

The APHA Newsletter

A Publication of the American Printing History Association

January-March 1994 No. 115

APHA Annual Meeting

Doug Bauer opened the meeting by pointing out that the terrible Bib Week weather had finally cleared — for APHA. He then recounted something of the history of APHA as we look to this 20th anniversary year, and the Annual Conference to be held in New York City. Martin Hutner noting a loss of membership, expressed the belief that new chapters, like the recently established Chesapeake Chapter, will be the way to attract new members. Mary Phelan reported on our last successful conference in Providence, and the Lieberman lecture by Robert Bringhurst in California, and looked forward to our Twentieth Anniversary Conference, to be held in New York City on October 7-9. A talk, reception and silent auction will be held at the Grolier Club on Friday evening. The conference on Saturday will look at printing history in the last 20 years and what might be imagined for the future, followed Sunday by tours of various exhibits in the area. The Lieberman lecture will be held in Charlottesville, VA, during Rare Book School, with T. Thomas Tanselle as speaker. Jerry Kelly reported that the Newsletter and the Journal are "wonderful", and that issue 29 of *Printing History* is due out soon, with another double issue on type to be following this year. John Hench's Treasurer's Report follows.

Treasurer's Report

The Association's revenues in 1993 amounted to \$41,823, while expenditures ran to \$36,122, resulting in a cash surplus of \$5,701. Both income and expenditures were well under budgeted amounts. The APHA conference in Providence will have produced a surplus of about \$800 after the last bill is received and paid. The fundraiser held at Sotheby's brought forth a \$3,810 profit.

At December 31, 1993, assets were as follows:

Cash	\$20,523
Endowed funds	5,531
TOTAL	\$26,054

At the previous December 31, the totals were:

Cash	\$25,464
Endowed funds	4,980
TOTAL	\$30,444

American Printing History Association Draws Enthusiastic Crowd to NYPL

Officers Elected; Hutner Is New President
Belanger and LC Center for the Book Honored

NEW YORK, 29 January 1994. — The 20th anniversary of the American Printing History Association began with the Annual Meeting held today in the Trustees Room of the New York Public Library. Beneath an ornately molded white ceiling, surrounded by bizarre tapestries known only as "Africa," "Europa," "America" and "Asia," and between marble busts staring patiently out of the corners, the proceedings commenced at 2:00 with opening remarks by Douglas F. Bauer, Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Bauer's remarks were followed by reports from the association's Vice President for Membership, Martin W. Hutner; Vice President for Programs, Mary Phelan; Vice President for Publications, Jerry Kelly; and Treasurer, John Hench.

NOMINATIONS

The report of the Nominating Committee was given by Virginia Smith, Chair.

THE SLATE

President MARTIN W. HUTNER
Vice Presidents
for Membership JAMES R. KELLY
for Programs ANNE ANNINGER
for Publications MICHAEL PEICH
Treasurer JOHN HENCH
Secretaries VIRGINIA BARTOW
Trustees PATRICIA FLEMING
until January 1997 PETER HANFF
..... MARK TOMASKO
until January 1996 W. THOMAS TAYLOR

The proposed slate being approved by the membership, the new administration took office immediately.

1994 APHA AWARDS

The APHA Individual Award was given to Terry Belanger, University Professor and Honorary Curator of Special Collec-

tions, University of Virginia. The presentation was made by Sue Allen, Chair of the Awards Committee.

Prof. Belanger founded and has directed Rare Book School since 1983; he founded and has directed the Book Arts Press since 1972. His acceptance speech, "But What Has He Done for Us Lately?" was frequently interrupted by laughter.

The APHA Institutional Award was presented by Committee member Alice Schreyer to The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Established by Congress in 1977 to encourage the study of books and print culture, the Center has sponsored publication of over 25 books and 50 pamphlets, most of them resulting from lectures, symposia or conferences organized by the Center. The award was accepted by John Y. Cole, the Center's Executive Director.

After thanks were extended to Paul Fasana, Director of the Research Libraries, for the use of the Trustees Room, the meeting was adjourned and members retired to a reception nearby.

A keepsake consisting of the meeting's agenda related in the past tense had been printed by Lowell Bodger, Typographer.

Reproduction of keepsake printed by APHA member Lowell Bodger and distributed at the Annual Meeting.

This year's cash surplus is attributable mainly to lower-than-budgeted outlays for *Printing History*, especially in the purchase of Mohawk Paper (which was not necessary last year but will be in 1994). Catching up with the Journal in 1994 could put pressure on cash flow. The Board of Trustees has adopted a conservative budget for 1994 that includes a \$950 deficit. That projected deficit could easily be turned into another surplus if several of the fundraising initiatives discussed earlier today at the Board meeting are even partially successful. But, of course, we shall strive to make them completely successful. It remains extremely important for us to continue to find new sources of revenue even as we keep our characteristically prudent eye on expenditures.

JOHN B. HENCH



Individual Award Honoree Terry Belanger with Sue Allen who chaired the APHA Awards Committee.



Alice Schreyer with John Cole who accepted the APHA Institutional Award for the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress.

The slate of officers and trustees listed in the keepsake reproduced on the first page was nominated and elected.

The 1994 APHA awards were then presented. Terry Belanger's speech, he told us, was not really going to be "But What Has He Done for Us Lately?" as promised, but "What Have WE Done for Us Lately?" He harkened back to Rollo Silver's 1977 APHA Award acceptance speech, in which he discussed the imbalance in the quantity of material published in pre-18th century printing history versus more modern printing history. One of the causes he suggested for this discrepancy was that doing research in 19th century printing is so much harder than earlier periods because of the kind and rate of changes taking place, and the enor-

mous amount of primary sources which document the changes. For the 20th century, especially the second half of the 20th century, Belanger warned us, the raw materials of printing history are often created and retained in computer formats which quickly become outmoded and unreadable. The challenge is to find ways to ensure that we leave records of ourselves so that historians in the future can write our history.

John Cole, accepting the institutional award for the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, discussed the history and activities of his organization, and some of its future plans, including a new physical location with space for offices, exhibitions, and meetings.

We had a chance to meet the award winners at the reception following the conference. All were then invited to the Grolier Club's traditional end-of-Bibliography-Week reception, where the Elizabeth Barrett Browning exhibition was on view.

Exhibits, Lectures

HARTFORD, CT

"Albrecht Dürer, Book Illustrator." Exhibit, through May 31, at the Watkinson Library, Trinity College (203/297-2268).

NEW HAVEN, CT

An exhibition celebrating the 500th anniversary of the founding of a Greek printing press in Venice by Aldus Manutius. April-June, Beinecke Library, Yale University. 203/432-2964.

BOISE, ID

"The Mission Press and First Idaho Imprints," "James Castle Books," and "A Booker's Dozen: 14 Contemporary Idaho Artist's & Eccentric Books." Dedication exhibition at the newly-designated Idaho Center for the Book, April 9 through May 15, at Boise State University, Boise, ID (208/385-1999).

RENO, NV

"The Evolution of the Printed Word: From Gutenberg to the Information Super-Highway," a conference, April 14-16 covering "Printing as an Agent of Change" (April 14), "Printing and the American West" (April 15), "The Future of the Word" (April 16). for further information, contact Prof. Kevin M. Stevens, Department of History, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 8955-0037.

PRINCETON, NJ

"A Celebration of Contemporary American Poetry." Exhibit, April 24-September 18, Main Exhibition Gallery and Milberg Gallery, at Princeton University.

NEW YORK, NY

"Gutenberg and the Genesis of Printing." Exhibit, through April 17 at the Morgan Library. (212/685-0008). Coming up is "Treasures in Heaven: Armenian Illuminated Manuscripts," May 4-August 7.

Two lectures in a series sponsored by the Grolier Club and the Dieu Donné Papermill, both held at the Grolier Club at 6:30. Cathleen Baker on "Dard Hunter and the Mountain House Press," March 17, and Eugenie Barron on "Douglass Howell: Father of the American Revival of Hand Papermaking," April 14.

APHA-NY Chapter is sponsoring a lecture by Dick Higgins on Merle Armitage, May 25 at 6:00 at the Grolier Club.

AAS Summer Seminars

American Antiquarian Society will hold its eighth and ninth Summer Seminars in the history of the Book in American Culture, June 5-10 and June 12-17, at the Society, in Worcester, Massachusetts. The first seminar, "Critical Methods in Bibliography and the History of the Book in the United States" will be led by Michael Winship; James Green and Roger Stoddard will serve as visiting faculty. The second, "Regional Cultures of the Book, 1783-1861," will be directed by William Gilmore-Lehne, with Richard Brown and Amy Thomas. The seminars are intended for literary scholars and historians (including advanced graduate students), librarians, bibliographers, and other scholars working on historical topics involving the interpretation of the cultural role of books and other forms of printed material. For more information contact John B. Hench, AAS, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609-1634 (508/752-5813).

Conferences

[Ed. Note: Although the following conferences took place in the fall, we thought they would be of interest to our readers.]

Mills College Conference

The Fourth Conference of the Council of Book Arts Programs (founded by college and university teachers, printers, artists and librarians who direct book arts/fine press programs) was held at Mills College, Oakland, CA, September 29-October 2. Entitled "The Next Wave: Books at the Intersection of Icon and Artifact" the events organized by Special Collections Librarian Renee Jadushlever and Mills College Book Arts Professor Kathleen Walkup spanned panels, exhibitions and field visits in San Francisco and the

Bay area. The full, lively four-day meeting included rich content in presentation of special papers, receptions and demonstration sessions. Speakers and panelists, primarily from colleges and universities, included: Foster, Reese, Petrillo, Amert, Bringham, Taylor, Walkup, Jadushlever, Kroupa, O'Connell, Reed, Stauffacher, Davids, Risseuw, Zauft, Swehl-Burke, Trissel, Heft, Hogan, Merker, Pecanins, Hoyem, King, Ella, Ichiyama, Kennedy, Taha, Ehrenberg and Lara.

Exhibitions featured: Kim Merker, retrospective in the Gleeson Library, University of San Francisco, hosted by Messrs. Berger and Watson; Pacific Book Auction, San Francisco, George Fox, host; Book Arts, Mills College, Kathleen Walkup, Curator; Mexican Book Arts, Galeria de la Raza, Yani Pecanins, Curator; Open house, M&H Type and Arion Press, Andrew Hoyem, host. Closing festivities at Headlands were capped in a successful fundraising auction (led by Leonard Seastone). Further inquiries to Renee Jadushlever, Kathleen Walkup, Mills College, Oakland, CA.

Wells College Symposium

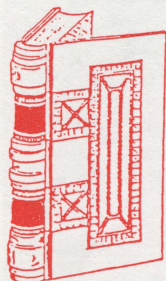
The Wells College Book Arts Symposium sponsored by the Wells College Press and organized by Robert Doherty was convened with the annual meeting of Typocrafters and close to 100 guests participated on October 22-24 at Wells College. Weekend highlights featured exhibits and sales as adjunct to a splendid array of talks, papers and field trips. Speakers in the Symposium dedicated to the work and legacy of Victor Hammer included Paul Evans Holbrook, Edward Hamilton, David Block, Bruce Bennett, David R. Godine, Gray Parrot, David Pankow, Sophie Eisenhut, W. Gay Reading, Theo Rehak, Dermot McGuinne and Herbert H. Johnson. Field trips went to The Press & Letterfoundry of Michael & Winifred Bixler in Skaneateles, the Cornell University Rare Book and Manuscript Collections in Ithaca and the Melbert B. Cary, Jr. Graphic Arts Collection at Rochester Institute of Technology. A handsome keepsake in tribute to Victor Hammer was printed by the Bixlers; further inquiries to Robert Doherty, Director, Wells College Press, Wells College, Aurora, NY 13026.

ED COLKER

Types and Presses

A Cincinnati Type Foundry Co. No. 5 (25" x 39") Washington Hand Press is being offered for sale by Robert W. Reinke, 5301 Neville Ct., Alexandria, VA 22310. It is in excellent condition, with tympan and frisket; patented October 26, 1875. Also offered is a 480-sheet ream of J. Batchelor Crown & Scepter paper, 21-5/8" x 14-7/8", hand-made in England about 1900. For further information call: 703/971-4095.

Book Talk



This will be a column of rather miscellaneous topics. First, a matter that is somewhat overdue. Ann R. Montanaro, of New Brunswick, NJ, wrote me the following information last fall:

"I ask you to announce to APHA members the formation of The Movable Book Society. It is a non-profit organization formed to provide a forum for collectors to share enthusiasm and exchange information about pop-up and movable books." [Most books except very large and heavy folios, or ones that are chained, are, of course, "movable", so I presume this means books with moving parts, such as a head that wiggles when you pull a tab.] The Society has a quarterly newsletter called rather oxymoronically "Movable Stationary." Annual dues are \$15.00. If you're interested, please write Ann at P.O. Box 11654, New Brunswick, NJ 08906.

One of our august members, and past president, has recently published a book, entitled *The Funny Little Man: Biography of a Graphic Image* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1993.) I hope to give further notice to it in a later column, but for now let me mention that graphic arts history pops up in unusual places. The March 1994 issue of *Playboy* mentions the book in its back-of-the-book feature called "Potpourri." There is a paragraph description, calling the book "entertaining", order information, and a color picture of the "funny little man." I suppose this marks the first appearance in *Playboy* of an APHA member.

Finally, I have in front of me two book dealer's catalogs, both from Timothy Hawley Books, 915 S. 3rd St., Louisville, KY 40203. They are numbered 9 and 10, and both are titled "Press Books, Fine Printing, Books about Books." I received them in January and February of this year, so both are reasonably current. A short whimsical history of the firm on the inside cover of one of the catalogs indicates that Hawley has actually been in business 10 years, and in spite of the numbers, has issued over 100 catalogs.

These catalogs include the lower-priced items (many under \$10, and practically all under \$100) which are sometimes the hardest to find. How about, for example, Goudy's *Typologia* in paperback for \$5.00, or the first 8 volumes of "BiN: Bibliographer's Newsletter" for \$75.00 To be sure, more than a few of the items for sale are described a "worn, interior very good," but by no means all are this way. This is the sort of place that odd pamphlet you've been looking for might turn up.

Mr. Hawley's telephone number is 502/451-3021. He asks not to be called after 10 p.m.—a most reasonable request.

PHILIP A. METZGER

Notes and Queries

Eric P. Newman asks our readers to help him on his history of the handwritten and printed \$ [dollar sign]. According to Mr. Newman, Clauncey Lee's *The Federal Accountant* (Troy, NY, 1797) uses a symbol which is totally different from the conventional \$ [dollar sign]. He would like to determine the source of Lee's type for the symbol. He wants to answer the following questions: Was the type purchased in Europe? Was it sand-cast American type? Was Lee's symbol an available European ornament or insignia? Why are many of Lee's dollar insignia slightly different from one another? Was it made specially for Lee's book? Is it on any specimen sheet in Europe or America prior to or during the 1797 period? Please write to: Eric P. Newman, 6450 Cecil Ave., St. Louis, MO 63105; telephone: 314/727-0850; FAX: 314/727-0820.

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Rem. 2.14 2								
4			5			6		
Err. 43.6 4 3			59.7 4			48.3 3 3		
Paid 37.9 3 7			43.8 3			22.6 6 6		

New Members

Dennis Bayuzik, Kenosha, WI
 Britt Bell, Wakefield, RI
 Bibliotheque de la Ville de Lyon, Lyon, France
 A.T. Brugger, Piedmont, CA
 Chisl Chislowsky, Brooklyn, NY
 James Do, Pleasanton, CA
 John Frazier, New York, NY
 Gutenberg Museum, Mainz, Germany
 T.H. Howard-Hill, Columbia, SC
 Philip G. Maddock, Warwick, RI
 Gail Moss, Valley Cottage, NY
 Michael Price, Providence, RI
 Robert Reinke, Alexandria, VA
 Andrew Sihler, Madison, WI
 William W. Sihler, Charlottesville, VA
 James Taylor, New South Wales, Australia

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