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The Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies

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Letter from the Chair

WE HAD a wonderful trip to Dallas and Austin this past June as those of you who joined us already know. The Book Club of Texas was our host, and with the leadership of Russell Martin at Southern Methodist University and the assistance of Pamalla Anderson, Katie Dziminski, and Terre Heydari, we were given access to several academic libraries at two universities, the private library of Harlan Crow in Dallas, and two presidential libraries.

As I write, the organization of our trip to Russia is well underway by Bill Butler, our International Affiliates Chair. Unfortunately my own plans to join that trip were interfered with by business obligations here at home, but we still were able to attract a good number of participants for what promises to be an informative and exciting journey. This will be the first overseas trip organized by FABS.

Our next tour will be to the Brandywine Valley in Delaware, hosted by the Delaware Bibliophiles and organized by them and, of course, our own vice chair Joan Knoertzer with the able assistance of our hard-working treasurer Philip Anderson. This promises to be another interesting and lively event.

As many of you already know, David H. Culbert from Baton Rouge, one of my predecessors as chair and the immediate past head of the symposium committee, recently died. Tragically it happened just before the Texas event which he had been scheduled to attend. We learned of his passing on the first night we were in Dallas and I had the responsibility of announcing it. The announcement was met with a stunned silence, and then much expression of sadness; everyone who knew David was utterly incredulous about his passing. All of us at FABS would like to express our sympathy and best wishes to his wife Lubna and to the rest of his family. David will indeed be missed by everyone who knew him.

As we are all members of a supportive community united by our interest in the genteel pursuit of rare and scarce books, I urge you all to take an interest in and a close look at what follows in this issue of (what we now call) the FABS Journal. Our treasurer Philip Anderson has prepared a brief report of where we stand financially which, at the present point in time, is quite secure. Our sources of revenue from advertising and from the tours we organize are uncertain, however, and advertising revenue in particular cannot always be counted on to cover the costs of production for the Journal.

One of our constituent clubs has suggested that the Journal be issued only once a year rather than the present twice a year, and we on the Executive Committee have taken that suggestion seriously. On the one hand, it would reduce the information shared among clubs about other clubs, but on the other hand it would improve our financial outlook. We hope to have a definitive assessment of this latter point soon. The proposed reduction in issues will be on the agenda for the next annual meeting on March 8th, 2018, in New York at the Grolier Club. I hope all of our trustees can attend that meeting.

-Michael Thompson, Chair

Report from the Treasurer

FABS financial condition is good. Our sources of income include revenue from Journal advertisers (\$5,000 to \$7,500 per issue), membership dues (\$6,300), and contributions from the annual Book Tour (up to \$2000 per trip, sometimes more). Our expenses include Journal printing (\$6,000 – \$7,000 per issue) and mailing (\$2,000 per issue), support for the ABAA's National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest (\$1,000), and insurance, website maintenance expenses, accounting support, and foreign affiliate mailing (\$1,400). Our current balance is about \$39,000. If you do business with those who advertise in the FABS Journal, let them know you saw their ad and appreciate their support of FABS. This year, for the first time in a number of years, FABS will provide the financial and accounting support for the annual Book Tour. We are also changing our fiscal year-end from January 31 to December 31. —Philip Anderson, *Treasurer* (Rowfant)

A Note from the International Affiliates Chair

Newly accepted as an international affiliate of FABS, the Pirckheimer Society was founded in the former German Democratic Republic at Berlin in 1956, the youngest and most active of the German bibliophilic societies. Named for the sixteenth-century humanist, jurist, and bibliophile, Willibald Pirckheimer (1470-1530), the original founding members included Wieland Herzfelde, Werner Klemke, and Arnold Zweig. The society publishes one of the best bibliophilic journals quarterly, Marginalien: Zeitschrift für Buchkunst und Bibliophilie. The subtitle of the journal accurately reflects the interests of society members: the book arts, including the graphic arts and the ex-libris, and book collecting. Meetings rotate annually from city to city, where a weekend program is arranged: members commonly receive an original graphic commissioned by the society for the annual meeting from an artist in the region where the members assemble. Originally confined to membership from 1956 to 1990 in the East, the society moved quickly after the reunification of Germany to attract members from throughout Germany; today the Pirckheimer Society has regional groups from the Baltic Sea to Lake Constanz and from the Oder to the Rhine. Membership includes the journal, listing on the webpage of the Society with collecting interest, and an original graphic each year. There are more than 400 members of the Society. The President of the Society is Dr. Ralph Aepler: Aepler@pirckheimer-gesellschaft.org.

—William Butler (Grolier)

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Remembering David Culbert

While on a tour in southern Italy with his wife, Lubna, David Culbert died suddenly and unexpectedly of a massive heart attack on May 20, 2017. He was born on July 7, 1943, in San Antonio, Texas, and grew up in Arlington, Virginia. At an early age, David showed interest in classical music and music of the Episcopal Church in particular, singing in the Choir of the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. David received a B.A. in German History from Oberlin College, and a B. Mus. in Organ Performance from Oberlin Conservatory of Music. He spent a year studying organ music at the Mozarteum, Salzburg, Austria. He completed his Ph.D. in American History at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, and served as Assistant Professor of History at Yale before joining the faculty of the Department of History at LSU.

His work at Northwestern on the role of radio news commentators in 1930s America became the subject of his first book, *News for Everyman: Radio and Foreign Affairs in Thirties America* (1976). He became especially well known for his work on film propaganda in World War II, using his command of German to bring archive-based insights into scholarly discourse on both sides of the Atlantic. He was an editor of document series such as his multivolume *Film and Propaganda in America: A Documentary History*, the microfilm edition of the Office of War Information (OWI) archive, *Information Control and Propaganda: Records of the Office of War Information* (1986), a book on Warner Brothers' *Mission to Moscow* (1980), *World War II, Film and History* (1996) co-edited with John W. Chambers, and Propaganda and Mass *Persuasion: A Historical Encyclopedia, 1500 to the Present* (2003), co-edited with Nick Cull and David Welch.

David was an activist for the preservation of film, giving testimony on the subject to Congress. He pioneered bringing audio-visual evidence into the classroom. He was a mainstay of conferences, masterclasses and, above all, for *The Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, which he edited for many years and continued to serve as editor emeritus. The International Association for Media and History formally acknowledged the profession's debt to David at the end of his tenure as editor of the HJFRT by naming its annual prize for the best article by a senior scholar The David Culbert Prize. David was a devoted teacher whose decades of service at LSU were recognized by the award of the John L. Loos Chair of History in 2005. He was an inspiration to colleagues in the field and a generous mentor to younger scholars who could depend on him for a supportive letter of recommendation. He was an entertaining speaker, whose presentations were known to include his bursting into song if the material called for that, and, on at least one occasion, he stepped up to play an accompaniment during the screening of a silent film.

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2017–18 Book fair Calendar

abaa.org



Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair November 10-12, 2017 Hynes Convention Center bostonbookfair.com

California International Antiquarian Book Fair February 9-11, 2018 Pasadena Convention Center cabookfair.com

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

Throughout his career, David taught both undergraduate and graduate students in the LSU History Department and the Honors College. He always looked for new and interesting topics to teach in order to challenge his students, and the last course he taught, this past Spring Semester, dealt with the Presidential Election of 2016. He created opportunities for his students, and his most recent effort was to collaborate with the WW II Museum in New Orleans and LSU to create internships for students. An ardent bibliophile, David collected old and new rare books. He enjoyed membership with fellow book lovers in the Grolier Club of New York, and also served as national chair for The Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies (FABS). With his wife, Lubna, David showed a passionate love for the history and culture of the Middle East, especially Palestinian cultural materials, textiles and ceramics.

He was a genial presence, with a dry wit and an eye for the comic side of everyday life, and an infectious enthusiasm for a host of subjects, from book collecting to choral music. His friends will remember how much he loved playing the piano and singing at the top of his voice.

-Excerpted from The Advocate (Baton Rouge), June 8-12, 2017

Random Thoughts On the Texas Tour

Wednesday night—Michael Vinson's lecture on the relationship between the DeGolyers and the Eberstadts demonstrated again the importance of long term collector/dealer relationships in the building of what are now iconic institutional special collections.

Thursday at the George W. Bush Presidential Center—after an introductory talk in the original White House situation room (moved to the Center after renovation at the White House), there was an "on your own" tour of the museum. The exhibit on 9/11 was particularly moving and absolutely a strong point. The exhibit on the response to Hurricane Katrina was heavily varnished. Also, interestingly, virtually no material on Dick Cheney or Donald Rumsfield, who were so instrumental in the Bush administration.

Saturday at the LBJ Presidential Library and Museum—a morning "behind-the-scenes" talk by Brian McNerney, who I believe is the chief archivist of the library and was very engaging. Many stories and reminiscences about LBJ by his associates and an even-handed consideration of the good, the bad and the ugly about the man and his times. The exhibitions dwelt heavily on the "Great Society" legislation, which in retrospect, we now take for granted as part of every-day life. The Vietnam War was addressed at length, making the point that Johnson found himself trapped—not able to win, and not

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able to get out. Johnson's decision not to run again in 1968 was addressed, but Eugene McCarthy was not mentioned at all, nor the pivotal New Hampshire primary, or Bobby Kennedy's late entry into the race.

Thinking about the two presidential libraries and how they portray the history of their times and main protagonists, it raises the question of when contemporary events become history. The Johnson Library gets closer to a balanced history, perhaps because the events it addresses took place over 50 years ago, and most of the principles are dead. In the case of the Bush Center, the stories are recent, virtually all of the principles are still alive, and their influence is still strong. It is likely that both institutions will continue to change as the events become more distant and still-classified information becomes available to scholars.

Friday night dinner—a lecture by Bill Fisher, an enthusiastic and highly engaging speaker, on his collection of Spanish language books published in San Antonio. A wonderful example of how the passion and insight of one individual can lead to a collection of items, which taken individually, are not particularly valuable or highly sought after, but when taken together, can form an important and unique collection of material which is highly significant for scholars and historians. I was pleased to hear that it is Bill's ultimate intention to donate this collection to the University of Texas at San Antonio in the city where the collection is most meaningful.

Saturday—at the Harry Ransom Center. We all came to see the impressive printed and manuscript rarities, but the display of photographs—narrated by Jessica McDonald, the Chief Curator of Photography—was the show-stealer for me. The 30 or so photographs she put on display were touchstones in the history of the genre, and her obvious enthusiasm for the topic really drew us into the collection. The Director, Stephen Enniss, told us that the Center's earlier history of buying whole collections and whole auctions of a broad array of topics was now more focused. That being said, he made it clear that they remain highly acquisitive with money derived from Texan oil holdings.

- By Len Banco, M.D. (Ticknor Society)

An Interview with Joe Rainone (LIBC)

How far back can we trace forms of mass entertainment? Hollywood was influenced by comic books—which were influenced by dime novels, which were influenced by story papers.

Story papers?

"They looked like newspapers. They came out weekly, and every week a new story would start," said Joe Rainone of Baldwin, NY, a leading collector

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of popular fiction in general and story papers in particular. "The story would last eight to 12 weeks, or longer, especially if the story was resonating. They began in the mid-1840s and reached their high point in the 1880s. By 1915 they were fading."

Story papers are the latest iteration of Rainone's lifetime of collecting and documenting popular culture, which has cycled through several phases. Currently he concentrates on the profusion of 19th-century fiction, which also includes dime novels and "thick books"—a collection of five serials from a story paper gathered into one two-inch-thick volume, selling for a dime.

At the moment, his collection numbers about 55,000 items. He adds to it through eBay, dealer catalogues, and ABE, but he now skips garage sales and similar venues. Although the term "pulp fiction" is now synonymous with hack work turned out for a mass audience, actual pulp paper, made from acidic wood, was not introduced on a large scale until the 1880s. Story papers and dime novels from earlier decades, printed on rag paper, are in much better condition today, Rainone said.

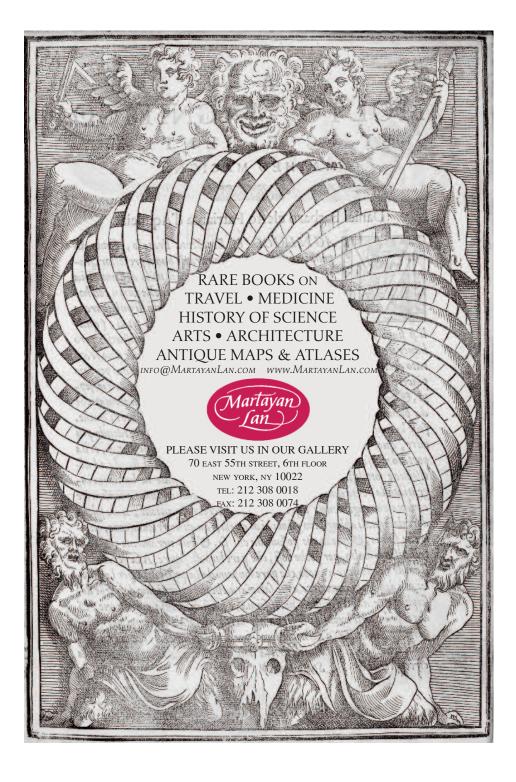
To preserve his collection, Rainone converted his garage into a temperature- and humidity-controlled storeroom. His 25,000 story papers are stacked by title and chronological order. Another room in his house is filled with books, but "I don't see adding thousands more items at this point. I'm pretty maxed out."

A few universities have good collections of popular fiction, but Rainone said, "I wanted to build my own library to look at any time I wanted." In past decades, "some savvy collectors picked up truckloads of stuff" when universities de-accessioned after putting their collections on microfilm—which Rainone views as a big mistake. "Microfilm is horrible. It's blurry, and it's a pain in the ass to use the roller and the little screen." But digitization, he said, is "phenomenal. It's a much better way to go."

A career Postal Service employee, Rainone financed much of his collecting by selling unwanted or duplicate items. "I made the mistake of having a shop for seven months," he said, but overhead costs made that unprofitable. In the past, he has owned comic books featuring the first appearance of Batman and Superman. He sold both items decades ago at substantial profits, but the values have skyrocketed since then.

Collecting individual authors of mass fiction is extra complicated because one writer might use multiple pseudonyms, or multiple writers might use the same pseudonym. But sometimes collectors can recognize internal clues. For instance, Rainone said that Francis W. Doughty can be spotted by his habit of using the title of a story as its last line.

Acquiring a complete run of a particular story paper, however, is not necessarily a goal, because after several years they often reprinted previous material. "I collect things that appeal to me," Rainone said, "and I have to have lines that stop."



Popular fiction is a vast and hard-to-document field, and Rainone chooses his categories carefully. He owns about 2,000 series books (including the first-ever appearance of the Hardy Boys), which he considers enough to be a representative sample. The same approach applies to true-crime papers and the English "penny dreadfuls"—he owns the complete run in original parts of *Varney the Vampire*, a gothic horror novel that came out from 1845 to 1847, long before Bram Stoker's *Dracula*. He also has examples of pirated American knockoffs of the monthly installments of Dickens novels.

The "holy grail" of his collection is *The Steam Man of the Prairies* by Edward Ellis, American Novels No. 45 from 1868, which represents the first fulllength American science fiction novel. The only other known copy is in the Rosenbach Museum in Philadelphia, Rainone said.

As for the story of how he got it: "It was posted six or seven years ago on eBay. I saw it, and I would have gone up many thousands of dollars for it. So would other people. But then I got an email from the seller. He knew my name, and he asked me what it was worth. I said, 'I'm biased, because I want it. But it depends on who's looking at it, because there's no track record.' And I told him that the most I'd ever paid for a dime novel was \$500. He said, 'I think it should go to you. Will you give me \$500 for it?' I said, 'Done.' So he took it off eBay and shipped it to me. Much to the disappointment of many other people, I'm sure."

After nearly a lifetime of collecting, Rainone is now seeking an institutional buyer for all or most of his material: "I want this stuff to be respected and put in its proper perspective."

-By David Lewellen (NOBS)

2018 FABS Tour of Delaware

If something is worth doing, it's worth doing twice. Twenty years ago, in 1998, members of FABS clubs visited Delaware as an adjunct to a tour of the Philadelphia region. This 2018 trip will be devoted wholly to the First State (the first to ratify the Constitution), which, despite its small size, has large attractions: four hundred years of political and industrial history; the beautiful Brandywine Valley; historic architecture; good food; and, of course and most important, a truly remarkable and wide range of books, manuscripts, and art held by libraries, museums, and private collectors. If the name Delaware just conjures up a part of the Mid-Atlantic passed through on a journey via road or rail between New York and Washington, D.C. you are in for a surprise—and a treat.

The dates are Wednesday, May 16, through Saturday, May 19, a time of

temperate climate when Delaware's famed gardens are at their best and, we think, a time with less competition from commencements, book fairs, and trips organized by other bibliophilic societies, not to mention Mother's Day. Our host will be, as before, the Delaware Bibliophiles, who have developed a program that includes most of the collections which make Delaware unique—as well as a public symposium. It's a somewhat crowded schedule, but distances are short (the longest bus ride is estimated at forty minutes) and there is a *lot* to see.

Participants are expected to arrive between 5:30 and 7:00pm on Wednesday evening to join members of the Delaware Bibliophiles and local librarians, curators, collectors, and "book people" at a reception at the Sheraton Wilmington, the FABS hotel located in downtown Wilmington, Delaware. Dinner will be on your own in one of the many restaurants in the nearby Market Street corridor or the Riverfront, areas of the city undergoing considerable revitalization.

Thursday will be, for lack of a better title, "du Pont day," with visits to three of the family's great legacies—Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library; Hagley Museum & Library; and Longwood Gardens. Founded by Henry Francis du Pont, Winterthur (pronounced "winter-tour") is a matchless museum of American decorative arts. We shall be given tours of the collections-spectacular furniture, paintings, ceramics, textiles, and objects-but will spend most of our time in the separate research library. The library's rare books are particularly strong in architecture, children's books, women's magazines and domestic manuals, American and British trade catalogs; and the Arts and Crafts movement. Manuscripts include a vast array of items related to decorative arts and American culture; the staggering John and Carolyn Grossman Collection, 250,000 pieces of ephemera, documents everyday life from 1820 to 1902 (including, incidentally, the first printed Christmas card). After lunch at Winterthur, the group will move on to Hagley. Located on the site of the original du Pont powder works and including the original du Pont home, Hagley preserves and interprets the history of American enterprise. Again we shall have a private viewing of extraordinary and rare materials, business and personal papers of the du Ponts, advertising graphics and the work of designers (such as Raymond Loewy), the library of Pierre Samuel du Pont de Nemours (the finest collection on late-eighteenth-century French society and politics in North America), and the largest collection of patent models outside the U.S. Patent Office. The late afternoon will take us to Longwood, the estate of Pierre S. du Pont, celebrated worldwide for its famous gardens. Naturally the Longwood library focuses on horticulture and the allied sciences; the special collections and archives contain fine examples of botanical art spanning nearly 350 years; highlights include John Evelyn's Sylva (1664), a complete set of Curtis's Botanical Magazine from 1788 to the present, and *Reichenbachia* (1888-1892), an unsurpassed series of chromolithographic orchid plates. Dinner at 1906 Restaurant will follow, with the evening capped by one of Longwood's truly marvelous open air theater fountain displays.

On Friday morning the setting is the University of Delaware, in Newark-fifteen miles south of Wilmington. Here, in the massive Morris Library, we will see Special Collections and the Mark Samuels Lasner Collection. Special Collections houses books, manuscripts, graphics, and much else encompassing six centuries, from illuminated manuscripts to contemporary artist's books, reflecting English, American, and Irish literature, history of science, Americana, printing and the book arts, horticulture, local history and politics, indeed every conceivable subject connected to the academic and cultural life of a major university. Of particular note will be selections from the Senate papers of former Vice President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and from Robert D. Fleck's extensive collection relating to Delaware, a recent gift. The Mark Samuels Lasner Collection, housed in its own quarters, focuses on British writers and artists of the late-Victorian period (think Christina Rossetti, William Morris and Aubrey Beardsley), with presentation and association copies, letters, manuscripts, and drawings. We shall be the library's guests for lunch then divide into two groups, one to tour the private collection of Andrew McKay (Delaware photography, the Civil War, and other areas), and the other to visit the studio of Lead Graffiti, the distinguished letterpress operated by Ray Nichols and Jill Cypher. Everyone will then be reunited to travel to the Brandywine River Museum of Art in Chadds Ford, PA. Renowned for its holdings of the Wyeth family, the Museum features work by N. C. Wyeth, Andrew Wyeth, and Jamie Wyeth as well as a cross section of American art with an emphasis on illustration and artistic practice in the Brandywine valley. There will be time to see the library and side trips to the nearby studios (part of the Museum campus) of N. C. Wyeth and Andrew Wyeth. This busy day will conclude with a wine reception and dinner at the elegant University and Whist Club back in Wilmington (the club's mansion sits where the U.S. Capitol was intended to be built). Members of the Delaware Bibliophiles will be invited to this event, and a number will offer a "show-and-tell" of selections from their own collections.

The Delaware Historical Society, founded in 1864 for "the elucidation of history, particularly such portions as may refer to Delaware" is the first stop on Saturday. In its recently renovated headquarters reside the surprisingly interesting Delaware History Museum, the new Jane and Littleton Mitchell Center for African American Heritage, and a research library, where we shall be invited to a special viewing of manuscripts and printed materials, including important Colonial documents, dating from the earliest settlements of the region to the present day. Next up will be the Delaware Art Museum, which deserves to be known as more than one of the country's best regional art museums. The DAM holds the largest collection of English Pre-Raphaelite art outside the U.K., formed largely by Samuel Bancroft, Jr., a local industrialist who was also a book collector (and member of the Grolier Club). It also has significant holdings in American illustration, in particular by the artist Howard Pyle and his associates and students. Gallery talks by curators will be coordinated with a visit to the Helen Farr Sloan Library. where its special collections—Samuel Bancroft's Pre-Raphaelite books and related manuscripts, the library of painter John Sloan, and a major collection of publishers' cloth bindings of the 1850-1930 period—inspire the theme of the FABS symposium to follow in the Museum's auditorium after lunch. Provisionally titled "Books and Illustration at the Turn of the Century in Britain and America," the symposium will be open to the public without charge and feature several nationally-known speakers. At 4:00pm the FABS group will leave a tea reception to board the bus for the half-hour ride to New Castle. This historic and charming town-the Rockefeller's original choice for an 18th century restoration—will be the site of the tour's two-part finale. First, Rob Fleck, of Oak Knoll Books, has most kindly invited us to the eponymous and wondrous temple of "books about books" for browsing and a reception. Then we will walk a short way down Delaware Street to the Arsenal (built by the Army in 1811 as a fortification against British invasion) for a gala celebratory dinner.

Please note that the plans outlined here, while tentatively confirmed as of early August, are subject to change. We anticipate a tour fee of \$625 per person, to include all receptions, lunches, and dinners from Wednesday night, 16 May through Saturday night, 19 May. Bus transportation to all venues from the FABS hotel in Wilmington will be provided, and the fee also covers all museum/library admissions. The tour fee does not include hotel accommodations, breakfasts, or other forms of local transportation. A block of rooms has been set aside at the Sheraton Wilmington at the rate of \$129 per night, single or double occupancy.

-Mark Samuels Lasner

CLUB NEWS

Aldus Society

After a delicious June picnic based on a Victorian theme, featuring delicious food and an introduction to Trollope and Dickens, Aldus Society members took a break for the summer. They reconvened in August for a lively literary conversation, renewal of friendships, and a jump-start to a full fall calendar.

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August 10 featured Roger Jerome and Bill Rich, in the Second Annual Literary Conversation: "Victorian England from the Dickensian and Trollopian Points of View." Last year our literary conversation revolved around Shakespeare, this year it was Dickens and Trollope, those two indefatigable Victorian authors. Their works filled newspapers and magazines, shelves and imaginations for many generations. Few can claim to have read everything by both authors. Aldus members Roger Jerome and Bill Rich discussed these two writers, who knew each other, shared publishers, and led very busy but separate social lives. Roger Jerome focused on Dickens and his novels while Bill Rich shared his knowledge and passion for Trollope's vast corpus.

On September 14, Jeanne Drewes, Chief of the Binding and Collections Care Division of the Library of Congress will share her interest in "Cuban Books." Drewes will talk about Cuban small press books that are quite amazing in what they produce. Cuban artists and printers using ingenuity, recycled materials, and lots of creativity to produce both traditional and artists' books. Drewes flavors her talk with background on the artists and printers and her interactions with them over the decades.

October 12 brings Deidra Herring, Associate Professor and Research and Education Librarian at the Ohio State University Library. Herring will talk about the *Highlights for Children* Archive at the OSU Rare Books and Manuscripts Library. Founded in 1949, *Highlights for Children* has written and published magazines for children of all ages. The extensive collection includes "issues of *Highlights for Children* (1946-2007), letters to the editor, selected children's submissions, and founder Dr. Garry C. Myers's personal papers. Herring will speak about the collection and its uses in educational programs throughout the university.

Our fall program concludes on November 9 with Tony Sanfilippo, Director of the OSU Press with a talk entitled "The University Press: Triumphs and Challenges." The OSU Press was founded in 1957 to disseminate scholarship in the social sciences and humanities. Over the past few years, Sanfilippo has added several new imprints including "Trillium," which publishes books about Ohio and the Midwest, and "Mad Creek Books" featuring creative literary writing in many genres. We look forward to learning about running a diverse, cost-effective press and planning for the future of publishing.

Our season would be incomplete without the December Annual Auction and Holiday Dinner. This year's dinner features a silent auction replete with books donated by Aldus members and friends. Join us for laughter and good cheer, and buy a few books to expand your reading interests.

As always, Aldus Society members get together to talk about books, collections, great stories, and much more. A glass of wine, a nibble of cheese, and some cookies are a great way to start off our meetings. For recaps of previous programs and fascinating stories about members' collections and collecting interests, check out the Aldus Society Newsletter, published in January, May, and September. Back issues are available on our website. The Aldus Society meets at 7:30pm on the second Thursday of each month from September through May at the Thurber House in Columbus Ohio. Come early and enjoy refreshments and delicious cookies baked by our members. Visitors and new members are always welcome. http://www. aldussociety.com/ —Miriam Kahn

The Ampersand Club

The Ampersand Club is preparing for a season of programs that touch on many bibliophilic topics. Although not all details are confirmed, the Club is planning programs on the following subjects: a talk on the history of type from an art history perspective; a visit to the special collections of Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota; a talk and demonstration on the Minnesota Digital Library; a session on the care and preservation of booksold, rare and otherwise beloved; and a talk by an author on how his work encourages young men to read more. This year Ampersanders will also hold their bi-annual Book Collectors' Roundtable at the new Campbell-Logan Bindery. At the Roundtable, members bring their most recent "find" for a show-and-tell session. In addition to the Club's monthly programs, a holiday party will be held in January and an annual dinner meeting will be held in May. If you find yourself in Minnesota between September 2017 and May 2018, we invite you to join our meeting if the timing is right. Send us a message by visiting our website at http://theampersandclub.org/ or Facebook page, TheAmpersandClubMN.

-Peggy Korsmo-Kennon

The Baltimore Bibliophiles

All events occur at The Johns Hopkins Club, unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, April 19, 6:00pm

Micaela Beigel, Goucher class of 2019, gave a riveting talk on the collection that won third place in the National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest for her work: "Once We Were Dreamers: A Collection of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust." Her collection is focused on the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. You can read her submission here: https://mdsoar.org/handle/11603/2597

Saturday, June 24, 2:00pm

Casey Smith gave a very entertaining and enlightening talk entitled: "Ibbett Did It: Piquerism, Poetry, and Letterpress Printing." During this joint meeting with the Chesapeake Chapter of the American Printing History Association (APHA) we learned about an obscure, misogynistic poet of the Victorian era, who just might have had a second career as Jack the Ripper. (Ware

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of those Victorian gentlemen who worked for the British Post Office.) Casey's illustrated talk was enhanced with examples of Ibbett's poetry from the collection of Mark Samuels Lasner.

Tuesday, September 12, 6:00 pm

Andrea Briggs (librarian) and Dr. Pamela Regis, McDaniel College, Westminster, Maryland

"Building and working with the American Romance Collection at McDaniel College"

Thursday, September 28, time TBA

Peter and Donna Thomas, maker of artists' books, fine books, miniature books and handmade paper are celebrating their 40th anniversary. They will visit the Baltimore area as part of a multi-state tour and will give a presentation. Check the Baltimore Bibliophiles website for updates and details.

Wednesday, November 15, 6:00 pm

Michael Curry, Professor and chair of the Department of Theatre at Goucher College

"Shakespeare 400: An Unshakeable Passion"

Preview of 2018 Events

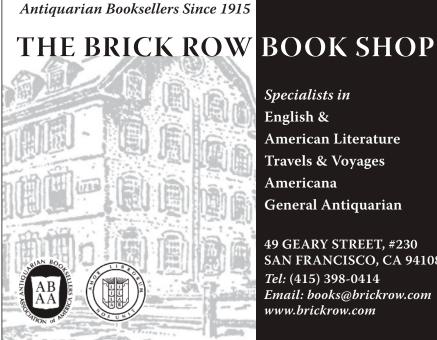
Our schedule for 2018 is definitely a work in progress. Meetings are set for March, May and November (Dates TBA). March will feature former BIBS President Frank Batavick speaking about his recently published book, *Time's Crossroads: The History of New Windsor, MD*. In May, George Liebmann will regale us with tales of his father, the bookseller. The September speaker and topic are TBD. And November's Annual General Meeting will feature Marion Elizabeth Rodgers speaking on H. L. Mencken. There may also be a fifth meeting during 2018. Check the website for updates: www.BaltimoreBiblio philes.org

— Binnie Syril Braunstein

The John Russell Bartlett Society

In the spring the John Russell Bartlett Society (JRBS) launched our new website at www.jrbs.org.

In April, the JRBS held the Stillwell Prize for undergraduate book collecting—there was tough competition, but first place went to Stanley Gemmell of the University of Rhode Island. The title of his collection was: "Young Gemmell Romantic Poems." A poet himself, he draws inspiration from his current collection of 1,000 titles, mostly poetry. The centerpieces of his collection are British Romantic writer book sets such as the 1817, John Murray ed., *The Works of Lord Byron: with his Letters and Journals, and his Life* by Thomas Moore, comprising 17 volumes.



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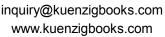
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In order to stimulate the interest of students in books and printing, and in all the bibliographical concerns which motivate its members, the JRBS has established this annual prize competition, open to undergraduates at any Rhode Island college or university. In so doing, the Society honors the memory of Margaret Bingham Stillwell, Brown University Class of 1909, the University's first woman Professor of Bibliography and a renowned scholar of early printing, with the intent of encouraging students to share her lifelong pleasure in reading and book collecting.

On May 24, JRBS was thrilled to welcome Rebecca Romney—co-author of *Printer's Error*, bookseller, and a rare book expert for the History Channel's Pawn Stars—as our speaker for the 2017 Annual Meeting hosted by the Rhode Island Historical Society. At the Annual Meeting our new President was voted in—Claudia Covert, Special Collections Librarian at the Rhode Island School of Design.

-Phoebe Bean

The Bixby Club

The Bixby Club celebrated Valentine's Day with the group's annual dinner after visiting the St. Louis Mercantile Library, the Club's home, and hearing a lively presentation by John Hoover on the Library's comprehensive archive of the Tern Press. The output of this major English fine printing establishment, founded by Nicholas and Mary Parry nearly fifty years ago, was exhibited over the late winter and spring at the Mercantile. Upcoming, the Bixby Club and local members of the Grolier Club are hosting a "Bixby Ice Cream Social" Sunday afternoon, August 27 to open the travelling exhibition, "OK, I'll Do it Myself; Narratives of Intrepid Women in the American Wilderness," curated by Caroline Schimmel from her distinguished collection. First showing this fall (through October) at the Mercantile Library, and the following winter at the DeGolver Library (Dallas, SMU); the show will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue designed by Jerry Kelly, which will be available for sale through the Mercantile Library. A Halloween Bixby Club dinner will mark the opening of the Mercantile's major exhibition, "Historic Headlines: Historic Newspapers of St. Louis and the World through the Centuries," with a curator's presentation on early comics of the press and the contributions to comic strip publication, among many other revolutionary newspaper innovations of Joseph Pulitzer, the famous St. Louis and New York newspaperman.

—John N. Hoover

The Baxter Society

The Baxters were treated to an extraordinary Spring season of bookish events. In February we trekked to the University of New England campus to view photographs by noted Portland photographer John Eide. For March, Peter Geiger, president and CEO of the *Farmers' Almanac* (yes, that one), presented an illustrated talk on "The Glorious Tradition and Bright Future" of the Almanac, and how it is still relevant in today's technologically advanced world (yes, it is available online). A copy of the 200th anniversary issue was handed out at the end of the meeting to all those present.

In April, we had the usual meeting with the Kate Cheney Chapel '83 Center for Book Arts at the University of Southern Maine. What was most unusual, however, was that the talk was delivered by Richard Ovenden, Bodley's Librarian, the 25th person to hold the title at the University of Oxford. He was invited to Portland to give a talk entitled "Bound to be Together: Gray Parrot, Leonard Baskin, and the Gehenna Press." Needless to say it was a wellattended evening, and the small informal dinner with a few folks afterward was most memorable. At the last meeting of the year, in May, we were treated to a melange of members' special items from their collections in the traditional show-and-tell.

-Scott J. Vile

The Book Club of California

The BCC's program activity has intensified this year with more attention to members—only events. The member-to-members Evenings in the Library series began in May with Kathy Walkup on women printers, followed by a miniature collection overview by Dorothy Yule. A big hit, these smaller presentations continue once a month into the fall, with "Henry Evans and the Peregrine Press" (John Crichton), "The Bindings of Florence Water" (Toby Schwartzburg, bookbinder and collector), "Stanley Morison: His Studies of the Fell Types" (John McBride, editor and publisher of *Invisible City*). The scope of members-only features are projected to grow in 2017-18 starting with Axel Borg, distinguished wine and food science bibliographer, leading a field trip to the Peter J. Shields Library at the University of California, Davis.

A full tilt schedule during the summer covered both antiquities and contemporary issues. "A Kelmscott Chaucer for Our Times: Celebrating a New Binding" was presented by the ever-popular Dominic Riley, award-winning bookbinder, teacher and book artist. "The University Library as Collector, Exhibitor, and Publisher" was the topic as Peter Koch, featured printer in a current retrospective at Stanford University, engaged in conversation with Roberto Trujillo, Director of Special Collections, and Becky Fischbach, Exhibits Manager & Designer of Special Collections at Stanford University. BCC Past President Anne W. Smith moderated the discussion.

The California Rare Book School hosted its annual lecture in August, presenting "Writing Satire in Barberini Rome: The Publication History of Gian Vittorio Rossi's Eudemia," by Jennifer Nelson, Reference Librarian of the Robbins Collection at the U.C. Berkeley School of Law.

We enjoyed a very special late summer evening welcoming our new di-

rector Kevin Kosik to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love, with remarks by David Lance Goines, designer and printer of the club's 2017 commemorative poster. We also enjoyed a bit of unusual summertime programming with a screening of *Paris, Once Upon a Time*, a film based on vintage postcards from the collection of Leonard Pitt, actor and author, who spoke at the screening.

Our 2017 Fall Exhibition is "The Great Age of Scientific Voyages & Travels: Twenty Notable Explorers & Related Works, 1767–1890," which is curated by long-time member Peter Farquahar, a geographer and historian, from his collection.

The Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America (Northern California chapter) will join us for "Early Printing in Gastronomy" with Ben Kinmont, antiquarian bookseller. "Acts of Devotion and the Spread of Printing" will be a talk by Deborah Rudolph, rare book curator at U.C. Berkeley's Starr East Asian Library. Deborah dazzled folk with treasures from China, Japan and Korea during the 2016 FABS tour.

A very special moment for BCC will be on October 30th—the inaugural Kenneth Karmiole Endowed Lecture on the History of the Book Trade in California and the West. John Crichton, proprietor of the Brick Row Book Shop, will speak of "Anton Roman: The First California Bookseller-Publisher." An encore of this program will take place at the Huntington Library in Pasadena on January 17, 2018—the first of an expanding schedule of Southern California programming.

Dr. Maryanne Wolf, Professor of Citizenship & Public Service at Tufts University will speak on "The Beauty and the Threat of an Evolving Reading Brain" on November 13th, and then we shall appreciate California in its early days with "Franciscan Frontiersmen: How Three Adventurers Charted the West" by journalist and historian Robert Kittle on November 27th.

At year's end we'll celebrate with a party and the fourth annual Holiday Card Exhibition, "Treasures from the Book Club's Collection," and enjoy hearing from James Keenan, Director of the American Society of Bookplate Collectors & Designers.

All events unless otherwise noted are at The Book Club of California, 312 Sutter Street, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA, 94108 (415-781-7532).

—Anne W. Smith

The Caxton Club

The Caxton Club is thrilled to announce that it has received one of the grants awarded by the Terra Foundation of Chicago for *Art Design Chicago*, a series of events that will take place in the city throughout 2018. Chicago is known as a center for commercial printing and that means it is also a center for advanced commercial design. In the words of the Terra Foundation, Chicago has had "a vibrant creative history and [an] enduring influence on art and design." Other organizatons receiving grants for this project include the Newberry Library, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Contemporary Art (Chicago), the Museum of Modern Art (New York), the DuSable Museum of African American History (Chicago), and twenty-five others. In its press release, the Foundation cited the Club's upcoming publication *Chicago 101: 101 Publications that Shaped Chicago and its Image*, a book to be distributed in 2018 by the University of Chicago Press, as the project to be funded by the award.

On the home front the Club has many interesting dinner and travel events planned for the upcoming year. In October we will travel to the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana to visit its excellent holdings in the Rare Book & Manuscript Library. In September, for our inaugural dinner, we will hear an Americana program presented by Leslie Overstreet, who will talk about engravings and other illustration processes. In October, Kathleen Hamilton Smith from the Newberry Library will talk about the recently acquired Teich Postcard Collection. It includes (of course) postcards but also the archives of Curt Teich & Company—together, the holdings comprise the nation's largest public collection of postcards (over 500,000) and related materials. Artist Russell Maret will address us in November and, not coincidentally, we will use that meeting, as we do every year, to announce the winners of our grant awards to young book artists and library science students. Our annual holiday party will be held in December.

All dinner meetings are held at the Union League Club in Chicago on the third Wednesday of the month. Bibliophiles visiting from other clubs are always welcome as guests.

-Michael Thompson

The Colophon Club

The Colophon Club gathered on December 14, 2016 for its 3rd annual Holiday Party and Book Arts Buffet. Members brought recent work to display and to talk about with colleagues. This has become a happy tradition for the Club that allows us to enjoy one another's work. Buffet and drinks are an important part of this evening, also!

In January, the 2017 year began with an excellent talk by Steve Wasserman, newly named publisher of Berkeley's Heyday Books. Steve is a former editor-at-large for Yale University Press, editorial director of Times Books/Random House, and publisher of Hill & Wang and The Noonday Press at Farrar, Straus & Giroux. A founder of the Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities at the University of Southern California, Wasserman was a principal architect of the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books during the nine years he served as editor of the *Los Angeles Times Book Review*.

February's meeting was the week after the very successful Codex Book

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Fair, where Colophon members met old friends and enjoyed new ones. We met on Valentine's Day to a warmly received talk and display of books and illustrations by Ward Schumaker. "My books are based on doing everything wrong," he claimed, but his work inspired us.

L.A. artist Tim Schwartz spoke in March. Through recent projects that include prints, books, websites, and installations, Schwartz spoke about the demise of libraries, the loss of digital texts, how much your Facebook profile is worth, and how to relate to your new A.I. overlord.

In April Rhea Fontaine and Pam Paulson of Paulson Fontaine Press presented an illustrated talk on the fine art press work they produce with African American artists, showing many examples of their work. Paulson Fontaine Press (formerly Paulson Bott Press) specializes in limited edition intaglio prints. The press emerged from the San Francisco Bay Area's rich tradition of fine art printmaking. Paulson Fontaine Press's philosophy is to facilitate rather than direct an artist, creating an environment where artists can do their best work.

Megan and Rick Prelinger, co-founders of an experimental research library in San Francisco, spoke in May, exploring the Library's history, its place in the informal network of independent research libraries, the importance of hybrid analog/digital collections, and the changing ecosystem of libraries and print in an increasingly digital era. Megan Prelinger is a cultural historian, naturalist and the author of two books: *Inside the Machine: Art and Invention in the Electronic Age* (W. W. Norton, 2015), and *Another Science Fiction: Advertising the Space Race* (Blast Books, 2010). Rick Prelinger is an archivist, writer and filmmaker, and founder of Prelinger Archives, a collection of ephemeral films acquired by Library of Congress in 2002. His Lost Landscapes participatory urban history projects have enjoyed many thousands of viewers in San Francisco, Detroit, Oakland, Los Angeles and elsewhere. He is Associate Professor of Film & Digital Media at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

-Mary Manning

The Delaware Bibliophiles

February 2017 brought a Bibliophiles meeting at the Delaware Art Museum's Helen Farr Sloan Library, with Rachael DiEleuterio, the Librarian and Archivist. On display were selections from the M. G. Sawyer Collection of Decorative Bindings. Ms. DiEleuterio walked us through a review of the evolution of decorative publishers' bindings in the 19th century. We were privileged to have Mary Sawyer, the donor of the collection, and her husband Frank participate in the discussion. We were granted access to the stacks to browse the larger selection of the Sawyer collection beyond the public display. The Sloan Library also includes the archives of the painter John Sloan, extensive Pre-Raphaelite material, and Brandywine school illustrator material, reflecting the three major components of the Delaware Art Museum's collection.

Also in February, the Delaware Bibliophiles co-sponsored with the University of Delaware Library the International Darwin Day Lecture at the University's Morris Library. The speaker was Jeremy Norman, a California-based antiquarian bookseller who specializes in the history of science. Norman is a noted Darwin scholar and collector, and spoke on "A Collector's Evolution: My Experience with the Books and Manuscripts of Charles Darwin and His Contemporaries." The Darwin Day lecture combined the University's events associated with International Darwin Day and the opening of the exhibition, "Victorian Passions: Stories from the Mark Samuels Lasner Collection in the University of Delaware Library."

The Delaware Bibliophiles celebrated its 40th anniversary at our annual dinner meeting in April. The speaker was James N. Green, Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia, America's first successful lending library and its oldest cultural institution. His talk, "Looking for a Good Book Shop in Colonial America," reviewed the evolution of dedicated bookshops in our country's early years. Benjamin Franklin, who founded the Library Company in 1731, played an important role in this story.

-R. M. Walsh

The Ephemera Society of America, Inc.

The Society held its 37th annual conference and show in Old Greenwich, Connecticut at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on March 16–19, 2017. The engaging subject of the conference was *American Ingenuity: What's the Big Idea?* A group of prestigious museum curators and private collectors spoke and presented hundreds of images depicting ephemera relating to a wide variety of American innovations. We anticipate having these talks available on our website.

Tom Crouch, the Senior Curator of Aeronautics with the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, provided images of the early development of flight, including balloon launchings. Posters and handbills relating to flights prior to World War I also helped to document man's new life in the air.

Dick Sheaff, a renowned graphic designer, gave us an overview of the innovations shown in American ephemera from the contributions of Native Americans to the 20th Century. Many of the images he presented were culled from his vast collection (www.sheaff-ephemera.com/).

Letters, printed circulars, advertising prints, cigar box labels and other ephemera assisted scholars Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris in discussing the antecedents of the telegraph and electronic communication. We learned that the images used reflected the notion of the "annihilation of space and time," made possible by instantaneous communication, even before the telegraph was fully implemented.

Erika Piola, Associate Curator of Prints and Photographs and Co-Director of the Visual Culture Program at the Library Company of Philadelphia, gave a talk entitled: "What Does Not Kill You Makes You Stronger: The William H. Helfand Popular Medicine Collection at the Library Company of Philadelphia." The imaginative concoctions of narcotics, herbs, and oils marketed via ephemera were no doubt innovative, but sometimes also deadly. Sales of these so-called patent medicines were no doubt increased through the use of beautiful bottle labels, wall calendars, trade cards, catalogs and other printed matter with striking images of, *inter alia*, death, youth and beauty.

Dr. Jeremy Rowe, a professor, Antiques Roadshow appraiser, and President of the Daguerreian Society, has collected, researched, and authored books about historic photography for over thirty years. He spoke about the history of innovation in photographic processes, as well as showing us advertisements, letterheads, envelopes, pre-photographic reproductions of images (engravings made to disseminate images before photomechanical reproduction), and photographic imprints which are part of the documentary history of photography.

Larry Lyons, Executive Director of the Philatelic Foundation and a leading expert on the U.S. Local Posts, described how the private sector, which instituted pre-paid postal innovations, made sending mail more efficient during a time when the cost of sending mail was borne by the recipient. These private companies used creatively designed broadsides and labels.

Lorne Shields, a celebrated historian and prominent collector of bicycles and bicycle ephemera, gave an impressive talk entitled "The Bicycle: Two Wheels that Changed the World." Not only was the technology of the bicycle revolutionary, but this cutting-edge machine on wheels also tended to decrease discrimination based on class, gender and age. Bicycle marketing gave rise to ephemera that reflected these social changes.

Nick Ricketts is the Curator of the Strong Museum of Play (Rochester, NY), which holds the world's largest collection of historical materials related to toys and games, and other forms of play. Drawing from the vast resources of this collection, he spoke entertainingly of innovations in play at the Society's banquet.

As you can surmise from the foregoing, our conferences touch on a wide variety of subjects that undoubtedly would appeal to FABS members putting together book collections in allied fields. For that reason, we hope you will consider joining the Ephemera Society and sharing your interests with us.

-Bruce Shyer

Florida Bibliophile Society

The Florida Bibliophile Society concluded last season with a family-style banquet at Brio Tuscan Grille in Tampa in May. Our keynote speaker, Mike Slicker, celebrating his 40th year as a bookseller, entertained us with anecdotes about the collections of famous people that he has appraised. Emma Gregory, a student from Eckerd College, read an essay that netted her \$500 in our first-ever Lee J. Harrer Student Book Collecting Contest (named after one of our founding members). A silent book auction conducted at the banquet raised funds that will go towards this season's student book collecting contest. Additionally, all banquet attendees received an exquisitely designed keepsake containing the top five essays in the contest.

The FBS will continue to provide its members and guests with a variety of interesting topics by our guest speakers this season. In September, Dr. Michael A. VanPutte will discuss his 2016 book, *Walking Wounded: Inside the Cyberwar Machine*. VanPutte devoted 26 years of government service working with cyber experts, law enforcement officers, and intelligence officials, briefing the White House, Congress, the Pentagon, and other government agencies.

Dr. Stuart D. Goldman, scholar in residence at the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research, will be our speaker in October. From 1979–2009 he was the senior specialist in Russian and Eurasian political and military affairs at the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress. He will discuss his 2012 book, *Nomonhan 1939: The Red Army's Victory That Shaped World War II*, and will answer queries about our current affairs with Russia.

In November, the FBS will have a Members' Choice meeting, when members will have the opportunity to tell us about their favorite author or their favorite book. In December, we will celebrate our traditional Christmas dinner and get-together at the home of one of our members.

The Florida Bibliophile Society has invited Pieter Kohnstam to be our guest speaker in January, but as of this writing in June, his appearance has not been confirmed. Kohnstam will discuss his book, *A Chance to Live: A Family's Journey to Freedom.* Before his family fled from German persecution in the Netherlands, they lived in the apartment below the Franks in Amsterdam—Anne Frank was Pieter's babysitter and playmate.

Former FBS President and now current Vice President Charles Brown will be our speaker in either February or March. He will give a presentation and a display of his unique collection of paper art. The poet Lola Haskins will be our guest speaker in April, National Poetry Month. Lola, the author of 14 collections of poetry, will read from her latest collection, *How Small, Confronting Morning*, poems about inland Florida. And finally in May, Dell deChant, Chair of Religious Studies at the University of South Florida, will be the keynote speaker at our season-ending banquet at Brio Tuscan Grille. He will enlighten us with a talk on the religions of the world, their major distinctions, and how they interact in our pluralistic culture.

-Jerry Morris

The Himes & Duniway Society

Another full calendar for the members of the Himes & Duniway Society included our third annual White Elephant Book Exchange and Holiday Luncheon, a wonderful success. Members gathered at the University Club in Portland, Oregon and chortled over the rare and obtuse books that were gifted. Highlights this year included *Outhouses of the West* subtitled *Johns That I Have Known*; *Manifold Destiny or How to Prepare a Meal on Your Car's Engine*; a 1938 book on ventriloquism techniques; and *Getting to Know Your English Bulldog*. We understand that our members are scouring bookstores already to find the perfect book for our 2017 holiday luncheon.

In February, we gathered at the Vault of the Oregon Historical Society. Kerry Tymchuk, the Executive Director, lead us through their 100,000-square-foot warehouse of all things Oregon. Books, maps, paintings, printing presses and horse-drawn hearse carriages—it was all there. It is hard to select one or two highlights, but an Albion press that is rumored to be the first printing press in Oregon was a definite thrill. Also during February, member Page Stockwell exhibited a collection entitled *Atlas Art: Title Pages and Fron-tispieces Illustrated*, with an accompanying lecture at the Collins Gallery, located in the Multnomah County Library.

Next on our agenda were the receptions for our book collecting contests at Reed College and Oregon State University. Our members enjoyed the reception, graciously hosted by Reed President John Kroger. Thanks to the work of Himes & Duniway member and Reed College Special Collections librarian Gay Walker, this event continues to be a success. Our student winner this year was Shea McElroy with an essay and collection of Jane Austen books and ephemera. Spearheaded by OSU librarian Anne Bahde, Oregon State University also turned out a number of wonderful entries. At the reception hosted by the OSU Library, Melissa Thibeau and her collection and essay, *Anything Yiddish: De Mame Loschen* was the first prize winner. We would be remiss if we did not mention the Donald N. H. McGregor Foundation, which once again generously provided the prize money for our students.

Next up is our annual garden party at the home of Brian and Gwyneth Booth, which we will report on in our next notes. 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.

-Scott Howard

Long Island Book Collectors

For a book collector, a catalog often signifies the beginning of a journey or the culmination of a quest. November's intimate meeting was the perfect venue in which to share some of the catalogs in our respective collections. Mike Marell, who collects broadly, treated us to an 1890 catalog of books relating to Aaron Burr—a focus of his main collection. A 1938 fine foods catalog from Charles & Company provided a look at the brands being sold at the time in America, and an illustrated 1881 shoe & leather directory furnished us with a look back at an industrial United States. Paul Belard showed a few Sotheby catalogs, always useful for checking rare book prices: *A Private Collection of Illustrated Books and Fine Bindings* (June 2001); *Modern French Bindings and Illustrated Books* (June, 2002); and *Six Centuries of Book Bindings*.

Lee Temares, antiquarian book dealer, collector and appraiser, led our December discussion on the de-accessioning of book collections when age, infirmity or a move necessitate a sale. Key questions that each collector must answer before making a decision include: How is the collection organized? How much of it is for sale? How much of it is ephemera to be sold separately? How can the value be correctly assessed at the time of sale or donation? Do you want to sell or do you want to donate? Are you willing to break up your collection on your own, prior to offering it to a university, a library, an individual book collector or a rare book dealer? AddAll.com was recommended as a reliable website for checking current book values in ascending order with an awareness of the dealer in order to see whether the dealer is offering more than one copy of a given title.

In January Mike Silver, author of *Stars in The Ring: Jewish Champions in the Golden Age of Boxing*, spoke about boxing's significant role in the Americanization process for an immigrant population struggling for acceptance into the early 20th-century socio-economic mainstream. For more than sixty years—from the 1890s to the 1950s—boxing was a major spectator sport. From 1901 to 1939, 29 Jewish boxers were recognized as world champions and nearly 200 others were ranked among the top title contenders in their respective weight divisions.

In April Joe Rainone shared a selection of original books, newspapers, broadsheets and facsimiles, chronicling the first 100 years of detective and mystery fiction published in pre-1900 America. To better understand the original source of these stories, Joe referenced the first appearance of an organized police force (Samurai) in 1603 Japan, London's Old Bailey Criminal Court in 1674, the Bo Street Runners in 1749 and the prefecture of the French police in 1800.

At our June luncheon, writer and Sherlock Holmes expert Gary Lovisi guided us through the careers of both the fictional Sherlock Holmes and the talented nineteenth-century British doctor and advocate of deductive reasoning, Joseph Bell, on whom the character was based. Arthur Conan Doyle based Watson on himself—an easy leap, as Doyle was a young physician who served as assistant to the formidable Dr. Bell. Mr. Lovisi's latest book, *Sherlock Holmes & Mr. Mac*, contains two crime novellas inspired by the detective Mr. Mac, mentioned by Holmes in *The Valley of Fear*.

Long Island Book Collectors (LIBC) and the Antiquarian Book Dealers Association of Long Island (LIABDA, LTD) have agreed to merge in an effort to preserve the support of book collecting in Long Island in Nassau and Suffolk counties. The newly formed organization will be called LIABDA, LTD / LIBC. We wish you a summer of excellent reading and collecting. For now each group maintains its own Web site. Please visit longislandbookcollectors.com and liabda.com.

-Jackie Marks

Manuscript Society

Fun, Travel, Adventure! Join the Army? No, join the Manuscript Society (MS) to experience all three, as well as the journal *Manuscripts*, the *MS News* (print or electronic version), the ability to register for the Annual Meeting, and the possibility to attend local meetings at manuscript/book venues in various cities. MS E-Digest is available free of charge to all.

Manuscripts, edited by current MS President Michael Dabrishus, is published quarterly. Each issue contains a report by Bradley Cook on "Auction Trends" with extensive reports of manuscript sales, and comprehensive reviews of books pertinent to our hobby written by William Butts. Patricia Vaccaro edits the *News*, published quarterly and the *E-Digest* (monthly). These two publications contain news of the MS but also link you to the whole world of manuscript and book publications, personalities, and events.

At www.manuscript.org (our website) you can become a member, sign up for the *E-Digest*, and learn how to obtain samples of MS publications. There is also a "Collector's Corner" containing a review of the terminology of manuscript collecting, practical tips on buying and selling autographs, and a file of illustrations of facsimiles that have challenged collectors over the years.

The collections of Manuscript Society members are treasure troves of documents illuminating prominent and obscure events and personalities in their own words. Each issue of *Manuscripts* contains examples from these collections, in many cases letters and documents not previously published. The Spring 2017 issue, for example, had the following: a selection of unpublished letters of James Monroe written by Gerald Gaidmore and Meghan Bryant of the Swem Library of the College of William and Mary; Dr. Russ Simbari, MS member, writes an illustrated article about the song "Kathleen Mavoureen," telling the story of the song's composer and elucidating the identity of the author of the lyric; James Reis, MS member, presents interesting autograph letters of another Founding Father, Robert Morris. Morris was one of two men who signed three important documents, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and The Articles of Confederation (you must read *Manuscripts* to learn the other signer). Morris's distinction did not prevent him for being locked up in debtor's prison in Philadelphia, from which he wrote one of the letters in Reis's collection, and where Morris made himself comfortable enough to have dinner guests including George Washington. *Manuscripts* consistently has this sort of amazing content.

By "travel" we mean to our Annual Meetings, last year in Charleston, SC, this year in Oakland, CA, and next year (April 18-21, 2018) to New Orleans. The good times will surely be rolling in The Crescent City next year, the 300th anniversary of its founding. Dr. Alfred Lemmon of the Historic New Orleans collection is organizing the meeting, which guarantees this will be an event to remember.

Our next FABS report will have more information about Annual Meetings and a report of Philadelphia-area members' visit to the fabulous archives of the Philadelphia Museum of Art in June 2017.

-Barton Smith

Miniature Book Society

What can be better for a bibliophile than a gathering of like-minded individuals from all over the world who bring with them some of the most beautifully bound books one will ever see? Well, to that mix just make mine a mini. The Miniature Book Society gathered in Oakland, California on August 11th for a three day Conclave.

Our hosts were miniature book artists Dorothy and Susan Yule of the Left Coast Press. This was a monumental event for The Miniature Book Society as it was our 35th annual Conclave. We began on September 4, 1983, with a mere 26 members, at the Tipp City, Ohio farm of Miriam Owen Irwin, and our society has grown ever since.

Of course, what would a meeting be without a new miniature book? The Yules wowed attendees with *Bay Bridges in a Nutshell*, based on a San Francisco souvenir that was marketed in 1906 (the year of the Great Earthquake). The original book was presented in a box, which the modern version also has, but instead of the usual simple accordion format the Yules updated it as a boustrophedon complete with pop-up illustrations of the bridges that encircle San Francisco Bay, and bound it in gold-stamped leather. What a treat!

For those who came in early, there was a dinner at Scott's Seafood Restaurant at Jack London Square near the Conclave hotel. This was a casual time to give and receive hugs from old friends. We all picked up on conversation from a year ago with ease. Friday, August 11 was registration day but the Yules gave the attendees a couple of added bonus programs. One was a trip via the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) to San Francisco's Book Club of California to visit the library and to view its large collection of miniature books. The other option for the first day was a workshop with Alisa Golden of the California College of the Arts and the owner of Never Mind the Press. Her workshop was titled "Miniature Herbarium: Plants From Bay Area Gardens." Those who were lucky enough to have signed up in advance for this program were presented with tiny pressed plants from around the Bay Area that could be sketched, stenciled, stamped, or saved in a modular accordion book, designed by Golden.

One of the most highly anticipated parts of any Conclave is given out during registration, proof of which was the expressions of our members as they received their bag of keepsakes. The tradition of each member creating a miniature book or miniature book-related product goes back to the earliest Conclaves. The treasures ranged from a miniature crime novel from the 1940's to a sample of an 18th-century miniature book. Many consider this better than Christmas as these were gifts made by their closest friends.

With everyone safely arrived at the Oakland Marriott, we all gathered for our first dinner as one large group—and then a silent auction for desert of, what else? Miniature books. Collectors and investors submitted their bids in a flurry of activity to acquire some of the finest rare miniature books, which were donated by major bookstores across the country, and collectors. All proceeds went to assist the MBS.

The MBS Membership Meeting was the next morning, and Stephen Byrne of Newton Stuart, Scotland presided over the business, concluding his second year as the President of the MBS. Then a workshop with Judith Serebrin, and after lunch, members boarded the BART and took a short trip to the San Francisco Public Library for a visit to its special collections, and the nearby PBA Galleries, which regularly holds miniature book auctions. The PBA Gallery loaned their own Greg Jung to hold a live auction after dinner. Two of the high points of any Conclave is the Book Fair on Sunday and the Awards Dinner. The members of the MBS were blown out of their seats by the Yule's invited guest, famous book artist Julie Chen. For a microbibliophile, it was Heaven.

-Rick Hill

Movable Book Society

The Movable Book Society is preparing for its 25th Anniversary. It is publishing *A to Z: Marvels in Paper Engineering*, a juried collection of individual pop-up spreads, each focusing on a letter of the alphabet. The pop-up letter cards will be housed in a beautifully designed box. The goal is to showcase and celebrate some of the best paper engineers around the world as they translate their unique styles into each letter to highlight and celebrate the anniversary with a commemorative book that will be released in August 2018. By the time this issue of the FABS Journal is in print, the jury will have chosen a paper engineer for each letter from their submissions.

Previously, The Movable Book Society published *Brooklyn Pops Up* (2000) to accompany the exhibition by the same name at the Brooklyn Public Library. In 2004, it published the limited edition *A Celebration of Pop-up and Movable Books: Commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the Movable Book Society*, with pop-up spreads demonstrating mechanicals as they appeared in history. The movables were created by Robert Sabuda, Andy Baron, and Kyle Olmon with support from many others. *A to Z* will be available at the Society's next conference, September 27-29, 2018 in Kansas City, Missouri, home of Hallmark Cards, publisher of a classic series of pop-up books and today's movable greeting cards.

The pop-up world will be represented at the Brooklyn Antiquarian Book Fair and Works on Paper, September 7-10, 2017. PopUPmania! at the Fair will have an exhibit of movable books covering the history of pop-ups from the collection of Ellen G. K. Rubin, a.k.a. The Popuplady. She will also give a lecture on pop-up book history and do a dramatization for kids of *The Three Little Pigs* from a pop-up book.

Information can be found at www.brooklynbookfair.com/popupmania and www.popuplady.com.

—Ellen G. K. Rubin

Philobiblon Club

The Philobiblon Club of Philadelphia is planning its 2017–2018 programs, which we will finalize soon. We plan to host Georgianna Ziegler, whose appearance last year was canceled due to a snowstorm, and to hold our annual "Members' meeting" over the winter. A list of programs will be posted to our website, www.philobiblonclub.org. The site also lists past programs, officers, requirements for membership, and other information.

Meetings, which include dinner, are usually held at the Franklin Inn Club of Philadelphia. Club officers and committee chairs are: Steve Rothman, President (collector); Jim Green, Treasurer (Library Company of Philadelphia); Mark Darby, Secretary (Temple University); Lynne Farrington, Program Chair (University of Pennsylvania); and Kimberly Tully, Membership Chair (Temple University).

The Club welcomes visiting FABS members to attend its meetings whenever possible. Contact club secretary Mark Darby: (484) 343-7447 or mark. darby@temple.edu.

-Mark Darby

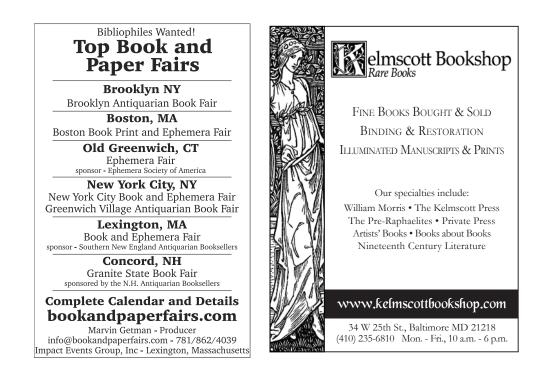
The Rowfant Club

As we celebrate our 125th anniversary, we rededicate ourselves to our mission, the study of books in their various capacities to please the mind of man. Our active schedule continues apace: Wednesday non-member speakers, Friday member speakers and Saturday general discussions. We have initiated several special interest groups, in which members can discuss collecting in areas of special interest.

This spring we held two events to which guests were invited. Member Arnold Hirshon, head librarian at Case Western Reserve University hosted a group of library heads at a dinner at Rowfant. Our guests enjoyed the dinner and a chance to tour our clubhouse.

At our spring library tour, David Novak discussed Frederick Locker-Lampson, his books and social connections. Locker-Lampson housed his collection at his Sussex estate, Rowfant Hall. His style of "cabinet" collecting and his friendship with founding Rowfant member Paul Lemperly inspired the naming of our club.

-Terry Shockey



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The Roxburghe Club

Our December meeting is always a celebration of our printer members and Patrick Reagh treated us to a beautiful invitation using his monotype ornaments with a black plus four color ornamental design. There are a few left over for fine printing collectors!

January brought us the gathering of our largest supper audience to hear a member presentation by Gary Kurutz, on his research into the forthcoming bibliography of the Klondike Gold Rush, *From 49ers to Sourdoughs: Literary Excursions in the First & Last Great Western Gold Rushes.*

Our February meeting hosted artist/scientist Donald Farnsworth of Magnolia Studios in Oakland, who walked us through his research in developing large-format, 16th-century style paper for contemporary artists. Since the establishment of Magnolia Studio in 1981, Farnsworth has been an invaluable source of printing and handmade papers. Magnolia is now an international source for art production, collaborating with artists William Wiley, Chuck Close, Squeak Carnwath and Rupert Garcia. For a "March madness" bonus, we hosted graphic designer Thomas Ingalls of San Francisco to present "19 Holes of Golf: On Collecting Golf Books and Ephemera." This was Ingalls' first presentation of his vast collection, and he attracted a large audience of bibliophiles and fellow collectors in the field. Ingalls' studio made two keepsakes for the occasion: a table of contents designed as a score-card, and reproduced matchbook cover illustrations of famous women golfers through the years.

As our April meeting coincided with the 111th anniversary of the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906, we hosted native San Franciscan and historian Charles Fracchia, who spoke on "The San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906: Myths and Reality." The discussion was supplemented by a display of relics of the disaster from collector Robert Chandler and Marianne Hinckle, Master of the Press. Marianne brought family pictures and a vase (slightly chipped) saved by her grandmother deVere, as she ran out the front door the morning of the quake with baby Angela (Marianne's mom) tucked under her arm.

For the last meeting of our season we celebrated poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti and sixty years of City Lights Bookstore. Peter Maravelis of City Lights presented "Secret Library of Hope, the Insurgent Beatitude of City Lights Booksellers & Publishers." The invitation, printed by Wesley Tanner, reproduced Ferlinghetti's poem, "Time of Useful Consciousness." We also want to thank our printer members for their extraordinary work in preparing this season of invitations: Jonathan Clark, Norman Clayton, Andrew Hoyem, Patrick Reagh, Richard Seibert and Wesley Tanner.

-Marianne deVere Hinckle

Book Club of Texas

The Book Club of Texas welcomed FABS members to the Lone Star State this summer with a tour of various libraries and museums in Dallas and Austin, May 31–June 3.

The festivities began on Wednesday afternoon, May 31, at the DeGolyer Library on the campus of Southern Methodist University (SMU). Director and Assistant Dean of Collections Russell L. Martin III, who also serves as the executive director of the Book Club of Texas, gave a brief history of De-Golyer Library and the Book Club, and an overview of the collections. Guests enjoyed a curator-led tour of the current exhibit, "Bill Witliff: Texas Man of Letters, Selections from the Virgil Musick Collection," as well as a children's literature exhibit, and an opportunity to shop at the Book Club of Texas book sale. After a welcome reception, bookseller and writer Michael Vinson gave a lecture on his latest book, *Edward Eberstadt & Sons: Rare Bookseller of Western Americana*.

On Thursday morning, the group toured the George W. Bush Presidential Center with a special introduction by Deputy Director Emily Robinson and a visit to President Bush's situation room. Lunch was served at Café 43, located just outside the Bush Library, and Mrs. Bush's Cowboy Cookies were a big hit! The afternoon included a visit to the Bridwell Library, part of SMU's Perkins School of Theology. Archivist Tim Binkley led a tour of the current exhibit, "The Archives of the Bridwell Library," and Head of Special Collections Daniel J. Slive gave an overview of the Bridwell special collections and pulled several rare materials for us, including illuminated manuscripts on vellum. A few of the featured items included a 13th-century portable Paris bible, ca. 1250; a Middle English New Testament, Wycliffite Version, England, ca. 1400–1425; the first printed edition of "City of God," by St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo (354–430), 1467; and a missal for use of the Cathedral of Olmütz in Moravia Catholic Church, 1499. After finishing up at the Bridwell, the group visited SMU's Meadows Museum, where we enjoyed a self-guided tour of an extraordinary collection of Spanish art. Thursday evening found our energetic group heading off campus to the Harlan Crow Library for a reception and guided tour by Librarian Sam Fore. Guests enjoyed the expansive library, art galleries, and gardens, and several items were displayed especially for our group: the 1493 Latin printing of Christopher Columbus's letter to the Spanish court announcing his discoveries; a first edition of Thomas Jefferson's Notes on the State of Virginia, inscribed by Jefferson; one of only three copies of the 1733 edition of *Poor Richard's Almanac*; and an extraordinary copy of the official account of the Lewis and Clark expedition from 1814, among others. Highlights from the art collection include an original Gilbert Stuart painting of George Washington, Benjamin West's painting entitled "The Drummond Family," John Singer Sargent's painting of Jacques Barenton, and several paintings by Winston Churchill, Adolf Hitler, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and George W. Bush.

Friday morning our intrepid band of bibliophiles headed to Austin. After arrival and check-in at the AT&T Conference Center, the group was treated to a curator-led tour and talk at the Benson Latin American Collection by Head of Special Collections, Christina Bleyer. She delighted the group with materials pulled from the special collections. Of particular interest was the Relaciones Geográficas collection, which includes documents ranging from 1578–1586 and serve as primary sources of information about the Spanish conquest of Middle America. The documents comprising the Relaciones Geográficas are original responses to a questionnaire initiated by the Spanish Crown in 1577, requesting information about Spanish held territories in the Americas. There were 191 responses to this questionnaire, of which the present location of 167 are known, including the 43 held by the Benson Latin American Collection. We also enjoyed the exhibitions "Fiesta del Grito: A Visual History of the Diez y Seis Celebration in Austin" and "Globalocation: The Urgent Mission of Artnauts Collective," featuring original artistic photographs. On Friday evening, the group attended a gala at our conference hotel. Bill Fisher, a collector and Book Club of Texas member from San Antonio, gave us an informative and entertaining presentation on his Chicano literature collection. He explained how in the process of building context for his Chicano collection, he began to purchase early 20th-century Spanish language imprints from Texas, especially San Antonio, and how this has now mushroomed into a stand-alone collection.

Saturday morning, we headed to the recently remodeled Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library. We were treated to a behind-the-scenes tour by Archivist Brian McNerney who, in addition to showing us around the museum, explained how presidential libraries work, gave us some trivia questions to answer and examples of documents in the collections, and showed us the D. B. Hardeman Collection of 7,000 volumes of books on American political history. We enjoyed burgers and beers at an Austin institution, The Tavern. Next we spent time (and money!) at 12th Street Books, a thriving bricks and mortar shop, where proprietor Luke Bilberry and his staff helped us find many treasures. The grand finale was a visit to the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center (HRC) on Saturday afternoon. Director Stephen Enniss gave us an overview of the Ransom Center, and he and his staff pulled several treasures from special collections for us to see. Associate Director Jim Kuhn showed us a Gabriel Garcia Marquez book, Operacion Carlota, about Che Guevara in Angola; The Making of an Immortal inscribed by George Moore; and The World of Cant, a rare edition with a gilded 19th century binding, to name a few. Aaron Pratt, the Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Curator of Early Books and Manuscripts, brought out Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, a recently acquired manuscript, and other rare treasures. Director Stephen Enniss read a fascinating letter from Earnest Hemingway's mother to a young Hemingway and showed us manuscript drafts of Faulkner's Absalom, Absalom, Ian McEwan's notebooks, and a Cien

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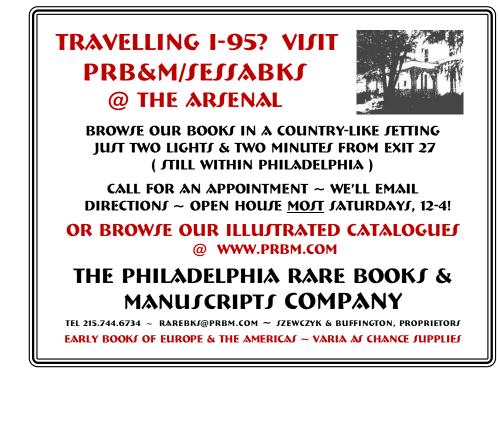
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Anos de Soledad draft by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, among others. Jessica S. McDonald, the Ransom Center's Nancy Inman and Marlene Nathan Meyerson Curator of Photography, gave an informative talk about the origins of the HRC's over 5 million photographs and negatives, photograph conservation, and the variety and range of the Ransom Center's collections. On display were photographs from the Lewis Carroll collection, Helmut and Alison Gernsheim collection, and Magnum Photos, Inc., to name a few. The evening ended with a wonderful reception provided by our hosts and a tour their permanent Gutenberg Bible exhibit, and the current exhibit, "Stories to Tell: Selections from the Harry Ransom Center."

By all accounts, the FABS Texas tour participants thoroughly enjoyed their first trip to the great state of Texas, and on behalf of The Book Club of Texas and my fellow Texans, we welcome FABS to come back for another visit—there's plenty more to see, ya'll!

-Pamalla Anderson

Ticknor Society

Boston's Ticknor Society conducted nine programs and co-sponsored the 2016 Movable Book Conference with the Movable Book Society in its 2016-2017 program season.

Beginning in September, 2016 at the Movable Book Conference we organized private, behind-the-scenes tours at the Boston Athenaeum (Scott Guthery, a past Ticknor President, was our knowledgeable docent) and Boston Public Library (thanks to Beth Prindle and Jay Moschella of the BPL for their time right before the grand opening of the newly renovated Johnson building) of extraordinary movable books in their respective collections. We also coordinated seven physical exhibits of movable books at the Houghton (Harvard University), the Moriarty Library (Lesley University), the Morton R. Godine Library (Massachusetts College of Art), the William Morris Hunt Library (Museum of Fine Arts), the Willison/Smith Library (Mt. Holyoke College), the Fleet Library (Rhode Island School of Design), the John J. Burns Library (Boston College), and two virtual exhibits at the American Antiquarian Society and Bowdoin College. In addition, the Ticknor Society gave a \$1,500 prize for the best pop-up book in a national student contest, the winner being Nicholas Danish. It was a wonderful whirlwind week-end of events and we enjoyed collaborating with the Movable Book Society!

In October, we visited the McMullen Museum at Boston College on a docent-led tour of the major collaborative exhibition, *Beyond Words: Illuminated Manuscripts in Boston Collections*. Our members also visited the simultaneous exhibits of this show at the Houghton Library and the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum. Marie Oedel, President, hosted the Grolier Club and the CHICAGO DENVER MILWAUKEE NAPLES PALM BEACH SCOTTSDALE ST. LOUIS Accepting consignments for upcoming auctions

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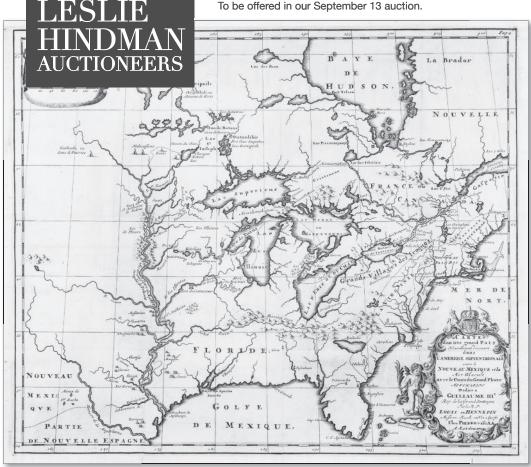
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Rowfant Club in her home when these fellow bibliophile groups came to Boston to see the exhibits.

At the Boston Antiquarian Book Fair in October, Board member Beth Carroll-Horrocks moderated the Ticknor Society's Annual Collectors Roundtable. The topic this year was "What Librarians Collect," and we were fortunate to have Mindell Dubansky, Silvia and Christian Dupont, and Joshua Lipkin speak about their collecting interests.

In November, we visited the Boston Public Library to hear Jay Moschella, Curator of Rare Books, talk about the "Shakespeare Unauthorized" exhibit. It was truly amazing to see a first, second, third and fourth Folio all in one case, as well as many early individual plays.

This year's holiday program was a show-and-tell by members, which is one of the Society's most popular events. Erin Dyson-Enamorado, Ken Rendell, Stuart Walker, Sam Ellenport, and Scott Guthery all told stories and showed materials from their diverse collections.

We were fortunate in our winter weather this year, and all of our winter programs happened as scheduled: In January, Richard Ring spoke on "Lawrence C. Wroth: Pioneer of the Bibliographical Way," to promote his recent book which reprints fifty of the best articles of Wroth's column "Notes for Bibliophiles" in the *New York Herald-Tribune* (1937-47). It was also interesting to hear what Mr. Ring is doing in his classes at Trinity College (Hartford, CT) to introduce students to the world of collecting. We were pleased to welcome students who were attending a Rare Book School (U.Va.) course at Harvard to join us that evening.

In March, we visited the Woodberry Poetry room at Harvard University for a talk and tour by Christina Davis, Curator, and Mary Walker Graham, Assistant Curator. It was fascinating to listen to early recordings by poets reading their own work. Spring in Boston brought us to the city's own archives for a presentation on "Women's Voices in the Archival Record" by Marta Crilly, Archivist for Reference and Outreach, as well as a tour of the inner sanctum! We were welcomed by Ticknor Board member and Treasurer, Christopher Carter, Collections Record Manager. Janet Steins, Board Member, led a field trip to the Museum of Printing in Haverhill in April. Attendees saw first-hand one of the world's largest collections of printing and typesetting hardware and ephemera.

We concluded our busy 2016-2017 Season with an Annual Meeting at the New England Historic Genealogical Society. One of our goals is to collaborate with local non-profits and institutions that also promote the love of books and book culture. We share this focus with the NEHGS and they were gracious hosts. After our elections and meeting, we were fortunate to have Paul Messier, photograph conservator and Head of the Lens Media Lab at Yale University speak on Mapping the Genome of Black and White Photography.

For more information about the Ticknor Society and these events please go to our website www.ticknor.org.

-Marie Oedel

The Book Club of Washington

The Book Club of Washington (BCW) continues to provide great events and community interactions for our members in the Pacific Northwest. For many activities, we collaborate with other organizations that support and deal with all aspects of books—the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America (ABAA), the Seattle Public Library, and others.

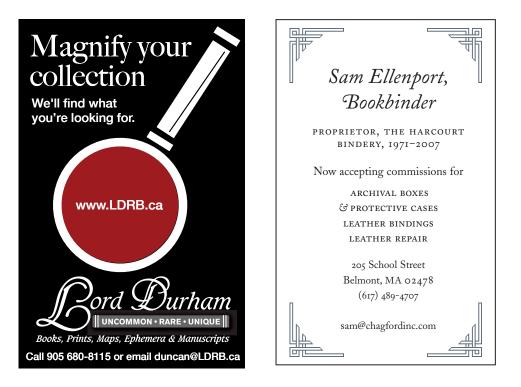
Activities for 2017 have included sessions of our regular Biblio Stone Soup events where members learn about each other's collecting interests by sharing one of their favorite books. We had a fascinating tour of the University of Washington Press, to learn about the history and current activities of this key publisher. We visited the relatively new University of Washington Conservation Lab to observe the processes and equipment used to preserve and conserve special library material. And we also had a tour at Third Place Books, a key independent book dealer that is led by the President of the American Booksellers Association. We discussed the role that book dealers of all types have in supporting bibliophiles.

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Spring of 2017 was a time where we had our Annual Meeting and granted several awards. Our keynote speaker was author David B. Williams, an outstanding local historian and geologist. We granted our yearly award for excellence in publishing and printing arts to a student from Pacific Lutheran University. We co-sponsored the Book Collecting Contest awards to students at University of Puget Sound, and we co-sponsored a scholarship with the local ABAA chapter for attendance at the Colorado Antiquarian Book Seminar (CABS).

For the remainder of 2017 we have another award to be granted — the yearly Emory Award. It is presented to a Washingtonian who has made an extraordinary contribution to the culture of the book. This fall we will lead a workshop about book collecting and how to effectively participate in a book fair. At this workshop and at a reception prior to the October Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair, we will be jointly working with the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the ABAA. The BCW will also participate in the Book Fair. We will conclude 2017 with our annual Holiday Dinner & Silent Auction festive fundraising event.

Over the 35-year history of the BCW, numerous periodic publications have highlighted the activities of the BCW, of members, and of libraries and book dealers. In the Spring 2017 issue of the *Journal* we republished several of the notable articles from some previous publications. We currently publish the *Journal* twice a year. Our new Editor, David Wertheimer, will assume



this role beginning with the Fall 2017 issue. *The Journal* is a well-regarded publication with a variety of articles that showcase our members, their passion for books, stories and histories of book subjects, and more.

Details of events, activities, and publications of the BCW can be found on our website, www.bookclubofwashington.org. FABS members are very welcome to participate when in the Seattle area. Contact us at our email address, info@bookclubofwashington.org.

-Claudia Skelton

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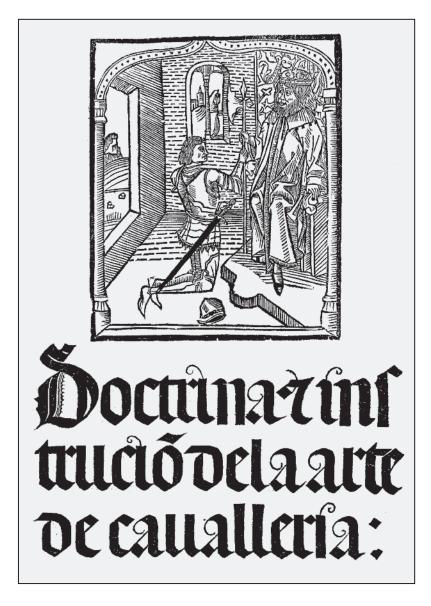
AMERICAN HISTORICAL AUTOGRAPHS

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.

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The vade mecum for Spanish knighthood. The Sellière-Landau copy. Burgos, Juan de Burgos 1497. Folio.

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