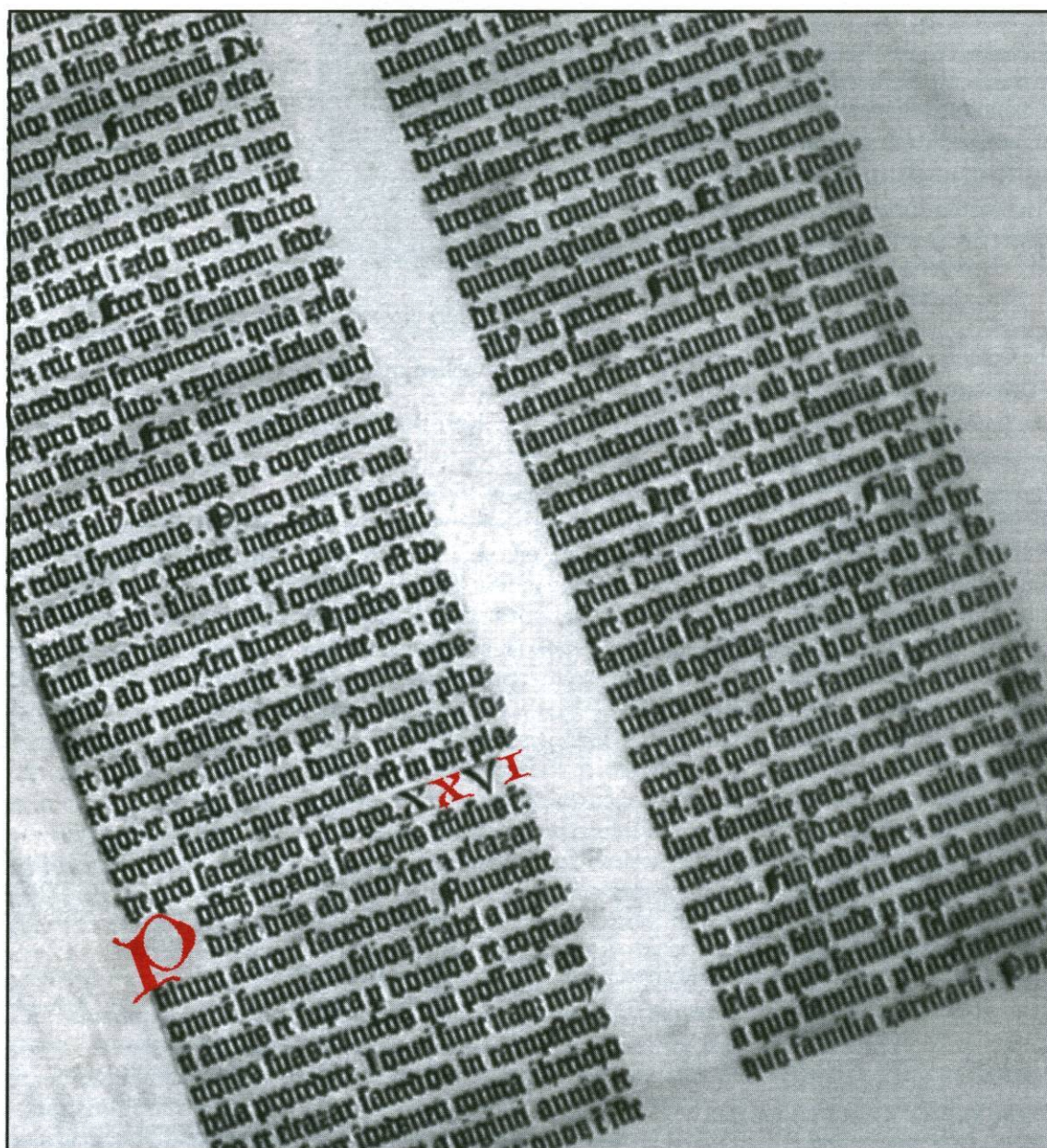


THE FELLOWSHIP OF *American* Bibliophilic Societies

FALL 2005

VOLUME IX • NUMBER 2



The A. Edward Newton Auction PART TWO Caxton Club Leaf Book Exhibition

The Franklin Tercentenary Club News & Notes Collector's Bin

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 cover image is a detail of The Gutenberg Bible leaf from
The Lilly Library copy of *A Noble Fragment*.

From the Chair

HAD YOU THOUGHT, after reading *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*, that St. Louis' glory days were in the past and that the city was, if not in the doldrums, not exactly the brightest light on the Christmas tree, you would have been wrong.

Few of the forty-two travelers on the FABS-St. Louis Book Tour and Symposium, May 11-14, 2005, had any prior conception of the beauty of the city and the wealth of its bibliophilic resources. In a John Hoover (Director of the superlative St. Louis Mercantile Library) orchestrated and beautifully organized four days, we saw the libraries at Washington University and Saint Louis University; the St. Louis Mercantile Library; the Missouri Botanical Garden Library; the St. Louis Public Library; the private libraries of Julian Edison, Kay Kramer, and Peter and

Marianne Gleich; and the stunning presentations by Eric Newman, Curtis Finley, and Richard Baker.

October 6-9, 2005, is The Grolier Club tour of Toronto. May 10-13, 2006, is set for FABS-Seattle. That team led by Martin Greene and the Emorys, Meade and Deborah, who first suggested Seattle in



A detail from *King Lear*, Act III, Scene IV by Benjamin West from the Boydell Shakespeare Prints at the St. Louis Mercantile Library

2003, has gone more thoroughly and rapidly into the art and science of bibliophilic tours than any of us.

Leslie Overstreet, from her Smithsonian vantage point, is working on FABS-Washington, D.C. in 2007. Because of "tourist traffic patterns" in our capitol city, it may be a September or October venue, rather than in the spring.

The FABS executive committee, replete in handsome FABS ties and scarves, is working with local and national organizations to encourage youthful book collecting competitions and exhibitions.

Bob Jackson's FABS publication of past symposia presentations has completed the editing stage and is now moving rapidly toward publication next spring with the good folks at Oak Knoll Press.

What nice people are those involved in the book world!

JOHN C. CARSON, M.D., *Chair*

FABS in Seattle, May 10-13, 2006

THE BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON is the host club and the "The Emerald City" is the site of the ninth annual FABS Book Tour and Symposium sponsored by the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies. For those attendees arriving in Seattle by mid-day on **Wednesday, May 10**, the 2006 Tour will start at about 1:30 p.m. with a visit to the Seattle Asian Art Museum and its Art Library, located in the heart of the magnificent 48-acre Olmsted-designed Volunteer Park. The Museum is a handsome 1933 *art moderne* structure containing an outstanding collection of Asian materials, and its library includes resources in English, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean languages. On the Museum grounds is a major installation by Alexander Calder—his 39-foot-high red metal "Eagle" stabile—that will be a focal point of the Seattle Art Museum's new sculpture park as well as "Black Sun," a 9-foot high sculptured disk of Brazilian black granite by Isamu Noguchi. While in the Park there will be time also for a stop at the early 20th-century Volunteer Park Conservatory—where

even non-plant lovers will be amazed at the spacious "Five Houses" (Bromeliad, Palm, Fern, Seasonal Display, and Cactus). Later that afternoon, FABS attendees have been invited to visit the University of Washington Press (located within steps of our Tour headquarters, the Washington Athletic Club) where we will be welcomed by Press Director Pat Soden. That evening we will gather at the WAC for registration, a hosted cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception, and a mini-book fair presented by Seattle book dealers.

Thursday, May 11, begins with a trip to the University of Washington, whose grand campus occupies the site of the ambitious 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. The two connected University libraries we will walk through are the collegiate Gothic Suzzallo Library and its newer companion, the Allen Library. Carla Rickerson, Head of Special Collections at the University of Washington Libraries, will lead us through an exhibit of specially selected titles from the library's premier Pacific Northwest book and nationally known book arts collec-

tions, including examples of important works relating to maritime and overland exploration of the Pacific Northwest, and unique examples of the book arts.

For those who wish to have a look at the UW's new Law Library in William H. Gates Hall (built in 2004) or the Health Sciences Library (both on the campus), there will time for break-out visits to these important facilities before we motor on to the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticultural and its Miller Botanical Library. The Miller Library contains a very select number of historically significant rare and old books relating to horticultural trends and histories of gardening and horticulture—many of which are art objects themselves. The collection begins with choice 17th-century British herbals and continues through botanicals of the 18th-century, to 19th-century illustrated monographs, and practical and inspirational garden books from the early 20th century. We will lunch at the Center before boarding buses for the trip downtown.

Breath-taking is not too strong a word

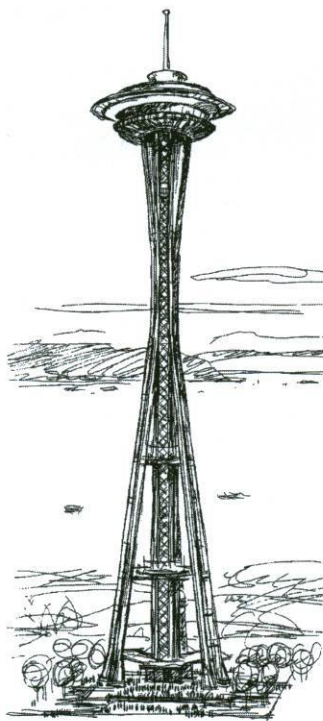
to describe the innovative new Seattle Central Public Library—an entirely new, progressive, and functionally successful library design in a monumental structure sheathed in glass. Many of you will have read about and seen photos of this urban gem designed by the internationally recognized architect, Rem Koolhaas, but when you view its expanses from both outside and inside on Thursday afternoon, you will understand why Seattle is so proud of this spectacular public space.

The rest of the afternoon will be devoted to Seattle's historic Pioneer Square district, our "old town," located not far from the Library. Area highlight maps will be provided, and you will have time to explore the Square's many unique shops in architecturally-significant turn-of-the-20th-century buildings on your own before congregating at the Wessel & Lieberman Book Shop for a reception and a chance to peruse Mark Wessel's and Michael Lieberman's broad selection of fine used and rare books.

After this refreshment, we will convene at the venerable Rainier Club just a few blocks away, for our first dinner together (following a hosted cocktail period). The Club has played a part in Seattle's history and fortunes since its founding as a men's club in 1888; it is now housed in a distinguished century-old brick building designed by Spokane-based architects Kirtland K. Cutter and Karl G. Malmgren. One of the Club's most famous early lodgers was the photographer Edward S. Curtis who operated a photography studio in Seattle with his equally famous brother, Asahel Curtis; many of Edward Curtis' photo-ethnological records of North American Indians grace the walls of the public areas of the Club.

Friday, May 12, is our "travel day." We will depart from the WAC at 8:30 a.m. for a 30-minute ferry ride from the Seattle waterfront across Puget Sound to Bainbridge Island. Our first stop on the Island will be at the Sears/Buxton home in Eagle Harbor for a showcase of their stunning collection of fine bindings by the pre-eminent English bookbinder Bernard Middleton (and other notable 20th-century English bookbinders) as well as one of the finest private collections of contemporary artists' books assembled on the West Coast.

Our second stop on the island will be at the Bloedel Reserve, formerly the estate of the Bloedel family, a name long associated with the Northwest timber industry. There, director Richard Brown will welcome us to the stately 1931 French country house that sits proudly atop a bluff near the north end of the island and presides over acres of gardens and natural plantings, forested landscapes, a Japanese guesthouse and Zen garden, and bird sanctuary. We will have time to view fine examples from the Reserve's library of botanical books and to wander the grounds and enjoy the beauty of the setting before lunch and the continuation of our trip across Agate Pass and down the west side of Puget Sound and south to the



Sketch of Seattle icon, the Space Needle, by Victor Steinbrueck, in *Seattle Cityscape* (1962)

city of Tacoma. The scenery along the way will be an impressive delight.

In Tacoma, we will first stop at the Washington State Historical Society's Research Center located in the city's residential Stadium District. Ed Nolan, head of Special Collections at the Center, will guide us through extensive collections of Pacific Northwest ephemera and Western maps, regional books, and an almost complete collection of historic photographs by Edward and Asahel Curtis. A short distance away in the historic downtown waterfront area is the Museum of

Glass, where contemporary glass works are on display, and where visitors can get a close-up view of glass artists at their creative work in the Hot Shop Amphitheater. We will enter the Glass Museum via the 500-foot-long Bridge of Glass—a truly memorable walkway that spans a downtown highway and pulsates with a rich ceiling and wall display of the unique glass sculptures of the internationally acclaimed glass artist (and Tacoma native) Dale Chihuly.

Later that afternoon we will return to our Seattle headquarters with a stop on our way at the Museum of Flight and its aviation library at Boeing Field. No FABS activities are planned for that evening, but you can relax at dinner at one of the fine downtown/waterfront restaurants—there truly are many from which to choose and we will provide you with a list of recommended restaurants, many of which are within walking distance of the WAC or other downtown hotels.

Saturday, May 13, begins with the annual morning FABS Symposium. While we have not determined all the participants and their subjects, we can assure you that the topics and discussions will be lively, provocative, and educational.

Dr. Martin Greene, Chair of the Seattle FABS event, has invited the FABS attendees to luncheon at his home with a viewing of his elegant library housing his extensive collection of Polar Exploration materials. Several other significant Seattle collectors will open their homes that afternoon for displays of their collections.

Capping the day, we will gather for a hosted cocktail period and our final dinner together at the elegant, traditional clubhouse of the Seattle Tennis Club—one of Seattle's oldest and most prestigious clubs—on the shore of Lake Washington. If the skies are clear (and we certainly hope they will be), the 70-mile distant Mount Rainier is a beautiful, awe-inspiring sight. Even if Mount Rainier isn't "out," we will enjoy our gala closing night banquet and speaker—the perfect opportunity for stimulating conversation, laughter, and reflections on a fabulous FABS gathering.

If questions arise concerning the FABS agenda and its meeting in general, please don't hesitate to e-mail Deborah Emory at demory@u.washington.edu.

FABS BOOK TOUR & SYMPOSIUM

Seattle May 10-13, 2006



Wednesday, May 10

AFTERNOON: Tour of Seattle Asian Art Museum and Library, and Volunteer Park Conservatory, located in Seattle's premier Olmsted-designed park. 🍷 Drop-by tour of the University of Washington Press and meeting with the Director. 🍷 Registration, hosted cocktail party, and hors d'oeuvres reception, mini-book fair at the Washington Athletic Club (WAC).

Thursday, May 11

MORNING: Tour of the Special Collections Division at the University of Washington Libraries. 🍷 Break-out guided tours of the Law Library and Health Sciences Library. 🍷 Catered luncheon at the University of Washington's Center for Urban Horticulture and tour of its Miller Library.

AFTERNOON: Tour of acclaimed new Seattle Central Public Library (designed by architect Rem Koolhaas) 🍷 Self-directed tour of Seattle's historic Pioneer Square area (area highlight maps provided). 🍷 Catered reception at Wessel & Lieberman Book Shop in Pioneer Square. 🍷 Dinner, preceded by hosted cocktail period, at Seattle's elegant 100-year-old Rainier Club.

Friday, May 12

MORNING: Thirty-minute ferry ride across Puget Sound to Bainbridge Island. 🍷 Tour of Sears/Buxton home and exhibit of their collection of contemporary bookbinding and artists' books 🍷 Tour of Bloedel Nature Reserve and its Botanical Library 🍷 Luncheon at the Bloedel Reserve.

AFTERNOON: One -hour bus trip to Tacoma via scenic western shore of Puget Sound. 🍷 Tour of Washington State Historical Society's Research Library 🍷 Tour of Tacoma Museum of Glass with its Hot Shop Amphitheater and magnificent Dale Chihuly Glass Bridge 🍷 Return to Seattle with visit to Museum of Flight and its aviation library at Boeing Field 🍷 Dinner on your own (interesting suggestions provided).

Saturday, May 13

MORNING: FABS Annual Book Symposium.

AFTERNOON: Buffet luncheon and tour of the library at the Saks Greene home. 🍷 Visits to other important private libraries 🍷 Closing banquet, preceded by hosted cocktail period, at the beautiful Seattle Tennis Club on the shore of Lake Washington.

🍷 No FABS events are planned for Sunday. Relevant suggestions will be provided for those who plan to stay on. 🍷

Registration: The cost is \$490.00 per person and includes all the above activities, food, and transportation. Reservations will close on **March 1, 2006**. Registrations cancelled after **March 31, 2006** can not be refunded in full. Communications by e-mail or telephone regarding the 2006 FABS Seattle Book Tour & Symposium should be directed to Deborah C. Emory at dcmemory@u.washington.edu or 206 329-5411. Mail communications should include a self-addressed/stamped envelope.

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

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e-mail: _____ Fax: _____ Club affiliation: _____

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

Send registration to: **Deborah C. Emory; 716 15th Avenue East; Seattle, WA 98112.**

Headquarters: The Washington Athletic Club; 1325 Sixth Avenue; Seattle, WA 98101. Forty rooms for FABS attendees will be held until **March 26, 2006** at \$132 (plus 15.6% hotel tax) per night for single or double occupancy. Please make your own reservations at the WAC or a downtown hotel of your choice. Please refer to the FABS rate when reserving at the WAC. The WAC telephone number is: 206 464-3055 or toll free at 800 275-3775.

The A. Edward Newton Auction

~ PART TWO ~

AS THE NEW YEAR ARRIVED in 1941, Philip Brooks noted in his "Notes on Rare Books" column for the *New York Times Book Review* that "for the first time in thirty-three years the friends of A. Edward Newton received no greeting from him this Christmas. With the passing of America's best-known book collector last Fall, the series of essays, which since the panic of 1907 had grown to be a familiar part of the American scene has come to an end."¹ Though Newton's conspicuous and personal holiday giving was at an end, even in death, however, his beneficence had continued. On December 9th and 10th of 1940, Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach sponsored a book and manuscript auction at the Plaza Hotel in New York City to support the War Relief Fund of the American Red Cross for Aid to Great Britain, not knowing that the United States would be at war almost

exactly a year later. Among the items up for auction would be a Kelmscott Chaucer, the last of many books donated by the great book collector, A. Edward Newton, who had died on September 29th of that year.² Newton's widow, Babette, subsequently donated "a first edition of Boswell's 'Life of Johnson'" to the war relief cause.

It was not with any great surprise, then, that the *New York Times* reported on January 18, 1941 that Newton's remaining collection of more than 10,000 books and manuscripts would be auctioned by Parke-Bernet Galleries of New York City in three parts, April, May, and October. E. Swift Newton, A. Edward's son, noted that "although the point of view of the student [sic] keeping the library intact is important, father felt that one of the outstanding joys he had through life was that connected with 'the hunt' and he many

times expressly stated he wanted to give other booklovers and collectors the same opportunity he himself had so enjoyed."³

Considering not only the quality of books up for auction but also the association value of the revered A. Edward Newton,⁴ one is not surprised that the sale dominated the book world news for much of 1941. Prior to their dispersal at auction, fifty rare books from the collection were displayed at the Free Library in Philadelphia, near Newton's home, Oak Knoll in Daylesford, Pennsylvania, and 68,000 people viewed the exhibit. Approximately 1,500 people attended the opening day of the auction on April 17th. Though there were ample high spots in the Newton collection, it was not developed that way by design. Rather, Newton's collection was a reader's collection that included most of the great canonical British writers, as considered in the early

"No Other Appetite" Sylvia Plath, Ted Hughes, and The Blood Jet of Poetry



Curated by Stephen C. Ennis and Karen V. Kukil

The catalogue of an exhibition at The Grolier Club of original letters, manuscripts, photographs, and heavily annotated books from the poets' personal libraries. Drawn from the Ted Hughes archive at Emory University and the Sylvia Plath archive at Smith College, much of the material has never been seen by the public. There is a selection of notes and typescripts for Plath's unpublished autobiographical novel *Falcon Yard*.

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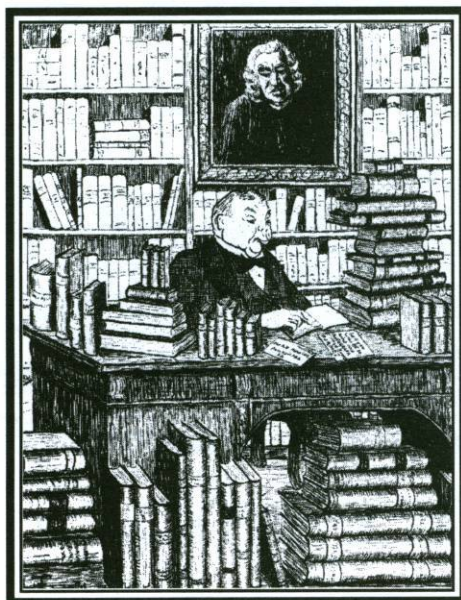
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twentieth century, with particular emphasis on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century authors. And, I suspect the audience was assured that Newton had, most certainly, read every book and manuscript in his library.⁵ The literary eminence of most of the collection in addition to the associational value, then, infused the Newton auction with great bibliophilic enthusiasm at a time when much else in the world was sinister and ominous.

It is commonplace, at least from my experience, to advise potential book collectors against looking at such an avocation as a financial investment. Certainly, that would have been sound advice to bibliophiles in the few years prior to the Great Depression when the book market experienced an "irrational exuberance," to apply Alan Greenspan's words about the 1990's stock market. The long-term effects of the 1920's bull market were evident at the Newton sale. For instance, in 1927 Newton purchased the famous Carysfort Shakespeare first folio (1623), considered among the finest first folios, for \$60,000.⁶ Even at the lower figure of \$53,298, adjusting for the 1941 dollar, Newton's Shakespeare sold for \$22,000, or a little over forty percent of his original purchase. The benchmark for the inflated book market remains the Jerome Kern auction of 1929 where sales records shattered previous highs. A comparison of the final bids for same editions of several works in both the Kern auction and the Newton auction clearly demonstrates a major adjustment in the book market from 1929 to 1941. [N.B.: I will note the actual sale price of the Kern collection in 1929 dollars followed by an adjusted 1941 value as calculated through a currency conversion mechanism at the web site of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.] A Charles Dickens' *Pickwick Papers* in parts (1836-1837) sold at the Kern auction for \$28,000 (\$24,070) while Newton's famous Bruton-Patterson copy of the *Pickwick Papers* sold for \$3,500. At the Kern sale, Thomas Gray's *An Elegy Wrote in a Country Church Yard* (1751) and Edward Fitzgerald's *Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám* (1859) sold for \$12,000 (\$10,316) and \$8,000 (\$6,800), respectively, while comparable items in the Newton auction sold for \$1,500 and \$1,800: a serious disparity when considering that \$1,000 in 1941 is

equivalent to about \$13,238 in 2005. With particular irony, the Shakespeare's *Poems* (1640) that sold at the Newton auction for \$3,400 was not a similar edition but the very same copy that was sold at the Kern auction twelve years earlier for \$8,500 (\$7,307): a difference close to \$52,000 in 2005 currency.

Though the Newton auction pales in comparison to the Kern auction, in fact, the adjustment reflects a return to a more normal, stable book market. If the values at the Newton sale are compared to the Huth auction over two decades earlier, the adjusted values reflect a remarkable similarity. With consideration of condition, association, trends and other factors



A. E. N. is asked to autograph a book.
From a caricature by Jean Hersholt.

that can affect values, a sampling of comparable editions show what one would expect: some sold higher at one or the other auction, or lower, or almost the same. For instance, at the 1914 portion of the Huth auction John Milton's *Comus* (1637) sold for \$5,645, John Gower's *Confessio Amantis* for \$1,235, and Oliver Goldsmith's *The Vicar of Wakefield* for \$642.⁷ At the Newton auction, comparable editions sold for \$7,900 (Milton), \$1,000 (Gower) and \$1,000 (Goldsmith). Contemporary observation of the Newton sale applauded the return to a robust book market. Philip Brooks noted that "after the conspicuous success of its opening sessions the A. Edward Newton sale can afford to coast a little. Prices soared even beyond the most hopeful

estimates and the results proved the extreme hazardousness of prognostication where a Newton library is considered."⁸

Of course, regardless of all other considerations, the success of the Newton sale was a result of exceptional books and manuscripts available in the free market. I can only sketch the contents of this rich library, but it included outstanding holdings of William Blake, including original art; all four Shakespeare folios; Charles Dickens, including "Scrooge's Third Visitor," an original watercolor by John Leech; William Thackeray; and Anthony Trollope. Newton's collection of Samuel Johnson and James Boswell was renowned and included numerous letters and manuscripts. One would be hard pressed to name any prominent eighteenth- or nineteenth-century British author not part of the Newton collection. Even among such an esteemed collection the original holograph manuscript of Thomas Hardy's *Far From the Madding Crowd* stands out and sold for \$8,200 on May 15th.⁹ After the final gavel, the total brought by the Newton collection was \$376,560, or \$4,984,937 in 2005.

However, world conflict loomed in the background and, with the bitter irony that history so often imposes on daily affairs, the war likely improved the Newton auction. A *New York Times* headline of June 29, 1941 was "War Spurs Sale of Art in City," and Hiram H. Parke, president of the Parke-Bernet Galleries, said that "in times of critical international relations people wish to invest money in personal property of permanent international value," and mentioned antiques, paintings, jewelry, stamps, and rare books in particular. Parke further stated "the only major art and book auction market in the world at present operating under the normal conditions necessary to produce free competition is in the United States, that is to say, New York."¹⁰

So too, an eerie presentiment of war permeated the auction itself. For instance just as the Newton family had contributed items to a Red Cross auction, Thomas Hardy had contributed the manuscript of *Far From the Madding Crowd* to a Red Cross auction in London in 1918.¹¹ And, in his "Notes on Rare Books" column, Philip Brooks wrote, regarding Newton's manuscript of Charles Lamb's *Dream-Children*,



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that "Mr. Newton relates that he bought this star piece on the day the *Lusitania* was sunk, May 7, 1915. It will change hands again in the peaceful atmosphere of the auction room at the height of another holocaust in civilized Europe. The occasion may serve to remind us of the ever increasing responsibility this country must assume as the guardian of those art treasures that have escaped the conflagration of the Old World."¹²

On a final note, as with all great auc-

tions, there was an accompanying catalog of great quality: *Rare Books, Original Drawings, Autograph Letters, and Manuscripts Collected by the late A. Edward Newton*, in Three Parts (New York: Parke-Bernet Galleries, 1941). It is profusely illustrated with one Blake drawing in color and is replete with significant details about the Newton library, including many comments by Newton himself. The catalog has been an invaluable resource for this article and should be part

of any library on book collecting. I note several copies available on the rare book market, but it would seem that this catalog might be reprinted some day, perhaps, appropriately enough in homage to A. Edward Newton, by a publisher such as Oak Knoll Press.

GEOFFREY D. SMITH

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NOTES

¹January 12, 1941, p. 22.

²As reported by Philip Brooks in his "Notes of Rare Books," December 1, 1940: p. 25. Brooks adds that the specific Kelmscott Chaucer "is a magnificent example . . . in its original white stamped pigskin made at the Doves Bindery."

³p. 13.

⁴It should be noted that despite Newton's popularity in the bibliophilic community, over the years he has had detractors, as anyone of prominence does. It was noted in the first part of this essay (*FABS Newsletter*, Winter 2005) about Newton's contretemps with the Quaritch book firm. Also brought to my attention by Bob Bennett, a member of the Aldus Society, is an article by Arthur Freeman ("Harry Widener's Last Books: Corrigenda to A. E. Newton," *The Book Collector* [Summer 1977]: 173-185) wherein the author refers to Newton as "the American Dibdin, for expansiveness, stamina, eccentricity, and infectious exuberance—not to say magisterial inanity, categorical false modesty, and wit more like the bludgeon or clenched fist than the velvet glove . . ." (173).

⁵As prolific an author as Newton was, he did possess one positive idiosyncrasy: he never wrote about a book that was not in his own library. This rule led to Newton's

serendipitous acquisition of Herman Melville's *The Whale* (London, 1851) as wonderfully recounted in Dean H. Keller's "A. Edward Newton, George Ulizio & *The Whale*: 'An incident unique in book-collecting annals,'" *The Private Library* 7 (Summer 1994), 77-80. On a further note and digression (can one footnote within a footnote?), in those many strange coincidences that occur in a rare book library, a topic worthy of a book someday, I had occasion, after correspondence with the esteemed Dean Keller on the article noted above, to retrieve Ohio State's copy of Robert Montgomery Bird's *Nick of the Woods* (Philadelphia, 1837) only to note it bore the book plate of George Ulizio. Then, just today on research for this article on Newton, I discovered that the last book that Newton bought in his lifetime was *Nick of the Woods*. Newton purchased the book from A. S. W. Rosenbach, who recounted the letter that led to purchase: "Dear Rosy: 'When something less than a hundred years ago I decided that one day I would form a library I bought my first book from you, Hazlitt's Montaigne, 4 vols. vellum, forty dollars I think. Well, I am no longer a book buyer. My last days are filled with agony but for the sake of old times I called up your excellent understudy just now and bought another—so first and last I am with you in spirit.'" *From Rare Books, Original Drawings, Autograph Letters and Manuscripts*

Collected by the late A. Edward Newton, vol. 1 (New York: Parke-Bernet Galleries, 1941), p. 38.

⁶The \$60,000 figure comes from the *New York Times*, January 18, 1941. The purchase completed Newton's set of all four folios. For more detail about the purchase, see Newton's *This Book-Collecting Game* (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1928), pp. 208-210. According to Anthony James West in *The Shakespeare First Folio: The History of the Book, Volume II, A New Worldwide Census of First Folios* (Oxford University Press, 2003), the Carysfort Shakespeare was purchased at the Newton sale by M. Rabinowitz, whose widow eventually sold it to the Universitäts und Stadtbibliothek Köln (i.e., Cologne) where it permanently resides. (pp. 259-261).

⁷The Huth figures reflect adjusted dollars. The bids were in pounds that were converted at the rate of \$4.80 in 1914, then the 1914 dollar adjusted to 1941 value. The actual values, then, for the Milton, Gower, and Goldsmith, were, respectively: £800, £175, and £91.

⁸"Notes on Rare Books," *New York Times Book Review* (May 4, 1941), p. 21.

⁹*New York Times* (May 16, 1941), p. 19.

¹⁰p. D2.

¹¹*New York Times* (May 16, 1941), p. 19.

¹²*New York Times Book Review* (May 4, 1941), p. 21.



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THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TERCENTENARY EXHIBITION

BOOKLOVERS have a cause for celebration in 2006, when the founder of America's first public lending library, university, and learned society—in a word, America's first bibliophile—turns three hundred years old. January 17, 2006, marks the tercentenary of Benjamin Franklin's birth. In Philadelphia, the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary is busy making sure that America marks the momentous occasion with all due fanfare.

The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary is a private, non-profit alliance created in 2000 by the American Philosophical Society, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania, the Franklin Institute, and the Art Museum of Philadelphia. Its purpose is to mark the anniversary of Franklin's birth by encouraging the general public to study his enduring legacy and to appreciate the

The Benjamin Franklin International Tercentenary Exhibition Schedule



PHILADELPHIA

December 15, 2005-April 30, 2006 ☞ National Constitution Center

SAINT LOUIS

June 8, 2006 - September 4, 2006 ☞ The Missouri Historical Society

HOUSTON

October 11, 2006 - January 21, 2007 ☞ The Houston Museum of Natural Science

DENVER

March 2, 2007 - May 28, 2007 ☞ National Constitution Center

ATLANTA

July 4, 2007 - October 14, 2007 ☞ The Atlanta History Center

PARIS

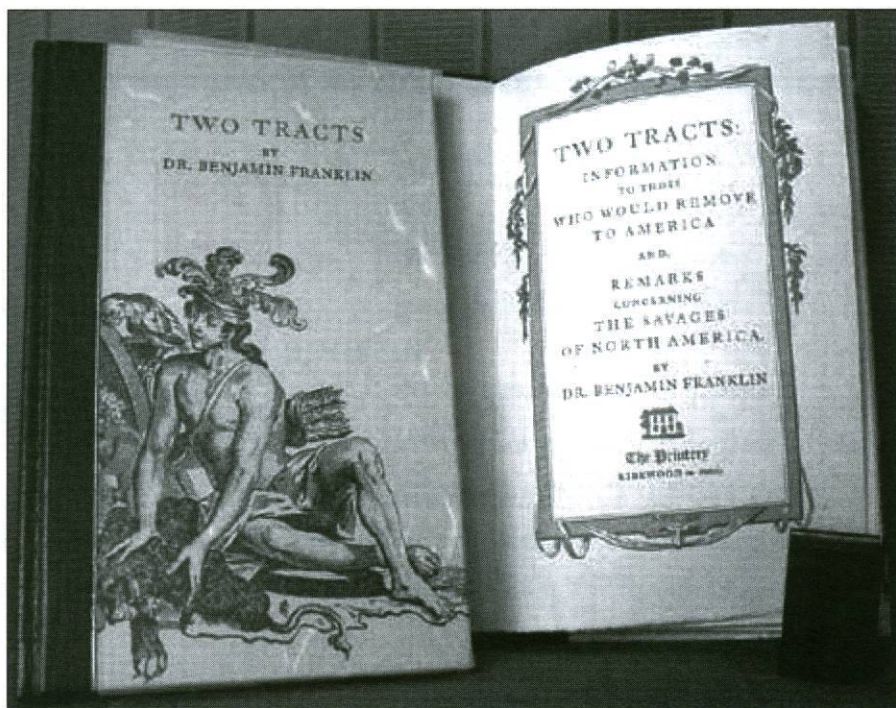
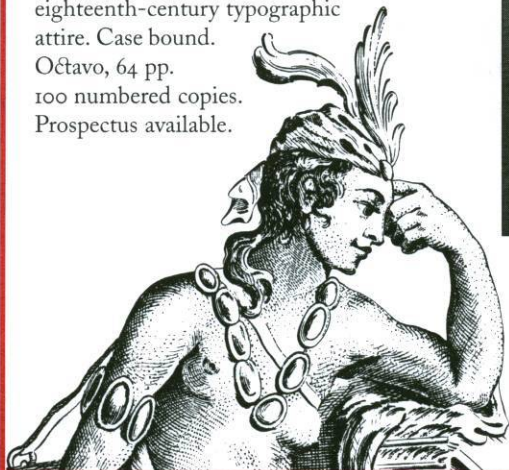
December 4, 2007 - March 30, 2008 ☞ Le Musée des Arts et Métiers
and Musée Carnavalet

Publication of Crèvecoeur's *Letters from an American Farmer* in 1782 & American Independence in 1783, caused interest in immigration to America to increase dramatically. As America's envoy, Franklin had set up a press at Passy where he printed *Information to Those Who Would Remove to America* and *Remarks Concerning the Savages of North America*. These engaging and thought provoking essays were printed as *Two Tracts* in London, Dublin, France, Italy, & Germany. The same handset Caslon types, the long "f" and its ligatures, the catchwords, and the signature indicators, are all retained in this edition so the modern reader can fully appreciate these *Tracts* in their original eighteenth-century typographic attire. Case bound.

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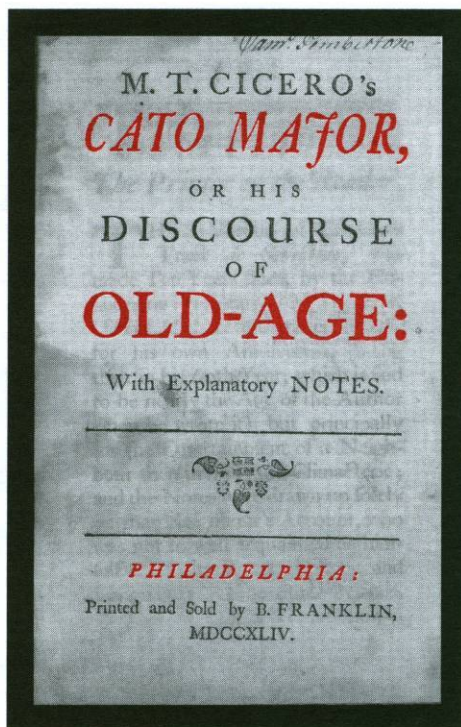
values he embodied. Dr. Rosalind Remer serves as Executive Director of the Tercentenary, overseeing local, federal, and international initiatives for Franklin's three hundredth birthday.

The centerpiece of the Tercentenary's plans is the international traveling exhibition *Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World*, which premieres at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia on December 15, 2005, and will tour four major U.S. cities before its finale in Paris. The show features the largest collection of Franklin-related artifacts ever assembled, along with interactive and multimedia components designed to give visitors a real glimpse into Franklin's life and exploits.

Booklovers will especially appreciate the show's attention to Franklin's lifelong passion for reading and writing and his livelihood as a printer. The Library Company of Philadelphia, which was founded by Franklin in 1731 and maintains the largest extant collection of books from his personal library, will lend Plutarch's *Lives* and John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*, childhood favorites that influenced Franklin's adulthood thinking.

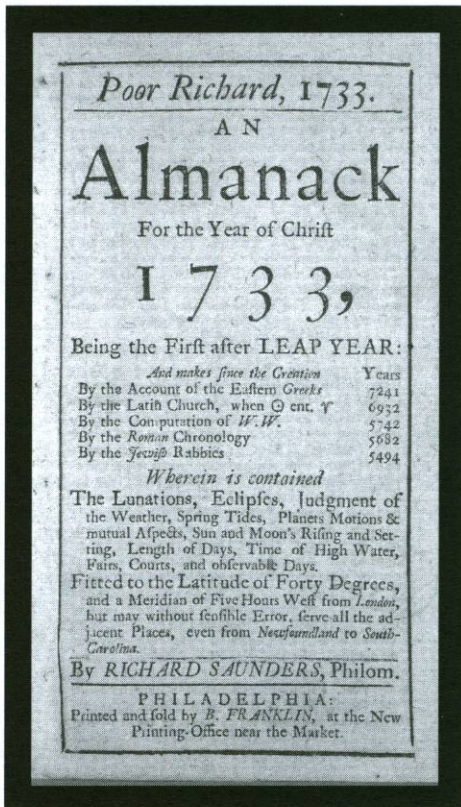
Among the nearly four hundred rare artifacts that will be on display are a composing stick and ink balls that Franklin used in his Philadelphia printing shop and a number of the 432 books, pamphlets, and broadsides he printed there. One remarkable example of his craftsmanship is a 1744 edition of Cicero's *Cato Major*, judged to be the finest example of his printing. Finally, Franklin's own inimitable writing style will be exhibited in an original publication of his legendary serial, *The Pennsylvania Gazette*.

The exhibit also features first editions and multiple translations of Franklin's *Autobiography*. Though never completed, the work remains the most widely published memoir of all time and has never gone out of print. Interestingly, the work first appeared in French, followed by Swedish, and, finally, English. Since its first publication in 1791, the work has been printed in nineteen languages. At *Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World*, visitors can peruse facsimiles of pages from Franklin's own manuscript and flip through *Fulankelein zi zhuan* (his *Autobiography*, in Chinese).



In the introduction to *Cato Major*, Franklin wrote: ... I have, *Gentle Reader*, as thou seest, printed this Piece of Cicero's in a large and fair Character, that those who begin to think on the Subject of OLD-AGE, (which seldom happens till their Sight is somewhat impair'd by its Approaches) may not, in Reading, by the *Pain* small Letters give the Eyes, feel the *Pleasure* of the Mind in the least allayed. Courtesy Collection of Stuart E. Karu.

Poor Richard first appeared for 1733. By 1748 it was selling at the rate of ten thousand copies a year. Courtesy Rosenbach Museum & Library.



In conjunction with *Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World*, the Tercentenary has undertaken the sizeable task of collecting and cataloging hundreds of objects for the web-based Frankliniana Database. The Database grew out of the Tercentenary's felt obligation to gather and store information on scores of Franklin-related artifacts remaining today into a single, accessible site. It incorporates genealogical and antiquarian information to identify and link objects that Franklin owned, used, was given, or gave away. Among the nearly four hundred entries the Database contains at present, book-minded individuals will find the leather-upholstered lolling chair that Franklin fitted for use as a library ladder particularly interesting.

The online debut of the Frankliniana Database coincides with the opening of the *Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World* exhibit on December 15, 2005. Afterwards it will be broadened and updated, as more Frankliniana objects and new information come to light. Together a virtual exhibit and electronic Database will exist into the future on the Internet—a modest testament to Franklin's enduring influence.

The extensive research of scholarly literature, archival documents, and artifacts that underlies the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary project will be displayed in a book designed to accompany the traveling exhibition. The first fully-illustrated book on Franklin's life and work, it combines original essays by ten prominent scholars with images of never-before-seen works of art, archival materials, and Franklin possessions. It will be available from Yale University Press in November.

With each day bringing Franklin's three-hundredth birthday closer, the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary is building momentum. To learn more about this celebration visit www.benfranklin300.org for information about upcoming events, educational activities, and the many exciting features of a project designed to honor this extraordinary man.

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Disbound & Dispersed

THE CAXTON CLUB'S LEAF BOOK EXHIBITION

AFTER A VERY SUCCESSFUL premier at the Newberry Library in Chicago, *Disbound and Dispersed: The Leaf Book Considered*, the Caxton Club's first ever traveling exhibition will open at the San Francisco Public Library on November 5 and continue through December 31, 2005. *Disbound and Dispersed* is the first exhibition to examine the history of the publication of leaf books. A late nineteenth-century development, a leaf book contains an original leaf from a significant printed book or manuscript that has been complemented with an essay or other explanatory material and rebound in a fine press publication. While this practice more widely distributes portions of the original, coveted book, it often comes at the price of either destroying or dispersing an intact or partially fragmented publication.

The occasion for this exhibition is the centenary of The Caxton Club's own leaf-

book publication, the monographic study of William Caxton's press by E. Gordon Duff, which appeared in 1905. "Caxton was a natural subject," writes Joel Silver in the exhibition's labels, "for a publication by The Caxton Club, and E. Gordon Duff's monograph, which was based on earlier research by William Blades, provides a detailed account of Caxton's life and printing activities. Duff was a well-known bibliographer and librarian with a particular interest in early English books, and a monograph on England's first printer by an authority as eminent as Duff had a strong appeal to collectors and librarians. To make the book even more attractive to its prospective purchasers, The Caxton Club included an original leaf from Caxton's first edition of *The Canterbury Tales* in 148 copies of the total edition of 255. The club was able to do this because of its acquisition of a group of 148 original leaves from a dis-

bound and incomplete copy of the first edition of *The Canterbury Tales* formerly owned by Bertram, 4th Earl of Ashburnham. The current dispersal of so large a fragment of so significant a book would be the subject of heated debate, but in 1905, the breaking up of books was viewed quite differently, and far less critically, than it would be today. A century after its publication, The Caxton Club's 1905 leaf book offers us the opportunity to examine the history and variety of the leaf books that were produced before and have been produced since, and to consider what the popularity of leaf books has meant to the worlds of book collecting and scholarship."

This landmark exhibition includes approximately 60 leaf books with manuscript and printed leaves ranging from the twelfth through twentieth centuries. The exhibit items are drawn from three private collections and the collections of

Recent Limited Editions

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

¶ *The Age of Innocence*, the novel by Edith Wharton, introduction by Diane Johnson, with 32 color photographs of New York sites in the story by Stephen Shore, signed by the artist. \$850.

¶ *The Theory of Relativity*, centennial edition of the two key papers of 1905 by Albert Einstein, commentary by Richard A. Muller. \$500.

¶ *Orlando*, the novel by Virginia Woolf, with 93 color photographs of transformation over time by Diana Michener, signed by the artist. \$900.

¶ Forthcoming: *Gloria*, poetry by Bill Berkson, 25 etchings by Alex Katz; *A Coney Island of the Mind* by Lawrence Ferlinghetti, portrait by R. B. Kitaj.

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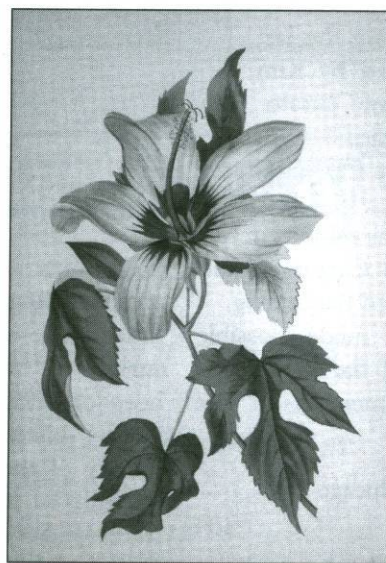
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Northwestern University, the University of Chicago, Brigham Young University, Harvard University, Indiana University, and R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company. "The books in this exhibit were created so that collectors and scholars could study and own at least a fragment of a significant book that they could never hope to acquire as a complete volume, such as a medieval Book of Hours, a Gutenberg Bible, or a Shakespeare First Folio," said Joel Silver, exhibit curator. The exhibition catalog includes essays by Joel Silver, Curator of Books at Lilly Library in Indiana University; Dan Mosser, Professor in the English Department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia; Caxtonian Michael Thompson, attorney at law; and Christopher de Hamel, recently the Donnelley fellow Librarian of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University; as well as a complete bibliographic checklist of 232 leaf books by Caxtonian John Chalmers, Director of Library Services and Archives at The Chicago Community Trust. The catalog will be available at each venue as well as from Oak Knoll Books.

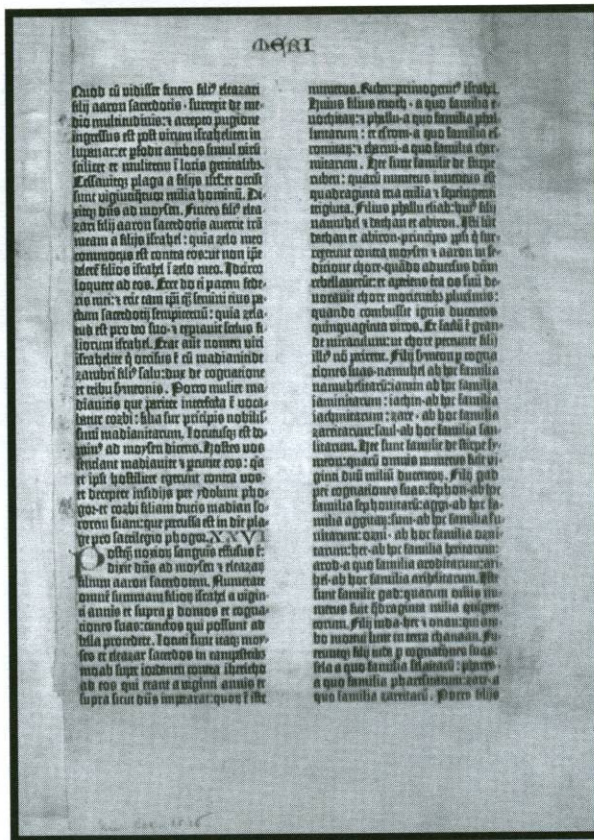
Disbound and Dispersed, one of three exhibitions that The Caxton Club has mounted during the last five years, was organized by Kim Coventry, a Caxtonian and curatorial and publishing consultant in Chicago. Susan Rossen, a Caxtonian and director of publications at the Art Institute of Chicago, edited the exhibition catalog. Hayward Blake, a Caxtonian and graphic designer, designed the catalog.

The exhibition was made possible through the support of the R.R. Donnelley Foundation and members of The Caxton Club.

Exhibition Opens in Chicago with High Drama

Christopher de Hamel, who spoke at the opening of the exhibition at the Newberry Library on April 16, 2005, gave an overview of the history of the leaf book. During his remarks, de Hamel, in a moment of high drama, held up what he said was a leaf from the second edition of Caxton's edition of *The Canterbury Tales*,

printed in Westminster in 1484. He then proceeded to tear it in two. (He later reassured us that it was a photocopy on old paper.) A loud gasp from the audience made his point, that our belief that the fragment (leaf) is authentic causes the thrill and horror of seeing it fragmented. "It wasn't always so," he said, and proceeded to list examples where ancient fragments have been used for all sorts of things: mummies, gun wadding, and slip-



The Gutenberg Bible leaf from The Lilly Library copy of *A Noble Fragment*. This leaf book is now considered the most desirable by collectors.

per linings. . . . "There is nothing new about cutting up old books, and sometimes the re-use of the pieces ensures the survival of what might otherwise have been lost altogether."

After his comprehensive tour of the history of the leaf book, with personal accounts of staying up at night with his leaves and incunable fragments, Dr. de Hamel said, "It is my belief that the experience of confronting a great leaf is not very different from that of our ancestors gazing with awe and emotion at the relics in a holy shrine." (The transcript of de Hamel's talk was published in the June 2005 *Caxtonian*, now available as a PDF at www.caxtonclub.org/reading.html. The

March 2005 *Caxtonian* features two articles by Kim Coventry, one which gives background information about the planning of the exhibition, and one about the making of the Club's leaf book.)

Panel Discussion Addresses the Ethics of Breaking Books

The ethical questions brought up by the exhibition are serious ones, and many were addressed in a panel, "Virtue and Vandalism: The Ethics of Breaking Books," held on Friday, May 20, 2005. The panel was chaired by Michael Thompson and included Paul F. Gehl from The Newberry Library; Sarah K. Harding from Chicago-Kent College of Law; John Windle, antiquarian bookseller; and Max Yela from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Sarah Harding talked about the idea that cultural property is never really "complete," and that completeness is theoretical. This point was made by Dan Mosser in his essay about Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* in the catalog: ". . . we must resign ourselves to the certain knowledge that a truly perfect copy is at best only an abstraction. . . ." Harding also discussed the idea that cultural property should remain as complete as when it is found, as well as in situ. The Elgin marbles were given as the paradigm for this dilemma.

Paul Gehl, curator of the Wing Collection at the Newberry, made the point that the leaf book is not a common kind of book. The checklist for the catalog lists 232, which is hardly a huge number. "The leaves are refugees," Gehl said, and are "collected by the Newberry out of despair." Once in the Newberry collections, the leaf part of the leaf book is placed in the Wing Collection, and the rest of the book is placed in the general collection.

Max Yela, Special Collections Librarian, uses the few leaves that they have in their collection for educational purposes. He also said that libraries themselves destroy books, marking them up (ex libris) and deaccessioning them. John Windle, a dealer and on the board of the Book Club of California (which has been a prolific

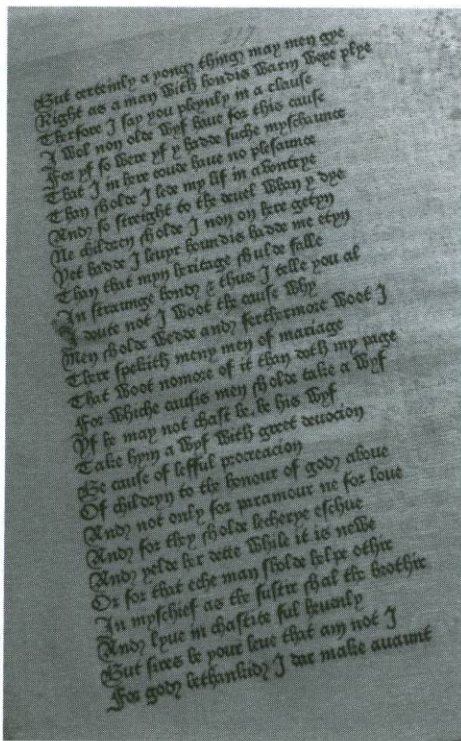
publisher of leaf books) noted that *Disbound and Dispersed* has influenced the market for leaf books. "There has been a spike in leaf book sales in the last few weeks," Windle said. He detailed for the audience the economics of the leaf book he published, using a copy of William Morris' Kelmscott Chaucer that was in a fire and then rebound in buckram. It was a profitable venture for him and his investment was tripled. (Windle's prepared remarks at the panel were published in the summer issue of *The ABAA Newsletter*.)

The panel concluded with a question and answer period and one member of the audience asked about facsimiles and reproductions: what is their effect on the demand for leaf books? In fact, said Sarah Harding, "the better the reproduction, the more the original is desired."

A similar panel, open to the public, will take place at the San Francisco Public Library on November 5, 2005 from 2 to 4 in the afternoon.

Disbound and Dispersed
Subject of Oak Knoll Fest XII

Strong sales of the exhibition catalog have prompted Oak Knoll Books, the distributor, to make the leaf book the theme of this year's annual fine press book fair, taking place October 1 and 2 in New



An original Caxton leaf from the Caxton Club's 1905 leaf book authored by E. Gordon Duff.

Castle, Delaware. Joel Silver will give a talk titled "The Private Press and Leaf Books, a Noble Tradition?" There will also be a panel discussion, "The Practical and Ethical Side of the Leaf Book" with participants Joel Silver, Michael Thompson, Jerry Kelly of Kelly-Winterton Press, John Randle of the Whittington Press,

and Jim Birchfield, Curator of Rare Books, University of Kentucky Libraries.

Exhibition Receives Positive Reviews

On Thursday, May 12, *The Wall Street Journal* published an article about the exhibition that outlined the aesthetic and ethical questions embodied in the publication of leaf books. "Were these leaf books on display in Italy or Spain, the cops would likely raid the joint. . . . In the U.S., however, our courts have interpreted the Constitution to protect a citizen's right to do pretty much whatever he pleases with his property," wrote Joel Henning. In conclusion, in comparing the fragmented books to an architectural gem that is broken up into condominiums, Henning wrote, "better something of the original than nothing." This is the question at the heart of the debate spawned by *Disbound and Dispersed: The Leaf Book Considered*.

MARTHA CHIPLIS

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January 18-March 19, 2006
The Houghton Library at Harvard University
April 3-May 26, 2006
The Lilly Library at Indiana University

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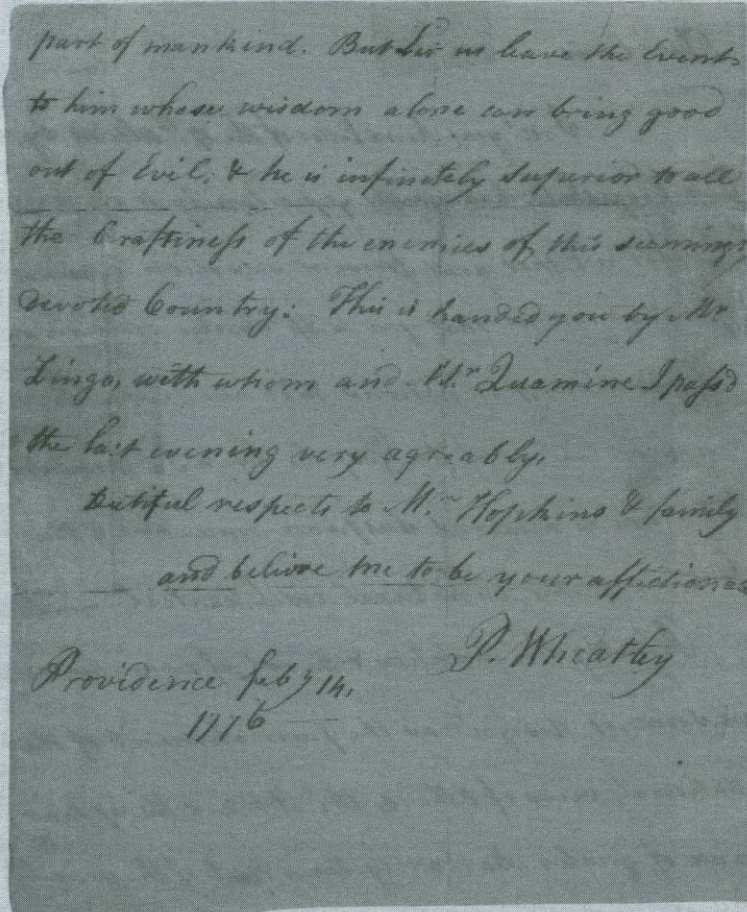
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Club News & Notes

PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND PUBLICATIONS

THE ALCUIN SOCIETY



SINCE OUR LAST REPORT, the Alcuin Society has had a very busy time organizing and running many events.

We started off 2005 with a talk by Rollin Milroy of Heavenly Monkey Press entitled "Collaborator versus Contractor: Inviting Others into your Book Project." This turned out to be a highly interesting talk and discussion with the large audience in attendance. This was co-sponsored with the BC Book Arts Guild and Special Collections, Vancouver Public Library. Two weeks later we enjoyed another interesting talk, again co-sponsored with Special Collections, Vancouver Public Library. Karl Siegler, President and Publisher of Talonbooks, talked about "The State of Canadian Publishing Today."

In February we had Andrea Taylor of Cotton Socks Press give a most interesting talk on "The Making of a Letterpress Book, Start to Finish" and later that month we were privileged to have Dr. Eric Kwakkel talk on his favourite subject of "Medieval Books and Their Production" (monks, clerks, notaries, professional scribes, and private individuals). This particular talk was so popular we had to reserve an extra large meeting room. Again these events were co-sponsored with the BC Book Arts Guild and Special Collections at the Vancouver Public Library.

March heard three talks: one by Terry Rutherford on "Metamorphosis: Bookbinder to Book Restorer to Book Conservator to Book Artist," Terry's journey through the book arts. Then a wonderful talk by Dr. Yosef Wosk on "Two Thousand Years Before Creation: A Book Collector's Journey from Jerusalem to New York and from Distant Auctions to the Used Bookshops of those Occasional Cities" co-sponsored with Special Collections from Simon Fraser University. A talk by Andrew Steeves from Kentville, Nova Scotia, on "The Evolution of the Gaspereau Press" co-sponsored with Vancouver Museum, finished off the month.

In April we co-sponsored, with the BC Book Arts Guild and the Special Collections at the Vancouver Public Library, a talk by Laura Russell: "Marketing 102: for Book Artists" and later that month a lecture on

"The Origin and Evolution of the Shanty Bay Press, Ontario" by Walter Bachinski and Janis Butler, proprietors of the press. This lecture co-sponsored with Special Collections at Simon Fraser University.

We had our Annual General Meeting in June where we added a few new board members, had a wonderful dinner, and presented the certificates to the winners of the 23rd Annual Alcuin Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada. The winning books were on display.

One of our major projects during the year is the Annual Alcuin Society Awards and this year the competition for books published in 2004 was judged in April by Sue Colberg, Val Speidel, and Andrew Steeves. They looked at 274 books from 99 publishers and selected 26 winners. The categories included Children's; Limited Editions; Pictorial; Poetry; Prose Fiction; Prose Non-Fiction; Prose Non-Fiction Illustrated; and Reference. Winning books then go on tour throughout Canada and the United States and this year they have also been selected to be exhibited at the Frankfurt Book Fair. The Alcuin Awards is a very big undertaking and special thanks has to be given to Leah Gordon, one of our Directors, for most ably organizing and coordinating this project.

This year will be the fortieth anniversary of The Alcuin Society and we will be putting out a special issue of *Amphora* (issue #140), celebrating the success of our Society. During that time we have had a variety of extremely wonderful and creative people that have devoted many years of their time, money, sweat, and tears to make this Society the great success that it is today.

Due to the great turnout for the First Alcuin Wayzgoose in October 2004 it has been decided that the second Annual Alcuin Wayzgoose will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2005 at the Central Branch of the Vancouver Public Library. There will be twenty letterpress printers, about five book artists, and demonstrations of book arts. This event is being co-sponsored by Special Collections, Vancouver Public Library and by Special Collections of Simon Fraser University.

In November we will again have the best book lover's sale of the year when we have our annual Auction with celebratory auctioneers Ralph Stanton and John King. This

will be held at the University Golf Club, Vancouver at noon on Saturday November 12. Here you can buy beautiful books at bargain prices.

Plans are also underway to run another Alcuin Society Book Road Show in April of 2006 where we have displays of bookish arts and professional book appraisers to advise the general public on their books. This is always a popular event. Most of our events are free and open to the public.

The Alcuin Society's web site can be found at www.alcuinsociety.com and we sincerely hope that you will check it out for up-to-date information about our events, programs, and activities. For further information about the Alcuin Society, please contact John King at 604-538-7092 or at antbook@aol.com.

THE ALDUS SOCIETY

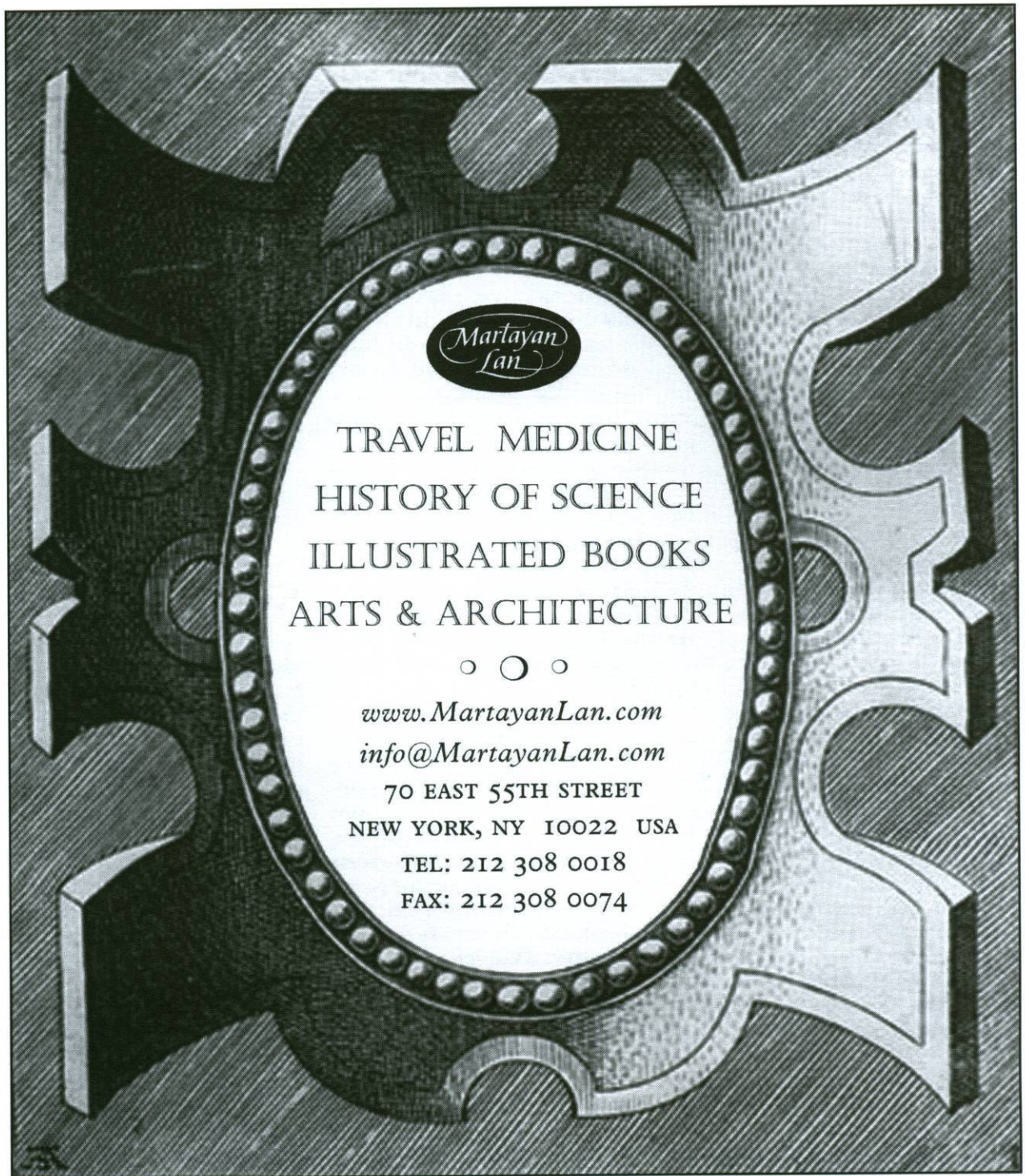


SINCE ITS FOUNDING in 2000, The Aldus Society has continued to expand in both its membership and its programming, which deals with all aspects of the book. Members include book collectors, archivists and preservationists, book lovers and booksellers, writers, small press printers, calligraphers, artists, and librarians. Our programs have reflected members' varied personal and professional interests.

FIRST SATURDAYS

This past spring saw the initiation of First Saturdays, the Aldus Society's newest program series, informal sessions wherein members are invited to the Ohio State University Rare Books and Manuscripts Library to view and discuss selected books from the OSU collection. Each gathering provides an opportunity to explore important books in relative depth along with commentary by a subject specialist.

April – Robert Wing, Professor Emeritus from the Department of Astronomy of the Ohio State University, introduced early astronomical works of G.D. Cassini, Christiaan Huygens, Increase Mather, Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel, and others who wrote about comets in the 17th through 19th centuries. In addition, other classical astronomical works by Galileo, Kepler, and Hevelius were available for examination.



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May – Geoff Smith, Aldus Society founder and Head of the OSU Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, presented a program on William Caxton, the first English printer. Aldus Society members and guests examined a Caxton edition of Higden's *Polychronicon* (1482) and a sampling of other incunabula (i.e., "cradle books" before 1501).

June – Attendees gathered to hear a presentation by Dr. John M. Bennett and inspect highlights of OSU's impressive collection of works by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, principally a 1605 first edition of his masterwork *Don Quixote de la Mancha*. The day was the last in a series of events marking the 400th anniversary of the work's publication, which included a visit by the ambassador of Spain.

July – Anne M. Morganstern, Professor Emeritus of OSU's Department of Art History, presented Hartmann Schedel's *Liber Chronicarum* (1493), popularly known as the *Nuremberg Chronicle*. Considered one of the greatest books of the 15th century, the *Nuremberg Chronicle* is the most lavishly illustrated book of the period.

August – The group immersed itself in early 17th century London to look at some Shakespeare, including OSU's two copies of the Second Folio, early *Midsummer Night's Dream*, the second printing of *Othello*, and others.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The schedule for our 2005-2006 program year is coming together, and it looks like another exciting one.

September 8 – At our first meeting of the program year Dr. Paul Christenson will speak on his lithograph collection, which includes works by Aubrey Beardsley and others.

October 13 – John King, Distinguished University Professor, Humanities Distinguished Professor of English and Religious Studies at the Ohio State University will present the seventh chapter of the Aldus Society History of Text and Image series when he speaks on John Foxe's *Acts and Monuments of the English Martyrs* (popularly known as the *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*).

November 8 – Joel Silver, Curator of Rare Books at Indiana University's Lilly Library and columnist for *Fine Books and Collections* magazine will join us for a presentation about J. K. Lilly. Mr. Lilly was a remarkable collector indeed, not only of books and manuscripts, but of stamps, coins, military miniatures, and nautical artifacts, among other items.

December (TBA) – December will once again find members of the Aldus Society

gathered together at the annual Holiday Dinner to celebrate the wrap-up of another year.

Next spring's programs are shaping up and will be formally announced in the next *FABS Newsletter*.

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 614 457-1153 or AldusSociety@aol.com.

THE AMPERSAND CLUB



THE AMPERSAND CLUB met June 23 to celebrate the publication of *On Book Collecting* by Arne Kjelsberg, also known as The Honorable Elmer Andersen, former Republican governor of Minnesota who came out strongly against the Bush-Cheney ticket last fall, just six weeks before his death. The book consists of a selection of his articles written in the 1970's for a local newspaper, *The Princeton Union-Eagle*, on many facets of books and the collecting of them. Elmer used as a pseudonym the name of his father in Norway because he owned the *Union-Eagle*, and did not want his name appearing there too often.

The book is available in a cloth-bound trade edition of 500 copies for \$20 each. Gaylord Schanilec designed and printed the book, and has provided a color wood-engraved frontispiece; there is a Postscript by Elmer himself and an Afterword by Rob Rulon-Miller. There also is a "limited edition" on hand-made paper with a leather spine, with a black and white photograph of the Governor tipped in which is available for \$150, and a "special edition" limited to 26 lettered copies, on hand-made paper with a leather spine and box, a color photograph of the Governor, and an extra wood-engraved insert by Schanilec, available for \$295.

Orders will be taken by Rulon-Miller Books, 400 Summit Ave., St. Paul, MN 55102 (800-441-0076; or rulon@rulon.com); or,

directly from The Ampersand Club, 212 North Second Street, Minneapolis, MN 55401 (612-332-1313).

Our board of officers met July 27 to plan the schedule of events for the remainder of this year. Included on the calendar are a field trip to Northfield, Minnesota to visit with two esteemed collectors; visits to the new Walker Art Center designed by Herzog and de Meuron, and the new Minneapolis Public Library designed by Cesar Pelli; and a December publication party for Betty Bright's new book on artists' books. We are also happy to announce that our annual speaker in May, 2006, will be Jim Canary, conservator extraordinaire from Indiana University.

The Ampersand Club now has a new web page 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.

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

ACTIVITIES FOR 2005

February 24 – "An Evening with Printmaker Charles Ritchie." Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery, University of Maryland Baltimore County. The lecture coincided with the exhibition of the speaker's art work at the Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery: The title of the exhibition was "Suburban Journals: The Sketchbooks, Drawings and Prints of Charles Ritchie." The exhibition ran from January 31 to March 26, 2005.

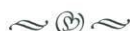
April 18 – "Historical Perspectives on *The DaVinci Code*" Art historian Dr. Gail Husch, Goucher College. The Johns Hopkins Club.

May – Folklore expert Dr. Paul Douglas, Towson University. The Johns Hopkins Club.

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

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

THE JOHN RUSSELL BARTLETT SOCIETY



FOR PROGRAMS being planned by The John Russell Bartlett Society please contact Pamela Rakowski at 64 Cathedral Avenue, Providence, RI 02908, or 401 751-5581, or prakowski@provlib.org.

THE BIXBY CLUB



THE BIXBY CLUB has planned a varied and interesting venue for its members at The St. Louis Mercantile Library. The fall and winter program will begin with an overnight trip to Springfield, Illinois on November 4 and 5. Visits to the stunning new Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum with a behind the scenes tour of the Library are planned for Friday afternoon. We will spend the night at the Springfield Renaissance Hotel in the heart of the historic district.

Saturday morning and early afternoon will include tours of the Old Illinois State

Capitol, site of Lincoln's "A House Divided" speech; the Lincoln Home where Lincoln lived for 17 years; Frank Lloyd Wright's stunning Dana-Thomas House, complete with original furniture, art glass doors, windows, and lighting fixtures; and the home of poet/artist Vachel Lindsay.

In December we will enjoy a gracious dinner atop the University Club. ABAA member Annette Kolling-Weaver, who specializes in children's books, illustrated books, Missouriana, Civil War, modern firsts, and art books, will tell some tales out of school about some collectors and collections she has known.

John Hoover will host his now renowned annual Valentine's Day soirée at his home on Friday, February 10. He will display and discuss some selected and sometimes little known books from one or more of his personal collecting interests.

A trip to The Lilly Library at the University of Indiana at Bloomington is planned for the spring. The visit will afford Bixby Club members the opportunity for a guided tour of The Lilly Library and time to peruse The Caxton Club's traveling leaf book exhibition, *Disbound and Dispersed: The Leaf Book Considered*. Joel Silver, Curator of Books at The Lilly and Curator of

the Leaf Book Exhibition, will be our host.

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

THE BOLTON SOCIETY



OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS, the most exciting event in the five-year life of The Bolton Society is that Ray Neville, a 78-year-old Charter Member of the Society, has turned over his 6,000-volume treasure trove of rare alchemy, chemistry, and chemical technology books to the Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF).

The books principally date from the 1400s to the early 20th century. According to Lawrence Principe, Professor of History of Science and Technology at The Johns Hopkins University, "... the collection contains not only the most important works in science and technology published since the invention of printing, but multiple editions of those works." For example, "I can compare more than twenty different versions of Nicholas Lemery's *Cours de Chymie* and trace the progress of this important 17th-century textbook." Principe said.

From Sherwin Beach Press, Chicago

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, Delaware, Oct. 1-2).

For more information, or to arrange to view the books, contact: Priscilla Juvelis (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.

It has been estimated that the collection is worth between 13 and 15 million dollars. One of the great values of this collection will be that future scholars will be able to study these rare research materials all at one place. For starters, just consider these six titles:

Georgius Agricola, *De Re Metallica* (1556), offers detailed discussion of where mineral veins can be found.

Robert Boyle, *The Sceptical Chemist* (1661), a landmark book on the foundations of chemistry.

Robert Hooke, *Micrographia* (1665), the first book dealing with observations made through a microscope.

Issac Newton, *Principia Mathematica* (1687), established the laws of motion and gravitation.

Antoine Lavoisier, *Traite Elementaire de Chimie* (1789), which systemized the language of chemistry.

John Dalton, *A New System of Chemical Philosophy* (1808, Part 1), announced the publication of Dalton's atomic theory.

In October 2002, at the bidding of the Bolton Society, CHF's Heritage Council moved that Dr. Neville receive a Lifetime Achievement Award for his unprecedented collection. For some time, Dr. Neville had been concerned about the disposition of his library, and in time, it was acquired by the CHF through the generosity of Gordon and Betty Moore. Moore, a chemist, is co-founder of Intel Corporation.

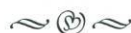
The CHF has already begun a Digital Imaging Project for the Neville collection which, over the next three years or so, will capture information from all title pages and other significant visual images rendered by the artists, engravers, and wood block cutters who created them. As to the man, Neville moved to the United States from Great Britain in 1952 as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Oregon. He had left home with \$56.00 in his pocket and arrived in Oregon with just forty cents. In less than three years though, he earned a master's degree, defended a PhD in physical and organic chemistry, married a beautiful and brainy coed, did research on the wet strength of paper, and developed polymers for use in plywood. He then moved on to Boeing aerospace where he founded a department of materials science and patented a polymer that would be used in the original Saturn V booster of the original Apollo spacecraft. After retirement, he became a chemical consultant, to law firms in particular.

Neville credits his hobby of book collecting as being "the single consistent occupation in my life." In disposing of his collec-

tion, he said the one book that he could not readily let go was the six hundred page *Nuremberg Chronicle*, a pictorial history of the world, published in 1493, and embellished with woodcuts, 1,809 in all. But in time, this treasure also will go to the CHF.

For more information about The Bolton Society contact Herbert T. Pratt 302 328-7273 or htptrtcche@aol.com.

THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA



THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA's Oscar Lewis Award was presented early in the year to David F. Myrick for his contributions to Western History and to Joe D'Ambrosio for his contributions to the Book Arts. The Club's grants program, now under the leadership of Michael Thompson, was able to provide support for a number of worthy bibliographical projects by institutions and libraries and to several individuals for their research projects in the Book Arts and Western History. Mr. Thompson and his Committee are working now to refine the criteria ably formulated by John P. Crichton at the program's inception and to expand the range of support given to institutions and individuals.

Exhibitions this year at the Club included the 64th Annual Western Books Exhibition from Southern California's Rounce & Coffin Club; "The Many Faces of Poltroon Press," thirty years of work by Frances Butler and Alastair Johnston; and "Early California Booksellers," documents and ephemera from the collection of Bruce Shyer. Next to appear will be the work of Terry Horrigan at her Protean Press. Dr. Adela S. Roatcap is the enthusiastic coordinator of these displays.

In September, Stuart Bennett, author of *Trade Bookbinding in the British Isles, 1660-1800*, a 2004 publication from Oak Knoll Press and the British Library, will present his thesis at a public program. Another public program is being arranged by Chairman Roger Wicker in connection with the APHA conference taking place at Mills College, Oakland.

Although the Club's publications have suffered from some delays, several fine books will be available to members before long. The annual keepsake is in preparation; last year's, a third in the series on the Club's bibliographic treasures, edited by Barbara Jane Land and designed and printed by Jonathan Clark of the Artichoke

Press, has appeared. Dr. Robert J. Chandler keeps the *Quarterly News-Letter* on track, providing thoughtful articles, essential information, and witty excursions. Printer for the present volume is Peter Koch, who arranged for the handsome wood-engravings of Richard Wagener to grace the covers.

When in San Francisco, visit The Book Club of California at 312 Sutter Street, Suite 510 or contact Ann Whipple at 800 869-7656 or ann@bccbooks.org.

THE CAXTON CLUB



LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

The fall luncheon programs begin on Friday, September 9, 2005, with Caxtonian Dan Crawford, Newberry Book Fair Director, and Caxton Club Manager, and author of eight books, will demonstrate the incredible diversity of the club membership since 1895 by regaling the audience with stories about Caxton Club members that include three Illinois Governors, an embezzler, a Presidential candidate, one and one-half (yes) crowned heads of Europe, a sex-scandal participant, a Secretary of the Treasury, and, of course, noted book collectors.

Mysterious Dan will now only reveal stories that did **not** make the final cut for his presentation: the member whose televised book auction set a new price record for a single book, the member who bought his son a Major League Baseball Team (his son renamed the team the Boston Red Sox) and two members who owned the same rare manuscript (only 50 years apart).

Dan heartily welcomes Caxtonians with their own stories. "Please add to the mix." This promises to be a singular event.

Friday, November 4th, Caxtonian Jerry Meyer will speak on *From Rushkinian Medievalism to Beardsley Decadence: The Influence of William Morris' Arts and Crafts Movement on English Book Design and Illustration*. Jerry, a retired Art History Professor and administrator at Northern Illinois University, will present a slide-lecture including some Kelmscott press productions (*Chaucer*, the *Glittering Plain*, etc., with designs by Morris and Burne-Jones); Owen Jones' 1846 homage to Medieval book illumination; Gray's *Elegy* (a pre-Arts and Crafts influence on Morris); C.R. Ashbee's Essex House production of Bunyan's *Pilgrims Progress* (1899); and many more, including some American Roycrofters' press books.

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Jerry is currently near publication on a book on the uses of religious images in 20th-Century Art and will bring along a tantalizing selection of books from his personal collection.

DINNER PROGRAMS

On Wednesday, September 21, 2005, Dr. Gail Kern Paster will talk about *Finding the Body in Elizabethan Almanacs*.

Dr. Gail Kern Paster has been Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library since July 1, 2002. She continues as editor of the *Shakespeare Quarterly*, the leading scholarly journal devoted to Shakespeare, published by the Folger Shakespeare Library in association with the George Washington University, where she was a Professor of English and taught since 1974. She earned a B.A., *magna cum laude*, at Smith College, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and a Ph.D. at Yale University. She has won many national fellowships and awards, including fellowships from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, and the Mellon Foundation. She is the author of numerous scholarly articles and three books—*The Idea of the City in the Age of Shakespeare* (1986),

The Body Embarrassed: Drama and the Disciplines of Shame in Early Modern England (1993), and *Humoring the Body: Emotions and the Shakespearean Stage* (2004)—as well as the co-editor of the Bedford Books “*A Midsummer Night’s Dream: Texts and Contexts*” (1988) and the editor of Thomas Middleton’s 1607 comedy, *Michaelmas Term* (2000).

Elizabethan almanacs and prognostications—fragile ephemera of the world of cheap print—are a treasure trove to historians of the body. Now quite rare, these red-and-black letter octavos were once printed in great quantities and contained essential practical information for average Englishmen and women—sites and dates of fair days, each month’s feasts and holidays, the phases of the moon, the times for planting and reaping. But these almanacs also showed Elizabethans how to think about and care for their bodies. Catchy monthly verses told them when to bathe, when to purge, and when to indulge in or abstain from sex. For an evidence-starved historian of the body, these little books offer a rare glimpse into the daily habits and practices of a forgotten cosmology. Gail Kern Paster will give us a lively introduction to these treasures of history and print.

On Wednesday, October 19, 2005 David A. Richards will talk about *Collecting Kipling*. David Richards is managing partner of the New York office of the law firm of McCarter & English LLP. He graduated from Yale College in 1967 (B.A. *summa cum laude*), was a Keasbey Scholar at Cambridge University from 1967 to 1969 (B.A. first class honors 1969, N.A. 1971), and from Yale Law School in 1972. He has served as Chair of the Real Property Section of the American Bar Association, and Chair of the Anglo-American Real Property Institute.

Mr. Richards, a member of the Council of the Grolier Club and Director of Special Projects, is the North American Representative of the Kipling Society, and co-editor with Professor Thomas Piney of *Kipling and His First Publisher* (High Wycombe: Rivendale Press, 2001).

Collecting Kipling is an extended rebuttal to the judgment of Robert Frost: “Collecting is the lowest form of literary appreciation. Very low.” Collecting is indeed play, a game, a gamble, but the process is also analyzable in components: the creation of order, the fascination with changes, curiosity about the past, and desire for understanding. The collector of Kipling, whose bibliography is the most complex of any

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– Alan Jutzi, Chief Curator, Rare Books, Huntington Library

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modern author, experiences all these features in spades, and each will be examined, with regard to Mr. Richards' collecting and research experiences.

On Wednesday, November 16, 2005, Samuel B. Ellenport will talk about *The Economics of Desire: A History of the Club Bindery*.

Sam Ellenport is the President and proprietor of the Harcourt Bindery Inc. in Boston, one of the oldest and largest hand binderies in America. Mr. Ellenport received his B.A. degree from Amherst College (*cum laude*) and pursued graduate studies in the Ph.D. Program in History at Brown University, and has studied at the University of California, Berkeley, and at Oxford University. He is a member of the Guild of Bookworkers, the Design Bookbinders of England, and is a past President of the Society of Binders. He has also served as a Chair of the Friends of Amherst College Library, and is an active member of the Boston Athenaeum, the Early Industries of America Association, and The John Russell Bartlett Society. Mr. Ellenport has published widely.

The Club Bindery – including European binders of great reputation and skill – was

formed at the turn of the nineteenth century by members of the Grolier Club to produce book bindings to meet the high standards achieved elsewhere in the world, but not yet in America. The Club binders did so for members of the Grolier Club as well as for outside clients. The story of this bindery will be traced through numerous slides of bindings, exquisite in their design and execution. Yet despite the incredible workmanship and supportive clientele, the bindery failed in New York and failed again in its reincarnation as the Rowfant Club Bindery in Cleveland.

As a model of a hand-bindery, the failure of The Club Bindery is worth looking into as a way to explore and understand the enormous changes in the way books were bound by hand in the twentieth century. Sam Ellenport will bring his combined skills as historian and binder to an exciting evening.

On Wednesday, December 14, 2005 the Caxton year draws to a close with the annual Revels, which will certainly include a book auction and lively entertainment.

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.

The September 13 meeting will feature Gillian Boal presenting "A Conservator's Visit to the Monastery of St. Catherine."

The Monastery of St. Catherine of Sinai, in Egypt, is the oldest active Christian monastery in the world. In 2001, conservators from the Camberwell College of Arts, with the support of the St. Catherine Foundation, started surveying the manuscripts in the monastery library. In 2003 Boal was chosen to be one of the six team members who visited in January and February. This illustrated talk will be about her four week stay at the monastery, her work in the monastery library, and her visit to the new Alexandria Library.

Gillian Boal grew up in England, moved to Boston, New England, and then to the west coast of the United States in 1985. Currently she is the Hans Rausing Conservator and Head of the Conservation Treat-

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ment Division of the Preservation Department at the University of California, Berkeley, where she works on preserving collections of books, paper, photographs, vellum, and papyrus.

For additional information contact Rich Spelker at r.spelker@comcast.net or try 415 584-9989.

THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES



THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES held their February 2005 meeting at the home of Millie and Bob Fleck in New Castle, DE. DB member Paul Preston Davis spoke about his new bibliography entitled *Howard Pyle: His Life – His Work* and about his collection of and research on the books, illustrations, and paintings of Howard Pyle, the founder of the “Brandywine School” of artists. His bibliography is sure to be the definitive reference work on Howard Pyle, America’s most famous and influential illustrator at the dawn of the twentieth century. Preston scanned over 3,300 images for illustrations in this book either in full-color or black and white

(depending on how the work was originally executed), which is every image of the published and unpublished works of Pyle. The book is co-published by Oak Knoll Books and the Delaware Art Museum in two volumes and is indexed and thoroughly cross-referenced with eleven separate indexes so that it is useful to collectors, scholars, and curators.

The twenty-eighth Anniversary Dinner of The Delaware Bibliophiles was held on March 17, 2005 at the Terrace at Greenhill restaurant in Wilmington. Thirty-five DBs assembled, some wearing green in honor of St. Patrick’s Day, for cocktails, dinner, and a talk by our guest speaker, Professor James R. Tanis, Director Emeritus of Libraries and Professor Emeritus of History at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. The title of his talk “Three Sides of the Same Table” is derived from Prof. Tanis’ lifetime association with books, scholarship, and bookish folk that led him first to be a collector of books, second to obtain an education and experience among rare book and scholarly libraries that enabled him to become a rare books librarian, and third, in his retirement, to be a dealer of rare books. His business venture is appropriately called “The Chapter After.” Bookselling can be

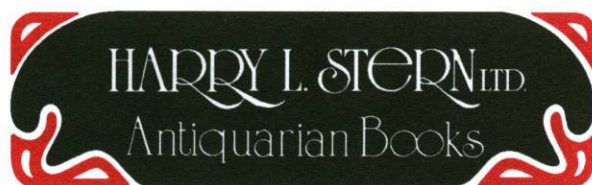
seen in some ways as a vicarious kind of collecting. After a lifetime of collecting primarily for university collections and only secondarily for himself, he has come full circle to “collect” books for resale. Paradoxically, the three-sided table had become a circle!

Although firm dates have not been established for our fall meetings, the DBs plan to visit the Helen Farr Sloan Library at the newly refurbished and expanded Delaware Art Museum in Wilmington. We are also planning a meeting in the historic village of Arden, Delaware where we will visit its new archive of materials pertaining to this noted Single Tax/Arts & Crafts community that is of both local and national interest.

Our annual fundraising dinner/auction will be held in November. We welcome visitors to any of our events.

We note with sadness the death of DB member Carol Digel. She was a docent with the Delaware Art Museum and a member of the Darley Society where she served as a research historian. She researched and lectured on all aspects of the life and career of Felix Octavius Carr Darley, America’s first illustrator of note and a Delaware resident.

Andy McKay, a founding member of the DBs, initiated the idea for and followed



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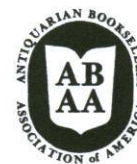
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through with the production of a special lapel pin for each member of the Club. The design of the pin was based on a design made for us by the late wood engraver and designer, John DePol (honorary DB). The letters "DB" circumscribed by the outline of an open book has over the years become an easily identified logotype of the Club. The pins were distributed to our members and were received with acclaim.

We congratulate The Caxton Club on their outstanding new publication of the first book on leaf books. Entitled *Disbound and Dispersed: The Leaf Book Considered* it is issued in celebration of the 100th anniversary of their publication in 1905 of William Caxton by E. Gordon Duff. Included in their book is "A Checklist of Leaf Books" by John P. Chalmers that lists as No. 226: *The Delaware Bibliophiles, 1977-2002 - a History & Anthology* with an original wood engraving by John DePol and an original leaf from a collection of the works of Thomas Chalkley, published by Benjamin Franklin and David Hall. Copies of our book as well as the DePol wood engraving alone are still available. If you want other information about the DBs, please contact Andy McKay at mckay514@aol.com.

We always welcome visitors from other

FABS clubs. Contact our president Tom Doherty at tdoherty@bookbarn.com for current information.

THE BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT



THE BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT began its year at the Scarab Club headquarters in downtown Detroit with a dinner meeting. Wayne State University Press and the Scarab Club joined us in sponsoring a presentation by Irene Walt, author of the *Art of the People Mover* (WSUPress). Several artists who designed and installed their art work were present.

In April we presented "Collectomania III," a show-and-tell fund-raiser for the Friends of the University of Michigan Library. Jim Goss, Steven Cybulski, Barry Neavill, Joan Knoertzer, and Jim Irwin presented books from their collections. Head of University of Michigan Special Collections, Peggy Daub, presented "The Lincoln Highway" collection. At the end of April, Joan Knoertzer pinch-hit for a lecture on the "History of Banned Books" at the Baldwin Library in Birmingham.

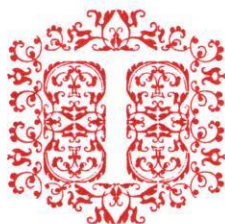
In May we participated in the U of M's Clement's Library two-day dedication of our members Jan and Dan Longone Culinary Research Institute, an event that had culinary historians and cookbook collectors speechless. Ten of us traveled to St. Louis for the FABS tour of library venues and private collections.

Kay McKay continues to amaze us with her twice a year presentation of our newsletter, *Speaking of Books*. Her history of two hundred years of book selling in Detroit will be published this year by us as a keepsake for our members. Members Toby and Shirley Holtzman donated a 1,300 volume collection of contemporary American and English literature to the Wayne State University David Adamany Undergraduate Library. Member William Morrissey catalogued this and it was presented at a seminar with guest speaker Stanley Crouch.

Many members attended the Second Annual Ann Arbor Book Festival, with the high point being the Antiquarian Book Fair organized by past-president Jay Platt as a fund raiser for the Clements Library of the U of M. Don Faber, author, spoke at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Headquarters in Monroe, Michigan about his book *The Toledo Strip War*. This is a fascinating his-

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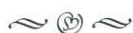
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tory of the dispute over the boundary between Ohio and Michigan. Member Sister Mary Hungerman hosted in her state of the art library.

In July past president Jim Deak organized our annual Bookshop Crawl—breakfast, lunch, dinner, and lots of books. We begin the fall with the Third Annual Kerrytown Book Fest, Sunday September 11 in Ann Arbor Farmer's Market. Many of our members will be demonstrating, presenting, appraising, and making books. September 18 we return to the Clements Library for a presentation by Jan Longone about how her dream collection has turned into the reality of the Culinary Institute. We just continue to have more fun with books!

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

FINE PRESS BOOK ASSOCIATION



SUMMER always brings intensive printing activity amongst fine press printers—getting the current project ready for sale at the Oak Knoll Book Fest in early October and the Oxford show in early November.

Collector members seem to be very busy as well, travelling to out-of-state shows. Crispin Elsted, Paul Razzell, and Mike Barnes are preparing copy for *Parenthesis* No. 11 which ought to be out in October. Advertising is always welcome. Contact Mike Barnes at mjbarnes@telus.net.

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



WE HAVE ESTABLISHED a web site and invite all and sundry to tune us in at <http://www.floridabibliophilesociety.org>. We look forward to any comments that you might make and to your learning more about our cosmopolitan and erudite membership.

Our January program was an excellent presentation by Jerry Kovar and his wife Karen, who are collectors and dealers of theater lobby posters. They presented a

number of fine examples and discussed the evolution of movie posters.

In February, member Fred Farrar, presented an informative and interesting program on unusual presidential elections in United States history.

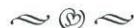
Paul Ruxin, a member of The Caxton Club of Chicago, spoke on Samuel Johnson and his help to struggling authors. Mr. Ruxin has one of the best Samuel Johnson/James Boswell collections still in private hands.

On April 17, Nicholas A. Basbanes, a leading authority on bibliomania and author of several books about book collecting, was our feature speaker.

Our summer hiatus was ushered in with our annual banquet at Kally-K's restaurant in Largo.

Meetings will resume in September with a group of well rested and eager bibliomaniacs. Visitors who blow into the land of hurricanes are welcome to attend our monthly meetings. For information contact George Spiero at 727 376-4914 or at gspiero@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.

October 20—Tour of the Rare Book Room Archives, Bienes Center, Broward County Library.

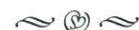
November 17—Afternoon tour of the Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami Libraries.

December 15—Annual Holiday Party and 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. Starred events are open to non-Grolier FABS members; those interested should contact Eric Holzenberg directly.

*Sep 7-Nov 4: Members' exhibition: "Walt Whitman: Fine Press Editions" from the collection of Frank Mattson. Opening 5:30 p.m.

*Sep 13-Nov 19: Public exhibition: "No Other Appetite: Sylvia Plath, Ted Hughes, and the Blood Jet of Poetry." Curated by Stephen C. Ennis and Karen V. Kukil. Opening 6:00 p.m.

Sep 21: Brown-Bag Bibliophile Luncheon. No program, just an opportunity to sit and talk about books with fellow members. At the Club, noon to 2:00 p.m.

Sep 23: An Art-Rich Day in the Hamptons. Organized by the Committee on Prints, Drawings, & Photographs, and hosted by Grolierite George Meredith and his wife Beth.

*Sept 27: Lecture: Member Eric Hollas of St. Johns University will speak on "Illuminating the Word: The Saint Johns Bible," concerning the first manuscript Bible to be produced in over five hundred years, and one of the great calligraphic ventures of the twentieth century. 6:00 p.m. at the Club. Reception follows.

Oct 6-9: Grolier Club three-day trip to Toronto.

*Oct 11: Curator's chat: Frank Mattson will give a guided tour of his exhibition on fine press editions of Walt Whitman. 5:30 p.m.

Oct 19: Brown-Bag Bibliophile Luncheon. No program, just an opportunity to sit and talk about books with fellow members. At the Club, noon to 2:00 p.m.

*Oct 20: Club Meeting: Stephen C. Ennis will speak on the exhibition "No Other Appetite: Sylvia Plath, Ted Hughes, and the Blood Jet of Poetry." 6:00 p.m. Reception follows.

*Oct 29: A Grolier Gathering in Boston: In town for the Book Fair? Join President Carolyn Smith, Director Eric Holzenberg, and other fellow Grolier Club members for an evening of drinks, hearty hors d'oeuvres, and book-chat. Details TBA.

Nov 9: Special Functions Dinner: Joan Hall on the *Dictionary of American Regional English*.

Nov 14: 2005 Robert L. Nikirk Lecture. G. Thomas Tanselle speaking autobiographically on collecting and bibliography. 6 p.m. at the Club. Details TBA.

Nov 16: Brown-Bag Bibliophile Luncheon. No program, just an opportunity to sit and talk about books with fellow members. At the Club, noon to 2:00 p.m.

*Nov 16-Jan 13: Members' Exhibition: "Portraits of Famous Writers from the collection of George Meredith." Opening 5:30 p.m.

Nov 29: Special Functions Dinner: David Lowenherz: "A Primer on Appraising Autographs and Manuscripts."

*Nov 30: Curator's chat: George Meredith will give a guided tour of his exhibition of "Portraits of Famous Writers." 5:30 p.m.

*Dec 6-Feb 4: Public exhibition: "Books on Ice: the Anglo-American Literature of Polar Exploration" curated by Deirdre and David Stam. Opening 6:00 p.m.

*Dec 7: Lecture: Sian Flynn, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich on "The Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration: Scott & Shackleton at the National Maritime Museum." 6 p.m.

All of our public exhibitions are open free of charge Mondays to Saturdays from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. All other events are open to Grolier Club members only. We invite you to visit our exhibitions and our website at www.grolierclub.org.

LONG ISLAND BOOK COLLECTORS



THE LONG ISLAND BOOK COLLECTORS had some very interesting programs during the spring of 2005.

March brought us a group participation meeting with the theme "It's not a book, but it's in my collection because. . ." Items ranged from World War II ephemera, to portraits of Rafael Sabatini and Douglas Fairbanks, and to Maurice Sendak's "Wild Things" dolls.

In April, retired Professor Bruce Maxian of the Palmer School at the C. W. Post Campus of Long Island University spoke to us about his 6,000 item collection of Civil

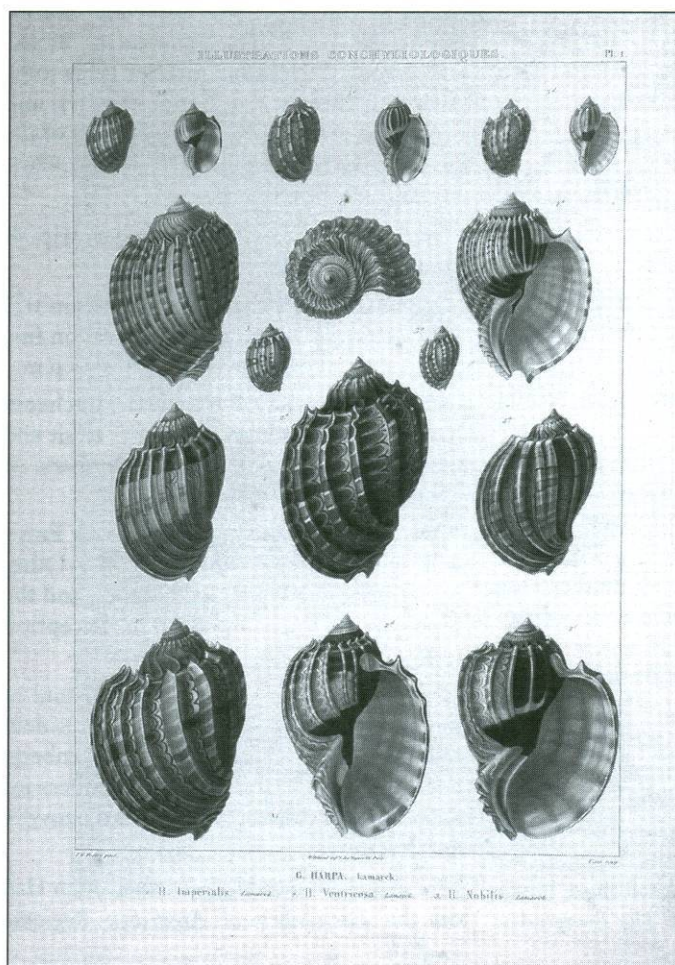
War books and ephemera. He showed us some of his prize pieces.

Pop-up books were the subject for May. Daveen Herly, a local collector with an amazing variety of pop-up and movable books from the 17th century on, took us through the history of the genre to the middle of the 19th century. She will return to complete her survey in the near future.

After a delightful end-of-the-year dinner with our colleagues from the Long Island Book Dealers Association, Bob Brier (of the National Geographic Channel and Egyptology fame, especially mummy dissection, and also a professor at Long Island University), gave us a slide show and talk on the history of Napoleon's expedition in Egypt, particularly the famous book that was produced by the artists and craftsmen Napoleon brought along.

In the fall of 2005, we plan a meeting on book design, one on poetry, a luncheon and speaker, and the second segment of Ms. Herly's history of pop-ups and movables.

For information about future Club activities please contact Marge Rosenthal at mrosenth@suffolk.lib.ny.us.



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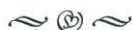
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COMPLIMENTING the NOBS night series of dinner talks in Akron, a similar series has been established in Cleveland to more conveniently serve NOBS members in that area. Plans are to present four NOBS Nights in Cleveland each year, and they will be held at Loganberry Books near Shaker Square.

The first program was held on June 18, 2005, and featured *Cleveland Plain Dealer* books editor Karen Long who spoke on "Choosing a Book for Review: The Pleasure, the Politics, and the Daily Occasions for Humility." On August 20, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. the featured speaker will be playwright Eric Coble whose topic will be "Waving Good-bye: Turning Your Play into a Screen Play." For information call Loganberry Books at 216 795-9800.

On Saturday, October 8, 2005, NOBS will sponsor the Chagrin Valley Antiquarian Book Fair at the Family Life Center, 16349 Chilicothe Road, Bainbridge, Ohio. For information e-mail books@cattermole.com or call 440 338-3253.

Information about NOBS and its activities as well as the NOBS Dealer Directory, can be found on the NOBS website at www.nobsweb.org.

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 111th 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.

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

THE BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY OF ROCHESTER



THE BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY of Rochester concluded the 2004-2005 season in June with its annual banquet. Honored at the banquet was Mr. Ed Hoch, who received the Society's annual "Book Person-of-the-Year" award "in recognition of his significant contributions to the Rochester book scene." Ed Hoch's stories have appeared in every issue of the *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* since 1973. His stories have been used in the TV shows *Macmillan and Wife*, *Night Gallery*, *Tales of the Unexpected*, and *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*. Among Ed Hoch's long list of tributes is an Edgar and Grand Master Award, the Mystery Writers of America's highest honor.

The Society begins its new season in September with a talk by George Grella, Associate Professor, Department of English of the University of Rochester, and film critic for *City Newspaper* (Rochester, NY). George Grella's bibliophilic interest centers around nineteenth- and twentieth-century English literature and culture and associated films. He has published hundreds of reviews along with articles about authors including Edgar Allan Poe, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Ian Fleming, Dashiell Hammett, and John Irving.

At the October meeting, we will hear from Gordon Small, who is an important Rochester-area collector of Wyndham Lewis, Ernest Hemingway, John O'Hara, and Robert McAlmon. The evening's presentation will be about Robert McAlmon, American writer in Paris in the 1920s and publisher of works by Gertrude Stein.

In November, William Heyen, finalist for the 2004 National Book Award on poetry, will speak on collecting. William Heyen is Professor of English and Poet in Residence at the State University of New York at Brockport, and a former Senior Fulbright Lecturer in American Literature in Germany. His works have appeared in *Harper's*, *The New Yorker*, *American Poetry Review*, *The Ontario Review*, among others. William Heyen's awards and fellowships include those from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation.

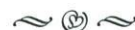
Mr. Pablo Alvarez will be the speaker at the Society's traditional December holiday party. Pablo Alvarez is Rare Book Librarian at the University of Rochester's Rare Books and Special Collections Department. The topic for his talk will be announced in a

forthcoming issue of the Society's monthly newsletter.

All meetings are open to the public and are 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 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 113-YEAR OLD ROWFANT CLUB in Cleveland brings speakers to its in-season Wednesday evening programs from October through May. Speakers come to our nearly-170 year-old house (built in 1838) to address subjects ranging from the history of various kinds of printing to collecting books on that subject and many others. The central topics are, however, always related to the various and varied aspects of books and book collecting.

This coming season (2005-2006) will reflect that tradition once again. While at the time of this writing we have not completed our full schedule, we can report that our speakers will include experts on the history of ethics; librarians from some of the greatest and oldest libraries of Europe and America; a leading authority on the history of the cartoon in literature and media; a speaker on the importance of the development of various kinds of type, printing, and photography; a presentation of chamber music; and the collecting and history of related manuscripts; as well as a presenter on ancient texts in Hebrew.

We will also have a speaker on classical Hellenistic art as well as a medieval manuscript lecturer. Rowfant is a very active club and also has a member-speaker Friday Lunch program.

From September through May each year, some 30 members deliver postprandial presentations on subjects ranging from their own collections, to literary critiques, to addresses on current events as well as subjects selected from the history of ideas. Friday speakers may also offer humorous talks on any number of topics in the long history of wit and comedy in literature and life.

There are further discussion programs planned for our Saturday luncheon discussion meetings as well which run throughout the year.

A series of member picnics carries the club through the summer. Rowfant also arranges trips to various libraries, museums, and other cultural attractions here and abroad. Most recently, the club visited some of the wonderful libraries and museums in Berlin and Dresden as well as Ireland. Upcoming trips are being planned.

All in all, the next season for The Rowfant Club promises to deliver on its 113-year old motto which is "Books: In all their capacities to please the mind."

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.

With our new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005 a new Master of the Press and Printers Devil have been selected to guide the Club for the next two years. The new Master is, in

fact, an old Master, in that Bill Barlow previously served as Master of the Press from 1963 to 1965. His acceptance of the position forty years later is unprecedented in Club annals and perhaps can be attributed to a loss of long-term memory. The new Printers Devil, however, is new, at least as an officer of the Club. Bruce Shyer has been a member of the Roxburghe Club for nearly twenty years and steps into this important position with a real sense of the traditions of the Club.

The fiscal year just concluded, wrapping up the terms of Peter Rutledge Koch and Nancy Coopersmith as Master and Devil, was highlighted by talks by Sydney F. Huttner, Robert H. Jackson, Crispin Elsted, Paul T. Ruxin, and Mark Dimunation. The subjects of all of these talks were documented in the previous issue of the *FABS Newsletter* with the exception of that of Paul T. Ruxin who spoke under the title of "Other People's Books."

At the time of the deadline for this issue, only the first two meetings for the fall have been settled. The September meeting will feature the proprietor of the Arion Press, Andrew Hoyem, presenting a talk with the provocative title "Gutenberg Goes Digital."

In October former Master of the Press Harlan Kessell will be drawing on his recollections of the University of California Press.

SACRAMENTO BOOK COLLECTORS CLUB



THE CLUB began the year by meeting in Room 500 of the California Library and Courts Building near the State Capitol. Our annual Keepsake Meeting in January is also our Show and Share meeting. The printers in the Club are very generous with keepsakes that have been selected and printed solely with this meeting in mind. No one walked home without a handful of keepsakes from our printers Vince Lozito, Bob Dickover, John Ohlson, Geary Tracy, Jeff Craemer, Bruce Washbish, and Joe Halton. Thanks is again offered for these stunning examples of print from your fine presses.

The January meeting is also a favorite of many as it is very interesting to see what our fellow club members collect. This "Show and Share" aspect of our January

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it is almost thoroughly ripe for a just decision
BACKGROUND: Autograph letter signed from Thomas Jefferson, U.S. Minister to France, to Thomas Lee Shippen dated March 11, 1789, from Paris.

meeting was presented from the private libraries of Don Conner of Don Conner Fine Books, Gary and KD Kurutz, Richard Press of Richard L. Press Fine and Scholarly Books on the Arts, Bob Dickover, Katie Brown, John Ohlson, Vince Lozito, Brad Casoly, Susan Hanks, and Burt Thompson. A grateful membership responded favorably with a hearty and prolonged applause.

Our February Dinner meeting featured Walter P. Gray III's *The Early Days of Railroading in Sacramento* aboard the Delta King in Old Sacramento. For those interested in paddle wheelers you will recognize the Delta King as a "twin" ship to the Delta Queen, also from Sacramento, which still plies the muddy waters of the mighty Mississippi. Aboard the Delta King the setting was fantastic, the food delightful, the speaker above average, and all the members good looking. (With apologies to Garrison Keillor). As you may recall Gray wrote the introduction to our Theodore Judah book *Preliminary Report of the Chief Engineer, Central Pacific Railroad*. This second edition of Judah's report was published by our Publications Committee now chaired by Ed Carroll. Gray's tale began with Theodore Judah and the Big Four in Sacramento and finished with the laying of the golden spike in Promontory Utah. Gray's talk was very knowledgeable as well as humorous. In gratitude for Gray's presentation the Club gave him a complete set of the "Reprint Series" with a case made by fellow member and past President Jack Barrett and a framed copy of the evening's keepsake. The special keepsake created and printed by Honorary members Vince Lozito and Robert Dickover features Theodore Judah, the Big Four, and a locomotive traveling at full steam.

March's meeting featured Richard Press' new book by Sacramento's Star Thistle Press, *Two Dutchies*, featuring a poem to Hendrik Nicolaas Werkam by Willem Sandberg. This sumptuous book was printed on Frankfurt Cream and Nideggan Sand papers, typography set by Alastair Johnston, and was bound by Arnold Martinez. Copies can be purchased from Richard L. Press Fine and Scholarly Books on the Arts, 1727 1/2 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-3001 or by phone 916 447-3413.

In April the Club hosted a trio of speakers who collaborated on a book titled *Auburn Images, the Mel Locher Photo Collection*. Donna Howell, Mike Lynch, and Art Sommers worked together on this project for over two years. The trio combed through the Locher Photo Collection in Auburn, Ca., researched images, added his-

torical footnotes, narrowed their favorite to a few hundred, and scanned them into a computer. Many members learned to appreciate how a book gets from an idea to something that is held in hand. These three were congratulated on their hard work and perseverance. Orders for the book can be placed through the Placer County Historical Society, 933 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603 or by calling (503) 823-5940.

Susan Filter and Peter Rutledge Koch shared the spotlight for our Club's May meeting. With Susan's talk being on "Some Simple Tips on Book Care" a much needed refresher on the care and treatment of books. Peter's portion of the talk was titled "Lead Ain't Dead and the Future of Fine Printing." This delightful double treat brought out a very large audience for our Club meeting. Many were grateful for Susan's tips on how to care for books and many were awed by Peter's new book *The Fragments of Parmenides* which can be purchased from him at 2203 Fourth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 or you may place a phone order at 510 849-0673.

Our June meeting is turning out to be an annual favorite. No longer called a Pot Luck our June Culinary Meeting has grown into an epicurean delight for the senses. Having Roxanne O'Brien co-host the meeting has benefitted our club as well as her students at American River College Culinary Arts School. Members again exceeded expectations in donating cook books for her culinary school students. Roxanne introduced us to Darrell Corti for his program "Omnium Gatherum." We were transfixed by Darrell's splendid stories from his collection of books as we traveled back in time to the 1500s. Darrell translated from Latin, Spanish, Italian, and French as he wove his tale of the gastronomic history of food and beverage. Darrell Corti is well sought after for his palate when it comes to wine, olive oil, cheeses, and all things food. He is now recognized fondly for his collection of fine press books and his generosity as well. Darrell can be reached for all your culinary needs at Corti Brothers, 5810 Folsom Boulevard in Sacramento.

Club member and past-President Lois Schumaker has put together a website for our Club. You can learn about our activities by going to sacramentobookcollectors.org. Lois has brought us into the 21st Century and deserves an "Ethereal High Five." The rich red and gold colors used should delight those who choose to visit our site.

Normally we are on break for the months of July and August but club dynamo Vince Lozito has arranged for our club to be

given a tour of the McCune Collection at the JFK Library in Vallejo August 28. As usual for all of our functions any FABS member is welcome to attend.

SOME UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Sept 9: Father Murphy on refurbishing the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament here in Sacramento.

Oct 14: John Windle Antiquarian Bookseller of San Francisco will speak.

Dec 9: Scott Burns will introduce us to his upcoming book *The History of Cartooning and Caricature*.

It is with great sadness that I relay to you the death of Sacramento Book Collector Club Charter Member and Honorary Member Michael Harrison. Harrison died at the age of 107. For those of you that knew him he was a driving force in the collection of Western Americana. His Research Library is now in the hands of the University of California at Davis.

Club member Marion Tinling (*Sacagawea's Son, Correspondence of the Three William Byrds of Westover, Virginia* and others) will soon be 101 years young. Can there be a relationship between books and longevity? For your health, snuggle up to a good book and breath deep!

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 sbcclub@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.

EVENTS CALENDAR

October 11 – Anti-Slavery Collections of the Boston Public Library – Curator's Tour. Marion Kilson will give an informal talk about the leading Boston abolitionist, William Lloyd Garrison, and the history of his Boston newspaper, *The Liberator*. Kilson will also provide a curator's tour of the Garrison exhibition on display at the Bos-

ton Public Library, which draws from BPL's unrivaled collection of anti-slavery and abolitionist rare books, manuscripts, prints, and related materials.

October 29 – Collectors Round-Table at the Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair. Hynes Convention Center. Join The Ticknor Society again at the Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair! We plan to bring two annual traditions together this year by hosting our annual Collectors' Roundtable at the fair as well as staffing an information booth.

December 6 – "Papers You Wish You'd Heard." Houghton Library, Harvard University. It's not too late to catch those papers that you just couldn't get to. We will be bringing together a panel of speakers from the Boston area to reprise some recent papers they delivered outside of Boston that have interest for local bibliophiles.

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 more information on The Society or upcoming events, visit us online at www.ticknor.org or contact us at info@ticknor.org or 617 495-2509.

BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON



MEMBERS of the Book Club of Washington are busy touring personal collections and having private tours of regional booksellers. We are also eagerly planning for our upcoming FABS event to be held in Seattle on May 10-13, 2006. We hope you will be able to join us and all the festivities planned for that event.

Summer and Fall events locally will keep us busy. In August, David Gregor, of Gregor Books and his wife, Priscilla Lowry, of Lowry James Prints will host BCW members for a Sunday afternoon event in Langley, on beautiful Whidbey Island.

On September 10, we will gather at the home of Mike Repass for a tour of his Western Americana collection, with its emphasis on Washington and Oregon territory material.

On September 24, the Book Club of Washington and the Seattle History Room of the Seattle Public Library will co-host a discussion on beginning book collecting in the Seattle History Room. Presenters will be local BCW members with collections

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related to the Pacific Northwest. We hope to encourage beginners to start their collections and to attend the Friends of the Library Sale as well as the upcoming Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair.

The annual Antiquarian Book Fair dinner for dealers and collectors will be held on October 7 at the Rainier Club in downtown Seattle. The Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair will be held at the Seattle Center on October 8 and 9 and visitors will be able to meet BCW members at their booth at the Fair. We hope to reach out to new members and acquaint others with book collecting in Washington. Peter Hanff of the Bancroft Library at the University of California will be our featured speaker.

November 10 has member Douglas Weisfield, showing us his collection of *Livre d'Art*, with beautiful limited editions of artist's books and specialty custom bindings.

December 8, we conclude the year with a holiday celebration at the Rainier Club in downtown Seattle. The Rainier Club looks especially beautiful at this time and we look forward to celebrating and fund raising to close out our year.

Our focus for 2006 will be hosting the FABS ninth annual Book Tour & Symposium. We have lots of great ideas for tours and lectures and we know you will want to join us May 10-13 for this event. For complete information see pages 3, 4, and 5.

FABS members who are planning to visit the area during any of our events are welcome to join us if there is space available. Please contact Anne Repass at 206 213-0660 or annerepass@aol.com, for reservations and directions.

WASHINGTON RARE BOOK GROUP



IN JANUARY the Washington Rare Book Group had a chance to browse through a wide array of early materials on the history of aviation and aeronautics, thanks to Bill Baxter, Head Librarian of the library at the National Air & Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution. Early ballooning books from the 1700s and popular sheet-music from the early 20th century celebrating "flying machines" were particularly memorable.

The Group travelled to Silver Spring, MD for the February event at Pyramid Atlantic, a non-profit center for the art of hand-papermaking, print-making, and the book. The highlight of the visit was the workshop

of master bookbinder Linda Rollins who generously discussed and demonstrated her tools and materials.

March brought the opportunity to hear a talk by book artists John Ross and Clare Romano Ross at the Group's annual lunch at the Library of Congress. Mark Dimunation, Head of LC's Rare Books & Special Collections Division, graciously agreed to supplement their own display with items from LC's collection of the Rosses' books. Members of the Washington Printmakers Society and staff and students from the Corcoran Museum of Art joined the Group for a fascinating event.

Members August and Clare Imholtz hosted the Group in April at a Saturday afternoon tea to discuss and show their important collection of the works of Lewis Carroll (Charles Lutwidge Dodgson). The Imholtzes are particularly keen on the lesser-known works and they enthusiastically shared their scholarly knowledge of the author and his books.

The event-year ended in June with the Group's annual lunch at the Officers' Club at Ft. McNair on Washington's south-east waterfront. Member Susan Lemke, Rare Book Librarian at the National Defense University at the Fort, made the arrangements, as always, and this year's speaker was Arthur Dunkelman, Curator of the Jay I. Kislak Collection on Pre-Columbian America, who gave an illustrated talk on the Kislak Collection, which was donated to the Library of Congress in 2004.

Photographs may be seen on our website www.washingtonrarebookgroup.org (click on "2004 Schedule," and then on the individual months).

The 2005-2006 event-year is currently being planned, and the schedule will be posted on the website as events are confirmed. For additional information please contact Leslie K. Overstreet at 202 633-1176 or overstreetl@si.edu.

THE ZAMORANO CLUB



THE ZAMORANO CLUB meets on the first Wednesday of October through June at the University Club of Pasadena. A summer outing to Santa Barbara was held on August 27, 2005. We toured Santa Barbara Mission Archive and Library, and the Karpeles Manuscript Museum as well as the Santa Barbara Presidio. The day concluded with dinner at the home and library of John Fickewirth in Ojai.

October 5 – "Memories of Zamoranans Past: What They Meant to Me." Larry E. Meyer. Introduced by Doyce B. Nunis, Jr.

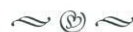
November 2 – "Dear Richman, Dear Goose: Personal Letters of Ward Ritchie and Larry Powell." Jeff Garner, Ph.D. Introduced by Bruce Whiteman.

December 7 – "GAUDEAMUS Adventures in Book Collecting." William P. Barlow, Jr. Introduced by Doyce B. Nunis, Jr.

January 4 – "Franklin D. Murphy aka Dr. Clout." Nicholas A. Curry. Introduced by Msgr. Francis J. Weber.

The Zamorano Club looks forward to publishing (perhaps with The Historical Association of Southern California) the youthful letters of Ward Ritchie and Lawrence Clark Powell, edited by Jeff Garner and Roger Larson.

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATES



THE FELLOWSHIP of American Bibliophilic Societies has four International Affiliates. There is one each in Belgium and the Netherlands and there are two in Germany. Three of the four report the following on their recent activities.

BELGIUM. The Société Royale des Bibliophiles et Iconophiles de Belgique reports that, in September-October, 2004, it prepared an exhibition at the Royal Library of Belgium that commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of the Society's journal, "Book and Stamp," and displayed 150 rare items loaned by the Society's members. The three other societies of Belgian bibliophiles—in Anvers, Mons, and Liège—were invited to the display. The catalog of the exhibition contains detailed descriptions of the works of art and an introduction by Claude Soregeloos: "Bibliophilic Journals in Belgium in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries."

In June 2005, the Society visited exceptional libraries at Lille, Arras, Douai, Amiens, and Valenciennes in Northern France that are particularly rich in illuminated manuscripts and early printed books from the scriptoria of the great abbeys of the region and that were removed to the libraries during the French Revolution.

The Society's journal, "Book and Stamp," is scheduled to publish in December. The Society is creating a website that is expected to be in operation by the end of 2005. It will contain information on the Society and an index of articles that have appeared in "Book and Stamp" since its creation in 1954.

GERMANY. Berliner Bibliophilen Abend E.V. (BBA), which was founded in 1905, celebrated its 100th anniversary in January, 2005 and devoted its approximately monthly meetings thereafter to programs on Printing Graphics from the Berlin artist C. Felixmueller. These included a series of 1970-1980 woodcuts, Friedrich Schiller and the French Revolution, a BBA Exhibition in the Central Library of the Free University of Berlin, a visit to a Berlin monastery library, and excursions to several museums and collections in Hannover.

NETHERLANDS. The Nederlands Genootschap van Bibliofielen was founded in 1990 and now has 140 members and meets twice each year, publishes newsletters and an Annual Yearbook, and makes bibliophile trips in the Netherlands and other European countries. In October 2004, club members visited an exhibition of manuscripts and printed books from the period 1475 to 1525 in Zwolle, a former Hanseatic League town. In November, a visit was made to the Tilburg University Library, a high tech library on a modern campus with a collection of old books and ephemera on Brabant, theology, and philosophy. In April 2005, the Club held its Spring Meeting at Leiden University (founded in 1575 and the oldest university in the Netherlands), pre-

sented its 2004 Yearbook, viewed the university's manuscripts and printed books, and visited the Bibliotheca Thysiana at the Rapenburg, a 17th-century humanist's library in its 1655 building. A visit to Munster, Hamburg, and Luneburg in Northern Germany is planned for the late summer.

FABS ANNUAL MEETING



THE MEETING was called to order by Chair John Carson, M.D. at 2:03 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, 2005. Sixteen Trustees/Alternate Trustees and guests were in attendance. The Secretary declared a quorum based on eight Trustees and Alternates in person and thirteen proxies for a total of twenty-one Clubs represented.

Chairman Carson opened the meeting with a brief statement and then recognized Trustee Leslie Overstreet, representing the Washington Rare Book Group, who reviewed her Club's preparations for the 2007 FABS Study Tour. Proposed venues include: National Library of Medicine, National Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Library, Library of Congress, Folger Shakespeare Library, and select private libraries. Ms. Overstreet suggested a post Labor Day date

to avoid the crowds. Bruce McKittrick suggested a special mailing four months in advance.

Chairman Carson's motion to approve the minutes of the 2004 Annual Meeting was approved. Paul Romaine then spoke briefly about the well received New York Study Tour. John Hoover and Kay Kramer provided an outline of the upcoming Study Tour to St. Louis to be hosted by The Bixby Club. Robert Jackson reported on the 2006 Study Tour Symposium and updated the plan for publishing the Study Tour Symposiums held through 2004.

John McClatchey reported the addition of three new Clubs and four new International Affiliates. Kay Kramer provided a report on the *FABS Newsletter* and website. Kay noted that while the increase to 40 pages was paid for with additional ad revenue it did lay increased mailing costs on individual member Clubs. After discussion, it was agreed to allow Kay to determine the size of each issue. It was also noted that the FABS website is a good source for information about and links to member Clubs.

With no other business pending, the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m. Trustees and guests were invited to a reception hosted by The Grolier Club prior to the opening of the New York Antiquarian Book Fair.

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OVER 6,000 BIBLIOPHILES read the *FABS Newsletter*. Many, if not most of them are amateurs. Most of us buy in a haphazard, albeit serious and involved way. As avocational collectors, we make plenty of errors. Through experience, we learn, but being part-timers and often passionate and serious, we often are foolish and impetuous.

This new column is designed to reduce the incidence of many forms of foolishness, ignorance, and ineptitude. There are many questions, perhaps naïve yet pertinent that might be answered. They can be about collecting as well as sales and deacquisition.

One *Newsletter* reader recently asked: "Now that I have been accumulating items for many years, and am now at the age of 74, I am wondering how and in what ways I can dispose of my books. If I don't do it my heirs might, but even so how can I help them now? Can you help me factor out the various advantages, pitfalls, and caveats I face in the disposition of my books?"

Answers to such questions can be involved and solutions depend on one's time, acuity, and effort. Disposition is a common but a seldom discussed area. One sees comments on how to assemble and maintain a book collection far more often.

We will consider areas of concern although it might be necessary to continue discussions in subsequent columns, especially if further questions and requests for clarification are sent to us from readers. We hope to make the *FABS Newsletter* a place where reasonable and informative solutions to common quandaries of the book-world can be discussed. Questions about price flexibility, negotiation and matters of etiquette, places to learn what similar items have sold for, where one can find first issue points, the implied meaning of terms like "as thus," and other arcane matters will be examined.

In the little space allotted to this column, we will be able to begin the discus-

sion of deacquisition. It is a serious matter that most of us will face. The following comments may seem simple and obvious to many but understanding the complexities requires understanding a few basics.

There are two basic ways to get rid of your books: selling or giving them away. One might sell to dealers, commission an auction house, sell or give directly to institutions or other collectors. There are variants of these methods such as a gift and sale combination. In all cases, tax and estate matters as well as possession and control considerations will influence the choice of a distribution mode. Long term Capital Gains taxes have been reduced for the time being and the Federal Estate tax is now zero for more people than in past years.

Dealers differ in their capacity to handle special collections, but most can refer or otherwise engage a reliable specialty dealer. Dealers purchase books at prices low enough to provide themselves a profit. Sometimes the dealer has a buyer or set of buyers in mind and sometimes the dealer may speculate that a buyer will appear and pay a price high enough to provide a profit. Dealers re-offer items in catalogues, at fairs, on the Internet, or at their bookstores. A few dealers work on a commission basis but it is rare. Some buyers prefer that the dealer purchase the item, thus demonstrating the dealer's confidence in its value.

Auctioneers range from local general merchandise agents to internationally prominent book and high-value merchandisers in large cities. These high-end specialists deal mostly in high value items and large lots. Auctioneers charge a commission sometimes to both buyer and seller and sometimes totaling as high as 30%. Clearly, higher prices to the seller bring higher commissions to the auction house. Reserve pricing, (a minimum price), is usually employed. For high priced and greatly sought after items, auctions can attract serious buyers, who

in a competitive environment might pay a higher price than a dealer would. Careful examination of auction records compared to recent book prices and discussions with dealers and auctioneers are important.

Finding individual collectors who are interested in specific items is difficult but not impossible. Most dealers expend time and effort to learn which buyers are serious. In the case of institutional buyers, not all are interested in what you might want to sell. Working with a dealer can be easier and more remunerative in the long run. The major question is valuing the items appropriately. Most dealers will know or will base the price you are paid on auction records, *Book Prices Current*, and price paid data submitted for publication by prominent dealers. These data are not easy, but also not impossible, for individual sellers to obtain.

Gifting is another way to dispose of items. Gifting to libraries, charities, and even to friends and family entails evaluations. The Internal Revenue Service regulations require arms-length appraisals. Dealers and appraisers, who specialize in your area of interest, should be employed. Gifting, especially in order to gain tax advantages generally requires professional assistance.

In this *Newsletter's* first attempt to clarify collectors' questions, we have only scratched the surface. Yet it seems that many collectors need a forum to submit inquiries about many kinds of buying and selling considerations.

We plan to provide space for these matters to be discussed in future issues of the *FABS Newsletter*. Some opinions may be questioned or rejected, but it is hoped that at the least stimulating discussions will ensue.

LAWRENCE N. Siegler
The Rowfant Club

Please send your questions or comments to Ken Palko at kenpalko@aol.com or PO Box 21323, Cleveland, Ohio 44121-0323.

Karl Bodmer's Prints

BETTER THAN HIS DRAWINGS

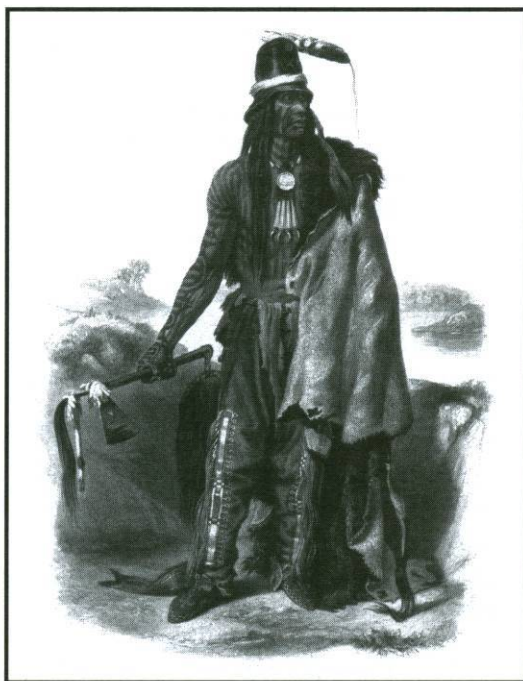
Karl Bodmer's North American Prints.
Edited by Brandon K. Ruud.
Annotations by Marsha V. Gallagher.
Essays by Ron Tyler & Brandon K. Ruud.
Omaha and Lincoln: Joslyn Art Museum
and The University of Nebraska Press.
383 pages, with appendixes.

A FEW YEARS AGO the editor of this coffee table sized folio for those addicted to western American art barnstormed the United States in pursuit of what he proposed to be "a catalogue raisonné" of the holdings of the prints by Karl Bodmer which accompanied Prince Maximilian of Wied-Neuwied's remarkable 1830's account of his trip across the young United States, his *Travels in the Interior of North America*. Various libraries and museums enthusiastically opened their doors and tomes to help create this important book, as a location census in Appendix A indicates.

However, somewhere along the line the thread of this volume, as good as the outcome was when it finally arrived late last year, seemed to lose the point of a multi-institutional, collaborative effort to locate and record variants of the prints. That was done certainly, but it seems likely that no one told the director of the Joslyn Museum, J. Brooks Joyner, who wrote the Foreword, a paean to the Joslyn itself and some of its past patrons like the Enron Corporation of better days, that that was what this book was intending to do. It really did not have to stand merely as a companion addendum to the Joslyn's monumental 1984 *Karl Bodmer's America*, which essentially collected in one volume the Bodmer's watercolor drawings held by the Joslyn. Why? The prints are better than the drawings.

Why would this reviewer make such a statement? Perhaps because of the frustration which has been born out of seeing so many great books by Audubon, Catlin, and Maximilian scattered to the four winds; they have always in terms of their parts just been undervalued enough—at

least until relatively recent times—to be attainable by masses of people, just as their original books were intended to reach more readers. The watercolors were almost incidental. The collaborative effort of writer, artist, engravers and etchers, colorists, and publishers made these rather dull, documentary sketchy drawings come alive as icons for all time, and they deserve to be studied and appreciated on museum walls and not in men's clubs and hunting lodges.



Abdih-Hiddisch. A Minatarre Chief.

Easily one of the greatest Americana bookmen of the mid-twentieth century, Wright Howes, in his bibliography, *U.S.-iana*, noted that the Bodmer prints, along with those of Charles Bird King and George Catlin, were among the greatest American works on the North American Indians. How amused that curmudgeon would be to see the recent jockeying concerning sales of the Catlin paintings sold by the Field Museum, or the vast gallery space devoted to the same artist's sketches at the Smithsonian. The best part of the New York Historical Society's traveling exhibition of Audubon's watercolors ten years ago was the incorporation of

multiple copies of the double elephant folio of *The Birds of America*. The original works by such artists, as good as they are, are prosaic laboratory tests compared to the prints of the same, prepared by true artisans once they were wrested from the hands of rather amateurish draftsmen such as Bodmer and Catlin.

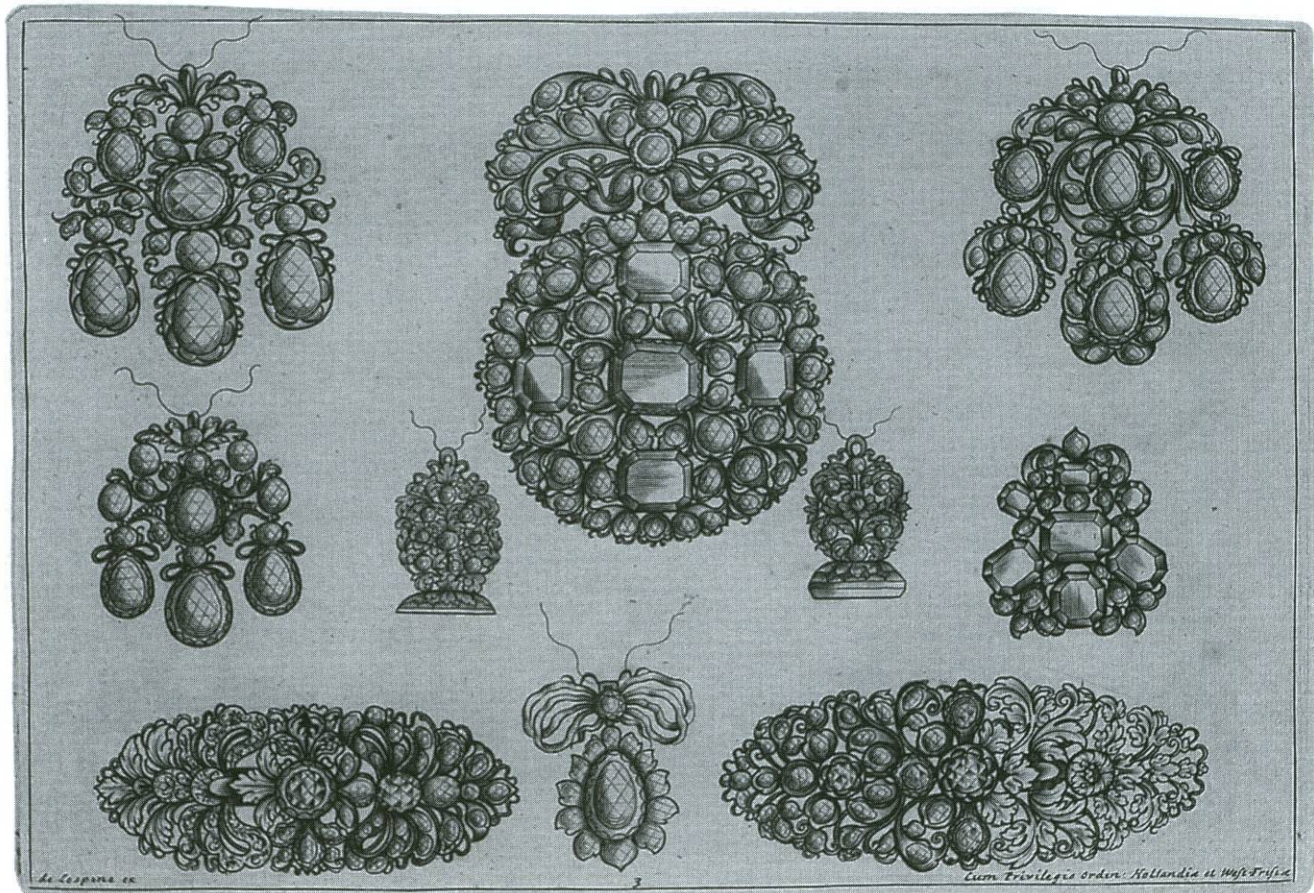
This volume can serve as a fine introduction to the collecting of Bodmer in printed form. The essays are quite good, especially the usual excellence which can be expected of Ron Tyler. Tyler opens up new ground in his analysis and tracing of the ways in which the iconic images which Bodmer miraculously composed, never to be matched in his subsequent career, were used again and again in the mid-nineteenth century to give readers worldwide their ironclad notions of American Indians. Some institutions will probably be disappointed with the color photography, and errors concerning the editorial notes concerning their own holdings, but if this work encourages renewed interest in one of the nineteenth century's greatest illustrated books for non-specialists as well as collectors of Bodmeriana, then it will have provided a most important service.

One final note and lament: would it have been too much to have asked for a detailed analysis of the great folding map of the expedition—one of the greatest single American maps of the nineteenth century and one of the most beautiful, with an engraved inset that rivals any of the color plates? It makes no appearance in this book, as do none of the fascinating wood engravings sprinkled throughout the early editions of the original text volumes. A tremendous oversight and one which map collectors and cartographical historians will decry.

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