Presidio includes a view of Golden Gate Bridge and The Society of California Pioneers Museum. The Society, founded in 1850, is dedicated to the study and enjoyment of California art, history and culture. A curated sample of the museum's remarkable archive will take us back to the Gold Rush days. As the afternoon ends, it is time to pull up stakes on the 2016 FABS Tour and enjoy a closing reception. The evening is on your own with Book Club of California members as guides.

Optional **Sunday** morning and early afternoon activities will feature group visits to private collectors who generously open their homes to Tour 2016 participants.

More details, as they become available at BCC website www.bccbooks.org and <http://www.fabsocieties.org/>.

Inquiries and communications may be directed to Dr. Anne W. Smith, Organizer and Past BCC President: FABS2016@gmail.com. Phone messages to Book Club of California: 415-781-7852. We hope you sign up early. The schedule of sites is subject to change.

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NOTE: 30 rooms are being held at Hotel G, only until December 15, 2015. Ask for American Bibliophile nightly rate of \$248 plus 16.5% SF Room Tax.

The 2016 Tour Fee is \$650. There are 50 places available—first come, first served. Individual breakfast vouchers and local bus passes will be provided—do not purchase separately.

CLUB NEWS

Alcuin Society

Much time has been devoted to administrative matters such as maintaining an accurate list of membership—given members leaving, joining and getting far in arrears with their membership subscriptions. The Campaign Monitor program will be used by the Board to allow access to administrative materials such as board meeting minutes and committee reports. This will allow board members to keep track of projects' status.

The Canadian Book Design Competition, (201 titles submitted from 79 publishers) which the Society hosts, will have awards ceremonies in both Vancouver and Toronto in October and will have panel discussions instead of keynote speakers. The winning titles will tour Canada as well as going to the Canadian Consulate in Tokyo. One set will go for display at the Frankfurt Book Fair and titles chosen there will go on to the Leipzig Fair where they will become part of their archives. In the Fall we will stage an auction of the books that were submitted for the competition—the revenue from which will help finance next year's competition.

The first of three events to honor local book people will take place in the Spring of 2016 and will honor the Special Collections librarians of the two universities in Vancouver, the University of Victoria, and the Vancouver Public Library. In 2017 prominent booksellers will be honored and the following year we will turn to notable collectors.

Wayzgoose 2015 will be held in the Fall of 2015 and will feature thirty small presses, letterpress printers, paper-makers and book artists. The Society has also held very successful workshops in creating a text block and making hard cover bindings for the Society's fine Flowers in Heraldry sheets.

In the future will be an ambitious program to publish books celebrating the winners of The Society's Robert R. Reid Award for Contributions to the Book in Canada, each being authored by a respected writer in the field.

The Society will be represented at the SHARP Conference in Montreal.

The American Book Collectors of Children's Literature (ABCs)

The ABC's met at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center on the main campus of the University of Connecticut (UConn) in late March to view and learn about recent acquisitions for the Northeast Children's Literature Collection (NCLC). The presentation was given jointly by Terri J. Goldich,

Curator of NCLC, and Kristin Eshelman, Curator of Multimedia Collections. They were introduced by Martha Bedard, Vice Provost for UConn Libraries, who announced that Eshelman will assume responsibilities for NCLC when Goldich retires in June.

From the array of treasures that lay before us—which we were encouraged to explore after the presentation—Goldich explained that the box containing eyeglasses and paint brushes that had belonged to James Marshall were part of a collection donated by Maurice Sendak after his passing. Goldich cited the Sendak collection that has been given by ABC's co-founder Billie Levy. An original Tasha Tudor was a gift from ABC's members Stephanie and Ned Clayton. Member Verne Mahoney, a licensed pilot, had donated her children's books that celebrate flying. The work of Filipino illustrator José Aruego represented NCLC's intent to expand its multicultural holdings. Caldecott-winning illustrator Ed Young, a native of China, had donated his manuscript for *Bird & Diz*; a 12-foot long scroll represented this work.

Also on view was an artist's book by Margaret Wise Brown, *Little River*, and another, the multi-volume *Little Red Riding Hood Redux*, by Nora Krug.

Goldich discussed academic use of NCLC, explaining that the Dodd's Special Collections no longer utilize scholars-in-residence; rather, they rely on researchers, and are open to suggestions and corrections. Researchers are asked to donate a copy of any work published as a result of their research at UConn.

Speaking on the symbiotic relationship between Archives and Special Collections, Eshelman—who trained as an archivist, not a librarian—told the group that interdisciplinary studies are currently very popular; she also described interest in Special Collections as having an ebb-and-flow dynamic. She gave an overview of some of the topics covered by researchers who had thus far taken advantage of the Billie M. Levy Travel and Research or the James Marshall Fellowship Grants: visual/verbal narrative; bibliography on grief; the power of black and white illustration; modernist aesthetics; *Kindertransport*; and authors' themes.

The annual June potluck picnic meeting brought about 20 members together. Billie Levy shared two recently acquired signed Sendak prints and an unopened package of lead pencils featuring characters from *Where the Wild Things Are*. Movable book collector Frank Gagliardi brought promotional items from Paris' Au Bon Marché, and the pop-up version of a Tintin title from the Belgian children's series (bearing imprints of both a Parisian publisher and Hallmark). Antiquarian bookseller John Renjilian shared an early 20th century original by Swedish illustrator Aina Stenberg MasOlle. ABC's

guest Kristin Eshelman offered the group an illustrator-centered tour of UConn's Dodd Center, and announced that Greg Colati, Director of Archives, Special Collections & Digital Curation at the university, would like to offer a presentation on digital preservation.

The Ampersand Club

The Ampersand Club departed from its usual September to May schedule & convened two summer programs. The first, a garden party with a literary theme hosted by club members Julie Bagniet & Carter Clapsadle. Carter presented the idea of the literary landscape & the allegory and metaphor realized within the 17th-century English landscapes. He discussed the historical references of Greek & Roman mythology, two French painters, & the 21st century renewal by the Scottish poet Ian Hamilton Finlay. The Bagniet Clapsadle garden was magical. The second summer gathering was to the Minneapolis Institute of Art's very limited-run exhibition of Leonardo da Vinci's Codex Leicester & an exclusive tour by curator Alex Bortolot. The exhibit consisted of the Codex's disbound eighteen sheets displayed in vitrines & a digital "codescope" that translated the Codex & provided contextual information.

Looking forward to September in celebration of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on Gay marriage, we will visit the University of Minnesota's Tretter LGBT Collection, part of the special collections in the Andersen Library. In October, Olga Ricalde presents the history of papermaking in Mexico. November will be time for the Book Collectors Roundtable when members bring one of their most recent "finds" to share the story of its acquisition & why it's important to their collection. Although details are not finalized, December will be a gathering to celebrate the Club's 85th Anniversary. January is the Holiday Party—bringing much appreciated warmth to the coldest month in Minnesota. In February we will continue the theme of the Ampersand Club anniversary, when historian & author John Harris discusses his recent article about the Ampersand Club published in Hennepin History Magazine. The remaining meeting is still being tweaked, but we are hoping to explore the mystery genre with an Irish accent, & a journey to a rarely seen special collection at the Minneapolis Public Library.

An invitation to all bibliophiles is open if your travels lead you to Minneapolis. Please contact us at korsmo@umn.edu or phone 612-332-1313 to see if there may be a meeting you can attend; we'd enjoy your bookish company.

Baltimore Bibliophiles

During 2015, The Baltimore Bibliophiles co-sponsored British pop-up book artist Paul Johnson's lecture and workshop at Goucher College, hosted a talk by bibliophile author Nicholas Basbanes, and sponsored a private tour to the Walters Art Museum for its exhibit, "From Pen to Press: Experimentation and Innovation in the Age of Print." The tour was conducted by Dr. Lynley Herbert, Assistant Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts. Our spring meeting, "Treasures from Our Attics," included a panel of librarians discussing unique discoveries found in their respective collections.

Events planned for 2015-16

September 8, 2015: Mark Dimunation, Head of the Rare Books Division of the Library of Congress, will present "Forged in Fire: The Reconstruction of Thomas Jefferson's Library"

October 15, 2015: Michael Suarez, Head of Rare Book School at the University of Virginia, will be at Goucher College to give a lecture in honor of Professor Arnold Sanders' long career at Goucher and his fundamental contribution to Book Studies (co-sponsored by the Baltimore Bibliophiles).

November 18, 2015: Juliette Wells, Associate Professor and Chair of Goucher College's English Department, will speak on "Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of Jane Austen's *Emma*."

March 24, 2016: Natalie Wexler (topic TBA).

May 24, 2016: Daniel Carroll Toomey will present "The First Front," based on his latest book, *The War Came by Train: The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad During the Civil War*.

June, 2016 will include a club trip to the University of Maryland's Hornbake Library (at College Park). Its rare books collection is mounting "150 Years and Counting," an exhibition celebrating the 150th anniversary of the publication of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*. The show will include selections from the extensive Lewis Carroll collection of Baltimore Bibliophiles members August and Clare Imholtz.

September 21, 2016: Tom Beck, Head of Special Collections at the Albin O. Kuhn Library, University of Maryland (Baltimore County), will speak on "Gizmos and Thoughtographs: The World of Ted Serios."

November 16, 2016: Tony White will take club members on a virtual tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Libraries.

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at The Johns Hopkins Club, on the campus of Johns Hopkins University. For details, please contact Binnie Syril Braunstein (BSBGC@aol.com).

The Baxter Society

The Baxter Society had a splendid season wrap-up from January to May 2015. In January we had movie night, and screened “Linotype: The Film” with popcorn and beverages. The outtakes were especially enjoyable, as many in the audience knew the participants in the film.

February, usually a difficult time to wrangle a speaker due to all kinds of irascible weather, was the annual show and tell.

March brought better weather and with it Jan Eakins, cultural historian and author, who told us the story behind her latest fascinating book *A Changed World, The Lost Story of Maine in the Rush for California Gold*.

April’s meeting was held at the Maine Project for Fine Art Conservation, where Bonnie Matozzi spoke on her work on the conservation of the portrait of Governor Percival Baxter.

May was an especially interesting meeting, held in Biddeford at Rableais Books. Don Lindgren, owner spoke on “American Cookery: The Apgar Collection of 19th Century Cookbooks.” We examined a very large collection of American cookbooks, from the earliest printed cookbooks through the end of the first World War (and a bit beyond). The collection illuminates not just the landmarks and developments in American culinary practice, but changes and trends in American culture, gender history, and publishing practice. This was one of the best-attended meetings, with well over fifty in attendance; possibly due to food and wine being served? The fall season begins within a few weeks, and we will review the schedule in the next edition of the FABS Newsletter.

The Book Club of California

The Book Club of California hosted two exhibitions since the last FABS Newsletter. The first, *A Circle of Friends: Ward Ritchie, Lawrence Clark Powell, and Gloria Stuart*, celebrated the work of the three friends from Southern California and their shared passion for books and fine printing. Curated by Book Club of California librarian Henry Snyder, the exhibition featured items from the collections of other friends in the circle—former Book Club librarians Albert Sperisen and Barbara Jane Land—that are now in the permanent collection of the Book Club. A surprise visit from Gloria Stuart’s daughter, Sylvia Thompson Park, who brought in a rare copy of her mother’s artist’s book *Butterfly* for show and tell, made the circle even fuller.

The summer exhibition, *Alice in Bookland: Fine Press Editions from the Collection of Mark and Sandor Burstein*, marked the sesquicentennial of the original publication of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* in 1865. At the opening in May, Mark Burstein enlightened us about the history of the book as well as of the Burstein collection—now numbering 3,500 volumes—and reminded us what the passion of collectors is all about.

Collecting is one central tenet of the Club's mission; fine printing and the history of the American West are (of course) others. At the 2015 Oscar Lewis Awards on March 30, the Club honored Dr. Gray Brechin, author of *Imperial San Francisco: Urban Power, Earthly Ruin*, and one of the founders of the Living New Deal Project, for his contributions to Western history, and Harry and Sandra Reese, proprietors of Turkey Press and Editions Reese, for their contributions to the book arts. All three gave engaging and personal accounts of the passions, hard work, and serendipitous encounters that led them to the present. Audio recordings of their speeches can be found at www.bccbooks.org/programs/awards.

There have been many other programs along the way, including Alberto Manguel's memorable lecture, *A City Built on Books: Pedro de Mendoza and the Founding of Buenos Aires*; Nicholas Basbanes' presentation, *On Paper: The Everything of Its Two-Thousand Year History*; collector David Levy's talk about pirates in the eighteenth-century London book trade; a presentation by the William L. Clements Library Director J. Kevin Graffagnino about printed sources on homicide in early America; and the SF Design Week program, *Paper is Part of the Picture: Highlights from the Strathmore Archive, 1898-1964*. In March, the Club hosted a Southern California publication party for *Poetry at the Edge: Five Contemporary California Poets*, where Carolee Campbell engaged an audience at the Gamble House, Pasadena, with a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the Club's beautiful 2014 publication. And in April, we honored the next generation of book artists at our annual Bay Area Book Arts Student Showcase and Pop-Up Exhibition.

Coming up, we're excited about *The Exhibition that Never Was: The Panama Pacific International Exposition, the Book Club of California, and a Century of Fine Books*, an exhibition which tells the story of the Book Club's founding as linked to the history of the PPIE. Laura Ackley, author of *San Francisco's Jewel City: The Panama Pacific International Exposition of 1915*, will speak at the exhibition opening, on September 28. And we're looking forward to our annual broadside printing party, October 19, featuring a custom design by master wood engraver (and illustrator/author of two Book Club publications) Richard Wagener.

Finally, we're thrilled to announce our latest publication, *Architects and*

Artists: Ernest and Esther Born, to be released and celebrated with a party on October 26. We hope you will join us for these events and others and that you'll stay in touch!

Caxton Club

The Caxton Club has a full lineup of dinner speakers for this fall, each scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month. We start off with James Green, Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia, who regaled FABS tourists in Philadelphia last spring with an erudite exposition about many of that esteemed library's historical treasures. In October, Anna Sigríður Arnar, Professor of Art History at Minnesota State University Moorhead, will discuss her research on French Symbolist poet Stéphane Mallarmé and his interest in the book as both a literary object and as a carefully crafted material object. In November we will hear more about the magnificent historical and literary holdings in the Library of Congress from Mark Dimunation, Chief, Rare Book and Special Collections Division. Our annual holiday party at the Newberry Library will be held in December. All other meetings are held at the Union League Club of Chicago.

The Club recently announced that its grant program for graduate students and scholars has awarded a total of over \$50,000 to thirty-two different individuals since its inception. The program looks for promising young people in the Midwest who are studying or working in the areas of bibliography, the books arts, history of the book, library studies, print culture, or zines, and who require additional money to defray the cost of their research or their art projects. The council of the Club recently increased the annual budget for this program by almost 100% in recognition of its success. In addition, the Club announced a special award of up to \$1,000 for a student in the book arts program at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The award is made this year in memory of Justyna Palka.

In cooperation with the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia, the Club announced a scholarship of \$2,500 to defray the cost of tuition and lodging at Rare Book School. The award is intended for a first-time RBS attendee who is a resident of the Midwest. Preference will be given to early-career candidates who are ineligible for funding or financial aid through their places of employment.

As part of an occasional and wholly irregular inventory of its holdings, the Club recently discovered ten unbound copies of Frank Piehl's 1995 book on the history of the Caxton Club. As a way to celebrate the Club's 120th

year anniversary (Piehl's book commemorated the centennial), and to support the book arts, the Club selected three Chicago area binders, Sam Feinstein, Karen Hanmer, and Scott Kellar, to design and fabricate bindings for three of the ten copies. Each binder was given a budget of \$1,000. The finished products will become part of a program in February of 2016, which will showcase the bindings, the design rationales, and the techniques used within the confines of a limited budget. The three bound volumes will be made available by auction to the membership either as individuals or as a consortium of bidders who might like to buy a bound volume as a gift to a favorite library.

Colophon Club

The Colophon Club celebrated in December 2014 with a gala party at the Berkeley City Club. Beautiful invitations were calligraphed by Georgianna Greenwood and printed by Joel Benson of Dependable Letterpress in San Francisco. Keepsake party hats were made by printer Ivar Dehl. Live jazz, cocktails, and food made for a convivial evening. The center of the festivities was the Book Arts Buffet, in which Club members displayed the book, printing, and binding work they were especially proud of making in 2014.

The January 2015 meeting, "Disappearing Ink: The Book as Digital Media," was a talk by Club member Steve Woodall, Director of the Center for Book and Paper Arts at Columbia College, Chicago. The Center's NEA-sponsored program, Expanded Artists' Books, which includes hybrid print and digital forms, was described. The five-year service of retiring Club Treasurer Ulli Rotzschner was recognized, and we welcomed Toby Schwartzburg as our new Treasurer.

"Ephemeral Type Specimens 1900-1970," a talk by Rob Saunders, founding Curator of the Letterform Archive, was presented in February in a high-definition show-and-tell of rare type specimens from the major type designers and foundries of Europe and America, from 1900 through the mid-1960s.

"what kind of minimal did you have in mind?" was the talk given in March by Bob Aufuldish, Professor at the California College of the Arts and partner in Aufuldish & Warinner. Exhibition catalogs and photography monographs designed by Bob and employing varying degrees of minimalism were shown.

In April, member Tom Goglio gave us an illustrated talk on lithography—its history and the connection between fine art and commercial lithographs. As a veteran of both worlds he shared his knowledge and experience with us.

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The program year ended in May with a delightful talk by Dr. Robert J. Chandler taken from his most recent book, "San Francisco Lithographer: African American Artist Grafton Tyler Brown." Born into a free family in Pennsylvania, this 19th century lithographer was a successful artist and businessman in San Francisco from 1861 through the 1880's.

The Book Club of Detroit (BCD)

Members attended a special program about "The Art of the Auction." Guest speaker Nanette Pool of DuMouchelles Art Galleries in Detroit spoke about consignment sales, condition reports and bidding methods. DuMouchelles, a long-standing icon on Jefferson in downtown Detroit, has offered its services to club members to support their various collecting passions. Members enjoyed a tour of the galleries and those who made an additional donation to the club had an opportunity to have DuMouchelles appraise an item.

Seven members joined the FABS 2015 Book Tour in Philadelphia. The members were Bobbie Parks, Jon and Mary Simpson, Cathy Compton, Twyla Racz, Judith Adelman, and Joan Knoertzer. As scribe for the tour, Knoertzer wrote reviews of each day and video-recorded the Saturday morning session called "My Life Collecting." Visit the FABS website to see the reviews and watch the video.

With Detroit's deep industrial roots, Dr. Charles K. Hyde spoke on "Re-visiting Rosie the Riveter" at our annual meeting. Hyde worked in the history department at Wayne State University and has published several books about Detroit and its automotive titans. Hyde informed and entertained members with his historical enthusiasm and scholarly methods.

Maurice Barie, our club treasurer and avid book collector of backgammon books, ran a Kickstarter campaign to help publish his first book, *Backgammon As Played In Hollywood*. It reproduces a 1930 edition that revitalized backgammon in the early 1930s, but currently had no known circulation according to WorldCat. The Library of Congress destroyed the only known copy when it microfilmed the book. *Backgammon As Played In Hollywood* has historical significance for the early depiction of a doubling cube. Barie published a limited edition of 250 hardcover books with dust jacket, using Smyth binding and acid-free paper. To learn more or to purchase, contact Maurice Barie at mojoconsult@sbcglobal.net.

The Book Club of Detroit is comprised of a diverse set of people from all walks of life. Visit the website (www.bookclubofdetroit.org) for more information or to join.

Ephemera Society of America

The Ephemera Society of America, celebrating its thirty-fifth anniversary, is especially proud to have become a part of FABS. With nearly eight hundred members—collectors, dealers, and institutions—we enthusiastically share our passion, as stated in our bylaws. The purpose of the Society has always been to cultivate and encourage interest in ephemera and the history identified with it, and to promote the personal and institutional collection, preservation, exhibition, and research of these materials. A review of some past events, and a look at some of our future plans, is designed here to educate and entice.

Our recent Anniversary Tour to London was organized by the Ephemera Society (UK), which celebrated its fortieth anniversary, and coincided with the Olympia Book Fair and Grolier Club events. A full program enabled us

to savor our warm relationship, which has been nurtured for so many years. We achieve our outreach and connectivity with an extensive group of programs and publications. There are three printed journals (annuals), a monthly e-newsletter, an exciting website, and a very active Facebook page. Each March, we host a formal Conference and Ephemera Fair in Old Greenwich, CT. The theme for Ephemera 36, March 17-20, 2016, will be "Politics, Patriotism & Protest." We invite everyone to attend, as the agenda promises to be especially stimulating for an election year.

In July 2015 we co-sponsored a program at the Portland (Oregon) Art Museum with the Center for the Conservation of Art and Historic Artifacts (Philadelphia), titled "Out of the Ordinary: Preserving Paper-based Ephemera." We are dedicated to education and scholarship, and this exemplifies the many opportunities we pursue. Mid-year meetings are designed to attract the participation of members in other areas of the country.

Two years ago we collaborated with The Library Company of Philadelphia on their program "Unmediated History: The Scholarly Study of 19th Century Ephemera," which was well-attended by members. During this recent season, visits to the Library of Congress, the Folger Shakespeare Library and its Globe Theater, the Smithsonian Institution, the Sackler-Freer Galleries, and the Congressional Cemetery made this visit to our nation's capital truly astounding. These examples convey the quality of ESA events, which are open to all.

In October 2015, we will visit the Allentown (PA) Paper Show, with planned area trips to the Ephrata Cloister and the Moravian pottery factory. October 2016 will take us to Seattle, WA for the Antiquarian Book Fair. As an affiliate society, the ESA will have a definite presence in New York City at the World Stamp Show at the Javits Center, May 28-June 4, 2016, expanding our world of ephemera to new audiences.

Ephemera, never intended to be saved, has achieved recognition as historically important material. Through these myriad objects, history can be reconstructed, and now, realizing our goals, it is recognized as a significant dimension to the fabric of the past.

The No. 44 Society

On Wednesday, September 2, Anna Chen, Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, will lead the society through her exhibition, "Poplin & Paper: Four Centuries of Fashion in Print." An examination of fashion plates and illustrations as artifacts of social history, the show explores the evolution of

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The Rare Book & Manuscript Library's next exhibition, "Pirates of the Press," will be formally opened on October 7 by curator Lori Humphrey Newcomb, associate professor of English at the University of Illinois. The show looks at deceptive practices in the British printing industry through the nineteenth century.

Susan Hanes, immediate past President of Chicago's Caxton Club, will address the society on November 4. An expert on Wilkie Collins, she will speak about her great love of that author's work, as well as the rewards of bibliophilia.

Our annual Holiday Cheer Party and John Milton birthday celebration will take place on December 9. There will be dramatic readings of some of Dickens's lesser-known Christmas ghost stories by local talent, a chance to chat with other members over refreshments, and even opportunities to write some stylish holiday notes.

The No. 44 Society is a convivial club for book collectors and bibliophiles, with gatherings during the academic year. Meetings are held from 3-5 p.m. at the University of Illinois Rare Book & Manuscript Library, located in Room 346 of the Main Library, 1408 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL. All are welcome! For more information, please visit http://www.library.illinois.edu/rbx/programs_no_44_society.html or contact Sarah Hoover, No. 44 Society Secretary, at kolba2@illinois.edu

The Florida Bibliophile Society

The Florida Bibliophile Society has already planned almost all of its activities for the upcoming season from September to May. The "speakers" in September will be the members themselves, who will have the opportunity to tell us about their bibliophilic adventures, and maybe brag a little about their recent "finds." Florence Turcotte, Literary Manuscripts Archivist, Smathers Library, University of Florida, Gainesville, will be our Guest Speaker in October. She will tell us about the book she is writing on Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. The author, Patti Wilson Byars, will be our Guest Speaker in November. She will talk about her book, *Separate Fountains*, an historical fiction novel about a family growing up in the Deep South in the early 1950s. Amazon just published a revised edition of her book in June 2015, December will be the month for socializing and for informal book talk at a FBS member's house.

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Rowfant Club members may want to come down to Florida in January to hear their former member, Friedrich “Fritz” Thiel, give his first talk as a Florida Bibliophile Society member. Caxton Club members might have the opportunity to do the same in February or March. At press deadline, the Florida Bibliophile Society was exploring the prospect of having our first-ever dinner/talk with Caxton Club member Paul T. Ruxin as the guest speaker. We will have another “first” in April. We will be moving our monthly meeting north 130 miles to Gainesville, near the home of our new FBS President, Charles Brown, so FBS members can attend the Spring Gainesville Friends of the Library Sale, and browse and buy some of the 100,000 books! Which brings us to May and the annual banquet at a restaurant closer to home. Finally, readers of this FABS newsletter can get updates about all our talks on our newly-reconstructed website, floridabibliophilesociety.org. Thanks go to Josh Steward, our new webmeister, and to former vice president, Maureen E. Mulvihill, who will be returning to her research and writing.

The Himes & Duniway Society

January brought the Himes & Duniway Society to a presentation of the collections of Henry Dosch and a white elephant book exchange. Coupled with two successful book contests, the first part of 2015 has been an active time for the Society.

Henry E. Dosch was a German-born immigrant who served in the American Civil War and later became a successful merchant, horticulturist and author in Portland, Oregon. Dosch served as the Commissioner General and Director of Exhibits for the 1905 Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition and Oriental Fair in Portland. Mr. Dosch’s grandson, Jim Driscoll, and Himes & Duniway member Jim Carmin, took the members of the Society through the process of the finding of Mr. Dosch’s papers stored in the attic of the family home, their subsequent organization, review and cataloging, and ultimately the donation of the papers to the John Wilson Special Collections Room of the Multnomah County Library located in Portland, Oregon.

After dinner, the Society had its first annual white elephant book exchange. Highlights included the obscure to the sublime. Two titles that were exchanged were *Let’s Make Mary*, a 1937 book on pickup lines, and *V.D. on the Lewis & Clark Expedition* . . . anyway, you get the idea. Society members are still laughing.

Himes & Duniway continued with its sponsorship of two college book collecting contests at Reed College in Portland and at Oregon State Univer-

sity in Corvallis. At Reed College, our member and Special Collections Librarian Gay Walker repeated the wonderful work that she did last year in garnering student and faculty support. Reed College President John Kroger opened his home for the presentation of the winners. At Oregon State University, Special Collections Librarian Anne Bahde did marvelous work by generating seventeen entries. The contest was highlighted by a reception held at the University Library in Corvallis.

We are currently planning and looking forward to our annual summer gathering at the home of Brian and Gwyneth Booth. Let us know if you are going to be in Oregon (info@himesduniway.org). Information about our Society and its events can be found at www.himesduniway.org.

The John Russell Bartlett Society

The John Russell Bartlett Society has had a busy and exciting 2015 season thus far. In March, we held our annual business and member's meeting where we elected new officers. Our speaker for the evening was Society member Herb Obodda, an author and avid bibliophile, who dazzled the crowd with a lecture about his collection of antiquarian books dealing with mineralogy, mining, geology, gemology and crystallography.

We celebrated the annual undergraduate book collecting prize event (named for Margaret Bingham Stillwell) on April 13th and hosted at the John Carter Brown Library in Providence. Seven finalists and their intriguing book collections were on display. The first-place winner was joint Brown University/Rhode Island School of Design junior Elizabeth Goodspeed, with her collection: "A Lot of Letters: Retro Hand-lettering to Modern Swiss Typography." The event also featured a riveting lecture by Richard Ring, Head Curator and Librarian of the Watkinson Library, Trinity College, who spoke on "The Alchemy of Special Collections: Creative Fellowships for Undergraduates at Trinity College, 2011-2015."

On June 6, the JRBS held a panel discussion for individuals and historically-based organizations that want to publish their accounts of Rhode Island local history. This workshop aimed to bring together those who love books and history to prepare for the next step of publishing. The guest speaker was Dani McGrath, Northeast representative from The History Press. The event featured comments and book signings by five local authors and was co-sponsored by and hosted at the Rhode Island Historical Society. The rest of the year looks to be just as fun. Follow us on Facebook for reports of ongoing events.

Long Island Book Collectors

LIBC celebrated its 48th year at the group's annual Milleridge Inn luncheon. Guest speaker Cynthia Shor, Executive Director of Walt Whitman Birthplace spoke about the recent acquisition of the Whitman Family Bible. Walt Whitman gave the Bible to his sister as a Christmas present in 1878.

For the holiday season, return guest Joe Rainone presented an impressive array of "special issues" printed by early American newspapers and magazines for Christmas and New Year's Day. As wood engravings had come into use by 1841, much of the material on hand was both colorful and large. During the next two decades American publishing saw the advent of the first comic book, produced by Wilson & Company. By 1842 Brother Jonathan had topped their standard paper with a special edition elephant-size format. The 1844 *Christmas & New Years Great Pictorial Double* contained over 100 illustrations.

January's gathering was devoted to personal favorites collected by members and brought in to show-and-tell. Among them, an oversized, limited edition on Japanese paper in French, with drawings by Loch of *La Geole de Reading* ("The Ballad of Reading Gaol") by Oscar Wilde and a rare bound edition of the three monthly journals written by Charles Darwin recording his voyage on the Beagle in 1855—found by chance in a book stall in England. Originally published in three installments in the John Murray Colonial Home Series, this privately owned copy precedes Murray's publication of the work as a book. Not until 1907 were the journals published in America as *Voyage of the Beagle*.

In March, Mel Cohen (who formerly owned a bookshop in NYC, but now deals privately) brought a selection of books, newspapers, and pamphlets from his New York City collection, numbering more than 2,000 items and encompassing all things New York, including: The Brooklyn Dodgers, the NYC Police Gazette, Ebbet's Field, Ellis Island, The Statue of Liberty, Vaudeville, the history of the Shubert Theatre, and Broadway. Mr. Cohen decided against bringing his postcards of the city, numbering several hundred. The Week of the Book, celebrated across Long Island at the end of March, culminated in a weekend fair sponsored by the Antiquarian Book Dealers Association of Long Island.

April's meeting was the highlight of our year. Jarron Jewel, LIBC member and Acting Director of Special Collections at Long Island University (Post), showed books and archival materials including new purchases and samples from renowned Egyptologist Bob Brier's archive; a letter written and signed by W.B. Yeats; newly acquired French and Irish literature of the 19th and

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20th centuries; a first edition comic book of presidents in the Theodore Roosevelt collection; signed, limited edition plays by Eugene O'Neill, and the latest additions to the extensive American Juvenile Collection of children's literature printed in North America from 1910 to 1960 that includes some earlier examples as well.

In May, Myron Swank led us through an informal, instructive showing of Dante Alighieri's *Divine Comedy* in a variety of translations, with and without illustrations. Highlights included volumes with illustrations by Botticelli, Blake, George Grosz (1932), Umberto Homero, and a modern German soft-cover edition with illustrations by Salvador Dali. Examples of translations by Dorothy Sayers, Charles Eliot Norton (1891), Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and former Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky were shown. Finally we viewed a black & white graphic novel by Seymour Chwast (2010). [The complete English translation by the Reverend H. F. Carey with illustrations by Gustave Dore can be downloaded on line at Project Gutenberg.]

Please visit our Web site at longislandbookcollectors.com to learn more about us. We welcome visitors to our Saturday afternoon meetings on the bucolic campus of LIU in Brookville.

Manuscript Society

Our esteemed editor of the journal *Manuscripts*, Dr. David R. Chesnutt, died on December 15, 2014. An obituary and a dozen encomiums appeared in the Winter, 2015 issue of *Manuscripts*, where Michael Dabrishus wrote "For 35 years David was responsible for content that totaled almost 13,000 pages, including nearly 500 articles, most of which he directly solicited." His editing abilities as well as his knowledge of Society organizational history and personalities will be greatly missed. In his honor future editors of *Manuscripts* will be designated The David R. Chesnutt Editor. Dr. Chesnutt is survived by his wife Dr. Elizabeth Dow (a member of the Manuscript Society's Board of Trustees), three children, and a grandchild. The search for Chesnutt's successor is being led by Michael Dabrishus (michaeld@pitt.edu).

The November 2014 tour of Parisian archives organized by Alfred Lemon was an unforgettable visit to venues not accessible to the casual tourist. Doors to incredible manuscript collections at the Bibliothèque Nationale, the Bibliothèque Mazarine, the Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève, the Library of the French Senate, and the Natural History Museum, for example, were opened for our small group. At the Sorbonne, awesome architecture housed illuminated manuscripts and documents, including a letter by Descartes. In

the archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, historical treaties and letters of Ben Franklin and George Washington were displayed. Spectacular exhibits of art and documents were viewed at the Chateau Chantilly and the Library of the City of Versailles. As expected, the meals were as good as the manuscripts, ending with a dinner in the elegant restaurant in the building where the Marquis de Lafayette died in 1838.

In May, the 2015 Annual Meeting in Kansas City was an American counterpart to the French tour. Society executive director Dr. Shirley Sands organized the agenda, and was an excellent docent for the city and its manuscript treasures. We visited the National World War I Museum and Memorial, and the presidential libraries and museums of Truman and Eisenhower. The regional National Archives, the Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology, and the Kansas City Public Library all had exhibits of special interest.

Plans for next year's Annual Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina are under way. The dates will be May 18-22, the headquarters will be the Francis Marion Hotel, and the venues will include the Addelstone Library of the College of Charleston, the Charleston Library Society, the Waring Library of the Medical University of SC, and the Avery Research Center, among others. Keep an eye on www.manuscript.org, where you can also read about The Manuscript Society's efforts on the replevin front and news of our Maas Grant to support research using historical documents.

Philobiblon Club

The Philobiblon Club of Philadelphia is finishing out its 119th year. We have nearly completed our slate of programs for the year, held the second Tuesday of each month, October through May. This season's speakers are:

Fall 2015

October 13: Philobiblon Club member Frank Hoeber on the family correspondence in his forthcoming book *Against Time: Letters from Nazi Germany, 1938-1939*.

November 10: Caroline Schimmel, collector of what is now the Caroline F. Schimmel Fiction Collection of Women in the American Wilderness at the U. Penn Libraries.

December 8: Club member Mehdi El Hajoui on the Situationist International

Winter and Spring 2016

January 12: Annual Members' Meeting (bring something from your collection)

February 9: Club member Ronald Smeltzer on Émilie du Châtelet

March 8: Club member Janine Pollock on Henry Percy, 9th Earl of Northumberland

April 12: Jon Gilbert on Ian Fleming

Programs for March 8, April 12, and (possibly) May 10, are still being finalized.

Meetings, which include dinner, are held at the Franklin Inn Club of Philadelphia. The Club welcomes visiting FABS members to attend its meetings whenever possible. Contact club secretary Mark Darby: 215-204-1040 or mark.darby@temple.edu.

The Rowfant Club

The Rowfant Club is looking forward to an exciting season in 2015-2016 in terms of speakers for our Wednesday dinner gatherings as well as our Friday Lunch programs. Speakers on Wednesday evenings are experts from all over the world in various book-related fields; authors, critics, collectors, librarians and others who will discuss related museum issues as well as printing and papermaking who will enrich our evenings with their presentations. Our Wednesday programs have been bringing speakers from outside Rowfant while Friday Lunch speakers are members of the club. Friday's talks cover a wide range of the interests and expertise of our members. Our speaker lists are complete and we are ready to begin another season as The Rowfant Club approaches its 125th anniversary year in 2017.

During the summer we have no Friday or Wednesday programs, but that does not mean we were not busy. A great deal of maintenance work occupied many of us this summer as we continued to care for our very special club house which was built in 1848 and is among the oldest structures in Cuyahoga County—and of course there is the ongoing care and cataloging of our library and other collections.

The Ticknor Society

Boston's Ticknor Society conducted eight programs in its 2014-2015 program season.

In October, Kenneth Carpenter talked about the fascinating life and times of Benjamin Franklin's book *Way to Wealth*. In November, the society sponsored the Collectors Roundtable at the International Antiquarian Book Fair in Boston, which featured ephemera experts Diane DeBlois, Nancy Rosin, and David Freund.

This year's holiday program was a show-and-tell. Member presentations covered topics including library postcards, volvelles, French paper binding, books that can be held in one hand, and a book given a police escort.

In November and again in January the society held a joint meeting with the New England Chapter of The Guild of Book Workers. The November meeting was at Harvard's Houghton Library to view the Contemporary Bindings in Private Press Books exhibit. The January meeting was a tribute to Mark Esser's work at Boston College's Burns Library.

During its thirteenth year, the society's members went on two field trips. In February members visited the Old State House where the Bostonian Society's archivist, Elizabeth Roscio, gave an "up close and personal" look at the contents of the time capsule found in the crown of the lion atop the building. The other field trip, in April, was to the reconstructed printing office of the legendary Boston printer, Edes and Gill. In addition to retelling the history of Edes and Gill, the print master of the office, Gary Gregory, let members try their hands—and arms and legs—at operating a colonial hand press.

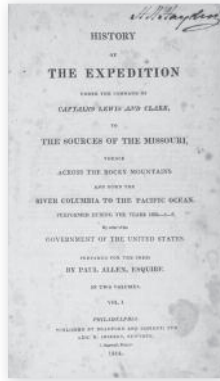
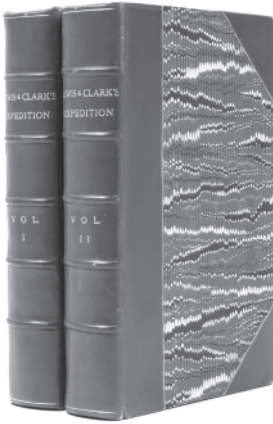
In March the society sponsored a panel discussion of that age-old question, Who will take care of my collection when I'm gone? *Gifting Your Collection* was organized by Marie Oedel and covered many aspects of this surprisingly complex question. The panel included Thomas Michalak, a recent donor of a collection; Sidney Berger, Director Emeritus of the Phillips Library; and Devon Eastland, Director of Fine Books and Manuscripts, Skinner, Inc.

The keynote speaker at the final meeting of the season, May's annual meeting, was Matthew Battles of Harvard's metaLAB. Matt gave an overview of the laboratory's many activities and screened the film *Cold Storage*, about Harvard's ten-million item offsite storage archive south of Boston.

Marie Oedel was elected the seventh President of the Ticknor Society. She, along with incoming vice president Michael Barton, will lead the organization for the next two years.

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Book Club of Washington

The Book Club of Washington (BCW) has been having a great year. A major highlight, after a period of planning, editing, and production, was the publication of the first of a planned series of chapbooks. The story, "Their Families," was first published by Betty Bard MacDonald, Washington State's first best-selling author, in the local arts and culture periodical *Town Crier* in 1933 [see this publication noticed on page XX].

Recently we had an amazing viewing of Edward Curtis's Native American photographs and letters at the Seattle Public Library Special Collections. We visited the home of a BCW member and saw her outstanding fine press collection. We also made a visit to Bellingham, Washington, to tour Western Washington Library's special collections and receive a luncheon lecture by an antiquarian book dealer. Summer activities included a "Biblio Stone Soup" event where attendees brought something from their collections around a particular theme to informally share and talk about with the others.

Fall activities include the first presentation of the Book Club of Washington's Emory Award. Honoring Meade and Deborah Emory, this yearly award is presented to an individual who has made an extraordinary contribution to the culture of the book (for details, see the website). We are planning a ferry trip to Bainbridge Island to tour a major book arts collection, an art museum, and to visit a book dealer. The Book Club of Washington will be present at the Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair in October, where we showcase certain materials, discuss the club with book fair attendees, and co-host a reception with the Pacific Northwest ABAA Chapter. The Fall, 2015 edition of the Book Club of Washington *Journal* will be focused on the history of the Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair, the premier northwest antiquarian book fair since 1977.

Concluding the year in early December will be the Book Club of Washington's annual festive holiday dinner and silent auction.

Details of BCW activities and general book news can be found on our website, www.bookclubofwashington.org. FABS members are very welcome to participate when you are in this area. Contact us at our email address, info@bookclubofwashington.org.

Washington Rare Book Group

In January 2015 the WRBG visited the Geography and Map Division at the Library of Congress. Anthony Mullan, Cartographic Reference Specialist and Acquisitions Specialist for Latin America, the Caribbean region, and the Iberian Peninsula, showed us treasures from the collection and discussed their significance. Our February event was a showing of the National Gallery of Art's Artists' Books Collection. The March event was a shop-talk entitled "Make Mine Medium Rare: 19th century materials in special collections libraries," which was a panel discussion of how nineteenth century books, pamphlets, broadsides, and ephemera can be a blessing and a curse in today's rare book and special collections libraries. The April event visited a hidden gem in the Washington area, the Jacob Burns Law Library Special Collections at GWU. The library's Director of Special Collections, Jennie C. Meade, showed samples from their extensive collection of French costumes, an early printing of the *Malleus Maleficarum*, and a selection of manuscript works. Our annual meeting was hosted at Ft. McNair and the guest speaker—Lilla Vekerdy, Head of Special Collections at the Smithsonian Libraries—discussed the history of the Smithsonian's Dibner Library, and described the research and educational activities that take place in its reading room.

In September we will visit to the Smithsonian Libraries Exhibition Gallery in the National Museum of American to see “Fantastic Worlds: Science and Fiction, 1780-1910.” Brian Cassidy will give us a lecture on Beat Poetry in October, and November’s event is TBA. In January is a sneak peak of the Rosa Parks Collection at the Library of Congress, and for the next four months we will host a sessions on digitization in Special Collection libraries (February), the Camel Leopard Press (March), a University of Maryland visit relating to Lewis Carroll (April), and our Annual Meeting talk at Fort McNair (May). Please visit our website at washingtonrarebookgroup.org, and follow us on Twitter @DCRareBookGroup.



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

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