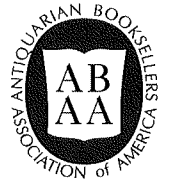


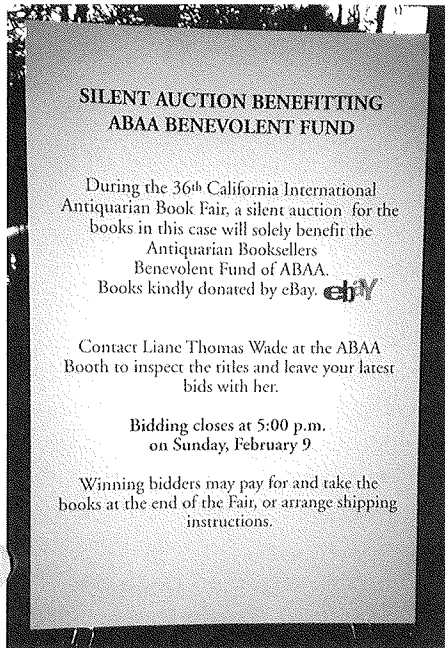
# The ABAA NEWSLETTER



VOLUME FOURTEEN, NUMBER 2

ANTIQUARIAN BOOKSELLERS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

WINTER 2003



This sign greeted exhibitors and visitors at the ABAA book fair in San Francisco.

## Outside Vendors at ABAA Fairs

**An editorial by Rob Rulon-Miller**

In late January and early February, prefiguring the Iraqi campaign, a mother of all battles waged over the admittance of non-ABAA vendors (specifically eBay and to a lesser extent Americana Exchange) inside the perimeter of the San Francisco Book Fair. *Bonkers*, as in “The San Francisco Book Fair Committee has gone bonkers,” was the word of the day, first introduced in this context on the ABAA discussion list by Helen Younger (who herself knows quite a bit about book fair committees and their responsibilities) and later by an overwhelming chorus of aggrieved ABAA members. The debate centered on the ABAA Book Fair Rules, specifically

Rule T, which deals—in eight full paragraphs—with Outside Vendors: who they are, who they are not, and who (and who should not) be allowed inside an ABAA Book Fair.

In the course of asking around, I learned from a member of the San Francisco Book Fair Committee itself that eBay had been invited, and eBay had accepted, to set up a booth at the fair prior to Rule T being brought to the Committee’s attention. Why the Committee wasn’t aware of the Book Fair Rules in advance is another question entirely, but the Committee’s vote, prominently touted as being seven-to-one in favor of

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## Volmer Rosenkilde, Danish Bookseller/Scholar

**by Jens J. Christoffersen**

*Not idled by retirement, ABAA member emeritus Jens J. Christoffersen has translated into English the first book by the early twentieth-century Danish bookseller/scholar, Volmer Rosenkilde. Early Danish Books of International Fame is a gathering of four articles on Saxo Grammaticus, Tycho Brahe, Nicolaus Sten (Niels Steensen), and Hans Christian Andersen. These essays initially appeared in Danish in consecutive issues of Bogormen (Bookmen), the membership magazine of the Danish Booksellers’ Employees Association, in 1935. Later that same year they were published in book form under the imprint of Levin and Munksgaard,*

*Copenhagen. Rosenkilde was then twenty-seven years of age; he would go on to publish some seventy articles on rare books and bookselling in the course of an illustrious career as an antiquarian bookseller and a member of the international book trade’s elite.*

*The following is Christoffersen’s biographical introduction to his translation of Rosenkilde’s Early Danish Books of International Fame. He is still shopping for a publisher for his translation.*

Volmer Rosenkilde’s beginnings were less spectacular than his later career. He was born in the small Jutland town of Grenå to a family of modest means. His father was a supervisor in the local post

office, and Volmer went to public school, finishing in 1923 after having passed the examination at the end of middle school, i.e., following eight or nine years of schooling. Shortly thereafter, his father was promoted to postmaster and transferred to another small provincial town, Gørley, on the island of Sjælland, less than 100 kilometers from the capital, Copenhagen. Plans were apparently for Volmer to continue school for a few more years, but for some reason or other he entered an apprenticeship in the small bookshop in town. A small-town bookshop at this time had less to do with books than it had to do with school sup-

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# Letters to the Editor

*From: Bob Fleck*

I have reread (a number of times) [Peter Howard's] article on [his] Congress trip and decided to add a comment or two. My first overall reaction, Peter, is that you waxed so lyrically on your interesting experiences that everyone in the ABAA should be signing up for a Scandinavian tour as soon as possible. Millie and I had an unbelievable time and made many, many new friends. That is what a Congress is all about.

However, intertwined in your story were some remarks that made me want to shout out: Stop, Peter, you don't quite tell the whole story about ILAB and its history, traditions, and plans for the future. The role of ILAB has been forced to change over the last decade, mostly because of international book fairs but especially because of the Internet. The Presidents that I know well because I have worked with them—Anthony Rota, Anton Gerits, Alain Nicolas, and Kay Craddock—each played a role in making this change happen. Americans might have wanted changes to occur faster than they did, but that is because we are Americans and expect everything to happen overnight. When working with many different cultures, languages, and sensibilities, speed is not always the best way.

There is now a Committee of eight who are working very hard to accomplish as much as they can for the good of ILAB. We have a past President from Australia who is finishing up a superb job of rewriting the Rules of ILAB (with suggestions from the ABAA and others); a past Committee member from the Netherlands who is doing the ILAB *Newsletter* by himself, along with other projects; an Englishman who is working hard on finding ways to redo our Bibliographical Prize; a Canadian who has just announced an ILAB Stolen Books project; an Italian who is working on helping us with export issues and communication; a German who is our Internet person; an Austrian who is working on PR; a Frenchman who is

sorting out the problems of duties and taxes for all countries; a Dane who is the best Treasurer that you could ever have; and a President who happens to be from America, and who is absolutely relying on all of them. But forget about those country tags I put in front of them. They are doing this work for you and for all of us because they believe in ILAB.

The Presidents worked really hard at the last Congress. The ABAA asked for more scheduled time for work by the Presidents, and they all responded that it was a great idea. The last three Congress and Presidents' meetings had two solid days of meetings and workshops. You question the way Congresses and Book Fairs are being done now and how they should be done in the future. Believe me, this was a hotly debated issue this last year. You and I both know what a great experience it is to do a Congress, and I can promise you the ILAB Committee and the Presidents care just as passionately about this issue.

Peter, I am counting on you to help me educate the ABAA members on what ILAB is all about and what it can do to enact change for the good. I know that you care about the ABAA and ILAB just as much as I do.

*As a former ABAA liaison to ILAB (1994-1996) and as ILAB's General Secretary (1996-2000), I take exception to Bob Fleck's characterization of past ILAB Presidents Anton Gerits and Anthony Rota as playing a role in bringing positive change to ILAB. Bob, you know as well as I do that these men resisted change on a level that seemed incomprehensible to both of us at the time. In tandem we worked hard to overcome the hurdles thrown up at us, and in time, yes, we made good progress, but neither Gerits nor Rota facilitated any of it. In some instances they actually hindered it. It was only because we persisted and lobbied other member organizations that any progress was made. The problems had little to do with cultures or languages; sensibilities, of*

*course, played a larger role. We all applaud the fact that ILAB is finally changing. Alain Nicolas and Kay Craddock have moved ILAB successfully into the twenty-first century. I am certain under your leadership, Bob, the progress will continue.*

*Rob Rulon-Miller*

*From: Tom Congalton*

I found Peter Howard's article on the Scandinavian Congress and Book Fair very interesting reading. Peter always has an idiosyncratic view of events filtered through a long history of personal experience that we would be poorer without.

I do however feel the need to point out that his experiences with the ILAB Committee do not mirror my own. Peter refers to "the European axis forces" on the Committee, and to the "often insufferably arrogant and dictatorial and undemocratic umbrella organization (the ILAB committee)."

I do not know what word one should use to describe the European members of the ILAB Committee, but I'm pretty sure the use of the word "axis," a word tinged with extremely negative historical connotations in Europe and in its more recent usage by Mr. Bush, is not one of them, and is completely inappropriate to apply to one's colleagues no matter how much they might have angered him.

That Peter resents the ILAB Committee, or at least some previous incarnation of it, is clear, and he may believe, and may have, received rough treatment at their hands. Certainly there is no shortage of opportunities for cultures to clash when the ILAB Committee and National Presidents meet.

However, my experience while representing the ABAA at the Edinburgh and Boston Presidents' Meetings (2001-2002) and as an attendee of the Edinburgh Congress was rather the opposite of Peter's. Past ILAB Presidents Alain Nicolas and Kay Craddock couldn't have

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# NYPD Requests Aid in Missing Person and Fraud Investigations



**Svetlana Aronov**

## Reward Offered

Friends and family of missing ABAA member Svetlana Aronov, are offering a \$25,000 reward for information leading to her return. Please call 212-452-0635 or toll free 1-877-SEARCH0 with any information. More details can be found at <[www.svetlanaaronov.com](http://www.svetlanaaronov.com)>.

The website includes a plea from Aronov's family and friends: "The streets where she would have been walking are very busy throughout the day. Three hospitals are located in a four block area. There is much traffic. *Someone must have seen something.* Incidents in New York can go unchecked, but never unnoticed."

A Svetlana Aronov Search Fund has also been established, to which contributions can be made to help Svetlana's family with the expenses associated with this search. Checks should be made out to Svetlana Aronov Search Fund and sent to: Dr. Victoria Zubkina, 200 West 57th Street, Suite 810, New York, NY 10019. Any questions about the fund or the search may be addressed to Dr. Zubkina at 1-212-765-4458.

Dr. Zubkina and her husband are close personal friends of Svetlana and are spearheading this campaign.

Through ABAA Security Chair Ken Sanders, the New York City Police Department has requested the assistance of ABAA members and *Newsletter* readers in two ongoing investigations: the mysterious disappearance of ABAA member Svetlana Aronov and the current activities and whereabouts of convicted felon David George Holt.

The Russian-born Aronov, 44, left her NYC Upper East Side home around 2:30 PM on Monday, March 3, 2003, to walk her father's black and white spaniel, Bim. She left carrying only her house keys and cell phone; she and the spaniel never returned. Police dogs were able to track her scent to 68th Street and York Avenue, just a few blocks from her home, where the trail abruptly ended. Aronov is 5' 4" tall, weighs 130 pounds, and has hazel eyes and short blonde hair. She was last seen wearing a short brown coat with brown fur collar, dark pants, white beret, and fur-trimmed winter boots.

According to her family and friends, "Svetlana would never leave on her own. She has 2 daughters, aged 22 and 9, who fully depend on her and a husband of

nearly 25 years who is desperate to find her. We have a happy family, as we are blessed with each other. With each passing moment we pray for our mother, wife, daughter, and friend to come home."

David George Holt is sought for questioning regarding several recent attempts to defraud booksellers via email. Holt, released from Federal Prison about three years ago, is known to have ties to the midwestern United States, New Zealand, and Russia, may be using the following aliases or associates: Fredrik Buwe, Switzerland; Chebotarev Oleg Victorovich, Russia; John Breeg, England; Daniil Vyazemskii, Russia; Dr. R. Litchkovakha, New Zealand; Prof. Karl Fisher, Switzerland; and Francisk Lewo, Switzerland. Holt is 5' 11" tall, weighs 165 pounds, has a lanky, medium build, and is described as having an oblong face with a full lower lip and incipient double chin, a full head of graying, somewhat curly, sandy brown hair, and hazel eyes.

If you have information about Aronov or Holt, please contact: 19th Precinct Detective Squad, phone 212-452-0635, fax 212-452-0634, or [Sgoetz@gw.nypd.org](mailto:Sgoetz@gw.nypd.org). ■

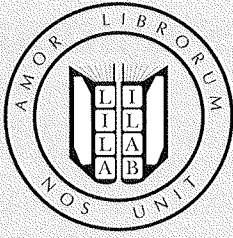
## Stolen Books Database Now on ABAA.org

The ABAA is pleased to announce that its Stolen Books Database is now online. Announced in February at the ABAA's California book fair, the Stolen Books Database is an important new Internet tool that organizes and makes available information about rare books that have been stolen from dealers, institutions, and collectors.

Ken Sanders, ABAA Security Chair, has painstakingly assembled the database from the stolen book reports he receives each year. He worked with Rockingstone Information Technologies, the webmaster for the ABAA and ILAB, to put them into a searchable format. Stolen book reports received by ABAA are added to the database by the Security Chair and are then

instantly accessible by anyone with an Internet connection—dealers, librarians, collectors, and law enforcement agencies—free of charge. The database will be kept up to date, and through it, information on stolen books that had previously taken weeks, if not months, to be distributed can now be available in a matter of hours. This is an important step forward in the use of the Internet to combat the growing international problem of rare book theft, and the ABAA is confident that the Stolen Books Database will prove a useful tool for dealers, collectors, and institutions.

You may access the Stolen Books Database through the main page at the ABAA's website at <[www.abaa.org](http://www.abaa.org)>. ■



## ILAB Book Fairs

2003

### April 25-26

Uppsala, Sweden (SVAF)  
Atrium

### April 25-27

Brussels, Belgium (CLAM)  
Salle de la Madeleine

### May 22-25

Paris, France (SLAM)  
Maison de la Mutualité

### June 5-8

London, England (ABA)  
Olympia Exhibition Centre

### October 31-November 2

Boston, MA (ABAA)  
Hynes Convention Center

### November 26-29

Madrid, Spain (AILA)  
Hotel Reina Victoria

2004

### February

Los Angeles, CA (ABAA)

### June 3-6

London, England (ABA)  
Olympia Exhibition Centre

# Scandinavia 2002 Revisited

by Steven Temple

*ILAB General Secretary Steven Temple (Steven Temple Books, Toronto, Ontario) here responds directly to Peter B. Howard, the author of an article published in the last issue of the ABAA Newsletter on his experiences at the ILAB 2002 Congress in Scandinavia.*

I came across your report for the ABAA newsletter on the fabulous ILAB Congress in Scandinavia by way of Internet links posted on a bookseller list to which I happen to subscribe. I was very much enjoying the article, learning about things you saw that I didn't, remembering details already near forgotten about dinners and sights shared, when I came to the bad patches where you attack the ILAB Committee. As you know, I have recently become a member

of that Committee in the capacity of ILAB General Secretary, so I was personally stung by what you had to say about us, but I was also left wondering just which committee you were really talking about. I know you had a bad experience in 1995, but that was then and this is now, eight years later. But you still think that the committee is "often insufferably arrogant and dictatorial and undemocratic," and you hope that Bob Fleck's leadership will turn us "against the bad winds." Peter, I think you do the present committee a great injustice by some of your remarks. You've made a few errors of fact that are of no great consequence—understandable, considering the dizzying pace of a Congress involving four countries,

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THE 27TH ANNUAL  
**BOSTON INTERNATIONAL  
ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR**

October 31–November 2, 2003

HYNES CONVENTION CENTER  
900 BOYLSTON STREET

Opening Night, Friday, 5 to 9 pm  
Saturday 12 to 7 pm • Sunday, 12 to 4 pm

*Rare, collectible, and antiquarian books,  
modern first editions, maps, and autographs for  
the serious collector and the curious browser*



Sponsored by the Antiquarian Booksellers'  
Association of America



# The Lore and Lure of Manhattan's Historic Book Row

by Marvin Mondlin and Roy Meador

Reprinted from the March/April 2003 issue of Book Source Magazine.

This essay is an adaptation of the preface in the authors' forthcoming publication, *Book Row America: Anecdotal and Pictorial History of the Fourth Avenue Antiquarian Book Trade in New York City*. ABAA member Marvin Mondlin, the author of *Appraisals: A Guide for Bookmen*, has been associated with New York's Strand Book Store since the 1950s as an antiquarian book expert and estate buyer. He assembled a vast archive of Book Row data and photographs. Roy Meador, a writer on author and book subjects and regular contributor to antiquarian periodicals, lived in Manhattan from the 1950s to the 1970s, and there were few days during those years when he didn't browse for treasure on Book Row.

According to John Huckans, "the two men have collaborated to weave a magic carpet waiting to take older bibliophiles on a trip down memory lane. Bookish individuals too young to remember this long-lost part of New York's cultural landscape will welcome a virtual guided tour to the lairs and haunts of probably the most iconoclastic group of booksellers to ever walk the face of the earth.

"The mainstream publishers have turned the manuscript down because their marketing people say, in essence, that it's more profitable to publish books for the *Access Hollywood* crowd than it is to publish for bibliophiles. The good news is that both an English publisher and an American university press have expressed interest." If you are interested in purchasing a copy upon publication, please send your name and address to *Book Source Magazine*, PO Box 567, Cazenovia, NY 13035-0567.

*A successful bookseller is a man of infinite resilience, strong digestion, tolerance of odd people, and ability to breathe dusty air and crawl through cobwebs in search of the golden book.*

—Lawrence Clark Powell

Meyer Berger, a gentle, much-loved archeologist of urban facts and curiosa in his celebrated *New York Times* column, "About New York" (1953-1955), in 1955 described his special beat as The City of Endless Change. In another column that year, Berger wrote about the worsening plight of New York's antiquarian and used bookselling businesses as a metropolitan change to regret.

"Many now face eviction to make way for high-priced apartment houses," he wrote. The column served as an advance warning signal of slow recession and sad days ahead for Manhattan's historic, internationally famed, secondhand book center known as Book Row, which for decades dating back to the nineteenth century had been the liveliest place in America devoted to the buying and selling of antiquarian books.

Sellers and seekers of old, rare, used, secondhand, discarded, bargain, or antiquarian books could heed Meyer Berger's report as a social physician's rueful diagnosis of steady decline and gloomy times to come. Fortunately it was years too early for final epitaphs and mourning. (Let's not be fussy along Fourth Avenue over used and secondhand versus antiquarian terminology. Let's accept the descriptions as reasonably interchangeable for books of varying quality that began their long lives as new books fresh from the press, yet moved on from initial owners, whether readers or publishers, to later appreciative and often loving hands.)

Book-questing individuals and institutions bent on the relentless pursuit of elusive volumes were too busy hunting in the 1950s to worry much about the future of their cherished bookstores. If

retrenchment began and fine old bookstores closed or moved elsewhere, many bookshops in the 1950s were still open and awaiting hopeful, wide-eyed customers with shopping lists of titles, sometimes eagerly displayed, sometimes tightly held like poker players hiding aces. Book Row for eager bookseekers continued to the "happy hunting ground" as bookman Andreas Brown at New York's Gotham Book Mart labeled it. Anywhere along Book Row the very next shelf might deliver the book of books. So let the future come in its own foul time or fair. Meanwhile let the search go on!

Journalist Edward Robb Ellis, author of *The Ellis Diary* and remembered as an American twentieth-century Pepys, in 1955 had a greater personal worry than the long-term future of New York used bookselling. He confided to his famous *Diary* on August 2: "When my right foot was broken two months ago today as I covered a subway accident for the World-Telegram, here was my first reaction: 'My God! I may never be able to prowl the Fourth Avenue bookstores again.'"

Book lovers in New York City, across America, and indeed worldwide for nearly two more decades enjoyed access to Booksellers' Row, alias Book Row, that bibliopole and bibliopolist phenomenon of Fourth Avenue and environs. New York Book Row was still reasonably well, busy, and with a lot of life left—the haven for lost books, refuge for readers, oasis for collectors, the browser's paradise.

For bookish devotees of happy endings rather than sad endings and bleak departures, Book Row was a ready refuge. Indeed Book Row then was among America's eminent sanctuaries for happy endings, the treasure trail where the hard-to-find was astonishingly often found. Book Row then, for those of us

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# Mondlin

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who pursued fugitive folios, queer quartos, evasive octavos, surpassed with reality all the make-believe of Hollywood.

Somewhere in the shops of Book Row, if you didn't immediately find the book you wanted, as Christopher Morley pointed out, you might through serendipity very well come across a book you wanted even more. Thus even in the endlessly changing city with soaring rents and other threatening symptoms starting to surface, Book Row until the 1970s was still New York's primary magnet for the *Homo bibliophilus* species.

The bookseeker's New York City for close to eight decades starting in the 1890s encompassed the special area on and around Fourth Avenue mainly south of Fourteenth Street and Union Square to Astor Place. Seven concentrated blocks on Fourth Avenue plus a few side street additions stretching west to Fifth Avenue and north to Twenty-Third Street supplied crowded sites for dozens of bookstores.

Some shops were impressive, specialized, antiquarian enterprises operated by highly knowledgeable bookmen; some were clean, orderly, general used-book stores with packed shelves full of promise; some were notoriously scruffy book caves where occasional worthwhile first editions and elusive titles awaited searching and patient eyes along with thousands of unwanted volumes priced at a dollar, fifty cents, and even less per book. Or make an offer. Bargaining between proprietor and customer was seldom a stranger on Book Row. Congenial bargains for Book Row regulars were a taken-for-granted fact of life.

The stereotypes of bookseekers, whether readers or collectors (some amazing individuals are both!), is that they come with and without trifocals in all sizes, shapes, genders, tastes, and races. However, the stereotype of used and antiquarian booksellers typically pictures them as rather quaint, crusty, shrewd, amiably untidy, eccentric variations on Roger Mifflin in Morley's *Par-*

*nassus on Wheels* and *The Haunted Bookshop*. Actually it wouldn't be an unappealing world if New York, and other cities too, contained blocks of bookstores run by dealers with the wit, civility, knowledge, and book-adoring panache of Roger Mifflin. But that was certainly never New York's Book Row, where booksellers ran the gamut from gentle to fierce, helpful to getoutahere, knowing-almost-all to knowing-almost-nothing, and wide variations within these parameters.

Various Book Row proprietors and employees would have been quite comfortable at a university faculty meeting. Others would have to skip the meeting to see their parole officers following incarceration for illegal anarchist activities. Some Book Row personnel could have served plausibly in a pulpit; others perhaps would have done well teaching lessons to bankers with Bonnie and Clyde.

Charles P. Everett, a dealer-graduate of Book Row and author of *The Adventures of a Treasure Hunter* (Little, Brown, 1951), once cynically, maybe tongue-in-cheek, told a book scout seeking an honest dealer, "You may find me fifty percent honest, which is way above the average."

Truth is, most customers didn't go to Book Row for honor; they went there for books acquired on their behalf by business people who knew and valued books. Along Book Row, they found merchants with the usual human range of virtues and vices in the noble or not-so-noble (who cares) business of buying and selling books. Many, maybe most, of the booksellers esteemed books and knew them as complex cultural commodities expertly designed over centuries to deliver knowledge, beauty, and joy forever, and also as themselves objects of physical beauty and appeal with superb bindings and magnificent illustrations.

Alex Auswaks in his short story, "The Napoleon of Booksellers," has his protagonist declare, "Libraries are just there as book depositories. It is we who ensure books get to the people who will read and appreciate them." That's a truism repeatedly confirmed. Booksellers and their scouts are the toilers in the trenches who attend the sales, search the attics,

root through boxes, prowl along shelves, heed the clues, and follow the spoors to obtain the books that will adorn collections, delight and educate readers, and perhaps eventually come to rest permanently in libraries. The symbiotic process starts with the bookseller because that's his job. For decades this magical system of recycling and preserving books was diligently and expertly accomplished by the booksellers of Book Row.

The dealers of Fourth Avenue encompassed a broad gamut of knowledge and sentiment about books. They also reflected a wide range of temperaments from the sweetly gentle to the growling grouchy. Wayne Somers, who frequented Book Row as a student, collector, librarian, and bookseller, wrote in 1990, "I find that I, at least, feel a certain kinship with even the most benighted bookseller, provided he is not actually a crook."

Somers remembered something of an adversarial relationship between customers and various dealers. "One learned to walk on eggs, speak to the proprietors as little as possible. One exception I recall was Wilfred Pesky, who seemed a kind soul." Milton Reissman, a specialist in children's and illustrated books at Victoria Book Shop, reported holding his Fourth Avenue dealings to a minimum: "Too many madmen for me."

Most of us who visited Book Row as customers through to the end in the 1970s viewed the area as an almost sacred place of books managed (at a small profit) by benign if rather seedy walking bibliographies and mobile encyclopedias eager to help readers and collectors acquire all the world's recorded knowledge and printed art in hardcover or paperback at reasonable and sometimes surprisingly low prices. If we were wealthy collectors, and few of us were, we could wave a checkbook and get access to the special stuff slyly hidden by canny dealers.

Book collector Stan Nosek attended Stuyvesant High School on East Fifteenth Street in the 1930s with ten cents a day for the subway and "five cents spending money" from his mother. "It was a short walk to Union Square and then to Book Row," he recalled. "I loved

to walk over there and browse among the book stalls." Even with just a nickel a day to invest on Book Row, he slowly acquired books to read and treasure, and thus did Book Row graduate another lifetime booklover.

Business is business, and not all Book Row encounters produced memories that warm and friendly nostalgia feeds on. Bookman Jack Biblo, on Book Row at Biblo and Tannen for decades, admitted about himself and his colleagues: "We were all a little peculiar." He cited the Russian revolutionary who ran one of the shops. He would give a customer he liked a cup of tea and throw out those he didn't like. He would state a price, and if the customer hesitated, he would double the price. Biblo described Fourth Avenue bookshops as sixteen-hour-a-day jobs where "sometimes you didn't make a dollar."

David A. Randall, a rare book dealer whose reminiscences are recorded in *Dukedom Large Enough*, discovered Book Row as a boy and began there as a book scout rummaging and rooting for cheap finds to sell for a profit at posh Uptown bookstores. One of his discoveries in the twenty-five-cent bin was a nondescript work by Whittier with a verse in Whittier's hand on the back flyleaf. The storeowner, cantankerous Peter Stammer, going through hundreds of books had understandably missed the fact it was a valuable presentation copy. There and then young Randall learned the wisdom of not impetuously bragging in the victim's presence. When he showed Stammer the inscription he had missed, the bookman seized the book, tore out the flyleaf, and handed back what was then legitimately a twenty-five-cent buy. Stammer, famous for his warm heart as well as his impulsive temper, repented by giving Randall a part-time job and furthering the education of an eminent American bookman.

Such stories may lightly lend credence to one picture of certain Fourth Avenue bookmen as entrepreneurs who wandered ashore from pirate ships when the Spanish Main broke up and opened bookshops on Fourth Avenue for themselves and their scalawag descendants.

Other stories challenge this character portrait. Book Row was host to most identifiable psychological types among its denizens. For every dealer who would as soon kick you out as let you browse, there was another who was easy-going. Growlers were outnumbered by the gentle bookmen who were polite even to those who, like Kurt Weill's Jenny, wouldn't make up their mind.

Frederick Lightfoot began buying books on Fourth Avenue in 1935, when he was fifteen. "Books on stands were priced at as little as one cent in the 1930s. A nickel or a dime would buy a wide variety of books. It is impossible to convey to someone born in the last twenty years the quality of life as well as the treasure of old Fourth Avenue," he reminisced in 1989. Among Lightfoot's favorite bookmen and bookshops was Alfred Goldsmith and his basement emporium, Sign of the Sparrow. Lightfoot recalled that one of Goldsmith's customers was a collector of books on angling. After Goldsmith learned with astonishment the collector had never gone fishing, he took him on a fishing trip to New Jersey. The next week the now disillusioned collector brought in all his angling books to sell.

Sonja Mirsky, who became a librarian, began venturing to Fourth Avenue in 1939 and soon was spending hours every day browsing at the Strand. In the 1940s, when she was majoring in mathematics at college and with no funds to purchase Bertrand Russell's *Principia Mathematica*, she began taking the three volumes down from a high shelf at the Strand and using them at the store to do her homework. This behavior was noticed, and she heard a clerk tell founder Ben Bass, "She's never going to buy those books." Bass said leave the browser be: "When she has the money she'll buy them." Buy them she did when she graduated in 1948 from City College of New York and received \$50 from an uncle. She offered the money directly to Ben Bass for the \$35 set. Bass examined the books and said, "They're quite shelf worn. Why don't we make it \$25."

Ordering customers to be gone, taking a collector fishing, defacing a book in a

fit of pique, amiably tolerating a student browser—these and countless more incidents became the human drama and comedy of Book Row. Bookmen, the same as their customers, never quite fitted a clear-cut stereotype of any sort. They were human and depending on the day, the dealer, and the book involved were likely to assume a niche somewhere between sinner and saint.

Although these East Side book emporia were linked together as Book Row, a more apt name might have been Book Cluster. A row is a series in a reasonably straight line. Book Row showed no respect for a straight line. The stores were widely scattered through the neighborhood, mostly east of Fifth Avenue and south of Union Square.

Book people who began their careers on Fourth Avenue as alumni of Book Row took their experience, skills, and savvy not only Uptown and Downtown but also to other states and countries. But Book Row it was, and now in memory and history, forever remains Book Row.

Changing times and rising rents, among other complications, brought Book Row, with a few hardy exceptions such as the Strand, to a regretted demise before the end of the twentieth century. Yet interest in Book Row and its stories concerning book finds, boisterous book people, and tenacious customers has never flagged. Most of the shops are gone, yet the memories linger of all the happy endings when coveted books were found by grateful seekers. In bibliolore, the march of Book Row yarns goes endlessly on.

Legends grow with the years about the characters who roamed, flourished, and haunted the Row. Book Row was in part perhaps a state of mind, a storyteller's tales, colorful fantasies embellished with coffee and commentary at the old and now departed Luchow's restaurant on Fourteenth Street. Yet Book Row was always real people busy in a trade they loved. They tended to the business of books with considerable pleasure and sometimes feigned fury amid varying degrees of solvency.

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## Mondlin

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*The Encyclopedia of New York City* (Yale, 1995), edited by Kenneth T. Jackson, recognizes the validity of the place and its purpose under the simple entry "Book Row" with this description: "An area of secondhand bookstores concentrated from the late nineteenth century in seven blocks along Fourth Avenue between Union Square and Astor Place." The capsule profile can be enlarged to hold an endless caravan of people, booksellers, and book buyers, who created Book Row through their shops, deals, maneuvers, strategies, discoveries, purchases, and all the stories left behind.

Louis Wavrovics and his twin brother, Ernest, became Book Row regulars dur-

ing the Depression when they bought 6,000 books at an auction for \$80. Suddenly owning such a horde of books introduced space problems. "A man if he walks in the paths of righteousness may be loved for himself, not for his six thousand books," recalled Ernest Wavrovics. The solution: Open a bookstore. This led the brothers to wide-ranging activities in the used-book business, from operating stores to selling hundreds of books by weight and measure as props for varied purposes, such as a Bergdorf-Goodman back-to-school window. Another book market was films and television shows. "I sold books as decorations by the yard or by the color of the bindings," noted Louis Wavrovics. The television series *Naked City* regularly used quantities of Wavrovics books as background displays.

A durable if never quite sufficient subtitle for New York City is "There are eight million stories in the Naked City," thanks to the Mark Hellinger film and the subsequent television series. The Green Book Shop, started by Ruth and Harry Carp, was featured as background in one episode of *Naked City*. The following day, probably due to the publicity, the store was robbed. So it went on Book Row in the naked city of eight million stories and countless books.

Across the decades books flowed through Book Row from sellers to dealers to buyers and around again in a continuing cycle. With each came a story. Collectively the stories celebrate a time and place where books mattered more than anything else among a special group of colorful and memorable individuals. ■

## Christoffersen

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plies, gifts, leather goods, photographs—and wallpaper.

Volmer took it all in stride and made a virtue of necessity. He discovered his hidden business talent, learned to get along with people, and was well liked by customers. His interest in books and reading had been kindled early at home, where his father had formed quite a collection of the Danish classics, and Volmer slowly came to realize that his was a dead-end job. One day he took his bicycle and biked the ninety-five kilometers to Copenhagen, only to find out that this was the "world outside Verona" where he belonged. He had become an avid newspaper reader, and the many articles about books, literature, and book auctions caught his interest. Especially during the 1920s, especially many important collectors' libraries were broken up and reached the auction block, and all the capital's newspapers gave detailed reports on the sales. The sixteen-year-old Volmer studied the reports intensely, memorized titles and prices, and here formed the first base for his later, so impressive, "memory data bank."

During the summer of 1924 he read about a merger of two prominent Copenhagen bookshops, one of which was Levin & Munksgaard, the publisher of science and medicine that in later years was to attain world renown. Secretly, he sent an application to be hired to continue his apprenticeship in the new firm and received an invitation to come for an interview. After some lengthy negotiations Volmer was given a new apprentice contract with the company, and it is this point in time that one must consider Volmer Rosenkilde's real start in the antiquarian book business. He did, however, have to serve some time in other departments before he could be employed in the antiquarian department.

The bookshop is located in the center of Copenhagen's Latin quarter, directly opposite the university. Of the two partners in the newly formed company, Otto Levin was the senior, and probably the one who provided most of the capital, but he had more experience in the stationery and office supply business, less in bookselling. Ejnar Munksgaard was a well educated and well trained bookseller, with years of experience in bookselling abroad and a command of the three major languages, French, German and English, and he was the one to lead

the firm forward, toward the international position it was to assume later. The young Rosenkilde could not have landed in a firm more conducive to his own eventual growth as a bookseller.

Although Munksgaard had already established a rudimentary antiquarian business, it was Rosenkilde who conceived of a plan for a full-scale antiquarian department for the new bookshop. As the owners became aware quickly of Rosenkilde's drive and his, for his young age, impressive knowledge of books and printing, the latter was given a free hand in building up the business. And this he did. The late 1920s and the early 1930s were favorable to the task at hand. The stock market crash of 1929 brought the beginning of the Depression, and money became scarce. In Denmark, as in Germany, England, and France, the feudal system had favored a formation of wealth among the nobility who possessed the country's castles and manors. Counts and barons had spent centuries in building up manorial libraries, often containing incredible treasures.

The economic situation, which this writer still remembers referred to as "the world crisis," brought some changes. To raise cash, many of these libraries were sold either at auction or directly to deal-



ers. An abundance of manorial libraries and other private collections came on the market, and Rosenkilde knew how to get his share of them. A series of well-edited catalogues were issued during the early 1930s offering numerous rare books not seen on the market before, beginning in 1929 with the sixty-two-page, *150 Old Books and Manuscripts Rarely Found*. It was the first catalogue of international class issued in Denmark, produced and edited by the then only twenty-one-year-old antiquarian bookseller. Among many Scandinavian rarities, it included a copy of Tycho Brahe's *Astronomiæ Instauratæ mechanica*, which Rosenkilde would examine in one of his earliest essays. Later that same year came catalogue number four, entirely with English text, *Fine Old Books & Manuscripts*, offering twenty-nine incunabula, rare Groenlandica and Americana, and first editions of Luther, Erasmus, Cervantes, Thomas More, and Philip Melancthon.

Rosenkilde was, of course, a regular attendee at all Scandinavian and most other European book auctions and brought many important books back to Copenhagen. He formed a specialty of Groenlandica, Icelandica, and Arctica, to parallel the same trend in the firm's publishing program, namely its large facsimile editions of Old Norse and Icelandic manuscripts. He also gained access to a famous cartographic collection of 262 early atlases, formerly in the collections of a Danish manor, later dispersed in collaboration with the Munich rare book dealer Jacques Rosenthal. By 1934 he had reached his catalogue number twenty-one.

The young bookseller had started going on business trips at an early date. Most often he did not return home without having made some important find or discovery. His first trip took place in 1927, at the age of nineteen, when he went to Berlin. It was here that Rosenkilde first heard about the famous library then being offered by the counts of Stolberg from their castle high on a mountaintop in Wernigerode, in the Harz Mountains. It was being sold to raise money to pay a huge fine imposed on the counts for a case of inadvertent

manslaughter; the sale was being handled by the Berlin dealer, Martin Breslauer. The library was founded during the sixteenth century and had in the eighteenth century been augmented by a large number of now very rare Danish books by the then Count Christian Ernst, who was a cousin of the Danish King Christian VI.

Rosenkilde made here one of his most sensational purchases and brought back to Denmark a large quantity of books and manuscripts pertaining to Denmark, among them an up-to-then unknown manuscript of the earliest known Inuit grammar by Hans Egede (1686-1758), the famous Greenland missionary and colonizer. It is due to Egede that Greenland has been preserved for Denmark to this day. Upon request the young antiquarian wrote a seventeen-page paper on the manuscript to be published in the Greenland Society's yearbook.

After more than ten years as manager of the antiquarian department, which he himself had created and brought forward, Rosenkilde felt that the time had come for him to have his own business. The senior partner in the firm, Otto Levin, had died in 1933 and he was then accountable to Ejnar Munksgaard only, a relationship not always without friction. From 1938 the firm was known simply as Ejnar Munksgaard.

Rosenkilde gave notice to leave in 1936 and prepared to open shop elsewhere in the Latin Quarter near the famous *Rundetaarn* (Round Tower), an event that took place on February 13, 1937. During the next few years he issued several catalogues, and on June 16, 1939, married a colleague from his years with Munksgaard, Vibeke Vestergaard, who had left the firm simultaneously. Eventually, upon Munksgaard's death in 1948, the firm changed owners, and in 1963 was absorbed into the Blackwell Scientific Publications empire, whose home office is in Oxford, England.

Among Rosenkilde's best friends and colleagues was Aksel Bagger, who had been the manager and part owner of Boghallens Antikvariat, another important antiquarian business in Copenhagen. Bagger had left that firm with a handy

sum of money in severance pay and his share of the book inventory, which amounted to fifty percent. Incidentally, this writer succeeded Bagger as chief of that antiquarian department.

When the two friends discussed the matter, it became clear that here lay a unique chance for a complementary relationship. Rosenkilde could use cash, and his exceptional knowledge and know-how in the international market was an invaluable asset. The press was advised of the partnership, which became effective on June 12, 1941, and for some time business was conducted out of Rosenkilde's new shop. It was kept a secret that the two men were negotiating for the purchase of a five-story building a few blocks away, also in the university district. This was to be the new home of the combined firm, which would bear the name of Rosenkilde and Bagger.

It was an old building, built during the late 1790s, that needed extensive redesign and remodeling, a task that was given over to a well-known architect. The next four months were spent rebuilding and refitting the premises for their special use as a *Boghus* (house of books), from basement to attic. The building was ready for occupation on October 10, 1941, and opened at a well-attended inaugural reception. It was the first time Copenhagen had seen such a huge establishment devoted exclusively to bookselling. The first floor contained the walk-in shop for new books, a feature that had now been added. The rest of the building was fitted with elegant shelving for antiquarian books. There was a sharp distinction made between books published after 1850 and those published before, the latter category consisting to a great extent of very early and very rare titles and being Mr. Rosenkilde's domain. Mr. Bagger was in charge of the more recent literature.

There were more than enough books to fill the new shelves: the partners had just acquired what was considered perhaps the largest private library ever to be offered as a unit, a 30,000-volume

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# Christoffersen

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collection of Danish literature going back to before 1700 and including the biggest collection ever assembled of the work of Ludvig Holberg, the "father" of Danish literature. The library also contained the largest collection to date of books on Danish local history and topography which formed the new partnership's catalogue number one. Eventually, the firm established its own in-house bindery and restoration shop.

To attempt to write the history of Rosenkilde and Bagger during the subsequent three post-war decades would require considerable more space than available in this brief introduction. It would fill a book, one that actually has been written, namely the *Festschrift* to Rosenkilde's seventieth birthday on May 15, 1978, in Danish, and entitled, *Et halvt hundrede år mellem bøger* (Half a Century Among Books), by his former assistant and later an independent publisher, Poul Carit Andersen. The book's *tabula gratulatoria* comprises more than 1500 names of individuals and institutions from all over the world. Also, on this occasion Rosenkilde was knighted by the Queen of Denmark.

The growth and importance of the company continued steadily over the years; not in the least was its presence noticeable in the international market and at international book auctions. Important libraries and rare collector's items were acquired almost on a regular basis, and Volmer Rosenkilde kept up his literary contributions to periodicals on bibliophily and library science throughout his lifetime. The bibliography in the above mentioned biography lists eighty-one such items. In addition, Rosenkilde also taught a course in the history of the book and printing at Denmark's School of Library Science, 1950-1959. The Rosenkilde and Bagger firm issued over 200 catalogues of old and rare books printed before 1850 during its four decades.

It seems unthinkable that Rosenkilde, who had his professional roots in one of Denmark's foremost academic publishing houses, Ejnar Munksgaard, would not sooner or later involve himself in similar activity. When the opportunity arose in 1946 to join forces with Munksgaard's pre-war head of the publishing division, Grete Jacobsen, the foundation was laid for expanding into publishing. The following decades saw the publication of a number of facsimile editions of early English manuscripts, early Ice-

landic manuscripts, and early Hebrew manuscripts. Also, a *Leksikon* for the Scandinavian Middle Ages in twenty-two volumes, reprints of Brunet's *Manuel du Libraire* in nine volumes, and Hoefers's *Nouvelle Biographie Générale* in forty-six volumes, among other major bibliographical reference works.

Rosenkilde was, of course, eminently qualified to select such candidates for re-issue, not the least to the joy of us younger booksellers who might not otherwise have owned such indispensable reference tools. The above-mentioned reprints of Brunet and Hoefers were for years the cornerstones in this writer's reference library.

Rosenkilde's partner Aksel Bagger died in 1975, but his son, Hans Bagger, who was trained as a bookseller and had joined the firm as a vice-president in 1956, now succeeded his father as a full partner. Rosenkilde's son, Henrik, joined the firm in 1966 and was mainly active in the department for modern books. In 1980, after some years of failing health, death also came to Volmer Rosenkilde, and a remarkable chapter in the history of Danish antiquarian bookselling came to a close. Upon his death, his son took over as chairman of the board of the corporation, but when his partner, Hans Bagger, died in 1994, the rare book business was discontinued. The concluding words in the volume of homage to Rosenkilde, published for his seventieth birthday in 1978, read, in translation:

As book collectors and bibliophiles, librarians and publishers, flocked to the new "House of Books" when it opened in October of 1941, thus did they stop by in May of 1978 to study the book treasures now assembled in the house. Those who knew the history behind its creation marveled at the results of the energy and initiative demonstrated over the years by the bookseller's apprentice from Gørlev, Volmer Rosenkilde. It is an impressive testament to one man's life work, written into the annals of Danish cultural history, never to be forgotten. ■

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# Letters

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been more gracious and considerate, and Committee members such as Arnoud Gerits, Michael Steinbach, Poul Poulson, Keith Fletcher, and Frederic Castaing, while occasionally, and in some cases often, in disagreement with the positions I presented as the ABAA's representative, were always polite and attentive, and seemed genuinely interested in the American point of view and the best way to accommodate these views within the framework of the League.

Things seem to happen much more slowly at ILAB than they do at the ABAA, undoubtedly as a result of recon-

ciling many different cultures. The state of affairs that Peter describes on the ILAB Committee seems to me to be a thing of the past. ILAB has most recently either adopted or adapted for its own use American ideas and suggestions for an increased ILAB Internet presence, for increasing funding for the League, for the very helpful Presidents Workshops, and for security matters. Most recently the ILAB Committee that Peter seems to think of as a hotbed of anti-Americanism elected Bob Fleck, a past ABAA President, as President of the League itself. What more does he want? ■

*Please direct your letters to Editor, ABAA Newsletter, 400 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55102.*

## Rulon-Miller

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eBay's admission (an overwhelming ratio, the Committee argued, that extended to the entire ABAA membership), was seen by many as flawed and should have been nullified and overruled.

What seemed remarkable was that after Rule T was introduced into the mix, the Committee's vote did not change. This suggests that the Committee was by then already committed to eBay and would not or could not back out of the agreement, although some saw it as a possible bias toward the online auction business that has headquarters in the San Francisco Bay area. The single vote cast against the eBay decision came from a past member of the Board of Governors and past chairman of the ILAB Book Fair Committee in 1996 who was outraged enough to resign from the Committee. To the Committee's credit, the chair did seek a ruling from the ABAA Board, but by the time it got beyond the President and Vice-President, it was too late. Less than a week before the fair the matter was finally brought to the attention of the ABAA Executive Committee, where the issue was essentially whitewashed when it voted unanimously to take no action.

The sequence of events was, in some eyes, a miserable unfolding of bad decisions on two levels, none of them,

thankfully, life threatening in and of themselves, and I was convinced early on that after the fair it would all be forgotten like missing blank leaves. But the San Francisco Book Fair Committee, instead of admitting it had a problem, seemed to cover up the decision-making process and glossed it over by making what to many seemed like absurd claims on the meanings of phrases in Rule T, such as "auction houses" and "competitive materials," and in the process challenged the validity of the Rule itself. The simplest and most honest way of dealing with this would have been to just go on the record and say: Look, we're sorry this happened, and we'll do it differently next time around.

Of further intrigue is the mechanism by which eBay, which was conducting a seminar on selling books in a neighboring building, came to hold a silent auction inside the San Francisco Book Fair. Their booth was front and center, for those who missed it, closer to the front entrance than just about any booth at the fair and immediately next to the ABAA booth, not at the back of the fair where other outside vendors were positioned. eBay promotional materials were in every book fair packet handed out to every exhibiting dealer, and on the first day of the fair eBay staffers in eBay tee shirts were handing out promotional materials to the line of attendees waiting to buy tickets for the fair. eBay's auction was ostensibly

set up to benefit the ABAA Benevolent Fund, and there were suspicions that some of the Committee had sold the books to be auctioned to eBay employees so they in turn could donate them. The result of the auction brought less than \$1,200 into the Fund. If the Committee's purpose was to raise money for the Fund, many other forms of soliciting donations would have worked better and would not have caused such controversy. But using the Fund as an argument for eBay's presence in the fair, as the Committee did, seemed an utter perversion.

The notion of outside vendors inside our fairs remains acceptable to me, as long as they do not compete in any way with our membership. There have been plenty of instances where local book fair committees have included literary groups, book signings and auctions for the benefit of the Benevolent Fund and the ABAA as a whole. The marketplace is vastly different now than it was when the Book Fair Rules were last overhauled, and a bit of tweaking of the Book Fair Rules here and there might serve us all well. But Rule T, in my opinion, remains quite sound in its intent and purpose, and I remain steadfastly opposed to the violation of our best asset—and our most visible trademark—the ABAA Book Fair. These fairs are ours and ours alone, and there should never be any trace of outside competitors within. ■

## Temple

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six hotel rooms, two ferries, and one train in eleven days. As the new ILAB General Secretary, I've been asked to make an official correction for the record about some details you report, but I want also to write as your friend and admirer of some twenty-five years, to tell you what I've observed in my experience with ILAB affairs over the past few years and to ask you to just take my word for it about a few things.

The minor stuff first.

You mention "a gratuitous ceremony renaming Kay Craddock, the exiting President" a President of Honor at the farewell dinner aboard the ferry bound for Copenhagen. Actually, Kay Craddock has never been named, let alone renamed, President of Honor, and there were no awards, only a few speeches, at that dinner. It was Alain Nicholas, at the General Assembly in Oslo the day before, who was named President of Honor. He had served two terms (four years) as ILAB President, and was the Vice-President for two more years before that. Anthony Rota donned no regalia at the ceremony since he didn't attend the

Congress. Kay Craddock was presented with a Past President's badge, a routine matter. Anna Perala was presented the Thirteenth ILAB Bibliographical Prize during the welcoming dinner in Helsinki, not aboard the ferry to Stockholm.

Now to the major stuff.

Neither the ILAB Committee nor the ILAB Presidents have been enjoying any boozy lunches disguised as meetings any time lately, if ever. I went to my first ILAB meeting, as the Canadian President-Elect, in Edinburgh in 2000. I sat through the entire Presidents' Meeting,

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# Temple

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attended the General Assembly, heard several lectures, attended a workshop, saw some sights, and had some nice meals. It was a tremendous experience for me, a wonderful Congress, but also a fair bit of work. The Presidents' met for hours. There was water on the table, but nothing would turn it to wine. The meeting was all business, complicated, and not a little daunting to one brand new to these things. Lunch was modest and decorous. If any President got over-refreshed, it would have had to happen after hours in a hotel bar or back in their rooms. I attended my next Presidents' Meeting in Boston in November, 2001, barely two months after you know what. This after chairing two meetings in Ottawa a few days before as we Canucks conducted our own annual meetings, then jumping in my car, unable to exhibit at the Ottawa fair, and driving down to Beantown. The meeting was a simple and dignified affair, though not so well attended as those meetings usually are. The Presidents met for two full working days, the first day being the less formal Presidents' Workshop, an innovation established by Kay Craddock; the second day, the formal meeting. We convened in an ordinary hotel facility. Box lunches were provided, and we paused only an hour each day to enjoy them. We never left the meeting rooms except for calls of nature. Two very nice evening dinners were provided courtesy of the New England Chapter and a few Boston booksellers who sponsored out of their own pockets—a classy gesture for which I wish to thank those booksellers. There were a few outings to museums and the Boston Public Library. If any President was whooping it up (I didn't see any), they had to do it on their own time and nickel. The organization of the meeting was run very efficiently and smoothly by the New England Chapter, which allowed us to focus on the considerable amount of business at hand without a hitch.

At the Scandinavian Congress this past September, the Presidents met for more

than fourteen hours; the Committee, for more than twenty. Three one-hour lunches in total were provided during all those hours. I was at every one of those meetings, in all spread over five days. There was no party. It was all hard, detailed, tiring work conducted by volunteers imbued, I suppose, with a sense of idealism about the international antiquarian book trade.

Peter, your insinuation that the Presidents and Committee are all off on a lark at ILAB expense just ain't so. Having done all that work so conscientiously, even while other colleagues were out having a good time and moving around (I would really love to see Helsinki someday, for my ILAB responsibilities mostly prevented it), it smarts more than a little to have someone—a friend yet—imply those kinds of things. What I have observed, and what I ask you to believe, is an exceptional sense of international goodwill and co-operation. I have been genuinely astonished at how friendly and easy to get on with the Presidents and Congress attendees have been. Everyone I have encountered has been on their best behavior.

I can't, and don't want to, speak of the events of 1995, because I wasn't there, and because whatever did or did not happen, and why, is all receding history. We have now only this Committee, with a President from the USA, a Secretary from Canada, and all the rest from Europe. One thing I have learned through observation, and study of the ILAB rules, is that it is pretty useless to think of the "Australian President" or the "American President." There are no such animals. None of the Committee represent their countries in any official way. We all wear our ILAB hats. The detailed ILAB rules don't allow for any sort of national or regional dictatorships. We talk, and think, purely in an international sense. We take these jobs for the welfare of the global antiquarian book trade affiliated with ILAB. None of us advance any issues on behalf of our own countries. That is the job of each national President, to whom we listen and take direction, for those Presidents, meeting annually, are the supreme governing

body of the League. I haven't witnessed a single action that I could call undemocratic. In fact, we recently voted to postpone a decision many of us think was legally passed in Boston because a single association has strong objections, and rather than there be even a whiff of the undemocratic or irregular, the Presidents will vote again on it in Potsdam in November, all in the interest of international goodwill and indisputable fair play. The national Presidents or other delegates from each association are the only ones with the power to change the constitutional by-laws. The Committee can make recommendations, and argue for them, but has no power itself to change those rules.

Is ILAB Euro-centric and thus, by your lights, undemocratic? Some sort of anti-American "axis" (an unfortunate choice of words in the context of European history)? This charge spurred me to do a little research on the ILAB website. Early in February, I found the total number of ILAB-affiliated booksellers to be 1895. Of that number, 477 were from the USA and 1266 were from Europe. Almost exactly sixty-seven percent of ILAB booksellers are in Europe, a figure that surprised me, but which also suggests that it would be a strange state of affairs indeed if Europe didn't have a pretty strong voice in our organization. Indeed, it would be undemocratic if they didn't. The ABAA, the largest of the national associations, representing the world's third most populous country, makes up about twenty-five percent of the total ILAB number. I too have wondered why it was so long since the last American served as ILAB President. I know that there has been resentment in the ABAA over this fact and that that unspoken resentment underlies the tone of parts of your article. I haven't found a definite answer, assuming there is one. But I haven't found a hotbed of anti-ABAAism, either. At the two Presidents' meetings I have attended, most of the motions were sponsored by the ABAA and the ABA, and most of the ABAA motions were passed. Perhaps the real answer is something like the answer to the ques-

tion of why the Cubs haven't won the World Series since 1908. It's for sure not because they've never had a good team since. It's more that in the years that they did field a contender, the other contenders were even better, or at least got lucky at the very end. A statistical anomaly. What I do know is that when I got involved with these things, the President was from Australia, and the one we have right now is from the United States. We are very happy with him, too, even though he works our butts off. But again, best to discard the concept of the American ILAB President. Once some hapless bookseller steps into the role of ILAB Presidency, he is forced to be a citizen of the world.

At one point you state that "American booksellers sustain ILAB chiefly, as it is, via ABAA book fair taxes, the American book fair doors open to all ILAB members, pretty much." It is implicit in the ILAB Manual that all book fairs hosted by ILAB members are open to all ILAB booksellers. The ABAA is hardly the only member to abide by this principle. You claim that the ABAA is the main financial support of ILAB. This isn't true. As each ILAB-affiliated bookseller pays the same annual dues, then the ABAA contributes about twenty-five percent of ILAB income from that source. It is quite true that the ABAA, with three large book fairs annually, contributes more than any other nation to the ILAB book fair levy—about two-thirds of that total by my reckoning. Overall, I calculate that the ABAA contributes about forty percent of the total ILAB annual revenue, which is a pretty healthy percentage (thank you, ABAA !) but doesn't quite stretch to "chiefly."

Turning to your anger about your experience at the past two Congress book fairs, in Edinburgh in 2000 and Copenhagen in 2002, I confess that I share your dismay. I was surprised by how few exhibitors, let alone customers, there were at both events. Exactly why that is I do not know, although I expect it has something to do with the particular city in which the fair happens to be held. I would expect a fair held in a place such as London, Paris, or New

York to have better results than one held in a smaller market such as Edinburgh. I, like many another bookseller, have been speculating for years about book fairs in general—Why do we have them at all? Do they really achieve any long-term good? Are they worth the bother? What future do they have? Where and how can they thrive? How can they be improved? Etc., etc. But you haven't made those kinds of speculations; you instead found an easy target. It's the ILAB Committee's fault that the fairs weren't better. That's wrong, sir. All of us care very much about the success of any ILAB Congress book fair, but we do not control their outcomes. The choice of program and administration of ILAB Congresses and book fairs are the responsibility and prerogative of the host nation. The ILAB Committee itself has no jurisdiction over the planning and operation of book fairs, nor of booth size. Section 4 of the ILAB Manual covers ILAB book fairs, especially those attached to a Congress. Section 4.2 indicates that exhibitors must also be Congress registrants who intend "to support its program of events." Section 4.3 states that the host association must maintain close control and supervision of all organizational aspects, and 4.9 advises that a special committee to organize the fair be set up about two years in advance, and further, that "the committee should consist only of members of the host association." Section 4.7 reads

It is a prime requisite that the premises for the Fair shall be sufficiently spacious to permit each individual stand to be of an adequate size for display and properly furnished... It has been found to be in the interest of democracy that all stands, as far as possible should be uniform and at the same cost. However, if the circumstances of the exhibition area provide for variable stand sizes at variable rental rates, then the available options should be described on the application form so that the advantages of choice are available to all."

There was certainly plenty of room in the exhibition hall in Copenhagen for vari-

able stand sizes. The rule addresses situations in which space may be at a premium, in which case "one size fits all" is the recommendation, but it also clearly allows for variable size when that is a possibility. Bigger stands suit some dealers more than others. What would it gain a fair that had adequate space to insist on one rigid booth size regardless of what the individual exhibitor might prefer?

At the new Committee's first formal meeting in Turin, Italy, in late March, we will be discussing ideas for improving ILAB Congress book fairs. Probably we will come up with a few suggestions, which we will then pass along to the Presidents when they meet in Potsdam in November. If they want to make some basic changes to those book fairs, it's their call. The Committee itself can do no more than study and recommend. Even if the Committee did have the power to dictate how ILAB Congress fairs are run—which it doesn't—as a practical matter, we are totally unable to run a book fair. For one thing, we already have as much work as we can handle, and then a bit more. For another thing, book fairs cannot be run from a distance by an international committee that may well include not a single member from the country hosting a fair, let alone members with any particular experience or talent for organizing book fairs. This Committee, like every other Committee, does what it can to promote ILAB book fairs, but the success or failure of any fair does not, and should not, depend solely on us—it's the responsibility of the entire League.

Peter, your idealism and support for ILAB is very strong, of long standing, and well known. It comes through loud and clear in your article. You have attended every Congress and displayed at the book fair for years and years. You've done that even while knowing that you could not count on robust sales, but because you believe in the ideal and put your money where your mouth is, so to speak. Your anger that the Congresses and fairs are not better supported is a noble anger, in my opinion. I ask you to take my word for it that you and the

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## Temple

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ILAB Committee are on the same team. I think that if you could be a fly on the wall during our meetings, if you could read our almost daily emails to each other, you would be embarrassed to have dumped on us. We really don't deserve it. We have been working very diligently at small and sometimes large personal and financial sacrifice for the good of the whole. We haven't been fooling around. We don't have it in for any nation. There is a very positive feeling collectively, and we are working well together. I too wish more ILAB booksellers would attend these Congresses. They have been really super. They have certainly given me a much better sense of belonging to an international community whose concerns are pretty much identical to my own. I think every ILAB bookseller, like a Muslim and his obligation to see Mecca at least once in his life, should attend an ILAB Congress before he croaks. Do it once, you'll want to do it again.

May I terminate my usual wordiness with the very words you use to close your article? "Support ILAB Congresses! Exhibit! See you in Australia, 2004!"

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I am delighted to have elicited such a response from a colleague I've known for so many years, and under so many varied circumstances. I thought no one had read the piece at all. I stand corrected on all matters of fact. As a former elected President of the ABAA, a Governor for two terms, and as an elected NCC/ABAA official, no one knows better than I (except a present member of the Internet Committee or the Security Committee) the dedication of volunteering booksellers, their hard work and long hours.

If I am disallowed a tone of bitter humor, while in a state of reflection and in memory, with regard to one fine lunch I enjoyed under ILAB auspices, so be it. A rigged election in which the ABAA (not I) was victimized is a rigged election. I have nothing but hope in any newly elected governing body, the USA's present governing body excepted, so go, ILAB Committee, go! Canadian international book fairs used to be such fun! I exhibited at them all, almost, certainly at more than most Canadian booksellers. When will some of the more experienced Canadian booksellers dare to cross their own borders? When will every national organization grant two

scholarships to the ILAB Congress and to the ILAB Fair?

The Edinburgh and Copenhagen international book fairs were disgraceful. I hold responsible the ILAB Committees sitting prior to the fair dates.

*Peter B. Howard*

I began attending ILAB Congresses in 1978 (Zurich), and I attended all but two or three until 2000 (Edinburgh), which I declined to attend. I witnessed many things you did not, Steven, and while I will be delighted to suggest times may have changed at ILAB, I will also suggest, based on firsthand observation, that there were plenty of—how shall I say, questionable?—acts which transpired over the years that I was involved. I too believe that ILAB serves a useful and noble purpose, and in the abstract I am one of its biggest supporters. I have never had a problem with the organization as such, and I fully support its mission and ideals. But some of those who have preceded you in ILAB were unscrupulous, insufferably arrogant, partook in—yes—boozy lunches, and some were outright deceitful. Let's hope that ILAB is done with behavior like that.

*Rob Rulon-Miller* ■

**A contribution to the ABAA Benevolent Fund or the Elisabeth Woodburn Memorial Fund is a meaningful way to honor the life and work of a departed colleague. A contribution can also be a thoughtful celebration of an important event in the life of an antiquarian bookseller—a birthday, an anniversary, or a retirement.**

**The Antiquarian Booksellers' Benevolent Fund is a non-profit charity fund established by the ABAA in 1952 to benefit any antiquarian bookseller in time of personal need. The Elisabeth Woodburn Memorial Fund offers financial assistance for education and scholarly research relevant to the antiquarian book trade.**



**Direct your contributions and inquiries to:  
Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America  
20 West 44th Street  
Fourth Floor  
New York, NY 10036**

## Northern California Chapter Raises Money for Benevolent Fund

At its Holiday Meeting, December 10, 2002, the NCC held a raffle of prizes donated by its members. The proceeds of this event directly benefited the Benevolent Fund, in the amount of \$1,060. The ABAA gratefully recognizes the contributions of these NCC members, especially given the present somewhat depressed economic climate: John R. Durham, William Ewald, Thomas A. Goldwasser, Michael Hackenberg, Henry and Louise Moises, Jeffrey Thomas, and Vic Zoschak, Jr. ■

# In Memoriam

## Henry “Hank” Young Moises Walnut Creek, CA

ABAA member Henry Moises departed his loved ones suddenly on January 14, 2003, of heart failure after a very brief illness. He was born August 23, 1936, in Brooklyn, NY and attended Brooklyn Tech High School. He served in the Navy for four years as a radar technician or what he called a “twitch-it” aboard carrier-based aircraft. His experiences from those years made for a lifetime of adventuresome stories that he loved to share with one and all. He recently attended a reunion of his Navy carrier group, where he reveled in yarn swapping. The Navy brought Hank to California, which he immediately fell in love with. Hank moved with his Navy buddy, Dave Rogers, to Point Arena, where he worked in the sawmills and explored the woods and hills of Northern California.

Following his fascination with science and technology, he attended first Santa Rosa Junior College and then San Jose State College, where he received a BA in Physics. It was there he met the love of his life, Louise Wallace. They married in 1965, and their first son, Scott, was born in 1966. When money was tight, the couple took up hiking and exploring the East Bay Regional Parks, which became a lifelong passion, as did bird watching and geology.

Hank pursued his scientific career working at Lockheed Satellite Test Center and then at Physics International in San Leandro, where he worked on ground motion and thermodynamics. The family settled in the East Bay, and in 1972 their second son, Wade, was born. To relieve the stress of his job with weapons research, Hank began collecting books. Hank had a natural curiosity for everything and sought challenges, answers and stimulation from his books in subjects as diverse as fractals and quantum mechanics, the history of the ancient world and Latin, to the poetry of Kenneth Rexroth and the classics. In 1975 together with his wife, Hank opened The Bookstall on Sixty-Third Street in Oakland, a used

and rare book business. To make ends meet, Hank joined the U.S. Post Office as a letter carrier in San Francisco. While the bookstore “hatched,” Hank delivered mail to many businesses in “downtown,” where he made lasting friends. He also found in San Francisco a place for The Bookstall, and the store relocated to 708 Sutter Street, followed by 570 Sutter Street where it stayed until October 31, 2002. Hank joined the business full time in 1984, where the impossible was accomplished... he worked full time with his spouse! Together they joined the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America, where they expanded their circle of friends.

Hank’s granddaughter, Maise Jane Moises, was born to son, Scott, and his wife Ria in 1993. Because they lived in the mountains of Colorado, frequent trips by Amtrak and roving car journeys on Highway 50 were made. Scott introduced his father to mountain sports, and Hank tried his best to take part in them, but he soon found his niche gazing at the mountains from his son’s home, walking Pablo the dog, and reading. Hank adored Maise and was soon giving her lessons in science and mathematics. Second son Wade attended the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park and settled in New York City, so Hank became reacquainted with his roots and enjoyed stimulating visits to Manhattan. He loved visiting the museums and libraries, and walking.

When The Bookstall closed in the fall of 2002, the business was moved to the Moises home in Walnut Creek, where a new life was to be pursued. Hank worked for three months organizing and building his home business. He was looking forward to many new-found hours of freedom from the retail business to hike and explore the places he loved and the subjects he was drawn to in his thousands of books.

Hank wrote all of his musings over the years on thousands of pieces of paper mixing equations and scientific thoughts with notes on what he needed at the grocery store. His final writings were as follows:

“How lucky I am—Death was my neighbor—I didn’t feel his cold breath all the time—But it was a softly entering the air I breathed never-the-less. When did it become my partner?”

Henry Moises was preceded in death by his mother, father, and grandparents. He leaves behind a loving family: his wife Louise, sons Scott and Wade, granddaughter Maise, and daughter-in-law Ria; his sister, Honey Moises, and Uncle H.Y. Moises, his namesake; and members of Louise’s family: Madeline and Bob Wallace, Raymond and Shelley Wallace; nieces and nephew, Corie, Teresa, and Robert; cousin, Jean Kempf.

His religion was nature and the universe to which he returns.

A celebration of the life of Henry Moises was held Saturday, January 18, 2003, at his home. For those who love Mount Diablo as much as Hank did, and for those who love to look at it from afar, the family requests that donations be made in his name to: Save Mount Diablo, P.O. Box 5376, Walnut Creek, CA. 94596.

—Louise Moises

## Eugene L. Schwaab Jr. Stoughton, MA

Eugene L. Schwaab died Sunday Feb. 23, 2003, after complications related to heart surgery. Born on April 13, 1941, in Manhattan, New York, he was sixty-one years old. He was the owner and operator of Western Hemisphere Inc., an antiquarian book dealership. He joined the company, founded by his father, in 1974. As a rag-time composer and pianist, ardent practitioner, student and instructor of yoga, he served as an invaluable catalyst in the many lives he encountered. Eugene brought a rare dynamism and penetrating intelligence to bear on diverse problems and situations affecting those he met or who sought him out. A lifelong explorer of the human condition, in later years his interests in spirituality broadened his skills and effectiveness as counselor.

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## In Memoriam

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His belief in the importance of community governed much of his energy at Emmanuel Church, to which he was initially drawn because of its exceptional music program and the people he met there. His impact on the Emmanuel community was reflected by the many parishioners who supported him during his last few weeks.

He was a lifelong, active, and beloved member of the Amateur Telescope Makers and Observers of Newton. His geniality, extraordinary punning abilities, and general good nature were not lost on club members, and many others who could appreciate a person of highly developed sensibilities who was not paralyzed by the banality of much of contemporary American life.

He leaves his brother Ian Schwaab, nieces Daniela Dana, Jocelyn Dana, Allison Lynn, aunt Sima Hanish, cousins Richard Hanish and Babette Hanish, cousins Lisa and Josh Chernin, and step-mother Su-Lien Schwaab as well as many others with both a deep sense of loss and gratitude for having been part of his complex life, and for having them in theirs.

The funeral was held February 27, 2003, at Sharon Memorial Park in Sharon, Massachusetts. In lieu of flowers. Memorials can be made to the American Heart Society or Emmanuel Church of Boston, 15 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116. ■

*The ABAA Newsletter* welcomes contributions from all its readers, members and non-members alike. Send your articles, photographs, announcements, and letters to:

The ABAA Newsletter  
400 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55102  
Phone 651-290-0700  
Fax 651-290-0646  
newsletter@abaa.org

## Recent Books by Members

• **Paul Garon.** *The Devil's Son-in-Law: The Story of Peetie Wheatstraw and His Songs*. Revised and Expanded Edition. With companion CD. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr Publishing Company, 2003. 138 pp.

### Reviewed by Tracy E. Smith

An expanded reissue of Paul Garon's first book, originally published in London in 1971 and now difficult to find, *The Devil's Son-in-Law* is a fascinating study of the often recorded and highly popular St. Louis bluesman of the 1920s and 1930s known as Peetie Wheatstraw.

Born William Bunch in 1902 or 1904, Wheatstraw spent much of his youth in Arkansas and arrived in St. Louis in the late 1920s possessing both guitar and piano playing skills. He found audiences eager for his music on both sides of the Mississippi River, where he played with the St. Louis area's best loved and talented musicians and established himself as an adept piano player, singer, and lyricist. He made his first recording in 1930 and went on to record more than 160 songs in Chicago and New York studios, primarily for the Vocalion and Decca labels. He died in 1941, the result of a car-train collision.

In seeking the "story" of Peetie Wheatstraw beyond the bare biographical facts provided by census reports, a death certificate, and record studio files—thirty and then some sixty years after the singer's death—Garon, not surprisingly, found only limited sources available. Reminiscences of a handful of Wheatstraw's surviving colleagues provided tantalizing, though fragmentary, insights into the bluesman's life, character, and career. Published studies of the blues began to be seen in increasing numbers in the 1960s with the revival of interest in this musical form, especially as exemplified by guitarists, but few, if any, paid attention to Wheatstraw, a piano player. "This situation, however," as Garon points out, "has certain compensatory features. There are other ways of finding out about bluesmen and their music, as well as the dynamic conditions which produced them." To find out about *his* bluesman, Garon delves into

the circumstances and lyrics of Wheatstraw's songs. There are more than sixty of them transcribed in *The Devil's Son-in-Law*, songs that Garon believes "offer the sharpest insights into Peetie's life."

The song transcriptions provide a chronology for the last eleven years of Wheatstraw's life and allow Garon to easily introduce a cast of supporting artists: fellow bluesmen who worked with the piano player and knew him well. The song chronology also enables Garon to trace Wheatstraw's stylistic and lyrical development and to discuss his subject's enduring impact on fellow musicians; the selection of twenty-three songs on the accompanying CD lends audible credence to the author's conclusions and observations. Garon also examines the lyrics of Wheatstraw's songs, which offer compelling insights into the urban lives of African-Americans during the Depression: *Jungle Man Blues* (set in a hobo "jungle" or hoboville), *Working on the Project* (about working for the WPA), and *Third Street's Goin' Down* (about displacement endured as a result of an East St. Louis urban renewal project), among others.

Most importantly, the recorded songs offer Garon provocative clues to the inner workings of the man behind the piano and the basis for Wheatstraw's popularity. William Bunch imaginatively re-fashioned his identity by becoming Peetie Wheatstraw—also known as "The Devil's Son-in-Law" and "The High Sheriff from Hell"—and endowing himself with audacious, fantastical powers in his lyrics: in *Pete Wheatstraw* he prowls the sky, "o'r the rising clouds," and in *Peetie Wheatstraw Stomp No. 2*, "Everybody wondering what that Peetie Wheatstraw do. 'Cause every time you hear him, he's coming out with something new." Garon concludes that "the creation of a figure like the Devil's Son-in-Law was not only a protest against the drab role which the black man was expected to fill, but also a striking representation of what the future might hold." And he argues, convincingly so, that it was this possibility expressed in Wheatstraw's character and



his music that drew African-American audiences to the bluesman.

This edition includes a new summation by the author, an enlarged chapter on the appearance of "Peter Wheatstraw" in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, an expanded bibliography, and a lengthy updated discography. It is available in paperback for \$15 and in cloth for \$21 (both with the companion CD), plus shipping. Contact Beasley Books, 1533 West Oakdale, Chicago, IL 60657; phone: 773-472-4528; fax: 773-472-7857; email: beasley@beasleybooks.com.

• **Collectors & Special Collections: Three Talks.** By Alice D. Schreyer, William S. Reese, and Robert H. Jackson. Washington, DC: Center for the Book, Library of Congress, 2002. 56 pp.

ABAA member Bill Reese, along with University of Chicago special collections librarian Alice D. Schreyer and collector Robert H. Jackson, inaugurated the first Library of Congress Rare Book Forum on April 4, 2001. Their presentations are now available in a booklet published by the Center for the Book. Reese asks, "What Have You Done for Me Lately? Collectors and Institutions in Modern Times;" while Schreyer examines "Elective Affinities: Private Collectors and Special Collections in Libraries;" and Jackson poses the question, "Will the Book Collector of Today Be the Donor of Tomorrow?"

The essays are introduced by former ABAA member Daniel De Simone, now curator of the Library's Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection, who observes that the three talks get to the heart of contemporary relationships among librarians, private collectors, booksellers, and scholars. Key questions addressed by all three writers include: "How does the library reach the modern collector? How can philanthropy, collection development, and preservation, traditional values associated with special collections, be presented to contemporary collectors in such a way as to offer the market dynamics that have dominated the rare book trade for the past 20 years? How can the trust between collector and librarian which was so evident during the 1950s and 1960s be reestab-

lished? How will the special collections librarian of tomorrow be prepared for dealing with the young collectors of today, who form their libraries through Internet purchases?"

*Collectors & Special Collections* is available for \$10 plus shipping through Oak Knoll Press, 310 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720; telephone (302) 328-7232; toll-free (800) 996-2556.

• **Bernard M. Rosenthal.** *The Gentle Invasion: Continental Emigre Booksellers of the Thirties and Forties and Their Impact on the Antiquarian Book-trade in the United States.* The 1986 Sol M. Malkin Lecture. New printing, with a postscript. Charlottesville, VA: Book Arts Press, University of Virginia, 2003.

• **Justin G. Schiller.** *Pioneering Collectible Children's Books: The First One Hundred Years.* The 1993 Sol. M. Malkin Lecture. Charlottesville, VA: Book Arts Press, University of Virginia, 2003. 48pp.

According to Terry Belanger, founding director of the Rare Book School and Book Arts Press, "the wheels grind slowly here—but they do move." ABAA member Justin Schiller gave his Malkin lecture nearly ten years ago. The text of his presentation, an historical examination of the antiquarian trade in children's books, is now finally available. Fellow member Barney Rosenthal presented *The Gentle Invasion* as the second in the ongoing Malkin Lecture series. Long unavailable, BAP has reprinted Rosenthal's reminiscences of what it was like to be a bookseller in Germany and Austria in the 1930s with additional comments from the author.

Both publications are available for \$10 plus shipping from the Book Arts Press, 114 Alderman Library, PO Box 400103, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4103. fax: 434-924-8824; email: oldbooks@virginia.edu.

• **Arc de Cercle, volume I, number 1 (January 2003).** Edited and published by Terence A. Tanner. Arc de Cercle Press, 1719 Howard St., Evanston, IL 60202. Subscriptions \$50/year (2 issues) for individuals; \$100 for institutions.

Reviewed by Paul Garon

The announcement of a new journal in the field of the history of psychiatry is, for many of us, exciting and satisfying news. Those scholars who focus their lens on the activities of Freud and his circle in the period from 1870 to 1920 often have difficulty finding a venue for their remarkable papers. Why this is so isn't far to seek.

As their research progressed, scholars like Peter Swales, Anthony Stadlen, Terry Tanner himself, and Frederick Crews (among others) discovered that psychoanalytic history from earlier decades was about thirty percent history and seventy percent whitewash (I'm sure Terry would say that I am too kind). And their revisions have not been welcome in the standard periodicals of psychoanalysis, journals like the *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis* and the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*. They are a group of careful, astute scholars and historians whose work is greeted as if it were that of muckraking journalists—not that there is anything wrong with that. Any archaeologist can find muck where he or she expected to find layers of bedrock.

To supply an outlet for this body of work, Terry Tanner of Hamill and Barker has founded his own erudite journal, *Arc de Cercle*, named for one of the classic hysteric postures exhibited by patients at the Salpêtrière under the tutelage of Jean-Martin Charcot. And what a splendid, first-class journal it is. Freud began his *Psychopathology of Everyday Life* with his famous "Signorelli" example, a case of forgetting a proper name. Peter J. Swales's re-analysis of Freud's analysis, and more important, his discussion of the events surrounding this episode, is the featured article of the first issue. Equal in importance is Tanner's own piece on Freud and the *Zeitschrift für Hypnotismus*, which illuminates a period of Freud's work about which we know very little.

Quite humorous is Anthony Stadlen's tale of his adventure in attempting to review—by invitation—a typically careless piece of Freudiana for the *Psychoan-*

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## 2003 Summer Study Opportunities

### Out-Of-Print and Antiquarian Book Market Seminar, Colorado College

Now in its 25th year, the Colorado Book Seminar provides an opportunity for specialists to share their expertise and experience with booksellers, librarians, and collectors in a comprehensive survey of the out-of-print, antiquarian, rare, and used book markets. Basic procedures and problems are discussed formally and informally through a series of lectures, discussions, demonstrations and hands-on workshops with emphasis on the internet, computers and internet book selling, as well as traditional methods. Book Seminars 2003 should provide an intensive opportunity to meet and network with others of like interest.

This year's seminar will open with a keynote address by Daniel De Simone, Curator of the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection at The Library of Congress and an ABAA dealer before his library appointment. The ABAA will also be well represented by Jeffrey Marks, who serves as the seminar's Specialist Dealer, and faculty members Michael Ginsberg, Edwin V. Glaser, Jennifer Larson, and John D. Townsend.

The seminar runs August 3–8, 2003, on the campus of Colorado College in Colorado Springs. For more information and registration materials, please visit <[www.bookseminars.com](http://www.bookseminars.com)> or contact Kathy Lindeman, Local Coordinator,

1604 East Yampa Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909; phone: 719-473-6634; email: [KathyL@bookseminars.com](mailto:KathyL@bookseminars.com)

### Rare Book School, University of Virginia

This year, RBS is offering 24 five-day non-credit courses during its June and two summer sessions on topics concerning old and rare books, manuscripts, and special collections. The educational and professional prerequisites for RBS courses vary. Some courses are broadly directed toward antiquarian booksellers, book collectors, bookbinders, conservators, teachers, and professional and avocational students of the history of books and printing. Others are primarily intended for archivists and for research and rare book librarians and curators.

Most RBS courses are limited to twelve or fewer students, who make a full-time commitment to any course they attend, from 8:30 am through 5 pm, Monday through Friday; most students also attend an informal dinner and orientation on the Sunday evening before their first class on Monday. In addition to the formal classes during the day, there are early evening public lectures and other bookish events throughout each week of RBS.

The RBS June session runs June 9–13, 2003; the first summer session, July 7–18; and the second summer session,

July 28–August 8. The tuition for each five-day course is \$775.

For additional information, including course schedule, faculty listings, scholarships, and lodging, please visit <[www.rarebookschool.org](http://www.rarebookschool.org)> or contact Rare Book School, PO Box 400103, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904; phone: 434-924-8851; fax: 434-924-8824; email: <[oldbooks@virginia.edu](mailto:oldbooks@virginia.edu)>.

### Special Collections Institutes, University of Illinois

The Graduate School of Library and Information Science and the Rare Book and Special Collections Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will be offering four short courses on topics in special collections during the summer of 2003. The Special Collections Institutes programs will be of interest to library and information professionals, book lovers, and teachers:

Special Collections in the Sciences, May 19–23, 2003, with Robin Rider, Associate Director for Collection Development, Management, and Preservation for the General Library System, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Library Fundraising, June 10–12, 2003, with Victoria Steele, Head of Special Collections, UCLA.

Teaching Using Primary Source Material, July 14–18, 2003, with Barbara Jones, Head of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

History of the Book, August 4–8, 2003, with Sidney Berger, faculty at Simmons College and recent Director of the California Center for the Book.

For registration details, contact Conferences and Institutes, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 302 East John Street, Suite 202, Champaign, IL 61820; phone: 217-333-2880 or toll free 877-455-2687; email: [wolffl@uiuc.edu](mailto:wolffl@uiuc.edu).

For program information, visit <[www.continuing.uiuc.edu/conferences](http://www.continuing.uiuc.edu/conferences)> or contact Marianne Steadley, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, phone: 217-244-2751; email: [steadley@uiuc.edu](mailto:steadley@uiuc.edu).

## Recent Books

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*alytic Review*. In spite of being asked by the *Review* to critique Dr. Joseph Schwartz's *Cassandra's Daughter: A History of Psychoanalysis in Europe and America*, the editors refused to publish his article because it didn't reflect their own "view as to the merit of this book."

A regular feature of *Arc de Cercle* is the column "Setting the Record Straight," a forum for shorter commentary that "corrects errors in the published record relating to the mind sciences." Here we

find three short pieces by Tanner, including a fascinating analysis of the changes in Freud's "Signorelli" diagram that took place between printings of Freud's "The Psychical Mechanism of Forgetfulness" in an 1898 periodical and its appearance as the first chapter of *The Psychopathology of Everyday Life* in successive printings of that work. The survey of German printings and editions that took place in Freud's lifetime reveals three quite different diagrams, all approved by Freud.

The journal is elegant and compelling in its appearance, and we in the ABAA can all be proud of such a significant accomplishment on the part of one of our members. ■

## Brigham Young University Honors Rostenberg and Stern

Brigham Young University has purchased a quantity of four titles co-authored by ABAA legends Leona Rostenberg and Madeleine Stern for presentation to all 130 member institutions of the American Research Libraries. The books, published by Oak Knoll Press, are *Old Books in the Old World*, *New Worlds in Old Books*, *Books Have Their Fates*, and *From Revolution to Revolution: Perspectives on Publishing and Bookselling*.

The following letter, signed by University Librarian Randy J. Olsen and Assistant University Librarian for Special Collections Scott H. Duvall, accompanies each gift package.

*Dear Friends and Colleagues:*

*We, at the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University, extend to you our warmest greetings for the new year*

*and hope you will accept this gift of four books authored by Leona Rostenberg and Madeleine Stern. These two wonderful women have been friends of the Harold B. Lee Library for over forty years. Many of the collections that we have in our Special Collections, such as the Louisa May Alcott Collection and the Aldine Collection, are the result of our collaboration with the Firm of Rostenberg and Stern. With this gift we honor these two renowned book and manuscript scholars. Leona and Madeleine have had so many rich experiences in the book world and not only provide us with descriptions of their experiences but also give us advice and wisdom. Please accept their writings as an acknowledgment of all that Leona and Madeleine have done for libraries over the years and for those who love the history of the printed word.*

*We also take this opportunity to offer this gift as a tribute and memorial to A. Dean Larsen. Dean was the Associate Director of the Harold B. Lee Library in charge of Collection Development for thirty years. We suffered a great loss recently when cancer claimed his life.*

*Indeed, Dean's friendship with Leona and Madeleine started a marvelous relationship from which we still benefit to this day.*

*In addition to these four books, please accept a brochure that describes our Special Collections department. In many ways, the history of the growth of our Special Collections is the story of our relationship with people like Leona and Madeleine who have provided education, guidance, and direction in our efforts to build research collections.*

*Again, we offer the best wishes for a prosperous and happy year for you and your institution.* ■

## Bromsen Receives Brown University Medal

ABAA member Dr. Maury A. Bromsen of Boston was awarded the Brown University President's Medal on March 12 at a ceremony in the John Carter Brown Library. The medal was awarded by President Ruth J. Simmons in recognition of Dr. Bromsen's lifetime dedication to collecting and preserving historic books and manuscripts relating to the history of North and South America, in particular colonial Spanish America.

The Brown University President's Medal is the highest award bestowed by the President and is designed to honor a person who has achieved distinction in a particular field, including education, scholarship, public service, the arts, or philanthropy. The medal has been awarded only six times since its origination in 1994.

Named honorary curator and bibliographer of Latin Americana at the John Carter Brown Library in 1996, Bromsen has since donated to the library his collection of portraits, iconography, and manuscripts relating to the famed liberator of

South America, Simón Bolívar. It is the only collection of its kind outside South America. The Maury A. Bromsen-Simón Bolívar Room was established in the Library to house and display this gift.

Born in New York in 1919, Dr. Bromsen is widely recognized for his broad knowledge of the history of printing and publishing in colonial Spanish America, in particular for his mastery of the lives and accomplishments of the great bibliographers of that time. As a member of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the Pan American Union (later the Organization of American States) in the early 1950s, Bromsen headed the Section on Bibliography and established the quarterly *Inter-American Review of Bibliography*, which continues today. He also edited a collection of essays about Chilean scholar José Toribio Medina, published in 1960 by the Pan American Union.

Dr. Bromsen was decorated in 1952 by the government of Chile, with the Orden al Mérito Bernardo O'Higgins as Knight Commander, and in 1985 by the govern-

ment of Venezuela, with its Orden de Francisco de Miranda, First Class, for his contributions to the history and bibliography of Spanish America. In 1970, Dr. Bromsen endowed the Boston Public Library's Bromsen Lectureship in Humanistic Bibliography, which provides for a distinguished speaker every year. He has also endowed an acquisitions fund at the Boston Public Library and made gifts of rare books and manuscripts to the University of Florida.

Dr. Bromsen has lived in Boston since 1953, where he established a firm specializing in the sale of rare books and manuscripts, and historical arts. According to Dr. Norman Fiering, the Director of the John Carter Brown Library, "the concentration of historical sources that makes possible serious research is above all facilitated by learned antiquarian book dealers, and Maury Bromsen has had few peers in the twentieth century in this beneficial work. I am enormously pleased that President Simmons has seen fit to recognize Dr. Bromsen's work in this regard." ■

## New Members

The *ABAA Newsletter* welcomes the following new members accepted at the Board of Governors Meeting in San Francisco in February:

**Michael Thomas Brown**, Michael Brown Rare Books, 4421 Osage Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19104; phone: 215-387-2290; fax: 215-387-9808; email: mbamericana@mindspring.com.

**Arnold M. Herr**, Arnold M. Herr Bookseller, Inc., 449 North Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90036; phone: 323-658-8557; email: arnbooks@earthlink.net.

**John W. Knott, Jr.**, John W. Knott, Jr., Bookseller, 8453 Early Bud Way, Laurel,

MD 20723; phone and fax: 301-317-8427; email: jwk@jwkbooks.com.

**Richard M. Murian**, Alcuin Books, Ltd., 115 West Camelback Road, Phoenix, AZ 85013; phone: 602-279-3031; fax: 602-279-5654; email: alcuin@msn.com; Web: <www.alcuinbooks.com>.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

**Louis M. Jason**, Mystery Pier Books, Inc., West Hollywood, CA.

**Valerie Urban**, Rulon-Miller Books, St. Paul, MN.

**Rachel B. Weinstein**, Heritage Book Shop, Inc., Los Angeles, CA. ■

## Member Updates

**Douglas N. Harding** has a new fax number and email address: fax: 207-646-0378; dharding@maine.rr.com

**David J. Holmes** has a new address, phone, and fax: POB 90, Hamilton, NY 13346; phone: 315-824-9494; fax: 315-824-9699.

**Mosher Books** has a new email address: tbmosher@comcast.net

**Old Editions Book Shop** has a new address, phone, and fax: 74 East Huron

St., Buffalo, NY 14203; phone: 716-842-1734; fax: 716-332-6949.

**Thomas and Ahngsana Suarez** have a new address and phone: 1385 Fall Oaks Court, West Linn, OR 97068; phone: 503-212-2026.

**Frank O. Walsh, Yesteryear Book Shop** has a new address: POB 550065, Atlanta, GA 30355. ■

### Now Available:

### *ABAA Membership Directory 2003*

Copies of the *ABAA Membership Directory 2003* will be mailed out to all ABAA members and *Newsletter* subscribers after the New York book fair. Additional copies will be available for member dealers by request.

After May 1, 2003, non-members may request a copy of the *ABAA Membership Directory 2003*, which contains up-to-date contact information and hours for ABAA member booksellers and is indexed by geographical location, specialties, and personal names, by contacting Liane Wade, ABAA Headquarters, 20 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036-6604; phone 212-944-8291; fax 212-944-8293; email: hq@abaa.org.

The deadline for submissions to the next *Newsletter* is

May 26, 2003

Send your contributions to:  
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