

Quarto

Guild of Book Workers Midwest Chapter Quarterly Newsletter

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Annual Meeting Reports **Annie Tremmel Wilcox Gives Talk on New Book**

Constance K. Wozny

Annie Tremmel Wilcox's talk on Friday evening about her recently published book, *A Degree of Mastery: A Journey Through Book Arts Apprenticeship*, was a near occasion of sin. It was impossible to view her slides of her apprenticeship with Bill Anthony without experiencing professional envy.

Annie's talk and slides afforded us a rare glimpse of her working relationship between master and pupil. With the use of the visuals, it enabled her audience to be participants rather than spectators.

After Annie's informal presentation, she signed copies of her book of which I can say I bought and presently am reading. Thanks Annie for being there and sharing your personal moments with Bill Anthony.

Annual Meeting Tour #1 **Campbell-Logan Bindery**

Richard C. Baker

On Friday morning, May 21, the attendees of the GBW Midwest Chapter Annual Meeting assembled at the Minnesota Center for the Book Arts where a nice breakfast had been laid out for us. From there we walked the three or four blocks to the Campbell-Logan Bindery for our first "visit" of the weekend. Up two flights of stairs in a century old warehouse building on the north edge of downtown Minneapolis, we found one of the few, small edition, hand binderies still in operation in the United States.

Mark Twain, a fellow Missourian, was waiting for us, seated by the front door. Actually, he turned out to be a stuffed mannequin lending an air of class to the place. Our real host, owner Greg Campbell, greeted us and gave us a brief history of the company. It was started by his father, Allen, after World War II and carried on and expanded by Greg. Although they do one-of-a-kind bindings, their main business is in library binding and small editions of up to several hundred books.

Back in the shop, half a dozen workers were performing operations we could all relate to. Employees were sewing, trimming, rounding, backing and casing-in batches of bound journals and small editions. Greg demonstrated the double-fan adhesive binding machine which produces a flexible strong adhesive binding. Also interesting was a gold stamping machine the worked like a Selectric typewriter; the operator enters the title on a computer and the machine stamps it in gold, one letter at a time, centered on the spine of a cloth case.

After thanking our host, we rode the freight elevator to the bowels of the building for our second "visit" of the day.

Annual Meeting Reports **Perambulating the Walker**

Jeanne Drewes

The Guild members had an afternoon to explore the Walker Art Center on their own. A special library tour was also arranged to not only view but also handle items from the artist's book collection.

Rosemary Furtak, Librarian of the Walker Art Center Library welcomed us to the center and explained the mission of the library and the strengths of the collection. The library predominately supports the curatorial needs of the center's staff, but also welcomes visitors. The artist book collection, which is part of the library collection, is a rich collection that covers a wide range. Some of the unique items that were laid out for our perusal included: Robert The's (his real name) gun book and piece-of-cake book. The gun book was a book cut into the shape of a gun. The piece-of-cake book was a slice of cake made from a book set on a dinner plate.

Emily Martin of Iowa City created the book titled *Tiny Accordion Houses*, a wonderful concertina that is often displayed on the counter in the library. Guild members offered advice on how to repair a slightly damaged hinge. The special edition catalogue for the Surrealist exhibition of 1959 titled *Boite Alert: Missives Lascives* is a slotted letter box holding "lascivious letters" and other ephemera including a black silk stocking with "Haut" on the hem. *The Thrill Came Slowly* is a recently acquired book by Lesley Dill combining photo images, wood type, metallic ink and shellac on fifteen sheets of the thinnest onion skin. The text is by Emily Dickinson. The book seems fragile but is also very powerful. The group left with a keepsake/card to remind them of the visit.

Annual Meeting Tour #2

Going Underground with Cave Paper

Barbara Weathers

Following the tour of the Campbell-Logan Bindery, we toured Cave Paper, the papermaking business of Bridget O'Malley and Amanda Degener. Having always been curious about the name, I now understand it perfectly. The business is located in a cave, or a virtual cave, anyway. It is located in the basement of the Campbell-Logan Bindery building, a very old building with some fascinating architectural features. We descended on the old freight elevator down and down, it seemed, into unknown depths. It was very dark (black walls), damp, and cold – just like a cave – not the kind of place most people dream of working but perfect for a papermaking business. No need to worry about water or dye spilling on those floors! It also doesn't hurt that the rent is only \$2 a month due to the benevolent nature of the owner of the bindery who has been known to help out many artists.

We began in a room with a giant beater. Bridget explained the fiber they used and how it was processed mechanically with the beater. They started with natural flax that they purchased in a large bale. The fiber was then washed and processed in the beater to just the right consistency for their paper. They had gone through a long trial and error period at first to decide on the right amount of beating time needed to get the fiber to the consistency they wanted for their paper.

We then went into the only heated room in the basement – one that Bridget and Amanda had built with drywall so that they could have heat in the one room where the wettest work was done. Here, Amanda demonstrated for us the technique used to make a sheet of paper. Putting on a long waterproof apron, rolling up her sleeves, and getting the right stance she skillfully dipped the mould into a large vat of water and pulp, bringing it up with a shake to distribute the fibers evenly. She then turned it out onto a felt blanket to dry. The whole process only took a few minutes for one sheet but looked to be a skill that would take some practice to develop and physical stamina to perform. And definitely not an activity you would want to do in the middle of a Minnesota winter in a room without heat! She said she could make about 100 sheets at a time but preferred to only do 75.

They filled us in on their backgrounds and their partnership. We learned that Bridget and Amanda had studied papermaking with Tim Barrett at the Iowa Center for the Book. The business is a part time endeavor for both since both have other teaching jobs. They have a casual business organization, making decisions over lunch, and working when convenient. They have been in business 5 years and pay themselves \$5.00 an hour.

We then went into the dyeing room where Amanda explained the dyes they use and the dyeing process. Their dyes are all made from natural substances. Their two signature dyes are an indigo dye and a walnut dye made from walnut hulls. She demonstrated the dyeing process of their blue jean paper, a very casual, creative process that requires three random dippings in indigo dye. It is very unplanned and creates a unique piece of paper every time. She also explained the finishing stages: sizing flattening, etc. and we were fascinated with their clever marble rack for hanging the paper to dry.

On our way out we were able to shop for paper and handmade book and box items covered in their paper. They have developed some very different and interesting papers. They are very natural with wonderful and unusual textures and colors. It was a very enjoyable, interesting, and informative tour and a great introduction to some beautiful papers to be used in bookbinding. Contact Cave Paper for a brochure and paper samples: Cave Paper, 1334 6th Street N.E., Minneapolis, MN 55413 or call 612-359-0645.

Letters

A Heartfelt Thanks

I received the package of goodies that was sent from the raffle of Colette Louma's book-binding equipment. A very lovely assortment, and included a few items I was running short on (linen thread and super). Please forward a thank you to whomever was responsible for sending it.

Virginia Plemons

Unclassifieds

Wanted to Buy

Constance K. Wozny is looking for a Cook n' Stir paste pot. Please contact her at WoznyBookbinder@webtv.net or 502-245-1051 if you can help her out.

Chad Pastotnik is looking for Bernhard Modern Foundry type. Contact him at greenman@gtii.com or 231-587-0506.

For Sale

Chad P. also has lots of wood type for sale. Contact him at the above number or email address.

September Event

Tour of Cranbrook

Cranbrook Academy of Art is a living studio of artistic invention. Throughout its distinguished history as the only school in America devoted exclusively to graduate study in art, architecture and design, the talent of creative students has been nurtured in a unique environment of study. Today, nearly seventy years after its inception, Cranbrook continues to contribute to the development of the individual as a vibrant resource of human energy from which society can benefit.

Tour of Cranbrook campus and art museum in Bloomfield Hills Michigan, 20 minutes from downtown Detroit September 25, 1999, from noon to 4 with time for a picnic lunch before the tour. The library will also be open. Transportation is on your own, bring a picnic lunch to eat on campus before the tour. Cost of the tour is \$10.00 per person. Sign up by September 1 by contacting Jeanne Drewes at 517-432-7486(work) or 517-324-0115 (home) or e-mail drewes@mail.lib.msu.edu. Car pooling info and directions will be provided at sign up.

News From Your Studio

Brother Aelred Walmsley reports that he is still recovering Hymn Books. "I believed it could be done in one year, it may take two years. Too many other jobs to be done and I am not working full time."

"Preservation of Library and Archival Materials," which **Sherelyn Ogden** edited, is now available in a new third edition and is online at NEDCC (www.nedcc.org). The paper copy will be ready sometime during the Summer.

Chad Pastotnik, proprietor of Deep Woods Press in Mancelona, Michigan (in your esteemed editor's old stomping grounds of northern Michigan) writes that he is acquiring two new letterpresses, an ATF Little Giant and a Vandercook 219. He is also preparing text layout and wood engravings for a new book with Judith Minty called "Killing the Bear." He is also finishing an edition of 250 books of "Grand Rapids Art Metalwork, 1902-1918" by Don Marek. Chad will also be teaching some workshops in Glen Arbor and during the Fall in Ann Arbor he will be teaching for the Ann Arbor Art Association (no dates have been determined yet). See **Happenings** for details.

Susan Hensel, from East Lansing, Michigan, has three new editions out. The first is "Creation," a myth told from the feminist point of view. The second is "Brush Your Teeth," the story of a family the artist never met, but found family photos of (you know, those ones you find at garage sales and call "instant relatives"). Last, there is "Bloodlines," which is more a book sculpture, complete with poseable mannequin hand and boat shuttle, with text printed on red handmade paper. You can see her work online at Artistspace (www.deltanet.com/gallery)

Emily Martin, and Iowa native and owner of Naughty Dog Press, is continuing her Iowa series. "Life in Iowa" is a tunnel book and second in the series. Number three is "Yes, I Live In Iowa," and is a pop-up book. Number one was "I Like It. Here," in the extended flexagon format. She also has a web page (www.emilymartin.com).

Eric Alstrom has been developing and teaching new book arts workshops. The first is "8 Books in a Box" and features 2 origami structures, 3 accordion books and 3 styles of pamphlets, all of which fit into an origami box. He has taught this to both Dartmouth College students (many of whom seem to be interested in the book arts) and a community arts organization. In the Fall he will be teaching a neo-traditional book binding class, using a Bradel-style case and tools and materials one can find locally and use at home. Eric also enjoyed the Paper and Book Intensive in Deer Isle, Maine this past May. He highly recommends it to all, especially since it is rumored to be heading back to the Midwest next year, at Oxbow, Michigan. He is also now bibliographer for the history of books and printing for the Dartmouth College Library and much enjoys buying all the books on this fascinating topic without having to spend any of his own money.

Most of **John Trester's** shop is presently being occupied by his bicycles. He is rebuilding, remodeling and re-equipping, and constructing a bike that will take him "every day next winter." He also just finished a combination of interests: "I bought a softcover copy of J. Forrester's book *Effective Cycling*, and rebound into hard covers, full half leather with headbands and ribbons and blind tooling. If I don't get more out of my type, my wife will turn it into pie, then bullets. Hmmm. Bullet pie. What kind of crust is that?" John is also considering starting a local book arts interest group and would like any suggestions other members might have on getting this off the ground. "Fishing, as usual," John writes, when queried about everything else he is doing. "It is so perfect, all you city folks wouldn't understand. You have my sympathies. Just think of me in the great north woods next time you get stuck in traffic and start sucking smog. Sorry if I feel smug, but, oh well. Have a happy Summer." Well, he may be bit out there, but as far as being in the middle of the great north woods and not in the city, this editor has to agree.

Happenings

cont. from last page

October 16-October 17 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Book Sewn on Tapes & Laced into a Box with Jean Buescher.

October 23 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Polaroid Transfer to Paper with Linda Soberman.

October 31 and November 7 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Divided "Jewelry" Box with Removable Tray with Tom and Cindy Hollander.

November 13 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) The Art of Calligraphy with Diane Stum Fekete.

November 20 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Mini Concertina Book Housed in an "Ornament" Box with Jean Buescher.

December 5 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Origami "Omega" Star with Cindy Hollander.

Exhibitions

until August 14 Ohio University, Athens, OH (740-593-2711) The GBW's *ABeCeDarium* traveling exhibit.

until September 4 Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, MN (612-338-3634) *Big City Bound: New York City Book Artists.*

until November Chicago Public Library, Chicago, IL (312-431-8612) *Magic Paper/Magic Book* organized by the Columbia College Chicago Center for the Book.

Conferences

October 5-9 Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL (312-857-7662) The Broad Spectrum: The Art and Science of Conserving Colored Media on Paper

October 28-30 Chicago, IL 19th Guild of Book Workers' Seminar on Standards of Excellence in Hand Bookbinding. Contact Monique Lallier for more details (336-643-0934, email: Bkbrs2luv@aol.com).

November 4-6 Chicago, IL The Friends of Dard Hunter Annual Meeting. Contact Marion E. Cluff for more details (121 Church St. #17, Lake Oswego, OR 97034)

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Happenings

Happenings will focus on events occurring in the Midwest area, except for Calls for Entries, which will have broader coverage. Please send any information to Eric Alstrom, Newsletter Editor.

Workshops

August 1 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Frame Making with Tom and Cindy Hollander.

August 8 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Paper Gathering. A gathering of paper crafters for sharing ideas and projects. This group meets the second Sunday of each month.

August 15 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Boxmaking with Tom and Cindy Hollander.

August 16-20 Glen Arbor, MI (231-587-0506) Beginning Bookbinding with Chad Pastotnik.

August 22 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Papermaking with Karen O'Neal.

August 23-24 Glen Arbor, MI (231-587-0506) Advanced Bookbinding with Chad Pastotnik.

August 29 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Bookbinding with Tom and Cindy Hollander.

September 11 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Flat Back Spine Photo Album with Jean Buescher.

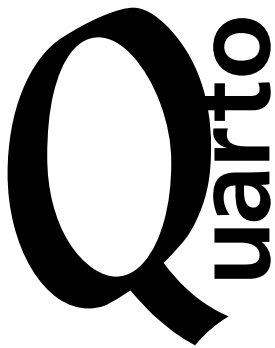
September 14-15 Lexington, Kentucky SOLINET Workshop: Intermediate Book Repair. Contact SOLINET for more details (800-999-8558).

September 18 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Photo Transfer to Paper with Linda Soberman.

September 19 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Photo Album/Scrapbook with Tom and Cindy Hollander.

October 2 Columbia College Chicago Center for the Book, Chicago, IL (312-431-8612) Pochoir Workshop with Jean Buescher. A slide show will take place the previous evening at 6pm.

October 3 Hollander's, Ann Arbor, MI (734-741-7531) Invitation Design for Weddings/Special Occasions with Jacqueline Sullivan.



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