Newsletter Reaches 100 Mark

The "centennial number" of APHA's newsletter prompts memories of the early days of the organization and of the newsletter itself. Issue No. 1 (November 1974)—graced by Philip Grushkin's lively, flowing letters of the masthead—reflects the enthusiasm and idealism of the founders. As a front-page item in that first issue explains, it was in November of 1973, at a gathering at J. Ben Lieberman's Herity Press, that Ben had urged the establishment of a society that would encourage the study of printing history. Subsequently, a founding meeting was held in May of 1974, and the "American Printing History Association" was incorporated as a non-profit organization in September, after extensive discussions of aims, objectives, and even its name. Ben Lieberman (of course!) was first president; Catherine Tyler Brody, vice president; Joseph Dunlap, secretary; and Stuart Dobson, treasurer. A Board of Trustees and several standing committees were created to take on the several aspects of APHA's ambitious plans for future activities. That historic first issue of the newsletter goes on to record APHA's objectives, structure, charges, committee memberships, chapter officers, and news of members' publications and projects.

The expressed goal of the newsletter was to unite members and to give them a stake in the young organization by keeping them informed of APHA's progress. The flavor was more that of a hometown newspaper (complete with typos), and the look was primitive. Very little money was available. For both economy and timeliness, each six- or eight-page issue was simply offset from typed copy. Although modestly produced, the newsletter served its original purpose. Convinced of the vital role of the newsletter in APHA's success, Catherine Brody continued as editor even during her term as APHA's second president.

By the time of the first annual meeting (January 22, 1975) APHA already had over 450 members (within six months of its founding), in 37 states, the District of Columbia, and four foreign countries. All those members who joined before the first annual meeting (i.e., in 1974) were designated "Founding Members" and listed in APHA's Directory of Founding Members.

The careful records of Miriam Steinert, first Membership Secretary, show the addition each month of some 50 new members with remarkably diverse backgrounds and interests. As Ben Lieberman noted, APHA was very much an idea whose time had come.

The newsletter documents the successes and plans of the young organization—the formation of committees, the beginnings of several chapters, news of chapter meetings, and the achievements of members. In 1975 the Education Committee, chaired by Morris A. Gelfand, announced plans for a conference on "Typographic America: A Bicentennial Perspective," to be held in the fall of 1976. This was the first in APHA's highly successful series of annual conferences. The first of the APHA Annual Awards was presented in 1976 to Robert L. Leslie for his contributions to the study of printing history, especially through the Heritage of the Graphic Arts lecture series, which brought together so many of those who were later to become active in APHA.

Leaing through these old issues re-creates the spirit of high hope and dedication in which APHA was founded. Now, some 16 years and 100 issues later, APHA continues its responsibility of living up to its heritage.

Catherine Tyler Brody

1991 APHA Annual Conference

A WASHINGTON WAYZGOOSE

The sixteenth annual conference of the American Printing History Association will take place in Washington, D.C., on September 14. This year's program, with its focus on the printing history resources in Washington, will offer APHA members a chance to explore the rich holdings of our nation's capital. The conference will provide a mix of formal talks and informal workshops and demonstrations.

In conjunction with the APHA conference, the Library of Congress' Rare Book and Special Collection Division will open an exhibition of "Vision of a Collector: 100 Books from the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection" on Friday evening, September 13. This will be preceded by an Engelhard Lecture, presented by G. Thomas Tanselle. APHA members are cordially invited to these events.

Program

On Saturday, September 14, conference events will center at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of American History. In the morning, the program will consist of four papers delivered in the Carmichael Auditorium. The speakers will be: Peter Blayney (Folger Fellow on the History

\[WAYZGOOSE:\text{Originally the name of the annual feast given by a master printer for his journeymen and apprentices. Moxon writes in 1685:} \]"These Way-gooses are always kept about Bartholomew-tide [August 24]. And till the Master-Printer have given this Way-Goose, the Journey-men do not use to Work by Candle-Light."
of Early Printing) speaking on the importance of Shakespeare’s First Folio for printing historians; Alan Fern (Director of the National Portrait Gallery) who will address the private collecting of the graphic arts with special focus on Lessing J. Rosenwald’s collections at the Library of Congress and the National Gallery of Art; Elinor Sinnette (Chief Librarian, Moorland-Spingarn Collection, Howard University) will speak on printing by African Americans; and Helena Wright (Curator, Division of Graphic Arts, National Museum of American History) who will speak on the Dard Hunter paper collection held by the Smithsonian.

In the afternoon conference participants will have the opportunity to select one or more tours or workshops. These will include: a tour of the Government Printing Office; a punch-cutting demonstration by Stan Nelson (Museum Specialist, Division of Graphic Arts, National Museum of American History); demonstrations in the lithographic studio at the Smithsonian; and a gallery tour of an exhibition at the Folger Shakespeare Library entitled "The First Folio of Shakespeare."

In the late afternoon, the conference will reconvene in the Hall of Graphic Arts at the Museum of American History. Participants can view the exhibit "Three Hundred Years of American Papermaking," tour the Graphic Arts Hall, and take part in various demonstrations that will be set up (papermaking, typefounding, printing, and gyotaku). The conference will conclude with a reception in the Museum’s Palm Court.

Conference organizers expect to keep the cost of the conference (including coffee breaks, lunch, speakers and workshop fees, and the final reception) to about $40 for members.

Other Activities

Washington’s museums and libraries are well documented in many guidebooks. There are notable permanent collections, and most of them are free. The following is a sampling of some special exhibitions that are planned for the weekend of September 13-15 and may be of special interest to APHA members.

— Folger Shakespeare Library: “The First Folio of Shakespeare” (twenty-four copies and several fragments on display). Also, “Royal Autographs of Tudor and Stuart Monarchs.”

— National Gallery of Art: "Graphic Studio Workshop" (opens September 15). Exhibit focuses on this major graphic arts workshop, located at the University of South Florida. Artists included are Rauschenberg, Dine, Close, Mapplethorpe, and Pearlstein.

— National Museum of American History: "What are Archives, Who Uses Them?"; "The Information Age: People, Information, & Technology" (includes fingerprinting); and "Nasantara: Lands and Peoples of Indonesia" (books, prints, maps, and indigenous bookmarking).

There will be a number of shows entirely or in part of photography: Corcoran (Berenice Abbott); National Portrait Gallery ("Group Portrait"—Steinitz, Duchamp, Stein, Pound); National Geographic Society (White House News Photographers Association).

— Bureau of Printing and Engraving: Public tours are offered Monday through Friday. Arrange before 3:00 P.M. on Friday to take this in!

Accommodations

Rooms have been reserved for the APHA Conference at the Capitol Hill Hotel, across the street from the Library of Congress, at a rate of $86 per night. The same rate applies for single or double rooms. The Capitol Hill is an all-suite hotel, and each room has a fully furnished kitchenette. This is a special rate for APHA Conference participants and it will be honored until August 16.

To reserve a room, write directly to, or call, the Capitol Hill Hotel, 200 C Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. (202) 543-6000.

Brochures with registration forms will be mailed to APHA members in due course. Or write to APHA, P.O. Box 4922, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-4922.

PETER VAN WINGEN

APHA Awards

The APHA awards were instituted in 1976 to honor those individuals who have advanced our "understanding of the history of printing and its allied arts." Among its distinguished laureates have been printers, teachers, writers, booksellers, doctors, and librarians. Whatever the source of livelihood, these laureates have shared an interest in the history of printing and have contributed substantially to our knowledge.

In 1991 laureates, honored at the annual meeting in January, are Eleanor M. Garvey, the Philip Hofer Curator of Printing and Graphic Arts Emerita at Harvard, and the Bibliographical Society of America.

Before her retirement in 1990 Miss Garvey was responsible for a substantial group of publications related to the history of the illustrated book. Prior to joining the Houghton Library in 1975 she was on the staff of the Worcester Art Museum, the Wellesley College Museum, and the Newark Museum. Miss Garvey’s publications include:

— Edward Lear, Painter, Poet, and Draughtsman (Worcester Art Museum, 1968);
— Artist Books of the Kaldeway Press (Metropolitan Museum, Watson Library, 1988);
— The Artist and the Book, 1860-1960, in Western Europe and the United States (Boston, Museum of Fine Arts, 1961; exhibition co-sponsored by the Department of Printing and Graphic Arts; reprinted in 1972);
— The Arts of the French Book, 1900-1965; Illustrated Books of the School of Paris (with Peter A. Wick. Friends of the Dallas Public Library, 1967);
— The Book Beautiful and the Binding as Art (introduction to the sale catalogue of the Carlos Scherrers collection; Boston, 1983);

Most recently she has co-edited and written major sections of A Catalogue of an Exhibition of the Philadelphia Bequest, 1988. Her contributions in it range variously from entries on Abraham Bosse the artist-printer, Arrighi, and Francis Barlow, to Florentine quatrocento woodcuts and mezzotints.
Miss Garvey’s work with Philip Hofer in the Department of Graphic Arts was one of three influences that she mentioned in her acceptance speech, soon to be published in *Printing History*. In “Leaves from an Album of Printing and Graphic Arts,” she outlined the significant contributions made by William M. Ivins, Jr., A. Hyatt Mayor, and Philip Hofer. As “curators in charge of major collections of graphic art in major institutions in major cultural centers . . . each was essentially aristocratic, yet with a wide view of the world and an eagerness, even a mission, to share with anyone interested in this field.” Ivins and Mayor shared the understanding that “a print room was not just Durers, Rembrandts, and Goyas, but also a witness to man’s use of the graphic arts as a means of communication.” Hofer, at Harvard, served a different constituency in an institution whose mission is “to teach within an academic structure and to furnish research material on many different levels.” Miss Garvey follows in their tradition, making her knowledge of the graphic arts available and understandable to us all.

Through its publications, research fellowships, and programs, the Bibliographical Society of America has provided important support for scholarship related to printing history since its founding in 1904 and its incorporation in 1927. Although Ruth Mortimer, the president, was unable to attend the award ceremonies, her acceptance speech was read by Marie Korey, a past vice-president of APHA, presently secretary of the BSA.

Ms. Mortimer’s speech put the founding of the Society into an historical context, noting that other bibliographical societies were founded in Edinburgh, London, and Chicago in the 1890s. By 1904, the BSA was founded as a national organization so closely allied with the American Library Association that their annual meetings were scheduled to coincide. The present configuration of scheduling BSA meetings to coincide with those of APHA and the Grolier Club indicates the broadened membership of the organization. “Within its current figure of 1,285 members are 625 institutions and an international roster of bibliographers by profession and inclination—scholar-librarians, professors and students, printing historians, editors, book collectors, booksellers, publishers.” Its scholarly journal, *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*, clearly defines the scope of the Society’s concern with books or manuscripts as physical objects demonstrating historical evidence for “establishing a text or illuminating the history of book production, publication, distribution, or collecting, or for other purposes. Studies of the printing, publishing, and allied trades are also welcome.”

The Society’s commitment to the study of incunabula dates from as early as 1919, when it reprinted the *Census of Fifteenth Century Books Owned in America*, a work edited by George Parker Winship, first published in the *Bulletin of the New York Public Library*. Through the years, the Society has published related works, by Margaret Bingham Stillwell and Frederick R. Goff, and has recently begun to support the Incunable Short Title Catalogue (ISTC), the international computerized data base of incunabula holdings now being compiled at the British Library. In addition, major contributions to Gutenberg scholarship in the 1980s appeared in the Society’s *Papers*. BSA has also published monographs about individual publishing houses. Among those are *The Cost Books of Tichnor and Fields and Their Predecessors, 1832-58* (1949), *Tauchnitz International Editions in English, 1841-1955: A Bibliographical History* (1988), and *The Bowyer Ledgers: The Printing Accounts of William Bowyer, Father and Son*, forthcoming in 1991. A more detailed description of these activities will be found in the speech as it is published in *Printing History*.

**ANNA LOU ASHBY**

**Annual Meeting**

Members of the American Printing History Association gathered once again in the Trustees’ Room of the New York Public Library for their seventeenth annual meeting.

Chairman of the Board Jeffrey Kaimowitz opened the meeting and thanked NYPL for its hospitality.

Martin Hutner, as Vice President for Membership, announced that a systematic and concerted drive was under way to increase membership from the current figure of about 900.

Vice President for Programs Jennifer Lee reported on last fall’s annual conference, “The Printing of American Newspapers from 1690 into the Future,” and announced that the 1991 conference will be held in Washington, D.C., on September 14.

Irene Tichenor, Vice President for Publications, introduced the new editors of *Printing History* and the *APHA Newsletter*, David Pankow and Kimball Higgs, respectively. With hearty applause, the membership expressed appreciation to them and to the outgoing editors, Renée Weber and Stephen O. Saxe, both of whom have done outstanding work for several years.

Treasurer John Hench and President Virginia Smith presented their reports (which appear below).

There followed the presentation of the annual American Printing History Awards. (See article on page 2 of this newsletter.)

Excerpted from Minutes by Karen Nipp, APHA Secretary

**Treasurer’s Report**

Both income and expenses during 1990 were considerably below budget—unfortunately, income a bit farther below than expenses. Income for the year was $32,277.20, while expenses amounted to $32,990.44, or a deficit of $713.24 on a cash basis, though some 1990 expenses (about $2,100 worth) remained to be paid after the end of the year. The real cause of the deficit was substantially lower-than-budgeted receipts from membership dues, where were close to $6,070 below expectations. Income from the annual APHA conference also was off, but, fortunately, so were expenses. The conference ran a deficit of $329.72.

APHA watches its expenses carefully. The Board looks forward to a successful membership drive in 1991 to provide additional income necessary for the Association’s present and future well-being.

**JOHN B. HENCH**

Treasurer
President’s Address

To all my colleagues in APHA, greetings. You have heard from our officers about the activities of the organization in 1991; let me add to that later. My belief is that APHA, which is only 17 years old, is a healthy young person with a good future. We are a unique organization. Lovers of books and the book arts, we are printers, scholars, librarians, curators, academics, collectors, designers, calligraphers, and more, all united in the humanistic community of APHA. At the founding of APHA in 1974, its first keepsake was printed on Ben Lieberman’s Kelmscott-Goudy press—the same press that William Morris used to print the epochal Kelmscott Chaucer, and that Frederick Goudy used at the Village Press. This is the great tradition of beauty and excellence that the founders of APHA celebrated, and the one we continue.

I report to you the action of the nominating committee, as its Chair. This year the committee had three trustee positions to fill, and I present to you our slate. Will you please welcome, as they stand to be recognized: Katharine Pantzer, of the Houghton Library at Harvard; Paul Needham, formerly of the Morgan Library, now at Sotheby’s; and Philip Metzger, of Lehigh University. Additionally, because of the resignation of one of our officers, we have had to fill positions. In accordance with APHA bylaws (Article V, section 3, and Article VIII, section 4) the Board has taken the following steps, which I ask you as a quorum to approve: To replace Stan Nelson, who had to resign as Vice President for Membership because of so many other commitments, we have elected Martin Hutner, whose energetic and knowledgeable leadership will aid us enormously. To fill Martin’s place as Secretary, we are fortunate in persuading Karen Nipps, of the Library Company of Philadelphia, to join us. Past officers of APHA help us greatly, and I wish to acknowledge them publicly. First, Pat Taylor, who has been more than the Treasurer—he still guides us in many ways. The Board has met regularly in Pat’s office at 500 Fifth Avenue. Thank you, Pat. And, we owe a special vote of gratitude to Philip Sperling, a former officer of the organization, and one who continues to help us. Philip, accept thanks from us all.

I want to acknowledge other members who contribute selflessly to the organization: Thomas Tanselle, Susan Swartzburg, and John William Pye, and Past President James Green of our Nominating Committee; Jerry Kelly, who calligraphed this year’s awards; Jeffrey Kaimowitz, who served as a wise and accessible chair of APHA’s Board of Trustees for the past year and who, together with Barbara Paulson and Calvin Otto, completes a three-year term as Vice-President of the organization. The Awards Committee includes Francis Mattson and James Davis, and was chaired by Anna Lou Ashby, who will be speaking to you shortly.

You should also begin to know our new Executive Secretary, who has come to that position as of January 1, when Renée Weber’s resignation became effective. Stephen Crook is at the Berg Collection of the New York Public Library, coming here from Washington. He’s already proved invaluable. Please welcome Steve Crook. He is distributing books to Contributing Members at the back of the room.

The year’s activities have included outreach to other groups. We co-sponsored, with the William Morris Society and our friends the Typophiles, the fine lecture Nicholas Barker gave at the Grolier Club to honor APHA member Joseph Dunlap. And we participated for the first time in the annual meeting of the American Historical Association, co-sponsoring a session on “The Printing Press in the Hands of the People.” This was achieved through the efforts of Past President John Hench, who chaired the session and who currently serves as APHA’s Treasurer. We hope to build more relations with other learned societies and groups.

We keep in mind that APHA is a national, not only a regional, organization. The commemorative Lieberman Lecture this year will be given in Galveston, Texas, next month, where Stephen Saxel will speak on “Printing on Trains.” The plan is to print a keepsake of the event on a train running between Houston and Galveston. And the Book Club of Texas, the co-sponsor, will perhaps print Steve’s lecture. As to other geographical areas, you know that last year we held our conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and next year we will be in Washington, D.C. We’re considering other venues; let us know your feelings and suggestions about other locations. We have established a fund in memory of Stephen Harvard. You’ve been informed of this fund and its purpose on the front page of the last APHA Newsletter.

Other areas of expansion: we have voted a new low student membership rate—only $15!—for people attending college or art school, and intend to establish a limited number of student groups, both to educate these young people in printing history, and to draw them into our activities for the future. We intend to pursue various membership groups vigorously over the next three years with a committee formed under Martin Hutner to accomplish this goal. New ventures are under consideration for Printing History.

I want to conclude by re-affirming our purpose in the American Printing History Association. There are other more urgent and tragic concerns in times of danger and war, such as we face now, than the pursuit of learning and art. C.S. Lewis delivered a lecture on “Learning in War-Time” at Oxford in Autumn 1939, in which he attempted to answer the question: how can we continue to take an interest in these “placid occupations” when lives and liberties of friends and countries are at risk. He wrote:

The war creates no absolutely new situation: it simply aggravates the permanent human situation so that we can no longer ignore it . . . . Human culture has always had to exist under the shadow of something infinitely more important than itself. If men had postponed the search for knowledge and beauty until they were secure, the search would never have begun.

So, in its small way, APHA continues the search. Thank you.

VIRGINIA SMITH  
President  
Annual Meeting  
January 26, 1991
Philadelphia Chapter

On April 18, the chapter sponsored a tour of the Married Mettle Press, arranged by the proprietors Benjamin and Deborah Alterman.

In June there will be a tour to a local commercial printing company. For further details, call Mary Phelan at (215) 625-8574.

New York Chapter

On June 5, the New York Chapter will present an illustrated lecture by Michael Joseph, of the New-York Historical Society, on the McLoughlin Brothers Archive of Nineteenth Century Engraved Wood Blocks. Mr. Joseph is proofing, identifying, and cataloguing the collection, which consists of approximately 1,500 blocks engraved between 1838 and 1900, for use in children's book illustration. Over 900 of these blocks were donated to the Society in 1989 by Justin G. Schiller and Raymond M. Wapner. This event is co-sponsored by the New-York Historical Society and will be held in the Society's Library, 170 Central Park West (at 77th Street), in New York. Reservations are necessary. Call (212) 873-3400, ext. 268.

New England Chapter

The New England Chapter will meet on June 1 to see the exhibition "Witness to America's Past: Two Centuries of Collecting by the Massachusetts Historical Society" now on display at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Details will be sent to all APHA/New England members. For more information, please contact Jennifer B. Lee, John Hay Library, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912, (401) 863-1511.

Members' Activities

Chairman of the APHA board Jerry Kelly delivered one of the Pforzheimer Lectures on Printing and the Book Arts at the New York Public Library on April 16. It was entitled "The Influence of Calligraphy on Type Design."

By the time the Newsletter goes to press, Sue Allen, an authority on Victorian bindings and endpapers, will have given an illustrated lecture on pictorial and patterned printed endpapers created for English, American, and European trade books from the 1930s to the 1970s. This was part of the Dieu Donné Lecture Series at Cooper Union.

Morris Gelfand's Stone House Press has been invited to participate in the American Institute of Graphic Arts Book Show, opening at AIGA headquarters in New York on May 23. The book, Morgan Library Ghost Stories, was edited by Inge Dupont and Hope Mayo of the Morgan Library, and published in October 1990. It was designed by George Laws and was illustrated with wood engravings by John De Pol.

EDITOR'S NOTES

APHA members are engaged in many interesting professional activities such as those listed above. We would like to mention them in the Newsletter from time to time. Aspiring to be a truly national organization, we would particularly like to hear from members in areas other than the "Boston-Washington Corridor." Please send items to "Newsletter Editor" in care of the APHA Post Office box.

TYPE & PRESSES

The following is offered for sale: 6 × 10 Model X, Mercury Model, Excelsior Kelsey and Co. hand printing press, ticket stock, press table, typesetter's stand with drawers, ink and 6 fonts of type ranging from Garamond 18 pt to Garamond 10 pt; $350. Judy Riddle, 5355 South Street, Vermilion, OH 44089, (216) 927-3212.
APHA Officers and Board, 1991

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New APHA Members
Welcome to: Sandra Alston—Toronto, ONT; Mark Argetinger—Rochester, NY; Winston Atkins—Austin, TX; Janice Braun—New Haven, CT; Stephen Crook—Brooklyn, NY; Mary S. Gifford—Alpine, UT; Kachergis Book Design, Inc.—Pittsboro, NC; Steve Kennedy—Floral Park, NY; Rufus Lund—Austin, TX; Bernard McTigue—Gainesville, FL; Clive Philpot—Philadelphia, PA; Martha M. Rago—New York, NY; David Rhodes—New York, NY; William J. Robinson—Hemet, CA; Marvin Taylor—New York, NY; University of Oklahoma Libraries—Norman, OK; University of Nevada—Reno—Reno, NV; University of Pittsburgh—Pittsburgh, PA; Marjorie L. Wilser—Sunnyvale, CA.

1991 Contributing Members

Special thanks to the following members who have given extra support to APHA by enrolling as contributing members: Elmer L. Anderson; Terry Belanger; T.N. Danforth; Inge Dupont; Arthur Ellis; Donald Farren; Janice Frey; William Gast; Morris Gelfand; David Goodrich; James N. Green; Stephen Greenberg; Chester Gryski; George W. Hamilton; C.L. Helbert; John Hench; James Hinz; Bob Hudson; Martin Hutner; J. Paul Getty Center Library; W.P. Jaspert; Jeffrey Kainowitz; G. & M. Kanc; J.F. Killie; J. & R. Lancaster; Ted Lee; Blain Lewis; H.T. Meserole; Philip A. Metzger; Donald Meyers; Larry D. Payne; William J. Pyper; Charles Reichman; David S. Rose; E. Farley Sharp; Alice Schreyer; Virginia Smith; H. Edward Stats; Madeline Stern; Roderick Steinhour; Bernard C. Taylor; Irene Tichenor; Van Dyck Printing Company; Gregory Jackson Walters; Bruce N. Washbush; Ruth R. Yeaman.

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This centennial issue of The APHA Newsletter is the work of a number of people. In addition to the named contributors, our thanks to all who gave advice and assistance. Worthy of special mention are Rose Jacobowitz, who applied her copyediting and proofreading skills to the issue, and Dean Bornstein and Virginia Smith, who helped with design.

IRENE TICHENOR
Vice President for Publications