

JOURNAL OF THE  
FELLOWSHIP OF  
AMERICAN  
BIBLIOPHILIC  
SOCIETIES

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# *The Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies*

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week of January and September to our North American Member Clubs  
and International Affiliates.

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

LAST year was a very active one for FABS. We participated in a national book collecting contest for college students, offered two book tours to the members of our constituent clubs, and underwent a number of personnel changes.

Geoff Smith, my predecessor as chair, participated in the judging of the finalists in the National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest organized by the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America and the Library of Congress, and sponsored financially by FABS, the Grolier Club, and the Jay I. Kislak Foundation. Before reaching the final stage, however, all applications from students are carefully reviewed by members from our bibliophilic clubs, and this labor-intensive undertaking and the resources we bring to it are critical to the contest's successful completion. Fortunately, we will be doing our part again this year, and Geoff will be representing us as a judge in the finals.

We also completed our first international book tour. Bill Butler, our long-standing International Affiliates Chair and a professor of Russian law at Penn State, organized a trip to Moscow and St. Petersburg which ran from September 17th through September 23rd. Highlights of the trip are too numerous for me to cover here but I highly recommend to you a complete report prepared by my fellow Caxton Club member Susan Hanes and published in the Caxtonian in February of this year. You can find the issue here: [www.caxtonclub.org/reading/2018/feb18.pdf](http://www.caxtonclub.org/reading/2018/feb18.pdf).

This past spring we sponsored a tour to the Brandywine River Valley in Delaware to view the interesting collections of the University of Delaware, Winterthur, the Hagley Museum and Library, and Longwood Gardens. Mark Samuels-Lasner was our primary organizer, and he was ably assisted by his colleagues in the Delaware Bibliophiles, in particular by its president Thomas Doherty.

I'd also like to mention a number of personnel changes in the organization. First, Joan Knoertzer, our capable Vice Chair and acting Conference Chair, resigned her position due to the increasing demands of her business and to commitments she's made to other organizations. Fortunately she will remain with us as the trustee for both the Book Club of Detroit and the Miniature Book Society. Grolier Club member Bill Butler agreed to take over her responsibilities as Vice Chair, and this selection was approved by a unanimous (and enthusiastic) vote of the Executive Committee.

Finally, our FABS Journal editor for the last several years, Rick Ring, has resigned, and this issue is the first for our new editor, Anne Rowlenon. Anne, known to all as Annie, has a BA and an MA in English (in addition to another

BA), an MLIS from the Palmer School at Long Island University, and has completed a scholarly editing course at Rare Book School. Assisting Annie in a new role as assistant editor will be Scott Ellwood, of the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island. We are indeed lucky to have found both of these talented individuals.

MICHAEL THOMPSON  
*FABS Chair*

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings to all FABS members! Scott Ellwood and I are thrilled to be working on the FABS Journal. Just a reminder that we are actively encouraging FABS clubs and individual club members to contribute to the journal, so please do get in touch if you have something to share. Scott will be updating the FABS blog, accessible through the main website, to continue the conversation throughout the year.

ANNIE ROWLENSON  
*Editor*

SCOTT ELLWOOD  
*Assistant Editor*

## FABS IN RUSSIA

W. E. BUTLER

*Bill Butler reports on the organization's first international visit,  
a momentous event for FABS.*

For several years FABS has been organizing annual visits to various cities in the United States in order to introduce participants to the resources for book collectors: major public and private libraries, antiquarian bookdealers, important literary museums, private printers, and other book-related exhibitions or activities. All members of FABS-affiliated organizations, including international affiliates (five of which are in Moscow and St. Petersburg), are welcome to take part in FABS excursions. These visits, usually of three or four days, involve routine behind-the-scene visits to bibliophilic sites of interest: local libraries, museums, and usually a private col-

lection or two, and, of course, contacts among bibliophiles in the group.

An international visit has always been seen as a desirable development. In 2017 (17-23 September) this objective was finally realized with a visit to Russia. Eleven individuals took part from several bibliophilic societies and international affiliates (Book Club of California, Book Club of Detroit, Caxton Club, Ephemera Society, Grolier Club, International Federation of Ex-Libris Societies (FISAE), Miniature Book Society, Ticknor Society, and Zamorano Club). The group included collectors, book conservators, officers or former officers of American bibliophilic societies, organizers of major book exhibitions, antiquarian bookdealers, auctioneers, miniature book collectors, and exlibrists.

In this case, however, a conception of bibliophilic tourism was at work. The visit was twice as long as the usual FABS visit – seven days of program instead of three – and the intention was to provide a systematic and well-organized introduction to an entirely new world and culture of bibliophily. The program was designed to present to participants a solid sample of the world of antiquarian books in the Russian Federation – libraries, literary museums, bibliophilic societies, antiquarian book trade, collectors, private presses, facsimile publishing – together with the usual tourist attractions of Moscow and St. Petersburg. Advance readings were recommended, and the hosts prepared special publications and mementos for the occasion. Most participants took advantage of being in Russia to precede and/or extend their visit in order to see attractions or other communities.

Our visit commenced appropriately at the new headquarters of the National Union of Bibliophiles (NSB, by its Russian initials), an international affiliate of FABS. The NSB had moved to the center of the city, a hundred meters or so off Pushkin Square, just around the corner of the first Macdonalds in Russia, in what used to be an eighteenth-century home. There we were greeted by the President of the NSB, Dr. M. M. Seslavinsky, and a number of members who graciously gave up their Sunday to welcome colleagues from the United States, including Leonard I. Chertkov, President of the Moscow Club of Bibliophiles, also an international affiliate of FABS. Publications were exchanged, the history of the NSB was explained in detail, but of special and enduring interest was a concise booklet prepared by Maria Bogdanovskaia, with assistance from Alexander Gromov and Igor Bykov, entitled: *Краткая история российского библиофильства* [Concise History of Russian Bibliophily], richly illustrated, with texts in Russian and English, printed in 70 copies. A bibliographic treasure to begin the tour.

Upon leaving the NSB, members of the group wandered into their first Russian bookshops: “Falanster” and the Moscow House of the Book on Tverskoi prospect, the latter offering both new and secondhand books.

On Monday the group was given a behind-the-scenes tour of the Russian State Historical Library by the Director of the Library, Dr. M. Afanas’ev, also

a member of the NSB. Here they viewed the sixteenth-century origins of the building, reading rooms (including those just opened after restoration) and choice volumes from the rare book holdings of the Library. Among the last were volumes once owned by the Russian royal family. In the afternoon the group was received by the Director of the Museum of Exlibris and Miniature Book, Ludmila Shustrova, senior members of the All-Union Society of Devotees of the Book, and two publishers of miniature books. The exhibitions in place gave an excellent introduction to the history of Russian and foreign bookplates and to the superb holdings of miniature books, especially those of the twentieth century. The group viewed a short film devoted to the history of the Museum and its activities.

Tuesday morning was devoted to the Museum of the Book in the Russian State Library. For those who require an intensive introduction to the Slavonic book, there can be no better place, especially in the hands, as we were, of a knowledgeable specialist. From the earliest days of bookmaking to modern times – in Russia and elsewhere on the planet – this is a more or less permanent exhibition designed for educational purposes with only minor alterations from time to time. A superb complement to the Concise History of Bibliophily in Russia, the range of material on display could not be duplicated at any institution in the United States – which, of course, is why one travels abroad to see them.

In the afternoon we journeyed to the home of Leonard Chertkov to visit his collection. This visit made an enormous impression on the group – a choice collection of principally Russian twentieth-century literary material, complemented by original illustrations and related items of the highest quality. In advance of our coming to Moscow Chertkov had sent a copy of his article «Как собиралась моя библиотека» [How I Assembled my Library], which was translated into English and circulated to the group in thirteen numbered copies – a wonderful account of how a book collection begins and matures with anecdotes of fortunate purchases (or not).

Prior to our departure on Wednesday for St. Petersburg via the “Sapsan” [high-speed train], the group visited the Leo Tolstoy Moscow estate, where once again a specialist introduced the group to this aspect of Tolstoy’s life. We were surprised, but pleased, to learn that publication of the complete works of Tolstoy in 100 volumes is underway.

Events in St. Petersburg commenced with the Russian National Library, where we received a thorough introduction to the premises, including the stacks where the rare books are kept. Of special interest was the Voltaire Library because some members of the group were professionally involved with Voltaire Studies. This was followed by an exceptional introduction to the Bashmakov Collection of *livres d’artiste* on loan or recently presented to The Hermitage. Our guide was none other than the collector himself, who explained the importance of the items on display and how, in many cases, he

came to acquire them. The day closed at the Книжная капелла [Book Chapel], a recently opened “library labyrinth”, beautifully staged, to display finely-bound facsimile publications of Russian books and periodicals, primarily of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Truly an imaginative entrepreneurial undertaking intended to showcase the Russian Book by a thoughtful Russian publisher.

Our remaining days in St. Petersburg were spent at the Library of The Hermitage Museum, where a number of choice volumes were brought out for us to view. There was something, it seemed, for everyone; in my case, the Greek language edition of the *Nakaz of Catherine the Great* – a book of which I was aware but had never seen before. A number of Imperial volumes enthralled the group. We then walked a short distance to the premises of the private press “Redkaia kniga” [Rare Book] and its proprietor, Peter Souspitsin. The impression made by his productions was nothing short of astounding. As one expert in our group who specialized in *livres d’artiste* expressed it: never had he seen books of such quality and imagination!

At the Alexander Pushkin Museum, a meeting was held with the President of the Miniature Book Club of St. Petersburg and a tour given of both the Library and the one-time home of the immortal poet. It was both a moving and a memorable reminder of the career of one of the greatest poets our planet has known.

What, if anything, distinguishes Russian bibliophily from that in Europe and North America? The love of the book is universal, it would seem, notwithstanding technological developments that some fear will threaten the very existence of the book. So too are collecting interests highly diverse; there is so little overlap in the world of book collecting and so much to learn. But Russian bibliophily differs, perhaps, by reason of the high intellectual level of collecting, evident to foreigners by the expectation in Russia that bibliophiles will report at meetings on their acquisitions or write of them in the numerous bibliophilic almanacs, yearbooks, journals, and occasional publications. Russian bibliophily is noteworthy for its proximity to the science of the book in Russia, for the close links and interchanges between bibliophiles and those who spend their professional lives in the world of books. And now it will be known for the warm hospitality extended to foreign bibliophiles who were honored and delighted to be introduced to the Slavonic book.

BILL BUTLER  
FABS Vice-Chair

*W.E. Butler is John Edward Fowler Distinguished Professor of Law, Pennsylvania State University; Emeritus Professor of Comparative Law, University College London; Vice Chairman, FABS; initiator and organizer of the FABS Moscow visit.*

## MEMBER CLUBS

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

## INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATES

Aberystwyth Bibliographical Group, Aberystwyth, Wales  
Nederlands Genootschap van Bibliofielen, Amsterdam  
Associació de Bibliòfils de Barcelona  
Berliner Bibliophilen Abend E.V., Berlin  
Biron Stables Bibliophile Club, St. Petersburg  
Société Royale des Bibliophiles et Iconophiles de Belgique, Brussels  
International Federation of Ex-libris Societies, Newville, Pennsylvania  
Moscow Club of Bibliophiles, Moscow  
National Union of Bibliophiles, Moscow  
(formerly *Organization of Russian Bibliophiles*)  
The Society of Bibliophiles in Capetown  
The St. Petersburg Society of Bibliophiles  
Les Amis Du Livre Contemporain, Paris  
Private Libraries Association, Pinner, Middlesex  
Maxmilian-Gesellschaft e.V. für alte und neue Buchkunst, Stuttgart  
Book and Graphics Section attached to the Russian  
Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg  
The Dublin Odde Volume Sette, Dublin, Ireland  
Pirckheimer-Gesellschaft e.V.

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



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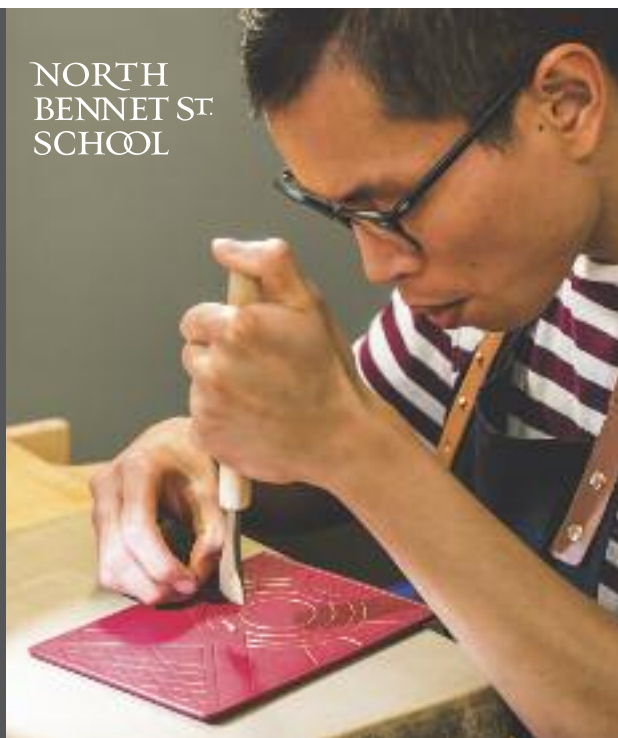
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## OPEN HOUSE

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Saturday, November 3, 2018

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## ANTIQUARIAN BOOKSELLERS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



### 2018/19 BOOK FAIR CALENDAR

#### Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair

November 16-18, 2018  
Hynes Convention Center  
[bostonbookfair.com](http://bostonbookfair.com)

#### California International Antiquarian Book Fair

February 8-10, 2019  
Oakland Marriott City Center  
[cabookfair.com](http://cabookfair.com)

#### New York International Antiquarian Book Fair

March 7-10, 2019  
Park Avenue Armory  
[nybookfair.com](http://nybookfair.com)

**[abaa.org](http://abaa.org)**



## 2019 FABS STUDY TOUR RETURNS TO ST. LOUIS

October 23-27, 2019

IT is hard to believe that it has been well over a decade since members of FABS were “meeting in St. Louis.” At that time participants unanimously said the tour could have been much longer to see even more of the bibliographic treasures at the heart of the country, some of the first and oldest west of the Mississippi. The 2019 Study Tour, timed to coincide with a beautiful Midwestern autumn, will be that chance to visit varied and extraordinary rare book collections not often seen, from a day trip to the University of Missouri’s Ellis Library in Columbia to a festive Halloween trip along the fabled river bluffs to Principia College, with its striking Bernard Maybeck architecture. Here are some of the details at this first writing.

Wednesday, October 23. Please plan to arrive by the afternoon to be in time for an opening reception hosted by John Hoover, Director of the St. Louis Mercantile Library, and President of the Bixby Book Club, at the Frontenac Hilton Hotel, our weekend tour base where you will be staying. John will be giving some overview remarks on St. Louis book history and collectors, with a bow to William K. Bixby, one of the city’s greatest book and art collectors of the past.

Thursday, October 24. In the morning we will visit The Richardson Library at the Saint Louis Art Museum in the newly restored and refurbished grand Cass Gilbert museum building, home of great Western American art of George Caleb Bingham, Charles Wimar, Oscar Berninghaus, and modern painters like Prendergast and Beckman. We will have a chance to see rare books, archives, paintings and great drawings associated with St. Louis’ legendary history and development on the frontier in this magnificent surviving edifice from the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904. Our tour will then cross Forest Park, one of the largest Frederick Law Olmsted parks in America, from the museum to neighboring Washington University, to see Washington University Special Collections, newly remodeled, with magnificent exhibition spaces, and meet fellow collector James Schiele, who will show to the group the Schiele Collection of Freedom (prints, art and rare books). Jim Schiele will host our group for lunch at Washington University’s Whittemore House, a distinguished St. Louis landmark. In the afternoon, FABS tour guests will visit The St. Louis Mercantile Library Association for a tour of the sprawling

exhibition “Headlines of History: Historic Newspapers through the Centuries at the Mercantile Library,” a curator-led tour of the art archives, and dinner at this historic and venerable Library hosted by the Bixby Book Club. The Mercantile Library is truly a national treasure; it has collected dramatically in all subjects for nearly 175 years but is especially known for Americana, including deep river history and folklore, railroadiana, and art collections. It was the first Library west of the Mississippi, but also one of the first historical societies, museums, theaters and lecture halls for a burgeoning frontier metropolis.

Friday, October 25. This will be a packed day. We will board a luxury tour bus early in the morning for a pleasant drive across the beautiful Missouri countryside following the Missouri River valley to Columbia, where we will visit the Museum of Art and Archaeology’s international print and illustration collections followed by a tour of the Special Collections Department in Ellis Library at the University of Missouri. These visits are paired to call attention to the early interest by University leaders and scholars in classical studies, around which the rare book collections were built vigorously in the early twentieth century. The University of Missouri land grant campus, with its iconic freestanding Ionic columns and other distinguished buildings, is an impressive sight, but also a very civilized, relaxed and welcoming campus. After lunch we will move on to the State Historical Society of Missouri where we will view two comprehensive collections of the artists most associated with Missouri, Thomas Hart Benton and George Caleb Bingham. From there we go on to a buffet dinner at Columbia Books, hosted by longtime bookseller in the Missouri heartland, Annette Kolling-Buckley, who maintains a specialty in children’s books and regional Americana, printing history and art.

Saturday, October 26. The day starts with our FABS traditional Symposium at the St. Louis Mercantile Library, related to its ongoing historic newspaper exhibition, “Headlines of History,” which has been acclaimed internationally. The Mercantile holds one of the largest newspaper collections in the central United States, developed comprehensively since its beginnings. The subject for our symposium is “From Cartoons to Campaigns in Print: Collecting Politics on Paper.” After lunch at the Mercantile we will board our tour bus for a splendid drive along the scenic Mississippi river palisades to Principia College, above the charming little Chautauqua town of Elsa, Illinois. We will have a walking tour of the college’s fabulous Bernard Maybeck architecture and view rare books and archives of art in the Principia College Library, all high above the Mississippi River Valley with breathtaking views



Juan de la Concepción, *Historia General de Philipinas*, first edition, complete set, Manila & Sampaloc, 1788-92. Estimate \$8,000 to \$12,000.

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stretching endlessly to the West. A festive autumn dinner at historic Pere Marquette Lodge nestled between the Mississippi, the Missouri and the Illinois rivers will conclude the evening.

Sunday, October 27. Anthony Garnett is the dean of rare booksellers in St. Louis and indeed for Missouri and most of Illinois and he will host our FABS Tour Group at his house (and book shop) for a Farewell Brunch before our travelers catch their flights homeward. Anthony is one of the leading booksellers of modern British fine printing, and his stock is very strong in British literature, poetry and art history as well.

St. Louis is one of the oldest and truly historic cities in the central states; it is an historical crossroads to everywhere, and there is much to see and do, with many surprises planned along the way for our bibliophiles.

Registration is \$550.00. Please download the form on the FABS website and send with a check made out to the *St. Louis Mercantile Library* to John N. Hoover, Director, St. Louis Mercantile Library, University of Missouri-St. Louis, One University Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63121; 314-516-7245; jhoover@umsl.edu.

We are in the process of securing a block of rooms at a hotel with a nationally-known company for the FABS hotel. The location is in the heart of the metropolitan area and within walking distance to numerous restaurants and high end retail shopping. It is close to the Clayton and Ladue dining districts, and a cab ride puts visitors in reach of the famed Italian cuisine of St. Louis' Hill district as well as downtown St. Louis's famous Mobil (Forbes) Four Star Tony's Restaurant. Full hotel details will be published in the spring FABS journal and included in details on the FABS and Mercantile websites as soon as they are confirmed. The window for hotel reservations will be October 23, 2018 through October 27, 2019. For more information please contact John Hoover at the Mercantile Library, 314-516-7245; jhoover@umsl.edu.

The 2019 FABS Study Tour is limited to 50 persons, so please make your tour reservations early.

JOHN N. HOOVER

John Neal Hoover Endowed Mercantile Library Executive Directorship  
St. Louis Mercantile Library Association



## HONEY & WAX Q&A

*On September 7th in The Paris Review, Honey & Wax Booksellers announced the 2018 winners of their collecting prize for women book collectors in the United States under the age of 30. Collections are judged not on size or market value, but rather on creativity, coherence, and bibliographic rigor. Back in June, we had the opportunity to interview booksellers Heather O'Donnell and Rebecca Romney about the prize, engaging young collectors, and what's next for the Brooklyn bookselling firm.*

- *First of all, are you members of any bibliophile clubs?*

We are both members of the Grolier Club, and Rebecca belongs to the Philobiblon Club as well.

- *What inspired you to launch the Honey & Wax Prize for young women book collectors?*

Our relationships with collectors challenge us every day: we're always working to come up with fresh approaches to antiquarian material. We felt less inspired by a certain conventional wisdom coming from booksellers: "young people don't collect." We wondered how true that claim really was. Certainly, the stereotypical image of a book collector is still an older man in tweed – and many brilliant collectors do match that description! But there were clearly younger bibliophiles out there, engaging in compulsive acquisitive behavior that looked very much like collecting, even if they focused on material outside the traditional antiquarian market.

We wanted to rally those young bibliophiles. Inspired by the National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest, which is sponsored in part by FABS, we decided to run a contest of our own, offering an annual prize of \$1000 for an exceptional collection built by an American woman, aged 30 or younger.

We limited our prize to women because we've observed that many of the women who regularly buy books from us are more hesitant to identify as "collectors" than the men, even when those women have spent years passionately collecting books. Our contestants are asked to define and defend their collections: they catalog their books, write essays outlining their collecting principles, and compile wish lists of titles they'd like to add. The result

of that effort, even for those who don't win, is a clearer sense of their accomplishments and goals. "I already feel more like a real collector just by applying for this prize," one of last year's contestants wrote, and that transformation is one we hope to encourage widely. We're encouraged by the variety and originality of the collections our contestants have been building.

• *What's your advice for young bookworms who think they might be interested in collecting, but don't know where to start? (And when do they get to call themselves collectors, too?)*

Book collecting doesn't have to be about trophy hunting, bagging the biggest books and displaying them on your wall. As a young collector, you're unlikely to have the means to collect high spots anyway, and that's fine. You bring something else to this game: a fresh eye. Your lived experience, your personal eccentricities, your quirky obsessions, your arcane trivia and specialized knowledge — these are your strengths. Build on them. You will be able to see the interest and value in material that others walk right past.

Booksellers spend a lot of time talking about the rush they feel when they are suddenly, sharply attracted to a book they've just picked up, even if they don't really understand what that book is yet. Leona Rostenberg and Madeleine Stern called that experience *fingerspitzengefühl*; more recently, Garrett Scott termed it "the bounce." We would tell a young bookworm: pay attention to the books that make you feel that way, and figure out what connects those books to one another. What do you see in these books that others don't? What stories are revealed when you bring that material together?

If you have a theory about the stories your collection might tell, and the curiosity to find out if you're right, you're a real collector in the making.

• *It's no secret that entering the rare book world as a woman and/or POC [person of color] is challenging or, at the very least, intimidating. What can FABS members (who come from a mix of trade, institutional, and private backgrounds) do to support these young collectors?*

The rare book world is in many respects an old-fashioned and insular world, slow to change. It's no surprise that most active participants are middle-aged or older: it takes time to know the field. But most dealers and collectors are men, and almost everyone involved is white, and year by year, the demographics stand in starker contrast to those of the nation as a whole. Many of the young bookworms mentioned above, who have the potential

to be real collectors, just don't see the rare book world as a place for people like them, and no wonder.

FABS members are uniquely well-positioned to expand the circle, coming as they do from so many walks of life. Many of us can point to a mentor or guide who invited us into the rare book world, and helped us imagine ourselves as part of it. Could you be that person for someone who would otherwise never have thought to collect? Can you see the promise in someone who doesn't immediately look like one of the club?

Look out for bookish friends, neighbors, and colleagues, and learn about their interests. Invite them to a lecture or exhibit. Share your own collections. Be an ambassador for what you love. We'll all benefit from that outreach.

It is important, once younger collectors have made their way through the door, to greet them as fellow bibliophiles. The day after the annual Grolier meeting this past January, one newly inducted member wrote to us, seeking reassurance, about her experience during the cocktail hour: "Aren't you pretty?" (to me). 'Where's your wife?' (to my sponsor). I thought everyone was supposed to ask, 'Welcome to the club, what do you collect?'" The banter wasn't meant unkindly, but it was a missed opportunity to connect. One way to encourage members of historically underrepresented groups to participate more actively in the rare book world is to welcome them as peers, rather than decorative or demographic curiosities. We can do better.

- *What's next for Honey & Wax?*

In September, we'll announce this year's Honey & Wax prize winner. We'll be exhibiting at the Brooklyn Antiquarian Book Fair (September 8-9) and the Boston Antiquarian Book Fair (November 16-18). Rebecca will be the featured speaker at the Grolier Club Special Functions Dinner on September 24, and Heather will give this year's Van Sinderen lecture at Yale on November 6. The 2018 Honey & Wax catalog will mail in late fall, and we'll exhibit at our local Brooklyn Holiday Book Fair the first Saturday in December. We hope FABS members will come say hello, wherever they find us!



# CLUB NEWS

## THE ALDUS SOCIETY

Lazy, rainy June brought a potluck picnic featuring favorite family foods from our distant homelands or our ancestors' cookbooks. The food was yummy and friendship delightful. During the summer months, we read and relaxed, traveled far and wide via books, cars, trains, and airplanes as we eagerly anticipated the fall lineup of speakers.

Our 2018 season continues on August 23rd, marking our third impromptu summer meeting. This year, the event features Aldus member Dr. John Bennett, OSU Founding Curator of the Avant Writing Collection, and Jolie Braun, OSU Curator of American Literature in Special Collections and Area Studies. They'll talk about their specialties and the OSU collections.

On the 13th of September, Aldus members will learn about "Pirates and Women in Nineteenth Century American Literature". OSU Professor Dr. Beth Avila will share her insights into these outlaws and their interactions with females. It's bound to be a jolly good time.

Chilly October 11th brings us Avant-Guard specialists Gabriel-Aldo Bertozzi and Gabriella Giansante. They will speak about "Italian 20th-Century Literary/Art Avant-Garde Inism & Lettrism."

November 8th brings us Eric Obenauf who speaks about his independent press, Two Dollar Radio. Eric and his wife live and work in Columbus Ohio, and they are certain to share insights about independent presses and printers.

As usual, December is the annual holiday party and fund raiser. It's an opportunity to mix, eat, and so much more. Aldus Society members discuss, argue, and talk about their favorite books, cherished collections, and best of all, their book hunting adventures. Wine, cheese, crackers, fruit, and delicious cookies always partner with our book talks. Friends and guests are welcome to join us for laughter, learning, and books, of course.

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 7:30 p.m. 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.aldusociety.com/>

Miriam Kahn  
Aldus Society Newsletter Editor

## THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES

### *Program Schedule Through November, 2018*

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Frank Batavick, former president of The Baltimore Bibliophiles, will speak about his new book, *Time's Crossroads, The History of New Windsor, Maryland*

6:00 pm, Johns Hopkins Club, Eisenhower Room

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

George Liebmann

A Child of Manhattan: A Youth in Bookselling

6:00 pm, Johns Hopkins Club, Eisenhower Room

Summer Meeting - Saturday, July 14, 2018

Summer Soiree! Celebrate Summer. Spend a relaxing afternoon sharing wine and cheese and assorted nibbles. Casual summer. No set speakers, but members are welcome to bring something for "Show & Tell." Regale your fellow book collectors with tales of great finds . . . or perhaps—the one(s) that got away.

2:00 pm, Johns Hopkins Club, North Lounge

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Dianne L. Roman's topic is "Unseen, Unnoticed, and Overlooked: American Women in the Early Nineteenth-Century Printing Industry."

6:00 pm, Johns Hopkins Club, Eisenhower Room

October, 2018

An off-campus trip is being planned. More information as soon as it becomes available.

Wednesday, November 14, 2018  
Annual General Meeting, Dinner, Talk  
Marion Rodgers will speak on H. L. Mencken  
6:00 pm, Johns Hopkins Club, Eisenhower Room

Binnie Syril Braunstein  
Program Chair

## THE BAXTER SOCIETY

This spring's events were as eventful as ever here in Portland, with some wonderful speakers. We kicked things off in January with Show and Tell! Show and Tell at The Baxter Society is always exciting, from rare and bizarre books, to simply favorite things from the shelf. Everyone sharing at our annual Show and Tell never fails to be an exciting meeting.

In February, we were joined by Dr. Libby Bischof who spoke on the topic of her book, *Maine Photography: A History*. She told us about her life as a photo historian and gave us some very interesting facts about Maine history and Maine in photography.

In March, Karen Adrienne, a community press printmaker from the Augusta area, spoke on her prints and her process. She brought in some beautiful pieces, and all of our members were able to get up close and personal with her work. It was truly amazing.

In association with Rebecca Goodale and the Kate Cheney Chappell '83 Center for Book Arts, the Baxter Society was able to hear the talk, "W.A. Dwiggins and the Serious Business of Fun," presented by founding Baxter member Bruce Kennett, debuting his new book *W.A. Dwiggins: A Life In Design*. Dwiggins was a delightful and influential artist and typographer here in New England. Among other notable achievements, Dwiggins was responsible for coining the term "Graphic Designer" in 1922, using it in reference to himself long before it became common parlance. He challenged what he felt was the mediocre book design of his day, and immersed himself in lettering, typography and calligraphy, as well as book design. This talk was fascinating, and we were all grateful to the Kate Cheney Chappell '83 Center for Book Arts for letting us piggyback on their talk.

May was something else: Frank Romano of the Museum of Printing gave us his amazing talk, "Typographic Oddities." Now as a printer I may be bi-

ased, but this was one of the most entertaining and interesting talks I've ever been to at The Baxter Society. He not only told great stories of his life as a print and type expert, but also taught us things about type that had even some of the most seasoned printers stumped!

All in all, this spring season was a great one, and I am looking forward to starting up again in September with Ron Romano's talk about "Icons and Lettering of Portland's Early Gravestones."

Eli Kahn

## THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA

In late 2017, John Crichton presented the story of San Francisco book-seller and publisher Anton Roman in the first annual Kenneth Karmiole endowed lecture on the History of the Book Trade in California and the West. A stimulating account of one of the most important and successful book-seller-publishers in the history of California was delivered to a standing room

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only audience in San Francisco and the talk was reprised at Pasadena's Huntington Library to an enthusiastic crowd in January. The second annual lecture in the series will be given this fall by Michael Vinson on "The Crimes and Misdemeanors of Johnny Jenkins."

In April, the Book Club rolled out the red carpet for the Oscar Lewis awards. The award for Western History was presented to Brewster Kahle, who has focused his career on providing Universal Access to All Knowledge. Betsy Davids was honored for her contributions to the Book Arts including her one-of-a-kind bookworks, development of book art curriculum and facilities at California College of the Arts, and her involvement with many book art communities.

Members were invited to a special field trip, private tours of the Sutro Library and the San Francisco State University Historic Collections & Frank V. de Bellis Collection in June. Participants were able to see and handle many rarities including a Shakespeare First Folio.

BCC began a regular offering of programs in Southern California with three in the first half of the year: the Karmiole lecture, a reprise of Robert Kittle's "Franciscan Frontiersmen," and USC Exile Studies Librarian Michaela Ullman presenting a program on "Lion Feuchtwanger and other German-Speaking Exiles in Los Angeles 1933-1945." Eight additional programs are scheduled for the second half of the year with topics such as artist Vance Gerry, the iconic Los Angeles City Hall, Mallette Dean, Billboards of the Sunset Strip, and Joe De Yong.

A full schedule of programs will be presented on Mondays in San Francisco. Eagerly anticipated, the first Windle-Loker Lecture on the History of the Illustrated Book covers "Pre-Raphaelite/Art Nouveau Book Illustration" with Margaret D. Stetz and Mark Samuels Lasner. The inaugural Paul Robertson Endowed Lecture on the History, Art, and Literature of California features Gary Kurutz, executive director of the California State Library Foundation on "Prints of the California Gold Rush."

The fall exhibition features a selection of visually appealing pieces from the nautical fiction collection of David Wingfield Pettus. A Christmas exhibition will showcase Christmas Chapbooks curated by Alan Dye.

Finally, BCC is pleased to host publication parties in both Northern and Southern California to welcome the 237th book published by the Club, *Mallette Dean, a Printmaker and His Art*, with presentations by author John Hawk, head librarian of the Special Collections & University Archives at the University of San Francisco.

Membership in the club is open to all, and the public is welcome to all upcoming programs.

Sharon Gee  
Program Committee Chair

## THE CAXTON CLUB

The Caxton Club agenda for the 2018-2019 year promises to be busy.

In September the Club will open its season by hosting Caxtonian Joan Friedman in a scholarly presentation highlighting her collection of designer Owen Jones (1809-1874), often called “the architect of book design.” His training and career as an architect permeated his approach to book design. From his early publications of architectural monuments of the Middle East and the Alhambra, to his later illustrated liturgical works and poetry, historical ornament was applied to the book in much the same way it had been applied to buildings. Jones’ *The Grammar of Ornament* codified not just a gorgeous array of colorful exempla, but also the principles he strove for in design writ large or small.

Our October dinner will be a momentous occasion for the Club because it will bring the release of our new publication *Chicago by the Book: 101 Publications that Have Shaped Chicago and Its Image*, published in conjunction with the University of Chicago Press. Our launch dinner will host the eighty-seven book authors, the club members who have supported the project from the beginning, and the Terra Foundation which provided financial support. Remarks will be delivered by Neil Harris, the Preston & Sterling Morris Professor Emeritus of U.S. History of Art History at the University of Chicago, and also author of the forward. Signed copies of the book will be available to members.

In November we will return to our customary programing which will feature the award of our grants to graduate students in bibliography or in the book arts. The Caxton Club Grants program, which was established in 2002, now gives \$12,500 in grants each year with portions given to Rare Book School and the balance in support of students enrolled in book arts or bibliographical projects. Since its inception the program has awarded more than \$80,000 in grants, and November allows the Club to invite back past winners so that we can continue our relationship with them. We’ll finish the year with the Caxton Revels, held each December, which is a celebration of our fellow-

ship and a fund raiser to support our mission. This year the theme will be Magic, Jazz, and Treasure.

Dime novels, manuscript sandwiches, The March King, political reporting, Frankenstein's monster, no little plans, secrets in your mailbox, The Opening Kickoff, and growing up in a bookstore will all serve as food for thought at our luncheons, which are known for serious scholarship made fun. Drawing on speakers from the Newberry Library, university campuses in Chicago, DeKalb and Urbana, from public television, from the Big Ten Network, and more, this season's Caxton luncheons will feature a lively lineup of engaging and enthusiastic addresses.

In addition to the Dinner and Lunch programs, the Caxton Club will continue its series of "On the Move" events where we leave the stately confines of the Union League Club to venture out to bibliographical sites in the field. The three events planned so far for this year will feature a cocktail reception at Leslie Hindman Galleries in connection with a "Chicago Collects" event, an exhibition at the Ryerson Library at the Art Institute of Chicago which will feature materials contained in our new book *101 Publications* and a lecture by David Van Zanten, and a presentation by Russell Lewis at the Chicago History Museum. These events will provide visual access to the items featured in our new book and more contextual information on their importance. With 101 items to choose from, this promises to be a busy year.

Jackie Vossler and Douglas Fitzgerald

## THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES

In February 2018 the Delaware Bibliophiles again held a "Members' Showcase" meeting at the Brandywine Hundred Library. We saw some interesting publisher's bindings, assorted Delaware ephemera, and a rare copy of the first published history of Prince Edward Island (1806).

March 2018 brought our club's 41st Anniversary Dinner. We were pleased to have Robert McCracken Peck, Senior Fellow at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University as our after-dinner speaker. Mr. Peck's talk, "The Remarkable Nature of Edward Lear," brought a new dimension to our appreciation of Lear. We all knew Lear's "Owl and the Pussycat" and other children's works, but Lear was also an accomplished naturalist. His paintings of birds are among the finest ever published. Just as Lear achieved

preeminence in that field, he abruptly abandoned scientific work.

In May 2018 the Delaware Bibliophiles were honored to host the 2018 FABS Tour under the leadership of Delaware Bibliophile Mark Samuels Lasner. On the first day the Tour visited libraries and collections at the Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library and Longwood Gardens. On the second day we toured the University of Delaware's Morris Library, the high point being the Mark Samuels Lasner Collection. Mark personally guided the group through the collection which focuses on British literature and art of the period 1850 to 1900, with an emphasis on the Pre-Raphaelites and writers and illustrators of the 1890s. It comprises more than 9,500 books, letters, manuscripts, photographs, ephemera, and artworks, including many items signed by such figures as Oscar Wilde, George Eliot, Max Beerbohm, William Morris, Christina and Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and Aubrey Beardsley. That afternoon the group split between a visit to the Civil War collection of Delaware Bibliophile Andy McKay and Lead Graffiti Press, the fine art letterpress studio of Ray Nichols and Jill Cypher, fellow Delaware Bibliophiles. Later we toured the library and galleries of the Brandywine River Museum. Dinner was followed with a "show and tell" featuring items from the collections of several Delaware Bibliophile members. The final day of the Tour the group visited the Delaware Historical Society, then the Delaware Art Museum and its library. The group wrapped up the day, and the Tour, in Old New Castle, first with a reception at Oak Knoll Books and Press, well known among bibliophiles as a seller and publisher of "books about books," followed by a dinner at New Castle's historic The Arsenal, constructed in 1809.

R. M. Walsh

## THE BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT

On May 30th, 2018, sixteen members of the Book Club of Detroit met at Clawson Steak House to hear Chris Edwards and co-author Elaine Weeks present their slide show, "5000 Ways You Know You Are From Detroit". The book is filled with over 1400 vintage images and products specific to Detroit. Many of the images came from the Reuther Library and the Burton Historical Collection.

July 15, 2018 brings the second annual Detroit Book Festival to be held



in Shed 5 and Shed 6 at Eastern Market. Attendance is expected to be double last years 10,000 visitors. Over 100 book dealers, and multiple food and beer vendors will participate. The event has a combination of used and rare books, records, posters, ephemera and also self-published authors. Admission is free, and the cost of tables was an affordable \$35. The event attracts book dealers from across the U.S.

In October, BCD will participate with Frankenreads to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. BCD will have actors in period costume reading excerpts from the book, free copies will be given away, and a costume contest for the best Frankenstein and Bride of Frankenstein will be awarded. The event will be held at Ferndale District Library.

The Book Club of Detroit will soon have a new dramatically updated logo. Brochures will arrive soon from the printer.

Maurice Barie  
Treasurer

## THE EPHEMERA SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Ephemera Society's March 2018 conference and show, entitled "Let Me Entertain You!," was a smashing success. Some of the splendid talks will be viewable via our website.

Our April e-News, available to members, contains a photographic review of the events. At our Saturday evening banquet, we were entertained by Craig Inciardi, Curator and Director of Acquisitions for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. With interstices of music, he showed how, in only a few years, the design of rock posters changed from rather plain, linear presentations for a Chuck Berry concert to the reimagined Art Nouveau swirls for the bands of the emerging psychedelic era.

On Sunday morning, we were privileged to hear NPR puzzle master and New York Times crossword puzzle editor Will Shortz speak about the genesis and development of the crossword puzzle. He illustrated his talk with incredible examples from his own multi-thousand piece ephemera collection. He showed us the first crossword puzzle, how crosswords became a craze, and how that craze infused popular culture (resulting in crossword ephemera of all types—think wallpaper, for example).

More dealers set up at our March 2018 show than in previous years, and were overflowing into an adjacent room. It is comforting to know that people

are still willing to seek the beauty of the printed word in an apparently digital world.

Please consider attending our next conference and show March 14-17, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency in Greenwich, Connecticut. The topic for our next conference is "Coming to America: The Immigrant Experience." Our focus will be on the ephemera (broadside, ship logs, tickets, advertising, passage chits, clipper cards, billheads, receipts, passports, land grant fliers, handbills and many other types) which illustrate and provide primary evidence of the experiences of a myriad of groups or individuals who experienced, inter alia, religious and/or ethnic persecution and economic hardships motivating travel to the "new world." We will have student presentations on March 14, 2019.

Our annual mid-year meeting will take place in Austin, Texas from September 27-September 28, 2018. We plan to visit the Mexic-Arte Museum, the South Austin Popular Culture Center, the Dolph Briscoe Center of American History, University of Texas and the Harry Ransom Research Center. These prestigious institutions have graciously invited us to view a wide variety of ephemera. Please contact us if you plan to be near Austin during our visit.

Bruce Shyer

## THE FLORIDA BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY

The Florida Bibliophile Society ended its last season with a banquet at Brio Tuscan Grille in Tampa in May. Dell DeChant, Associate Chair of Religious Studies, USF Tampa, delivered the keynote presentation on the religions of the world and their differences in today's society. Autumn Howard, the winner of the 2018 Lee J. Harter Student Book Collecting Essay Contest, read her winning essay. Vice President Charles Brown published a keepsake containing Autumn Howard's essay together with the essays of the two runners up: Jaya Nair and Tara Kraft. All FBS members, including those unable to attend the banquet, received a copy of this keepsake.

FBS member Gary Simons, editor of the Curran Index, was the speaker for our September meeting. He discussed and displayed some of the 120-plus books in his collection of English Annuals, holiday gift books published between 1823 and 1856 in England.

FBS member Ben Wiley, a retired professor of film and literature, and

current movie critic for the Tampa Bay area's Creative Loafing magazine, was the speaker for our October meeting and discussed his work as a movie critic.

Don Bruns, the award-winning novelist from Sarasota, will be our guest speaker in November. He is the author of the *Quentin Archer* series based in New Orleans; the *Stuff Series* based in Miami; and the *Caribbean Series* based in the Caribbean. He will discuss his books and will be available for a book signing afterwards.

The Florida Bibliophile Society will provide the ham, and FBS members will bring side dishes, salads, and desserts for the Annual FBS Holiday Party at the home of one of our members in December.

FBS member Lisa Bradberry, the film scholar specializing in Florida Film History, will be the speaker for our January meeting. She will give a presentation on the silent film and early talkie industry in Florida.

Wilson Blount, a man who marched across the bridge in Selma with Congressman John Lewis, will be our guest speaker in February, Black History Month. Wilson was a junior at Tuskegee University at the time of the march. He graduated the following year and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force, serving in various locations stateside and overseas. He retired as a Colonel in the Air Force Reserve in 1999 and is co-founder of the Gen. Lloyd W. Newton Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen.

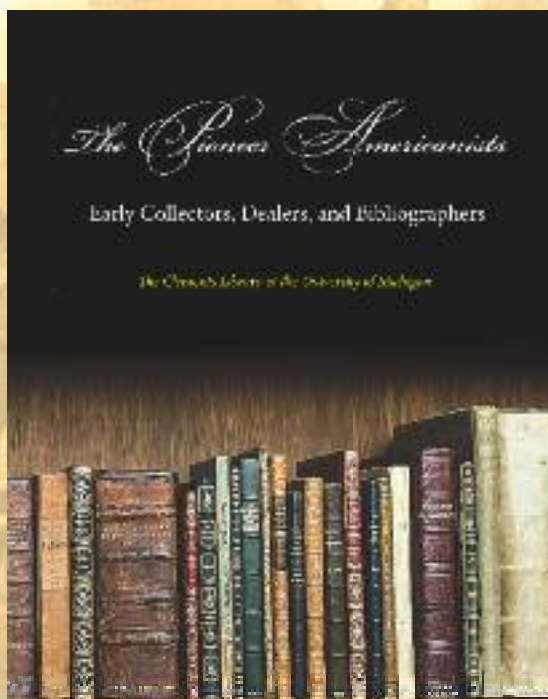
FBS Vice President Charles Brown will be the speaker at our meeting in March. He will give a presentation on "The Simplicissimus Story." Simplicissimus was the main character in a series of novels written after the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648) that led to a publishing phenomenon.

April is National Poetry Month, and FBS member Edward M. Cifelli will give a presentation on his recent book, *Longfellow in Love: Passion and Tragedy in the Life of the Poet*.

The Florida Bibliophile Society will end its season in May with its annual banquet at Brio Tuscan Grille. Circus Historian, Larry Kellogg, will be our keynote speaker and will discuss all things Circus, including its history and its memorabilia. The winner of the 2019 Lee J. Harrer Student Book Collecting Essay Contest will read from their essay.

Jerry Morris

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## THE GROLIER CLUB

The Grolier Club is now in the midst of its major renovation project to completely re-do the first-floor exhibition gallery and foyer, to expand shelf space on the mezzanine, and to improve back-of-the-house facilities in the basement of the building. When completed late this year, the gallery will have exhibition cases with state-of-the-art designs, lighting, and climate control. The new foyer will have a more accessible entry from the street and a more spacious lobby with enhanced book display, coatroom, and reception facilities. The redesign of the mezzanine above the gallery will result in a major increase in storage capacity for the rare book collection. In December the first-floor gallery will re-open with a magnificent exhibition devoted to the Club's collection of the French book arts.

During June, the Club sponsored a visit to the New York Historical Society, the Books and Manuscripts Department of Christie's, and a Hudson Valley Book Arts Tour, which was a very long day visiting art, handmade paper, and printing sites. Members' exhibitions will continue on the second floor with "Playing Soldier: The Books and Toys that Prepared Children for War, 1865-1918," from the collection of Richard Cheek, and opening on Wednesday, September 12, 2018.

The Grolier Club's Library will remain open and accessible to patrons throughout the renovation period, offering most of the usual services, but with some materials inaccessible. It is suggested that anyone wishing to use the library contact the Club's Librarian well in advance of a proposed visit.

Ronald K. Smeltzer

## THE HIMES & DUNIWAY SOCIETY

The Himes & Duniway Society continues to grow in the number of active members. Its growth is a result of the participation of its members in its quarterly events.

In March, we gathered at the University Club in Portland, Oregon for a program around the collecting and preserving of Ethiopian Psalters. Professor Steve Delamarter of George Fox University has spent the last fifteen years collecting, preserving and digitizing these beautiful works of art. Starting with the chance meeting which included seeing a Psalter, Dr. Delamarter has cataloged and analyzed over a thousand Psalters.

We continue our sponsorship of book collecting contests at a variety of Oregon colleges and universities. This year we hosted the contest at Lewis & Clark College. Our members enjoyed the reception graciously hosted by the Special Collections Department of the College. Thanks to the work of Himes & Duniway members Gay Walker and Hannah Crumme, this event was a success.

We would be remiss if we did not mention the Donald McGregor Foundation which again generously provided the prize money for the winning students and Powells City of Books for all entrants.

By the time this article is published, we will have enjoyed our Annual Garden party at the home of Brian and Gwyneth Booth. We are pleased this year to be joined by the head of Special Collections from the University of Oregon. Let us know if you are going to be in Oregon ([info@himesduniway.org](mailto:info@himesduniway.org)). Information about our Society and its events can be found at [www.himesduniway.org](http://www.himesduniway.org).

Scott Howard

## THE BOOK HUNTERS CLUB OF HOUSTON

The Book Hunters Club of Houston continues to offer a wide-ranging series of events for our members. In December, we took a special tour of the McGovern Historical Center which houses the Texas Medical Center Library archival collections. Director Philip Montgomery and archivist Sandra Yates showed us many highlights from over 300 separate collections. Interesting documents and rare books are available in abundance. However, the highlight in many ways was the memorabilia including antique medical instruments, quack medicine promotionals and a 19th-century straight-jacket that no one was willing to try on voluntarily. After the tour, the group reconvened at the legendary Pappasitos Mexican restaurant near-by for food, fun, and, of course, margaritas.

In February, Club members were treated to a private tour of the collection of member Jesse Heath at his home. Jesse collects ground-breaking works in many fields based on the classic bibliography *Printing and the Mind of Man* (1967, 1983). Jesse gave a splendid talk outlining important books in his library and the stories beyond numerous acquisitions. He was also kind enough to allow the passing around of many a rare volume to an appreciative audience.

The Book Hunters hosted a reception in May at the home of members Tom & Jan Davis in conjunction with the Houston Book Show. A large crowd of Book Hunters and antiquarian book dealers mingled amidst Tom's collection in his specially constructed library that encompasses the entire second floor. His combination of rarities, both in map and book form, combined with the setting left many of us with library envy.

The Book Hunters next event this summer will be a "Bookman's Wake" in honor of local ABAA bookseller Oscar Graham who passed away in early June. Oscar was a fixture on the Houston book scene for forty years and an active supporter of the Book Hunters. Some of our earliest meetings were held at his shop. He will be sorely missed.

Kurt Zimmerman, President

## THE MANUSCRIPT SOCIETY

Now's the time to set aside April 24-27, 2019 for the Manuscript Society's Annual Meeting in Boston. Check the details and register at [www.manuscript.org](http://www.manuscript.org). This is always a popular setting, with the wealth of historical material at institutions such as the Massachusetts Historical Society, the wonderful university-associated venues, and the Boston Athenaeum. A highlight is sure to be a visit to Ken Rendell's International World War II Museum and Archive in Natick.

The 71st Annual Meeting took place in New Orleans last May, coinciding with the 300th anniversary of the founding of that city. The Fleet was in town and the "good times" were rolling. Our excellent tour director was Dr. Alfred Lemmon, Director of the Williams Research Center at the Historic New Orleans Collection. We started with a geography lesson and ended with an "illustrated" talk on New Orleans jazz.

Our Tour began with a detailed history of "place through time" by Geographer Richard Campanella showing how the New Orleans site was under water until 4,500 years ago, and elucidating the roles of personalities such as LaSalle, Bienville, and Napoleon in the city's history, a perfect introduction to our week. Books, art, and manuscripts entered the scene via a lecture by Florence Jumonville on the great New Orleans collector E.A. Parsons, whose salary as Director of the NO Public Library was reduced after he went over budget for book purchases. Unfortunately for the city, Parsons personal col-





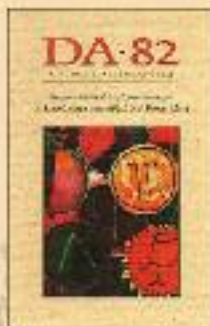
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lection of 8,000 manuscripts and 40,000 books subsequently ended up at the University of Texas.

The treasures of the city's institutions seemed endless as we visited the Louisiana Historical Society, New Orleans Notarial Archives, and Tulane University's collections including the Southeastern Architectural Archive, the Hogan Jazz Archive, the Amistad Research Center, and the Middle America Research Institute. Earlier in the tour, a talk by the staff of the Historic New Orleans Collection took us through the process of setting up an institutional manuscript collection, from acquisition, restoration, cataloging, and shelving, with estimated cost of \$789 per linear foot. An eye-opening story for those passionate about historical manuscripts, it reinforced our appreciation of the archivists and institutions we are fortunate to know.

The meeting ended at an elegant private dining room at Arnaud's Restaurant. There, after a tasty meal, Dr. Michael White, jazz musician and professor of Spanish and African American music at Xavier University, told the story of New Orleans jazz, in words and music, having brought along his clarinet. Also, in a poignant moment, President Michael Dabrishus made a posthumous award naming Michael Hecht a Fellow of the Manuscript Society. An esteemed member of our Board of Trustees, and President of the UACC, we lost a giant of the autograph world when Michael died last November. Michael's sister Susan accepted the award and said her brother was "collecting until the end" and probably even now was thinking about "how the Fellowship certificate should be framed."

See the Manuscript Society website to join and get details of all activities at <https://manuscript.org/>.

## THE MOVEABLE BOOK SOCIETY

The Movable Book Society celebrated its 25th anniversary at its 12th conference, September 27-29, 2018 in Kansas City, MO., home of Hallmark Cards. The weekend was action-packed! Prolific and renowned paper engineer, Bruce Foster, was the keynote speaker. Other paper engineers were on hand for book signings. The full speaking agenda was augmented by paper engineering workshops during and after the conference [see agenda: <http://www.movablebooksociety.org/conference/agenda>]. A Silent Auction provided attendees with opportunities to acquire significant pop-up books and ephemera. The 2018 Meggendorfer Prize for the Best Paper Engineering

was awarded at the closing banquet, as will as awards for the Meggendorfer Artist Books and Emerging Paper Engineer. The Conference included a visit to Hallmark Visitor's Center Special Exhibit: "History of Hallmark Pop-Up Books." The first copies of the limited edition, *A to Z: Marvels in Paper Engineering*, created especially to celebrate this anniversary event, were available. Housed in a unique box with a pop-up by Bruce Foster, each pop-up alphabet card was designed for the anniversary by talented paper engineers from around the world. Many were at the conference and signed their work. The *A to Z* is available for sale from the Movable Book Society's website.

## THE NORTHERN OHIO BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETY

The Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society was formed in 1983 and exists to provide services, a voice, and a forum for those who sell fine books, as well as for those who are congenial collectors and specialists in the Midwest region.

This year, we have continued to provide monthly speaker programs that feature some aspect of the book trade, including its associated interests: collections, bindery crafts, paper crafts, and other topics of related interest, e. g. Translating Alice in Wonderland, collecting Horatio Alger, Pop Ups and Mechanical books, Caldecott Winners and the deconstruction of Children's Books, The Maltz Jewish History Collection, and The Illustrated World of Lynd Ward.

This spring, NOBS also sponsored the highly successful Akron Antiquarian Book Fair and Paper Show (03/30-03/31), and we currently plan to host a fall Book Fair and Paper Show (10/07/2018) at the Shaker Heights Country Club. These venues draw dealers and participants from across the Ohio Midwest Region, including New York, Michigan, and Indiana.

Many of our members are or have been members of the Rowfant Club, The Grolier Club, The Caxton Club, The Club of Odd Volumes, and The Book Club of California, and many are academic specialists as well as lexical tradesmen and collectors.

This year, NOBS has inaugurated the publication of *Libros Loqui*, the Journal of the Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society, published four times a year under the editorship of Herbert Ascherman, who can be reached at [herb@ascherman.com](mailto:herb@ascherman.com). We entertain short informative articles for publica-

tion and we also accept relevant advertisements. Carole Lazarus is our current president.

For further information or liaison, please write to Carl U. Weitman at cuw123@aol.com

## THE PHILOBIBLON CLUB

After a successful 125th anniversary celebration, The Philobiblon Club of Philadelphia is finalizing programs for the new year. This year we are planning to hear from booksellers who work outside accustomed networks and with emphases on new or unusual materials. So far we have Heather O'Donnell (Honey & Wax) on January 8, 2019, David McKnight (University of Pennsylvania) on March 12, Jessica Kuronen (Left Bank Books) on April 9, and Brian Cassidy (bookseller) on May 14. Programs are posted at the club website: <http://www.philobiblonclub.org>. The site also lists past programs, officers, requirements for membership, and other information.

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Meetings, which include dinner, are usually held at the Franklin Inn Club of Philadelphia.

Club officers and committee chairs are: Steve Rothman, President (collector); Colleen Barrett, Treasurer (Philadelphia Rare Books & Manuscripts); David Gary, Secretary (American Philosophical Society); 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 David Gary: 215-440-3400 or [dgary@amphilsoc.org](mailto:dgary@amphilsoc.org).

## ROWFANT CLUB

As is customary, our winter and spring seasons have been active in pursuit of our mission: the study of books and their various capacities to please the mind of man. We have had outside speakers on Wednesday evenings, Friday lunch talks by members and Saturday convivial lunches for general conversation and debate. We have enhanced our Saturdays with a new program following the theme “First Saturday: Book Collecting and the Book Arts.” In January, Arnold Hirshon (Associate Provost and University Librarian, Case Western Reserve University) discussed “The Future of the Book in a Digital Age,” addressing a necessarily condensed history of the bound book in physical form up to the current state of the book publishing industry and positing some directions for the future of the book, as well as other formats and means for communicating ideas in written form. In February, two members, an appraiser and a lawyer, discussed book appraisals and the legal documents necessary to effect an appropriate exchange between a book donor and a 501(c)(3) beneficiary. In March, Mike Zubal of Zubal Books, one of the largest antiquarian and general booksellers in the United States, discussed his 30-plus years in the book business.

A particular winter highlight was a special tour hosted by Dr. William Griswold, Director of The Cleveland Museum of Art, a speaker at the Club in November, of the CMA William Morris Exhibition, plus the additional Kelmscott Press collection housed in the CMA Ingalls Library.

Our Club Librarian, David Novak, traditionally hosts two library tours in the fall and the spring. This spring, he led us through a history of printed books chronologically through the Rowfant library collection. The tour started with a look at examples of Incunabula and concluded with books of

the 21st Century, with attention to format and bindings, paper and illustrations, typography and those elements of the book that inform us of something new in each age.

The FABS 2018 Bibliophilic Tour was in Delaware in May and included visits to the Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library, the Hagley Museum and Library, Longwood Gardens, the University of Delaware Library, the Brandywine River Museum, the Delaware Historical Society, the Delaware Art Museum and Oak Knoll Books in New Castle. Six Rowfanterers, plus spouses, thoroughly enjoyed the sites, the books available for inspection and the congeniality of other bibliophiles from around the country.

### THE ROXBURGHE CLUB OF SAN FRANCISCO

The Roxburghe Club of San Francisco meets the third Tuesday of each month from September through May for cocktails, dinner and an after-dinner speaker. For our 2017/2018 season, we enjoyed presentations from the following speakers:

September 19, 2017: Randall Tarpey-Schwed – on *Cookery and Connections: A Collector's Passion*.

October 17, 2017: Simran Thadani – on designing the religious book.

November 21, 2017: Andrew Hoyem and Jeremy Norman – on the history of Chinese type, printing, paper making, binding and books.

December 19, 2017: Traditional Printers' Gala.

January 16, 2018: Stephen Woodall – on the Logan Collection of Illustrated Books at the Legion of Honor.

February 20, 2018: Dana Gioia (California's Poet Laureate and the former Chair of the NEA) – on the NEA's "Big Read" program.

March 20, 2018: Peter Koch – on his collection of Western Exploration and its aftermath of environmental chaos.

April 17, 2018: Glen Miranker – "Sherlock in the Trenches," on WWI trench publications: the role they played for the soldiers (and the role Sherlock Holmes played in those publications) as we commemorate that war's 100th anniversary.





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May 15, 2018: Professor Jonathan Hill, on low cost bindings of the 18th and early 19th centuries, including books in boards.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Zovickian

*Master of the Press, The Roxburghe Club of San Francisco*

## THE TICKNOR SOCIETY

The Ticknor Society began its 2017-2018 season by traveling to Lenox, Massachusetts for a private tour of The Mount; the home, library and gardens of the writer, Edith Wharton. Nynke Dorhaut, The Mount's Librarian, showcased association and annotated books from the 2,700 volume library that encompasses all aspects of Edith Wharton's life. Visitors then enjoyed a docent led tour of the home and gardens, followed by a catered lunch on the terrace.

In October, members were given a tour by Leslie Morris, Curator of Modern Books and Manuscripts of the Houghton Library's exhibition of "Altered States: Sex, Drugs, and Transcendence in the Ludlow-Santo Domingo." Attendees were able to see 120 objects on topics ranging from opium, psychedelics, cocaine, marijuana, sex and social protest.

In November, at the Boston Antiquarian Book Fair, we hosted, once again, the Collector's Roundtable. This year's panellists, Laura Davidson, a Boston based book artist, Robert Stephenson, founder and curator of the Library of the Antarctic Circle in Jaffrey New Hampshire and Mary Warnement, Ticknor Society Vice President and William D. Hacker Head of Reader Services at the Boston Athenæum spoke about their interest in travel literature. Laura Davidson shared with the audience books that she has created that were inspired by her travels. Robert Stephenson spoke about collecting books on the South Pole, and building a private library to house the collection. Mary Warnement described her collection of books specially published for members of the United States Armed Services serving overseas.

In December, the Ticknor Society hosted once again its annual holiday gathering and show and tell. The show and tell is the Ticknor Society member's chance to showcase books that are special within their collections. Richard Oedel, gave us a presentation on his collection of books on the history of Boston; Robin Bledsoe, showed us items from her collection on

horses; Chris Morgan allowed us to see books from his magic collection and did some conjuring; and Michael Barton shared the original sketchbook of John “Jack” Casey one of the first Americans to enlist in the French Foreign Legion at the outbreak of the First World War.

In January, Stanley Cushing, Boston Athenæum Curator of Rare Books Emeritus, talked about his long standing career in rare books and special collections at the Boston Athenæum. Stanley Cushing’s talk, “Reminisces of a Life of Books” took listeners from his childhood interest in historical artifacts to his own contribution in continuing to add depth to the Boston Athenæum’s outstanding existing collections as well as developing new collections of artist and fine press books.

After a short hiatus in February, programming resumed at MIT’S Wunsch Conservation Lab where Thomas Peterson Curator, Jana Dambrogio, introduced to members the history and techniques of letter locking – the technology of securing and folding an epistolary substrate to function as its own envelope. Ticknor Society members were shown a wide variety of locked letters and even had the opportunity of securing their own.

In March, we heard a presentation from Ticknor Society Board Member, Sid Berger, on his most recent publication, *The Dictionary of the Book* – a glossary of over 1,300 book related terms. Sid Berger provided Ticknor Members an engaging, often humorous, inside look at why he chose to write *The Dictionary of the Book* and how he went about it.

In April, our Annual Elections and Meeting was held at the American Meteorological Society (AMS) where the Jinny Nathans, Librarian and Archivist, welcomed us to the building which Charles Bullfinch designed. The Ticknor Society elected to its board, Christian DuPont, Burns Librarian and Associate University Librarian for Special Collections at Boston College. Ticknor Society Board Members Cheryl Mariolis and Janet Steins signed on for an additional term. We also thanked Greg Eow, Associate Director of Collections in the MIT Libraries, for his time as a Ticknor Society Board Member. Our Annual Meeting speaker was Anne Bromer of Bromer Booksellers. Anne delivered an intriguing illustrated talk, “The Jeweled Binding at the Bottom of the Sea and Other Tales” and shared with us several remarkable books with jeweled bindings.

In June, at the Boston Public Library’s Abbey Room, Ticknor Society concluded the 2017-2018 season. Board Member Cheryl Mariolis, and past President and Board Member Marie Oedel presented an illustrated talk, “Anna Ticknor: Opening the Door to Higher Education.” This presentation offered

groundbreaking insight into the life and work of the Society's namesake, Anna Eliot Ticknor. Ann Ticknor founded the Society to Encourage Studies at Home, the first correspondence school in America, run by women volunteers and open to all women who commit to a course of independent study. Over a 24 year period, over 7,000 women officially enrolled, in addition to thousands of Women's Clubs members who participated and teachers who used the materials in their classes. All guests received a hand sewn keepsake commemorating the presentation of which the cover was letterpress printed at the Firefly Press.

For additional information about the Ticknor Society, these event, and the 2018-2019 season please visit our website, [www.ticknor.org](http://www.ticknor.org).

Michael R.H. Barton

## THE BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON

The Book Club of Washington (BCW), in our 36th year since founding, continues to provide great events and community interactions for our members in the Pacific Northwest. We host many events and publish two Journal issues each year.

Thus far in 2018, we have had several wonderful activities. We had a tour of a member's book collection; reviewed fine press items at University of Washington's Special Collections; toured Elliott Press and a major collection of printing presses and antique type; toured The Global Book exhibit at Western Washington University; and reviewed the Edward Curtis collection at Seattle Public Library. We were greatly honored to have a visit and very engaging lecture by Michael F. Suarez S.J., the Executive Director of Rare Book School.

Of special mention is the award of our yearly Emory Award. It is presented to a Washingtonian who has made an extraordinary contribution to the culture of the book. The 2018 Emory Award was granted to Martin L. Greene. More information about this notable collector, leader, and supporter of libraries can be found at [www.bookclubofwashington.org/awards/emory-award](http://www.bookclubofwashington.org/awards/emory-award).)

The Spring 2018 issue of the Journal was successfully published by our Editor, David Wertheimer. Our Editor states, "Each book has its own story to tell. In this issue of the Journal of the Book Club of Washington, the reader will experience several distinct aspects of why we are all so fascinated by

books and related ephemera. We are intrigued by the story each volume has to tell us based on the unique history of what it has experienced.” The articles include the perspectives of why rare books matter from a Special Collections Librarian; the first publication of a translated German document that provides insight into the hardships of frontier living; a reflection and review of a newly acquired 15th century incunabula book; and a personal vision of how attending a book fair is the most meaningful way to connect with our bibliophilic community. The Fall 2018 edition of the Journal with another group of interesting articles will be published in October.

The Book Club of Washington will conclude 2018 a few more events. For the October Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair, there will be a reception, a booth, and a display case. The reception is co-sponsored with the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the ABAA. At the BCW booth we have our publications and discuss our activities. This year our display case will showcase a variety of items with decorative book bindings. In November we will team with the Arts & Crafts Guild of Historic Seattle to host a presentation by Clinker Press’s Andre Chaves. December will be our yearly popular and festive fundraiser – a holiday dinner and silent auction. In 2019 other events will be scheduled, often including tours of individual collections, lectures about books, insights into library special collections, and other subjects.

Details of events, activities, and publications of the BCW can be found on our website, [www.bookclubofwashington.org](http://www.bookclubofwashington.org). We welcome bibliophiles from any geography to become members of the Book Club of Washington – collectors, dealers, librarians, and all who enjoy books. FABS members are very welcome to participate when you are in the Seattle area. Contact us at our email address, [info@bookclubofwashington.org](mailto:info@bookclubofwashington.org).

Claudia Skelton

## THE ZAMORANO CLUB

Speakers at Zamorano meetings since the last FABS issue have run the gamut from camels to cookbooks, from colors to cars, from collecting to chemicals. In December President David Gunther shared his experiences on the Santa Fe railroad and his collection of publications inspired by train travel. Gunther is also a classic car buff, and he recently completed restoration work on a classic Lincoln KB2159, once owned by W. C. Fields. Laura Skandera Trombley, recently President of the Huntington Library and a

Twain scholar, spoke in January on “If I Had a Camel: The Sesquicentennial of Innocents Abroad.” February and March witnessed talks on collecting. In February, Randy Tarpey-Schwed described his cookbook collection, and in March David Brafman spoke on botanical books. In April, Dennis Kruska, our resident expert on Yosemite, shared some of his lore on that great travel destination. In May, the redoubtable John Wilkins (1614-1672) spoke to us about 17th-century issues and literature. Yes, you read that right—he was, by the way, “channeled” by Zamoranan Stephen White. It was a clever and original way to present history! Finally, in June, David Rips shared with us a review of some of his personal acquisitions in the area of science and medicine. David and his family own one of the finest collections of medical books in the nation, and they have built a remarkable library in their home to house the collection. David was introduced by his daughter, Laura, who is now the Club Secretary. I cannot imagine a more varied set of topics or speakers! Everyone agrees, furthermore, that the meals served by the Women’s City Club of Pasadena, where we meet, are uniformly excellent.

As I write this in June, Zamorano Club members are preparing for their biennial gathering with the Roxburghe Club of San Francisco. We meet together every other year in alternate cities, and this year we will be traveling to San Francisco in October. The Roxburghers always devise a memorable itinerary for their visitors, for the San Francisco region is one of the richest centers for booklovers in the country.

Past events this year included a December gathering at the home of Tania Norris, who displayed her book collection for us. As usual, many Zamoranans also attended the annual California International Antiquarian Book Fair in Pasadena in February. For the annual Zamorano summer outing this year, two dozen members and friends trekked to the Mount Wilson Observatory in May. They were guided on their tour by docent Shelley Bonus, a professor of writing and astronomy at UCLA.

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Zamorano Club, and several items are being planned for the occasion. First, commemorative scarves or ties with the decorative script “Z” on them, as well as sterling silver pins, will be offered to members. More important, the club will publish a new volume this fall titled *Zamorano Celebrates 90: Honoring the Contributions of Women in Books and Book Collecting in Southern California*. The title pretty well tells it all; copies may be reserved by contacting Jean Gillingwaters at jgwaters@me.com. Also just a few copies of our last publication, honoring Msgr Francis J. Weber, remain. Contact Jean if you wish to purchase one.

Ken Karmiole, a Zamorano member and a prominent Southern California book dealer, made a \$100,000 gift to the Book Club of California to endow a lecture series on the "Book Trade in California and the West." Michele Zack has recently published a book on the Lisu tribe of Southeast Asia. The book is based on her extensive travels and research in the area. Romy Wyllie has published her latest book, *Eva Maddox: Innovator Designer Educator*. Romy's last book, *Loving Andrew*, her moving personal story of her Down Syndrome child, recently received its eighth award for excellence. Tom Pinney, as knowledgeable on wine as he is on Rudyard Kipling, has published *The City of Vines: A History of Wine in Los Angeles*.

In December, the Club lost its former President, Michael Hecht, who succumbed to cancer at age 60 last November 15. And on May 12, Jerry Selmer, also a former Club President, died at age 85. Both were dear friends and we will deeply miss them.

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