

The Florida Bibliophile

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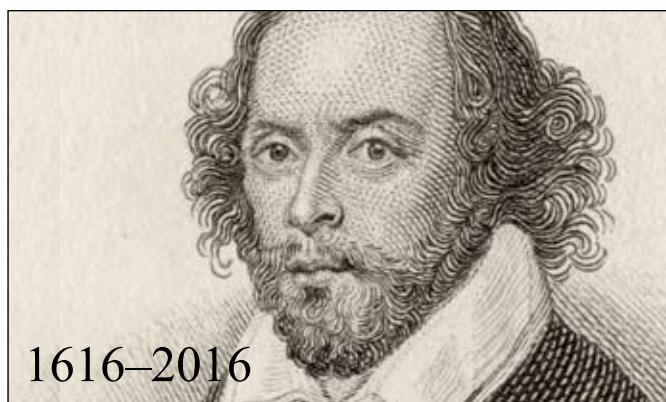
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FBS members Irene Pavese, Joan Sackheim, and Linda Morris at the FBS holiday party at Joan's art-filled home.



Florida Bibliophile Society
A community of book lovers

Report on the FBS Holiday Party

December 20, 2015, 1:30 p.m.

Home of Joan Sackheim

On December 20, the Florida Bibliophile Society celebrated the holidays with a gathering at the home of member Joan Sackheim. Joan's home is beautifully appointed with the art she has collected over many years. As each guest arrived, they seemed to share a similar experience of delight at the elegant displays. In the midst of these creations, Joan had set beautiful tables for the sixteen in our party. Many thanks to Joan for her generosity in hosting this happy event.

Attendees were greeted with a holiday cocktail of prosecco, limoncello, and fresh raspberries to express our wishes for an enjoyable event, joy-filled holidays, and a blessed new year.

New members Barbara and Fritz Thiel complemented our pre-dinner conversation with a delicious savory-sweet hors d'oeuvre, bacon-wrapped dates with goat cheese. The buzz of conversation and tours of Joan's collection continued for a time while the self-elected kitchen crew prepared the buffet.

For this one day, FBS transformed itself into FGS -- the Florida Gourmet Society -- as members contributed delicious specialties. A honey-glazed ham from Charles Brown and a succulent baked chicken from Gerry Hynes were the centerpieces of our buffet. They were accompanied by equally delicious "side" dishes -- but side in not a fair word for these treats. Tarsha Ahmad provided a selection of fresh vegetables. Carl Mario Nudi contributed his special pasta salad. Charles Brown brought green beans sauteed with onions and slivered almonds. Irene Pavese's potatoes au gratin were so creamy and warming. And Linda Morris's sweet potato souffle with caramelized pecan crust could have been as perfect a dessert as it was an accompaniment to our main meal.

We were full and happy after a delicious dinner, but delightful desserts awaited us. Linda had made a chocolate cake with peppermint frosting in the shape of a candy cane. It disappeared quickly



as word spread and a few members returned for seconds. And always welcome, a plate full of moist double chocolate brownies.

After dinner, we joined in a special holiday tradition -- Christmas crackers. We all wore our paper crowns, shared the so-bad-they're-good jokes, and played the toy musical instruments.

Many interesting books were brought for our book exchange, such as a four-volume encyclopedia of philosophy, a book of holiday cocktails, two books on the Huguenots, several mysteries, a set of DVDs on the history of flight, and others.

As we talked into the afternoon, the hour came when members had to leave for other obligations. By 4:30, the last of us were saying our final good-byes to each other and profuse thank yous to Joan.

It was a warm winter Florida afternoon of good fellowship among old friends and new.



FBS Archiving Committee Begins Work

Over 30+ years, an organization like Florida Bibliophile Society generates a lot of records. These documents contain not only the history of FBS, they also touch on the book trade and book culture, on both the small scale and the large scale. The years 1983 to 2015 have been a time of tremendous changes in the world of books and information.

One of FBS's charter members, Lee Harrer, has arranged with the University of Tampa Press and Tampa Book Arts Studio to become the depository for the FBS papers. FBS member Carl Mario Nudi has graciously agreed to coordinate organizing these records. Fellow members Sue Tihansky and Shannon Shane have volunteered to assist in this important effort. The committee will meet at the Tampa Book Arts Studio, located on the University of Tampa campus, in the near future.

More help is needed! If you are interested in helping, contact Carl at carlnudi@netscape.net.



This Month's Contributors

Many thanks to those who contributed to this month's newsletter!

(FBS members unless otherwise noted.)

Tarsha Ahmad
 Roven Hillsman
 Jerry Morris
 Maureen Mulvihill
 Fritz Thiel
 Harold Youmans

Have an idea for an article for The Florida Bibliophile? Contact Charles Brown, cmbrown@atlantic.net, to submit or for assistance in preparing your article.

Yale's Beinecke Library Acquires Significant Medieval Collection

Collectors and dealers are familiar with the centuries-old practice of disassembling manuscript books – sometimes referred to as *biblioclasy* – from the middle ages to sell individual pages or reusable vellum. While this dismantling is an owner's intentional practice – though often covert – librarians are familiar with “razoring,” in which the valuable pages of books, especially illustrated pages, are removed without the knowledge or permission of the owner.

In November 2015, the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale acquired a large collection of medieval works from the descendants of Otto F. Ege (1888-1951), a professor of graphic design and the history of the book, and later dean, of the Cleveland Institute of Art. In addition to his academic role, Mr. Ege (pronounced EGG-ee) was also a book dealer who often dismantled medieval works to create portfolios of pages for sale. His portfolios became widely distributed among public and private collections. Ege believed that creating these portfolios gave more access to the works. As he wrote:

“Surely to allow a thousand people ‘to have and to hold’ an original manuscript leaf and to get the thrill and understanding that comes only from actual and frequent contact with these art heritages, is justification enough for the scattering of fragments. Few, indeed, can hope to own a complete manuscript book; hundreds, however, may own a leaf.” (“I Am a Biblioclast.” *Avocations*, 1938)

After Ege's death, his family stored the remainder of his collection. Yale's purchase, which includes a wide range of materials such as intact books, book covers, and pages, plans to scan the materials to facilitate reassembly, or at least reaffiliation, of book components that are scattered among various collections. Yale plans to host a conference on “broken books” in 2018.

Lisa Fagin Davis, the executive director of the



A leaf from the Beauvais Missal (French, c. 1290)

Medieval Academy of America, is eager to study the Ege Collection. Davis is part of a team organizing “Pages from the Past: Illuminated Manuscripts in Boston-Area Collections,” a group of exhibitions that will showcase more than 250 pre-1600 manuscripts and incunables. The venues for the exhibitions (fall 2016) will be the Houghton Library at Harvard, the McMullen Museum at Boston College, and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

Davis is also among the many practitioners – fragmentologists – that are attempting to

Yale Acquires Medieval Collection, concluded

virtually reassemble medieval manuscript books. The Beauvais Missal, a 13th century French prayer book of 309 pages, was one of the books dismantled in the 1940s, part of which was dispersed by Ege. Davis has been tracking down the missal's pages and has located around 100 pages.

A number of institutions are cooperating in the creation of a database, the Fragmentarium, hosted by the University of Fribourg in Switzerland. This database will be a focal point for dealers, collectors, historians, and librarians, who can upload images and contribute to the process of reconstructing medieval books.

Ege's activities may now seem unfortunate, if not irresponsible, but at the time, they made significant works of art available to those who would not otherwise have seen them, as illustrated in this historical note (cited by Stoicheff; link below):

Otto Ege's evangelism was so "successful" over the years that in the 1950s, after his death, his philosophy inspired an unusual tour of parts of the Midwest in the United States. An aluminum trailer, filled with a display of fragments of early manuscripts and books including those of Otto Ege ... went from town to town to display its treasures. This great history-of-the-book bus tour was called "The Magic Carpet on Wheels." In the manner of a traveling library, at each stop, the public was invited to view the items and to hear a brief lecture on the history of the book.

Imagine such a Maigical Mystery Tour of Manuscripts today.

For more information:

Yale Buys Collection of Scattered Medieval Pages, New York Times, Dec. 3, 2015 ([primary source](#))

Beinecke Library acquires 'treasure trove' of medieval manuscripts from Otto Ege (<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/about/news/beinecke-library-acquires-%E2%80%98treasure-trove%E2%80%99-medieval-manuscripts-otto-ege>)



A decorated initial from the Beauvais Missal showing the Flight into Egypt (described in the Gospel of Matthew 2:13-23).

The Ege Manuscript Leaf Portfolios (<http://ege.denison.edu/index.php>). This website contains extensive information about the Ege collection.

Putting Humpty Together Again: Otto Ege's Scattered Leaves (http://www.digitalstudies.org/ojs/index.php/digital_studies/article/view/157/225)

Medieval Academy of America (<http://www.medievalacademy.org/>)

Reconstructing the Beauvais Missal (<http://brokenbooks2.omeka.net/>)

E-codices: Virtual Manuscript Library of Switzerland (<http://www.e-codices.unifr.ch/en>)

Fragmentarium – An international scholarly network that enables libraries, collectors, researchers and students to upload medieval manuscript fragments and to describe, transcribe and assemble them online. (<http://www.e-codices.unifr.ch/newsletter/archive/issue-18.html#fragmentarium>)



Rare Bible Discovered in Plain Sight



This first issue of the King James Bible at Drew University is remarkable condition considering that it was printed and bound in 1611.

Drew University in Madison, NJ, is well known for its collection of an estimated 75,000 rare books and manuscripts. Established as a seminary in 1867, Drew has an extensive collection of historic bibles, a 1493 Nuremberg Chronicle, and extensive holdings related to Willa Cather. The collection is a rich source of primary materials for classes taught at Drew. In this context, it was in October 2015 that graduate student Brian Shetler was pulling a few 17th century books to show his history class when he noticed a box marked “1611” and “R. Barker”.

Shetler assumed “Barker” referred to the London printer Robert Barker (d. 1645), who had produced one of the most important books in the history of the English language, the King James Bible. Sure enough, when Shetler opened the box, there it was, a 1611 King James Bible.

At first, Shetler doubted, considering it unlikely that the library would have such a famous book and not know about it. Indeed, when he consulted with Cassie Brand, a special collections cataloguer, an effort to authenticate the book began. The title page was missing, apparently leading to a discounted price of just over two pounds when it was sold in the 19th century; Drew acquired the book in 1880s.

The book was authenticated as a first-issue, 1611 edition by meeting over 30 criteria. Further research showed that the Bible had been exhibited at least twice in the 20th century. Coincidentally, the library was in the midst of surveying its special collections, which, perhaps surprisingly, many libraries have never catalogued or even counted. An equal coincidence is that the library was putting

Continued on page 7.

Upcoming Events



January 2016 Pennsylvania Dutch? No! *Dutch Dutch!*

Sunday, January 17, 2016, 1:30 p.m.
Seminole Community Library
9200 113th Street N, Seminole, FL

Public Event

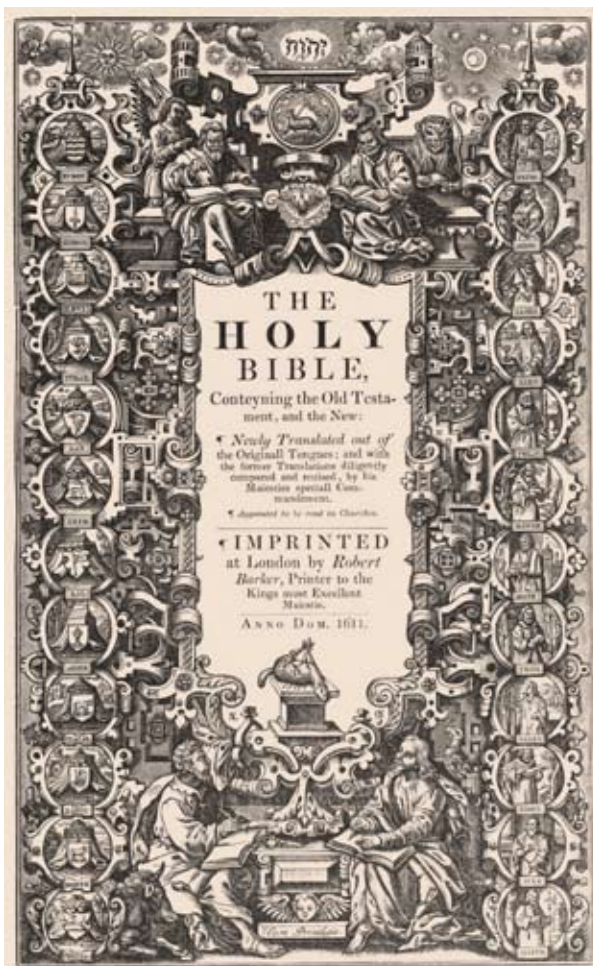
FBS member Friedrich Thiel — “Fritz” — has built a distinguished academic career in German literature, garnering many honors both in the U.S. and Germany. Thiel is the author of many works and an avid book collector. Thiel will speak about the Dutch language and its relationship to German and English vocabularies as well as its unique features. This illustrated presentation was well received at the Rowfant Club of Cleveland.



Rare Bible, concluded.

together an exhibition of some its manuscript treasures, “Discoveries and Donations: Uncovered Treasures at Drew University Library” (Nov. 15, 2015 to Feb. 22, 2016). The newly re-discovered Bible has become a part of that exhibit.

Though the King James Bible is often called “authorized,” it was not officially authorized by King James. The first printing was paid for by the printer, Barker, himself, using inferior type and including numerous errors. Among the most significant of these errors is the use of the pronoun “he” rather than “she” in reference to the title character in the Book of Ruth 3:15. This was corrected for subsequent issues, leading to “He” Bibles and “She” Bibles. The Drew University book is a “He” Bible.



Title page of the 1611 edition of the King James Bible. This page is missing from the Drew University copy.

Texas A&M Cushing Library Acquires Basbanes Collection

Nicholas Basbanes is perhaps best known for his 1995 book *A Gentle Madness: Bibliophiles, Bibliomanes, and the Eternal Passion for Books*. But he has written extensively on books and book culture. Basbanes was born in Lowell, MA, and graduated from Bates College in 1965. He progressed to a master of arts degree at Penn State, a tour of duty in Vietnam, and a career as an investigative reporter. He was literary editor of the Worcester Sunday Telegram for 12 years and wrote a nationally syndicated column on books and authors for eight years after that. Biographer and historian David McCullough has written that “Nicholas Basbanes has become the leading authority of books about books.”

In late 2015, Basbanes papers were acquired by the Cushing Memorial Library and Archives at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX. The collection comprises archives of Basbanes’ professional career as an author and literary journalist, as well as significant portions of his personal library. Collection highlights include significant research materials related to the writing of his nine books and approximately 800 books inscribed to Basbanes over the course of his career.

Basbanes has had a long relationship with Texas A&M, recently opening the exhibition, “Hand to Hand: Selections from the J. Lawrence Mitchell Collection” (Feb. 12, 2015 to Dec. 11, 2015). Mitchell was associate dean and director of Cushing and former head of the English Department at Texas A&M. The Mitchell collection features items related to 20th century English writers, dictionaries, philology – and pugilism.

Dr. Francesca Marini, director of Cushing said, “We are extremely honored to become the repository for Mr. Basbanes’ collection. Throughout the years, his passion for book culture and his advocacy have been very important to institutions that house rare books and special collections.” She expressed gratitude to Cushing curator Kevin O’Sullivan, who worked with Mr. Basbanes on the donation and will oversee the collection.

Crowdsourcing Shakespeare's Contemporaries

Zooniverse is a website and project that supports online participatory science projects. It began in 2009 as an outgrowth of Galaxy Zoo, which asked lay people to assist astronomers with the classification of galaxies found by the Hubble Telescope's Deep Field survey. Each Hubble image contained thousands of galaxies, and there are hundreds of thousands of images. By enlisting interested citizens, the rate at which galaxies could be classified was multiplied significantly, helping to accomplish serious scientific goals in a time frame that would have been unachievable without Zooniverse participants.

Since then, the number of projects supported by Zooniverse has expanded to over forty, ranging from astronomy to microbiology. Several recent projects have asked participants to support historical research by transcribing original documents, for example, quartermaster records from the First World War and century-old real estate records.

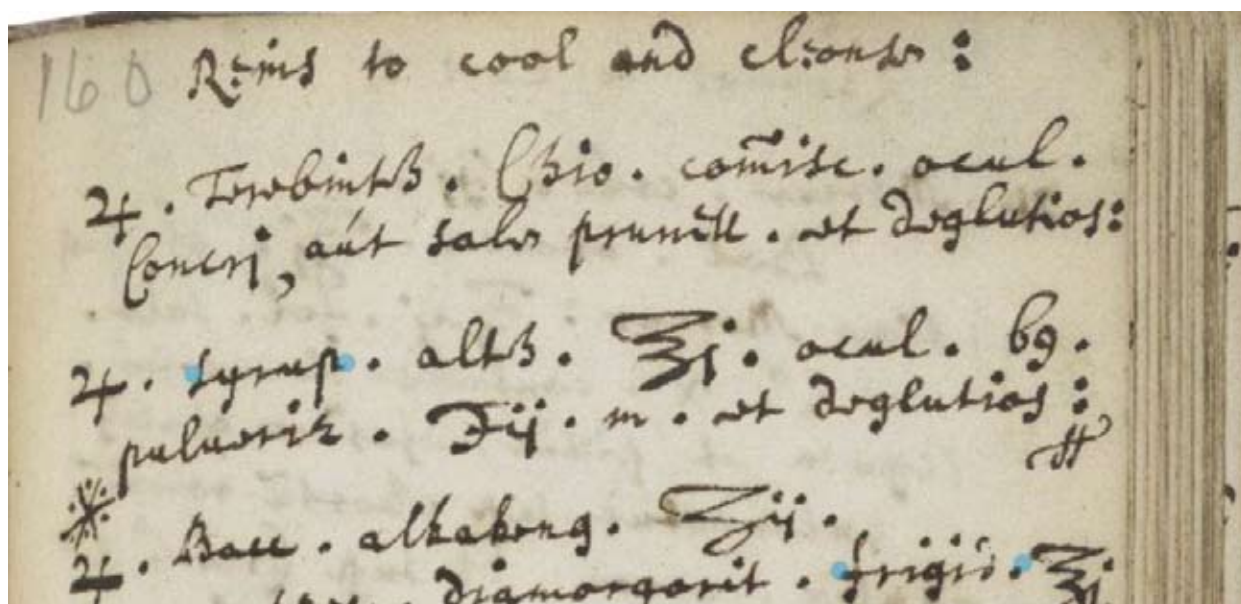
Now, in a project called "Shakespeare's World," Zooniverse is offering budding paleographers everywhere the opportunity to transcribe manuscripts created by Shakespeare's contemporaries in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. All of the manuscripts are held by the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., home of the world's largest collection of materials relating to Shakespeare and his works.

Reading anyone else's handwriting (and even our own from time to time) can be challenging, and reading script written over 400 years ago may pose special challenges. However, Zooniverse makes it easy for participants to transcribe a few words or many, and of course, the more time spent with a document, the more recognizable the characters become. Resources and expert support are available. All efforts are appreciated and contribute to our knowledge of Shakespeare's era.

The first set of documents offered for participant inspection includes letters and recipes. Transcribers will discover how people in the past cooked and kept their families healthy and delve into letters to read the gossip, politics, and news of those days, centuries ago.

2016 marks the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, making this an auspicious time to explore the world in which he lived. The "Shakespeare's World" research team comprises Zooniverse, the Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO) project at the Folger Shakespeare Library, and the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) at Oxford University Press. Transcriptions will be made available to researchers and anyone who is interested in this fascinating period, and reveal new (unrecorded) words and variants for the OED, the most authoritative English dictionary.

Get started at <https://www.zooniverse.org/>!



A page from Zooniverse's "Shakespeare's World" project. This page contains recipes "to cool and cleanse" from the volume 15 of the John Ward Diaries. The blue dots indicate a word that the participant has transcribed: "syrup" in line 4 and "frigid" in line 7. An introductory tutorial explains the procedures and tools available to the transcriber.

Taking a Time Machine to the First Shakespeare Museum

In 1789, London publisher John Boydell opened a three-room exhibition on the Pall Mall that took London by storm. Thousands upon thousands came to see this exhibition for the next sixteen years. Viewers were amazed at the many images, many of them larger than life. Attending the exhibition was very fashionable activity. It was reviewed and reported on in all the major papers.

What was the subject of this exhibition? It was the works of Shakespeare. In fact, it was the first museum dedicated to Shakespeare. The plays had experienced a renaissance in the 18th century and had taken their place as one of the defining creations of British culture. New editions of the Bard's plays and poems were produced regularly. Boydell capitalized on this nationalistic interest by conceiving a grand project, a new, major edition of Shakespeare illustrated by the greatest artists of the age. The exhibition began with approximately 40 paintings, but continuing commissions raised that number to over 160 by 1805. Paintings for the exhibition were created by some of the most famous artists of the day, including Sir Joshua Reynolds, George Romney, Henry Fuseli, James Northcote, John Opie, Angelica Kauffman, James Barry, Benjamin West, and others.

Sadly, while the exhibition was a landmark event, the publishing project did not live up to

expectations and eventually collapsed, leaving Boydell in ruin and requiring the sale of the paintings in the exhibition. Today, only a quarter of the images in the exhibition have been identified.

Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin have undertaken to revive that cultural moment by creating an online version of the Boydell exhibition. The coming year, which is the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, promises its version of Shakespeare mania – a perfect time for the mania of the past to resonate.

Janine Barchas is an English professor at UT who led the project. Barchas pieced together a wide variety of information to reconstruct the exhibition in the target year 1796.

Barchas describes the Boydell exhibition as the “Georgian equivalent of binge-watching Shakespeare.” She describes the exhibition as a major turning point in the development of museums with its appeal and availability to everyday people. It was also an important point in the development of English self-awareness and the culture we identify with England today.

Visit the exhibition: <http://www.whatjanesaw.org/>



Left: A view of the virtual exhibition. Above: Puck as painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds.



Confessions of a Happy Bibliophile

by Tarsha Ahmad

A kid on Christmas morning! That is the best way to describe my excitement when walking into a home staged for an estate furniture sale, but my keen nose could not ignore the smell of books in a back room, closed off with a “keep out” sign. I glanced in (without permission) and saw a unique collection of antique-like classics and other genres.

Well, to put it very simple, I was more like the kid convincing my parents to allow me to open just one gift, preferably the one from great grandma that says, “Do not open before Christmas!”

Given my smooth ability to talk my way into closed rooms and the like, the “sign was unlikely to present a real barrier!

Yes, that’s it. The way to get into a room that plainly states no entry? Which under normal circumstances would be too rude to ask? Just ask, and it shall be given unto us!

Once I was allowed in – all alone may I add – I stood and soaked in the aroma of the old books that so very responsibly held on to their smell, waiting for a greedy bibliophile like me!

The room was filled with so many books from mini to large, classics, mysteries, poetry, history, and so many others. I had died and awakened in book heaven.

Here’s a picture of a few of my finds. My daughter Jaya and I enjoy them frequently. We were happy to pick up a few art pieces as well from the estate sale to add to the shelves with our timely acquisitions. Our favorites so far:

The Merchant of Venice. The beautiful artwork adds such pleasure to an evening of reading aloud to my children.

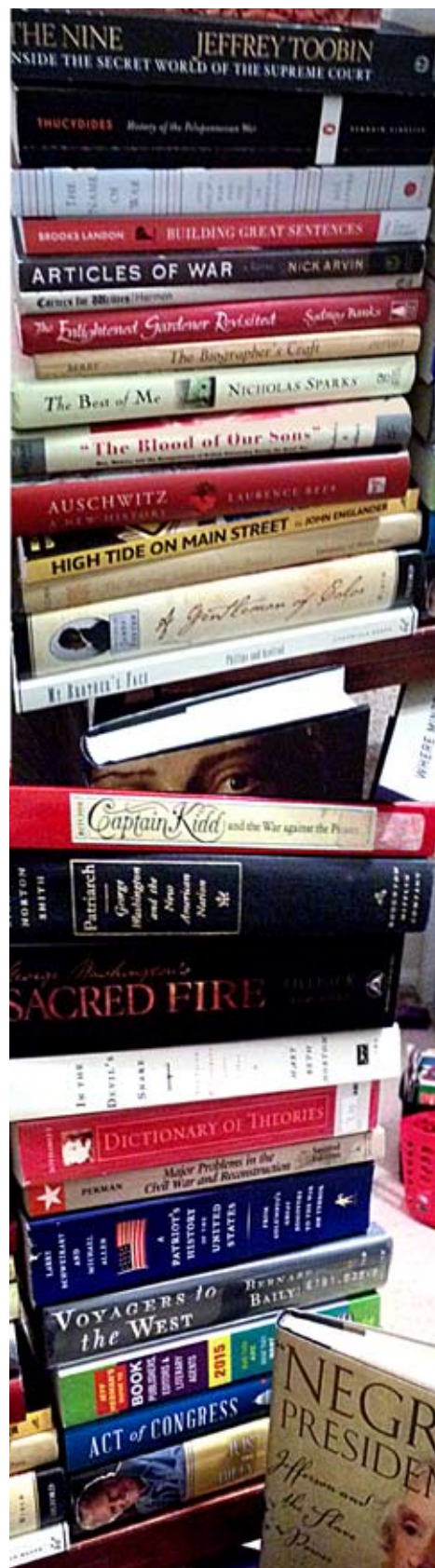
Little Women. We have many editions, however, we could not have passed up a chance to have this copy, gifted to the owner in 1913. I love the sweet notes written inside the front cover.

Lastly, although I purchased many more than pictured here, my all time favorite was a miniature copy of a New Testament Bible given to the owner in 1938. I would love to share them all; however, there are just too many, no shelved in various areas of my home.

As I good as I am at breaking down doors in search of books, sometimes it’s the books that are seeking me!

Recently, a dear friend was cleaning off the shelves of the church library and asked if I would take a collection of Agatha Christie mysteries off her hands. As always, I delightedly accepted!

And then there is my friend who works as a historian with the U.S. military and recently accepted a new position in D.C. He has a deep appreciation for books and asked if I would allow about 50 of his books to have a new home... with me!! So that he has a few less boxes to pack, I accepted – as any gracious bibliophile does!!



Tampa Rough Riders Establish Research Library

by Hal Youmans

The 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment “Rough Riders”, Inc., is a Tampa-based philanthropic social organization formed for the purpose of creating a perpetuating and living memorial to the unique accomplishments of President Theodore Roosevelt and the members of his famous volunteer cavalry regiment, known as the Rough Riders. Many FBS members may know the Rough Riders from their participation in most-things-Gasparilla and their famous Teddy Bear Runs.


Rough Riders has initiated a budding research library on Theodore Roosevelt and the Spanish American War. Taking as their theme the arrival and departure from Tampa of the First U.S. Volunteer Cavalry in 1898, the Rough Riders have been a fixture on the Tampa social scene since the 1970s.

Last year, the club initiated its Regimental Library and with recent quality additions has more than 250 volumes on the War and Roosevelt. While current access is limited to members of the club, discussions are under way to explore partnering with other libraries and institutions on mutual access and use. Resources are currently being drawn from



wholesale and retail book outlets and donations from Club members. Other donations of printed material (books, magazine articles, etc.) from Florida Bibliophile Society members are solicited.

Research takes many trails. One current Rough Rider is actively researching whether a trooper in 1898 actually rode his horse into a liquor establishment in Tampa, shot into the ceiling, and wounded a “lady of the night” plying her trade on the second floor. Others are interested in the quality of more-useful soldiering skills.

To donate materials related to the Spanish American War, Theodore Roosevelt, or American or Spanish life in those days, contact Regimental Librarian and FBS member, Hal Youmans, at 813.671.8852. 

SHARP: Indispensable Bibliophile Resource

The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) was founded in 1991 to create a global network for book historians working in a broad range of scholarly disciplines studying an equally broad range of subjects, including the composition, mediation, reception, survival, and transformation of written communication in material forms from marks on stone to new media. With more than a thousand members in over forty countries, SHARP collaborates with affiliated academic organizations around the world to support the study of book history in all its forms.

SHARP hosts an annual conference and produces a number of publications and other communications. Signing up for the SHARP email list – SHARP-L – is an introductory (and free) first step into the broader world of the activities of SHARP members. Discussions on the email list run the gamut of subjects of interest to SHARP members. Job postings are often circulated on the email list, as well as conference notices, requests for information, and more. For bibliophiles at any level, SHARP-L is an indispensable education resource which introduces participants to a world of ideas.

SHARP Web site: <http://www.sharpweb.org/> 

Recreating a Medieval Monastic Library for the 21st Century

The massive Romanesque cathedral in Durham, England, possesses the finest collection of medieval manuscripts of any English cathedral. Its medieval and Renaissance library represents books collected by the Benedictine monks, beginning with the establishment of the Durham monastery in 1085 until the Dissolution of the Monasteries under Henry VIII in the period 1536 to 1541. At that time, most monastic libraries were broken up and dispersed, but the Durham collection remained almost completely intact and is by far the best preserved of any in Britain or Ireland.

Not only do considerably more items survive in Durham Cathedral's library than from any other pre-Reformation collection, but they are supported by an extensive series of library catalogues that extends from the eleventh to the fifteenth century. With manuscript books that range in date from the sixth century to the sixteenth, and that were written in France, Germany, and Italy, as well as in England and Ireland, the Durham Cathedral Priory Library includes masterpieces of calligraphy and illumination, spanning a thousand years of European culture.

Unfortunately, the historical impact of the Priory Library collection has been hampered by the dispersed and fragile nature of the materials, which has imposed limits on comprehensive examination and broader awareness. Now, Durham University, in partnership with Durham Cathedral, is embarking on an ambitious project to digitize the original Priory Library of Durham Cathedral. This initiative is aimed at making the best-preserved, best-catalogued Benedictine library in the U.K. and Ireland available globally for research, learning, and teaching.

The project will collate digital images of around 480 manuscripts and 110 early printed books, reuniting many works for the first time in over 400 years, thereby preserving and opening up a collection that will provide valuable new insights into the historical and textual traditions of the period. This type of virtual reconstruction is one of many such efforts in Europe and the United States that promises to yield valuable new research subjects and insights.

Dr. Keith Bartlett, Director of Culture at the



Durham University Library, described the collection: "The archives and manuscripts are in fabulous condition and they tell a story of regional, national, and international importance. They're a stunning collection... Beyond that, they're actually works of art in their own right. Just to look at some of the manuscripts as they're being digitized is wonderful to see – the colors, the richness, the beauty of the work of art."

Lisa DiTommaso, Head of Collections at Durham Cathedral said: "The Durham Priory Library collection is exceptional but fragile and we regularly receive requests from all over the world to view the manuscripts. Although we want as many visitors and academics to access the manuscripts as possible, we do of course also need to preserve them for future generations. Digitizing the collection is the perfect solution."



Florida Book Events Calendar

Know about any events of interest to book lovers? Send corrections and additions to Charles Brown, cmbrown@atlantic.net

LIBRARY BOOK SALES

For the numerous library book sales around the state, visit Florida Library Book Sales:
<http://www.booksalefinder.com/FL.html#X676>.

FLORIDA BOOK EVENTS

J A N U A R Y

January 7-10, 2016

Key West Literary Seminar (est. 1982)
[\(www.kwls.org/\)](http://www.kwls.org/)

January 16-23, 2016

Writers in Paradise Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida
[\(writersinparadise.eckerd.edu/\)](http://writersinparadise.eckerd.edu/)

January 2016 to July 2016

John D. MacDonald Centenary Events
[\(jdhomepage.org/\)](http://jdhomepage.org/)

January 29, 2016

ZORA! — Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts and Humanities, Eatonville
[\(zorafestival.org/\)](http://zorafestival.org/)

January 30, 2016, 10 am to 4 pm

Matheson Historical Museum Floridiana Show and Rare Book Sale, Gainesville
<http://www.mathesonmuseum.org/events-1.html>

F E B R U A R Y

February 5, 2016, 11 am to 1:30 pm

Broward Public Library LitLUNCH!
 Ft. Lauderdale
 Guest speaker: Meg Cabot
<http://www.bplfoundation.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.main>

February 11-14, 2016

Savannah Book Festival, Savannah, GA
[\(www.savannahbookfestival.org/\)](http://www.savannahbookfestival.org/)

February 18-20, 2016

Amelia Island Book Festival, Fernandina Beach
[\(www.ameliaislandbookfestival.org/\)](http://www.ameliaislandbookfestival.org/)

February 19-21, 2016

Jacksonville Friends of the Library Warehouse Book Sale
fjpl.info/?page_id=240

February 25-28, 2016

Sleuthfest, annual conference for mystery, suspense, and thriller writers, Deerfield Beach, Florida
[\(sleuthfest.com/\)](http://sleuthfest.com/)

M A R C H

[no 2016 date yet]

The Florida Book Festival, Orlando, FL
[\(floridabookfestival.com/\)](http://floridabookfestival.com/)

March 5, 2016, 8:15 am to 1:30 pm

BookMania! Jensen Beach
www.libraryfoundationmc.org/BookMania-2015-.html

March 5, 2016 - 6 pm

Literary Feast, Fort Lauderdale (ext. 1989)
www.bplfoundation.org/literary-feast

March 11-13, 2016

Florida Antiquarian Book Fair (est. 1981)
floridabooksellers.com/bookfair.html

March 19, 2016

Southwest Florida Reading Festival
[\(www.readfest.org/\)](http://www.readfest.org/)

March 25, 2016

Tampa Writers Conference, Tampa, FL
[\(floridawritingworkshops.com/\)](http://floridawritingworkshops.com/)

March 26, 2016

Fort Lauderdale Conference for Writers, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
[\(floridawritingworkshops.com/\)](http://floridawritingworkshops.com/)

Florida Book Events Calendar, concluded

A P R I L

[no 2016 date yet]

Ocala Storytelling Festival, Arola**Children's BookFest**, Fort Lauderdale, FL**University of Florida Conference on Comics and Graphic Novels**, Gainesville, FL (est. 2002)(www.english.ufl.edu/comics/conference.shtml)

April 16, 2016

Tampa-Hillsborough Storytelling Festival, Tampa (est. 1980)(tampastory.org/category/2016-festival/)

April 16-20, 2016

Friends of the Library Book Sale, Gainesville (est. 1954)(folacld.org/)

M A Y

May 20-22, 2016

Jacksonville Friends of the Library Warehouse Book Sale(fjpl.info/?page_id=240)

J U N E

[no events found]

J U L Y

July 23, 2016

John D. MacDonald Centenary Birthday Celebration(www.jdmhomepage.org)

A U G U S T

[no events found]

S E P T E M B E R

Sept 23-25 2015

Valencia College's Winter Park Writers Festival(winterparkwritersfestival.weebly.com/)

Sept 26 2015

Florida Heritage Book Festival and Writers Conference(fhbookfest.com/)

O C T O B E R

[no 2016 date yet]

Florida Writer's Conference(floridawriters.net/conferences/florida-writers-conference/)

October 22-26, 2016

Friends of the Library Book Sale, Gainesville (est. 1954)(folacld.org/)

N O V E M B E R

[no 2016 date yet]

Festival of Reading, St. Petersburg(www.tampabay.com/expos/festival-of-reading/index.page)

Nov 5-8 2015

Sanibel Island Writers Conference(www.fgcu.edu/siwc/)

Nov 15-22, 2015

Miami Book Fair(miamibookfair.com/)

D E C E M B E R

[no 2016 date yet]

INK Miami(www.inkartfair.com/about.html)

Florida Bibliophile Society, 2015-2016 Season



September 20 • Kick-off meeting – New officers were introduced; the year's events were presented; organizational issues were discussed.

October 18 • Florence M. Turcotte, Literary Manuscripts Archivist and curator, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Papers, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, Gainesville, spoke about Rawlings life and the topic of her forthcoming book, *Rawlings and the moonshine culture* she found when she moved to Florida in 1928.

November 15 • Patti Wilson Byars spoke about her book *Separate Fountains*, which tells about growing up in the 1940s and 1950s in Jonesboro, Georgia. *Separate Fountains* is a compelling picture of life in a small southern town wrestling with the post-war period, with its traditions, and with the Ku Klux Klan. (Seminole Community Library, Seminole FL)

November 23 • Rebecca Rego Barry joined members of the Florida Bibliophile Society for dinner and a pre-release book signing. Barry is editor of *Fine Books & Collections* magazine. Her book, *Rare Books Uncovered: True Stories of Fantastic Finds in Unlikely Places*, was published by Voyageur Press on December 1, 2015. It has been likened to "Antiques Roadshow," but devoted entirely to antiquarian books and manuscripts. Barry interviewed more than fifty collectors, booksellers, librarians, and other "finders" about their best book find. Among her interviewees, FBS's own Jerry Morris. A special keepsake was given to all attendees.

December 20 • FBS Holiday Party. The holiday gala you don't want to miss! At the home of Joan Sackheim. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter.

January 17 • Friedrich "Fritz" Thiel's distinguished academic career in German literature has garnered many honors both in the U.S. and Germany. Thiel is the author of many works and an avid book collector. Thiel will speak about the Dutch language and its relationship to German and English vocabularies. This presentation was well received at the Rowfant Club of Cleveland. (Seminole Community Library, Seminole FL)

February 21 • BonSue Brandvik will speak on the history (and demise) of the Belleview Biltmore Hotel and her novels set in the hotel and featuring its ghosts. Built by Henry Plant and constructed of Florida pine, the Belleview Biltmore was believed to be the largest occupied wood structure in the world (plenty of room for ghosts!) and the last wooden grand Victorian hotel in Florida. (Kelce-MacDonald Library, University of Tampa)

March 20 • "Member's Choice," one week after the Florida Antiquarian Book Fair, will be a day to share recent acquisitions.

April 15-17 • FBS members and guests will have an "away" event, traveling to Gainesville for its semiannual **Friends of the Library Book Sale**, the largest of its kind in Florida, offering over 500,000 books in every imaginable category. Most books on the main floor are priced at \$4.00 and less. There is one room, "Collector's Corner," in which rarer and more collectible books are offered.

May 15 • Annual Florida Bibliophile Society Banquet. Our guest speaker will be Colette Bancroft, Book Editor of the *Tampa Bay Times*. (Tampa Bay History Center)



Endpaper • Falling into Wonderland



I hope that all of you received (from yourself or others!) wonderful books over the holiday season. One I had requested (and received happily) was *The Books to Come*, a collection of essays by the New Zealand poet-printer Alan Loney. In the first essay, Loney writes about what computers have done for and to books and poetry. In short, computers allow us to imitate (my word) books and writing. Users make selections from pull-down menus, pop-up windows, and task bars that recreate the look of pages whose structures and conventions were established over centuries of practice, over centuries of interactions between authors, printers, publishers, and readers (and I must not forget editors!). The computer does know why some text is set flush left; it cannot detect rivers of type; it cannot decide which font best suits a text, though it places hundreds of fonts at the fingertips.

For the poet, the clicking of keys has replaced the scraping of pen on paper, the scent of ink, and the undulation of paper under the hand that has rested in one place too long.

This is not a criticism of the computer; that would seem absurd. It is a suggestion that it is a good thing to understand how things got to be the way they are. What a marvelous invention it would be to link a page layout program — like the one in which this newsletter was created — or a word processing program with a glossary of page layout, tutorials on common practice and history, and biographies of great printers and typographers. Such a program would take the designer or writer beyond the immediate task into an endlessly rich world of ideas and connections — like falling into a wonderland.

I often think that this is an important part of being a bibliophile, not just information or entertainment or answers, but a desire to know what is beneath the surface and to understand it, believing the next book will reveal questions we did not even know could be asked... and the next book will answer them!

See you at the book store! — Charles

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