

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 1994

NUMBER 20

From the Chair



At the ALA Midwinter conference in Los Angeles this past January, a lively RBMS planning session revealed widespread sentiment that RBMS should do more to attract new members and to encourage their involvement in Section activities. Like any volunteer organization, RBMS must work diligently to circumvent any impression that only "insiders" employed by "elite" institutions or travelling in the "right" circles are welcome as active members. It is clear from this discussion that the current Section leadership is eager to see as many new faces as possible at Preconferences and RBMS committee meetings.

A number of mechanisms already are in place to encourage new or inactive members to become active in RBMS. An orientation session annually opens the Preconference, at which RBMS officers and committee chairs are introduced to first-time attendees and describe some of the activities of RBMS units. Also, most standing committees have adopted the practice of appointing an intern; these one-year appointments typically are reserved for new members eager to sample a committee's work without undertaking the responsibilities of full voting membership.

Other ideas mentioned in January included a mentoring program, additional Preconference events geared for new members, and wider dissemination of information about committee activities. Some new approaches will be implemented in Miami Beach: committee volunteer forms will be made available at the orientation session, group dinners will be organized one evening, and we hope that the new Section brochure describing RBMS unit activities will be available for distribution.

Also, this year's RBMS conference program should be of particular interest to new members not formally educated in special collections librarianship. The program, developed by Brad Westbrook and titled "Education and Training of Special Collections Librarians: The Network of Expectations and Opportunities," will include papers on topics such as library administrators' expectations for special collections librarians and alternative sources (*i.e.*, outside of library schools) of relevant professional development opportunities.

At the planning session, concern also was expressed that RBMS does not offer enough to members who cannot attend conferences. This is of considerable concern to our parent organization, the Association of College and Research Libraries, as well, and is a particularly tough nut to crack. Electronic communications are one obvious solution, however, and for special collections specialists with Internet or Bitnet access, the

(continued on Page 7)

RBMS Pre-Conference

The Thirty-fifth Annual Pre-Conference of the Rare Book and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries will be held from June 21 to June 24, 1994, at the Doral Ocean Beach Resort Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida. The Pre-Conference theme, "From Collector to Donor: Building Special Collections with Private Passions," will focus on current and future interactions between librarians, collectors and book dealers. Topics to be explored include the expectations of collectors in dealing with institutions, the role of donations within the collection development activities of institutions, the legacy of nineteenth-century collections, the role of booksellers in the cultivation of collectors and the donation of materials to institutions, the dynamics of gift agreements and estate planning, and the future of book collecting.

The Doral Ocean Beach Resort is located at 4833 Collins Avenue, in the heart of Miami Beach's famous hotel district. The Doral offers scenic views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Intercoastal Waterway. Among the many amenities available at the Doral are a private, 300-foot, ocean-front beach; a variety of restaurants and shops; a large pool and aquasports center; and the Doral Saturnia International Spa Resort. The Doral is located a short distance from the historic Art Deco District of Miami Beach, home to a recently-restored architectural fantasy of hotels, restaurants, shops, museums, and homes. The Art Deco District is a National Historic Landmark, contained within the larger community of South Beach, where a Renaissance of art, culture, and night life provide a wonderful backdrop for our meeting.

The cost of hotel accommodations is not included in pre-registration fees. Room rates at the Doral are \$115 per night for a single or double room (plus tax and service charges), with an additional \$30 charge per night for a third person in a room. Children under the age of eighteen may stay for free if an additional bed is not required.

A hotel registration/housing form will be forwarded upon receipt of pre-conference registration. The Doral is also an ALA Conference hotel. The room rate for ALA will be \$124 per night (plus tax and service charges).

The deadline for registration is May 15, 1994.

A limited block of rooms will be reserved for RBMS Pre-Conference attendees who wish to remain at the Doral for the ALA Conference but who were unable to register at the Doral using the standard ALA form. More information on hotel registration will be included in the RBMS Pre-Conference Registration brochure.

(continued on Page 2)

RBMS ANNUAL MEETING MIAMI BEACH, 24-27 JUNE 1994

FRIDAY, 24 June 1994

2:00p-5:30p Executive Committee I

SATURDAY, 25 June 1994

8:00a-11:00a Budget and Development

8:30a-11:00a Bibliographic Standards I Publications

9:30-11:00a Security Manuscripts and Other Formats Discussion Group

11:30a-12:30p Theft guidelines (hearing) RBMS Award (ad hoc)

2:00p-4:00p Education and Professional Development
RBML Editorial Board
Nominating (closed)
Seminars

8:00p-10:00p Preconference Program Planning, 1995

SUNDAY, 26 June 1994

8:30a-11:00a Bibliographic Standards II
Conference Development
Curators and Conservators Discussion Group

9:30a-12:30p Exhibition Catalogues Awards (open meeting)

11:30a-12:30p MARC for Special Collections Discussion Group
Preconference Program Planning, 1996

2:00p-5:30p RBMS business meeting;
Exhibition catalogues awards ceremony;
RBMS program: "Educating and Training Special Collections Librarians";
Information Exchange (4:30-5:30)

MONDAY, 27 June 1994

9:30a-12:30p Executive Committee II

NOTE: The following committees will not meet at Miami Beach: RBML Award; 1995 Conference Program Planning (meets simultaneously with 1995 Preconference Program Planning); Interlibrary Loan (committee discharged at Midwinter).

Pre-Conference (from Page 1)

The island city of Miami Beach is linked to downtown Miami and nearby Coral Gables, Coconut Grove, Key Biscayne and South Miami by a variety of causeways. Public transportation and taxi service are readily available.

The greater metropolitan Miami area is the southernmost urban center in the United States. The sub-tropical setting stretches over 2,000 square miles from the Everglades to the Atlantic Ocean and is truly an international location, with the world's busiest port for cruise ships and an international airport of similar renown.

Miami Beach is cooled by ocean breezes in the summer, with June temperatures ranging from a high of 87 degrees to a low of 72 degrees. Humidity may rise to a high of 90 per cent, a fact eased by the frequent appearance of brief early morning and late afternoon showers. Air conditioning is omnipresent, with light sweaters or jackets sometimes necessary for "indoor" wear.

Additional information will be forthcoming as program plans and social activities are finalized. The Co-Chairs for Local Arrangements, Bill Brown (wbrown@umiami.bitnet) and Nora Quinlan (nquinlan@umiami.bitnet), will be pleased to answer any questions you may have (☎ 303-284-3247).

RBMS Conference Program

At the 1992 RBMS Preconference in Santa Cruz and at Harvard University's 1992 symposium on rare book and manuscript libraries in the 21st century, considerable concern was expressed about where and how special collections librarians will be trained in the future, especially in light of the decentering of print information by electronic information. The 1994 RBMS Conference Program will try to focus on some of that concern with its theme of "Educating and Training Special Collections Librarians: The Network of Expectations and Opportunities." The Conference Program is being co-sponsored by the SAA-ALA Joint Committee on Library-Archive Relationships and the ALA Standing Council on Library Education.

Panelists will discuss the competencies library administrators desire of special collections librarians at both the entry and advanced levels, how well library schools do in developing those competencies, and the availability and effectiveness of alternative means of training and education for special collections librarians.

The panelists are Michelle Cloonan, Assistant Professor in the Department of Library and Information Science at UCLA; Richard Cox, Editor of the *American Archivist* and Assistant Professor in the School of Library and Information Science at

(continued on Page 3)



Conference (from Page 2)

the University of Pittsburgh; and Elaine Sloan, Vice President of Information Services and University Librarian, Columbia University. Terry Belanger, University Professor at the University of Virginia will be a respondent. William Joyce, Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections at Princeton University, will be the moderator and a second respondent.

The 1994 Conference Program will take place from 2:00-4:30 p.m., Sunday, June 26. The site for the program will be announced at a later date.

Treasures on Exhibition

The "Treasures of Florida Libraries" exhibition will open to the public on Wednesday, June 24, 1994, at the Historical Museum of Southern Florida in Miami and will remain on view until September 8, 1994.

Including rare and unique materials from about 30 Florida libraries, research institutions, and private collections, the exhibition features works on history and literature relating to Florida, the Caribbean region, the United States, Great Britain, and Spain. Also represented in the exhibition are children's literature, the Holocaust, cartography, natural history, ophthalmology, ichthyology, poetry, music, opera, art, the circus, the history of the book, fine bindings, and incunabula. Types of material exhibited include printed books, manuscripts, photographs, and maps.

Contributors to the exhibition include the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Bethune-Cookman College, Broward County Division of Libraries, Florida Atlantic University, Historical Museum of Southern Florida, Jacksonville University, Arthur Jaffe, Jay Kislak, Miami Dade Public Library, the Local and State History Department of Key West, John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Rollins College, the Ruth and Marvin Sackner Archive of Concrete and Visual Poetry, St. Thomas University, Society of the Four Arts Library, State Library of Florida, Stetson University, University of Central Florida, University of Florida at Gainesville, University of Miami, University of South Florida, University of West Florida, and the Wolfsonian Foundation.

The exhibit is made possible by the University of Miami, the Florida Center for the Book, the Historical Museum of Southern Florida, SunBank, SIRS, and Southeast Florida Library Information Network, Inc.

Midwinter ACRL Board Actions

At its meeting in Los Angeles on February 8, the ACRL Board took the following actions that concern RBMS.

RBMS Guidelines: The ILL Guidelines, the revised Transfer Guidelines, and the Statement on Access were approved without discussion. Also approved without discussion was the section's intent to rescind the outdated packet of manuscripts and archives guidelines.

ABAA Conference Cosponsorship: The Board is considering some changes to the ACRL policy on cosponsorship, and

in the course of the discussion it became clear that RBMS must seek the ACRL Board's approval of our cosponsorship of the ABAA conference that Lisa Browar brought to us at Midwinter. I would not anticipate any problem with their letting us proceed. The Board deferred action on the proposed changes to the cosponsorship guidelines, which involve defining the circumstances under which the Board does *not* have to approve cosponsorships that do *not* involve ACRL funds. It is possible, therefore, that in the future we would not have to seek their approval of such a cosponsorship.

—Jackie Dooley
RBMS Chair

Thefts

Transylvania University Special Collections (300 N. Broadway, Lexington, Kentucky 40508) was the recipient of the private library of Clara S. Peck, who died in 1983. When her estate was finally settled in 1986, the remainder of the library was sent to Kentucky from New York City, and checked against an inventory. Over 40 titles, valued at over \$100,000, did not arrive at Transylvania University and are considered "missing." Of particular interest are Alken's *The Natural Sports of Great Britain*, London, 1821 (set of 50 folios); Bodmer's *Voyage in the Interior of North America*, 1832, 1833, 1834 (set of 19 folios); Corupardol's *Recueil d'oiseaux de toutes les parties du monde*, Paris, c. 1680-90 (manuscript, 62 leaves); Lewis' *The Mississippi Valley*, Dusseldorf, c. 1850; Markham's *Young Sportsman's Instructor*, London, Apollo Press, 1820; Pluvinel's *Le Maniège Royal*, Braunschweig, 1626 (63 folios). Anyone with information concerning these books can contact Carolyn Denton ☐(606) 233-8225; FAX (606) 233-8779.

Conferences, Courses, Etc.

ALDUS MANUTIUS AND RENAISSANCE CULTURE

An international conference sponsored by the University of California at Los Angeles will be held in honor of Dr. Franklin Murphy in Venice and Florence, 14-17 July 1994 at the Harvard University Center for Italian and Renaissance Studies (Villa I Tatti).

The tentative program offers the following sessions:

June 14 (Venice)

Aldus and the Renaissance—P. Scapecchi, A. Grafton, H.F. Fletcher, M. Lowry, M. Zorzi

Aldus and the Classics—M. Sicherl, C. Vecce, R. Hexter, C. Bianca, L. Balsamo

June 15 (Venice)

Opening of the Aldine Exhibition (Biblioteca Marciana)

June 16 (Florence)

Aldus and the Art of the Book—L. Armstrong, H. Szepe, A.R.A. Hobson, D. Stichel, A. Dillon, F. Dupuigrenet

The Influence of Aldus—K. Jensen, N. Barker, C. Griffin, J. Viardot, F. Dupuigrenet, D. Zeidberg

(continued on Page 4)

Memorial Resolution for CAROLYN HARRIS

The following resolution was passed at the mid-Winter meeting of the Council of the American Library Association held in Los Angeles in February 1994.

WHEREAS the officers and members of the American Library Association have recently learned of the untimely death of our colleague and friend CAROLYN HARRIS, head of the Preservation and Conservation Studies Programs at the University of Texas at Austin; and

WHEREAS Carolyn Harris was a pioneer in the field of conservation and preservation of library and archival materials, making significant contributions to our profession as a teacher, administrator and writer, and affecting and developing national policies on preservation; and

WHEREAS Carolyn Harris was the founder of the Preservation and Conservation Studies Programs at the University of Texas at Austin, following the transfer of the programs from Columbia University which took place under her direction; and

WHEREAS Carolyn Harris achieved national prominence at the Libraries of Columbia University, where she was first head of preservation and then Assistant Director of the Libraries for Preservation; and

WHEREAS Carolyn Harris influenced and guided the careers of many members of our profession as, successively,

professor and director of Columbia's Preservation and Conservation Programs; and

WHEREAS Carolyn Harris made many invaluable contributions to our collective efforts to preserve our cultural heritage, through research, writing and participation in professional organizations, including serving as President of the Resources and Technical Services Division of the Association in 1988-1989; and

WHEREAS Carolyn Harris's warmth in friendship, integrity in teaching, strength in advocacy, and breadth in humanity moved and taught all who knew and worked with her,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the American Library Association recognizes and celebrates the lifetime achievements of Carolyn Harris, and that the Association expresses its members' deepest sympathy to Carolyn Harris's surviving family, and its recognition of the irreplaceable personal and intellectual loss to her associates at the University of Texas and throughout her wide professional associations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT we will honor the memory of Carolyn Harris by carrying on the vital work in which she so distinguished herself, acknowledging that our efforts will be less than they would have been had we still her continued leadership and guidance.

Conferences, Courses (from Page 3)

June 17 (Florence)

Opening of the Aldine Exhibition organized in collaboration with the Biblioteca Nazionale (Biblioteca Laurenziana)

Dinner at Villa I Tatti

Conference participation will be limited. For further information and to express your interest in attending, contact the Conference Secretary, Via di Vincigliata 26, 50135 Florence, Italy (☎ [055] 603 251; fax. + 39 55 603 383)

COURSES AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Both the following courses are offered at the Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. Tuition for each is \$350, which includes all instructional materials, refreshment breaks, and opening reception. Housing, parking, and meals are not included. Enrollment is limited. Both courses will be taught by Joel Silver, the Lilly's head of public services. The courses are sponsored by the Lilly and Indiana University's Division of Continuing Studies. For more information about either course contact Jane Clay, Division of Continuing Studies, 204 Owen Hall, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 47405; ☎ 812-855-6329; fax 812-855-8997.

ENGLISH PRINTED BOOK TO 1800

This course will survey the printed book in Britain and English books printed abroad. Topics will include the introduction and growth of printing, the organization and operation of the book trades, the English press abroad, the reading public, changes in the production and dissemination of books over

more than three centuries, and bibliographical reference sources in the field. Extensive use will be made of the Lilly's collection of English books and there will also be a printing demonstration using the Lilly's replica of a seventeenth-century English press. The course will run July 10-15; the enrollment deadline is June 24.

REFERENCE SOURCES FOR RARE BOOKS

This course is intended for librarians (with or without rare book experience), researchers, collectors, and those in the antiquarian book trade. Participants will be introduced to a wide variety of bibliographies and other reference sources. The most useful general reference sources will be outlined, then specific areas of interest will be covered, including British and American literature, early printed books, Americana, voyages and travels, science and medicine, and auction records and price guides. Sessions will consist of lectures, discussions on the selection of sources, and practical experience. The course will run May 15-20; the enrollment deadline is April 29.

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

Both the following courses are offered at the American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA, 01609-1634. Both are eligible for graduate credit through the School of Library and Information Science, Catholic University of America. For further information contact John B. Hench at the Society; ☎ 508-752-5813 or 508-755-5221; e-mail bm.aah@rlg.bitnet. Preference will be given to applications received by March 21.

(continued on Page 5)

Memorial Resolution for RUTH MORTIMER

The following resolution was passed at the mid-Winter meeting of the Council of the American Library Association held in Los Angeles in February 1994.

WHEREAS the officers and members of the American Library Association have, with sorrow, learned of the recent and untimely death of our colleague Ruth Mortimer, Curator of Rare Books at Smith College; and

WHEREAS Ruth Mortimer's work for Smith college, its students, and its Library, building the Library's collections and pioneering the College's teaching of undergraduate courses in the history of books and printing, achieved the highest professional and personal standards professed by our collective endeavor; and

WHEREAS Ruth Mortimer was, in addition, a leading contributor to the scholarship of bibliography, book history, and book illustration, as is represented most especially by her two standard catalogues of illustrated French and Italian sixteenth-century books in the Philip Hofer Collection, Harvard College Library, produced during the eighteen years she worked at the Harvard College Library, as well as inter alia by her

Hanes and Rosenbach Lectures; and

WHEREAS Ruth Mortimer also served as a facilitator and spur to the scholarly work of others, particularly through her work for the Bibliographical Society of America, of whose *Papers* she was co-editor and which she also served as President, but also through her work for such additional organizations and publications as The Grolier Club, *English Literary Renaissance*, the Renaissance Society of America, and *Private Libraries in Renaissance England*;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the American Library Association marks with regret the loss of Ruth Mortimer, and expresses its members' deepest sympathy to John Lancaster, her husband, on this sad occasion; and further that the American Library Association conveys its members' deep admiration for all Ruth Mortimer achieved during the course of a lifetime career which served her institutions, her readers, her students, and her colleagues so well; and that as friends, colleagues, and legatees of Ruth Mortimer we shall continue to benefit from her work even as we miss her ongoing presence among us.

Conferences, Courses (from Page 4)

CRITICAL METHODS IN BIBLIOGRAPHY AND THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK IN THE UNITED STATES

Faculty for this course are Michael Winship, James N. Green, Roger Stoddard, and members of the AAS staff. This seminar will explore how bibliography contributes to the history of the book and will introduce scholars to the bibliographical skills and techniques useful in the study and analysis of American printed materials. It will focus on the emergence of a national book trade and culture in the United States during the industrial era, and will consist of formal presentations and discussions of American book production and distribution and a series of laboratory sessions wherein participants will examine, analyze, and describe American books. The course runs June 5-10.

REGIONAL CULTURES OF THE BOOK, 1783-1861

Faculty for this course are William J. Gilmore-Lehne, Richard D. Brown, Amy M. Thomas, and members of the AAS staff. This seminar will explore the development of print culture in New England, the South, and the Midwest, comparing the evolution of cultural forms and examining the production, distribution, and varying uses of print. Participants will be introduced to leading issues, including: regional growth of the communications system; comparison of the history of the public sphere and struggles over freedom of expression; the roles of newspapers, periodicals, almanacs, books, and pamphlets in shaping national and regional reading communities; and ways in which race, gender, and religion shaped the reception of specific works and grounded cultural dialogue in the diverse communities that comprised antebellum America. Sessions will include formal presentations, extensive discussion, and hands-on laboratory sessions comparing the production and reception histories of particular kinds of imprints in the three regions. The course runs June 12-17.

BOOKS AT VIRGINIA: RARE BOOK SCHOOL 1994

Rare Book School has been expanded to five weeks this year (July 11-August 12) and will offer several new courses. All classes last for five days and are held on the Grounds of the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. The tuition for each course is \$525, which includes refreshment breaks, but does not include housing or meals. The courses are designed to appeal to a wide variety of interests and to address various levels of expertise. For further information, contact Rare Book School, University of Virginia, 114 Alderman Library, Charlottesville, VA, 22903-2498; ☎ 804-924-8851; fax 804-924-8824; e-mail biblio@virginia.edu.

UNC-CHAPEL HILL

"For History's Sake: State Historical Collections in the Early Republic" is the theme of a conference to be held in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the North Carolina Collection on May 19-20 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Due by May 6, the full registration fee of \$50 covers admission to all sessions, coffee breaks, Friday dinner, and Saturday banquet. It does not cover lodging and other meals.

The conference will consider historical collections in the period 1791-1861. States with substantial antebellum activity will be considered individually; those with less success during that period will be covered regionally. Speakers include Clement M. Silvestro, James J. Heslin, Susan Stitt, Louis Leonard Tucker, and Alfred Lemmon.

For further information, contact H. G. Jones, North Caroliniana Society, Wilson Library, CB# 3930, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890.

Blumberg Update

In early 1993, the FBI began returning to libraries books that had been stolen by Stephen Blumberg, who remains incarcerated. For a variety of reasons, some of the books returned to various libraries did not belong to them, and it was felt that some effort should be made to return such books to their rightful owners. A list of institutions to which the FBI had returned books was obtained, and Everett Wilkie has prepared a mailing list of those institutions and will be contacting them in the near future to determine if they have had books returned to them that are not their property. He will also seek to determine if they have a list of books that they reasonably believe Blumberg stole but which have not been returned to them. This project has the support of the ACRL/RBMS Security Committee.

Until now, efforts to publicize this project have been confined to electronic media. Several dozen responses have been received, including some from book dealers. If your institution suffered a Blumberg loss and you are still seeking missing materials, or you received materials from the FBI that are not your own, you may participate in this project by contacting Everett Wilkie, Head Librarian, The Connecticut Historical Society, 1 Elizabeth St., Hartford, CT, 06105; ☎ 203-236-5621; fax 203-236-2664; e-mail everett@chs.org. *Participation in this project in no way obligates any library to any course of action.*

An article by Philip Weiss on Blumberg appeared in the January, 1994, issue of *Harper's* magazine. Also, National Public Radio conducted an interview with Weiss on its December 29, 1993, program. The text of this interview was posted to Exlibris in two installments on February 28, 1994, and March 1, 1994, and may be retrieved from its archives.

Electronic Format for C&RL News

Beginning September 10, 1993, ACRL made available in electronic format the "News from the Field" and classified advertising (*i.e.*, the job postings) sections of *College & Research Libraries News*. The electronic version precedes the printed version by about 2-3 weeks. As each month is uploaded, the penultimate month's data is erased.

To reach C&RL NewsNet, locate the University of Illinois at Chicago in the menu of all servers maintained on gopher at the University of Minnesota. Or connection can be made from one's favorite gopher client directly to host "gopher.uic.edu 70." One selects "The Library" from the menu and then selects "C&RL Newsnet" from the next menu.

The information is now posted as plain text files but plans are in process to make the information available as a searchable database. Suggestions or comments should be addressed to Mary Ellen Davis at the American Library Association; e-mail u38398@uicvm.uic.edu.

Ten Years Ago

The first issue of the *RBMS Newsletter* appeared in April, 1984. David Warrington (then at the Lilly Library, now at Harvard Law) was editor, with production assistance from Steve Ferguson. The issue ran to 14 pages, and one story noted that the Section had 15 committees involving more than 65 members and that membership numbered around 1300 persons. Today we have 23 committees and membership numbers over 1700. The preconference was to be held at University of Texas—Austin on the topic of "Collecting the Twentieth Century."

Publications of Interest

Keith Maslen. *An Early London Printing House at Work: Studies in the Bowyer Ledgers.* New York: Bibliographical Society of America, 1993. x, 256 pp., ill.

These collected pieces grew out of the prolonged study of the major London printing house of William Boyer, father and son (1699-1777). They explore the internal operation of the business, its regular dealings with the trade in London and farther afield (especially Dublin), and, by means of its innumerable relations with a surprising variety of authors and clients, its outreach to society at large.

Available from the publisher at P.O. Box 397, Grand Central Station, New York, NY, 10163-0397.

An Index of Civilization: Studies in Printing and Publishing History in Honor of Keith Maslen. Clayton, Victoria, Australia: Centre for Bibliographical and Textual Studies, Monash University, 1993.

This volume contains the papers presented at a conference held at Monash University in 1991 to mark Keith Maslen's contributions to bibliography, and in particular the publication by the Bibliographical Society and and PBSA of the edition Maslen and John Lancaster prepared of the Bowyer ledgers. Orders may be placed with the publisher at Clayton, Victoria 3168, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Durand Echeverria and Everett C. Wilkie, Jr. *The French Image of America: A Chronological and Subject Bibliography of French Books Printed Before 1816 Relating to the British North American Colonies and the United States.* Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1994. 1,602 pp., 2 vol. \$159.50

This work attempts to provide complete descriptions of all works in French that touch on the original thirteen British North American colonies and the U.S. through 1815. Included are works originally published in other languages and then translated into French, works published in France by Americans resident in that country, and works published by Frenchmen in the U.S. Each of the over 3,700 entries includes a complete title transcription, a pagination statement, notes, and locations of copies.

The Houghton Library is publishing the talks and responses presented at its September 1992 symposium "Rare Book and Manuscript Libraries in the Twenty-First Century" in two forms: first, as the Spring and Summer 1993 issues of the *Harvard Library Bulletin* and, second, as a hard-cover, single

(continued on Page 7)

Publications (from Page 6)

volume. The latter can be purchased for \$15 covering postage and handling, from the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138.

A special issue of the *Journal of Library Administration* (vol. 19, no. 1, 1993), entitled "The Role and Future of Special Collections in Research Libraries: British and American Perspectives," provides papers from a seminar held in September, 1992 at Oxford, England. Edited and introduced by Sul Lee.

A new journal, *New England Book and Text Studies*, edited by C. Deirdre Phelps, offers articles on teaching, research, conferences, courses, and educational resources in book history. Although the initial focus is on New England, the journal will expand its scope to take in the rest of the world. Subscriptions (3 issues per year) are \$15 US, £13 British, \$20 elsewhere. The address is NEBTS, PO Box 1071, Cambridge, MA 02139.

RLG News**AMIS Project**

RLG President James P. Michalko has announced that on December 31, 1993, the Archives and Museum Information System (AMIS) project ended.

According to Michalko, prospects for development support, either through direct funding to RLG or in partnership with commercial system vendors, simply do not exist at the present time, and RLG cannot provide the necessary level of financing out of operating income.

The AMIS termination has caused RLG to rethink its strategy for RLG's goal of developing a comprehensive database of cultural resources. AMIS was an important means toward that end, but one with a highly specific focus. RLG now proposes to take a broader look at cooperative approaches to the management and preservation of the national cultural heritage and at the role that RLG can appropriately play.

To begin this effort, RLG expects to convene an invitational meeting in May or June, 1994, involving those who manage, use, and fund cultural resources—that is, librarians, archivists, and museum professionals; scholars and researchers; and foundation officers. RLG will commission a number of brief position papers as a starting point for those discussions. In addition to illuminating significant topics, the meeting should result in heightened mutual understanding between RLG and the stakeholders in the community.

Some of the critical issues to be addressed include:

- the control of intellectual property rights in the context of widely accessible electronic repositories of visual and textual images;
- the transition from highly general standards frameworks to real standards facilitating the exchange of cultural information; and
- the need for concerted action by all kinds of repositories to identify and achieve common goals larger than any one can manage on its own.

Michalko stated, "I believe there is a real opportunity for RLG to work with its members to play a significant role, supported by various partnerships, in helping the community organize for networked access to its resources in multimedia formats."

The AMIS Project was begun in 1990 and was intended to provide powerful computerized support to the activities and operations of archives, manuscript repositories, and museums, and to greatly facilitate the research efforts of scholars. Among the potential benefits envisioned, for example, was the ability to store and retrieve text, sound, and still and moving images.

RLG Digitization Projects

The RLG Task Force on Photograph Preservations has launched two projects exploring digital imaging technology as a means of managing access to large photograph collections.

One project will explore the relative cost-benefit tradeoffs in the technical aspects of digitization, including image capture, resolution, compression, storage, and display. This project is undertaken in partnership with the Image Permanence Institute.

The second project is focused on description and access issues and involves a collaboration among eight RLG member institutions, each of which has contributed 1,000 photographs fitting the general theme of "The Urban Landscape," which will be digitized and made accessible within an integrated storage and retrieval system. Participants will explore ways to utilize economical cataloguing and indexing methods and capitalize on the on-line digital environment for improving access in a networked environment.

Participants in the access project are the Amon Carter Museum, Columbia University, Duke University, the Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities, the Frances Loeb Library at Harvard University, the New York Public Library, Northwestern University, and the University of California at Berkeley. Stokes Imaging Services of Austin, Texas, is contributing its services for technical implementation of both projects.

As a result of these two projects, RLG will issue reports that will assist decision making at research institutions developing their own on-line image access systems.

From the Chair (from Page 1)

Exlibris and Archives electronic bulletin boards have proven useful forums for learning and networking.

This newsletter, now in its tenth year, has been an important section communication medium for all members. This is the last issue to be edited by Steve Ferguson; the new editor is Daryl Morrison. We all thank Steve for his efforts with the *Newsletter* and look forward to working with Daryl.

Lastly, the 35th RBMS Preconference to be held 21-24 June in Miami Beach, is just around the corner. Jennifer Lee and her Program Committee have developed a stimulating plenary program around the theme "From Collector to Donor: Building Special Collections with Private Passions." The Seminars Committee under Lois Black's leadership has developed an array of timely seminar topics, and our dynamic local arrangements co-chairs, Bill Brown and Nora Quinlan, will ensure that attendees are well fed, entertained, and culturally enriched. I look forward to seeing you there and hearing your ideas for making RBMS a strong advocate and source of professional development opportunities for you.

—Jackie Dooley

Transitions

Susan Macall Allen has been named director of the library and media services at Kalamazoo College, MI; **Jean Willoughby Ashton**, director of the New-York Historical Society, became librarian of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Columbia University; **Charles Aston** has been named head of the Special Collections Cluster at the University of Pittsburgh; **Anne Marie Baker** has been named project archivist at the Williams College Library, Williamstown, MA; **Michael Basinski** has been appointed assistant librarian/assistant curator for poetry and rare books at the State University of New York at Buffalo; **John Bloomberg-Rissman** is now Assistant Director for English Projects at the EngSTC at the University of California—Riverside; **Wim DeWitt** is Head of Special Collections at the Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities; **Burton Van Name Edwards** has been appointed Catalogue Librarian at the John Carter Brown Library; **Emily Epstein** has been named cataloger for special collections at the University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries; **Mary Beth Fleischer**, assistant archivist at the Center for American History, University of Texas—Austin, retired at the end of August after 32 years of service; **Susan Grigg** has been named librarian/archivist at Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, NH; **John T. Hawke** has become special collections librarian at the University of Oregon, Eugene; **Ann E. Hodges** is now librarian/archivist in the Mexican Archives Project, Benson Latin American Collection at the University of Texas—Austin; **William L. Joyce**, Princeton University, was confirmed by the Senate in February to the Assassination Records Review Board; **Richard J. Kuhta** has become librarian of the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC; **Bernard F. McTigue** has been appointed curator of special collections at the University of Oregon, Eugene; **Harriet Molenaer**, former rare book materials cataloger at University of Texas—Austin, died June 13, 1993; **Anne Moss** is now special collections catalogue librarian at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa; **Kate Murray** has been appointed Collections Conservator of the Elmer Holmes Bobst Library at New York University; **John Nugent**, university archivist at the University of Kansas Libraries, retired in November after 43 years of service; **Trudy Huskamp Peterson**, acting archivist of the United States, was elected President of the International Conference of the Round Table of Archives (CITRA) at its 29th meeting, held in Mexico City in September; **Priscilla F. Pomazal** has been appointed librarian of

the Atlanta Historical Society; **Robin Rider** has been appointed Frances and Charles Field curator of special collections at the Stanford University Libraries, CA; **Ellen Shaffer**, former Rare Book Librarian at the Free Library of Philadelphia (1954-1970), died in January; **Elaine P. Shiner** has been appointed Catalogue Librarian at the John Carter Brown Library on a three-year grant to catalogue the library's holdings of books listed in Echeverria and Wilkie's *French Image of America* bibliography; **Eric C. Shoaf** is now head of the Preservation Department at Brown University, Providence, RI; **Errol S. Somay** has joined the staff of the Virginia State Library and Archives, Richmond, as coordinator of the Virginia Newspaper Project; **Carol M. Spawn** will return to the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, in April, 1994, as Manuscript/Archives Librarian; **Elizabeth Swan** has been appointed Vice President for Library Services at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia; **Suzy Taraba** is now Public Services Librarian, Department of Special Collections at the University of Chicago; **Marvin J. Taylor** is now Fales librarian for a special collection of 19th- and 20th-century American and English literature at New York University Libraries, New York City; **Wendy Van Wyck Good** now serves as archivist of the Rush-Williams-Biddle Family Papers at the Rosenbach Museum and Library, Philadelphia; **Bradley Westbrook** has been named manuscripts librarian/university archivist at the University of California, San Diego; **Julia Marks Young** is now head of the Special Collection Department/director of the Southern Labor Archives at the Georgia State University Library, Atlanta.

RBMS Newsletter is a publication of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; ☎ (312) 944-6780. Editor: Stephen Ferguson, Princeton University Library, One Washington Rd., Princeton, NJ 08544; ☎ (609) 258-3165; Fax (609) 258-4105; E-mail: 0629212@pucc.bitnet. Asst. Editor: Daryl Morrison, University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA; ☎ (209) 946-2945; Fax: (209) 946-2810. Typesetting and layout done at The Connecticut Historical Society by Everett C. Wilkie, Jr., and Jill Padelford, the Society's Editorial Assistant, using Aldus Pagemaker®. The type is TrueType® Times New Roman and FontBank® RoseRound. Manufactured in the U.S.A. Requests for subscriptions should be addressed to Mary Ellen Davis, ACRL, at the ALA address above. RBMS Chair: Jackie Dooley, Getty Center for the History of Art and Humanities, 401 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 401, Santa Monica, CA 90401-1455; ☎ (310) 458-9811, ext. 6065; Fax: (310) 485-6487.

© American Library Association, 1994.
ISSN 0734-1481

RBMS Newsletter

c/o Stephen Ferguson
Princeton University Library
1 Washington Road
Princeton, NJ 08544

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
American Library
Association

0053795124 1 03 1/RBMS
Nancy L. Romero
2308 Tamarack Dr.
Champaign, IL

61821-6224