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Deadline for the January newsletter is January 3, 2018. See page 21 for details.

Membership in the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies is included with your FBS membership. The FABS newsletter is now electronic as well as in print. Access a PDF of the Fall 2017 FABS newsletter here.

Annual Dues for the 2017-2018 FBS Season are due by December 31, 2017!

Membership is $50 U.S. per household per year. Send inquiries and payments to treasurer Linda Morris at 13013 Willoughby Lane, Bayonet Point, FL 34667. Dues may also be paid using our new PayPal account: floridabibliophiles@gmail.com.

FBS members Irene Pavese, Terry Seymour, and Lee Harrer peruse the many interesting books offered at the Great Florida Bibliophile Book Swap Meet. The books were laid out on several tables and offered for sale or trade by FBS members.
Minutes of the Florida Bibliophile Society Meeting, November 19, 2017

Our meeting began, as it often does, with members gathering and enjoying a delicious assortment of refreshments provided by treasurer Linda Morris, as well as enjoying lively conversation and greeting visitors. In addition to the table laid out with pastries and coffee, there were other tables arranged around the room, ready for the Great Florida Bibliophile Society Book Swap Meet... and one table with a display of bricks (??). The large screen in the room was pulled down; a projector was standing by. It all created an air of expectation as members and guests chatted noisily.

When President Jerry Morris called the meeting to order at around 1:40 pm, it took a little extra insistence to quiet energetic conversations.

Presentation about the Greater Largo Library Foundation’s fundraising efforts

Jerry began by introducing Nita Smith, Director of Development for the Greater Largo Library Foundation. Nita had brought the literature and the bricks as part of a presentation about the current fund drive she is coordinating for the library foundation. She spoke to us about the library’s goal of raising enough money to purchase, furnish, and maintain a bookmobile for five years. Enough money has been raised to purchase the vehicle, but the full amount necessary to cover operating and maintenance costs for the full five years are still being raised. Nita thanked FBS member Lee Harrer for his generous contribution of $5,000 to the bookmobile fund (see The Florida Bibliophile for September, 2017, for all the details), as well as for his purchase of several bricks. She explained that, for a contribution of $250, the foundation will engrave a brick to be set in the front walk of the library. Nita had two sets of bricks with her. She explained that the modern bricks would be engraved for the walk and the antique bricks would be decorated with a small plaque and sent to the contributor. The antique bricks were taken from the historic Belleview Biltmore Hotel (see The Florida Bibliophile for March, 2016, to learn more about the Belleview Biltmore Hotel and the bricks). The original plan was to engrave these historic bricks, but because of their age, they proved too crumbly for the engraving process so the foundation decided to engrave modern bricks and give the antique bricks as an appreciation to contributors (see The Florida Bibliophile for September, 2017, for more details). The Florida Bibliophile Society has already purchased a brick.

FBS member Joan Sackheim: Dali docent and film star!

Next on the day’s program was a viewing of a six-minute interview about the Dali Museum, featuring long-time FBS member Joan Sackheim. With a few introductory words, Jerry brought Joan to the front to give us some background before watching the film.
November Minutes, continued

Joan became a docent at St. Petersburg’s Dali Museum within a year’s of its opening in 1982. She knew Eleanor and Reynolds Morse, the Ohio collectors whose collection the original museum was created to hold. She traveled to Spain with a select group, led by the Morses, touring many sites related to Dali’s life and work: Figueras, Cadaques, Pubol, and Port Lligat.

So, Joan was a perfect candidate for one in the series of short interview films entitled “Sharing Salvador... Legacy Stories.” Made in collaboration with the Suncoast Hospice Lifetime Legacies program, the films were produced by 30 students participating in the St. Petersburg Parks & Recreation’s TASCO Teen Technology Camp.

The video features Joan’s recollections about the museum and her experiences of its founders and early personnel. There are many wonderful photographs as well of Salvador Dali, the Morses, the 1983 trip to Spain, and more.

A documentary comprising all six interviews debuted at the Dali Museum on August 17, 2013. The other interviewees are (then) Dali deputy director and chief curator Joan Kropf and docents Jane Roberts, Charlotte Smyth, Georgia Parsons, and Johnna Patterson.

According to the museum website, “the documentary offers a behind-the-scenes look at the 1983 opening of this St. Petersburg jewel and never-seen-before personal and historical photographs of the museum founders and Salvador Dali. Viewers will enjoy the memories shared about the artist and his art, founders A. Reynolds and Eleanor R. Morse and the institution that has housed and exhibited the most comprehensive collection of Salvador Dali’s work in the world. This collaborative film effort memorializes these historical accounts in a dynamic, inspiring and educational series.”

Searching “Sharing Salvador” on YouTube will find all the interviews in this series. You can also view Joan’s interview.

The Great Florida Bibliophile Society Book Swap Meet

We took a short break to give members time to fill the tables with the books they had brought and to refill their coffee, have another bite or two, and to begin looking at the books. Some members had priced their books; others had not. The tricky part was standing by your books when you wanted to wander around and get a look at what was available. The subjects of the books ranged widely, including books on Boswell and other 18th-century subjects from Terry Seymour, bibliographic journals from Jerry Morris, books on Finland from David Hall, etc. A lengthy discussion was held over who should have a copy of Warren Chappell’s *Short History of the Printed Word* – no information on its final disposition. (Photos next page.)

Members share about their books

Members had been invited to share briefly at the meeting about their collection, their interests, a recent acquisition, etc. Two members brought something to share. President Jerry Morris brought something called a galley proof, or just galleys, of the book *A Restless People: Americans in Rebellion, 1770-1787* (Oscar and Lilian Handlin, Anchor Press/Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1982). Carl Nudi and Jerry explained
These photos show a few of the books offered at the Great Florida Bibliophile Book Swap Meet. Among the books members brought to sell or trade were popular titles, reference books, nonfiction, and scholarly works. The set of The Library: Transactions of the Bibliographic Society was purchased from Jerry Morris by Lee Harter, who plans to donate them to the University of Tampa Library.
that when a book was typeset, a single special proof of the pages would be printed from the type forms by directly inking the plates and printing a single sheet from each of them. These long sheets would go to the editor and author for final corrections before the plates were put on the press to print the book. This system has been in use since the 1600s.

Vice president Charles Brown brought a new addition to his collection of Lewis Carroll books, a small book called *The Tale of the Mouse’s Tail* (David and Maxine Schaefer, Mica Press, 1995). Readers who remember the early chapters of *Alice in Wonderland* will remember the caucus race and the mouse who tells a harrowing story about an encounter with a cat. While the mouse is speaking, Alice’s mind wanders (as it often does) and she begins to see the mouse’s story in the shape of the mouse’s tail, and in the book, the type is arranged on the page in a narrow, wavy column, like a mouse’s tale. In Carroll’s day, setting this increasing small type on uneven lines required considerable skill on the part of a printer. In more recent times, this can be done with much less effort on a computer. But in the early days of computers, printing a text of this type was still no small feat, and programmers would share computer-printed versions of such texts informally. *The Tale of the Mouse’s Tail* collects many of these experiments.
November Minutes, continued

Published in 1995, the book is a product of modern printing methods, and so it is more of an homage to the early days of programming rather than a facsimile. It also testifies to the interest in Alice in Wonderland in the computing community as a beloved mathematical classic and as a metaphor for the strange new world of computers. The book contains the mouse’s tail in a number of languages in addition to several versions in English, accompanied by illustrations by Jonathon Dixon.

It isn’t over yet: Field trip to DoraLynn Books

Altogether, the meeting was a lot of fun, and we might have “hung out” for a while longer, but Jerry had arranged with DoraLynn Books, at their new location in Madeira Beach, to stay open a little later than usual so that FBS members could visit.

DoraLynn Books’ Facebook page tells the story: “Sean Donnelly and Harry Nash opened DoraLynn Books in January 2011. The two friends, who have known each other since 1993, had talked for years about opening a store. They bought and stored thousands of books, waiting for the day when the right opportunity would come along. That day came when the venerable Books to the Ceiling closed after 22 years on Madeira Beach. Sean and Harry had known the owner, Judy Fish, for over 20 years, and wanted to carry on the legacy of her store out on the beach, catering to locals, tourists, and seasonal residents with a large selection of affordable books. Their stock-in-trade is inexpensive pocket paperbacks, but they also sell books in a wide variety of nonfiction categories, with large sections of books on military history, metaphysical and self-help, travel, art, and science.”

Sean and Harry were very hospitable. The store is tidy and well organized. And they have a very nice assortment of books, ranging from the familiar to the obscure. About 10 FBS members met there and spent some time getting to know the owners and then browsing the shelves. Madeira Beach and DoraLynn Books are 10-15 minutes from the FBS meeting location at Seminole Community Library. Well worth a visit!

And to top it off...

After not-long-enough at DoraLynn Books, a few diehard FBS members went around the block to Slyce Pizza Bar. Slyce is on the second floor of a free-standing building, giving a view of the bay and the setting Florida sun. There was a nice deck, but it was a little cool to sit outside, so the six of us settled inside. The menu offers pizzas from the traditional to the wild. We split pizzas such as the well-known Hawaiian, with pineapple and ham, and the slightly hazardous Sunburn, with hot soprasetta, Cajun sausage, hot Italian sausage, pepper jack cheese, jalapenos, green olives, fresh Serrano chilies and green onions ("sriracha sauce available upon request"). The Sunburn was way too hot, but too good to stop eating. We laughed at each other trying to cool the burn. Definitely worth repeating. They should offer a t-shirt.
November Minutes, concluded

Members comment on the GFBSBSM...

From Terry Seymour:

I thought I should provide some amplification on my brief “Alice” speech which left some unanswered questions.

I did some further research on the Alice manuscript, a topic on which I spoke briefly and impromptu at the Bibliophile Book Swap. First off, people should understand that the manuscript in question was not the true manuscript of the first edition of the book. Instead, it was the initial written version with Dodgson’s own illustrations that he presented to the Liddell family as a Christmas gift. That text was only about half the size of the printed version and considerably different.

A. S. W. Rosenbach won this manuscript at auction [Sotheby’s London April 3, 1928] for £15,400. Rosenbach later sold it to Eldridge R. Johnson at an unknown but considerably higher price. After Johnson’s death, it was sold in the Park-Bernet Galleries NYC [April 3, 1946] for $50,000, back to Rosenbach, acting as agent for the Library of Congress. Dr. Luther H. Evans, then the Librarian of Congress, felt strongly that the manuscript belonged in England. He raised the $50,000 from interested persons and in November 1948, he took the manuscript back to England and presented it to the British Museum. Thus, Rosenbach made two profits on this manuscript, but it finally went back to England.

As to the books I brought to the sale:

Mostly, I brought books from my Boswell/Johnson reference library. Because I will be moving my main Boswell/Johnson collection to Florida, these reference books represent duplicates. I also sold one volume of the Loeb’s Classics. I own three shelves of these wonderful scholarly reprints of the Greek & Latin Classics. I no longer have room for them so am selling them to interested parties at attractive prices.

From Dave Hall:

It’s the principle of the thing, not the titles scored, that counts. I came home with one book and got rid of two, for a net factor 2X larger than my acquisitions, if it can be called that. So at this rate I should have shelf space, not piled on tables, for all my books by, let’s see . . . 2019?

From Jerry Morris:

I invited Terry Seymour, but I asked that he give me all the great discounts if he wanted me to buy some of his books: military discount, senior citizens discount, Florida Resident discount, and the Florida Bibliophile Society discount. Funny thing though, the total was the same with or without the discounts….

And the cherry on the icing on the cake...

Florida Bibliophile Society welcomes our newest members:

Linda Fackeldey

Otis and Linda Taylor

Linda Fackeldey has recently inherited a collection of books, and she has just started the process of finding out what she has. She’s looking forward to learning more about books in general. FBS is the right place! Welcome, Linda!

Otis and Linda Taylor moved to the St. Pete area not too long ago. Otis spent his career in publishing and marketing (and he described other interesting exploits over dinner). He and his wife, Linda, are avid readers. Welcome, Otis and Linda!
Fort Lauderdale is home to the Broward County Library. The current building was constructed between 1981 and 1984. This stunning modern home for the library was designed by Robert Gatje, who practiced for many years in the firms of Marcel Breuer and Richard Meier, two legends of modern architecture and design. (In 2000, Monacelli Press published Gatje’s book about Breuer, *Marcel Breuer: a Memoir*.)

On the sixth floor of the Broward County Library, the Bienes Museum of the Modern Book, formerly The Bienes Center for the Literary Arts, occupies 8,300 square feet and houses over 15,000 books and book-related objects. Designed by Ft. Lauderdale architect Donald Singer, the museum comprises a spacious lobby, large conference room, a larger ceremony room, a reading room, and a climate-controlled vault in which collection resides. The conference room is available to community and business groups, which give the museum additional utility and exposure. The ceremony room is also available for community functions, but when none are scheduled, it often serves as an exhibition hall and can be filled with free-standing display cases.

The reading room provides access to collection materials by request. It has seating for twelve, with a small reference section. Collection materials can only be used in the reading room. The vault is accessible only to museum staff. It has climate controls to maintain lower temperature and humidity to preserve collection materials. Display cases throughout the museum are also climate-controlled with limited lighting so that items are only exposed to light when a viewer is present.
Bienes Museum, continued

The museum and collection were only one of many contributions the Bieneses made to their community. They were generous philanthropists in many areas, including other gifts to the library, the Michael and Dianne Bienes Comprehensive Cancer Center at Holy Cross Hospital, the Opera Guild of Fort Lauderdale, the Miami City Ballet, and the Archdiocese of Miami. Michael was knighted by the Catholic Church for his generosity. The Bieneses’ lavish entertaining helped to maintain their high profile in South Florida as well as at their home in England, where they were known to entertain royalty.

The Bieneses were not book collectors seeking a place for their collection, but benefactors looking for opportunities to assist the Broward County Library in its mission. The library already had an extensive collection related to modern books, book arts, and book-related objects, which were kept in cases or storage. The Bienes gift, combined with funds from the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Arts Council, made the museum a reality, creating an appropriate location for the assembly, preservation, and display of the library’s collection.

Although the Bieneses were not collectors, the museum named for them houses materials given by some very dedicated collectors who brought together remarkable collections which focus on 20th century books and objects. The collections in the museum are focused in four general areas: Children’s Literature and Artifacts; Floridiana; General and Fine Presses, and WPA and New Deal Literature. Each of these categories comprises individual collections. Selections from these collections are displayed on the following pages.

The vault room is lit with yellowish light of medium brightness as an additional protection for the collection materials.

Michael Bienes (1937-2017) amassed his fortune in accounting, primarily in association with Bernard Madoff, whose multibillion-dollar Ponzi scheme became the stuff of legend, film and television, and most notably, numerous federal indictments and lawsuits. After the Madoff scandal broke in the late 2000s, the Bieneses lost almost all of their fortune. They were forced to sell their very large and luxurious home and move into a modest condominium. Bienes denied any knowledge of, or involvement in, Madoff’s operation. He was never indicted, and he consistently asserted that he was a victim himself.
Children’s Literature and Artifacts

Nyr Indictor Collection of Alphabet and Related Materials

Nyr Indictor is a communications specialist who helps clients identify communications strategies and craft messaging. His collection of books and materials related to alphabets and alphabet learning is a research resource that contains over 2,000 items documenting the development of nineteenth- and twentieth-century alphabets, including books, toys and games, ceramics, clothing, and rubber stamps to flash cards, jigsaw puzzles, and wrapping paper – even an Hermes scarf, all documenting alphabet learning. Dozens of languages are represented.

Jean Trebbi ABC Collection

The Jean Trebbi ABC Collection features 300 alphabet books. The collection was shaped over a period of twenty years and includes first editions, signed and numbered copies, artists’ books, and other rare and out-of-print titles dating from the late nineteenth century to the present day. While the Nyr Indictor Collection focuses on alphabet learning, the Jean Trebbi Collection takes a broader look at using the ABCs as the structure for creative writing.

Duane H. Siers Family Collection of Big Little Books

In 1986, Duane Siers donated his collection of 500 Big Little Books dating from 1932 to the 1970s. First published in the 1930s by Whitman Publishing Company, the 4½-inch-high and 3¾-inch-wide books contain black-and-white illustrations with color covers. They are based on comic strips, movies, radio shows, and children’s classics. Characters featured include Dick Tracy, Flash Gordon, Blondie, Dagwood, Little Orphan Annie, Mickey Mouse, Tom Mix, and Tarzan.

From “A Is for Advertising” to “Z Is for Zealot,” if it bugs you, Chicago Sun-Times reporter David Stein has probably included it in The Alphabet of Annoyances (Doubleday, 1996).

Big Little Books are chunky, usually an inch or more thick with hard covers. G-Man vs. the Red X (author unknown; Whitman Publ., Racine, Wis., 1936, 424 pp.). The story takes a government agent (a G-man) into an underworld of crime and anarchy. There were seven titles in the G-man series, but hundreds of titles were produced by more than a dozen companies... and eagerly read.
Bienes Museum, continued

Collection of Books Illustrated by Leonard Everett Fisher

Leonard Everett Fisher is a well-known artist and author. He has illustrated more than 260 books for young readers since 1955. Fisher has been honored with such awards as the 1981 National Jewish Book Award for Children’s Literature and the Christopher Medal for Illustration. The Bienes Museum has approximately 140 of his titles.

Bienes Museum Comic Books Collection

The Bienes Museum Comic Books Collection contains approximately 2,400 vintage comic books dating from the 1950s to the 1980s, and includes titles such as The Amazing Spider-Man; Archie; Betty and Veronica; Daredevil; The Defenders; The Fantastic Four; The Incredible Hulk; Iron Man; Jughead; Marvel Tales; Marvel Team-Up; The Sub-Mariner; Star Wars... and Lorna, the Jungle Queen.

Collection of Vojtěch Kubaštá works

In 2001, the Bienes Museum began collecting the works of Vojtěch Kubaštá (1914-1992), the Czech paper engineer, children’s book illustrator, and graphic designer. The collection includes more than 315 advertisements, calendars, flat books, maps, models, pop-up books and greeting cards, portfolios, postcards, posters, prints, and stationery. The Bienes Museum has the largest public institutional collection of Kubaštá’s works in the United States.

Kubaštá’s pop-up books feature intricate and ingenious mechanisms combined with sumptuous illustration.
Bienes Museum, continued

Floridiana

Florida Artists’ Book Collection

A collection of books made as works of art by Florida artists. The Bienes Museum, with the Florida Center for the Book, established the annual Florida Artists’ Book Prize in 1997. The Bienes Museum permanently houses the winner of the annual competition.

Tallahassee artist Michelle Ray created this work, God created the sea and painted it blue so we’d feel good on it, in an edition of 50 in 2013. Shown closed (upper right) and open (right), the book reveals illustration, wood construction, a diorama, and a series of seven booklets that explores wayfinding on the ocean as a metaphor for finding one’s way in life.

Floridiana

The collection features rare books, periodicals, manuscripts, documents, and other material in which the author, subject, theme or setting are related to Florida or Broward County. Highlights include a 1792 copy of Bartram’s Travels through North and South Carolina, Georgia, East and West Florida, and titles by Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. The Bienes Museum also has the Kay Latona Florida Crime Mystery Collection (200 titles). The collection contains the archives of Connie May Fowler, Olivia Goldsmith, Michael Shaara, and Charles Willeford.

John D. MacDonald Collection

John D. MacDonald was a prolific writer of crime and suspense novels, many of them set in his adopted home of Florida. His best-known works include the popular and critically acclaimed Travis McGee series, and his novel The Executioners, which was adapted into the film Cape Fear. In 1972, MacDonald was named a grandmaster of the Mystery Writers of America and in 1980, he won the American Book Award. The Bienes Museum has a large selection of MacDonald fiction published in various editions and languages.

Known primarily for his very popular mysteries, Wine of the Dreamers (Greenberg, 1951), was one of MacDonald’s earliest novels.

FBS members will remember the presentation on John MacDonald given by Cal and Nola Branche in February 2015. Cal and Nola are avid collectors and specialists of MacDonald. See The Florida Bibliophile for March 2016 for additional information about the MacDonald Centennial and an extensive set of letters between John and Dorothy MacDonald.
Deicke Collection of Books on Rare Tropical Fruits and Vegetables

In the 1980s, Lois L. Deicke presented a grant to Broward County Library to develop a collection on gardening, fruits and vegetables, and plants common to Florida and the tropics. The collection contains more than 150 titles by leading horticulturalists. Deicke (1917-1999) was a very active volunteer and philanthropist in the Ft. Lauderdale area.

The Colophon, A Book Collectors’ Quarterly is well known to bibliophiles. It began as a limited edition quarterly in 1929 by Elmer Adler, founder of Pynson Printers, New York. Issues were assembled from signatures created by printers, using their own choice of papers, typography, and illustration. The books were bound by Pynson Printers. Many famous artists, writers, and printers contributed to The Colophon over the years. Publication ceased in 1950.


The collection is primarily about book collecting and rare books and also contains retrospective and current Florida fine press publications such as King & Queen Press and Angel Alley Press. Included are issues of the periodical, Colophon: A Book Collectors’ Quarterly, ranging in dates from 1930 to 1950.
WPA and New Deal Literature

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)

The CCC was created by an act of Congress in 1933 soon after the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt. The dual-purpose program provided work for unemployed youth and protected and conserved natural resources. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) collection has approximately 200 titles and includes books, pamphlets, posters, banners, clothing, memory books, newspapers and newsletters, certificates, games, matchbook covers, menus, patches, pillow cases, and postcards.

Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) commonly refers to the many agencies established by the Federal Government in the 1930s during Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal. The collection contains books, pamphlets, and political tracts written about Roosevelt’s life, administration, and policies.

Historical Records Survey

The Historical Records Survey was a project of the WPA in the United States during the 1930s and 1940s. Originally part of the Federal Writers’ Project, it was devoted to surveying and indexing historically significant records in state, county and local archives. The official mission statement was the “discovery, preservation, and listing of basic materials for research in the history of the United States.” The Bienes Museum has surveys from most states.
Jean Fitzgerald Collection of WPA Federal Writers’ Project Materials

Jean Fitzgerald, a retired United States Naval officer and a local library supporter, donated his important collection of WPA Federal Writers’ Project materials to Broward County Library in 1986. Items include books, periodicals, pamphlets, and correspondence by writers, historians, poets, novelists, and artists who worked on WPA projects between 1935 and 1942. The Bienes Museum now has approximately 2,000 titles. The collection is generally considered to be the largest and most comprehensive in the United States.

WPA Handicraft Projects

The WPA Handicraft Projects came into being in the 1930s to help put unemployed Americans to work. The crafts were designed and made with inexpensive or surplus materials and were sold and distributed to tax-supported institutions. The collection features artifacts from Milwaukee, Wis.; Oshkosh, Wis.; Des Moines, Iowa; Iron Mountain, Mich.; Orlando, Fla.; Tennessee; and Vermont. It includes examples of block-printed textiles, books, bookbinding, bookmarks, children’s furniture, clothing, crewel embroidery, doll clothing, educational toys, portfolios and wooden signs.
WPA Florida Publications

The collection includes 114 publications, artifacts, and art works by various Florida Writers’ Projects, Florida New Deal and WPA agencies. Some of the titles in the collection are *Tung Oil Industry in Florida, An Industrial Survey of Orange County, Florida, Florida Seafood Cookery: Tasty and Economical Recipes, The Conchs of Riviera, Florida, Seeing St. Augustine, and Termites and Other Household Pests.*

WPA Museum Extension Project (MEP)

The Museum Extension Project, 1935–1943, was a section of the WPA’s Women’s and Professional Division. The MEP had two purposes: to produce visual aids to support teaching in tax-supported schools, libraries and museums; and to help museums organize collections and exhibitions. Jean Fitzgerald was the catalyst behind the Bienes Museum’s 1998 acquisition of its first Museum Extension Project artifacts. The current collection contains more than 750 texts and objects, and includes hand puppets and marionettes, architectural and industrial models, costume plates, lantern slides, play scripts, posters, broadsides, toys, dioramas, puzzles, mannequins, and food displays. It is the only collection of its kind in existence.
Interview with FBS Member Carl Mario Nudi

Professional printer and journalist, FBS member Carl Mario Nudi has had a long association with printing and books. Carl answers a few questions from FBS president Jerry Morris.

Jerry Morris: Tell us a little bit about yourself, where you came from, your occupation, and when you came to Florida.

Carl Mario Nudi: I was born and raised in Ross Township, a rural township of Pittsburgh. My father was a Linotype operator for a Pittsburgh daily, the Sun Telegram, and he also had a printing shop in our basement. My uncle also owned The Allegheny Journal, a weekly community newspaper. Growing up, I set type and ran the press in my father’s shop and worked in my uncle’s shop.

I moved to Detroit with my family after graduating from high school and started an International Typographical Union apprenticeship in the Detroit Free Press composing room. After serving my six-year stint as an apprentice, I received my journeyman’s card. It was one of my proudest achievements. I worked at the Free Press and several shops around Detroit until I was laid off at the Detroit Free Press in February 1981. I was 31 years old and had had enough of the winter so I decided to move to Sarasota, Florida, where my aunt and uncle were living at the time. I first got a job at a sub shop, then sold office supplies, and eventually started working at the Bradenton Herald in the newsroom as a copy editor. After about 15 years on the copy desk, I moved over to the city desk and became a beat reporter, covering police and fire stories, then government, city, and county. I also wrote a local political column and a veterans’ column during my 25 years at the daily newspaper. I retired from the Bradenton Herald in August 2010, but after about nine months my editor asked me to come back to work part-time, which I did for another three years. After a year of really being retired, a weekly newspaper, the Observer News in Ruskin, wanted to start a North Manatee County edition and asked me to come write for them. So I keep myself busy reporting and writing one feature story a week.

CMN: When did you first become interested in books? And what kind of books do you like?

Being raised around printing presses and ink, I’ve always been interested in the production of books and other printed materials. As a youth, I would collect a lot of the typical kid stuff: comic books, stamps, baseball cards, rocks, just about anything. There was a bookcase filled with the classics and references books in our home for as long as I remember. I also had a small bookcase for my personal encyclopedia and other books of interest.

As a young adult, I would travel and stop in various used book and antique shops and picked a few unique books, mostly for their design or typographical significance.

I really didn’t get into “collecting” until I moved to Bradenton and got my own place. I had a lot of space since I didn’t have much furniture so when someone told me this auto repair shop had a bunch of books they were planning on throwing away, I just couldn’t let that happen. I picked up about 500 books of the most general of subjects. So I guess I became more of a book rescuer, than collector.
Since then I became known for my “saving” of books and more people would call me about books that needed to be rescued. I’ve estimated that over the past 37 years, with the books I’ve saved and purchased, I have accumulated around 30,000 books. I have bookcases in front of bookcases, books in boxes, books in piles. It’s really more like hoarding that collecting.

If I was asked what subjects I collect, I would say books on printing and typography, art, cooking, history, and nudism. The last category is in honor of my last name. But I really have books on most subjects you could think of, and I know where to find them in my home.

**JM:** I know that the Tampa Book Arts Studio is your second home. Tell us about your first days there.

**CMN:** Tampa Book Arts Studio director, Dr. Richard Mathews, was a guest speaker at one of our meetings at the request of FBS charter member Lee Harrer, who, along with former FBS president Jay Dobkins, was instrumental in establishing the studio at the University of Tampa. After the meeting, I talked with Dr. Mathews, and he invited me to visit. That was in 2009, and since then, I’ve been volunteering at the studio, helping to keep the machines running and the studio organized. I also helped in printing two books on our Washington Hand Press, once owned by woodcut artist, J.J. Lankes. It keeps me busy in my retirement years. (Carl conducted a tour of the Tampa Books Arts Studio; get all the details in *The Florida Bibliophile* for March 2017).

**JM:** When did you join the Florida Bibliophile Society, and what positions have you held?

**CMN:** I served first as recording secretary (2001–2002), then vice president (2002–2003), and two terms as president (2003–Dec. 2004). After Jack Walsh’s term as treasurer was up, no one else wanted to do the job, so I volunteered and did that for about four years (2011–2014).

**JM:** You are on a deserted island with no chance of rescue. A book genie suddenly appears and offers you to give you three books, and only three books to read for the rest of your life. Which three books would you choose?

**CMN:** This is a hard one to answer since I really don’t read many books. I guess, one would have to be a dictionary. Another would be a world atlas. And the third would be a long classic, such as “War and Peace.” As a printer, I would want the two-volume history of the International Typographical Union, which before it’s merger with the Communications Workers of America was the oldest union in the United States and Canada. As a collector of books about type, I would like at least one book I don’t already own about typography. As a journalist, I’d need the Associated Press Style Book – I assume I’ll have a lot of time on my hands to do some writing. That’s more than three – I’ll have to let you know who makes the final cut.

**JM:** I can imagine that you have some thoughts about the most beautifully printed books you’ve collected/encountered.

**CMN:** I have several books that are beautifully printed from a technical and aesthetic point of view, but one book I was really impressed with was the Book of Kells, which I saw at Trinity College in Dublin. Something that old, yet so vibrant in color.

**JM:** What advice would you give to someone who has caught the book collecting bug?

**CMN:** Pick one subject and stay with that. Don’t let the collection grow, because books are heavy to move. Or pick up the stamp collecting hobby; they’re lighter.
Becoming a Woman in the Age of Enlightenment

Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida at Gainesville
Curators: Professors Melissa Hyde & the late Mary D. Sheriff
Organized by Alvin L. Clark, Jr., Horvitz Collection Curator, Harvard Art Museums/Fogg

October 6 – December 31, 2017
Harn Exhibition Hall
Exhibition Catalogue for purchase at Museum Store
< http://harn.ufl.edu/becomingawoman >

Nearly 120 drawings, pastels, paintings and sculptures by prominent French artists of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century are on loan from the distinguished private collection of Jeffrey & Carol Horvitz, Boston. Gainesville’s installation, Becoming a Woman in the Age of Enlightenment: French Art from The Horvitz Collection, features works by Antoine Watteau, Nicolas Lancret, François Boucher, Jean-Honoré Fragonard, as well as Anne Vallayer-Coster, Gabrielle Capet, François-André Vincent, and Philibert-Louis Debucourt. Ranging from improvisational sketches and figural studies, to finished drawings of exquisite beauty, the selections include a range of styles and genres. Thematically organized within historical contexts, the exhibition addresses aspects of women’s lives in early-modern France, across social classes and occupations. How did they live, dress, create careers & identities? Whom did they befriend and love?

Page written & constructed by Maureen E. Mulvihill, FBS member and 2012-2015 VP. Her recent essays on Rubens and Veronese are hosted online; her da Vinci article will run in an upcoming issue of this newsletter.
Upcoming Events

December 2017

Florida Bibliophile Society Holiday Party
December 17, 2017, 1:30 pm

Again, this year, FBS member Joan Sackheim has invited members of the Florida Bibliophile Society to celebrate the holiday season together at her home in St. Petersburg.

FBS will supply a ham, turkey, and beverages. Members are invited to bring their specialities to share. There is a sign-up sheet so that we’ll know you’re coming and what you’re bringing. Contact FBS president Jerry Morris to sign up.

During the hectic holiday season, this get-together has been a relaxing time to slow down, enjoy some delicious food (we have excellent cooks in FBS!), and have time to talk and even pull crackers and share some jokes.

January 2018

Charles M. Brown – Beyond the Book: Artist’s Books and Graphic Novels
Seminole Community Library
9200 113th St. N., Seminole, FL
January 21, 2017, 1:30 pm

Since “the death of the book” was proclaimed in the late 1990s, print publishing has exploded. Traditional books have been joined by new content and new formats: pop-up books and coloring books have moved into the adult category; comic books have expanded into graphic novels that are regularly reviewed in the New York Times and other serious venues; and artist’s books, once rarely seen, have now become a standard part of many publisher’s catalogs. Charles Brown, FBS vice president and newsletter editor, will discuss the book as a medium for art both in unique productions and in the increasingly popular and critically important area of graphic novels.
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 and library-operated bookstores, visit Florida Library Book Sales: http://www.booksalefinder.com/FL.html

December 2017

December 6-10, 2017
INK Miami
(www.inkartfair.com)

December 6-9, 2017
Cracker Storytelling Festival
Homeland, FL (crackerstorytellingfestival.com/)

December 7-10, 2017
Art|Basel, Miami
(www.artbasel.com/miami-beach)

January 2018

January 11-14, 2018
36th Annual Key West Literary Seminar
Key West, FL (www.kwls.org/)

January 12-14, 2018
Paradise City Comic Con
Miami, FL (paradisecitycomiccon.com/)

January 13-20, 2018
Writers in Paradise (Eckerd College Writers Conference)
St. Petersburg, FL (writersinparadise.eckerd.edu/)

January 20-28, 2018
29th Annual Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts and Humanities
Eatonville, FL (www.zorafestival.org/)

February 2018

February 15-17, 2018
Amelia Island Book Festival
Amelia Island, FL (www.ameliaislandbookfestival.org/)

February 15-18, 2018
Savannah Book Festival
Savannah, GA (www.savannahbookfestival.org/)

February 22-25, 2018
Coastal Magic Convention
Daytona Beach, FL (coastalmagicconvention.com/)

March 2018

March 3, 2018
Southwest Florida Reading Festival
“The Largest One-Day Reading Festival in Florida”
Fort Myers, FL (www.readfest.org/)

March 23-24, 2018
7th Annual Venice Book Fair and Writers Festival
Venice, FL (http://venicebookfair.com/)

April 2018

April 2-8, 2018
26th University of Florida Conference on Comics and Graphic Novels, Gainesville, FL (www.english.ufl.edu/comics/conference.shtml)

April 12-15, 2018
34th Story Fest
(sponsored by The Florida Story Association)
Mount Dora, FL (flstory.com/festival/)

INTO THE FOLD
A survey of the contemporary field of book art
Leslie Curran Gallery, St. Petersburg
Nov. 25, 2017 – Jan. 6, 2018
Reception Dec. 9, 6–9 pm
Bridget Elmer (Ringling) and Robin Perry Dana Co-curators

INTO THE FOLD focuses on collaborative work made in Florida. From historic woodcuts and to-date unpublished manuscripts to laser-cut bindings and experimental structures, works in this exhibition expand our understanding of the book as an art form and celebrate regional artists. Featured programs include the Coffey Residency for Book Arts (Univ. of Florida), the Letterpress and Book Arts Center (Ringling College of Art and Design), Small Craft Advisory Press (Florida State Univ.), and the Tampa Book Art Studio (Univ. of Tampa).
This Month’s Writers and Contributors

Many thanks to those who contributed words and ideas to this month’s newsletter! FBS members unless otherwise noted.

David Hall  
Lee Harrer  
Melissa Hyde  
Jerry Morris  
Linda Morris  
Maureen Mulvihill  
Carl Mario Nudi  
Terry Seymour  
Gary Simons

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.

Join FBS!

If you love books, take your interest to the next level by joining a group of dedicated book lovers (i.e., bibliophiles). You will meet serious collectors, dealers, scholars, and readers and you will discover a lively, enjoyable group. You will find contact emails on the last page of this newsletter.

Membership is $50 per year. You can find a membership form on our website. It will give you the address to which to send your filled-out form and payment.

Joining FBS also makes you a member of our national organization, the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies.

Write for Your Newsletter!

Your input and content are needed. FBS is about participation, about discoveries, about passionate interests, and sometimes the deliciously obscure. Why not write about it!? 
Florida Bibliophile Society, 2017-2018 Season

September 17 ● Michael VanPutte – Walking Wounded: Inside the U. S. Cyberwar Machine
President Barack Obama called cyber warfare “The most serious threat to our national security.” Dr. Michael VanPutte, a cyberwarfare expert and decorated combat veteran, explains the threat and how U.S. policy has contributed to the threat.

October 15 ● Stuart D. Goldman – Nomonhan, 1939: The Red Army’s Victory That Shaped World War II – Nomonhan is a little known battle in a series of conflicts between Russia and Japan that had critical implications for World War II. Dr. Goldman will set the scene and explain the importance.

November 19 ● The Great Florida Bibliophile Society Book Swap Meet – A festival for booklovers! Members will be invited to briefly share about their collection, a recent purchase, etc. Bring books to swap or sell.

December 17 ● FBS Holiday Party – FBS member Joan Sackheim has again offered her lovely home as the perfect setting for our holiday celebration. A great opportunity to spend some relaxed time with fellow FBS members.

January 21 ● Charles Brown – Beyond the Book: Artist’s Books and Graphics Novels
Our FBS vice president and newsletter editor is also an exhibited book artist with an interest in the unique book creations of artists. Charles will discuss the book as a medium for art both in unique productions and in the increasingly popular and critically important area of graphic novels.

February 18 ● Matthew Knight, Assistant Director of Special Collections, University of South Florida – Matt will give a presentation and take FBS members on a guided tour of USF’s special collections. Matt’s special areas of focus are the Dion Boucicault Theatre Collection, the Alvin P. Yorkunas Collection, all LGBT collections, and the Anglo-Irish Literature collection. It promises to be a very special introduction to USF’s Special Collections.

March 18 ● TBA

April 20-22 ● Florida Antiquarian Book Fair – FBS regularly hosts a table staffed by FBS members at the entrance to the Florida Antiquarian Book Fair. FBS members assist fair visitors with information and by checking bags and packages. And participating members receive free admission to the fair.

April 15 ● FBS Celebrates National Poetry Month with Poet Lola Haskins – Widely published and author of 14 collections of poetry, Lola will read from her latest collection, How Small, Confronting Morning, poems about inland Florida. Originally, from California, Lola was on the computer science faculty at the University of Florida for many years. She now divides her time between Gainesville, Florida, and Skipton, Yorkshire, UK.

May 20 ● FBS Annual Banquet – Dell deChant, Chair of Religious Studies, University of South Florida, will be the keynote speaker at our season’s-end banquet at Brio Tuscan Grille. Dell will enlighten us on the religions of the world, their major distinctions, and how they interact in a pluralistic culture.

All meetings are held at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon unless otherwise announced.
Endpaper ● Collecting Collectors

While researching this issue of The Florida Bibliophile, I watched a YouTube video (no cats or Roombas involved) in which a book collector described the two basic reasons that people buy books. First is the practical book buyer, who buys books because they are required for school or work, to learn some household task or life skill, to learn a language – there are many possible practical reasons to buy a book. Second, there are collectors; they also buy books for many different reasons: collecting all the books of a particular author, collecting pop-up books, collecting books on a particular subject(s), books from a particular press, books in a particular series, types of bindings, specific illustrators, etc., etc. – again, many reasons.

This issue of the The Florida Bibliophile is full of collectors. FBS member Carl Nudi tells us about his collection and his habit (or is it a mission) of rescuing books. When I read the phrase “book rescuer,” it resonated with me deeply. There are so many books (and other things) that are only available today because somebody rescued them just because they did not want those things – however obscure – to disappear from history.

The Broward County Library’s Bienes Museum is as much a museum of collectors as it is a collection of books – this is true of any library archive. Reading through the list of the museum’s collections, I was impressed with the range of collectors and their interests – so many wonderful stories. If we think back to our years in grade school: those models of log cabins and the Statue of Liberty that sat mutely, educating us in many ways by just being there. Someone thought to collect those objects which testify to a (hopefully) unique period in U.S. history.

In the course of my research, I came across the Numismatic Bibliophile Society – yes, a society dedicated to collecting one category of book, likely in connection with a coin collection. They have a fascinating website. Check it out sometime.

See you at the bookstore!

— Charles