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RBMS Newsletter

Issued by the Rare Books and Manuscripts
Section of the Association of College and
Research Libraries, a Division of the
American Library Association

APRIL 1993

NUMBER 18

Mainstream or Margin? RBMS will hold its 34th Preconference at New Orleans

Mainstream or Margin? How Others View Special Collections is the title of ACRL's Rare Books and Manuscripts Section's (RBMS) 34th preconference to be held June 22-25, 1993, at the Omni Royal Orleans Hotel in New Orleans.

"A multi-faceted vision of who and what we are - as well as a vision of what we wish Special Collections to become - is necessary if we are to anticipate and respond to the changes and challenges brought on by institutional restructuring, shrinking resources, and the shifting patterns in collections use," says Preconference Program chair Pat Bozeman. She adds that "we must sharpen our perceptions by seeing ourselves through different sets of lenses - those of the researcher and scholar, the academic administrator, the library director, and other librarians."

To this end, the 1993 RBMS Preconference Program Committee has invited a diverse group of speakers to address the questions of "mainstream" and/or "margin." Those speakers, asked to be challenging, provocative and creative in their approach to the topic, include Betty Bengtson, Director, University of Washington Libraries; Daniel Bradbury, Director, Kansas City Public Library; John T. Casteen, III, President, University of Virginia; Stanley Chodorow, Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Planning and Dean of Arts and Humanities, University of California, San Diego; Judith Goldstein, anthropologist, Vassar College; Joan Gotwals, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries, Emory University; William Jones, Assistant University Librarian for Collections Development and Information Services, University of Illinois at Chicago Library; Brian Schottlaender, Assistant University Librarian for Technical Services, University Research Library, UCLA; Steven Watson, independent scholar and author, New York City; and David Zeidberg, Head of Special Collections, University Research Library, UCLA.

The plenary sessions will be complemented by a series of continuing education seminars addressing such topics as career building in special collections, cataloging Latin materials, collection level cataloging, electronic texts, gay and lesbian studies and use of special collections, marketing our collections and ourselves, Slavic and eastern European books in American libraries, and undergraduate use of special collections, to name but a few.

The registration fee for the three-day preconference is \$150 for ACRL members and \$200 for non-members; the deadline for registration is May 10. Written cancellations will be honored until June 4, subject to a \$45 cancellation fee. In addition to the planning and seminar sessions, preconference registrants will enjoy an opening reception at The Historic New Orleans Collection, an evening of tours, Cajun food and lively musical

entertainment at Destrehan Plantation, one of the older plantation houses in the Lower Mississippi Valley, and a reception and tours at the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Tulane University. Historic architectural and literary walking tours of New Orleans will also be available on the afternoon of June 22.

The Omni Royal Orleans Hotel, in the heart of the French Quarter, will serve as the preconference hotel at the special rate of \$90 for single, double and twin rooms. The Omni Royal Orleans is also an ALA Annual Conference hotel. For those wishing to stay at the Omni for ALA separate registration is necessary through ALA Housing due to the differential in preconference and annual conference rates. Alternative housing is also available for the preconference in traditional residence halls on the campus of Tulane University. Residence hall double occupancy is \$19 per person, per night and single occupancy is \$25 per night. Apartment housing is also available on the Tulane campus. The charge for four persons per apartment is \$35 a person, per night, and for two persons the charge is \$47.50 per person, per night. All Tulane housing is subject to a \$5 registration fee and registrants must make their own arrangements with the Tulane University Housing Office.

A brochure describing the preconference, including a registration form, was mailed to all members of RBMS during March. If you would like to receive a brochure contact the ACRL office at (800) 545-2433, ext. 2522 or 3248, or Fax 312/280-2520.

Note -- The 1994 Preconference (repeat, that's 1994 and it will be the Section's 35th Preconference!) will be held in Miami from June 21-24 and focus on the theme "From Collector to Donor: Development Issues in Rare Books and Special Collections."

RBMS Program Meeting in New Orleans

Sunday, June 27 • 2 to 5:30 pm

For Richer or Poorer: Special Collections in Library Development Programs

Special collections librarians have long been active in fund raising, donor relations, and library friends groups. This work has changed with the growth of library and university development programs. A panel of development officers and special collections librarians can will explore how these groups can work together more effectively. • As part of the afternoon program, the Katherine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab American Book Prices Current Exhibition Catalogue Awards as well as the RBML Award (cash prize courtesy of Christie's) will be presented. • The RBMS Information Exchange session follows the program meeting.

Meeting Schedule - Annual Conference New Orleans RBMS - June 25-28, 1993 (tentative)

The following is the schedule RBMS has requested that ALA arrange. Please check the final New Orleans conference program and program supplement to confirm times.

Friday, June 25, 1993

2-5:30 pm

Executive Committee

Saturday, June 26, 1993

8 - 11 am:

Exhibition Catalogue Awards I (closed)

8:30 - 11 am:

Bibliographic Standards I (continued on next page)

Interlibrary Loan of Rare and Unique Materials (HEARING)

Security

9:30 - 11 am:

Publications

Seminars [new committee]

Manuscripts and Other Formats Discussion Group

9:30 - 12:30 pm:

Planning Committee

11:30 - 12:30 pm:

Guidelines on Archives/Mss Review

1995 Preconference Program Planning

2 - 4 pm:

Bibliographic Standards II

Education and Professional Development

Nominating (closed)

RBML Editorial Board

[Art Section program on New Orleans architecture, co-sponsored by RBMS]

4:15 - 5:45:

NO CONFLICT TIME-SLOT

Sunday, June 27, 1993

8:00 - 11:00 am

Exhibition Catalogue Awards II (closed)

RBML Awards (closed)

Budget and Development [new committee]

9:30 - 11 am:

Bibliographic Standards III

1994 Preconference Planning

Curators and Conservators Discussion Group

11:30 - 12:30 pm:

Conference Development (Name change from Program Planning)

MARC for Special Collections Discussion Group

2 - 5:30 pm:

RBMS Program, Exhibit Catalog Awards, followed by Information Exchange

Monday, June 28, 1992

9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Executive Committee II

2-5:30 pm

ACRL President's Program

(No conflict period for ACRL Sections)

Candidates for Office - Spring 1992 elections

Chair: Lisa Browar (NYPL); Robert Martin (LSU)

Secretary: Martin Antonetti (Grolier Club); Laura Stalker (Huntington Library)

Member at large: Thomas Hickerson (Cornell); John Hoover (St. Louis Mercantile Library)

Announcements regarding the upcoming Annual Conference as well as some news from Midwinter

There will be a hearing on the "Guidelines for the Loan of Rare and Unique Materials" on Sat., June 26, 8:30-11 am. The Guidelines will be published in *C&RL News* in the May issue.

The Ethical Guidelines were approved by the ACRL Board. The guidelines will be published in the April issue of *C&RL News*.

At Midwinter in Denver, the RBMS Executive Committee created a new "Budget and Development Committee"; renamed the Program Planning Committee to be the "Conference Development Committee"; rewrote the charge of the Education and Professional Development Committee; and created a separate Seminars Committee. The Publications Committee is working on a brochure describing the work of the Section and intended to help recruit new members. This project will hopefully be funded by ACRL's "New Initiatives" funding program.

New RBML editor Sid Berger reports:

After the annual conference in New Orleans, I become the new editor of RBML, succeeding Alice Schreyer. I intend to bring some changes to the journal which will broaden its appeal, making its contents of interest to a widening body of readers. For example, I intend to solicit articles on fund raising, conservation and preservation, security, and the connections between special collections and the bookselling profession. I ask that readers of this newsletter suggest to me other areas of interest you would like to see covered in the journal. My aim is to make the journal as pertinent as possible to all people in the rare books and manuscripts field. Please send me articles in either draft or final form and suggestions for other topics. I and the RBML editorial board are willing to work with scholars to develop papers for our readers.

If any of you know of scholars doing research in a field that would be of interest to RBML readers, please have them contact me or let me know who they are so that I might contact them.

To encourage submissions, I also wish to remind you that this year a competition has been funded by Christie's to award a prize of \$1,000 to the author of the best article published in RBML in the last two years. If funding is renewed, this prize will be awarded every two years.

With the departure from the RBML editorial board of several members (Alice Schreyer, Jim Green, Ann Gwyn, Michael Ryan, Dan Traister), I have been able to recommend for appointment several new members who bring fresh and experienced eyes to the task of running the journal: Sid Hutner, who has agreed to replace Jim Green as book review editor, Cathy Henderson, Susan Allen, Laura Stalker, and Sam Streit. The expertise of these people indicates the wide scope of interests that the journal intends to encompass.

Contrary to rumors, RBML is not only still in business, it is flourishing. Because of an unprecedented drop in advertising revenues, the journal dropped into the red for the first time a year ago. But thanks to the efforts of several people, pages of



advertising have nearly tripled, and the journal is headed for more solid times. The health of the journal is indicated in the nature of the most recent issue (volume 7, number 2). It is titled, "Descriptive Cataloging of 19th-century Imprints for Special Collections." Its guest editor is Stephen J. Zietz. This is the journal's first double issue, running to 96 pages. From: Sidney E. Berger Head of Special Collections University of California Riverside, CA 92517 909-787-3233 (Office) 909-787-3285 (Fax) Email: SPCOLSEB@UCRVMS.BITNET

Soon to be published: Handbook of Examples to accompany *Descriptive Cataloging for Rare Books*

A collaborative project of the Library of Congress and the Bibliographic Standards Committee resulted in the 1991 publication of the second edition of the national rare book cataloging code, now entitled *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books*. During the revision process many of our colleagues in the field expressed the need for a set of examples which would be much more extensive than the appendix that appeared in the first edition of rules, *Bibliographic Description of Rare Books*. The decision was made to drop the examples from BDRB and the Committee undertook the task of compiling a separate handbook of examples, to be published by ACRL. This work is in its final phase, and the handbook should will appear this spring and be available for sale at the Annual Conference in New Orleans.

The handbook will contain approximately fifty examples of MARC-tagged rare book records with reproductions of the titlepages, passages of text, colophons, etc. upon which the records are based. There will also be several indexes and a brief bibliography of useful tools. Although the emphasis is on early printed books, the compilers have included a wide variety of printed materials which might be described according to rare book conventions. The intention of the Committee was to produce a guide for the novice or infrequent rare book cataloger, but we hope that the handbook will also be helpful to any user of DCRB. (The above text from Laura Stalker of the Huntington Library.)

News about Exhibitions

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS EXHIBITS AND OTHER INFORMATION ONLINE THROUGH INTERNET AND AMERICA ONLINE

Online versions of the Vatican Exhibit, the Soviet Archives Exhibit, and Information Files from the Library of Congress are all available through the Internet and America Online. Main, sub, and highlight texts and selected graphic reproductions of items in the Library's Quincentenary Exhibit "1492: An Ongoing Voyage" are available on America Online.

To reach the files on Internet, FTP to seq1.loc.gov (say "S-E-Q-1 dot L-O-C dot G-O-V") (or use the numeric address: 140.147.3.22). Login as "anonymous" and give your e-mail address as a password, then change directory (cd) to the /pub directory. From there, cd to the vatican.exhibit sub-directory for the Vatican Exhibit files, cd to the soviet.archive sub-directory for the Soviet Archive Exhibit files, and cd to the Library.of.Congress sub-directory for the Information Files. Each section has a README file which will guide you to other files in that section. See your local computer support person if you need help using anonymous FTP.

If you do not have full access to Internet, you may be able to reach the Library of Congress files through America Online (AOL), a commercial online service.

With a 2500 baud (or faster) modem, you can connect to this service which offers the Vatican Exhibit, the Soviet Archives Exhibit, the Columbus Quincentenary Exhibit, and the Library's Information Files as well as other services. For one monthly fee (a little less than \$10), a customer receives the AOL software and two hours of connect time per month. All information is available at no extra charge, but additional connect time is charged at the rate of \$6.00 per hour. For more information on America Online, call 1-800-827-6364.

Also for help, contact the system technician for this project, K.D. Ellis: kell@seq1.loc.gov

RLG News

Early Printed Books File • Short-title records for early printed continental European materials, contributed by the national libraries of Sweden, the Netherlands, and Italy, have been loaded into a new RLIN file called Early Printed Books (EPB). Over a five-year period, EPB is expected to grow into a comprehensive catalog with the addition of records from a number of major European libraries and bibliographic agencies. RLG cooperates closely with the Center for Bibliographic Studies at the University of California at Riverside to identify material for inclusion in this file.

Primary Sources Forum Advisory Group will provide leadership in setting goals and shaping RLG projects that respond to needs expressed by the archival and special collections communities served by RLG. Specifically, the Advisory Group will:

- Consult with RLG members responsible for primary source materials and RLG staff to identify and prioritize issues and topics which might be discussed and addressed cooperatively
- Assist in development of agenda for Primary Sources Forum meeting targeted for Spring 1993
- Assist in implementation of CONFER by serving as "beta testers" and active participants in CONFER. (CONFER is RLG's electronic conferencing system.)

Advisory Group members will serve for a one year term beginning 1 December 1992, and will conduct business primarily through teleconferencing and electronic mail. No meetings are required for the Advisory Group

Members: Milan R Hughston (Amon Carter Museum), Sid Huttner (Tulsa), Dierdre Lawrence (Brooklyn Museum), Leslie Morris (Harvard), Richard Szary (Yale), Roy C. Turnbaugh (Oregon State Archives), Philip N. Cronenwett (Dartmouth), LaVonne Gallo (RLG).

Collections closing or reorganizing

Much of the following may be old news to a great many, but it bears brief summation. It has been one full year since the publication of the last RBMS Newsletter, a cessation caused by ACRL's budget constraints. Such fiscal and other constraints have also resulted in several collections closing or reorganizing.

In early February, the New-York Historical Society announced that by the end of the month the Society would close its library and all its galleries, cancel all public programs, and dismiss all but a few of its staff. The Society has been strapped for cash for a number of years and, according to the *New York Times* (4 Feb. 1993) it "was obliged to dip into the unrestricted cash reserves in

the society's endowment, reducing the endowment from \$12.2 million in 1988 to \$8 million at the end of last year." The *Times* reported on 18 March: "The first painful but necessary step salvaging the New-York Historical Society came late last week ([i.e. ca. March 11 or 12.]) An independent advisory committee, formed by the board in February...prescribed tough medicine: dramatically refine the society's mission, cut the staff and sell off \$20 million worth of its collection as well as a chunk of property adjacent to its building on Central Park West." Details about timing were few, but it does note "No one aspect of reorganization is to be undertaken until all the others are in place."

As of the first of the year 1992 (sic), the Special Collections Division of the Libraries of the University of Maryland at College Park (comprising the departments of Historical Manuscripts and Archives, Marylandia, and Rare Books and Literary Manuscripts and the East Asia Collection) was disbanded. The head of the Libraries, H. Joanne Harar effected the disbanding.

In the Winter 1991/1992-Spring 1992 issue of *Broadside*, the newsletter of the Theatre Library Association, published ca. mid-year in 1992, the lead story is titled "Theatre Collections face Reorganizations, Budget Cuts, and Neglect." Details are given about the "deteriorating Theatre Collection" of the Museum of the City of New York. Also included are details about reorganization and/or merger with other units of the theatre collections at UCLA and Princeton.

Theft in the Southwest

by Kristin Jacobsen (SMU)

In February \$11,000 worth of books were discovered missing from Parker Books of the West (Santa Fe, NM). The story of this theft unravels to reveal an Alaska man with sophisticated lock-picking tools and an AK-47 assault rifle. It continues with the arrest and ongoing prosecution of the man under state and federal jurisdiction in California.

The tale is intriguing, and the lessons are clear. It was the quick action of booksellers in New Mexico and California that was the key to stopping a determined thief, and it is the alertness of libraries and booksellers that will keep it from happening again. "The only reason we got this guy is the speed with which we got this information around the country," according to Riley Parker, owner of the book shop that was burglarized.

Parker discovered the theft when he arrived at his shop on Monday, February 8, to find that 14 items had been removed from a locked case over the weekend. He immediately began faxing a list of the items to other booksellers across the country. And he remembered Patrick Moffatt, a tall, "modern-day mountain man" who had been a frequent visitor the previous week. The faxed list hit home when a California bookseller, Howard Karno, received it. Karno contacted Chuck Valverde of Wahrenbrock's Book House in San Diego, and they found that Wahrenbrock's had been offered several of the items on the list. Valverde then got the attention of the San Diego Police. A sting was set up. When Moffatt returned to Wahrenbrock's, however, he became suspicious and left but was arrested on February 11 at a San Diego bus station.

Police found in Moffatt's possession some of the books from Parker's shop, along with printed descriptions of the titles and some of the most sophisticated lock-picking devices they had ever seen. Moffatt told them he often re-locked doors after a theft so as not to arouse suspicion. During their investigations, police discovered that an AK-47 assault rifle found in the Grand Canyon was registered to Moffatt. They also found that he had falsely obtained a U.S. Forest Service uniform and badge, a federal offense. Moffatt was charged with burglary, crossing state lines with stolen property, and fencing stolen property. He pled guilty but is negotiating a plea bargain in exchange for giving police a list of the places from which he stole. Federal charges still pending include impersonating a federal officer.

The incident is disturbing to libraries in general, and to special collections in particular, for the simple fact that it is not unique, according to Susan M. Allen, chair of the ACRL/RBMS Security Committee. "The significance of the Moffatt theft is that [such thievery just] keeps happening. He is yet another example of the thief who traverses the country in his car, truck or van, ripping off booksellers and libraries," Allen said. "The most alarming thing about Moffatt's methods is that he is able to enter and leave a book store -- and probably a library, too -- without being detected. Special collections people must take the missing book seriously and not just assume that it is misplaced," Allen said. "If the size of the staff does not permit comprehensive, regular inventory, then select areas at random for checking periodically."

The ACRL/RBMS Security Committee regularly updates its list of Incidents of Theft, which is available to anyone who would like to see it. In addition, Katharine Kyes Leab of American Book Prices Current maintains a database of missing books through BAMBAM, Book Line Alert: Missing Books and Manuscripts. For more information, contact Allen at The Libraries of The Claremont Colleges, (714) 621-8000, Ext. 3977; or Leab at (203) 868-7408.

Various Publications of Interest

The Legacy of James D. Hart at The Bancroft Library, 1970-1990, edited by Anthony S. Bliss, 1991. Available for \$10.00 from Kimberley L. Massingale, Friends of The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, Ca 94720.

Gaylord Bros. has begun publication of Preservation Pathfinders, a series of basic bibliographies on preservation topics. The first number in the series is *An Introduction to Preservation*. Free copies of the leaflet are available from Gaylord Bros., Box 4901, Syracuse, NY 13221-4901; (800) 448-6160.

Manuscript Holdings of Selected Nineteenth-Century Women Writers, a list of holdings in the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center's Robert Lee Wolff Collection of 19th-century fiction is available for \$7.56 from Office of the Research Librarian, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas At Austin, P.O. Drawer 7219, Austin, TX 78713-7219; (512) 471-9119.

Without Consent: The Ethics of Disclosing Personal Information in Public Archives by Heather MacNeil, 1992 is an

exploration of the practical issues associated with the administration of access to government-held personal information. Copublished with the Society of American Archivists this volume is available for \$27.50 from Scarecrow Press, P.O. Box 4167, Metuchen, NJ 08840.

American Women and the U.S. Armed Forces: A Guide to the Records of Military Agencies in the National Archives Relating to Women is available for \$25 from the National Archives Trust Fund, POB 100793, Atlanta, Georgia 30384.

The Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), a consortium of 12 major research universities in the Midwest has published, *Mass Deacidification: A Report to the Library Directors*. Developed to help CIC library administrators evaluate issues involved in mass deacidification. Copies of the report cost \$15 and are available from CIC, 302 E. John St., Suite 1705, Champaign, IL 61820.

Authentic Witnesses: Approaches to Medieval Texts and Manuscripts, edited by Mary A. Rouse and Richard H. Rouse gathers together essays describing what information medieval manuscripts can yield about the society that created them and how bibliographic research tools were developed in the 13th century. The volume is available for \$59.95 from Notre Dame Press, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

The Commission on Preservation and Access is distributing *Preservation of New Technology* a report of the Technology Assessment Advisory Committee to the commission. Copies of the report are available for \$5.00 from Rebecca Kelly, Commission on Preservation and Access, 1400 16th St, N.W., Suite 740, Washington, D.C. 20036-2217.

The Northeast Document Conservation Center has published *Preservation of Library and Archival Materials: A Manual* a compilation of 37 technical leaflets covering many aspects of collections care. Copies of the manual are available for \$20 plus \$3.50 postage and handling from NEDCC 100 Brickstone Square, Andover, MA 01810. Prepayment is required.

Managing Institutional Archives: Foundational Principles and Practices (306 pages, May 1992), serves as a starting point for organizations establishing an institutional archives. The cost is \$55.00 from Greenwood Press, 88 Post Road West, Box 5007, Westport, Ct. 06881.

The National Cooperative Information Project (NCIP) has published the first number in its "Preservation Basics" series titles, *Preservation of Scrapbooks and Albums*, a four page leaflet. Single copies are available free of charge from the Preservation Field Services Office, SOLINET, 1438 West Peachtree St. N.W. Suite 200, Atlanta, Ga 30309-2955.

Varsity Letters: Documenting Modern Colleges and Universities by Helen Willa Samuels (281 pages, 1992) was written as an aid to archivists and librarians for documenting an academic institution. Copies are available for \$29.50 from Scarecrow Press, P.O. Box 4167, Metuchen, NJ 08840.

Conferences, Seminars, Continuing Education

Images in Libraries, Museums, and Archives: Description and Intellectual Access

The Second PACSCL Summer Seminar, August 5-7, 1993 will be held in Philadelphia and is sponsored by the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries (PACSCL). This year's seminar addresses current practices in describing and accessing illustrative material. Open to librarians, archivists, curators, et al; number of participants will be limited. Brochures and registration forms may be requested from PACSCL central staff at Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries, University of Pennsylvania Archives, North Arcade, Franklin Field, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6320 Tel.: (215) 898-5240 FAX: (215) 573-2036 E-Mail (Internet): aem@PACSCL.UARC.UPENN.EDU

SHARP • The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) is a new organization. According to its prospectus, it is devoted "to all aspects of book history. It promotes research into the social and economic history of authorship; the publishing histories of books, writers, editors, and literary agents; the development of printing and bookselling; the politics of literary criticism [heavy territory, that]; the history of copyright, censorship, and underground publishing; the spread of literacy, book circulation, and library usage; and the history of reading response."

"The society plans to hold an inaugural conference at New York University in June 1993 in conjunction with the International Association of Publishing Education. Further information on SHARP may be had by writing to Jonathan Rose, Dept. of History, Drew University, Madison, NJ 07940."

Rare Book School • University of Virginia

RBS 1993 offers 23 various five-day, non-credit courses on topics concerning rare books and special collections during the weeks of the entire month of July. Topics range over a wide field from various introductions (e.g. to rare book librarianship, to descriptive bibliography, to Medieval and early Renaissance bookbinding structures) to "Electronic Formats in a Rare Books Environment." For copies of course descriptions (both brief and expanded) as well as an application form, write, telephone or fax to Rare Book School, 114 Alderman Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903-24-2498: tel.: 804-924-8851; fax: 804-924-8824; e-mail: books@virginia.edu

News from the United Kingdom

Richard Ovenden (National Library, Edinburgh) has kindly supplied the following about our UK counterpart, the Rare Books Group of the Library Association.

MEMBERSHIP • Members at 31 December 1992 numbered 1147 compared with 1092 at 31 December 1991. The end of 1992 saw the conclusion of the term of office of the 1991-2 Committee, and two long-standing members decided to step down. Bernard Barr and Michael Perkin have been closely involved with the Group since it was founded in 1966, and Bernard Barr was Vice-Chairman 1982-86 and Chairman 1987-90. The Group would wish to place on record its appreciation of the many contributions

to its affairs made by Bernard and Michael, and to express the hope that their participation in its activities will continue in the future.

MEETINGS AND VISITS • The Group's year began with a meeting in Cambridge University Library on 30 January, when Alan Jesson, the custodian of the Bible Society Library, gave a conducted tour of the collection and pointed out some of its highlights. On 11 March a joint meeting was held with the Library History Group, comprising a visit to two historic libraries in Manchester, the Portico Library and Chetham's Library. The event began in the Portico Library, where lunch was kindly made available, and after a talk on the Library the party moved on to Chetham's Library, where Dr. Michael Powell showed people around and described the collections and their history. The 1992 AGM was held at the end of this meeting. The Group met again in Birmingham on 11 November, when a meeting was held on the theme of rare book cataloguing. David Pearson reported on the last stages of the UKMARC amendment process, Brian Hillyard spoke about DCRB, and David Shaw and Yvonne Lewis gave a presentation on the National Trust's automated rare book cataloguing system, currently under development. In September the Group continued its series of residential courses, focussing on a particular century of book production, with a course on 'Seventeenth-Century Books', held at Emmanuel College, Cambridge on 9-11 September. The format was modelled on the successful eighteenth century course held in Oxford in 1990, with a mixture of lectures, library visits and demonstrations. It attracted an excellent turnout of about 120 delegates, and was well received by those who attended.

PUBLICATIONS • Directory of Rare Book and Special Collections • Work has continued on the revision of the Directory, under the editorship of the Group's Chairman. During the year many hundreds of letters have been sent to libraries, asking for up-to-date information, and replies are steadily being processed. Editing will continue throughout 1993

PUBLICATIONS • Rare Books Newsletter • The Newsletter's regular schedule was interrupted in 1991 and problems have continued throughout 1992, when only one issue was produced. The Group is anxious to return to a more regular publication programme. John Goldfinch, who kindly took over the Editorial chair during 1991, experienced a series of problems and setbacks, and at the end of 1992 he decided to resign. The Group is extremely grateful to him for his work on the Newsletter and its demanding timetable. Richard Ovenden is taking over the Editorship from January 1993 and the Group will wish to support him in any way it can. It is anticipated that three issues will be published in 1993.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS • The Group's campaign to have the UKMARC format amended, arising out of the findings of the 1990 survey of rare book cataloguing, came to a successful conclusion in November 1992 when the new rare book fields were formally adopted by the British Library's National Bibliographic Service as part of the format. The report on branch and group archives, joint initiative of the Library History and Rare Books Groups, was approved by the Library Association in 1992 and most of its recommendations have been approved in principle. At

its meeting in July, the Group Committee considered a number of revisions for its constitution and working schedule, and proposals will be presented to the 1993 AGM for approval.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE • *Books, Buildings or People? Aspects of Library Architecture* at UMIST, Manchester. Starts on Friday 9th of July with Keynote address at 6 pm and continues on into Saturday the 10th.

RBMS Officers and their e-mail addresses

Elizabeth Johnson has organized a list of current RBMS Executive committee officers together with their e-mail addresses.

Immediate Past-Chair: Cathy Henderson

Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, P.O. Box 7219, Austin, TX 78713.

(512/471-9119) FAX:512/471-9646 e-mail: hmab103@utxvm

Chair: Gary L. Menges

Head, Special Collections and Preservation Division

University of Washington, Suzzallo Library, FM-25

Seattle, Washington 98195

(206/543-1929) FAX:206/685-8049

e-mail: menges@u.washington.edu

Vice chair / chair-elect: Jackie Dooley

Getty Center for the History of Art and Humanities, 401 Wilshire Blvd (400), Santa

Monica, CA 90401-1455. (310/458-9881 x6065) FAX: 310/458-6487 e-mail:

egs2gl@mv.s.oac.ucla.edu

Secretary: Elizabeth L. Johnson

Head of Technical Services, Lilly Library

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

(812/855-2452) FAX:812/855-8229

e-mail: johnson1@IUBACS

Member-at-large: Charles McNamara

Curator of Rare Books, Wilson Library CB#3936, University of North Carolina,

Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3936 (919)/962-1143 FAX: (919)/962-0484 e-mail:

unamar@unc.bitnet

Member-at-large: Robert S. Martin

Assistant Director for Special Collections

Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University

Baton Rouge, LA 70803. (504/388-6551) FAX:504/388-6992

e-mail: notrsm@lsuvm

Member-at-large: Nancy H. Burkett

Librarian, American Antiquarian Society

185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-1634

(508/755-5221) FAX:508/754-9069 General e-mail address for AAS: bm.aac@rlg

Transitions

Material for this column is gleaned from selected periodicals and newsletters.

People with knowledge of relevant transitions are encouraged to contact the editor.

Lee Arnold has left Princeton University to become library director for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Anne Marie Baker, curator of the Adams Museum in Deadwood, South Dakota, has been selected as a fellows in archival administration for 1992-1993 by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Baker will serve on the administrative staff of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Division of Archives and Research Services, Madison.

Virginia Bartow has been appointed Curator of Rare Books and of the Arents Collection at the New York Public Library. Lois

Fischer Black now a Special Collections Librarian at the New York Academy of Medicine. **Robert Behra** has been appointed curator of special collections at the Redwood Library and Athenaeum, Newport, Rhode Island. **Joyce Bonk** has retired as Assistant Curator of Rare Books at the William L. Clements Library after 36 years of service there. **Robert C. Brown** has become assistant archives librarian at Oklahoma State University Libraries, Stillwater. **Susan Thach Dean** has been appointed head of special collections at the University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries. **Lawrence Dinnean**, pictorial curator in The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, recently retired after 27 years. **Ellen S. Dunlap** became President of the American Antiquarian Society on early fall of 1992. **Elaine D. Engst** has been named curator of manuscripts in the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections at Cornell University Libraries, Ithaca, New York. **William K. Finley** has been named head of special collections/reference librarian at the Robert Scott Small Library, College of Charleston, South Carolina. **Bo C. Hartford** has been named archivist in the Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections at the Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. **Karen Nelson Hoyle**, curator of the Children's Literature Research Collections at the University of Minnesota, was honored for her 25 years as curator of building the fine Children's Collections by the University of Saint Thomas with its honorary degree of Doctor of Letters and the Minnesota Library Association with its Distinguished Achievement Award. **Anne Jordan** retired as rare books librarian for the University of Texas/Austin Libraries' Benson Latin American Collection. **Ann Kenne** is now archivist and special collections librarian at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. **Helen Knight** has retired as university archivist at Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green. **Ardys Kozbial** is now librarian/archivist, Architectural Drawing Project at the Architecture and Planning Library, The University of Texas at Austin. **David Koch**, curator of special collections and university archivist at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale has been appointed director of special collections and development there. Previously, he was rare book librarian from 1970-1980. **Brigitte Kueppers** has become special collections librarian at UCLA's Art, Architecture, and Urban Planning Library. **J. Ingrid Lesley** has been named chief of the Special Collections and Preservation Division at the Chicago Public Library. **Deborah J. Leslie** is rare book cataloger at the Library Company of Philadelphia. **Kenneth A. Lohf**, chief librarian of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Columbia University for 25 years, retired in December after a 40 year Columbia career. Three exhibitions at Columbia were assembled to honor Lohf's work. **Linda S. McCleary** now heads the Reference/Documents Section of the Arizona Department of Library Archives and Public Records, Research Division, Phoenix. **Karen M. Mason** is the first curator of the Iowa Women's Archives at the University of Iowa, Iowa City. **Andrea C. Matlak** is now assistant university archivist at the College of William and Mary's Earl Gregg Swem Library, Williamsburg, Va. **William A. Moffett**, director of the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, has been named honorary doctor of laws by Davidson

College, Davidson, North Carolina. A 1954 graduate of Davidson, Moffett was awarded the honor "because you have lived and espoused well the life of a scholar and a teacher, and because you have assumed the mantle of leadership among those librarians who serve the scholar and teacher, and because you have remained firm in our constitutionally guaranteed right for a free people to have free access to information." On October 5, 1992, **Leslie Morris** began her new duties as curator of manuscripts at the Houghton Library, after serving since 1984 as curator of rare books and manuscripts at the Rosenbach Museum & Library. **Toni Olan**, head of collection development, special collections and archives at the Herrick Memorial Library, Alfred University has been chosen chairperson of the Education for Librarianship Committee for the Research Library Council. **Mark Roosa** is now chief preservation officer at the Huntington Library, having left the University of Delaware. **Christine Ruggere** is now the Librarian of the Burndy Library at MIT. **Michael Ryan** has left Stanford University Library to take up new duties administering Special Collections at the University of Pennsylvania Library. **Dennis Scott** is the new assistant archivist at the Burns Library of Boston College. **Robert A. Shaddy** has been appointed director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections at the William S. Carlson Library, University of Toledo, Ohio. **Laura Stalker** is now associate director for technical services at the Huntington Library, after many years at the ESTC. **Diane Shaw** has been appointed rare book cataloger at the Smithsonian Institution Library, Washington, D.C. **Stephen Urice** is the new director of the Rosenbach Museum & Library. He was formerly deputy director and counsel at the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation, Los Angeles.

May Dornin, former university archivist at the University of California, Berkeley, died on February 19, 1992 at the age of 94. **Edward Manney**, assistant curator of the Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection of Afro-American History and Literature at Chicago Public Library's Carter G. Woodson Regional Library, died June 7.

Kathryn Wright died on September 26, 1992. Rare book cataloger at Indiana State University at the time, she was well known for her hard work for the electronic bulletin board for rare book catalogers, NOTRBCAT.

Lawrence Towner, librarian emeritus of the Newberry Library, and known his successful new building program there, died in June 1992.

Why was there no Fall '92 issue of the RBMS Newsletter? From the editor: In a word, lack of money, according to the ACRL Board of Directors. At its final meeting at Annual Conference in 1992 (San Francisco), the Board decided to enact number of budget reductions, including slashing funding for all ACRL Section newsletters to one issue per year from two issues. Each Section was given a choice as to when their issue would be published: some chose Fall, many chose Spring. I chose Spring because the Section regularly uses the Spring issue to

