

RBMS NEWSLETTER

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

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A NEW JOURNAL: RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARIANSHIP

The Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of ACRL announces the forthcoming publication of a new journal devoted to Special Collections librarianship. Each issue will contain three or four articles to total approximately thirty pages, ten pages of book reviews and notices of books received, and two to three pages of news notes. The emphasis of the journal will be on the theory and practice of Special Collections librarianship. Among the topics to be included are: acquisitions and collection development of rare books and manuscripts; security, access and use of special collections; conservation; cataloging of special materials; computer applications; fund raising, donor relations, and Friends groups; exhibits; and historical development of various special collections. Articles to be included in the first issue should be submitted no later than July 15, and for the second issue no later than December 2, 1985, to the Editorial Board, c/o Ann Gwyn, Editor, The Milton S. Eisenhower Library, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland 21218. For News Notes please submit reports of noteworthy acquisitions, recent and forthcoming activities, conferences, exhibitions, and projects or publications in rare book and manuscript libraries to Alice D. Schreyer, Administrative Offices, Rutgers University Libraries, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. Persons who wish to contribute book reviews for the journal should send their names and particular areas of interest to the book review book editor, Paul S. Koda, School of Library and Information Science, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. 20064. Librarians and curators are also invited to send to the book review editor copies of exhibit catalogues and suggestions for titles to review. Information about subscriptions may be obtained from Sandy Whitley, ACRL/ALA, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

RBMS IN CHICAGO

RBMS members will gather in Chicago on July 2nd, the opening date of the 1985 Preconference titled "Changing Concepts of Value and Rarity." Previously-announced information regarding the principle speakers at the RBMS Preconference is complemented here by a description of the meetings offered by the Continuing Education Committee of RBMS. Those members seeking additional information regarding attendance at this event may contact "RBMS Preconference", ACRL/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

RBMS Committee meetings and Annual Conference programs of interest to RBMS members are described on pp. 4-5 of this newsletter, followed by a listing of the committee meetings on p. 6.

RBMS Preconference: Continuing Education Meetings Schedule

The Continuing Education Committee has prepared two series of meetings to be held in conjunction with the major presentations at the Chicago Preconference. A listing of the meeting titles, with the date, time, and participants involved are listed below.

Notice that meetings A, B, C, and E are to be offered only once. Meeting C, "Historical Society Libraries," will provide a forum for discussion of the challenges and opportunities presented to historical library staff (and researchers).

The Continuing Education Committee also plans to ask RBMS Committee chairs to participate by reporting on the function and work of their respective committees, for the benefit of those attending the Preconference. Details will be forthcoming at Chicago.

[1985 Preconference Continuing Education Meetings List]

A Choosing Library Systems (Robert Combs, Art Institute of Chicago)

B Design & Renovation of Special Collections Facilities (Bonnie Jo Cullison, Newberry Library; Paul Koda, School of Library Science, Catholic University of America; Russell Maylone, Northwestern University)

C Historical Society Libraries (Barbara Benson, Historical Society of Delaware; Leigh Darbee, Indiana Historical Society; Peter Drummey, Massachusetts Historical Society; William Keller, Museum & Library of Maryland History)

D Manuscript Valuations (Lisa Browar, Vassar College; Mary Jo Kline, Sotheby's; Ralph Newman, Ralph Geoffrey Newman, Inc.)

E Maps in Rare Book Collections (Michael Edmonds, State Historical Society of Wisconsin; Robert Karrow, Newberry Library; Robert S. Martin, Louisiana State University)

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F Preservation: Evaluating the Options (Ann Russell, Northeast Document Conservation Center)

G The RLIN Implementation of the MARC Archives & Manuscripts Format (Barbara Brown, Research Libraries Group)

H Rare Book Librarians as Collectors, Dealers, & Appraisers: Ethical Considerations (Terry Belanger, School of Library Service, Columbia University; Richard Landon, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto; William Moffett, Oberlin College; Robert Patterson, University of Tulsa)

I Rare Book Reading Rooms (Jennifer Lee, Brown University; Barbara Paulson, Pierpont Morgan Library; Alison Scott, Smith College)

J Special Collections in the General Collections Environment (Donald Farren, University of Maryland; William L. Joyce, New York Public Library; Samuel A. Streit, Brown University)

K The Tax Reform Act of 1984 & Charitable Contributions (David L. Crabb, Director/Gift & Estate Planning, University of Chicago)

L Using Volunteers & Docents in Rare Book & Manuscript Libraries (Barbara Mengel, Art Institute of Chicago; Sally Leach, University of Texas/Austin); Leslie Morris, Rosenbach Museum & Library)

July 3 (Wednesday): 2:00 - 3:30 A, D, I, K, L
 3:30 - 5:00 B, D, J, K, L

July 5 (Friday): 11:00 - 12:30 C, F, G, H, I
 2:00 - 3:30 E, F, G, H, J

Ad Hoc Discussion Groups

A new feature, also sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee, is the forming of ad hoc discussion groups (DIGs) at the Preconference. Time has been reserved in the schedule of seminars to enable individual Preconference attendees to come up with their own ideas for sessions to be devoted to (for instance):

- types of libraries (e.g., rare book librarians in public libraries)
- types of activities (e.g., persons who are concerned with bibliographical or other institutional presses)
- particular problems (e.g., training non-professional personnel)
- particular subject interests (e.g., nineteenth-century cloth bookbindings)
- particular professional concerns (e.g., relations with the antiquarian book trade)

If you are interested in setting up a DIG, you may want to come to Chicago equipped either with signs advertising your meeting, or with materials for signs. There will be further information about DIGs in the Preconference registration packets.

RBMS Committee Activities

A full slate of RBMS Committee meetings is planned at the Annual Conference in Chicago, July 6-10. Conservator's Collations (ad hoc) will continue its deliberations as described in the previous issue of this Newsletter (December 1984 issue, p. 2). Continuing Education will discuss, among other things, a new draft of the committee charge.

The committee on Curatorial Issues Raised by Conservation (ad hoc) organized itself during the Mid-winter Meeting in Washington. Agreement was quickly reached that a statement providing guidance for the curator-conservator relationship is needed. Members of the committee have accepted assignments to investigate aspects of the issues raised and to report the status of their investigations at the committee meeting during the Annual Conference in Chicago. Committee members have been investigating such matters as what conservators should be able to expect from curators and what curators should be able to expect from conservators, what both should be able to expect from administrators, what the library user's interest in these matters is, what relevant standards or guidelines have already been issued, what relevant literature on these issues exists, and what contacts should be established with other groups in investigating these issues.

The ad hoc Committee to Develop Guidelines for Professional Ethics, having published its draft in C & RL News (July/August 1984), will present the final draft at the Chicago Conference. Proposed and revised guidelines related to the work of the Exhibition Catalogs Awards committee have been accepted by the ACRL Board and the committee will work at Chicago on implementing the guidelines (see also p. 7).

Journal Publications will meet to consider issues related to the new journal, Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarianship, which was announced to the readership on the first page of this Newsletter. Literary Rights, an ad hoc committee which first met at the 1985 ALA Midwinter Meeting, now has an amended charge: to investigate and report upon the feasibility of compiling a central registry of the owners of the literary rights inherent in manuscripts, which are distinct from rights inherent in the ownership of the physical property of manuscripts, and to prepare a text for a future informational pamphlet dealing with the issue of literary rights and intended to guide researchers to sources of information concerning literary rights holders in the United States and abroad. The Manuscripts and Archives Discussion Group Committee (ad hoc), approved at ALA Midwinter by the RBMS Executive Committee, will hold its first meeting at Chicago. Publications will work, as stated in a new charge (proposed and approved at Midwinter) to investigate the avenues of publishing that are open to the Section, to clarify to the Section publishing procedures required by ACRL and ALA, to direct suitable material to the new RBMS Journal, and to represent Section viewpoints on publishing to ACRL and ALA. MARC Cataloging for Special Collections Information Exchange (MASC) will hold its yearly informal discussion meeting. The Preconference Planning (New York) committee, having laid the groundwork for the 1986 RBMS Preconference in New York (see p. 8), will be busy in Chicago working out the details of these events scheduled for June 24-27, 1986. Security will review drafts written by subcommittee chairs, leading towards publishing a draft of guidelines on security in C & RL News in the fall. The three components of the draft are: (1) what to do before a theft, (2) what to do after a theft, and (3) model theft legislation at the state level. The Standards committee will meet three times to continue work on the various 755 thesauri and other matters. The Transfer of General Collection Materials to Special Collections committee (ad hoc) is concluding its work on issuing guidelines.

The Information Exchange committee expects to hold another well-attended session for all who are interested in informal sharing of new information. There is no formal agenda set far in advance; please contact Irene Moran (415-642-3781, or in Chicago) if you wish to make a report or an announcement at the Chicago session. The topic of your report, not the text for a presentation, is all that is required.

All members are encouraged to attend as many of the meetings of RBMS committees as possible, including the two meetings of the RBMS Executive Committee. A listing of the committee meetings, with information regarding dates, times, locations, and committee chairs, appears in the Newsletter on p. 6.

RBMS Programs at the ALA Annual Conference

The RBMS Section is sponsoring one Chicago Conference Program, co-sponsoring two additional programs, and contributing a speaker to yet another. Those RBMS members who attend the Chicago Annual Conference will want to consider the following offerings:

Special Collections in Public Libraries (Sunday, July 7; 2-4 PM; Palmer House, Wabash Parlor)

This program, sponsored by RBMS, will address the needs and concerns of librarians working in or responsible for special collections and archives in public libraries. It will also highlight some of their goals and achievements. Topics will include gaining wider public and political support for special collections in public libraries, caring for and developing the collections, and problems of funding for special collections within the public support structure. A discussion panel, moderated by Jennifer Lee, Brown University, will consist of: Romaine Ahlstrom, Los Angeles Public Library; Paul Cyr, New Bedford Free Public Library; Laura Lenard, Chicago Public Library; and William Loos, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library.

Historical Mapping of the United States (Saturday, July 6; 9:30-11 AM)

Delivering slide lecture presentations at this program, co-sponsored by RBMS and the ALA Map & Geography Round Table, are Michael Edmunds ("Increase A. Lapham and the Mapping of Wisconsin"), Michael Conzon ("County Atlases"), and David Buisseret ("Early Mapping of the Gulf Coast"). The program moderator is Robert W. Karrow, Jr. of the Newberry Library.

Tax Deductions for Self-generated Papers (Sunday, July 7; 8-10 PM)

This program, a panel presentation, is co-sponsored by RBMS and the ALA/SAA Joint Committee on Library-Archives Relationships. It will provide current information on the status of the National Heritage Resource Act. Lisa Browar will chair the program; the speakers will be Carol Henderson of the ALA Washington Office, Kenneth Rendell, well-known antiquarian books and manuscripts dealer, and Kenneth Duckett, Head of Special Collections at the University of Oregon.

Making the Bad News Better--Crisis Management (Monday, July 8; 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM)

The Public Relations Services to Librarians Committee of LAMA is sponsoring this program which is designed to familiarize librarians with plans/strategies for dealing with both internal and external crisis situations, provide public and academic library examples of crisis situations applicable to all library settings, and suggest methods in dealing with the media.

Peter Hanff, RBMS member, will present a paper at this program titled "Circumstances Beyond Our Control: A Rare Book Theft."

RBMS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Schedule for ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
July 6-10, 1985

July 6th (Saturday)	9-11 AM	Exhibition Catalogs Awards (Sally Leach) Hyatt Regency, Ogden Room
		Security (David Zeidberg) Hyatt Regency, Skyway Suite 264
		Conservators Collations (Terry Belanger) Bismarck Hotel, Parlor A
	2-4 PM	Standards I (John Thomas) Holiday Inn City Center, Saturn Room
		Curator/Conservators Relations (Donald Farren) Sheraton Plaza, Cornwall Room
		Journal Publication (Ann Gwyn) Holiday Inn City Center, Quasar Room
	8-10 PM	Information Exchange (Irene Moran) Hyatt Regency, Buckingham Room
July 7th (Sunday)	9-11 AM	Preconference Planning (New York) (Marie Korey) Palmer House, Burnham Room 1
		Publications (Joan Friedman) Holiday Inn Lake Shore, Lake Shore Rm. D
		Manuscripts (Robert Blesse) Holiday Inn Lake Shore, Lake Shore Rm. C
	2-4 PM	[Program] Palmer House, Wabash Parlor
	4:30-5:30 PM	Executive I (Lynda Claasen, Chair) Palmer House, La Salle Rm. 2
July 8th (Monday)	9-11 AM	Continuing Education (Alice Schreyer) Hyatt Regency, Skyway Suite 265
		Ethics (Terry Belanger) Continental Hotel, Lake Huron Room
	2-4 PM	Standards II (John Thomas) Palmer House, Burnham Room 1
July 9th (Tuesday)	9-11 AM	Literary Rights (ad hoc) (Thomas Verich) Sheraton Plaza, Essex Room
		MARC for Special Collections (John Thomas) Sheraton Plaza, Cheshire Room
	2-4 PM	Transfer of General Collections Materials to Special Collections (ad hoc) (Samuel Streit) Palmer House, Burnham Rm. 4
		Standards III (John Thomas) Palmer House, Burnham Rm. 1
	4:30-5:30 PM	Executive II (Lynda Claasen, Chair) Palmer House, Burnham Rm. 1

RBMS Election Results

The recent balloting for the 1985 elections is completed and the following RBMS members have been elected:

<u>Vice-chair, chair-elect</u>	- Donald Farren
<u>Secretary (2-year term)</u>	- Judith Singleton
<u>Member-at-large (3-year term)</u>	- Earl Taylor

ALA/SAA Joint Committee—Chicago Activities

The ALA/Society of American Archivists (SAA) Joint Committee on Archives-Library Relationships is becoming a more active group this year. Recommendations for restructuring the Joint Committee, intended to establish closer relationships between both parent organizations were submitted to ALA and SAA in December. The recommendations were based primarily on a report prepared last year by Lisa Browar and Ellen Dunlap for the RBMS Ad-hoc Committee on Manuscripts. ALA Council approved the new statement of the function of the Joint Committee at the January 1985 Midwinter meeting. In July in Chicago Council is expected to consider the specific structural recommendations that call for Committee members to be experienced in archives or manuscript collections. SAA Council also gave tacit approval to the recommendations in January. It is hoped that appointment of a co-chair, one of the recommendations, will be made by SAA by this summer. Present chair is Miriam Crawford, University Archivist of Temple University, and an ALA representative on the Committee.

As mentioned earlier in the Newsletter, the program session on "Tax Deductions for Self-Generated Papers", organized and moderated by Lisa Browar and presented at the SAA annual meeting in Washington in September 1985, will be repeated at the ALA annual conference in Chicago on Sunday, July 7, 1985 from 8 to 10 P.M., co-sponsored by RBMS and the Joint Committee.

The Joint Committee is also working currently on the issue of the employment standards and educational qualifications required of archivists working in libraries. Many archivists, whose degrees in history had previously been considered of first importance, think that requiring the MLS degree for employment in libraries is unfair. Since ALA's Office for Library Personnel Resources (OLPR) is reexamining the ALA policy on Library Education and Personnel Utilization this year, the Committee will take advantage of the opportunity to raise this issue at a review session in Chicago on July 7, 9:30 - 11 A.M. Simultaneously, the Committee is supporting efforts in SAA to clarify the educational standards for archivists.

The Joint Committee meets at annual meetings of ALA and SAA and at ALA Midwinter and welcomes the attendance of anyone interested in its deliberations. In Chicago, the Committee meets on Sunday, July 7, 4:30 - 5:30 P.M.

RBMS Exhibition Catalogue Awards

Three annual awards for the best catalogue published by American or Canadian institutions in conjunction with exhibitions of books and/or manuscripts will be granted for the first time in the Spring of 1986. Catalogues published between January 1, 1983, and August 31, 1985, are eligible and must be submitted by September 30, 1985, to the RBMS Committee for Awards for Exhibition Catalogues.

The entries will be divided into three budget categories: expensive, moderately expensive, and inexpensive, based upon the production costs of the catalogue, thereby allowing institutions of similar publishing resources to compete within the same category.

Catalogues may be of varying formats, styles, and scope but each must represent either comprehensively or selectively, an exhibition which has taken place. Criteria for selecting the winners will include the level of accuracy and consistency of presentation in the catalogue, its clarity, quality of design, and usefulness to the intended audience. The awards will take the form of printed citations to the institutions organizing the exhibitions.

For further information and entry forms contact Sally Leach, Chair of the RBMS Committee for Awards for Exhibition Catalogues, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, P.O. Drawer 7219, Austin, TX 76713.

Microcomputers Users Group: A Call to Join

Joan Friedman proposes forming a microcomputer users group for members of RBMS who are beginning to use microcomputers for a variety of rare-book related tasks. An informal network of a few users has developed, and it is proposed to set up a more formal association and invite all to participate.

The purpose of this group is entirely informational. No formal programs or meetings are envisioned, at least at this point. The hope is to establish a directory of who is using computers, for what applications, and with what configurations of hardware and software. This directory could be used to contact colleagues for advice and suggestions.

For the time being Joan is willing to collate and distribute this information. Those who are interested in participating can forward to Joan the information about their system, applications, and so forth, as well as any work-in-progress for which solutions are still being sought. Please include your preferred mailing address and work and home telephone numbers. If you can be reached via an electronic mail drop (e.g., BITNET, CompuServe, ALANET, etc.), include that address as well.

Write or call Joan M. Friedman, 178 Linden Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511, (203) 436-3912 (library), (203) 773-3747 (home), CompuServe: 75106, 3014, BITNET: JFRIEDM@YALEVM.

Looking Towards New York City

Final plans for the 1986 RMBS Preconference in New York City are already beginning to emerge. The event will be held June 24-27. It is titled "Fine and Lively: The Arts in Special Collections." The papers to be presented will deal with special collections in architecture, costume and fashion, dance, fine arts, music, photography, and theatre. Seminars on topics related to the major theme will be offered.

Marie Korey (Free Library of Philadelphia) is the Program Committee Chair. Other members of the Program Committee are Alice Shreyer (Local Arrangements Chair), Joan Friedman, and Robert Nikirk.

RBMS at SAA

RBMS members participated in many aspects of the 1984 annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists that was held in Washington, D.C., August 30-September 3, by reason of joint membership in both organizations or by special invitation. The Manuscript Repositories Section of SAA invited RBMS members in the Washington area (widely defined) to attend two programs. The

first was a program followed by a reception at which John Cole, Executive Director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress spoke about the work of the Center, and William L. Joyce spoke on a proposal for a project to provide access to records of publishing and the book trade and to encourage their preservation. The second event to which the Manuscript Repositories Section invited RBMS members was the meeting of the Section. During the meeting a panel discussion was held on the subject of promoting special collections in a general library environment or a larger parent institution. RBMS member Donald Farren was one of four panelists at that meeting.

RBMS member Lauren Brown was one of two speakers who presented a program on "How Much Processing is Enough?" The speakers dealt with the question of how to establish administrative priorities for the allotment of resources to the processing of manuscripts and archives. RBMS members participated in a program on continuing archival education in specialized fields of work. Susan G. Swartzburg spoke on continuing education in conservation, and Frederick J. Stielow spoke on continuing education in information management. RBMS member Lisa Browar chaired a session that dealt with the issue of tax deductions for self-generated papers during which RBMS member Kenneth W. Rendell was one of three other speakers. (As mentioned above, this session on tax deductions for self-generated papers will be repeated on July 7, 8 to 10 P.M.)

Up-to-date guidance for handling literary manuscripts was provided by a program chaired by RBMS member Samuel Streit. Two other RBMS members spoke on that program, John Lancaster on cooperation among institutions with conflicting collection policies and Ellen S. Dunlap on copyright and property rights. In a session on manuscript collecting policies and responsibilities two other RBMS members spoke. Clifton H. Jones addressed the matter of the collection development policy as a tool for administration and promotion, and Terry S. Latour dealt with ethical and financial responsibilities in manuscript collecting.

Transitions

Richard Berner, University Archivist and Head of the University Archives and Manuscripts Division at the University of Washington, Seattle, retired early this year after 27 years with the library. Karyl Winn has been appointed as his successor. Gilliam C. Boal has been appointed Book Conservator at the University of California, Berkeley. John Dean is now Conservation Officer for the Cornell Libraries, Ithaca, New York. Jackie M. Dooley has been appointed Special Collections Librarian at the University of California, San Diego. Lawrence Dowler, Associate Librarian of Harvard College, became Librarian of Harvard's Houghton Library on May 1, succeeding William H. Bond who had retired in 1982. Sharon D. Galperin has been appointed Archivist in the Special Collections Department at George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Bonnie S. Hardwich has been appointed Head of the Manuscripts Division of the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Clifton H. Jones is leaving Southern Methodist University, where he has been Head of the DeGolyer Library since 1980, to become Director of the library in the Learning Resource Center, Saginaw Valley State College in Michigan. Cornelia S. King has been appointed Rare Book Cataloger for the the Rare Book Department of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Dennis Madden has joined the staff of the Nebraska State Historical Society as Manuscripts Curator. Lawrence J. McCrank recently became Dean of the library at Auburn University in Montgomery, Alabama. Robert S. Martin has been named Assistant Director for Special Collections at the Troy H. Middleton Library, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. Anton Masin has been appointed Head of Rare Books and Special Collections

at Indiana State University. Karen Nipps is the new Rare Books Cataloger at the Library Company of Philadelphia. Richard Olson, Conservation Officer at Northwestern University and former Rare Book Librarian (1962-69), has retired. Richard W. Oram has been named Director of the Ward H. Canaday Center for Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of Toledo. Lynn Roundtree has been named Curator of the Russell Long Collection at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. Dr. Mattie U. Russell has recently retired from her position as Curator of Manuscripts at Duke University, after 37 years of service. Alice D. Schreyer has been appointed Visiting Librarian for British-American studies at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Barbara Trippel Simmons has been named Curator of Manuscripts at the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts. Roger Stoddard has been named Curator of Rare Books in the Harvard College Library. Anne S.K. Turkos has been named Assistant Curator of the Historical Manuscripts and Archives Department, University of Maryland Library, College Park. Everett C. Wilkie, Jr. became the first Florence S. Marcy Crofut Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the Connecticut Historical Soecity, Hartford. Mary Winkler is now Archivist for the Houston Academy of Medicine--Texas Medical Center Library.

The Library Company of Philadelphia has fittingly chosen to celebrate "The Wolf Years" with the publication of a booklet of the same name. The booklet describes the years 1952-84 during which Edwin Wolf II served as Librarian. The booklet may be obtained from the Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia 19107, for \$2.00 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling. Also, this last autumn saw the announcement of Wolf's successor, John C. Van Horne, an editor of The Papers of Benjamin Henry Latrobe, and graduate of Princeton and the University of Virginia (Ph.D.).

RBMS NEWSLETTER

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