RASD Genealogical Publishing Co./History Section Award recipient named

P. William Filby, retired director of the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore, is the first recipient of the Reference and Adult Services Division (RASD) Genealogical Publishing Co./History Section Award.

The award, $1,000 and a citation donated by The Genealogical Publishing Company and sponsored by the RASD History Section, is given to encourage, recognize and commend professional achievement in historical reference and research librarianship.

Filby, who attended Cambridge University in England (1928-29), has worked as a periodicals librarian, rare books at Cambridge University, England; director of the Cambridge University Science Library; senior archivist at the Foreign Office in London, and librarian and assistant director at Peabody Institute in Baltimore.


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For several years, Filby wrote book reviews, usually on World War II, intelligence and modern British history for The Baltimore Sun. He has contributed numerous book reviews and articles to genealogical journals.

Filby has been an appraiser of books, rare books, manuscripts and sheet music for libraries, a variety of institutions, private collectors and estates. He has also been a consultant for libraries and collectors.

He has given a number of speeches, lectures and talks on genealogy and other subjects all over the country and in Britain and Australia. Filby was a recent keynote speaker for the National Genealogical Society's Conference.

Filby is a consultant and member of the Genealogical Committee of the Maryland Historical Society and a "founding father" of the RASD Genealogy Committee.

In 1977, Filby received a $1,000 award from the Author Club for his book, "American and British Genealogy and Heraldry (1977). He also received the Silver Good Citizens Medal from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the ALA Isadore Gilbert Mudge Award (1989) and was honored with a Maryland Senate resolution (1989) in "recognition of his many contributions to the citizens of Maryland as director of the Maryland Historical Society."

The award will be presented on Monday, June 28, 1993, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., at the RASD Awards Ceremony during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in New Orleans.

RASD is a division of the American Library Association.