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RBMS Newsletter

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a Division of the American Library Association*

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Number 4

RBMS MEMBERS PREPARE FOR MIDWINTER

RBMS members will meet at Chicago for the ALA Midwinter Meeting January 18-20, 1986, for an extensive series of committee meetings. A brief review of the work of these committees begins on this page; see page 3 for a tentative schedule of the Chicago meetings.

All RBMS members interested in the work of Section committees are encouraged to attend the meetings at Chicago. The committee meetings of the section are open except for the Nominating Committee and the Exhibition Awards Committee. RBMS members interested in serving on committees of the section are invited to volunteer their interest to committee chairs. Appointments to committees, to take effect after the annual meeting in New York (July 1986), will be handled by the present Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Donald Farren, Special Collections Division, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

The ad hoc Conservators' Collations committee (Terry Belanger, Chair) has surveyed conservators to obtain information regarding their practices in using collation systems for the marking of leaves and other component parts of books as an aid to their re-assembly after disassembly for conservation and other purposes. The Committee has also surveyed the rare book community to learn what curators are requesting from conservators as books are treated. The Committee will discuss the results of the survey at Midwinter in keeping with its goal to present and recommend for adoption a single system which answers the needs of conservators and has their support and to recommend mechanisms by which the system can be formally approved and endorsed by the American Institute for Conservation and other appropriate organizations. The ad hoc committee on Curatorial Issues Raised by Conservation (Donald Farren, Chair) met during the annual conference in Chicago to review documents prepared by committee members. Among the documents distributed were draft statements of "What Curators Should Expect from Conservators" and "What Conservators Should Expect of Curators" and a bibliography of recent literature on the curator-conservator relationship. The meeting was attended by a strong representation from the conservation community, as well as by curators. A clear consensus emerged about the need and usefulness of addressing the problematical aspects of the curator-conservator relationship. At its Midwinter meeting the committee will address its goal of developing guidelines on curatorial issues raised by conservation. The Continuing Education committee (Lynda Claassen, Chair), at the recent Chicago conference, reviewed and evaluated its offerings at the 1985 RBMS preconference, proposed a revision of the wording of its charge, and continued its work in preparing two brochures (one on books and another on manuscripts) that address issues of use and value for a general audience. The committee will complete its plans for seminars connected with the 1986 pre-conference in New York City and will continue work on the brochures. The ad hoc

committee on Developing Guidelines for Professional Ethics (chair to be announced) will meet to consider proposed revisions to a draft previously published in C & RL News. The Exhibition Catalogue Awards committee (Sally Leach, Chair) has been active in implementing previously-accepted guidelines for conferring three annual awards for the best exhibition catalogues published during a stated time period. Criteria for granting the awards include level of accuracy and consistency of presentation, clarity, quality of design, and usefulness to the intended audience. The deadline (September 30, 1985) has passed for submission of catalogues to be reviewed within the first review period; a large number of catalogues have been submitted to the committee. The committee will meet twice in closed sessions at Midwinter to categorize and judge the catalogues. The Information Exchange committee (Irene Moran, Chair) will hold another informative meeting at Midwinter; please contact the committee chair if you wish to make a report or an announcement to the rest of the membership at that meeting. The topic of your report is all that is required. (Irene Moran, Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720 / 415-642-3781; or contact Irene prior to the meeting at Chicago.) The Journal Advisory Board (Ann Gwyn, Chair) will meet to review progress achieved and future plans for RBML (Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarianship), the new RBMS journal. (See p. 5 for additional informational regarding RBML.) At the Chicago Annual Conference, the Executive Committee approved the creation of an ad hoc committee on Tax-Deductible Gift Legislation (chair to be announced), to stand for three years but subject to extension. The charge of the committee is to solicit evidence from RBMS members and others regarding the effects on libraries and other repositories of existing or proposed legislation regarding the tax-deductible donation of paper and other materials, to provide the evidence thus gathered on a regular basis to the Washington office of the American Library Association for use in its legislative information-providing services, and to report to RBMS through the Section newsletter, through program meetings at annual conferences, and through other means as it sees fit. The first meeting of this committee will occur at Midwinter. The ad hoc committee on Literary Rights (Thomas Verich, Chair) will continue to explore the possibility of a central registry for literary rights inherent in manuscripts (as distinct from property rights). The committee will also continue its work in preparing a draft for a pamphlet intended to provide information on literary rights and to guide researchers towards sources of information concerning the holders of literary rights in the United States and abroad. The ad hoc committee on Developing Guidelines for Loaning Special Collections Materials for Exhibitions (Ellen Dunlap, Chair) is meeting at Midwinter to examine written policy statements, procedure manuals, etc., that are in current use in special collections repositories. Needs and issues to be addressed will be explored by the committee as it prepares a draft statement. Ellen Dunlap (Rosenbach Museum & Library, 2060 DeLancy Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103) is soliciting copies of existing policy statements for review prior to the Midwinter meeting. (continued, p. 4)

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RBMS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Tentative Schedule for ALA Midwinter, Chicago
January 18-20, 1986

January 18th (Saturday)	9-11 AM	Ethics Standards I Curatorial Issues Raised by Conservation Exhibition Catalog Awards I (closed)
	2-4 PM	Literary Rights Transfer of General Collections Materials to Special Collections I
	4:30-5:30 PM	1986 Preconference Planning (New York)
	8-10 PM	Information Exchange Conservators' Collations Nominating (closed)
January 19th (Sunday)	9-11 AM	Standards II Loaning Special Collections Materials for Exhibitions Exhibition Catalog Awards II (closed) Security I Tax-Deductable Gift Legislation
	2-4 PM	Publications Transfer of General Collections Materials to Special Collections II Manuscripts and Archives Discussion Group
	4:30-5:30 PM	Executive I
	8-10 PM	MARC Cataloging for Special Collections Information Exchange 1987 Program & Preconference Planning (San Francisco) Journal Advisory Board
January 20th (Monday)	9-11 AM	Standards III Security II Continuing Education
	11:30-12:30 PM	Executive II

The Manuscripts and Archives Discussion Group Committee, ad hoc (Robert Blesse, Chair) is planning another informal information-sharing discussion at Midwinter. During the 1985 Annual Conference the committee proposed topics to the Continuing Education Committee for possible seminars and discussed issues ranging from the new AMC MARC format to the possibility of a registry for twentieth-century manuscript collections. Members of the Society of American Archivists or other interested parties are invited to attend the upcoming Midwinter meeting. A similar discussion group, the MARC Cataloging for Special Collections Information Exchange (John Thomas, Chair), ordinarily meets only during the ALA Annual Conferences, but a time slot has been provided for it at the 1986 Midwinter meeting. The Nominating Committee (Lynda Claassen, Chair; other members: Paul Koda and Nora Quinlan) will be meeting at Midwinter to consider candidates who will appear on the Spring 1987 ballot. The 1986 Preconference Planning committee (Marie Korey, Chair) is completing planning for the New York City Preconference (see page 5 for information regarding dates and sessions at the 1986 Preconference). The 1987 Preconference Planning Committee has been considering program ideas and sites convenient to where the 1987 ALA Annual Conference will be held in San Francisco. Samuel A. Streit has agreed to serve as chair of the Preconference Program Committee. The Preconference Planning Committee will report on the status of its work during the Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. At the Annual Conference in Chicago, the Publications Committee (Joan Friedman, Chair) reviewed a final draft of procedures for the publication of RBMS preconference proceedings, discussed the progress of the RBMS newsletter and subscription and format plans for same, explored the possibilities of publishing an RBMS membership directory, and received a report from Ann Gwyn regarding the journal Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarianship (RBML). The committee will meet at Midwinter to continue its work on several of these projects. At the Annual Conference the Security Committee (David Zeidberg, Chair) examined a draft of a proposed policy on what to do before a theft occurs, reviewed an outline of steps to be taken after a theft has occurred, and worked on model legislation against book theft. A subcommittee was appointed to develop terminology to be used in reporting a book theft. In view of the volume of work undertaken by the committee, two committee sessions have been scheduled during the Midwinter meeting. The Standards Committee (John Thomas, Chair) reviewed the guidelines developed by the Transfer Committee and finished work on a thesaurus for books and printing during the Annual Conference. Work was forwarded on a binding thesaurus and a graphic materials thesaurus. Work on these thesauri and others under discussion will be pursued at the Midwinter meeting. Following a discussion of its charge during a meeting of the Executive Committee at the Annual Conference, the Standards Committee was invited to review its charge and report back to the Executive Committee at Midwinter meeting. The work of the Committee on Transfer of General Collections Materials to Special Collections (Samuel A. Streit, Chair) is nearing completion. Guidelines developed by the committee were published in the summer 1985 issue of C & RL News for the purpose of soliciting comments. At the Midwinter meeting any comments on the guidelines received by the committee will be considered.

The Executive Committee (Anna Lou Ashby, Chair) will hold two sessions, as usual, during the Midwinter meetings to consider reports of work undertaken by RBMS committees and any other matters brought before it.

Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarianship

The first issue of Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarianship (RBML) is in preparation. The editor, Ann Gywn, is interested in receiving additional articles for possible inclusion in the journal. The articles should concentrate on issues connected with practical problems in rare books and manuscripts repositories. Among the topics to be included are: acquisitions and collection development of rare books and manuscripts; security, access and use of special collections; conservation; cataloguing of special materials; computer applications; fund raising, donor relations, and Friends groups; exhibits; and historical development of various special collections.

Instructions for authors will be printed in the first issue of the journal or may be obtained earlier from the editor. For further information and submission of articles, write to Ann Gywn, Editor, RBML, The Milton S. Eisenhower Library, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21218. Alice D. Schreyer (Administrative Offices, Rutgers University Libraries, New Brunswick, NJ 08903) is the news notes editor; she would welcome receiving reports of conferences, exhibitions, and project or publications in rare books and manuscripts libraries. Paul S. Koda (School of Library and Information Science, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. 20064) is interested in hearing from people who wish to contribute book reviews to the journal or who can suggest titles for review. Information about subscriptions to the journal may be obtained from ACRL/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

1986 Preconference Planning for New York City

"Fine & Lively: The Arts in Special Collections" is the theme of the Twenty-Seventh ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Preconference, to be held in New York City, June 24-27, 1986. The papers to be delivered at the preconference will focus on the development and use of special collections in costume and fashion, the fine arts, theatre, dance, and music, as well as the role of the antiquarian book trade in these activities.

The speakers will include: Lucien Goldschmidt, proprietor of Lucien Goldschmidt, Inc.; Richard Martin, Executive Director, Shirley Goodman Resource Center, Fashion Institute of Technology; Ruth Mortimer, Curator of Rare Books, Smith College; Jeanne T. Newlin, Curator, Harvard Theatre Collection; Genevieve Oswald, Curator, Dance Collection, The New York Public Library, and Harold E. Samuel, Music Librarian, Yale University Music Library.

To complement the plenary sessions, the Continuing Education Committee is planning a variety of seminars on topics related to the theme of the preconference. Fuller information on the seminars will be available in the brochure announcing the preconference, which will be available in March. The brochure will also include a full listing of the program events, which are scheduled to run through 6:00 PM on Friday, 27 June 1986.

The preconference hotel is the Waldorf-Astoria, on Park Avenue between 49th and 50th Streets. Rates are: single, \$110; double occupancy, also \$110; 3rd person, additional \$25. (The hotel will honor these rates for those preconference registrants who wish to stay through the ALA Conference.) The Local Arrangements Committee is assembling information on dormitory accommodations.

The Program Committee consists of Marie Korey (Chair), Alice Schreyer (Local Arrangements Chair), Joan Friedman, Robert Nikirk, and Ann Lou Ashby.

RBMS 1986 Annual Conference Program Offerings

"Costume and Dance: Using Special Collections for Research" is the theme of the RBMS general program meeting arranged by Robert Nikirk for the 1986 ALA Annual Conference. Speakers will be Robert C. Kaufmann, Librarian of the Costume Institute, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and Parmenia Migel Ekstrom, dance scholar and collector, who is founder-director of the Diaghilev-Stravinsky Foundation. The RBMS General Program Meeting is scheduled to be held on Sunday, June 29, 1986.

RBMS will join forces with the American Library Association/Society of American Archivists Joint Committee on Library-Archives Relationships to cosponsor during the 1986 ALA Annual Conference a program on use of the MARC Archival and Manuscripts Format.

Candidates for RBMS Offices, Spring 1986 Elections

Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Ann Gwyn (Johns Hopkins University)
Alice Schreyer (Rutgers University)

Member-at-large, Executive Committee: James Green (Library Company of Philadelphia)
Nora Quinlan (University of Colorado, Boulder)

Liaisons Newly Established

From RBMS to the ALA/SAA Joint Committee: Joan Friedman (Curator of Rare Books, Yale Center for British Art). To RBMS from the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee: J. Daniel Vann III (Director of Libraries, University of Wisconsin--Oshkosh).

Geac Discussion Group at Chicago

Representatives of sites using Geac automated systems met as one of the ad hoc discussion groups during the preconference in Chicago. Most sites are very much in the development stage of applying Geac systems to Special Collections work. It was agreed that exchanges of information should be pursued and that perhaps formal recognition as a specialized Geac users' group should be sought. Further information may be obtained from Donald Farren, Special Collections, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

Fellowships and Summer Institutes

The Bibliographical Society of America offers short-term fellowships for bibliographical inquiry as well as research in the history of the book trades and in publishing history. The fellowships may be held for one or two months. Fellows will be paid a stipend of up to \$700 per month. The deadline for applications is January 31, 1986. For further details, contact the BSA Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 397, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

The American Antiquarian Society offers a variety of fellowships for research on subjects on which the Society has strong holdings. The Society maintains a library that focuses on American history and culture through 1876. The various fellowships offer support from one to twelve months. The maximum grant obtainable under these fellowships is \$25,000. The deadline for applications is January 31, 1986. For further details, contact John B. Hench, Associate Director for Research and Publication, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

The American Antiquarian Society will conduct from June 14 to June 24, 1986, the second in an annual series of summer seminars intended to introduce the field of the history of the book in American culture to librarians, bibliographers, and scholars, including advanced graduate students. The 1986 seminar, to be led by Stephen Botein, Michigan State University, will be on the theme "The American Common Reader: Printing, Entrepreneurship, and Cultural Change, 1759-1840." The deadline for applications is March 21, 1986. For further details, contact the American Antiquarian Society, as above.

Transitions

Martin Antonetti has been appointed Special Collections Librarian at Mills College, Oakland, California. Philip Bantin is leaving Marquette University to accept a position as University Archivist at the University of California, Los Angeles. Geoffrey Barr has been appointed Rare Book Cataloger, New York Historical Society. Kathleen E. Bledsoe is now Assistant Reference Librarian for Special Collections at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. Judith M. Bloomgarten has been appointed Original Cataloger in the Special Collection Division at Johns Hopkins University. Mary Boccaccio is now Manuscript Curator at the Joyner Library at East Carolina State University, Greenville, North Carolina. Gunther Buchheim has taken a position as Rare Book Cataloger at the John Carter Brown Library, Brown University. Anne Caiger been appointed Head of Manuscripts at the University of California, Los Angeles. Jerry D. Campbell, former Director of the Bridwell Library at Southern Methodist University, is now University Librarian and Vice Provost for Library Affairs at Duke University. Bobbie Chalfant has assumed the position of Conservator in the Preservation Department at Columbia University. Helena Costa is now Rare Books Cataloger, John Carter Brown Library, Brown University. Anita K. Delaries, former Curator of Archives and Manuscripts in the Pitts Theology Library at Emory University, has moved to Seattle. John Dean, formerly at Johns Hopkins University, is now Conservation Officer at Cornell University. Mary Louise Elder, formerly Rare Book Cataloger at Duke University, is now Special Collections Cataloger, Smithsonian Institution Libraries. Daniel Elliott, formerly Assistant Head of the Department of Special Collections at the University of California at Davis, is now Assistant to the University Librarian. David Farmer, formerly Head of Special Collections at the University of Houston, is now Assistant Director for Special Collections and Head of the DeGolyer Library, Southern Methodist University. Pat Bozeman now is Acting Head of Special Collections at the University of Houston. Opal Free, Head of Special Collections at Florida State University, retired last summer. Bill Hanna has resigned as Head of Special Collections, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, to work with another state agency. Thomas A. Harrocks has been appointed Curator of the Historical Collections of the Library of the College of Physicians, Philadelphia. David Hedrick has been appointed Special Collections Librarian for the Musselman Library,

Gettysburg College. Gregg Hennessey has been appointed Archivist/Manuscripts Librarian at the University of California, San Diego. The National Archives Training Committee has named Linda Henry as the Archival Training Coordinator for the National Archives. William L. Joyce has been appointed Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections at Princeton University. Joyce was previously Assistant Director for Rare Books and Manuscripts, New York Public Library. Dean H. Keller, founding Curator of Special Collections at the Kent State University Libraries, has been named Associate Director for Collections and Public Services. Alex Gildzen has been appointed as Dean H. Keller's successor. William B. Keller has been appointed Head of Special Collections at the Gelman Library, George Washington University. John Lancaster is now Curator of Special Collections at Amherst, this title change formally recognizing his editorial responsibilities for the Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America; Lancaster has relinquished responsibilities for the Amherst Archives. Dennis Madden has joined the staff of the Nebraska State Historical Society as Manuscripts Curator. Janice Mathiesen, formerly at the New York Historical Society, is now Rare Book Cataloger at The Pierpont Morgan Library. Nancy Romero has been appointed Administrator of the Rare Books and Special Collections Library, University of Illinois, Urbana. Alison Scott has been appointed Assistant Curator of Rare Books, Smith College. Nancy Scott, Special Collections Librarian at Gettysburg College, retired in June after twenty-five years of service. Tobin A. Sparling, formerly at the Print Division of the Research Libraries, New York Public, is now enrolled in the Columbia University Law School, preparing for a career in art law. Willman Spawn, Head Conservator at the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, retired in June after thirty-seven years of service to the Society. Spawn has accepted an appointment as Curator of Bindings at Bryn Mawr College. David Wigdor has been named Assistant Chief of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. He succeeds Paul T. Heffron, who retired in September 1983.

Titles and faces have changed at the Rosenbach Museum and Library over the past two years. Director Ellen S. Dunlap came to the Rosenbach after ten years as Research Librarian at the Humanities Research Center, the University of Texas, Austin. Patricia C. Willis, Curator of the Marianne Moore Collection at the Rosenbach since 1975, now has expanded responsibilities that include the English literature and twentieth-century American literature collections. Leslie A. Morris, who came to the Rosenbach in 1984, is Curator of History and Bibliography, and Kimerly Rorschach, who also joined the staff in 1984, is Curator of Art.

Deadline for Spring, 1986 Issue: March 15

RBMS Newsletter

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