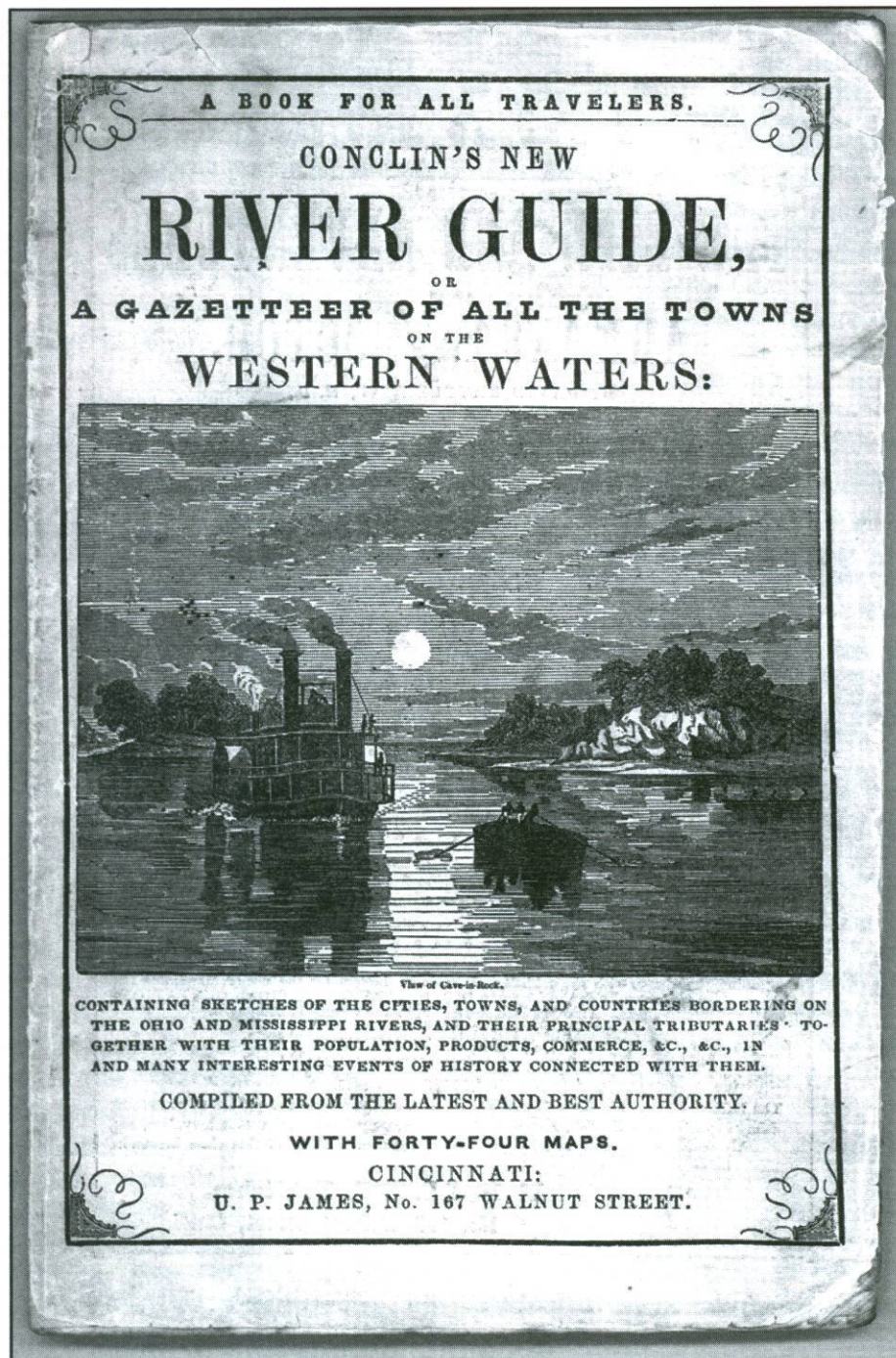


THE FELLOWSHIP OF *American* Bibliophilic Societies

WINTER 2005

VOLUME IX • NUMBER 1

The A. Edward Newton Auction PART ONE The Treasure that Didn't Get Away



The Flatboatmen's Guide Reading Happily Ever After Club News & Notes

THE FELLOWSHIP OF AMERICAN BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETIES is an organization whose goal is to inform member book clubs of news, events, publications, and activities that take place in the book world during the year. The *FABS Newsletter* publishes twice a year to facilitate that goal.

The *FABS Newsletter* publishes September 1 and January 1. Member clubs are requested to have all information to the Editor

thirty days in advance of the publication date, preferably in Microsoft Word as an e-mail attachment. Single subscriptions to institutions and individuals are not available at this time.

Back issues may be ordered through the Editor based on availability for the cost of shipping and handling. Submissions for articles are welcome. All correspondence should be sent to the Editor.

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- The Alcuin Society, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
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www.aldusociety.com
- The Ampersand Club, Minneapolis, St. Paul, MN
www.theampersandclub.org
- The Baltimore Bibliophiles, Baltimore, MD
- The John Russell Bartlett Society, Providence, RI
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- The Book Club of California, San Francisco, CA
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www.co.broward.fl.us/liio7400.htm
- The Grolier Club, New York, NY
www.grolierclub.org
- Long Island Book Collectors, Rockville Centre, NY
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- Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society, Northern Ohio
www.nobsweb.org
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- The Philobiblon Club, Philadelphia, PA
www.english.upenn.edu/~traister/philo.html
- Pittsburgh Bibliophiles, Pittsburgh, PA
www.trfn.clpgh.org/bibliophile/index.html
- The Bibliophile Society of Rochester, Rochester, NY
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- Sacramento Book Collectors Club, Sacramento, CA
- The Book Club of Texas, Lubbock, TX
www.bookclubtexas.org
- The Ticknor Society, Boston, MA
www.ticknor.org
- Washington Rare Book Group, Washington, DC
- Book Club of Washington, Seattle, WA
www.bookclubofwashington.org
- The Zamorano Club, Los Angeles, CA

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Reading Happily Ever After

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The cover image of *Conclin's New River Guide* is courtesy of The St. Louis Mercantile Library.

From the Chair

THE FABS Annual Book Tour and Symposium is in St. Louis this May and planning is in its final stages. Both new and updated information can be found on pages 3-5 of this issue of the *Newsletter*. Participation will be limited to eighty attendees so please do not delay. This promises to be another outstanding event, one not to be missed.

In addition, please remember that the Twelfth Annual FABS Trustees Meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. at The Grolier Club on Thursday, April 14, 2005, prior to the opening of the New York Book Fair. FABS is your organization and we welcome your attendance.

Falling into the category of "not to be missed" here are a few things I've learned since September 2004.

When in San Francisco don't miss:

1. Andrew Hoyem's Arion Press at the Presidio where a tour of this working museum is offered. See the Arion Press ad on page 12 for contact information.

2. The Legion of Honor Museum, the Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, and Robert Flynn Johnson's *Artist's Books in the Modern Era, 1870-2000*. This catalogue of the exhibition of Reva and David Logan may be the most beautiful I have ever seen.

When in Texas don't miss:

3. The Bridwell Library at SMU and Director Valerie Hotchkiss were made for each other. The Eric Gill marble carvings on 6 by 5 foot panels and titled "Alleluia" or sometimes "High Jinks in Paradise" are breathtaking.

4. The Armstrong Browning Library at Baylor in Waco, newly under the direction of Stephen Prickett, is a wonderful example of what one person can accomplish. Few can visit it without dipping into Browning start-

ing with *A Lost Leader*.

5. The De Golyer Library at SMU focuses on the Southwest & Railroads around the world (the scientific/geologic portion of the De Golyer Collection is at the University of Oklahoma.) Russell Martin, Director, and Ben Huseman, Curator, are both knowledgeable and helpful.

6. The Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas, Austin, under Director Tom Staley and Librarian Richard Oram, is every bit as good as it is reputed to be. So many things and so well presented—and they know how badly they need a bookshop—some public spirited Texan should see that they get it!

7. Grolier Club president Carolyn Smith and husband Ward, teach by example that sitting apart from one's spouse on bibliophilic tours allows one to know more about several fellow-bibliophiles.

JOHN C. CARSON, M.D.
Chair

FABS in Saint Louis, May 18-22, 2005

SAINTE LOUIS is the site of the eighth FABS annual Book Tour and Symposium sponsored by The Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies. The 2005 Book Tour begins **Wednesday evening, May 18**, with cocktails and a slide presentation at The Eric P. Newman Education Center at Washington University Medical Center, a brief walk from the The Parkway Hotel, our headquarters. Eric Newman, noted collector and authority on all things numismatic, will provide insight into early printed money and the methods and materials that were employed to foil counterfeiters.

Thursday, May 19. We will begin the day at The Vatican Film Library at Saint Louis University. Established in 1953 as a research library for medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, The Vatican Film Library, holds microfilm of most of the volumes in the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, which reflect virtually the whole of Western cultural and intellectual development from Classical Antiquity to the early modern period. Librarian, Gregory Pass, will host a tour of the Film Library and their Rare Book and Special Collections Library.

The tour will continue at The Bernard Becker Medical School Library at Washington University where our host, Lilla Vekerdy, will prepare a special display of original medieval manuscripts and early printed books to complement their current exhibition: "Manuscript or Print? An Exhibition of Renaissance Books."

Francesca Consagra, Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs at The Saint Louis Art Museum will host our visit and display and discuss some of the high points of the Museum's collection.

The Bixby Club and John Neal Hoover, Director, St. Louis Mercantile Library, the oldest library west of the Mississippi, will host dinner and a tour of two special exhibitions: "The Boydell Shakespeare Prints," from the splendid nine volume folio edition printed by William Bulmer for Messrs Boydell and Nicol in 1792-1802 and "A Snail, a Peacock, and a Tiger's Eye," a display of traditional marbled papers used in bookmaking. After dinner, Curtis Finley, developer of contemporary alum free marbling, will present a survey of marble paper history with slides and specimens. Curtis will touch on the use of marbled papers to confirm period and

establish authenticity of bindings in the same way that leather, tooling, and sewing, can be used to determine the period and origin of a binding.

Friday, May 20. Private Libraries, for many the highlight of past FABS Book Tours, will not disappoint. We will visit a collection of remarkable books. Lilliputs; pigskin bindings; painted manuscripts; books with odd contours; books printed on aluminum, birchbark, and cork; and also a 280 page book composed entirely without the use of the letter "e."

St. Louis born author, Eugene Field, whose birthplace is now a museum, is best remembered as "the poet of childhood" and the creator of the personal column. Field will be revealed, through his books and manuscripts, for what he really was—a bibliomaniac.

The work of Thomas Hart Benton, cantankerous Missouri artist, will be encountered through a private collection of prints, oils, and a video of a visit to Benton's magnificent murals in Jefferson City at the Missouri State Capital.

Some early publications of FABS Member Clubs will be on display including examples from The Book Club of Cali-

fornia, The Caxton Club, The Grolier Club, The Rowfant Club, and The Zamaroni Club. Such diverse collecting interests as Bruce Rogers, Benjamin Franklin, Elijah P. Lovejoy, Dred Scott, and, of course, William K Bixby, will also be a part of the presentation.

The day will be capped off with a buffet dinner at the home of Anthony Garnett, international bookseller. Anthony's home is directly across from Forest Park the site of the 1904 Worlds Fair.

Saturday, May 21 will offer the latest edition of FABS' highly praised series of bibliographical symposia. Anne Posega and Erin Davis will be our hosts in the Special Collections Reading Room at Washington University's newly renovated Olin Library.

Robert Jackson, Symposium organizer, will bring together another series of outstanding presentations followed by a panel discussion and questions from the floor. This year's presenters will include Anthony Garnett, Martin Greene, Peter Koch, and Geoffrey Smith.

The exhibition at Washington University will feature a private collection

of Civil War related prints and books. This collection was built around Louis Kurz & Alexander Allison's famous Civil War prints, and includes additional prints, newspapers, and books, for a period starting with the abolitionist movement and on through reconstruction.

After lunch, buses will depart for the Missouri Botanical Gardens where librarian, Douglas Holland, will provide an overview the Garden's magnificent collection. Doug will review the history of the Library, from its founding in 1859 to the present, and share some of its treasures. Time will be allowed for a visit to the gardens.

The Farewell Banquet will be held at The University Club where we'll enjoy the sunset and fine cuisine. After dinner, Richard Baker will talk and show slides of conservation treatments on items that document little known moments in American history from the earliest printing in America to the Civil War. Before and after slides will illustrate the possibilities and limitations of various conservation treatments.

Sunday, May 22. No visit to St. Louis would be complete without a visit to Eero Saarinen's magnificent Gateway Arch. Experience the ride to the top and the panoramic view of St. Louis, the Mississippi River, and Illinois. The exhibits "Go West with the Pioneers" and "Lewis and Clark: Imagining the Expedition from St. Louis" at The Museum of Westward Expansion are stunning. Documentary films, "Monument to the Dream," and "Lewis & Clark: The Great Journey West," 35 and 45 minutes respectively, allow you to relive the building of The Gateway Arch and the 1804-06 Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Entry to The Museum of Westward Expansion and the exhibitions is free. Tickets for the ride to the top of The Arch and the two documentary films may be purchased on site.

Sunday would also be a good day to visit The Old Courthouse, site of the 1846 Dred Scott trial; the Old Cathedral; and The Eugene Field House and St. Louis Toy Museum. All can be enjoyed within easy walking distance of the Arch.

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FABS BOOK TOUR & SYMPOSIUM

Saint Louis May 18-22, 2005



Wednesday, May 18

Cocktails and a slide presentation at The Eric P. Newman Educational Center
Presentation on early printed paper money

Thursday, May 19

Saint Louis University Special Collections and The Vatican Film Library
The Bernard Becker Medical School Library at Washington University
St. Louis Art Museum Department of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs
The St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri, St. Louis
Exhibitions, dinner, and a talk on paper marbling hosted by The Bixby Club

Friday, May 20

Private Libraries of St. Louis

Miniature Books 📖 Bibliographic Oddities 📖 Fine Bindings 📖 Printing History
Eugene Field Books and Manuscripts 📖 Thomas Hart Benton Prints
Trans-Mississippi Americana 📖 Early FAB's Member Club Imprints

Anthony Garnett Fine Books

Dinner hosted by The Bixby Club

Saturday, May 21

Symposium at Washington University Libraries
Missouri Botanical Garden Library
Farewell Banquet, The University Club
Presentation on paper conservation hosted by The Bixby Club

Sunday, May 22

Optional Tour of The Museum of Westward Expansion & The Gateway Arch

Registration: \$395.00 per person. Reservations until April 1, 2005. Cancellations refunded in full until April 1, 2005. Communications for the FABS Saint Louis Book Tour & Symposium should be by e-mail or self-addressed/stamped envelope. Please reserve _____ places for:

Name: _____ and _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____ Fax: _____

Please reserve _____ places for the Sunday, May 22, Optional Tour (add \$25 per person).

I enclose a check for \$ _____ Payable to FABS.

Send registration to: John N. Hoover; The Bixby Club; St. Louis Mercantile Library; One University Boulevard; St. Louis, Missouri 63121. jhoover@umsl.edu; 314 516-7242.

Headquarters: The Parkway Hotel, 4550 Forest Park Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63110. Please make your own hotel reservations. Thirty rooms are being held at The Parkway Hotel. Phone: 866 314-7700. Ask for The Bixby Club "FABS" rate of \$109 per night. e-mail: robc@theparkwayhotel.com

GREAT AUCTIONS OF THE PAST

The A. Edward Newton Auction

~ PART ONE ~

ON A RECENT *Antiques Roadshow*, a participant brought a copy of the 1896 London edition of Robert Louis Stevenson's *A Child's Garden of Verses* with illustrations by Charles Robinson. Before receiving the good news of the value of this well-preserved volume, the bookplate of A. Edward Newton was pointed out to him. The book's owner obviously did not know of A. Edward Newton, because, first, he would have known full well that the book was valuable, and, furthermore, would not likely have been at the *Antiques Roadshow*, but rather at one of the many great book fairs across the country. For, in the annals of book collecting, A. Edward Newton was known for his bibliographic discernment as well as being, arguably, the foremost author on the subject of bibliophily during the golden age of book collecting.

A self-made man with a grand love for literature and travel, Newton (1864-1940) was late in becoming the preeminent bibliophilic author of his age: "Other than the very scarce Bangs & Co. auction catalogue and the other ephemeral booklets, Newton's first attempt at writing for the public occurred in *The Atlantic Monthly* in March 1915 and was entitled 'The Amenities of Book Collecting—Collecting Abroad.' The intervention of the war delayed the publication of his first book of collected essays until 1918."¹

Newton, then, was fifty-four when *The Amenities of Book-Collecting and Kindred Affections* (Atlantic Monthly Press) appeared in book form, but it was a launching, for, during the next twenty-two years, bibliophiles would delight in a series of collected essays that encapsulated the book collecting avocation in a

charming style that belied the author's erudition.² Newton never claimed to be a scholar, though he counted among his friends and acquaintances some of the greatest scholars of his era. At the same time, however, he made it clear that his passion for literature was second to no one's. Beyond the chronicler was the man who befriended anyone who loved the book. A. Edward Newton was renowned among those who read his works, but there was an inner circle who knew the man himself, and it was the man himself, inseparable from the, dare I say, spiritual connection to the printed word, that endowed him unalterably to those close friends who never viewed him but as sincere in his love of the physical book, love of literature, and love of humankind.³

In addition to his bibliophilic contributions and his own book collecting,

JOSEPH RUBINFINE



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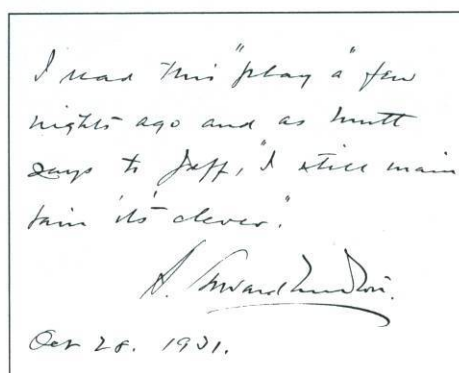
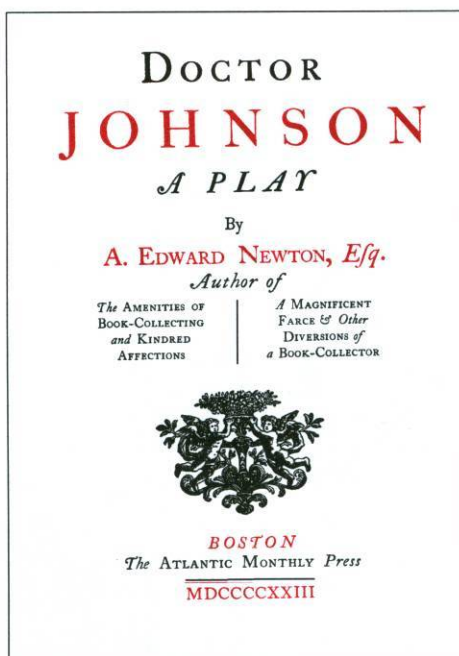
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Newton was ineluctably tied to all aspects of the book. His small private printings of Christmas gifts, begun in 1907 and continuing until his last Christmas in 1939, have become collectible items in their own right. Fortunate were the friends of Newton who received *A Leech Drawing* (1923), text and color reproduction drawn by Leech for Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*; a 1909 Christmas greeting that included a reproduction of a Samuel Johnson bookplate; or, *The Christmas Greeting* (1930), a sixteen page pamphlet that included a reproduction of the first Christmas card. The source materials were, of course, from Newton's own collection. An ardent admirer of Samuel Johnson and, generally, all things English, especially from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Newton also wrote *Doctor Johnson, A Play* (The Atlantic Monthly Press, 1923), and, in 1930, he penned *Mr. Strahan's Dinner Party, A Comedy in One Act with Prologue and Epilogue . . . and a Note by Edward F. O'Day*. This latter play described "a mythical meeting between Dr. Franklin and Dr. Johnson at the printer Strahan's house," a precursor to Steve Allen's PBS production *Meeting of the Minds* (1977-1981).⁴

Newton's own home, Oak Knoll, had long been a meeting place for scholars, librarians, collectors and dealers, and, in his 1934 Christmas booklet he put into motion the founding of a formal society for the appreciation of Anthony Trollope, a society that has expanded internationally since Newton's origination. In his pamphlet, Newton expounded upon Trollope's greatness: "Here and now I proclaim the fact that Anthony Trollope has written a greater number of first-class novels than Dickens or Thackeray or George Eliot—I had almost said than these novelists combined—but I wish to be modest in my statements."⁵ Newton added a checklist of the writings of Trollope at the end of his pamphlet and also inserted a flyer soliciting membership and establishing the Society's mission. In particular, "the Trollope Society will cooperate with a first-class publisher who will publish from time to time Trollope's Novels and Tales in a format which shall be at once uniform, legible, easy to hold, and inexpensive. Such an



I read this "play" a few nights ago and as Mutt says to Jeff, "I still maintain it's clever."
Oct 28, 1931. A. Edward Newton

This inscription appears on the front flyleaf of the Editor's copy of *Doctor Johnson: A Play*.

edition is long overdue." That mission remains to this day.

Oft described as a twentieth-century Pickwick, his idiosyncratic fashion of checked suits and bow ties was not seen as affected but inveterately Newtonian. Quite simply, Newton was revered by sheer force of his personality which suffused his writings. Charles Grosvenor Osgood, then Professor of English Literature Emeritus, Princeton University, noted in the Newton auction catalogue: "Mr. Newton wrote of 'this book-collecting game,' and no one ever enjoyed its rigors more than he. 'I am incurably acquisitive,' he once said. But 'twas a mere particle of the fact. He discovered for thousands of others the innocent avocation of collecting books, but for him it

was of the very essence of living, and business was his avocation."⁶

Bibliophiles delight in anecdotes and, should we search the annals for popular book-collecting truisms, no doubt many would originate with Newton. A sampling of Newton quotations appeared in the auction catalogue: "When I am going to be extravagant I always like the encouragement of my wife and I usually get it"; "Money alone will not make a bibliophile, although, I confess, it develops one"; "A man without a hobby is to be pitied and avoided: if he is not exactly looking for trouble, he is, at least, willing to meet it halfway; he gets no joy out of life and he has little sympathy for those who do. I don't much care what a man's hobby is: he is a better fellow for having one"; and "I sometimes think that the greatest joy that comes from playing this book-collecting game is the delightful acquaintances one makes, which tastes in common soon flower into friendships."

The death of A. Edward Newton in the fall of 1940 was a time of great sorrow for the bibliophilic community, for Newton had been model and mentor for three generations of book collectors and his reputation was international. In "An Appreciation" in the October 3, 1940, *The London Times*, Lord Stamp wrote: "Edward was a delightful companion who had the knack of making the least bookish share his adventures and excitements, and he covered a queer discursive scholarship, that gave him a unique standing among men of letters, with amusing diffidence." Each of the three catalogues of the Newton collection contained a special essay by old friends, Osgood of Princeton (mentioned above), Frederick Albert Pottle, Professor of English, Yale University, and, quite tellingly, the businessman William Holland Winterrowd of The Baldwin Locomotive Works, who "discovered that A. Edward Newton to be a business man and scholar—a rare combination. If more business and professional men could learn to love, know, and collect books they would find it a wonderfully broadening avocation. The three greatest teachers in life are men, books, and experience." Pottle, the Yale scholar, added that "any one who in these later days has allowed himself to adopt a patronizing tone towards Newton's abili-



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ties as a writer had better re-read that essay [i.e., "20"] and ask himself how many American essayists have handled the familiar style better. He said he got his ability in that direction by writing advertisements for electrical apparatus, and there may be something in it."

For all the richness of his life—his family, his work, his enduring friendships—Newton left one final testament, his book collection. Built over his lifetime, Newton never denied that the collection was the product of a partnership with his wife, Babette (née Edelheim), who unfortunately died before the collection went to auction in 1941. Their son, Swift Newton,⁷ was executor of the estate and, citing the dedication of his father's first book, also dedicated the catalogue to his mother. A. Edward Newton had written in October, 1918: "If, as Eugene Field suggests, women-folk are few in that part of paradise especially reserved for book-lovers, I do not care. One woman will be there, for I shall insist that eight and twenty years probation entitles her to share in my biblio-bliss above as she has shared it here below. That woman is my wife."⁸

With great anticipation by the world bibliophilic community, the collection of the admired and inimitable A. Edward Newton would go to auction at the Parke-Bernet Galleries in 1941. I will discuss the auction itself, sold in three parts in April, May, and October, in the Fall 2005 issue of the *FABS Newsletter*. In the interim, might I suggest that a reading or re-reading of the writings of A. Edward Newton might prove fortifying.

GEOFFREY D. SMITH

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¹[Robert D. Fleck.] *A. Edward Newton: A Collection of his Works*. [Newark, Delaware]: Oak Knoll Books, Catalogue 86, 1986. Although I cannot find direct attribution, I would be stunned to learn that Oak Knoll Books (the foremost distributor and publisher of books on books), especially in light of this Newton catalogue, was not named after Newton's home, Oak Knoll. I will stand corrected if contradictory information is forthcoming.

²The other collected essays on bibliophily include: *A Magnificent Farce and Other Diversions of a Book-Collector* (Atlantic Monthly Press, 1921); *The Greatest Book in the World and Other Papers* (Little, Brown, 1925); *The Book-Collecting Game* (Little, Brown, 1928); *A Tourist in Spite of Himself* (Little, Brown, 1930); and *End Papers* (Little, Brown, 1933).

³Still, I cannot overlook at least one unpleasant incident in Newton's life. After discussing the concept of the "knock-out," a strategy of a group of booksellers to

acquire books for lower prices at public auction, Newton wrote: "Quite frequently when one has sent one's bid abroad to some eminent house,—Quaritch, for example,—and subsequently reads in the paper that the book has been sold at or considerably below his bid, he is disappointed at not getting the item. The price given in the paper was a fictitious one; the book, having again been sold in the knock-out, may have brought a large advance on the ostensible price; the owner or the estate selling the book was cheated, it may be, out of half of the value of the library disposed of." (*The Book-Collecting Game*, p. 195) Not surprisingly, "the reference to Bernard Quaritch . . . resulted in a law suit against Newton and much controversy." ([Fleck], p. 15)

⁴Descriptions of the Newton Christmas books and plays are from Fleck's catalogue (pp. 10, 26 28, 31 and 32). Information about Newton's books is also available at the Oak Knoll web site at www.oakknoll.com. Fleck further notes that "*Doctor Johnson, A Play* also appeared in a limited, illustrated edition that included a frontispiece of Doctor Johnson and a sixteen line poem by Christopher Morley entitled 'On a Portrait of Dr. Samuel Johnson.'"

⁵"The Trollope Society." Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: A. Edward Newton, 1934. Current information about "The Trollope Society" is available at its web site at www.trollopeusa.org. As a side note, an editorial intervention, a course that I reluctantly take, I too believe that Trollope, if not the best, is the most realistic and accurate novelist of the Victorian era.

⁶*Rare Books, Original Drawings, Autograph Letters and Manuscripts Collected by the late A. Edward Newton*. Part 1, A - D. New York: Parke-Bernet Galleries, 1941.

⁷According to the obituary in *The London Times* (October 2, 1940): "Newton was born in Philadelphia in 1863. He traced his descent from a Swift family (connected with the great Dean) which settled there in the eighteenth century and was thought to be tainted with Philadelphian royalism." Hence, his son's name and, no doubt, further influence for Newton's love of all things English.

⁸*The Amenities of Book-Collecting and Kindred Affections*.



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The Navigator

THE FLATBOATMEN'S GUIDE TO EARLY AMERICA

AT THE BEGINNING of the nineteenth century, Zadok Cramer left New Jersey and settled in frontier Pittsburgh. It was there that he began a generation of publishing almanacs and established a trade as a frontier book-binder. The wealth of skins pouring down the Ohio Valley from the unknown interior was beginning to open up the Valley for settlement. Later the trade on the river in this legendary age of the keel-boats led him to become one of the great printers of early America. He earned this status, not so much because of the appearance of his publications, but because of the content of these practical guides to the river itself.

For about one dollar, a settler bent on moving down the Ohio River to the Mississippi could buy Zadok Cramer's distillation of what was known of the American frontier in those days. To this

day there is still no better series to collect if one wishes to grasp the essence of the vast river valley system that watered and drained the Old Northwest.

These guides represent old America. Cramer recorded such tidbits as one of the earliest accounts in book form of the New Madrid earthquake – the greatest such disaster to visit any part of North America in recorded times. Indeed, Cramer was a recorder and a chronicler. He noted the first steamboat to pass down the Ohio, sweeping the age of the keel-boats aside in one gesture. In a famous appendix to many successive issues of his river guide, *The Navigator*, he kept in print, wistfully perhaps, what had originally been one of the first accounts in book form of the Lewis and Clark voyage of discovery to the Pacific. It was not surprising that Cramer would want to extrapolate Missouri River data for his

"comprehensive" *Navigator* in 1808. The year before, in a separate volume with a Pittsburgh imprint, Cramer had printed Patrick Gass' *A Journal of the Voyages and Travels of a Corps of Discovery*. . . . He knew a good story worth milking when he saw one. A host of modern writers have spent the last several years doing exactly that same thing, so he can certainly be forgiven.

Cramer continued to include material from many others – naturalists, politicians of the day, and scientists. His river guides were, essentially, river almanacs; but he could not keep pace in his works, as pioneering as they were, with the development of river transportation, and with the move, ever westward, to the Mississippi and beyond. That was left up to a host of later river guides: Gilleland's *The Ohio and Mississippi Pilot*; Cumings' *The Western Pilot*; Conclin's *New River*

Printed Catalogues of French Book Auctions and Sales by Private Treaty 1643-1830 in the Library of The Grolier Club



Compiled by Michael North

The 616 entries include full title transcription, detailed collation, and number of lots, often followed by extensive comments on the circumstances of the sale, and the history of and subsequent fate of the collection. The Grolier Club copies, unusually rich in contemporary annotations, are largely in period bindings.

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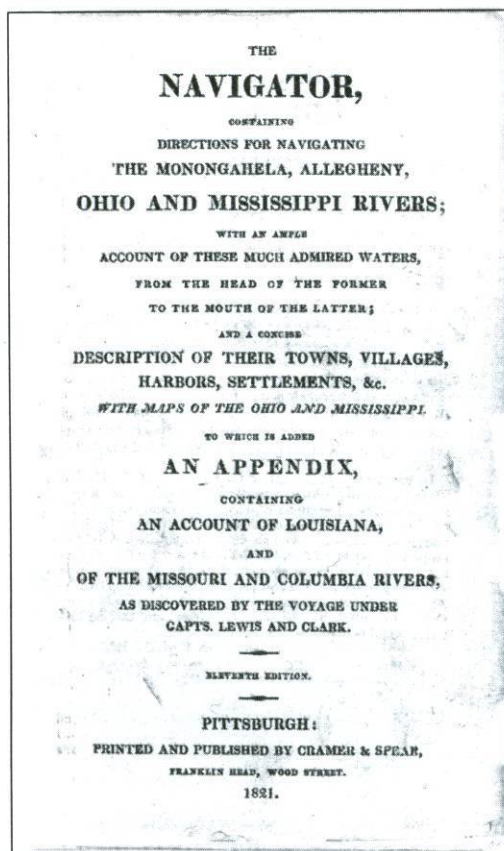
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Guide; and James' *River Guide*. They kept this genre going well past the Civil War, and continued to incorporate new data as they built on the old foundations that Zadok Cramer had perfected early on.

The earliest editions reported for *The Navigator* are bibliographical ghosts, with no copies known. They are still legendary rarities well into the fourth and fifth editions, but all copies and all editions are of such importance to the understanding of the original trans-Appalachian frontier that they are worth collecting. All the guides are supplemented by a host of titles, town by town, city by city, such as directories, general almanacs, and newspapers. A fascinating library could still be formed by private hands, one, which if coupled with the fascinating and poignant literature of the rivers, from the *Rivers of America* series, to Ben Lucian Burman, to modern journalists and other writers such as McPhee and Rabb, could form highly significant collection of riparian Americana.



A later edition of an early bibliographic rarity.

It seems a revelation to some Americans that early river towns, great and small, stretching from Marietta to Jefferson City and from Red Wing to Natchez, still exist as fine old communities. They remain wrapped in the aura of history that has passed away but has continued to bathe such places in an afterglow colored by the past at every corner, at every landing. The nation was born in these hamlets, and they continue with a heritage and mystique all their own. They rival perhaps more famous places in the tingling sensation of living history one finds in them. No purer form of Americana is that which is about such a world and which was printed along riverfronts and landings in a host of small print shops, with that of Zadok Cramer's being the most venerable.

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Lunch with Charles

THE TREASURE THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY

BORN August 10, 1911 in the historic river town of Boonville, Missouri, Charles van Ravenswaay began by collecting Missouri River lore as a school-boy and remained a collector in a variety of fields throughout his life. He built a very significant collection of books and other material devoted to American horticulture and he pioneered in studying and collecting the early-day arts and crafts of the region.

He attended Washington University in St. Louis, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. While serving as business manager and partner in a family business, he found time to do a photographic survey of early Missouri and Illinois buildings, and to write the first of many articles for national publications. He donated his vast archive of photographs to the Library of Congress.

He served in the U.S. Navy for four years during World War II, serving first as the captain of a sub chaser in the North Atlantic and then as the captain of a tanker in the Pacific Fleet. In 1946, he joined the Missouri Historical Society as Director. During his 16 years with that institution, he also organized and headed the St. Louis County Historic Buildings Commission and served as Chairman of the St. Louis Bicentennial Planning Committee.

In 1962, he became President of Old Sturbridge Village at Sturbridge, Massachusetts, and was there until 1966, when he was appointed Director of Winterthur Museum. At the time of his appointment he was described as "the leading authority on furniture of the 18th century French settlements in the Mississippi Valley and on the architecture and arts of the early

Missouri Valley." He retired in 1976. He was a member of the American Antiquarian Society, a Phi Beta Kappa, a trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, past-president of the American Association of Museums, and the University of Delaware Library Associates. He received many awards and honors and was the editor or author of several books and articles on American horticulture, decorative arts, and material culture. His gracious and charming manner, his vast knowledge, and his encouragement of our collecting interests will not be forgotten.

Charles van Ravenswaay and I shared a mutual passion for horticultural books and catalogs, travel literature, land promotion literature, Americana in general, and other arcane things. We enjoyed each other's company and often over a long

Recent Limited Editions

Paradise Lost by John Milton, text edited by John T. Shawcross, introduction by Helen Vendler; with a portfolio of 13 facsimiles of watercolor drawings by William Blake illustrating the poem, commentary by Shawcross and Robert N. Essick: \$2,500.

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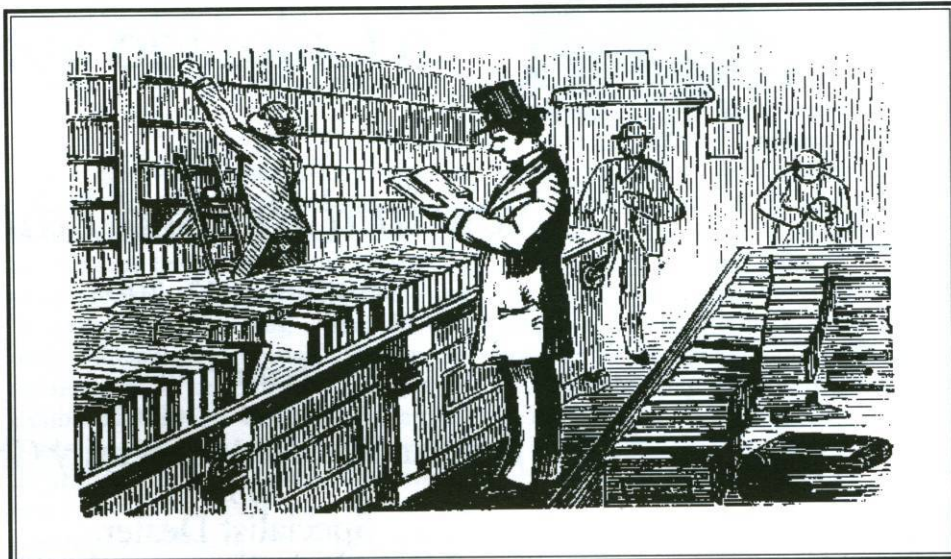
lunch at the Columbus Inn would talk about bookish things.

One afternoon, Charles told me a wonderful story of a book adventure he had when he was Director of the Missouri Historical Society. It seems that he had come East to attend a meeting or some other similar function and was spending an afternoon, between meetings, browsing through the wares of a prominent bookseller. I cannot remember now if the dealer was located in New York or Philadelphia. He was looking at books down an aisle and out of sight of the proprietor, but actually quite near to where the proprietor was seated and certainly within earshot so he was able to overhear a conversation the proprietor was having with another bookseller.

It seemed that this visiting bookseller was telling the proprietor of a coup that he was about to make. He was saying that he had just returned from a trip to the West where he had located a remarkable cache of early printed material. Charles said that he was a little embarrassed at obviously eavesdropping and was about to make his presence known when he heard the city of St. Louis mentioned. He stopped and continued to listen. The visiting bookseller told the proprietor that he had located in St. Louis, not three miles from the downtown area, an incredible group of St. Louis imprints much of which he thought was previously unknown and had not seen the light of day for generations. The deal was all but finalized and needed only a few more details to be worked out before the material would be delivered to him. Charles left the bookseller's shop as unobtrusively as possible and returned to his hotel, made his excuses at the conference, and returned to St. Louis that evening.

When he got back to his office at the Missouri Historical Society, he took a large map of St. Louis, figured out the scale and drew a circumference line that represented three miles from the "center" of St. Louis. He knew that certain areas had once been lovely residential areas, but had been overtaken by urban blight. Charles concentrated his attention on areas where people were still living. He was surprised that it took so little time to narrow down the possibilities because the number of people living in these old

neighborhoods had declined. He was able to determine who lived on each street, and eliminate them one by one when they didn't meet the test of having lived in the house for generations. Charles said it had to be someone who had lived in St. Louis for a long time and had roots that went back to early St. Louis.



Within 24 hours of returning to St. Louis, he had located the person that met all tests—long-time resident of that particular neighborhood and well connected to "old" St. Louis. So well connected in fact as to make him wonder why they were still living in that neighborhood. He could not of course simply walk up to the front door and ask if they had any old books in the attic. He had to find someone who could properly introduce him. Charles found that person on the Board of Directors of the Missouri Historical Society. When he approached the director and told him that he wanted an introduction to his great aunt, the director was astounded when told the reason and promptly arranged for Charles and his aunt to have tea.

Charles said that the neighborhood may have been in a state of decline, but the house was immaculate and beautifully furnished. The old lady had lived in that house all of her life as her parents had before her and she saw no reason to move just because her family was constantly urging her to do so. Charles gently broached the reason for his visit—namely, the stuff in the attic—and was greeted by shocked surprise. The lady of the house recounted that a book dealer had

recently been there and offered her a modest sum for the material, but if the Historical Society was interested in it she would much rather give it to them.

When asked by Charles how she had acquired them, she said that her grandfather (or great-grandfather) had loaned a sum of money to a pioneer printer in St.

Louis and secured the loan with the contents of the printing shop. The printer was unable to repay the loan so the shop and its contents were taken over by her relative. The printer had been most unusual because he had saved a copy of everything that he had printed which included broadsides, pamphlets, proclamations, newspapers, almanacs, and the like. They had been in the attic for years. When the lady showed them to Charles, he knew that it was a treasure trove indeed. All materials were removed the next day to the safety of the Historical Society.

Charles told the tale with warmth and humor. I believe he remained a good friend of the old lady in St. Louis, regularly making it a point to visit with her and talk about the St. Louis she remembered. The book dealer learned in due course that the books he almost had, got away. I am not sure if the dealer ever knew that it was the inadvertent eavesdropper, Charles van Ravenswaay, who was the cause of his loss.

NATHANIEL H. PUFFER

This article first appeared in the Delaware Bibliophiles September 1990 issue of *Endpapers*.

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Club News & Notes

PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND PUBLICATIONS

Please contact Valerie Urban, The Ampersand Club, with *Club News & Notes* at 612 310-5298 or urban@rulon.com.

THE ALCUIN SOCIETY



SINCE our last report, The Alcuin Society has had a very busy late summer and autumn with many bookish events.

The biggest event and one of our most successful was the first annual Wayzgoose, held late October in Vancouver. We had just over 650 people visit the event in a five hour period and plans are already being advanced for next years expanded event. Also, in early November we raised over \$2,800 with our annual book auction. These are the books submitted to the Society for the annual Canadian Book Design Awards and are auctioned off each year, so it has been a great place to buy new books at a good price, just in time for Christmas gift giving.

In addition to these events, we had several one day lecture/demonstrations by local artisans in the book arts, including Terry Rutherford on Book Conservation and a talk celebrating 25 years of the Barbarian Press with Jan and Crispin Elstead.

In early 2005, entry forms will be going out to Canadian publishers for submission of their entries for the 2005 Alcuin Book Design Awards. We expect to receive about 350 books for judging.

We will also have talks by Rollin Milroy of Heavenly Monkey Press, Andrea Taylor of Cotton Socks Press, and Dr. Eric Kwakkel on the production of medieval books and the people involved in their production.

The Alcuin Society hopes all members of FABS have had a great holiday season. For additional information about our activities or programs please contact John King at 604 538-7092, or antbook@aol.com, or try www.alcuinsociety.com.

THE ALDUS SOCIETY



SINCE its founding in 2000, The Aldus Society has continued to expand in both its membership and its programming, which deals with all aspects of the book. Members include book collectors, archi-

vists and preservationists, book lovers and booksellers, writers, small press printers, calligraphers, artists and librarians. Our programs have reflected members' varied personal and professional interests.

FALL ACTIVITIES

September—The Aldus Society began its autumn programming with a presentation by Donald Glaister (Cleveland, Ohio), a professional book artist with 20 years of work centered on the exploration and use of unexpected materials, visual humor, and spontaneous expression. Glaister was speaking in conjunction with *In Flight*, an exhibit of fifty-one book works, artists' books, fine bindings, and broadsides created by Guild of Book Workers (GBW) members. The books were on view at the Columbus College of Art & Design from September 13 to October 29, 2004 in an exhibition co-sponsored by the Aldus Society and the Midwest Chapter of the GBW. In conjunction with the Glaister presentation event, there was an open house at the Ohio State University Libraries Rare Books and Manuscripts Department, where artist's books from the OSU collection were on display.

October—We were off to the South Seas in October as Aldus Society President Ron Ravneberg updated the society on his research into the original printers copy used for the typesetting of the second edition of John Hawkesworth's official account of Captain Cook's first voyage. In a presentation entitled, *The Hawkesworth Copy: A Bibliographic Investigation of James Cook, John Hawkesworth, and the Strahan Quarto Editions of 1773*, Ravneberg told of the finding and verification of the documents and subsequent investigations into some of the curious markings and marginalia they contained. A preliminary version of Ravneberg's research was published in the Winter 2003 issue of the *FABS Newsletter*. A more detailed, updated version can be downloaded from the Aldus Society website in the "Past Programs" area.

November—November found us under the spell of the Irish when Desmond Kenny visited from Galway, Ireland. Kenny, of the famous Kenny's Bookshop & Art Gallery in Galway, Ireland, spoke about the Irish and

British book markets with emphasis on rare books and Irish writers. Kenny kept his audience enthralled with a series of personal anecdotes and recollections reaching back toward the 1940s when Kenny's Bookshop was founded by Desmond's father and mother. Kenny's Bookshop has since developed into an international concern that is still operated by the younger Kenny generations. The Kenny's Bookshop website is: www.kennys.ie/

December—December once again found members of the Aldus Society gathered together at the annual Holiday Dinner to celebrate the wrap-up of another calendar year.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2005

January 13—The January program will continue a "Show and Tell" tradition started last March, with several Aldus members bringing examples from their collections or interesting book-related items to share with attendees of the meeting. The meeting will be great fun, as speakers are limited to ten minutes for their presentations. Enthusiasm always abounds as each speaker tries to describe his or her collecting passion in such a short time.

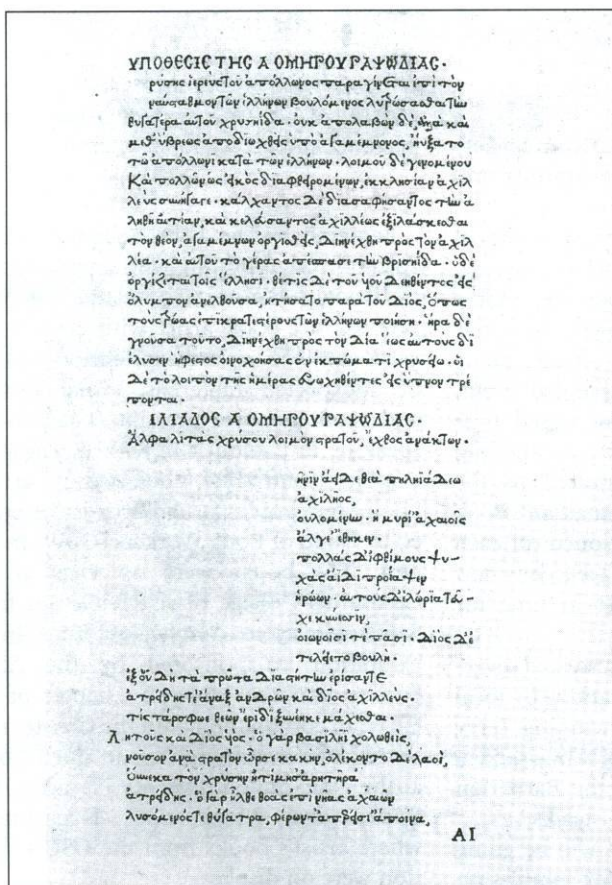
February 17—Ed Vermue, Head of Special Collections and Preservation at Oberlin College, will help us honor Black History Month with a presentation about Oberlin's Anti-Slavery Collection, entitled *The Anti-Slavery Collection of Oberlin College Library: A Monument to "The Town that Started the Civil War."* Oberlin was a hotbed of Abolitionist sentiment and a major stop on the Underground Railroad. Most of the collection was acquired through the donations of sympathetic local residents since the nineteenth century and is very much a monument to local history as well as a national crisis.

March 3—The Aldus Society will co-sponsor a special presentation by Richard Samuel West in conjunction with "The Sting of the Wasp" exhibit at the Cartoon Research Library of the Ohio State University. (This special presentation is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. and will be in the seminar room adjacent to the Cartoon Research Library on the Ohio State University campus.)

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For most of the 19th century, American magazines were vast monochromatic fields of black on white. Beginning in the 1830s, a few magazines featured small hand-colored plates, but they were the meager exceptions. Then, in the 1870s, thanks to the perfection of the chromolithographic process, a new breed of magazine, exploding with color, came to the fore. In short order, chromolithographic weeklies began popping up all over America. Outside of the famous New York weeklies, *Puck* and *Judge*, none lasted more than a year or two, except for one—*The San Francisco Wasp*. During its first twenty years, the period of time when cartoons dominated its contents, *The Wasp* was the colorful chronicler of one of the most exciting periods in the history of San Francisco.

West is an independent scholar and historian of American editorial cartooning. He currently is the owner of *Periodyssey*, the largest company in New England specializing in rare and out-of-print magazines. He is also a notable collector; all of the WASPs in the exhibit are from his private collection.

March 10—(Date is subject to confirmation; topic to be announced.) For updates please check the Aldus Society website at www.AldusSociety.com for updates.

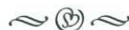
April 14—Michael Zwettler, Associate Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at the Ohio State University will present the seventh chapter of the Aldus Society History of Text & Image series when he speaks on early Arabic manuscripts. Previous presentations in the series have covered Latin epigraphy, medieval Latin manuscripts, medieval Slavic manuscripts, the St. Gall School & Scriptorium, the Anglo-Saxon manuscript tradition, and medieval Hebrew manuscripts. (Maybe someday we'll actually get to the *printed* word!)

May 12—In the final Aldus Society meeting of the program year, internationally known collector John M. Lawrence, will speak about his passion for illuminated manuscripts. Lawrence, who became interested in illuminated manuscripts three decades ago when he was studying at Indiana State University where he purchased his first manuscript for \$10, now has an extensive collection of manuscripts and an even greater knowledge base. Our May meetings are special meetings and this one promises to continue that tradition.

Regular meetings of The Aldus Society are held at 7:30 p.m. at: The Thurber Center, 91 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. Socializing begins one-half hour before.

Members of other FABS affiliates are always welcome at Aldus Society gatherings. Check the Aldus Society website at www.AldusSociety.com, to find up-to-date information about our programs and activities and in-depth articles about many of our speakers. For additional information please contact Ronald L. Ravneberg at AldusSociety@aol.com. or 614 457-1153.

THE AMPERSAND CLUB



THE Ampersand Club and the Grolier Club mourn the loss of one of their oldest and most esteemed members. The Honorable Elmer L. Andersen, a long-time Ampersand member and former governor of the State of Minnesota, passed away Monday evening, November 15. He was 95 years old. His achievements were legendary here. After purchasing a small glue company for \$10,000 in 1941, he turned H. B. Fuller, Inc. into a billion-dollar Fortune-500 company. He served as a Minnesota state senator for nine years, and was president of the University of Minnesota's Board of Regents. At the age of 67, he purchased a small community newspaper, *The Princeton Union-Eagle*, which was the first in a series of acquisitions that became ECM Publishers, Inc., a printing and publishing company of 17 suburban and community newspapers in the greater Minneapolis & St. Paul metro area.

Governor Andersen was a long-time supporter of the book arts in Minnesota, and played a crucial role in establishing Minnesota Center for Book Arts in 1983. His fine collection of botanical books forms the basis of the library at the Minnesota Aboretum, and in 1999 he donated a collection of more than 12,000 books to the University of Minnesota, largely on the history of printing, including fine and private press books. The newly-built special collections library at the University bears his and his wife's name. He was a man of many parts, and his books and book-collecting pervaded them all; no estimation of his life and work can be made without taking them into account. His autobiography, *A Man's Reach*, was published in 2000.

Ironically, next Spring Ampersand is publishing a collection of articles on book-collecting by the home-bound Arne Kjelsberg, from a column that ran for three years in Elmer's *Princeton Union-Eagle*. It is to be published in an edition of 626 copies, of which 500 will be paperbacks. The fine press issues consist of 26 lettered and 100

numbered. Bindings will vary, as too may the 26 and 100 depending on the whims of our printer, Gaylord Schanilec.

The author is well known to many, we expect sales to be brisk. See our website at www.theampersandclub.org

THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES



THE Baltimore Bibliophiles celebrated their 50th anniversary (1954-2004) on Wednesday, November 17th, 2004 at The George Peabody Library (The Sheridan Libraries of The Johns Hopkins University), Baltimore, Maryland. After cocktails and munchies, the dinner began with opening remarks from President Thomas Beck, with a toast offered by Gordon Pfeiffer of The Delaware Bibliophiles. After the lovely dinner, which took place in the Library's newly refurbished Main Reading Room, and club business (election of officers and treasurer's report), guest speaker Nicholas Basbanes delivered a fascinating talk, "Among the Gently Mad."

To quote several well-wishers: "Here's to fifty more years!"

ACTIVITIES FOR 2005

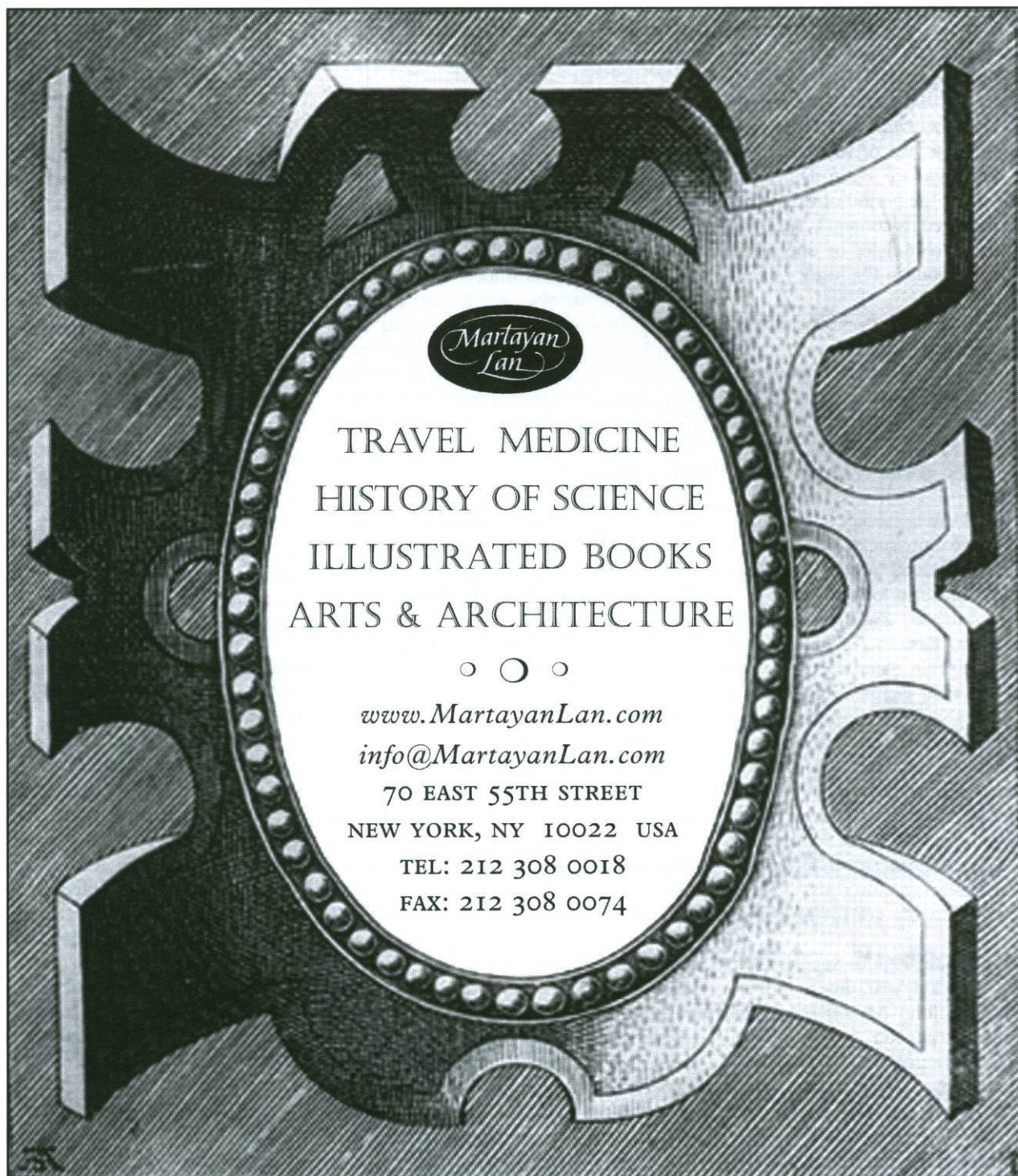
February 24—"An Evening with Printmaker Charles Ritchie." 6:00 p.m., Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery, University of Maryland Baltimore County. The lecture coincides with the exhibition of the speaker's art work at the Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery: The title of the exhibition is "Suburban Journals: The Sketchbooks, Drawings and Prints of Charles Ritchie." The exhibition runs from January 31 to March 26, 2005. The Gallery is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 12:00 noon to 4:30 p.m.; Thursday 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.; and Saturday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The Library is closed March 20th and 26th.

April 18—"Historical Perspectives on *The DaVinci Code*" Art historian Dr. Gail Husch, Goucher College. 6:00 p.m., The Johns Hopkins Club.

May—Folklore expert Dr. Paul Douglas, Towson University. 6:00 p.m., The Johns Hopkins Club.

July—"What Feeds My Bibliomania?" Members highlight their own collecting "interests." An afternoon meeting at a member's home. Members only.

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



THE JOHN RUSSELL BARTLETT SOCIETY



THE fall-winter season is in full swing, and we are enjoying our 20th anniversary year. On October 28, the Society sponsored a lecture by Dennis Channing Landis, Curator of European Books at The John Carter Brown Library, entitled "Images of America from the Eighteenth-Century Russian Press." This was a longer version of the paper he delivered at a recent SHARP conference—the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, & Publishing—and was given in the Reading Room of the JCB Library.

On Tuesday, December 7, at 5:30 p.m., the Bartlett Society and the John Carter Brown Library will co-sponsor a dinner at the Brown Faculty Club for the students of Professor Augusta Rohrbach's History of the Book course. Professor Rohrbach is this year's Watts Visiting Professor of Book History at Brown University, and is also a lecturer at Harvard University. For those who are not familiar with this new, endowed professorship, it was established in 2002 by the JCB Board of Governors to

honor the memory of Charles H. Watts II—a former English professor and dean at Brown, who also served as president of Bucknell University and on the JCB Board of Governors for over 20 years.

Binding historian Sue Allen will come to Providence to deliver a talk on decorated nineteenth-century cloth bindings on Saturday, March 5, 2005. This event is co-sponsored by the Bartlett Society, the Providence Athenaeum, APHA (the American Printing History Association), and the Friends of the Brown University Library. The lecture will take place in the Reading Room of the Providence Athenaeum, accompanied by an exhibition from their collection of decorated cloth bindings.

The Society is beginning to promote its yearly book collecting prize for undergraduates. The prize honors Margaret Bingham Stillwell, bibliographer and author of the autobiographical *Librarians are Human*. This year the speaker will be Nicholas Basbanes, and the event, including an exhibition of the finalist's collections and the awarding of prizes, will take place on April 27, 2005, at the John Carter Brown Library.

For more information about the Bartlett Society, please contact Pamela Rakowski at 401 751-5581, or prakowski@provlib.org.

THE BIXBY CLUB



THE Bixby Club is looking forward to hosting the 2005 FABS Book Tour and Symposium and plans are being finalized for a gracious, informative, and entertaining program. See pp. 3-5 of this issue of the *Newsletter* for up to date scheduling and registration information.

For additional information about The Bixby Club, the 2005 FABS Book Tour and Symposium please contact John Hoover at 314 516-7245 or jhoover@umsl.edu.

On the evening of December 8, at the University Club, Michael Thompson, president of The Caxton Club, spoke to Bixby Club members on the history, cultural significance, and occasionally controversial aspects of the collecting of leaf books.

The Caxton Club has organized a major exhibition, "Disbound and Dispersed: The Leaf Book Considered," that will open in April of 2005 at the Newberry Library with an accompanying catalog and public programs. After opening at the Newberry, the exhibition will travel to the San Francisco Public Library, the Houghton Library at Harvard University, and the Lilly Library

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The Essence of Beeing, by Michael Lenehan



An account of two beekeepers, one in the city, and one in the country. With line illustrations by Alice Brown-Wagner and custom ornaments by Albert Richardson. Hand set in 12 and 14 point Cooper Old-style and printed on Fabriano Roma Michelangelo in an edition of 200. 45 pages, 9 1/2 x 13 inches. \$300.

Within the Context of No Context,

by George W. S. Trow



This book explores the role of television in American life, proffering a bleak vision that seems more and more accurate with the passage of time. With four interpretive illustrations by Howard Coale. Hand set in Centaur and printed on Rives Johannot in an edition of 200. 110 pages, 6 x 9 1/4 inches. \$340.

\$144 a Month, by Steve Bogira



This is the story of people living (in 1983) on General Assistance, a now-discontinued Illinois program that was the last resort of those at the bottom of the welfare ladder. Includes four portraits by the late photographer Mike Tappin, reproduced as duotone lithographs. Set by hand in Century Expanded and printed on Rives Johannot in an edition of 200. 24 pages, 12 1/4 x 9 inches. \$450, of which a \$100 donation will be made to Marillac House.

The Innocents Abroad, by Mark Twain



In 1867, Mark Twain took a pleasure cruise with a group of Americans through Europe and the Holy Land. *The Innocents Abroad* is the report of that trip, laced with acid observations of Americans and

foreigners alike. For this edition, Twain's text is paired with cartoons by Heather McAdams, who went many of places Twain did and reported on the state of tourism today. Monotype set in Bell and printed on Rives Johannot in an edition of 200. 445 text pages, plus 20 pages of illustrations, in two volumes, 7 3/8 by 11 inches. \$1200.

COMING THIS WINTER:

Poisonous Plants at Table

Featuring *Prudence: The Cautionary Tale of a Picky Eater*, written and illustrated by Audrey Niffenegger.

See Sherwin Beach Press books this fall at Oak Knoll Fest (New Castle, DE, Oct. 2-3), the Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair (Seattle, WA, Oct. 9-10), and the Pyramid Atlantic Book Arts Fair (Silver Spring, MD, Nov. 19-21).

For more information, or to arrange to view the books, contact: Priscilla Jewelis (Cambridge, MA) 617-497-7570; Joshua Heller (Washington, DC) 202-966-9411; Vamp and Tramp + Califia Books (Birmingham, AL) 205-824-2300; or PABA Gallery (New Haven, CT) 203-773-3665.

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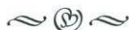
at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

After a gracious dinner, collecting anecdotes were shared, and leaf books from the St. Louis Mercantile Library and from Kay Kramer's private collection were on display for the edification and enjoyment of Bixby Club members.

John Hoover will host his annual Valentine's day gathering at his home where he will display and discuss books from one of his private collections.

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

THE BOLTON SOCIETY



THIS soon to be five-year-old organization and new FABS member encourages and promotes the individual love for and collection of both published and unpublished materials that illuminate and elucidate the history and development of the chemical and molecular sciences and their associated technologies. Such a society was first suggested by Herbert T. Pratt (a member of The Delaware Bibliophiles) on February 17, 1999. After a yearlong incubation period, the first meeting was held in Philadelphia on April 25, 2000.

The Society was named for Dr. Henry Carrington Bolton (1843-1903), truly a Renaissance man—chemist, world traveler, academic, alpine climber, folklorist, bibliographer, historian, and bibliophile. The most exhaustive of Bolton's works is *A Select Bibliography of Chemistry, 1492-1892*, published in 1893. It contains 12,031 titles. His pen was seldom idle.

The Society is sponsored by the Chemical Heritage Foundation of Philadelphia and meets there in April and in September. Business meetings are always followed by a "show and tell" session in which members bring unusual and often rare "finds" from their collections. Invariably, the excitement goes well beyond the allotted time slot and, for many, continues even through lunch and beyond. At present, it has 67 members drawn from five countries in addition to the United States (UK, Pakistan, Italy, South Africa, and Israel). Four members are booksellers; five are women. There are no dues or fees. *Boltonia*, a first class newsletter, is published twice a year. James J. Bohning is Editor.

The Society's most extensive undertaking has been to sponsor four symposia on the subject "Notable Antiquarian Chemistry

Book Collectors and Their Public Collections." The symposia, which featured 21 speakers and discussed 27 collectors, were held in Chicago, Orlando, Boston, and New Orleans in conjunction with the History of Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society.

The sizes of member collections range from 8 (a new collector) to 35,000 items. Collecting interests vary widely: chemical company stock certificates, The Manhattan Project, military chemistry, alchemy, periodic tables, industrial chemistries, chemical engineering, the dye industry, I. G. Farben, the environment, folk medicine, John Dalton, books autographed by chemists, apparatus catalogs, mass spectroscopy—more than 40 interests in all.

The officers are Herbert T. Pratt, Founder and Chief Bibliophile, Ned Heindel, Chief Bibliophile Elect, and Elsa Atson, Secretary.

THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA



THE Book Club of California celebrated the advent of Richard H. Dillon's *Napa Valley Heyday* with a gala on December 13th. The edition of 450 was stunningly designed and printed by Jonathan Clark, Artichoke Press. Other books for early 2005 include Elizabeth Seaton's *California WPA Printmakers*, designed by Patrick Reagh, Printers, of Sebastopol, California; and *A Friend of Wine In New Worlds* by Dr. Thomas Pinney, being the life of John Ignatius Bleasdale, an English Jesuit who promoted viticulture and wine-making in nineteenth-century Australia and California. Southern California events to honor these books are planned. Also to appear early in the New Year is *Knights of the Lash*, sketches of stagecoach travels by the journalist and bon vivant Benjamin C. Truman, edited by Gary Kurutz.

The Winter exhibit of Gifts and Acquisitions to the Club's library was followed by a "Pochoir Spectacular" put together by Dr. Adela Roatcap, an authority on this form of illustration.

Sid Huttner of the University of Iowa is the scheduled speaker for January, his subject is the Chatauqua Society. In February, Robert Jackson will speak on Rockwell Kent.

A reminder to visitors to San Francisco: Monday Night at the Book Club is a convivial tradition, and the Club welcomes members and others from out of town.

THE CAXTON CLUB



IN ADDITION to our schedule of luncheon and dinner meetings, we would like to inform FABS members about some of our other activities.

January 14—Marilyn Sward will give a talk called "Paper Covers Rock." To play the children's game of Rock Paper Scissors, one must pound her fist on the table, open her hand and then look about to see who has won. Paper wins! And so Marilyn Sward, a founder of the Columbia College Center for the Book and Paper Arts, will tell all about this indescribably important material, PAPER, from its invention in China right up to its emergence as a fine craft. Along the way you will hear fascinating particulars, including Tree Whispers, a collaborative tree-saving project and the newly conceived Hunter Howel National Fellowship for future paper-producing artists. After graduating with honors from the University of Illinois, Marilyn learned to make paper by hand. Forty years later this is still a most important fact in her life. She has been the long time Director of the Columbia College Center for the Book and Paper Arts, a professor in Fibers at the School of the Art Institute and co-author of *The New Photography*, a book dealing with handmade paper's use in photography. Marilyn's work is in museum collections throughout the world. Currently retired, she will share with us some of her own work and other items from her extensive collection. The substrate will become more than the vehicle. Be assured, this talk will FOREVER change the way that you look at a book.

February 11—Adrian Alexander will talk about Matthew Fontaine Maury, a 19th-century marine scientist whose work led to the founding of the Naval Observatory.

March 11—Ed Quattrocchi will speak on the most important books published between 1455 and 1623.

April 8—Speaker Steve Tomashefsky will speak on "An Audubon Year."

For additional information please contact Hayward R. Blake at 847 864-9800 or hrblake@earthlink.net.

THE COLOPHON CLUB



THE Colophon Club meets for dinner and a talk on the second Tuesday of each month from September through May. For additional information please contact

Susan Filter at medici@sbcglobal.com or 415 931-3396.

THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES



THE first meeting of the 2004/05 season was held on September 19, a beautiful day for a visit to the Brandywine River Museum, a restored mill in its natural setting, nestled next to the picturesque Brandywine River in Chadds Ford, PA. The members of the F.O.C. Darley Society also were invited to join the Bibliophiles for the tour. The librarian and DB member, Gail Stanislow, conducted a tour of the new library facilities. The library is located in the new wing of the museum, which has recently undergone a three-year expansion and/or renovation of all of its facilities.

We were able to see some of the highlights of the special collections, which Gail had arranged on the tables for viewing. There were books illustrated by Howard Pyle, N. C. Wyeth, F. O. C. Darley, Frank Schoonover, and others. There was also some rare and unusual items: Gertrude Brinckley's own copy of the book she co-

authored with Willard Morse, *Howard Pyle: A Record of His Illustrations and Writings* (1921), in which she had inserted a letter and an original sketch by Howard Pyle; N. C. Wyeth's copy of *The Scottish Chiefs* (Thomas Y. Crowell, no date), which he had annotated with a list of the pages and events that he planned to illustrate for the upcoming Scribner's version; letters from Cecilia Beaux and other materials from the Thornton Oakley manuscript collection; letters from the Maxfield Parrish collection; magazine and newspaper clippings about members of the Wyeth family; printer's proofs for Charles Santore's recent book on Paul Revere; etc.

In addition to their library, we were able to tour the various galleries of the museum, including the new exhibition, "Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend," which features illustrations of Paul Revere by many artists including Howard Pyle, N. C. Wyeth, and more, as well as artifacts, which portrayed Revere as the myth and the man.

Our next meeting followed shortly after our first and involved our participation in the many events of Oak Knoll Fest XI, held in New Castle, DE on October 2nd and 3rd. More than 45 fine press printers took part, which was the largest number to date. This

year's symposium was on "Book Illustration" and one of the moderators was our member Tim Murray, Librarian and Head of the Special Collection Department at the University of Delaware Library.

Preceding Oak Knoll Fest was the 28th annual conference of APHA (American Printing History Association), held this year at the University of Delaware Library, that many of our members attended. Their theme was "Picture This: The Art and Technique of Illustration." Two of our members, Susan Brynteson and Mark Samuels Lasner, were very involved with organizing this conference that opened Thursday afternoon, September 30th, with a keynote address by publisher and printing historian David R. Godine. His talk marked the opening of an exhibition of the work of renowned artist and wood engraver, John DePol who was in attendance for this event. John is an honorary member of The DB's and has provided a number of illustrations for our publications as well as our DB logo. The confluence of the APHA conference and Oak Knoll Fest allowed us to see many members from other FABS clubs.

Three members from Delaware joined four of our Baltimore members in attending the 50th anniversary celebration of The

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Baltimore Bibliophiles in November, held at the newly renovated, spectacular Peabody Library. Nicholas Basbanes spoke on "Among the Gently Mad." As a part of the celebration Baltimore Bibliophile members took part in an exhibition which included selected items from their collections and what TREASURES they were!

Forty-one members and guests attended our annual fund raising auction and dinner on Thursday, November 18. Proceeds from the raffle and 63 donated lots totaled slightly over one thousand dollars, which is very good considering the highest priced lot sold for \$55. It was an 1862 Delaware Lottery 4 page circular. Other highlights, in addition to homemade edibles and a bottle of Bailey's Irish Whiskey, included a "Map of Historical Chester County" drawn by Andrew Wyeth; 6 issues of Hercules Powder Company's "Paper Maker;" a D.B. Updike, Merrymount Press publication of "The Nightingale;" and 9 lots of bookseller catalogs that brought a total of \$110. Dates and events for our spring meetings have not been finalized but will include our annual dinner with speaker in March and we are exploring taking another trip.

We always welcome visitors from other FABS clubs. Contact our president Tom Doherty at tdoherty@bookbarn.com for current information. Copies of our two most recent publications with original John DePol wood engravings are still available. For additional information concerning our 25th anniversary history, which also has an original leaf printed by Benjamin Franklin tipped in and a separate print of DePol's engraving of Franklin's Press, contact Andrew McKay at mckay514@aol.com.

THE BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT



THE Book Club of Detroit ended 2004 with a semi-annual fund-raising book auction. Thanks to generous donors we raised \$2,500. We toasted to our 47th year, voted in Janet Whitson (retired Rare Book librarian for the Detroit Public Library) as our new president, and thanked Jay Platt (owner of West Side Books, Ann Arbor) as outgoing president. Past-president Shahida Nurullah (jazz singer par excellence) entertained and our professional auctioneer Bill Schwedler delighted us with book descriptions. The Scarab Club, our Detroit headquarters, was beautifully decorated—a perfect setting for announcing our activities for 2005. We begin with an outstanding

author from Wayne State University Press, then the Local History Conference, the Ann Arbor Book Festival, the Kerrytown Book Fest, the 3rd annual "Collectomania" in conjunction with the University of Michigan, a reception to honor member Jan Longone's Culinary Book department of the Clements Library, Carolyn Barnett-Goldstein (free-lance writer on music and the arts) speaking on "Banned Books," our Book Shop Crawl, and a visit to the private collection of Dr. Jerald Mitchell in his Henry Ford home. Many will attend the FABS St. Louis trip also. Our "Bird Book Seminar" catalogue is available (\$10), and we are busy putting a new publication together, "200 Years of Book Sellers in Detroit."

We welcome you to our meetings. Call Joan Knoertzer, at the Library B&B, 734 668-6815 for specifics.

FINE PRESS BOOK ASSOCIATION



THE Fine Press Book Association held its annual meeting during the Oak Knoll Fest XI, New Castle, Delaware in October. The Board decided to simplify dues tracking by sending out annual notices in March of each year. Crispin Elsted, editor of the North American issues of *Parenthesis*, asked for help in finding potential book reviewers. Contact Crispin at Barbarian_Press@telus.net. Dues remain at \$40 US for Standard and \$225 US for Deluxe memberships that include two issues of the journal each year.

For more information please contact the Membership Secretary Morva Gowans at FPBA_morva@shaw.ca in Vancouver, or Chairman Stephen Heaver in Baltimore at sgheaver@aol.com.

FLORIDA BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY



OUR September meeting kicked off what we believe will be another stimulating and entertaining year for The Florida Bibliophile Society. Our guest speaker, Roberta Ballentine, purported to show Christopher Marlowe wrote all the Shakespearean plays. FBS member Martha Sweet offered a rebuttal in defense of the Bard. It is doubtful that any minds were changed by the bunking and debunking.

October's guest speaker was Dr. Richard Mathews of the University of Tampa. He discussed the history of the now defunct Konglomerati Press and his efforts to establish a Letter Press Studio to perpetuate the art of printing. It would utilize the equipment of the Konglomerati Press which is presently in storage at the University of Tampa.

Our November meeting was the traditional sale and trade of books by members and discussions of books that have had particular interest to individual members.

The December holiday party was held at the Heritage Village in Largo on December 12th.

FBS is presently exploring the establishment of our own website and will inform FABS members when it is established.

January and March meetings will be on the third Sunday of the month at the University of Tampa Library. February and April meetings will be at Heritage Village. All meetings begin at 1:30 and all guests are welcome to partake in our high carb victuals.

Any questions, contact George Spiero at 727 376-4914 or atgspiero@earthlink.net.

FONTANEDA SOCIETY



ALL programs are from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Bienes Center for the Literary Arts, sixth floor, Broward County Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida unless otherwise noted.

January 20—President Fred Ruffner will host a literary/musical evening at his residence, 7 to 9 p.m.

February 17—Vojteck Kubasta (1914-1992), Pop-up Artist and Paper Engineer: A Retrospective. Ellen G.K. Rubin of Scarsdale, NY will speak about her Kubasta collection and her involvement in the Bienes Center exhibition.

March 17—2005 Florida Artists' Book Prize Exhibition and Award Ceremony. The winning artist will accept the \$2,000 annual prize and speak about the winning book.

April 9—Book Appraisal Road Show with Fort Lauderdale bookseller, Rob Hittel. Co-sponsored by the Florida Center for the Book. This will be a tutorial program with projection on a screen of the books being appraised by Mr. Hittel.

May 19—Annual meeting and Election of Officers. Show and tell.

On Sale: The WPA: An Exhibition of Works Progress Administration Literature and Art from the Collections of the Bienes

Center for the Literary Arts: October 6-December 31, 1998. The 88-page perfect bound catalog with 99 b&w illustrations features 261 books, pamphlets, ephemera, and artworks from the over 1400 WPA items belonging to the Bienes Center, plus three unpublished Federal Writers' Project texts. \$15.00.

Rivers of America Color Poster. Issued in conjunction with the exhibit: "The Rivers of America: A Selected Exhibition of Books from the Collection of Carol Fitzgerald, the 26 x 20 inch poster features Robert Fink's art from the dustjacket of *The Everglades: River of Grass*. \$15.00.

THE GROLIER CLUB



UNLESS otherwise stated, all exhibitions are held at The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022.

"A Heavenly Craft: The Woodcut in Early Printed Books," from the Lessing Rosenwald and Dyson Perrins Collections at the Library of Congress. This exhibition of over eighty books explores the developments in technique, composition, perspec-

tive, and coloration of the woodcut in Western Europe. Curated by Grolier Club member Daniel De Simone. Will run December 8 through February 5.

"Past Presence: The Objects of Study at the Getty Research Institute," from the special collections of the Research Library at the Getty Research Institute. "Past Presence offers viewers an evocative selection of books, photographs, sketches, architectural drawings, engravings, and woodcuts, which examines how creators respond to the ephemeral quality of time in capturing the present, recreating the past, and imagining the future. Will run February 23 through April 30.

"The Western Pursuit of the American Dream: Selections from the Collection of Kenneth W. Rendell." The distinctive western landscape and the vast opportunities it presented for nineteenth-century Americans are chronicled in a spectacular assemblage of documents and books. Beginning with the Spanish conquest of Mexico and ending with Hollywood's long love affair with the "Western." Runs May 11 through July 30.

All of our public exhibitions are open free of charge Mondays to Saturdays from

10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. All our other events are open to Grolier Club members only. Please visit our website at www.grolier-club.org.

LONG ISLAND BOOK COLLECTORS



THIS Fall we have had a varied and interesting series of meetings. In September, John Woram, former FABS trustee, presented a talk on Samuel Pepys and his diary showing some of the editions of the diary from his collection.

October brought us Mike Marrell, our President, discussing Aaron Burr, his biographers, and selected works of fiction about Burr and his daughter Theodosia.

In November at our annual luncheon, Marvin Mondlin, lately the estates buyer for the Strand Bookstore in lower Manhattan, described some of the collections he purchased as well as other interesting anecdotes.

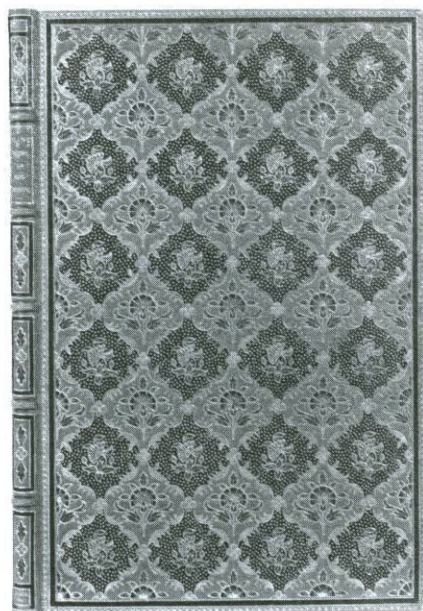
In December, we met at the home of a local bookbinder and repairer to learn

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Thomas G Boss and Martin Antonetti

Published to coincide with The Grolier Club exhibition

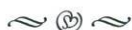
"Bound To Be The Best: The Club Bindery"

Boston: Thomas G. Boss Fine Books, 2004. Small quarto, full royal blue cloth, gilt. 10" by 12", 137pp. One of 550 copies printed on Monadnock Dulcet paper. Design and typography by Jerry Kelly. With 28 full-page color plates of which four are tipped-in and 46 full-page black and white plates of fine bindings crafted by The Club Bindery, The Rowfant Bindery, The Booklover's Shop, and The French Binders. There are 59 descriptions of books exhibited at The Grolier Club show along with informative material and photographs relating to binding tools and brass plate dies in addition to indices of author, title, and exhibition history. A thoroughly researched essay on the history of the Club Bindery and its later incarnations by former Grolier Club and present Smith College Librarian Martin Antonetti leads off the catalogue. Published to coincide with The Grolier Club exhibition "Bound To Be The Best: The Club Bindery" taking place from September 14, 2004 to November 20, 2004, this book represents the only major treatment of the finest hand bindery ever to exist in the United States. An indispensable book for all those interested in fine bindings, bookbinding history and the development of American bookmaking. \$195.00 (Please inquire regarding our Deluxe Edition.)

some of his techniques for stabilizing and repairing our books.

Among the featured topics for our meetings in the New Year will be: Collecting T.S. Stribling, A retrospective of H. P. Kraus, Methods for organizing our collections, Collecting books on the Civil War.

NORTHERN OHIO BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETY



OUR 2004-2005 NOBS Night programs got off to a good start with a talk and reading by poet Maggie Anderson. NOBS president Larry Rakow then spoke on collecting children's pop-up books; followed by Bob Zimmermann on the history of Silver Lake, Ohio; and Joe Huber on Christmas in a Japanese internment camp.

Meetings are regularly held at the Tanagers Restaurant in Akron.

January 11—"Collecting Pulp Magazines" Gordon Huber.

February 8—"Collecting Aldous Huxley" Sanford Marovitz.

March 8—"Akron Public Library's Special Collections." Judy James.

April 12—"Collecting Travel Books." Charla Coatoam.

May 10—"Case Western Reserve University Library's Special Collections." Susie Hanson.

NOBS Special Event. February 26—"Book Collecting 101." Larry Rakow.

NOBS Book Fair. March 25-26—Emidio's Party Center. For information contact Mike Lahey at readdoc@worldnet.att.net.

All are welcome at these programs. Call The Bookseller, Inc. at 330 865-5831 for information and reservations.

The Annual Meeting was held on November 7, 2004, at Nighttown in Cleveland with Cleveland writer Michael Ruhlman as speaker.

The latest NOBS keepsake has just been published. It is *This Business of Books: A Long-Time Ohio Bookseller Talks About the Book Business*, an interview of Frank Klein by Alice Matej, edited by Roy Preece. Copies are available for \$10.00, post paid, from the Village Bookshelf, 746 Amherst Road, NE, Massillon, Ohio 44646-8506

The NOBS website at www.nobsweb.org contains, among other things, the NOBS dealer directory.

For additional information about NOBS, please contact President Larry Rakow at 216 932-3084 or Lrakow@earthlink.net.

THE PHILOBIBLON CLUB



THE Philobiblon Club prepares to finish its 110th year in much the same way it has all the others. That is with our usual complement of six dinner meetings held at the almost-as-old Franklin Inn Club at the corner of Camac and St. James Streets in center city Philadelphia.

Our meetings are a comfortable mix of good friends, wine, food, and books. Our speakers must be lively enough to overcome the comfortable chairs and full bellies of their audiences after dinner.

We meet on the second Tuesday of every month October through April.

January 11—Janice Fisher (editor). While Ms. Fisher has not announced her topic yet, the Club is still laughing at her last talk "I Married a Book Collector: One Woman's Poignant Story" which she has also delivered to the Grolier Club.

February 8—Craig Martin will speak on Christopher North (John Wilson).

March 8—Tricia Treacy will speak on the history and work of the Pointed Press.

April 12—Dr. Page Talbott and Dr. Ros Remer will speak on their work with the preparations for the upcoming Benjamin Franklin 300th anniversary exhibition in Philadelphia.

Guests are welcome at our meetings. Please arrange in advance with the Secretary, Thomas Whitehead. Phone: 215 204-8230 or e-mail: thomas.whitehead@temple.edu.

THE BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY OF ROCHESTER



THE December meeting was held at the University of Rochester to view the exhibition, "Gilbert and Sullivan: From London to America." This exhibit, which is on display at the University's Rare Books and Special Collections Department from October through January, is on loan from the Society's own, Dr. Hal Kanthor. Dr. Kanthor will speak about the exhibit and his Gilbert and Sullivan collection.

A "Book Fair/Swap Meet" is scheduled for January at which members will be able to "lighten the load." There will be a general auction for the benefit of the society and members will also be able to get appraisals and trade or swap books.

In February, Society member Colleen

Hurst will present a "Birthday Salute" to Susan B. Anthony. For more than thirty years, Colleen has been associated with the Susan B. Anthony House in Rochester, New York, where she is a trustee and docent. Her collecting interests center around the growth of Women's Rights from the 1840's to about 1920 and she is especially focused on happenings in Western New York, the birthplace of the Women's Suffrage Movement.

At the March meeting, speaker Rodney Taylor will give a presentation entitled, "Voyages Along the California Coast" and in April we will hear from Mr. Steve Clarke who will speak about mystery writer Dorothy L. Sayers and the "Lord Peter Wimsey Mysteries."

Members' Night, which features readings from works of prose and poetry by society members, will be the evening's fare for the May meeting. We close our Bibliophilic Season in June with the Society's annual banquet.

All meetings are open to the public and are usually held on the third Wednesdays of September through May at the Brighton Town Hall, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Occasional field trips are had throughout the bibliophilic season, as announced in the monthly newsletter and through local news media.

For additional information, contact Ray Edinger by phone at 585 663-1339 or e-mail at redinger@rochester.rr.com.

THE ROWFANT CLUB



THE Rowfant Club was founded in 1892 by a group of Clevelanders who were passionately interested in book collecting and literature, in art and ideas, in history and culture. They decided to form a club and name it after what was then an especially famous library in Sussex, England, housing the collections of Frederick Locker-Lampson. His permission arrived and we were off and renting in a series of short-lived headquarters until we bought, in 1895 what is still the club's own house and the oldest continuously inhabited house in Cuyahoga County. Built in 1838, the house now contains our very special collections of books as well as memorabilia ranging from autographs and painting as well as furniture and archival material on Rowfant history and members.

Rowfant is a very busy club indeed with meetings in season every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. This second half of our

season, we will hear on Wednesdays from noted book collectors, authors, and illustrators as well as librarians from around the world. On Fridays, after lunch, we will listen to members deliver talks on topics ranging from Rowfant history, to Latin and Greek history, and literature of all kinds, and all aspects of collecting today. On Saturdays we engage in a civilized but passionate discussion over lunch on current affairs. But, the essence of The Rowfant Club is books, collecting them, reading them and discussing them. Those were our core concerns in 1892 and they still are some 113 years later. We wish everyone a very Happy New Year and a wonderful and fulfilling 2005.

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

THE ROXBURGHE CLUB



THE Roxburghe Club meets the third Tuesday of the month, September through May, at the University Club on the corner of Powell and California Streets

atop Nob Hill in downtown San Francisco. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m.

The Master of the Press (2003-5) is Peter Rutledge Koch and the Printer's Devil is Nancy Coopersmith.

Fellow bibliophiles traveling to San Francisco on our dinner nights please feel invited and contact one of us if you would like to attend.

January: "Parti-Silk, Thibet Morocco, and Velvet Calf: *Lucile Exposed*." Sidney F. Huttner, Head of Special Collections for the University of Iowa Libraries will address the club about his *Lucile* collection. A romance in rhymed couplets, Owen Meredith's long-forgotten *Lucile* first published in 1860, quickly became a run-away best-seller in the United States. A favorite of reprint publishers, it saw at least two thousand editions by 1920. Mr. Huttner, librarian and slightly daft collector, is trying to get his hands on one copy of each issue. He's up to eight hundred.

February: "The Naked Finger for Lunch: William S. Burroughs." Observations about William S. Burroughs and his influence on contemporary writings. Robert H. Jackson, senior partner at Kohrman, Jackson, & Krantz P.L.L. and noted Bibliophile from

Cleveland, Ohio will address the club about his William Burroughs collection.

March: "The Book and the Fine Press: An Hysterical Romance?" A joint meeting with San Francisco's Colophon Club. Crispin Elsted, Proprietor of the Barbarian Press in Mission, British Columbia and the North American editor of the Fine Press Book Association's *Parenthesis* magazine will address the matter of fine printing today.

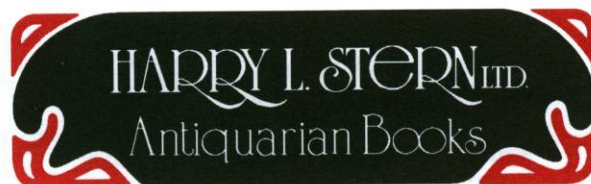
April: Unconfirmed at the time of this writing.

May: "Life After Goff: Rare Books at The Library of Congress." Mark Dimunation, Chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division and Assistant Director of Special Collections at the Library of Congress will address the Club on the current state of the nation's rare book library.

SACRAMENTO BOOK COLLECTORS CLUB



THE Sacramento Book Collectors Club has had a busy and fruitful year. After a summer break the Club met in September in the State Library and Courts Build-



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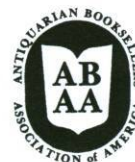
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ing and heard Paula Boghosian speak on the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium. Having written the book *Sacramento Memorial Auditorium: Seven Decades of Memories*, she was well versed on this topic and provided a wonderful presentation on the preservation efforts of this magnificent building. We were honored to have Michael George, City of Sacramento Architect and project manager for the auditorium's rehabilitation, assist her. Boghosian's previous book, *Vanishing Victorians*, a publication on Victorian architecture in Sacramento has sold out and is much sought after by Sacramento historians.

In October we were graced with speaker Linda K. Smith, Librarian and Board of Director for The San Francisco Center for the Book. Her fond recollections on the creation of her book, *One Woman's Sewing Bee*, was warmly received and prompted many questions and shared memories by Club members.

November arrived with the poetic pair Carol and Laverne Frith. Laverne opened with a poem written about a house and its contents, which included a collection of books, catching fire! The audience, after recovering from this traumatic verse, was read selections from their previous works which included Carol's "In and Out of Light," and Laverne's "In the Translated Day." The Friths publish a poetry journal *Ekphrasis* and are consultants for poets wanting to publish chapbooks.

Our December meeting was appropriately festive and generous with many donations of holiday cookies, books donated by members including a fine book from member Joseph D'Ambrosio, and gift certificates. The gift certificates were gratefully received from Barry Cassidy Books, Don Conner Fine Books, Bruce Cave Fine Books, The Book Collector, Richard Press Books, Time Tested Books, & Beers Books. Our speaker, Laine Keneller, introduced us to her new board game "Booktastic!" The board game challenges players to recollect literary fact, fiction, and book details as one proceeds around the illustrated board. The player that wins advances to the esteemed title of "Bookcollector." Information on this highly recommended and expertly packaged board game can be found online.

December was also the amazing 107th birthday of charter member Mike Harrison and the 100th birthday of Marion Tinling who has been a member since the early 1950s. Could there be a connection to long life and the enjoyment of the printed word?

Our January meeting is the favorite of many. Our printer members donate keep-

sakes, many from the past, that frequently command higher prices than could have been foreseen by their creators.

February 11 will be our 66th Anniversary Dinner Meeting. We are very proud to announce that Walter P. Gray, III who wrote the introduction to our recent reprint publication, *Preliminary Report of the Chief Engineer, Central Pacific Railroad*, by Theodore Judah will be our guest speaker. Gray will regale us with his knowledge of Sacramento Railroads and Theodore Judah. Gray was on the staff of the State Railroad Museum for twenty-one year's, the last eight as Director. FABS members will share in any club discount extended to our SBCC members. The price for dinner and speaker should not exceed \$40. Please join us.

Our "Reprint Series" has been completed. As last reported we have finished the first two, *John Sutter and His Grants* by John A. Laufkotter editor, with an introduction by Kenneth N. Owens, Emeritus Professor of History, California State University Sacramento and *Preliminary Report of the Chief Engineer, Central Pacific Railroad* by Theodore Judah.

We are proud to announce the completion of *Crossing the Plains and Early Days in California* by Mary Ackley with an introduction by Ruth Ellis, Librarian, The Sacramento Room, Central Library, and *The Early Days and Men of California* by William F. Swasey, editor, with an introduction by Daryl Morrison, Head, Special Collections Shields Library at the University of California Davis. As a bonus, a second introduction by William Swasey's descendant, Lucille Swasey Vinsant, is added.

These reprints will be made available to FABS members who join the Sacramento Book Collectors Club. Membership is \$25. Reprints are \$6.95 for the first three and \$19.95 for the Swasey book. This Reprint Series was spearheaded by Giles Lauren, Publications Committee Chair.

Many thanks to our talented members for their hard work: Hebert Drummond and Daryl Morrison for serving on the Selections Committee, Lois Shumaker for providing us with OCR texts of high quality, Bob Dickover for his three color letterpress posters, and past Presidents Virginia Hawthorn and Susan Hanks for their enthusiastic support. Special thanks to our Treasurer Brad Casoly for keeping us in black ink.

The Sacramento Book Collectors Club is still working on a "Sacramento List" of publications found to be most significant or to be the best original source material for the history of the Sacramento area.

In the works will be a leaf book by Vince Lozito and Bob Dickover. This leaf book will enjoy a small publication run and will be made available to members first. Those of you in possession of this duo's two previous leaf books will attest to the high quality and artistic impression of their presentation.

In the inception stage is the desire to consolidate and reprint information on the 1775-1776 Anza Expedition. Ed Carrol, bibliophile and E. Clampus Vitus member has agreed to head up this project.

The purpose of the Sacramento Book Collectors Club is to promote the printed word and to publish from time to time such books, pamphlets, and other forms of printing, that reflect club interests, as determined and selected by a consensus of the membership.

The Sacramento Book Collectors Club meets at 7:00 p.m. the second Friday of each month except for July and August. We welcome and encourage fellow members of FABS to attend our free programs.

For additional information please contact Carl Burke at sbclub@gmail.com or 916 747-8781.

THE TICKNOR SOCIETY



THE Ticknor Society is an organization of book collectors, booksellers, librarians, historians, archivists, conservators, printers, publishers, writers, and all lovers and readers of books. We are dedicated to the enjoyment, promotion, and support of books and book culture.

The Society is named for George Ticknor (1791-1871) and his daughter Anna Eliot Ticknor (1823-1896). George Ticknor was a prominent Boston collector, scholar, and library supporter. His great collection of Spanish literature is at the Boston Public Library. Anna Eliot Ticknor was an early member of the Massachusetts Library Commission (founded in 1890, the first state library commission in the United States) and an active promoter of literacy for all. Both father and daughter were instrumental in making books widely accessible in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Members of The Ticknor Society gather approximately six times a year to socialize with friends and colleagues, listen to and present papers, share information and research, take workshops, and spread good

cheer. Programs include lectures, collectors' roundtables, visits to exhibitions and private collections, behind-the-scenes tours of area libraries, and workshops. There is an annual meeting with a featured speaker.

Membership in The Ticknor Society is open to anyone who loves and appreciates books. Annual dues are \$20 per individual and cover the academic year cycle (September through August).

For additional information regarding the Society or upcoming events, please visit us online at www.ticknor.org or contact us at info@ticknor.org or 617-495-2509.

EVENTS CALENDAR, JANUARY-MAY, 2005

Theda Skocpol on Fraternal Literature

Tuesday, January 11, 2005

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Barker Center, Harvard University

Theda Skocpol, Victor S. Thomas Professor of Government and Sociology, and Director of the Center for American Political Studies at Harvard University, will speak on how she used the publications of fraternal organizations in her research on the rise and development of voluntary organizations in the United States from the 1790s to the present.

Tour of Widener Library with Matthew Battles

Monday, January 24, 2005

Time TBA

Widener Library, Harvard University

Matthew Battles, the author of the popular *Library: an Unquiet History* and the newly-published *Widener: Biography of a Library*, will lead a guided tour of Widener Library.

Paste Paper Workshop

Saturday, March 5, 2005

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Simmons College

The art and craft of paste paper decoration was born in the seventeenth century, carried out in religious communities and in the secular world with tremendous artistry and precision. The technique produces paste papers of an endless variety of design, color, and imagination. They are easy to produce and more fun than you can imagine.

Using simple materials and tools (and some lovely papers—all supplied), you will be able to create your own paste papers in this workshop, conducted by Sid Berger, who has given such workshops on two continents.

Curator's Tour with Ken Rendell

Sunday, April 17, 2005

2:00 p.m.

National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA

Join us for a special weekend afternoon with curator and collector Ken Rendell, who will conduct a guided tour of his exhibition "The Western Pursuit of the American Dream." Nearly 200 spectacular objects from Rendell's collection are exhibited, chronicling the West through the actual words and artifacts of explorers, travelers, warriors, gold seekers, merchants, and outlaws who shaped the American frontier.

Field Trip to Providence

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Supreme Court of Rhode Island

The Honorable Frank J. Williams, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island and the owner of one of the largest private collection of books, manuscripts, and artifacts relating to Abraham Lincoln, will speak on Collecting Lincoln. The evening will include a tour of Judge Williams' chambers and some of his collection housed therein.

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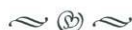
Tuesday, May 3, 2005

5:00-7:00 p.m.

St. Botolph's Club, Boston, MA

Wrap up the year with a special evening at the St. Botolph's Club in Boston. The evening will include a talk by Bernard Margolis, president of the Boston Public Library, as well as a brief business meeting and reception open to all. Members will have the option of staying on afterwards to dine with fellow Ticknorites.

BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON



THE Book Club of Washington hosted its annual dinner and fundraising auction at the venerable Rainier Club in downtown Seattle on December 2nd. The Robert D. Monroe award was presented to students in the Book Arts Program at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. New Board Members and Officers were ratified at the meeting. Leading the group for 2005 will be Anne Repass, a collector of Jane Austen books and other nine-

teenth century literature. Recently Club events have included author readings at a local bookstore throughout the summer months.

A members-only tour of the smashing new Seattle Public Library was held, with a special emphasis on the Seattle Room, the city library's collection of rare historic materials about Seattle and its surrounding area. Other rare books are also housed in this new room. The Seattle Public Library was designed by architect Rem Koolhaas of the Netherlands in conjunction with librarians in the Seattle system. It has become a major tourist site in the city with over a million visitors over the summer.

Plans for the 2005 year include forging closer ties with the Seattle Public Library and the University of Washington Libraries. A survey of the membership will occur early in the new year to determine member interests and programs. The BCW publication of the *George Sterling Bibliography* will occur in January of 2005. Inquiries about the purchase of the *Bibliography* should be made at info@bookclubofwashington.org or www.bookclubofwashington.org

For information contact Anne Repass at 206 213-0660 or annerepass@aol.com.

THE ZAMORANO CLUB



THE Zamorano Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month excepting July, August, and September. An annual outing is planned for June each year.

January 5—"Some Aspects of Fine Printing." Regis M. Graden, Introduced by Andre M.V. Chaves, MD.

February 2—"Early California Mail Service." Eric A. Nelson. Introduced by Jerome R. Selmer.

March 2—"Design and Printing of Edward Weston's First Monograph." Michael Dawson. Introduced by Victoria Dailey.

April 6—"How I Got (almost) the Best Sir Richard Burton Collection" Loren Rothschild. Introduced by Alan Jutzi.

May 4—"In the Dust of the Lewis & Clark Trail." Ludd A. Trozpek. Introduced by Charles A. Goldsmid.

June 1—"Scipio Craig and the Printing of the Citrography." Nathan Gonzales. Introduced by Larry Burgess.

ERRATUM. The Fall 2004 issue of the *FABS Newsletter* inexplicably listed the membership in The Alcuin Society at 65. It should have read 400.

PBA Galleries Welcomes Consignors & Bidders

Science Fiction and Fantasy: The Library of Peter Dillon.
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Grand Tour. The Collection of Dr. Jerrold Peil 01/27/05

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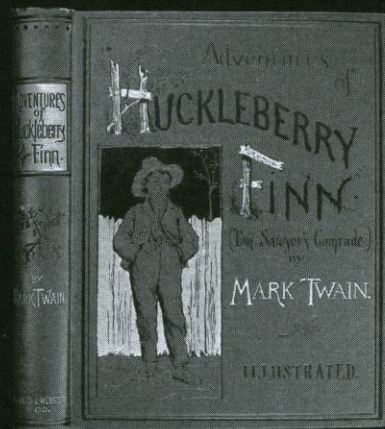
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READING HAPPILY EVER AFTER

ONCE UPON A TIME, there was a little boy who loved to read. He not only loved to read, but he also loved to own books, to acquire books, to lovingly store his books in his bedroom where he could read and cherish his books to his heart's content. They offered him solace, escape, and a window into this world that others only imagined. He read with a gluttonous appetite, and he always seemed to need to be buying more and more books to fulfill his need to read. His library grew and grew, spilling over into the hall outside his bedroom and eventually finding its way into every room in the house.

The boy grew into manhood, and he was able to buy his own home. Into this home he moved his treasured library, which had grown to some thousands of volumes. Every free moment in his life was spent reading or acquiring more books. One night, as he slept fitfully, a bright light suddenly appeared in his bedroom. Rubbing

his eyes, he beheld a fairy princess who said, "Awaken. Because of your purity of soul and love of learning, you are to be granted one wish. But choose carefully—remember the words of Saint Theresa of Avila, who said, 'There are more tears shed over answered prayers than over unanswered prayers.'" And with that, the fairy princess disappeared.

The young man pondered his opportunity, as well as the admonition that he had been given. He knew that he could wish for all the books that he would ever want to read, but the sheer volume of such a library would be overwhelming and unmanageable. He could wish for all the money that he would ever need to purchase books, but he realized that such wealth would only lead to ennui, the nectar turning to dust in his mouth as his riches lost their luster and became simply a burden. He thought about what he could wish for that would assure his perpetual happiness.

Days and weeks passed as he puzzled over the question. He felt that the answer was there, just beyond his reach. One night he lay in bed, unable to sleep, his mind in turmoil over what to wish for. He finally thought that he might feel better if he just got up and read one of his books, but he found that even this offered little comfort. And then he had it. It had been right there all along, but the solution had eluded him until this moment of epiphany. He sprang from his bed and shouted, "Oh fairy princess, my wish is that I will never lose my love of reading!" Instantly the fairy princess appeared. "You have chosen wisely," she said. "The key to life's satisfaction does not reside in riches or in objects, but rests securely in the depth of your passions. Books have no value—your love of them is the treasure." And the young man read happily ever after.

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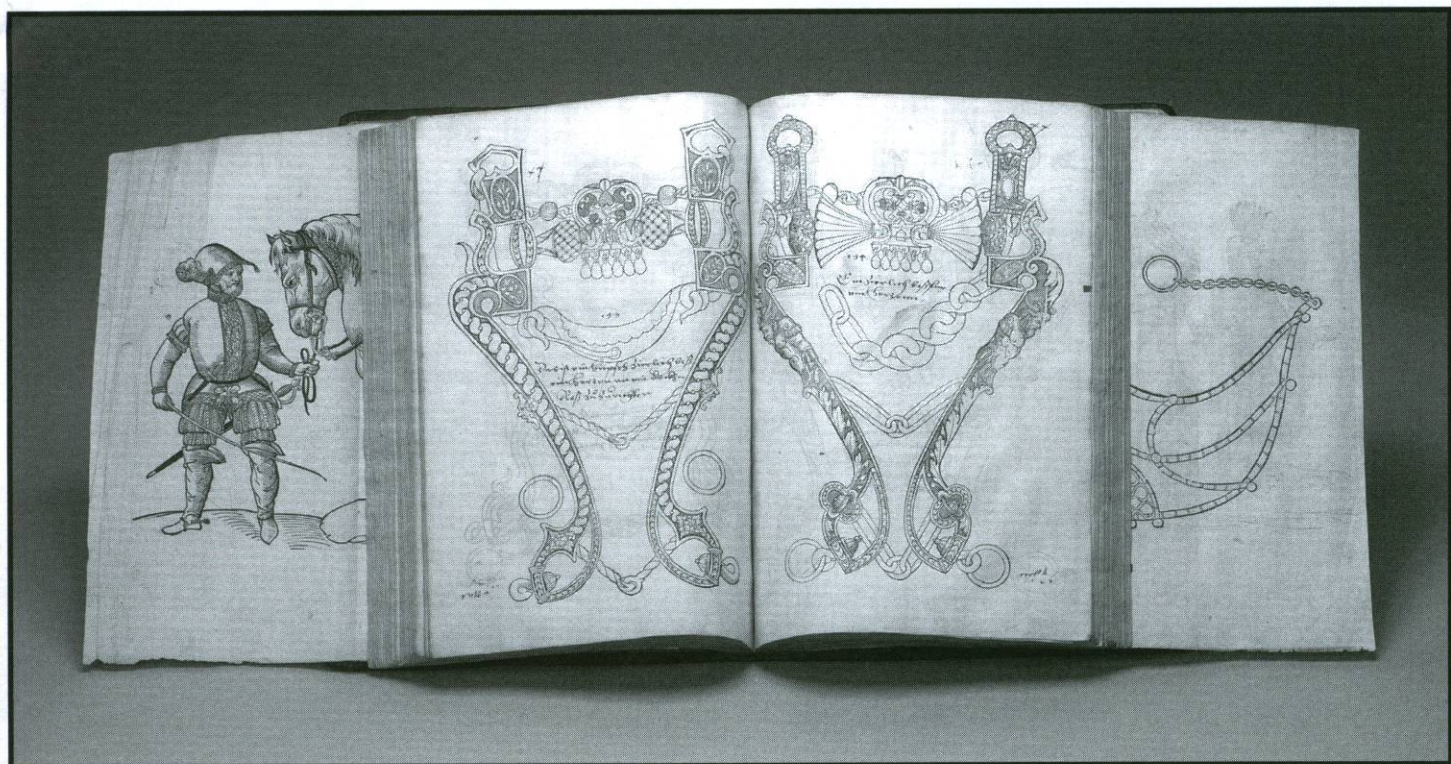
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