



# LHRT NEWSLETTER

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## Greetings from the Chair



Mark McCallon, current chair of LHRT.  
Image courtesy of Mark McCallon.

Dear LHRT Colleagues  
and Friends,

I hope all of you are having a good year and looking forward to joining us in Chicago for the ALA Annual Conference. We have a wonderful lineup of programs and anticipate great turnout. Our presenter at the annual Edward G. Holley Lecture (Sunday, June 30th 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) will be prize-winning author and history scholar Dr. Jacob Soll from the University of Southern California. Dr. Soll has authored two books, *Publishing the Prince: History, Reading, and the Birth of Political Criticism* (University of

Michigan Press, 2005), which won the American Philosophical Society's Barzun Prize, and *The Information Master: Jean-Baptiste Colbert's Secret State Intelligence System* (University of Michigan Press, 2009). Dr. Soll is also a recent winner of fellowships from the Guggenheim and MacArthur Foundations. The title of his Holley lecture will be "Library of Power, Library of Enlightenment: Libraries as Foundations to the Modern State 1400-1800." He will discuss the history of the role of libraries and information technology in the Enlightenment of the 17th and 18th centuries.

On Sunday afternoon (1:30 – 3:00 p.m.) LHRT will co-sponsor a program with the ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section on the topic of disaster response to the destruction of historical collections and records. "History on Fire: How Libraries Mitigate Loss of the Cultural Record Due to Disaster or Destruction" will be a panel discussion on how historians and archivists can inform researchers, mitigate the loss of rare and unique items, and rebuild (insofar as possible). Librarians and archivists will address these topics from both historical and practical perspectives.

At 4:00 p.m. LHRT will host its annual Research Forum. This event is a wonderful opportunity for scholars to present their findings in a peer-reviewed venue. The theme this year is "Library History as American History." We had many great submissions. See the article in this newsletter for more information.

In addition to the programs mentioned above, I encourage you to attend and participate in our Annual Executive Committee Meeting on Sunday, June 30th at 8:00 a.m. It is a great way to get involved and support the activities of the Round Table. We have several important initiatives to discuss this year, including the future of our endowments and

changes coming in ALA programming. I want to express my appreciation again to all of the LHRT officers and committee members who have performed great service and have helped me in so many ways this year. It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as chairperson for such a wonderful and vital organization.

—Mark McCallon,  
*Abilene Christian University*



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## Web Site Review: The Digital Public Library of America

*Digital Public Library of America, "DPLA," <http://dp.la/>, (accessed May 10, 2013).*

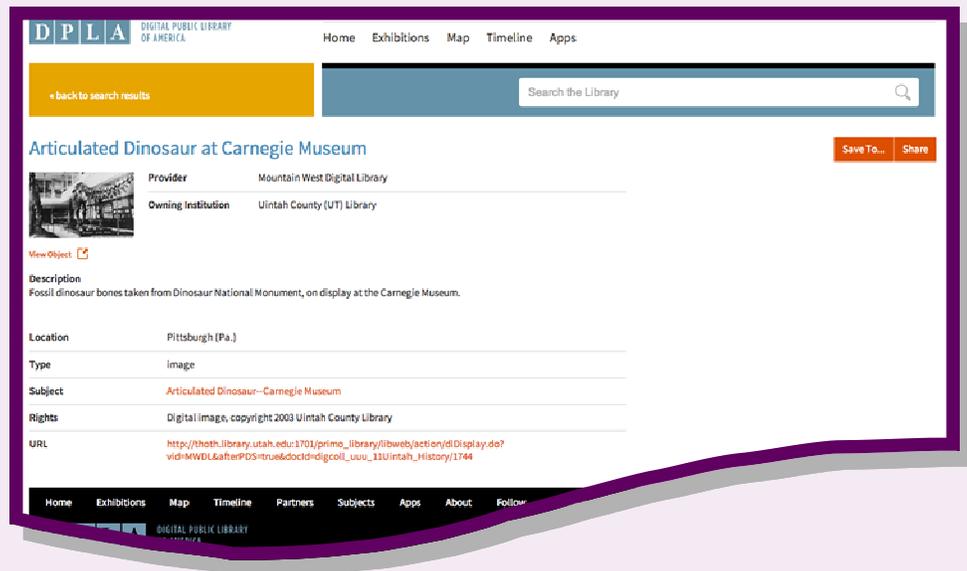
The recently-released Digital Public Library of America is a freely-accessible collection of books, manuscripts, photographs, moving images, sounds, and more from libraries, archives, and museums across the United States. DPLA allows you to search and browse the metadata records for millions of items (using their own Metadata Application Profile: <http://dp.la/info/map/>) and takes you to the original con-

tent providers' website to look at the items themselves. The homepage encourages browsing, including topical "Exhibitions," as well as collections organized geographically and by date (see the "Map" and "Timeline" links). The homepage also has a keyword search which you can refine by format, owning institution, date, location, and subject. You can also view your results on a map or a timeline, instead of the traditional list. For example, a search for "Carnegie" includes text and images, many of which have to do

with Carnegie libraries around the country, and offers items spanning a century. Once you click on an item, you are taken to a page that gives you the source URL for the original item along with metadata about that item.

Though currently few in number, the exhibitions are extraordinarily rich resources for those who are interested in the New

— continued, page 4



Caption: Homepage of The Digital Public Library of America. Image courtesy of The Digital Public Library of America.

### PUBLISHING STATEMENT

*LHRT Newsletter* (ISSN forthcoming) is the official newsletter of the Library History Round Table of the American Library Association. LHRT's mission is to encourage research and publication on the history of libraries and promote awareness and discussion of historical issues in librarianship. *LHRT Newsletter* is an open-access, semi-annual publication, available free of charge at <http://www.ala.org/lhrt/popularresources/lhrtnewsletters/lhrtnewsletters>. LHRT members may obtain a paper copy upon request by contacting ALA's Office for Research and Statistics, American Library Association, 60 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL, 60611 (phone: 1-800-545-2433, extension 4283). *LHRT Newsletter* is not currently indexed in *Library Literature* or other databases. All submissions are subject to editorial review, but authors are responsible for facts and opinions expressed in their articles. Views expressed in *LHRT Newsletter* do not necessarily reflect official LHRT or ALA policies and positions. Contact the editor, Bernadette A. Lear (BAL19@psu.edu), with queries about advertising, submissions, and other concerns.

## *Robert Darnton on DPLA, Public Libraries, and Democratic Access to Knowledge*

Libraries, archives, and museums have been digitizing their collections for many years, but connecting the public with that content has been an ongoing challenge. The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), which opened its electronic doors just a few weeks ago, seeks to address this problem by providing a single point of access to millions of photographs, books, and other documents from cultural heritage organizations across the United States. Readers can search by keyword in a Google-style search box or browse documents geographically or chronologically through the innovative timeline and map interfaces. In its first week alone, DPLA received more than 247,000 visitors, primarily from the United States, but also including traffic from Canada, Brazil, Germany, the United Kingdom and many other locations.

Harvard University Librarian, book history scholar, and member of DPLA's Board of Directors Dr. Robert Darnton, was kind enough to speak with me about DPLA's development and how he sees it in relation to the past (and future) of America's public libraries. Public libraries are, as Darnton put it (and I think LHRT's membership would agree), "one of the crowning glories of American Civilization." Ever since the Boston Public Library opened in 1848, with "free to all" inscribed over its doors, American public libraries have sought to improve the public's access to information. There is a direct connection between Boston Public Library and DPLA since, as Darnton said,

"Free to all, in a way, is the motto of the Digital Public Library." He also pointed to the way that Carnegie Libraries of the 19th and early 20th centuries expanded small and remote communities' access to materials. Similarly, the DPLA is now providing broader access to cultural materials through the internet.

Despite these strong connections, the use of "Public" in the DPLA's name received some strong scrutiny when the project was in development, as there were concerns that "if the DPLA were presented as a public library, municipal funders ... might say, 'well, we can reduce the budget because the DPLA is providing what we need.'" Darnton is confident, though, that there need be no conflict between a national digital library and community public libraries. As he explained, the DPLA will be public, "in the sense of making available to the public our cultural heritage," but it will reinforce and support local libraries, not make them obsolete. In part, this is because the content is fundamentally different. No final decisions on DPLA's content have been reached, but Darnton thinks it unlikely that DPLA will ever provide current bestsellers, magazines, or other materials central to local public libraries.

However, what is perhaps more important is that DPLA and community public libraries provide distinctly different services. When asked about the challenges facing American libraries today, Darnton noted the obvious financial hardships facing public services, includ-

ing libraries. However, he also pointed to what he called "enormous possibilities," mentioning in particular, "the ways public libraries are answering new needs which are peculiar to the digital age" by becoming centers for community services," including assistance with job searches and "leadership in helping people find their way through cyberspace." In his view, community public libraries are evolving to become "nerve centers for the cultural life of communities."

Perhaps the most innovative aspect of DPLA is the decision to place its metadata in the Public Domain, thereby freeing users to "harvest, collect, modify, and/or otherwise use any metadata contained in the DPLA." In conjunction with its application programming interface, this allows developers to create new tools for discovery. Darnton was reluctant to speculate on the future of such tools, noting that it is hard to imagine how DPLA will be used, and the things we can't imagine will be the most exciting. However, he did offer a couple of thoughts on DPLA's future directions. Referencing the 40+ regional service hubs with which DPLA already coordinates, Darnton said that "one thing we know for sure will develop, and that is a kind of grass roots digital movement at the level of local libraries." Working through service hubs, DPLA hopes to encourage communities to bring local

— continued, page 4



## *DPLA Web Site Review, cont.*

Deal, Labor History, Prohibition, and other selected topics. For example, the prohibition exhibit “Indomitable Spirits” includes photographs of early liquor stores and saloons, temperance demonstrations and parades, and police raids and rumrunners. Accompanying text integrates the materials and explains the origins, height, aftermath, and legacy of prohibition. Given how every exhibit is modularized into themes, each with a handful of well-chosen resources, DPLA may be an excellent resource for elementary and secondary teachers.

DPLA brings together various ways to experience and share cultural heritage objects, including an application pro-

gramming interface (API), which allows developers to create apps that allow users to engage with collections beyond what is done on the DPLA site (to see apps, go to <http://dp.la/apps>). It also tries to serve a variety of needs (e.g. providing content to users, exposure to libraries' collections, access to items' metadata, etc.). I really enjoyed this site. I think it's a great way for libraries to publicize their digitized historic materials and for users to be able to search in one place for items from multiple institutions.

If your institution might be interested in partnering with DPLA, see <http://dp.la/info/get-involved/partnerships/>

—*Julia Skinner, Florida State University*



“GIVEN HOW EVERY EXHIBIT IS MODULARIZED INTO THEMES ... DPLA MAY BE AN EXCELLENT RESOURCE FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY TEACHERS”

## *Darnton on DPLA, cont.*

cultural and historical materials to their libraries, where DPLA staff will assist in digitizing, applying metadata, and incorporating it into DPLA. Darnton envisions this becoming truly a bi-directional partnership. On one hand, the “great collections already in our research libraries” will flow out to a much broader public audience than they have reached in the past, but at the same time, newly-digitized local history materials will flow from remote locations to the digital center.

Looking farther into the future, Darnton foresees such partnerships becoming a worldwide affair, forming a network of coordinated, inter-locked, interoperable systems. DPLA has already been working closely with Europe's Digital Library Europeana, and is presently re-

ceiving inquiries from all over the world, including significant interest from South America and China. Darnton hopes that DPLA will serve as a model for designing infrastructure and dealing with fiscal, technological, and organizational challenges as national and international libraries form in the coming years. After all, as Darnton points out, at the end of the day, the DPLA is already an international library, “Technology is by its very nature international, and so is intellectual life. Ideas never had respect for national boundaries ... now we can live in the truly international world of instant communication at the level of culture and books, not just ads and gossip.” Through DPLA and related projects, it is to be hoped that the tradition of America's public libraries will

act as a continued inspiration for knowledge and information to be made widely available and “free to all.”

—*Juli McLoone, University of Texas at San Antonio*



## *Book Review:* *Books, Bluster, and Bounty*

*Swetnam, Susan H. Books, Bluster & Bounty: Local Politics in the Intermountain West and Carnegie Library Building Grants, 1898-1920 (Logan, UT: Utah State University Press, 2012), ISBN 978-0-87421-842-8, hardcover, paperback, and ebook. 251 pages, 50 photographs, 3 maps, 14 page bibliography, 6 page index.*

The Intermountain West consists of the areas between the Rocky Mountains and the Cascade Mountain/Sierra Nevada range (the states are: Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, with parts of Washington, Montana, Oregon, California, Colorado, and New Mexico). Around 1900, most of the communities in this region were small Mormon settlements and mining towns yet many had the necessary drive to apply for and receive a Carnegie grant. Swetnam documents these undertakings in a select number of towns, comparing and contrasting to show an overall

pattern of citizens pushing for their libraries.

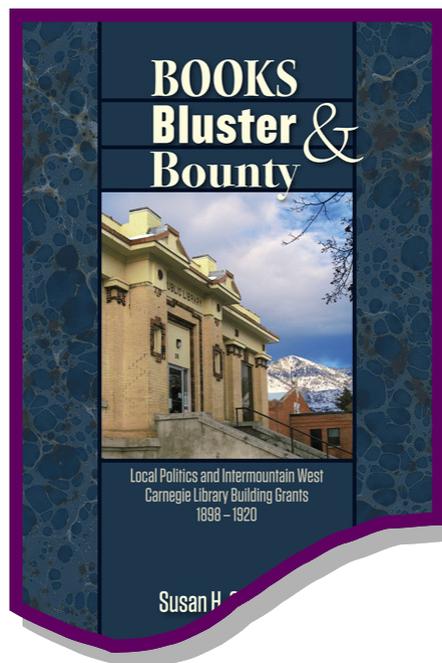
Swetnam covers the cultural background of the cities and towns as well as what was involved in receiving a Carnegie grant. She highlights many individuals whose work was instrumental in establishing these libraries--including a full chapter on women. One of the book's focal points is the reasons each community built libraries. The book uses an impressive amount of primary source material including library board minutes, newspapers, and biographies. Swetnam's work on this topic has covered 20 years of research and the breadth of primary sources show this.

Every library in the Intermountain West should own this book. Swetnam's work would also be valuable to anyone with an interest in the region's history. In broader terms, the book contains a worthwhile model for those seeking funding for libraries. Many things have

changed in the past one hundred years; however, fundamental concerns surrounding communities such as education, growth, and access to information are still the same. In fact as Swetnam points out in her main argument, the communities around 1900 were just as diverse as today and had less available funding. Despite this, she shows the acceptance

rate for Carnegie grants was higher in the Intermountain West than in other areas of the United States. She concludes that "If we can find a way to tap into such community pride today, we will be a long way down the road toward popular support for libraries."

—*Ryan Combs,*  
*Brigham Young University*  
☞



## *News from the Organization of American Historians*

The OAH recently created a new sponsored membership category for young scholars, defined as current students or recent graduates. Sponsored members receive the *Journal of American History* and all the benefits of OAH membership, including access to the OAH's Career Center and the Versatile PhD Web site (links to career resources, current job listings, tips for job searching, and interviews with individuals who have used their history degrees to find rewarding jobs in the field). For more information,

see [http://www.oah.org/news/20130115\\_sponsored.html](http://www.oah.org/news/20130115_sponsored.html).

The 2014 OAH annual meeting will take place in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 10th-13th. The theme is "crossing borders." The meeting's website notes that "The theme for the 2014 conference seeks to examine, in all their complexity, a broad array of border-crossings and "encounters" in US history, highlighting the contributions and challenges presented by those who transcended borders to rede-

fine their lives or flee the constraints of their pasts." For more information, see <http://annualmeeting.oah.org/index.php/2014-annual-meeting/44-2014-annual-meeting>.

—*Dominique Daniel,*  
*Oakland University*  
☞

## *Patron Saints of Librarians*

“JEROME’S SAINT DAY IS SEPTEMBER 30TH IN THE WEST AND JUNE 15TH IN THE EAST. JEROME IS ALSO THE PATRON SAINT OF STUDENTS SO IT’S APPROPRIATE HIS TWO DAYS FALL NEAR THE BEGINNING AND ENDING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.”

Although it’s not usually what one thinks of when hearing the term “library patrons,” there are three designated patron saints of libraries, librarians, and archivists. In birth order they are St. Lawrence of Rome, St. Catherine of Alexandria, and St. Jerome. Each of these saints had an interesting association with libraries.

The phenomenon of patronage began with founding churches on the sites of saints’ burials. The churches usually took on the names of the saints and locals associated those saints with their respective regions and sometimes entire kingdoms. Other saints were adopted by guilds because of details or events surrounding their lives or martyrdoms. For instance, St. Maurice was a soldier and thereby became the patron saint of soldiers, St. Joseph of Arimathea became the patron of morticians from his gift of a tomb to Jesus, and from his death by stoning, St. Stephen became the patron of stonemasons.

St. Lawrence of Rome was originally from Spain. He became a deacon, archivist, and librarian of the church in Rome at the time of the Christian persecution of Valerian. The Romans specifically sought him in hopes of discovering the wealth of the church, as well as his lists of wealthy Christians who could be ransomed or just executed for their money. Lawrence gave up neither. A possible legend of his martyrdom was that he was placed on an iron grid above a fire. He supposedly made a statement midway along the lines of “turn me over, I am done on this side”. For that he is also the patron saint of cooking and barbecues. This fantastic story is

possibly due to a missing letter turning the Latin “passus est” [he suffered] to the Latin “assus est” [he roasted]. Lawrence’s Saint Day is August 10th, a good day for a library fundraising barbeque.

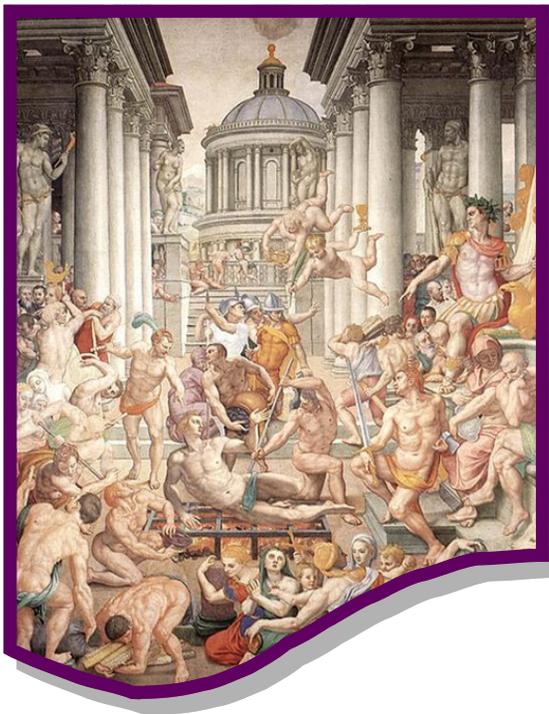
Unfortunately, St. Catherine was probably not a real person. According to tradition, she was an incredibly beautiful princess of Alexandria, Egypt who converted to Christianity as a teenager. Scholars do not know whether this future patron saint of libraries lived while the famous Library of Alexandria still existed. She traveled to Rome to debate Emperor Maxentius on his Christian persecution and idol worship. She convinced many in the Roman court, but the emperor condemned her to death on a spiked wheel. Her prayers broke the wheel so she was beheaded instead. According to legend, angels carried her body back to Egypt and buried her near Mount Sinai. St. Catherine’s Monastery was established there and housed a large collection of very old Christian manuscripts. Catherine’s day is November 25th. It’s past election day in the United States so it’s a good time to petition newly elected leaders.

Perhaps best known for translating the Bible into Latin (The Vulgate), St. Jerome stands out as one of the most scholarly of the early Christians. He would have used many libraries during his travels in the Roman Empire, but most of his time was spent in a cave in Bethlehem translating and writing commentaries on scripture. The cave is located under the Church of St. Catherine, coincidentally enough, the same St. Catherine of Alexandria who is also a patron saint of libraries.

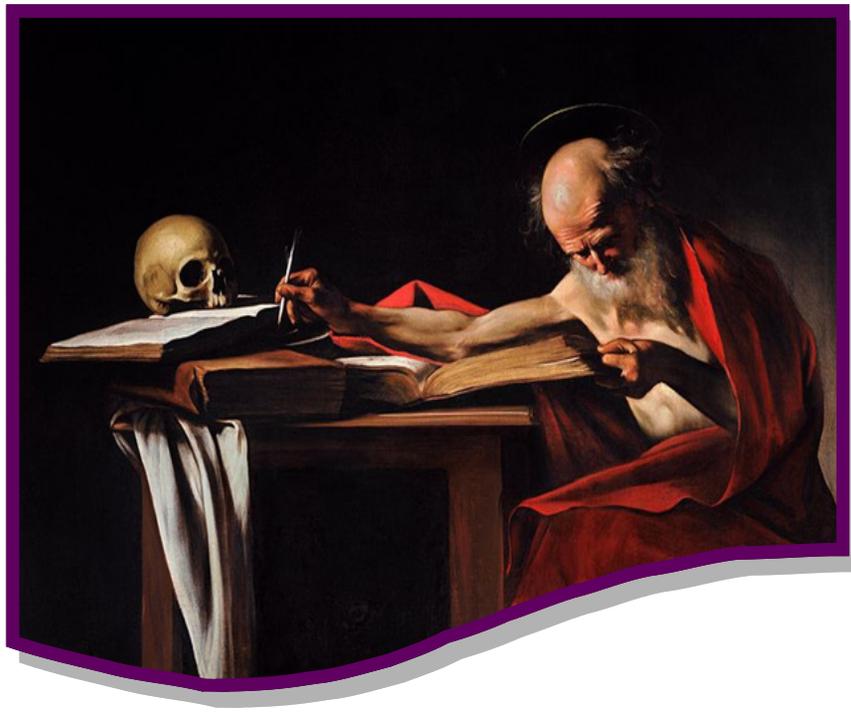
While St. Lawrence is most often cited as the patron saint of libraries in Europe, St. Jerome is more firmly established in America. Jerome’s Saint Day is September 30th in the West and June 15th in the East. Jerome is also the patron saint of students so it’s appropriate his two days fall near the beginning and ending of the school year.

Modern librarians guard their library’s treasures and protect their patron’s privacy rights like St. Lawrence. They debate with government leaders like St. Catherine. And they will spend hours in cave-like offices cataloging or researching like St. Jerome. For further reading check out the *New Catholic Encyclopedia* and the *Oxford Dictionary of Saints*.

—**Ryan Combs,**  
**Brigham Young University**  
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Caption: The Martyrdom of St. Lawrence, painting by Bronzino. Image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons, <http://commons.wikimedia.org>



Caption: "Saint Jerome" painting by Caravaggio. Image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons, <http://commons.wikimedia.org>

## *News from the Society of American Archivists*

The Society of American Archivists recently launched a new series called "Trends in Archives Practice." It will feature brief, authoritative contributions that address significant issues in the management of archives and manuscripts collections. It will consist of a series of modules that readers can mix and combine to best suit their needs.

The SAA recently released the first installment in the new series: *Archival Arrangement and Description*, edited with an introduction by Christopher J. Prom and

Thomas J. Frusciano. It features three modules: "Standards for Archival Description," "Processing Digital Records and Manuscripts," and "Designing Descriptive and Access Systems." You can learn more and order a copy at <http://saa.archivists.org/store/archival-arrangement-and-description-print/3033/>. *Archival Arrangement and Description* is designed to complement Kathleen Roe's *Arranging and Describing Archives and Manuscripts*. See <http://saa.archivists.org/store/twofer-special-print-arrangement-and-description/3046/>.

Also, SAA's 76th Annual Meeting took place in August 2012 in San Diego. Session materials are available online attached to the program schedule at <http://www2.archivists.org/conference/2012/san-diego>. The keynote speaker was Jon Voss of Historypin. In a talk entitled "Radically Open Cultural Heritage on the Web" he looked at how today's global Mashup Culture is creating new possibilities for experiencing cultural heritage on the web. He considered how libraries, archives, and museums have the potential

to lead the Internet revolution with Linked Open Data. His presentation is on YouTube, available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyR59nFFMRg>.

The 2013 Annual Meeting will take place in New Orleans from August 11th to 17th. For more information, see <http://www2.archivists.org/proceedings/research-forum/2013/call>.

—Dominique Daniel,  
Oakland University  
✉

## *The Transformation of European Libraries in the 18th and 19th Centuries: A Conference at Oxford University*

In early 2011, I received an invitation to speak at a conference organized by the Centre for the Study of the Book at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, on the topic “How the Secularization of Religious Houses Transformed the Libraries of Europe.” The conveners asked me to give the overview presentation on “The Expropriation of Monastic Libraries in Central Europe, 1773–1814.” I suspect that they had read my widely overlooked article “Aufhebung im doppelten Wortsinn” published in Hungary in 1999—or other articles I’ve written over the years on the subject of the end of monastic libraries and the transfer of their collections to state or other secular institutions. Prominent experts on the topic—Elmar Mittler and Bettina Wagner from Germany and Rudolf Gamper from Switzerland—were also invited to the meeting in Oxford. Mittler, well known to American librarians for a host of reasons, among them his leadership of the Consortium of European Research Libraries a decade ago, was himself the author of a work that discussed the end of monastic libraries in Baden and their incorporation into secular libraries, such as that of the University of Freiburg. It was humbling having so many experts on the Central European secularizations in the audience—commenting critically, but constructively and largely appreciatively, at the end of my presentation.

The conference took place at St. Anne’s College in Oxford on three uncommonly warm,

sunny days in late March of 2012. The moderators included our hosts, Cristina Dondi and Richard Sharpe, both Oxford medievalists, as well as Kristian Jensen of The British Library. A dazzling array of scholars were invited from all over Europe, from Spain in the far southwest (e.g., María Luisa López-Vidriero Abelló, director of the Royal Library in Madrid) to Poland and the Baltics in the far northeast (Marek Derwich and Marek Wójcik, both of the University of Wrocław). French and Italian scholars were particularly well represented. Several Americans also spoke other than myself, including Richard Linenthal, now an antiquarian bookseller in London and earlier the director of Bernard Quaritch Ltd. for 25 years; and William Stoneman, the Florence Fearington Librarian of Houghton Library at Harvard University.

In the course of the meeting, it became clear that all of bibliothecarian Europe was rocked by the same events: first, the dissolution of the powerful Jesuit order in 1773 and the passage of their scholarly libraries to the state, to universities, and to other orders—chiefly the learned orders of the Benedictines, the Augustinians, the Praemonstratensians. Second, the French Revolution of 1789 not only flooded the depots littéraires of the state, but also triggered copy-cat confiscations across all of Europe, e.g., in the German states of Baden, Westphalia, and, above all, Bavaria. In between these two events, during the

1780s, Austrian emperor Joseph II conducted his “great remediation” (große Remedur) of hundreds of monasteries across the Habsburg Empire, liquidating many and passing their library assets on to new state libraries or to the university libraries of Innsbruck, Vienna, Bregenz, and elsewhere. The sum total of these events spread over 40 years was to effect seismic changes in the European library landscape. The dominance of ecclesiastical and aristocratic libraries was broken and replaced by a totally new “order of books,” as Roger Chartier called it, one characterized by huge state-owned collections and smaller regional and university libraries with increasing relevance for science and teaching, a knowledge infrastructure that remained in place for the following 200 years—that is, until the digital revolution of the present day largely lifted the constraints of geography and time from scholarly access to information.

The transformation of Europe’s library landscape was not only geographical and concerned not only which social forces would control information and the access to it: it changed the profession of librarianship as well. The sheer mass of books to be organized and managed brought an end to the model of the librarian as “vivant catalogue,” a sobriquet once applied to the Paris librarian Van Praet, as well as to the notion that the order of libraries could be visual. This in turn heralded the end of librarianship as a primarily mnemonic

## *Oxford Conference, cont.*

art or craft, and its rebirth as a science based on Kantian philosophy, a development pioneered by Martin Schrettinger (1772–1851)—himself, ironically, a former Benedictine monk who had gone into Bavarian state service following the secularization of his monastery. As his diaries document, Schrettinger watched, both horrified and amused, as the successive efforts of his very conservative superiors in Munich failed disastrously to create order out of bibliographic

chaos, until he himself was put in charge during the 1820s. Schrettinger's successful effort relied on heavily cross-referenced catalogs as opposed to shelf order to ensure multi-dimensional access to scholarly literature. To consider this bibliographic revolution now, other than to observe the causal connection linking it back to the secularization of monastic libraries, would go beyond the parameters of this overview, but it is a lasting legacy of this era no less significant than the

distribution of European monastic library resources across the globe.

The Oxford conference was one of a kind in its attempt to cover all of Europe and may not be repeated on this scale for many years. A proceedings volume is expected later this year, published by Brepols.

—*Jeffrey Garrett,  
Northwestern University  
Library*



## *Social Media Update*

LHRT is currently re-examining its social media presence and drafting a social media policy to ensure the round table is serving members and sharing the most helpful information. The Executive Committee will distribute a draft policy on the LHRT listserv and would love to get your feedback. If you have suggestions for specific items to post, or you have ideas for what you want to see in LHRT's social media presence, contact LHRT's webmaster, Julia Skinner ([juliaskinner@gmail.com](mailto:juliaskinner@gmail.com)). If you aren't following us already, check us out on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/LibHistRoundTable>) and Twitter (@ALA\_LHRT).

—*Julia Skinner, Florida State University*



## *Research Forum*

LHRT's upcoming Research Forum promises to be a thought-provoking event. Please join us on Sunday, June 30th, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in McCormick Place, room S404d. Three scholars will present the fascinating findings of their latest projects. The event will start with Nancy B. Dupree of the University of Alabama Tuscaloosa who will discuss the fate of the private library of a Calvinist pastor from Savannah, Georgia. Her paper is entitled "The Life and Death of a Library: John Joachim Zubly and the American Revolution." Next, Brian C. McNerney of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum will revisit an important era for federal involvement in libraries with a paper on "Library Legislation as the Enemy of Ignorance: Lyndon Johnson's Library Initiatives." Finally, Geoffrey Little of Concordia University will describe students' successful protests against proposed plans for a "radically reconceived" college library and changes to nearby green space. His paper is entitled "A Campus is for Students, So We Must Help Plan It: Student Activism and Library Design at Yale, 1968-1969." We hope to see you there!

—*Bernadette A. Lear, Penn State Harrisburg Library*



## *An Insider's View of the Gleason Committee*

Every three years LHRT's Eliza Atkins Gleason Book Award committee recognizes "the best book written in English in the field of library history." The current award will be given during the ALA Annual conference in Chicago. Few people know how the committee works, or that they spend three years selecting the winner. Here is an insider's view.

Books published in the three calendar years preceding the award year are eligible; e.g. books that appeared in 2010, 2011, or 2012 were eligible in 2013. Translations, bibliographies, and edited collections are not considered. The award guidelines specify that entries are judged on quality of scholarship, clarity of style, and depth of research. The round table is particularly interested in works of library history that place the subject within its broader historical, social, cultural, and political context and make interdisciplinary connections with print culture and information studies.

Our process of identifying potential candidates for the award was multi-pronged. In late spring 2012 we combed lists of "books received" and book reviews published in a variety of library and related periodicals, including *Library Quarterly*, *Information & Culture: A Journal of History*, *SHARP News*, and others. Book reviews were especially helpful in determining if books met the award criteria. The committee also checked the LHRT's "Bibliography of Library History" (see <http://www.ala.org/lhrt/popularresources/amerlibhis>). For books that we agreed met the award criteria, the committee then contacted

the publishers, and in some cases the authors, to let them know their book(s) were eligible for the award and to ask them to send one copy to each committee member. The committee shared this task, with each member assigned to contact certain publishers using a standard letter drafted by the chair, customized for each request.

We also placed notices in the *LHRT Newsletter*, on the LHRT listserv and other listservs, such as ALISE and SHARP, and in ALA Connect to attract the interest of publishers and individuals who may wish to nominate. In addition, we received several unsolicited titles from publishers.

The entire process netted twenty-one works from throughout the English-speaking world. Upon receipt the committee members sent acknowledgment letters to all publishers and authors who sent books, again dividing up this task and using a standard letter drafted by the chair.

Reading began in earnest during the summer of 2012 and continued into February 2013. Committee members read each book and evaluated it using the award criteria. By late February, 2013, the committee was ready to discuss and decide, which we did via teleconference.

Once the award winner had been decided the chair contacted the winner, the winner's publisher, the LHRT Research Committee chair, and Norman Rose LHRT's ALA staff liaison. She also sent customized letters to all publishers and authors who had sent works

for consideration to inform them that their candidate(s) did not win, and informing them that the winner would be announced in June.

All in all, it was a rich experience to read so much recent library and library-related history. We learned about ancient scrolls in caves, the Alexandria library and libraries in the classical world, as well as libraries and reading during the Enlightenment in places as diverse yet connected as Scotland and Tasmania. In addition, we read about libraries and readers at the Chicago Columbian Exhibition, in Texas, Arkansas, Minnesota, Indianapolis, Ontario, South Africa, and in both urban and small town America. For sheer reading pleasure alone, I highly recommend participation in the Gleason book award committee. I bet you can't wait to find out who won!

If anyone has questions about the Gleason award, feel free to contact the 2013 chair, Patti Clayton Becker, at [p2becker@uwsp.edu](mailto:p2becker@uwsp.edu).

—**Patti Clayton Becker,**  
**University of Wisconsin-**  
**Stevens Point**



## Contest!

### The Second Library History Crossword Puzzle

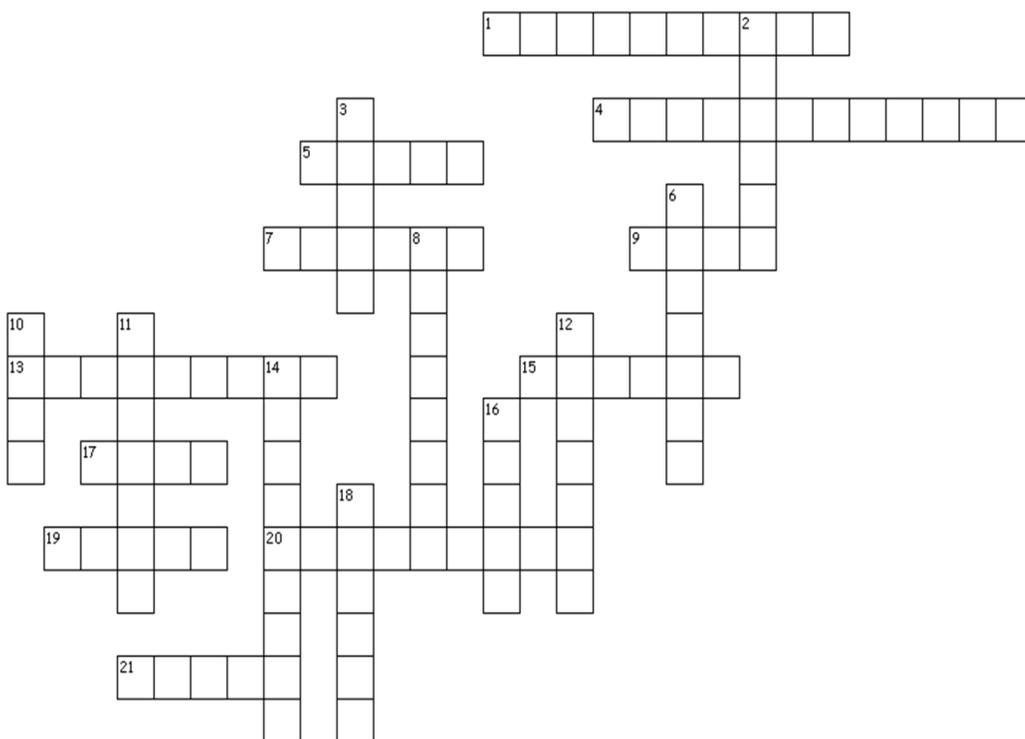
How much do you know about library history? Put yourself to the test! You could win a \$25 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble and have your name and photo printed in next semester's issue!

Just print out the crossword puzzle below, fill in your answers, and mail it no later than July 15th, 2013, to Bernadette A. Lear, Penn State Harrisburg Library, 351 Olmsted Dr., Middletown,

PA 17057. Alternatively, you may e-mail your entry to BAL19@psu.edu.

The winner of this semester's contest will be selected at random from all completed entries. Every answer must be correct to qualify for the drawing, and the winner must be a current LHRT member. If no qualifying entries are received, the prize will be added to next semester's contest.

Clues for the Spring 2013 puzzle were derived from George Bobinski's *Libraries and Librarianship: Sixty Years of Challenge and Change*, George Eberhart's *Whole Library Handbook* series, and other published sources. The crossword was developed with Discover Education's Puzzle-maker (<http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/CrissCrossSetupForm.asp>). The prize was donated anonymously.



### Across

1. Adult education camp; also site of ALA 1898
4. Site of 1st ALA conference
5. Ginsburg, Kerouac, etc.
7. One of 3 patron saints of libraries
9. Invented ball-point pen
13. Carnegie for African American youth?; built 4,000 school libraries in rural southern US
15. Longest-serving ALA president
17. LHRT dissertation award
19. 1st editor of *Public Libraries*
20. Type of social library (think Boston, Providence)
21. Government documents pioneer

### Down

2. Abbreviated "4to"
3. "One Book" pioneer and action figure
6. OCLC architect
8. LHRT's current chair
10. Pioneered church libraries in MD
11. Bibliotherapy pioneer, 1920s-1950s
12. First bookmobiler
14. More of these than McDonalds
16. Believed that "every child needs a school library"
18. With Shirley, a founder of LHRT

**Include your full name and contact information with your entry!**

**Good Luck!**

# LIBRARY HISTORY ROUND TABLE

## Executive Board, 2012/2013

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Mark McCallon</b> , Abilene Christian University mccallonm@acu.edu
<b>Vice-Chair/ Chair-Elect</b>	<b>Bernadette A. Lear</b> , Penn State Harrisburg Library BAL19@psu.edu
<b>Past Chair</b>	<b>Tom Glynn</b> , Rutgers University glynn@rci.rutgers.edu
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	<b>Dominique Daniel</b> , Oakland University daniel@oakland.edu
<b>Secretary/Treasurer- Elect</b>	<b>Ellen Pozzi</b> , William Paterson University pozzie@wpunj.edu
<b>Past Secretary/ Treasurer</b>	<b>Joyce Latham</b> , University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee latham@uwm.edu
<b>Member-at-Large</b>	<b>Karen Cook</b> karen.j.cook.lisprofessional@gmail.com
<b>Member-at-Large</b>	<b>Julia Skinner</b> , Florida State University juliaskinner@gmail.com

*The Library History Round Table (LHRT) was founded in 1947 to commemorate great library leaders of the past and to celebrate the importance of libraries in society. Since then, LHRT members have critically examined libraries and their services in light of class, culture, gender, geography, race, and other perspectives. LHRT is an inclusive and diverse organization that supports anyone who is interested in the history of libraries. LHRT strives to further the study of history of libraries and reading through thought-provoking programs and monetary awards for outstanding research. We encourage library schools to incorporate historical content and methodology in their curricula and to support students who are doing historical research. Through involvement in LHRT we offer members the opportunity to network with colleagues interested in library history. LHRT members include librarians, archivists, curators, and others doing historical research; LIS students with a background or interest in history, faculty in LIS, the humanities, and related disciplines; Administrators, staff, and volunteers working in historic libraries; and retirees.*

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