
The APHA Newsletter

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1994 APHA Annual Conference

APHA AT TWENTY

CELEBRATING THE PAST: LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

APHA's 20th anniversary celebration will take place in New York City from Friday, October 7, through Sunday, October 9, 1994. The weekend's events will begin with an opening reception at the Grolier Club on Friday evening. On Saturday the Pierpont Morgan Library will host the all-day APHA Conference. That evening, following the Conference, there will be a reception at the Union League Club. On Sunday, Conference attendees will be invited by Columbia University, Cooper Union, the Grolier Club and the Center for the Book Arts to attend special openings at their exhibition galleries.

Speakers for the Conference will be: Terry Belanger, Cynthia Hollandsworth, W. Thomas Taylor, Michael Winship, and Wendy Richmond. Accommodations will be available at the Barbizon Hotel at a special conference rate. The Conference brochure, with specific information and times included, will be mailed shortly.

1994 Lieberman Lecture

The 1994 Lieberman Lecture will take place on Monday, July 18, 1994, at 6 p.m., in The Rotunda at the University of Virginia. The speaker on this occasion will be G. Thomas Tanselle, Vice President, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, on "Printing History and Other History."

"Big Apple" First

For the first time in memory, major New York groups in design, typography and education joined in a celebration of printing history. On April 6, 1994, the Art Directors Club, Society of Publication Designers, Type Directors Club, *GRAPHIS*, Fonthaus and the Lubalin Center for Design and Typography at Cooper Union, invited members and guests to a private reception and viewing of "Gutenberg and the Genesis of Printing" at the Pierpont Morgan Library. Some 250 attendees gathered to enjoy the exhibition of over 150 printed works in the splendid presentation.

New APHA Chapter Founded

The Chesapeake Chapter of the American Printing History Association recently has been formed and is now building its membership and organizing events for the upcoming year. As the newest regional component of APHA, we thought it might prove of interest to the Association at large and of use to other budding chapters in particular to learn how we went about this process.

Following the 1991 annual conference held in Washington, D.C., and in response to the call for new chapters by Martin Hutner, then Vice-president for Membership, several individuals submitted responses to him acknowledging a desire to pursue the idea of a local APHA unit. It was our good fortune to have Peter Van Wingen, APHA President-elect and a local booster par-excellence, as a colleague and behind-the-scenes organizer who labored to arrange the first meeting of some five Washington-area members whose names had been elicited by Martin's plea. This gathering took place some six months after the October conference, but another six months lapsed, we are sorry to say, before a follow-up meeting could take place. At that time, the concerned individuals assumed clearer roles, our immediate and mid-term goals were set, and we imposed a timetable on our subsequent activities.

In January 1993 a comprehensive mailing list was compiled using a regional subset of the APHA national list, a list of area book and printing arts people kindly supplied by Terry Belanger from his personal database maintained at the University of Virginia, and the list of the Washington Rare Book Group (WRBG) supplied by Jim Kelly, Chair of that organization. Using the monthly WRBG mailings as a basis, together with the additional names derived from the sources mentioned above, we were able to convene a meeting in February at George Washington University. Nine people representing a remarkable cross-section of activities (professional and amateur printers, academics, librarians, and archivists) were able to attend that conclave and confirm our sense that the area would support the proposed chapter. Based on attendance that night and the responses of others unable to be present, we developed a mailing list of some twenty-five supporters and began to accumulate ideas for chapter activities.

After another unfortunately long gap of four months, eleven of our core group traveled to the Eastern Shore of Maryland to attend a meeting hosted by Mike Kaylor, head of Washington College's Literary House Press and a teacher of printing and printing history at the College. In addition to lunch, much conversation, and some hands-on work with Mike's presses, we approved a draft of the local chapter's by-laws; elected a President (Mike Kaylor), Vice-President cum Chair of Events/Program Planning (Sara Stone),

and Secretary/Treasurer (Jim Kelly); and chose a name (Chesapeake Chapter) as well as setting an annual dues rate (\$10.00).

All of the relevant documents, minutes, and petition for chapter recognition were forwarded to APHA headquarters in advance of this year's annual conference in Providence, R.I. We have since been recognized formally and are planning our first official event, a guided tour of "Caprices, Grotesques, and Homages: Leonard Baskin and The Gehenna Press" at the Library of Congress. In the near future, we expect to make a wide-spread mailing seeding new members and soliciting ideas for other activities. If anyone would like further information on the Chesapeake Chapter or on our progress and experiences in establishing a regional affiliate, please contact Jim Kelly (Catalog Dept., Gelman Library, George Washington University, 2130 H St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20052; Tel. 202/994-6848; e-mail jrkjan8@gwuvvm.gwu.edu).

Notes and Queries

Professor Jane Liedtke of Illinois State University wrote to us recently about a project to plan a Chinese printing museum in Daxing County near Beijing. The organizing committee asked Prof. Liedtke to contact printing museum advocates in the U.S. and make them aware of the efforts underway to build this new museum in China. Professor Wei at the Beijing Institute of Printing would like to correspond with people interested in Chinese printing history as well as Western printing developments (Prof. Wei Zhi Gang, Director, Printing Technology Association, Beijing Institute of Printing, Daxing County, Beijing, 102600). If you have questions or would like more information on fostering relationships with the Beijing Institute of Printing please contact: Professor Jane Liedtke, Department of Industrial Technology, College of Applied Science and Technology, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-5100.

Virginia Smith, APHA past-President and Board Member, was selected by the New York Chapter of APHA to receive the New York Club of Printing House Craftsmen's 1994 Fellowship Award. Awarded each year at the Club's Printing Week Celebration Dinner, the award honors educators for their contributions to printing and the graphic arts.

Alan Marshall is the co-ordinator for the upcoming international conference on Higonnet and Moyroud's Lumitype-Photon phototypesetting machine. The Museum of Printing and Banking in Lyons, France is sponsoring the conference in October of this year. Marshall plans to send APHA members a copy of the bilingual (French-English) program and conference application. Should you have questions or desire information about the conference, please contact: Alan Marshall, Ville de Lyon, Musée de L'Imprimerie at de la Banque.

Conference on Typecasting

The International Printing Museum in Buena Park, CA, will be host to the upcoming American Typecasting Fellowship Conference, July 15-17, 1994. This biennial gathering brings together the various remaining experts, practitioners and enthusiasts of hot metal typecasting from around the world, from those who operate Monotype casters or Thompsons to Linotypes and even people who can still cut punches for hand casting.

Because of the location at the Printing Museum, which has a very strong collection of working antique linecasting machinery, this year's conference will emphasize Linotype and other linecasting technology. But the program promises to have something of interest for all who attend. Already scheduled to speak are Carl Schlesinger on the history of the Linotype; Bill Berkuda on linecasting maintenance and concerns; Bill Davis from Monotype Typography, Inc., on typography and type design; Pat Reagh on photopolymer plates; Mark Barbour on the Linotype Junior; Paul Duensing on Thompsons. Ernie Lindner, whose magnificent collection of antique printing equipment is on display at the Printing Museum, will give the keynote address during the Saturday evening banquet.

Throughout the conference there will be numerous equipment demonstrations throughout the museum's galleries including early Linotypes and Intertypes, Linograph, Thompson, All Purpose Linotype, a Japanese typesetter, Linotype Junior, Typograph, Unitype, Fotosetter, Monophoto, hand casting and Ludlows.

The conference is open to all interested individuals, whether or not they are members of the American Typecasting Fellowship. The \$125 conference fee covers all programs, continental breakfasts, lunches and the banquet. In addition to the formal conference, there will be a two-day technical session on July 18 and 19. The two concurrent sessions will be on operating and maintaining Thompson Typesetters as well as operation and maintenance of Linotypes and Intertypes. The fee for these additional sessions will be \$50.00.

The Printing Museum, which features 25,000 square feet of working antique printing machinery and displays, is conveniently located 3 miles from Disneyland in beautiful Southern California. Discount airline tickets and accommodations are also available. For more information or for a prospectus announcement on this unique conference, please call Mark Barbour at the Printing Museum (714) 523-2070 or write to Int'l Printing Museum, 8469 Kass Drive, Buena Park, CA 90621.



Exhibits, Lectures

NEW YORK CITY

"Treasures" exhibit through July 22 (9:00-5:00 M-F). New York Academy of Medicine, 2 East 103rd Street.

"Treasures in Heaven: Armenian Illuminated Manuscripts," on exhibit through August 7 at The Pierpont Morgan Library. Also, "Burne-Jones's Illustrations for 'The Fairy Family'" through August 28.

LOS ANGELES, CA

"The Whittington Press" a Lecture by John Randle, October 14 at 8 pm at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, UCLA. Reservations required; call (213) 731-4881. There will be exhibits of books and ephemera by the Whittington Press at both the Clark Library and at UCLA's Department of Special Collections.

SAN DIEGO, CA

"American Poetry Anthologies and Their Role in Defining the Canon(s) of American Literature," on exhibit through July 29, Mandeville Department of Special Collections, The University Library, UCSD. 619-534-2533.

SAN MARINO, CA

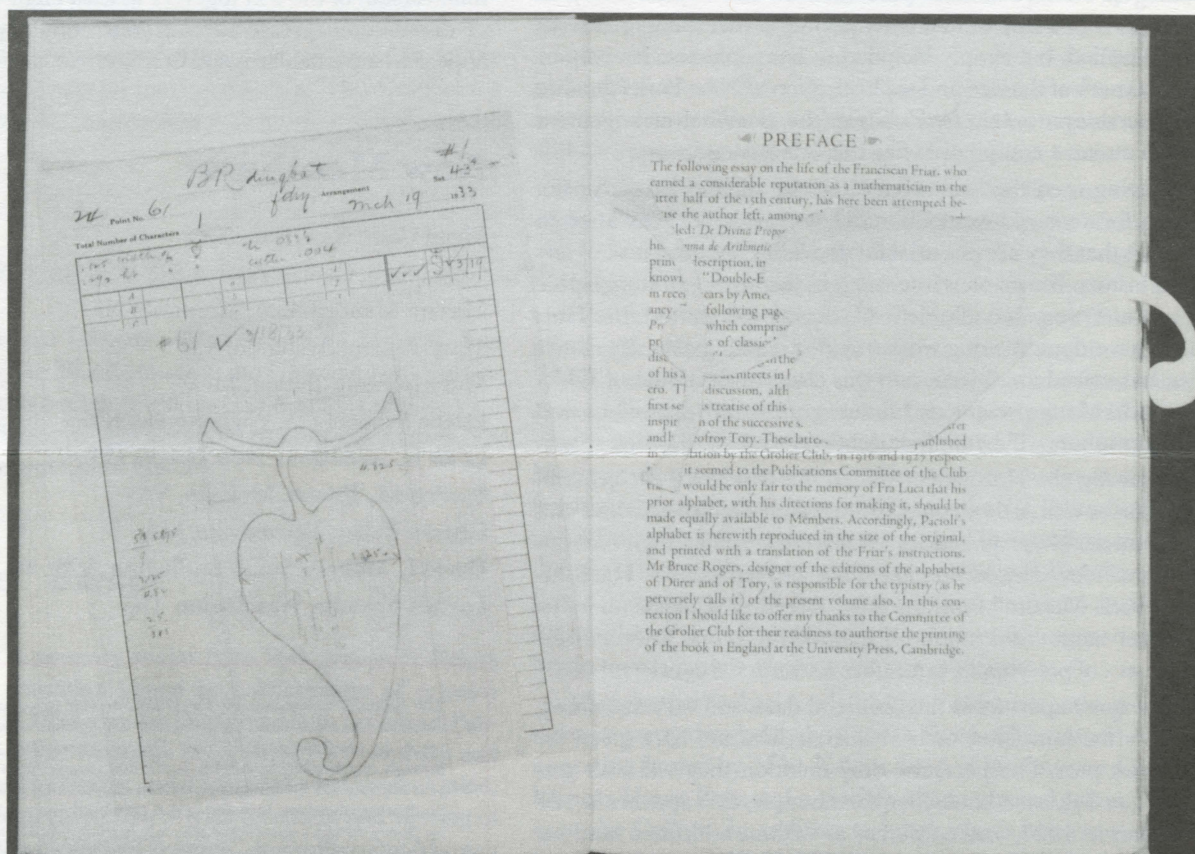
"This faire paper, this most goodly booke": The advent of printing and the creation of a reading public." On exhibit through November 13 at The Huntington Library.

CHICAGO, IL

"Texts and Their Transformations," an exhibit of classical texts through time. November 15 - Feb 27 1995 (8:30-4:45 M-F, 9-12:45 Sat). Department of Special Collections, University of Chicago Library, (312) 702-8705.

FINE PRESS BOOK FAIR

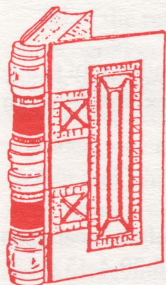
The Fair is being held on October 22 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. by the Oxford Guild of Printers at the "Exeter Hall," Kidlington, some three miles outside Oxford, England, easily accessible by train and bus. There will be some 50 private presses, as well as a number of specialist booksellers, and trade stands for suppliers of type, paper, binding materials, fine bindings, and so forth, as well as a number of demonstration stalls, including (as planned so far) wood-engraving, hand-press printing, and marbling.



Library Treasures

From the Frederic Goudy Collection, Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress: Stanley Morison. *Fra Luca di Pacioli* (New York, 1933). Drawing and pattern of a dingbat by Goudy. It was commissioned by Bruce Rogers, the designer of the book.

Book Talk



In my last column I mentioned the fact that a book by one of our members, *The Funny Little Man*, (the book, not the author) had been noticed in the March 1994 issue of *Playboy*. What I forgot to mention was the author's name, which is in fact our former president, Virginia Smith, who teaches at Baruch College. This was not an attempt to be coy or to offer a quiz, but simply a manifestation of the effects of age on gray matter. My apologies to Virginia.

Recently I received a copy of a fascinating and highly useful book, *A Register of Artists, Engravers, Booksellers, Bookbinders, Printers & Publishers in New York City, 1821-42*, compiled by Sid and Elizabeth Huttner, and published in 1993 by the Bibliographical Society of America. At the time the Huttners did the work of compilation Sid was at the University of Chicago. He is now head of special collections at the University of Tulsa.

This book is in essence a continuation of George McKay's *A Register of Artists, Engravers, Booksellers, Bookbinders, Printers & Publishers in New York City, 1633-1820*. (New York Public Library, 1942). The Huttners based their work on *Longworth's American Almanac, New York Register...*, and *City Directory*, which was published up until 1842. The problem with this city directory, as perhaps with many of that early period, is that the names were not classified, but simply included in one alphabet. It was perhaps a mark of the size and sophistication of New York City that the successors to *Longworth's* began the classified arrangement which makes a compilation like this one less necessary.

Having used the somewhat later city directories of Austin, Texas, for my own investigations a few years back, I can attest to the fact that they are essential for providing the structure of any local history. For persons interested in the history of the graphic arts trades, very broadly defined, during this period, the Huttners have done the dog work (my dog, looking over my shoulder, has voiced an objection to this characterization, but I'll let it stand). Many present and future graphic arts historians and bibliographers will be in their debt.

Basically, the Huttners conflated the entries for the years in question as well as they could, given the inevitable variations and inaccuracies of the directories. Unlike the originals, their own entries are indexed by occupation. They also reproduce "The Runner's Vade Mecum" from the 1842 directory, which is an index to street names and numbers, intended not, one presumes for some sort of pre-yuppie, but rather for business couriers.

But quite apart from the historical data, still very unrefined, there is the human element. All these lives are here given for the most part, I suspect, the only mention they will ever get. Christian Sylvester, bookseller, for example, first appears at 121 Harman in 1827, and continues at various addresses until his last one at 123 E. Broadway in 1842—and he probably appears in other directories after this date. Apparently a successful career, but did his family and fiends think highly of him, and was he content with his life? And what of George B. May, printer, at

88 Ludlow St., whose sole mention was in 1840? What happened to him? Of course, in a few highly atypical instances we know. One Samuel F.B. Morse, a "historical and portrait painter" appears from 1825 on. But his mark on history goes much beyond an entry in a city directory.

Well, it will be interesting to see if *Playboy* picks this one up. I'll keep checking.

PHILIP A. METZGER

The APHA Newsletter staff sends our congratulations and many thanks to Jennifer Dossin. Jennifer designed the Newsletter and saw it through printing for the past two years. We appreciate her strong volunteer spirit, her dedication and hard work. Best of luck to Jennifer in her new venture.

The Newsletter staff welcomes Spring Harvey to the group. Spring is joining us as the new designer. The current members of the APHA Newsletter committee are: Ed Colker, Jane Siegel, Spring Harvey, and Virginia Bartow.

We encourage readers to submit listings, queries, and news for inclusion in the Newsletter. It is published four times a year: in March, June, September and December. The editors put the final version of the text together at least eight weeks in advance of distribution. Please submit your copy early if it needs to appear in a particular issue. Our address is in the box below.

New Members

Mead Cain, New York, NY
Christina S. Canlas, Astoria, NY
Miriam Mandelbaum, Montclair, NJ
Mary Pankin, Arlington, VA
Mary Jo Pauly, Jordan, MN
Estella Schoenberg, Williamsville, NY
Louis H. Silverstein, New Haven, CT
Suellen M. Towers, McLean, VA
Charles Valley, Newtonville, MA
David L. Walters, South Burlington, VT
Laetitia Yeandle, Washington, DC

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