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# The APHA Newsletter

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A Publication of the American Printing History Association

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## News and Notes

The **American Historical Print Collectors Society** (AH-PCS) awards the Ewell L. Newman Prize annually to an undergraduate or graduate student for the best unpublished essay on some aspect of American historical prints. Essays will be judged by a panel of members on the basis of overall quality including originality and quality of research and analysis. The Prize will carry a cash award of \$500 and the winning essay may be published in the Society's journal, *Imprint*. Submissions must be received by March 1, 1996, to be eligible for the Prize. The winner will be announced at the AHPCS annual meeting. Proof of student status should accompany the essay.

For additional information contact the American Historical Print Collectors Society, P.O. Box 201, Fairfield, CT 06430; or Georgia B. Barnhill, Andrew W. Mellon Curator of Graphic Arts, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

The **Center for Book Arts** in New York City is sponsoring its First Annual Poetry Prize. The winning manuscript will be published in a letterpress, limited-edition chapbook designed and printed by book artists at the Center. Entrants should send a typescript of a collection of poems or a single poem (totalling up to 500 lines), a cover sheet containing the author's name, address, and telephone number, a business-sized SASE (for the announcement of the winning poem and publication information), and \$10.00 for the reading fee (it will be credited toward the purchase of the chapbook). Entries must be postmarked by December 31, 1995. Send entries plus a \$10 check made payable to "Center for Book Arts", to the Center at 626 Broadway, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10012.

The fourth annual conference of the **Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing** will take place July 18–21, 1996, in Worcester, Massachusetts, under the auspices of the American Antiquarian Society and its Program in the History of the Book in American Culture. SHARP welcomes proposals for papers dealing with the creation, diffusion, or reception of the written or printed word in any historical period. Conference proceedings will be in English, but papers may deal with any national literature. There are no limitations on topics, but special panels may be formed on comparative histories of the book; the

book in the Americas; the collection and description of archival material and statistical information on printing, publishing, and reading; and future agendas. Proposals for either individual papers or full panels may be submitted. Proposals (one page maximum per paper) and inquiries about the conference itself should be sent to: SHARP 1996, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-1634. FAX: (508)-754-9069; e-mail: [cfs@mark.mwa.org](mailto:cfs@mark.mwa.org). Submissions via e-mail and FAX will be accepted, however original hard copy is greatly preferred. The deadline for submission of proposals is November 20, 1995.

## Fellowships

The John Carter Brown Library at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, announces its Research Fellowships for the year beginning June 1, 1996 through May 1997. Short-term fellowships, two to four months in duration, and long-term fellowships, six and ten months in duration, are available. The Library offers a limited number of travel reimbursement grants of up to \$600 for scholars wishing to visit for a period of two to seven weeks. The Library's holdings are concentrated on the history of the Western Hemisphere during the colonial period (ca. 1492 to ca. 1825). Research proposed by fellowship applicants must be suited to the holdings of the Library. Fellows are expected to be in continuous residence at the Library for the entire term of the fellowship. The application deadline for fellowships during the 1996–97 year is January 15, 1996. Travel grants are available year round, allowing four months lead time. Application forms and information are available from: Director, John Carter Brown Library, Box 1894, Providence, RI 02912; Phone: 401-863-2725; FAX: 401-863-3477; e-mail: [Karen\\_Demaria@brown.edu](mailto:Karen_Demaria@brown.edu).

The American Antiquarian Society (AAS), in order to encourage imaginative and productive research in its unparalleled library collections of American history and culture through 1876, will award to qualified scholars a number of short- and long-term Visiting Research Fellowships during the year June 1, 1996 to May 31, 1997. The deadline for receipt of completed applications, including letters of recommendation, is January 15, 1996. A brochure containing full details about the AAS fellowship program and information about the Society's collections, along with application forms, may be obtained by writing John B. Hench, Director of Research and Publication, Room A, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-1634; Phone: 508-752-5813 or 755-5221;

## APHA's 1995 Annual Meeting

APHA Annual Meeting, Saturday, January 27, 1996, at 2 p.m. in the Trustees Room at The New York Public Library.



e-mail messages must contain a postal address and should be sent to: [cfs@mark.mwa.org](mailto:cfs@mark.mwa.org).

AAS also sponsors two other fellowship competitions, one for primary and secondary school teachers and librarians and the other for creative and performing artists and writers whose work is intended for the general public rather than for the academic or educational community. Contact Hensch for further information about these opportunities.

The Library Company of Philadelphia announces research fellowships in American history and culture for 1996-1997. There are a number of short-term fellowships for research in residence in its collections. The collections are capable of supporting scholarship in a variety of fields and disciplines relating to the history of North America, principally in the 18th and 19th centuries. The fellowship program supports both post-doctoral and dissertation research. The fellowships are tenable for one month at any time from June 1996 to May 1997. The stipend is \$1,350. Candidates must apply by February 1, 1996. Appointments will be made by March 15. There are no application forms. To apply send four copies each of a curriculum vitae, a two to four-page description of the proposed project, and a single letter of reference to: James Green, Assistant Librarian, Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Telephone: (215) 546-3181; FAX (215) 546-5167.

## Exhibits

### AUSTIN, TX

On exhibit at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center (512/471-8944) through December 22:

"The Company They Kept: Alfred A. and Blanche W. Knopf, Publishers (Part II), and

"The Sculpture of Eric Gill."

### NEW YORK

Lecture series at the Center for Book Arts (212/460-9768), free and open to the public:

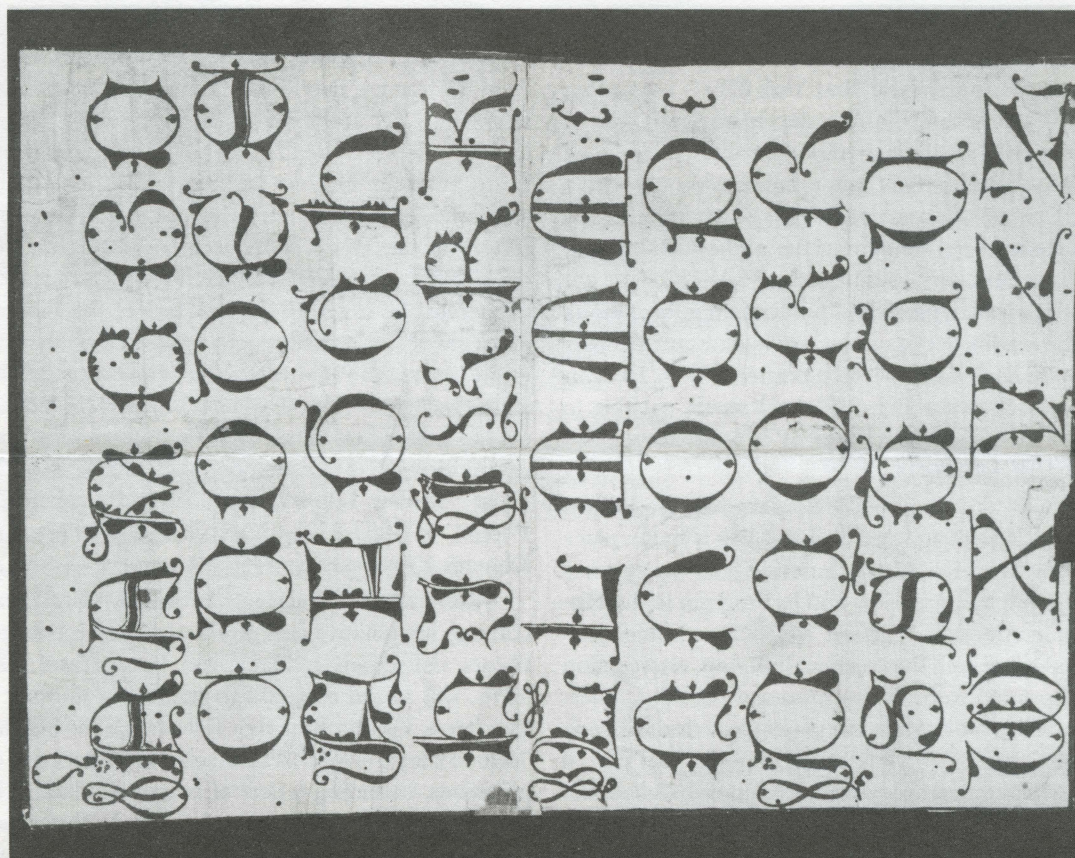
Gloria Helfgott on "Tales from an Itinerant Teacher," Friday, October 20 at 7 pm

Richard Minsky on his career in bookmaking, Friday, October 27 at 7 pm

Marylee Bytheriver on "Linoleum Blocks and Book Arts," Friday, November 10 at 7 pm

Jan & Jarmila Sobota on their own book art, Monday, November 21 at 7 pm.

On exhibit at the Center: "The Illustrated Book," through December 6, Monday-Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-4.



Printed woodcut alphabet, Germany, fifteenth century, with inked manuscript enhancements. It was most likely mounted to a wooden board — as the wormholes and stains on the back suggest — and could have been used in a classroom for alphabetic practice. However, it may originally have been created as a prototype for a printer's decorative initials. This is one of the fascinating items in Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library's exhibit "The Alphabet in History and Imagination," curated by Johanna Drucker, closing October 13.



Exhibit at the Grolier Club (212/838-6690): "Keats Bicentenary," through 22 November, Monday-Saturday 10-5.

Workshops held by the Society of Scribes (for more information, write to SoS Workshops, Nancy Boss, 135 Jefferson Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090):

"Back to the Beginning," using the Ramses Psalter letterforms for contemporary use, David Nicholls, Instructor, Saturday, October 28, 9:30-4:30

"Greeting Card Design," Carole Maurer, Instructor, Saturday, November 4, 9:30-4:30

"Drop Shadows," Robert Boyajain, Instructor, Saturday, November 18, 9:00-1:00

"Hebrew Calligraphy," Ted Simcha Kadin, Instructor, Sunday, December 10, 9:30-4:30

These workshops will be held in Manhattan; there are fees ranging from \$25 to \$45.

## Chapter News

American Printing History Association, New York Chapter  
6:00 p.m. Tuesday, 21 November 1995

### *Map Printing at the U.S. Geological Survey*

Mike Tobin, Chief of the Printing Branch, U.S.G.S. National Mapping Division, on the special features and requirements of map printing and advances made at the Survey in recent years which distinguish contemporary map printing from that of the past. Historical printed matter, printing plates and negatives will be shown.

Free. At The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York. For information call Lowell Bodger at (212) 777-0841.

6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, 8 December 1995

### *An Holiday Party*

Held jointly by the APHA New York Chapter and New York Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers. Members, friends and colleagues welcome.

At The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York. For information call Lowell Bodger at (212) 777-0841 or Solveig Schumann at (212) 366-9612.

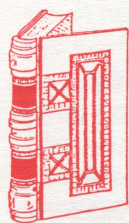
## Obituaries

Alexander Nesbitt, writer, artist, teacher and printer, died on Sunday, July 23, 1995. As a writer Mr. Nesbitt contributed to *Print*, *Design Quarterly*, *American Printer*, and *Graphis*. He also wrote the well received *Lettering: the History and Technique of Lettering as Design* (New York, 1950). His other books included *Decorative Alphabets and Initials* (New York, 1959), *200 Decorative Title Pages* (New York, 1964), a translation of Rudolf Koch's *Schriftgeisserei im Schattenbild* entitled, *The Typefoundry in Silhouette* (San Francisco, 1982), and the introduction to the catalog for the exhibition, "The Working Calligrapher and Lettering Artist" at the Annmary Brown Memorial in 1961. He taught courses in lettering at the Traphagen School of Fashion and Cooper Union, and in direct advertising layout and design at New York University. Among his many contributions to the field of art and design, Mr. Nesbitt was the founder of the Third and Elm Street Press in Newport, Rhode Island. Titles printed by the press included *Weathercocks and Weathercreatures* (1970), *The Wren and the Bear* (1971), *Sandy's Newport* (1975), and *The Best Tailor in the World* (1983). Donations in memory of Alexander J. Nesbitt may be made to the Redwood Library and Athenaeum, 50 Bellevue Avenue, Newport, RI 02840.

Dan Friedman, the Frank Stanton Professor of Graphic Design at The Cooper Union School of Art, died on July 6. Internationally known as an artist, teacher, graphic designer, and furniture designer, he joined the Cooper faculty in the fall of 1994. Friedman was known principally for his graphic design work. He created posters, publication, packaging and visual identities for many corporations and organizations. His continued interest in graphic design and design education led to an emphasis on projects of cultural and social significance. Friedman is noted for developing the "new typography," that he taught at Yale University in the early 1970's. In addition to teaching graphic design at Yale and Cooper Union, Friedman developed guidelines for the first program in visual arts at the State University of New York in Purchase. His most recent book is *Radical Modernism* (Yale Univ. Press, 1994) was published in conjunction with a retrospective at the Moore College of Art in Philadelphia. A memorial scholarship for Cooper Union students has been established in Friedman's name by his family. The family would also like to provide copies of *Radical Modernism* to art and design school libraries. Those wishing to contribute to the memorial scholarship or acquire a copy of the book should write to: Ken Friedman, 529 Brookline Way, Mill Valley, CA 94941.







## Book Talk

The Rare Book Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill sponsors and publishes a series of lectures many of which ought to be of interest to members of this Association. The lectures are sponsored by the Hanes Foundation, which was established by a North Carolina family to support the rare book collection at UNC, and so are known as the Hanes lectures.

According to Libby Chenault, public services librarian, the series began about 15 years ago, with the topics presented to fall into the general category of "book culture." After the 10th annual lecture, the series became biennial. It has included some of the most prominent names in the field.

Herewith a list of the lectures published. Numbers 1-4 are out-of-print, but the rest are available, and single copies are free of charge.

1. A Portrait of the Author in Sixteenth-Century France, by Ruth Mortimer [1980]. 2. The History of Books as a Field of Study, by G. Thomas Tanselle [1981]. 3. The Gutenberg Bible: New Evidence of the Original Printing, by Willaim B. Todd [1982]. 4. The Hanes Collection of Estienne Publications: From Book Collecting to Scholarly Resource, by Fred Schreiber [1984]. 5. Off the Wall: Research into the Art of the Poster, by Alan Fern [1985]. 6. Print Culture and Enlightenment Thought, by Elizabeth L. Eisenstein [1986]. 7. The Bradshaw Method: Henry Bradshaw's Contribution to Bibliography, by Paul Needham [1988]. 8. Uncle Gus Flaubert Rates the Jargon Society, by Jonathan Williams [1989]. 9. Ticknor and Fields: The Business of Literary Publishing in the United States of the Nineteenth Century, by Michael Winship [1990].

Each pamphlet is about 30 pages, and is at least competently designed.

Future lectures to appear in print are Nicholas Barker on "The Future of Typographical Studies," Terry Belanger on "Education for Books as Physical Objects," and the 12th lecture, delivered this spring by Edward G. Holley, "The Library, Philanthropy, Publications, & UNC's Emergence as a Major American University."

Any of the ones in print may be had by writing The Rare Book Collection, Wilson Library CB# 3936, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890.

Philip A. Metzger



## New Members

Alfred W. Baxter, Oakland, CA	Bob Hudson
Boston College, Boston, MA	Martin Hutner
Steven Crouse, Toledo, OH	Jeffrey H. Kaimowitz
Erin K. Davis, Indianapolis, IN	J.F. Killie
Allan Fisher, Rockford, MI	John Lancaster
Rodger Friedman, New York, NY	Jennifer Lee
Dey E. Gosse, New York, NY	Ted Lee
Shirley Brice Heath, Palo Alto, CA	Philip G. Maddock
John F. Jones, Kelso, WA	Eric May
Grace Jung, New York, NY	Maxey H. Mayo
Sue Abbe Kaplan, Venice CA	Prof. H.T. Meserole
John McDowell, Van Nuys, CA	Philip A. Metzger
Joseph W. MacLean, Orleans, MA	Richard Minsky
Christopher Marsden, Ottawa, CANADA	John R.T. Moore
Richard P. Moses, Philadelphia, PA	Walter K. Morrison
Dustan C. Osborn, Olympia, WA	Karen Nipps
Daniel J. Slive, Providence, RI	Larry D. Payne
Lonnie Smith, Denver, CO	Michael Peich
Millie Suter, Emerson, NJ	William J. Pyper
	Charles A. Rheault, Jr.
	S. Wyman Rolph, III
	David S. Rose
	Mark Samuels-Lasner
	Mary C. Schlosser
	Alice Schreyer
	Carol Schwarzer
	Neil Shaver
	David & Deirdre Stam
	Edmund A. Stanley, Jr.
	Roderick Stinehour
	Prof. G.T. Tanselle
	W. Thomas Taylor
	Diana M. Thomas
	Irene Tichenor
	Mark D. Tomasko
	David Turrell
	Gay Walker
	Ruth R. Yeaman

### Contributing Members

Martin Antonetti  
Kenneth Auchincloss  
Terry Belanger  
Michael Bixler  
Arthur Merrill Brown, III  
Ed Colker  
Shari DeGraw  
Patricia Fleming  
William Gast  
Dr. Morris Gelfand  
J. Paul Getty Center Library  
David Goodrich  
Chester Gryski  
George Hamilton  
Joel Harvey  
John Hench  
Lois C. Henderson

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