

Lieberman Lecture a Success

APHA's ANNUAL Lieberman Lecture is a movable feast presented each year in a different part of the country to show the achievements of those who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of printing history and, of course, to honor our *genius loci*, J. Ben Lieberman, one of APHA's founders. This year's lecture, which was co-sponsored by the Getty Research Institute and the California Center for the Book, was held on 24 October 2002 at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, and featured a public "conversation" between type designer Matthew Carter and the legendary Jack Werner Stauffacher, printer, publisher, type historian, and proprietor of the Greenwood Press in San Francisco.

The program began with a screening of a new documentary entitled "Jack Stauffacher, Printer" by Santa Cruz filmmaker Jim Faris. Susan Allen, Chief Librarian of the Getty Research Library, welcomed the large crowd, described the Getty Research Institute's program, and thanked those at GRI who had helped organize the event. APHA president Martin Antonetti then opened the formal part of the program by recounting some of the history of the Lieberman Lecture, then called to the podium printer and designer Linnea Lundquist who introduced the two interlocutors.

Lundquist's elegant synopsis of the careers of these remarkable figures gave focus and context to what followed. In effect, Carter and Stauffacher discussed the trajectory of American and European typographical history in the second half of the 20th century, stopping along the way at those points where it intersected with Stauffacher's career and illuminating his dealings with some of the century's most important typographers: Hermann Zapf, Jan Tschichold, Adrian Wilson, Alberto Tallone and many others. The pair also responded to slides, with Carter teasing anecdotes and musings from Stauffacher on some of his famous projects and publications. The "conversation" ran considerably over its allotted time, much to the satisfaction of the audience, which hung on every word and then inundated the speakers with questions.

Although the success of the evening's event can be more than adequately explained by the juicy performance of the two virtuosi, one can't help but be transported by the extraordinary architecture, gardens, and collections of the Getty as well. The organizers of the 2002 Lieberman Lecture, APHA vice-president Mark Samuels Lasner, Susan Allen and her staff at the GRI, and the APHA Northern California chapter president Kathy Walkup, were principally responsible for the happy outcome.

Martin Antonetti



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APHA ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, 26 January 2003, 2 pm
New York Public Library
5th Avenue and 42nd Street
Awards will be presented to
James Mosley and to The Typophiles.

Help Us!

You will receive a survey about your interests and your relationship with APHA with your renewal notice for 2003. Our Association will be 30 years old in 2004. Your trustees and officers are taking stock of APHA's activities. We welcome any and all thoughts, concerns, or suggestions that you might make. This is your chance to tell us what you think & to influence our direction for the next decade – take it now!

Paul Romaine, Vice-President for Membership

Lecture on the New Digital "Monticello" Type

MATTHEW CARTER and Charles Creesy will speak on 25 February 2003 at the Grolier Club about the new digital "Monticello" typeface. This design can claim a lineage stretching back to Thomas Jefferson and America's first permanent type foundry of Archibald Binny and James Ronaldson. Jefferson admired the work of these two Scotsmen, as Jennifer Lee documented in her 1987 article "Our Infant Manufactures," in *Printing History* 22.

In the 1940s, when Princeton University Press signed on as the publisher of the definitive modern scholarly edition of Jefferson's writings, they wanted to print this monument in a historically allusive typography. The Press's Charles Creesy will talk about Binny and Ronaldson, their relations with President Thomas Jefferson, and how their 1797 type – which was revived in 1892 as "Oxford" – inspired the 1950 Linotype face "Monticello." The noted type designer Matthew Carter will build on

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online: www.printinghistory.org

APHA's Wayzgoose

IT WASN'T the usual leaf-peeping crowd in North Andover, Massachusetts on October 27th, but APHA New England Chapter members, friends of the museum, and others drawn to APHA's Wayzgoose at The Museum of Printing.

We gathered upstairs for a formal welcome from Alice Beckwith, president of APHA-NE. Alice, wearing another of her many APHA hats, then spoke as chair of our Oral History Project in an expanded version of her talk on the project from the July conference of SHARP (see Newsletter 149 for details).

Paul Romaine spoke at this appropriate venue on the preservation of the physical artifacts of printing history, particularly those of the phototypesetting age. His talk, also a version of one given at SHARP, discussed museums of printing and other preservation efforts.

In a lively comment period, Gardner LePoer, Executive Director of the Museum, pointed out that there were a number of people present who would be appropriate to interview for the oral history project. LePoer then spoke more formally, welcoming APHA to the Museum, which has moved into its first public space, and now needs sustaining members as a financial base of support.

After the talks, we wandered around the galleries, enjoying the presses, equipment, and other printing miscellanea that encapsulate the transition of printing technology and the printing industry from letterpress through machine, photo and digital composition. Museum members spoke about the equipment, and a Linotype machine was cranked up and set to work. In honor of the recent Lieberman lecture, the video "Jack Stauffacher, Printer" was shown.

APHA will present a set of *Printing History* to the Museum as a thank-you for its generous hosting of the event. Special thanks are due to APHA-NE, particularly the diligent Paul Cyr and the ubiquitous Alice Beckwith, for organizing the event. *Jane Siegel*

"Monticello" continued from page 1

this history to talk about his 21st-century digital version of this distinctively American typeface.

Creesy said that he has long been interested "in the interplay between printing technology and typographical design – that is, the process of translation necessary to preserve the original intent when moving from hand type to Linotype to digital, and from early hand-press to letterpress to offset press and raster image processor and computer screen." Creesy first became interested in type while hand-setting headlines for Princeton's student newspaper in the early 1960s.

Matthew Carter is the well-known designer of many computer typefaces, with more than forty years' experience of typographic technologies, ranging from hand-cut punches to computer fonts. He designed the typefaces ITC Galliard, Snell Roundhand, Shelley Script, Bell Centennial (for U.S. telephone directories), Mantinia, Sophia, Big Caslon, Miller, and the screen fonts Verdana and Georgia. Carter interviewed Jack Stauffacher for the last Lieberman Lecture.

Princeton University Press will give each attendee a keepsake, the first showing of Carter's new digital "Monticello." This memento will be based on the 1947 P.J. Conkwright broadside, the very first showing of Linotype "Monticello."

Further information about the event will be posted on the APHA website and will be mailed to members in February. *Paul Romaine*

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• *Meet Your Trustees, Part 2* •

Eric Holzenberg developed bibliophile leanings early on, blowing his paper route money on first editions of books illustrated by N. C. Wyeth and W. Heath Robinson. He has served as Director & Librarian of the Grolier Club of New York since 1997. The author of a catalogue of the Club's collection of Sir Thomas Phillipps' Middle Hill Press (*The Club*, 1997), Eric has also written articles on book auction catalogues, book collecting, and the history of the Grolier Club. Since 1995 he has been an instructor at Rare Book School at the University of Virginia, and he has also taught courses in book history and rare book librarianship for New York University and the Palmer Library School of Long Island University. Eric collects, among other things, the works of English Gothic Revival figures A.C. and A.W.N. Pugin, and is currently at work on a bibliography of the architectural author, publisher and draftsman A. C. Pugin.

Martin Hutner is past President of APHA, having served as Secretary and Vice-President for Membership. He was also a member of the Council of the Grolier Club where he served as Chairman of the Publications Committee. He is now a Fellow of the Morgan Library. Hutner is a book-collector, and has published some two dozen works in the history of printing. He has curated a number of exhibitions, notably one on The Merrymount Press at the time of the Press's centennial for the Houghton Library, Harvard. Hutner has also lectured extensively on bibliophilic subjects. He is currently at work on a bibliography of George Parker Winship, and is preparing an exhibition at the Grolier Club of books by and about the artist, James McNeill Whistler.

Stephen Pekich is currently a principal in both a three-year-old college foreign-language publishing venture and a development house specializing in instructional materials for elementary and secondary school markets. Steve started his career in the book industry in 1966 at Houghton Mifflin Company, and stayed almost 30 years. He will always remember his days of approving 4/c makereadies for Peterson's *A Field Guide to the Birds* reprints on a single color Miehle press.

Pekich has taught publishing courses, been a member

Hutner to Receive Fielder Award

APHA TRUSTEE and past president Martin Hutner will be among the recipients of the Joseph A. Fielder Fellowship Award presented on 14 January 2003 at the annual Printing Week Dinner held by the New York Club of Printing House Craftsmen.

Hutner will receive the award as the nominee of the APHA New York Chapter, which has participated in the Printing Week celebration since 1992. The award is given in recognition of outstanding participation in print-related organization, and contributions to education in the graphic arts. The event is sponsored and attended by associations of workers in the printing, publishing, and binding industries, teachers of printing, and one association of printing historians. [*A profile of Martin Hutner appears elsewhere on this page* –Ed.]

Past APHA/NY recipients of the Fellowship award include Edward Colker, Carl Schlesinger, Virginia Smith, Barbara Henry, Paul Shaw, Theo Rehak, and Joel Mason.

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or president of a number of publishing organizations, and is the recipient of the 1980 W.A. Dwiggin's Award for his contributions to the publishing industry in Boston and the New England area. Steve is a collector of printing company histories, and works on book publishing, the Johnstown Flood, and Antigua in the West Indies. He has participated in several of the Book Arts workshops at Dartmouth College, and he looks forward to returning again in August of 2003. ✨

• *In Memoriam* •

On September 14th, one of America's most distinguished book-designers, **Abe Lerner**, died peacefully at home. At the time of his death, he was still active in a career that covered more than seventy years. Born in 1908 in New York City, he designed books for many companies and institutions, later turning his attention to catalogues, bookplates and such. Many of his books were selected for the Fifty Books of the Year by the AIGA.

Abe also taught book design, and lectured widely. Over the years he wrote extensively on modern fine printing in articles, book reviews, and, notably, *Assault on the Book* (Bird & Bull, 1979) and *Form and Content* (Angelica Press, 1979).

Abe served as Vice-President and President of the Typophiles from 1974 to 1989. He was both editor and designer of its two series of publications. At his death he held the title President Emeritus. He was also a member of the Grolier Club, APHA, the BSA, and the London Private Library Association.

All through his life Abe collected books on modern fine printing and the history of printing and type design. At his death he left his devoted and equally distinguished wife, Kit Currie. Memorial services are being planned for Bibliography Week. *Martin Hutner*

An active and influential voice in the American publishing industry for decades, **Chandler B. Grannis**, who died in October at the age of 90, was editor and co-author of the publishing classic, *What Happens in Book Publishing* (1957 and later editions). He joined the staff of *Publishers Weekly* in 1936, and he spent most of his professional life working for this magazine; at the time of his retirement in 1971, he was its editor-in-chief. He served as the first president of APHA's New York chapter, and he was an early and effective member the APHA's board of trustees. His was always the voice of sweet reasonableness, and his contribution to the success of APHA was a real one. *Terry Belanger*

Dwight Agner, proprietor of the Press of the Nightowl, passed away unexpectedly in August at the age of 62. He had printed for most of his life. The best known of his Press's works was *The Books of WAD*, one of AIGA's Fifty Books of the Year, and the standard bibliography of W.A. Dwiggins. Agner also was co-author with Alexander Lawson (one of his professors at RIT) of the well-known *Printing Types: An Introduction*.

Miriam Steinert, APHA's first membership secretary, and long the librarian of the Chemists' Club, passed away on 28 October 2002. ✨

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