

Quarto

Guild of Book Workers
Midwest Chapter
Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 14, Number 4
Fall 2001

From the Co-Chair **Stone Eye Update**

by Jeanne Drewes

I look forward to seeing everyone's binding of *Stone Eye*. Pam Rups, computer multimedia developer and Midwest member, is designing a wonderful CD catalog and will be ready to include images of the bindings. Remember the bindings should be mailed to Gabrielle Fox by December 15, 2001.

The plan is for the CD to feature a recording of Richard Taylor reading the signature poem, music from the Brook Farm String Band, as well as photographs of Kentucky, and, of course, the images of the bindings. This CD is a first for any Guild catalog, and we need your help. The cost of producing the exhibit and the catalog will put a strain on the Midwest Chapter budget. We need your help in identifying possible sources of funds to support the traveling exhibit and the

2002 Annual Meeting On the Banks of the Mighty Mississip

by Richard Baker, St. Louis, MO

The 2002 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Chapter is only six months away! Planned for a spring weekend in April (19-21) when spring flowers will be in full bloom, the centerpiece of the meeting will be a workshop on spring back bindings (they have a "spring" in the back so they spring back), traditionally used for ledgers to facilitate writing near the gutter (of the book). This workshop will be limited to twenty people, so plan to get your registration in early.

The workshop will take up most of Saturday, but Saturday night plan on attending a reception at the St. Louis Artist's Guild gallery for the opening of the Chapter's *Stone Eye* exhibit. After the reception those interested can retire to a local Greek restaurant where we will have a private room reserved. For those who can get to town a day early, there will be four exhibits and two open houses to tour on Friday. The exhibits will range from pop-up books to electronic book art and some traditional stuff in between. The open houses will be at Richard Baker's studio and the Missouri Botanical Garden conservation lab.

In the evening, a party is planned with members of the St. Louis Letterpress Society and the St. Louis Calligraphers Guild. Sunday, before you head for home, plan on two special events: free breakfast (with the Chapter business meeting) and a tour of Steven Kinsella Paper. Kinsella Paper is primarily a mail-order business with a huge selection of book arts papers and the best prices around. Everyone in St. Louis buys their paper there and you will too once you see the selection available. Sample books will be available and you will have the chance to buy paper there and save the shipping cost.

Look for the registration forms in the next issue of the newsletter (February). It will also include directions, places to stay, and other information.

catalog production. We need you to contact those people and sell the value of this exhibit. Gabrielle Fox, who has already arranged the exhibition venues, has created a packet of information to help you in asking for a contribution. We need your help in identifying those people, companies, and institutions who would be interested and we need you to make those contacts. Don't think someone else can do it; we need YOU to help make this exhibit a success. Please contact me for more information or to contribute support for the exhibition and catalog. I look forward to hearing from you.

January Exhibition of Cuban Books

Kresge Art Museum and the Michigan State University Libraries have teamed up to present an exhibition of handmade Cuban books from Ediciones Vigía, a publishing cooperative founded in April 1985 in the city of Matanzas to the east of Havana, Cuba. The name comes from its location in the Plaza de la Vigía (Watchtower Square). This cooperative uses the most basic printing techniques, thus highlighting the importance of craftsmanship. Their publications are mimeographed, and the illustrations are cut, and subsequently colored, by hand. They take advantage of basic materials including scrap paper and decorate book covers with dried leaves, cloth, yarn, and cut-out images. Two hundred copies of each are printed; they are numbered and generally signed by the author. An exhibition of over 50 of these books will be on view at Kresge Art Museum beginning January 9, 2002 when *Wrapped Words: Handmade Books from Cuba's Ediciones Vigía* makes its debut. The exhibition is made possible by a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Ediciones Vigía's publications include a variety of formats: books, magazines, loose sheets, and scrolls. All are produced to the same standard and show the ingenuity of the group in the details, as well as the concern for bibliographical accuracy. The creators record not just date and place of publication, but also list who is responsible for design and manufacture.

Ediciones Vigía concentrate on poetry, short stories, literary criticism, and literature for children. Some of the texts are published as the prize for first-time authors, while others are existing works by famous writers including Rainer Maria Rilke, Dulce María Loynaz, and Jorge Luis Borges.

More than 50 books and several banners are included in the exhibition. This selection, drawn from the titles both donated to and purchased by Special Collections, MSU Libraries, represent some of the group's finest work. Ms. Drewes, Assistant Director for Access and Preservation at the MSU Libraries, serves as curator of the exhibition. She has visited and worked with members of the cooperative numerous times and says, "These extraordinary books reflect the spirit and ingenuity of the Cuban people. They are both literature and art. The opportunity to exhibit them as art has fulfilled a long-held dream for me."

The exhibition will provide a close-up view both

Donations for Cuban Book Artists

by Jeanne Drewes

For those of you who wish to contribute to the work of Ediciones Vigía, now is your chance. Several conservators are going to Cuba in December to teach repair workshops and we will also have an opportunity to visit the book artists of Ediciones Vigía and take their materials. If you wish to contribute materials or artist supplies to their publishing effort, now is a good time. Materials must be received by December 1. Please send supplies (paper, colored pencils, acrylic paints, yarn, cloth, paste paper, marbled paper) or equipment (scissors, small paint brushes, small hand tools) to

Bob Muens
Bookbinding and Conservation
513 Fleming Street, Suite 5
Key West, FL. 33040
(305) 293-8881

If you are unfamiliar with this group and curious about the book artists, you can see examples of their work at <http://www.lib.msu.edu/drewes/vigia/index.html>

Collaboration requested

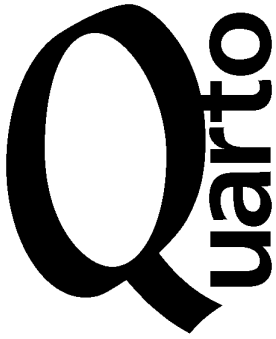
Susan Kristoferson, a paste paper artist living and working in Oregon, has been researching historic paste papers since 1990. Her research has taken her to the Deutches Bucherie in Leipzig, Germany, as well as to many research institutions in the United States, such as Harvard, University of Washington, Berkeley, University of Oregon, Cooper-Hewitt, Library of Congress, Pierpont Morgan Library, New York Public Library, Grolier Club, and Dartmouth.

She would like to correspond with book conservators and others who might have personal knowledge of unique and innovative paste papers housed in library collections. Both flat sheets of decorated paper and paste paper-covered books are of interest. She may be contacted at Kristoferson Studio, 1150 NW Alder Creek Dr., Corvallis, OR 97330, (541) 745-5554, kristudio@proaxis.com.

Lexington Book Arts Guild

will have its first meeting on January 9, 2002 at Rebecca Shaffer's house, 1937 Hart Road, Lexington, KY. Come for a light buffet at 6 PM. After we eat we'll construct a Jacob's ladder, as seen in Gabrielle Fox's book, and create a "flip-flop" enclosure. Reservations required. Please contact Rebecca at 859-269-6057 for questions and reservations. Come with ideas for future meetings and meet new people!

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Guild of Book Workers
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Volume 15, Number 1
Winter 2002

News
from
your
studio

Please return by
**February 15,
2002**

name: _____

address: _____

phone: _____

e-mail address: _____

web page address: _____

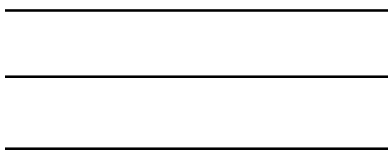
Check here if this a new address and you would like it updated on the Midwest Chapter web page.

Check here if this a new e-mail or web page address and you would like it updated on the Midwest Chapter web page.

Please contact the Guild's main office (521 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10175) to update your national GBW membership record. This form is for Midwest Chapter records only.

studio news:	materials, equipment, or publications of interest:
projects in progress:	exhibitions, conferences, or workshops of interest:
everything else:	wanted to buy or sell:

It's easy to do! Just fold along the lines, tape shut, add stamp, and mail.



Whitney Baker
Newsletter Editor
2341 Southview Drive
Lexington, KY 40503

GBW Midwest Chapter
News from your studio

or send e-mail to: wbaker@uky.edu

Of Note

Cris Takacs sent in an interesting obituary from the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* (November 10, 2001). It eulogizes the life of Tillie D. Pekarcik, 92. Ms. Pekarcik, the article says, was a skilled second-base player for Cleveland-area softball teams in the 1920's-30's. The article characterizes her as a "prolific home run hitter [who] was known as the Babe Ruth of women's fast-pitch softball." Her skills led the Fleming Furniture and Blepp-Coombs teams to state championships. In addition to her athletic prowess, she worked as a bookbinder with Forrest City Bookbinding Company for more than 20 years until retiring about 30 years ago. The article is accompanied by a photograph of the young Tillie with her softball teammates.



**Gold spatters from the blower
in diminishing grids
that mince each tattered leaf
to tractable bits of instant compost.
Keeping faith with our species,
we revel in transformation,
imposing pattern to satisfy
some lust for order, some
partnership with the planet.**

from *Mowing in Late November Between Cold Snaps*
by Richard Taylor, *Stone Eye*
printed by the Larkspur Press
soon bound by many book workers
and exhibited across the country



Cuban Book Arts Exhibit

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inside and out of these unique books. A CD-ROM will show representative images of the interiors of the books. The exhibition, organized collaboratively between Kresge Art Museum and the MSU Libraries, originates at Kresge Art Museum and will be on display until March 17, 2002. Then it will travel to the Minnesota Center for Book Arts in Minneapolis, Harold Washington Library in Chicago, Spencer Museum of Art at the University of Kansas, and the Marsh Art Gallery in at the University of Richmond in Richmond, VA.

Report of the Treasurer

by Cris Takacs

After this newsletter is paid for, we will have about \$2450 in the Midwest treasury. More membership money is probably still coming in. Most of this will be used up by our *Stone Eye* exhibition and whatever the chapter uses for the 2002 Standards meeting being held in Minnesota.

We need someone in the chapter to help with finding grant money for the *Stone Eye* exhibition. Anyone with expertise in this area should call Jeanne Drewes.



Report of the Programs Chair

by Cris Takacs

One would think that with Standards and a sizable exhibition, nothing else could possibly be happening within the Midwest Chapter this year. We'd be out of our minds to even contemplate it. But neither sleet nor snow nor the gloom from the shadow of an approaching loony van will stop the intrepid binders of the Midwest. Jim Canary has already asked Sid Neff to repeat the leather presentation he did at Alexandria in Bloomington, Indiana. And Shannon Zachary has asked our remarkable GBW President, Betsy Eldridge, to give a workshop in Ann Arbor. My thanks to them both. The workshop announcements will hopefully appear in *Quarto* soon.



Midwest Chapter Listserv

by Jeanne Drewes, Co-chair

At the last annual meeting there was some discussion about having a Midwest listserv to provide timely information of workshops, exhibits, and other news of interest to the members. At that time I said I would look into hosting such a listserv at my institution. Michigan State University Libraries will host the listserv. To subscribe, send e-mail to majordomo@lists.lib.msu.edu; blank subject line; subscribe mwguild in the body. The Midwest Guild listserv will foster an open dialog between Midwest Guild members on issues of importance to the Midwest Guild as a whole, and will provide notices of new publications, workshops, and exhibits in the region. Because our region is quite large it is hoped that this listserv will provide an easier means to provide timely notification to members of upcoming events of interest and increase the communication among members.

News from your Studio

William Harroff of Edwardsville, IL was featured in late October in his exhibit (*r*)*Evolutionary (e)Books: The Electronic Artwork of William Harroff* at the Lewis and Clark Library System. The cutting edge, 1960's style, "online happening" was the brainchild of William Harroff and Charlotte Johnson, of Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. Both have been book artists and librarians for twenty years and are noteworthy eBook evangelists in the current electronic book movement. The event featured a digital gallery using the library's computer monitors as frames to showcase electronic works from around the world. Harroff's bookworks were also exhibited, including the premiere of several new works and an interactive flipbook of the artist's award-winning *artistamps*. The purpose of the event was to have participants think of a book in a new way and to realize the creative potential of the book in electronic form. McKendree College hosts an online resource related to the activities at http://faculty.mckendree.edu/william_harroff/ebe. The "Brother Bill & Sister Char (*r*)*Evolutionary (e)Books Traveling Tour*" can be seen at the Art Libraries Society of North America International Conference March 20-26, 2002 in St. Louis.

Connie Wozny of Eastwood, KY was accepted in her first juried event, called ARTS ON MAIN, in Shelbyville, KY. It was their 5th annual art exhibit. Her entry of a custom photo album with box was sold. Congratulations Connie!

Jessica Spring of Chicago is currently completing a web site (www.springtidepress.com) which features *Collectors' Tales*, an artist's book she completed recently. *Collectors' Tales* examines the obsession to collect, identify, and display objects of desire. Produced in an edition of 15, each handmade box features a deck of letterpress-printed "collector's cards" profiling 15 different collectors. Also included is a pamphlet with an essay on the nature of collecting and illustrations of animals with collection habits. Finally, each box contains one object donated from one of the collector's own collections (e.g. a pair of handcuffs, a calculator, or a giant beetle). The project took nearly a year and involved interviews in person and via email.

Richard Baker and two of his students, **Joanne Kluba** and **Anne Leners**, of St. Louis, went to France for the *6ème Biennale Mondiale de la Reliure d'Art* en Pays Basque the second week of September at St-Jean-de-Luz. All three had books in the exhibit which included 670 entries from 30 countries. Between the books and the beach and visiting the Guggenheim in Bilbao they are all ready to go back for the next one in two years.

2001 Standards Update

by Jeanne Drewes, East Lansing, MI

The 21st Standards of Excellence Seminar was held in Alexandria, Virginia October 4-7. Presenters were:

Jiri Vnoucek: *Romanesque Bindings*

Christine Smith: *Paper Repair*

Peter Verheyen: *Vellum Binding*

S.A. Neff Jr.: *Leather Decoration*

Suzanne Moore: *Traditional Foundations of Non-Traditional Artwork*

Some of the presenters' handouts will be added to the Guild website under Resources at <http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/resources.shtml>

Speakers were:

Willman Spawn at the Opening Reception

Will Noel on Illuminated Manuscripts at the Banquet.

In addition there were tours and a wonderful reception at the Library of Congress on Thursday and another reception at Bookmakers on Saturday night.

The Executive Committee met for several hours. Topics of discussion included the Guild Archives. Barbara Kretzman is working on organizing the Archives, and has also sent out a request for missing issues of items. Watch for that in the Guild Newsletter and help her out if you have any of the missing issues.

There was considerable discussion about organization and transition issues. There was agreement to develop chapter notebooks that would help new officers which would include information about drawing on chapter funds, communication, additional who, what, where, and how to do things. Several people offered to provide sample notebooks. We are waiting to see some of those before starting the one for the Midwest.

There was also considerable discussion about the next Standards and changes in that meeting. This is of particular interest to the Midwest since we are the location and host chapter. The most significant change discussed was the night of the auction, which will be Saturday instead of Friday. Friday night will be open for discussion groups, night hours for vendors to be open, and tours of local shops. As with every Standards Seminar there was lots of useful information, good conversation, and wonderful supplies offered by the vendors. And of course the food was good, the accommodations outstanding.

The 2000 auction proceeds totaled \$4546.



Happenings

continued from page 8

Exhibits

November 16-December 21, 2001. CCBPA. The *Ontological Library by Ronald Leax and Fragments and Alterations by Elizabeth Ockwell plus Postcard Art Competition/Exhibition 2001.*
Reception: November 16, 5-7 P.M.

November 23, 2001-January 12, 2002. Legacy Bookworks, 1010 E. Broadway, Columbia, MO. *Midwinter's Legacy: A multimedia extravaganza.*
Reception: December 7, 6-8 P.M. For more information call (573) 442-0855 or 1-800-776-4924 (CST)

November 29-December 6, 2001. Carnegie Center for Literacy, 241 W. Second St., Lexington, KY. *University of Kentucky Artists' Books Class Show.*
Reception: November 29, 4:30-7 P.M.

January 18 - February 15, 2002. CCBPA. *Masters of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibitions.*
Reception: January 18, 5 - 7 P.M.

Call for Entries

The *ISCA Quarterly* of xerographic prints and artists' books extends an open invitation to book artists who also make xerographic prints to contribute a print (8 1/2"x 11" vertical format, edition of 125 prints) on the subject of Terrorism to the January issue of the *Quarterly*. Deadline January 15th. Package should be sent to ISCA, 222 Bone Hollow Road, Accord, NY 12404. Contributors will receive a copy of that issue. Please e-mail Louise Neaderland at isca4art2b@aol.com if you plan to participate as a guest contributor. Information about the Society is available on its home page <http://members.aol.com/isca4art2b/I.S.C.A.HomePage.html>.

Artist Book Exhibition for Anne Frank: A History for Today. "Tolerance and Human Rights" Theme for Artist Book Exhibition in Portland, Oregon, April 1 - May 14, 2002. This juried exhibition is open to residents of the US and Western Canada. Juried by Jim Carmin (John Wilson Room Librarian, Multnomah County Library), Barbara Tetenbaum (Book Arts Department Head, Oregon College of Art & Craft) and Helen Gundlach, project coordinator. The artist book exhibition will take place at Central Library's Collins Gallery in association with the international exhibit, *Anne Frank: A History for Today*. Artist books chosen for this exhibition should relate to theme with no restrictions on date created. Entries must be received by March 2, 2002. We prefer to be sent original artwork but will accept slides if the work is fragile (and can be shipped immediately if accepted). Send submissions to Helen Gundlach PMB 393, 25 NW 23rd Place - Suite 6, Portland, OR 97210. Please enclose an insured, SASE for its return. For inquiries, call 503.274.8600 or email: info@annefrankinportland.org.

Addresses

University of Iowa Center for the Book (UICB)
154 English-Philosophy Building
Iowa City, IA 52242
319-335-0447
center-for-the-book@uiowa.edu

Minnesota Center for the Book Arts (MCBA)
1011 Washington Ave. South
Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55415
612-338-3634
www.mnbookarts.org/main.html

Columbia College Chicago Center for Book & Paper Arts (CCBPA)
1104 S. Wabash
Chicago, IL
321-344-7670
www.colum.edu/centers/bpa/index.html

Hollander's
407 North Fifth Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 741-7461
www.hollanders.com

Invitation to participate

Planning for the BookTech 2002 conference, an annual trade show that caters to book manufacturing professionals, is underway. This year's show will be held at the New York Hilton, February 11-13, 2002. The editor extends an invitation to members of GBW to speak and/or moderate. If interested, please contact Rebecca Churilla, Editor, PrintMedia Magazine, BookTech the Magazine, 401 North Broad Street, 5th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19108, (215) 238-5341; Fax: (215) 238-5384, rchurilla@napco.com

Lecture possibility

Paul Werner will be in Nashville, TN on February 25, 2002 for lectures. Paul is the proprietor of the Orange Press and editor of *WOID: A journal of visual language*. If any book-arts or calligraphy group in the general area (Louisville, Memphis, etc) is interested in sponsoring a lecture or workshop for the preceding weekend, let him know by contacting paul.werner@NYU.EDU.

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mwchap/

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 Whitney Baker, Newsletter Editor (address at left).

Classes & Workshops

Nov. 17, 2001. The Importance of Being Felt with Amanda Love, CCBPA.

Nov. 17-18. Experimental Image-making on the Letterpress with Barbara Tetenbaum, MCBA.

Nov. 17-18. Advanced Leather Bookbinding with Jon Buller. Hollander's.

Nov. 28-Dec. 19. Japanese Paper Arts Sampler with Jeff Rathermel, MCBA.

Dec. 1. Non-Stationary Stationery with Mary Jo Pauly, MCBA.

Dec. 1. Omega Star with Cindy Hollander, Hollander's.

Dec 1-2. *Vade Mecum*: The Constant Companion with Barbara Harman, MCBA.

Dec. 8. Dual Fibers: Cornhusk & Flax with Andrea Peterson, CCBPA.

Dec. 9. Building a Portfolio with Rory Sparks, MCBA.

Dec. 13 & 20. Building a Bindery with Jana Pullman, MCBA.

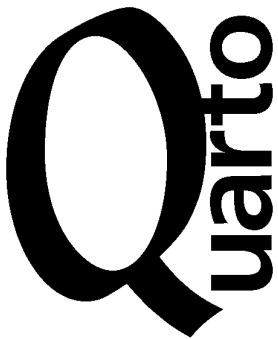
Lectures

Nov. 16, 2001. 7-8 P.M. Open Book, 2nd floor, in the Dayton's Performance Hall, Minneapolis. Barbara Tetenbaum on *22 Years of the Triangular Press*. Call MCBA for more details.

Nov. 30, 2001, 6:30 P.M. CCBPA. Betsy Palmer Eldridge, a bookbinder who practices in Toronto, will speak about her work on the Horton collection of historical marbled papers.

Dec. 3, 2001. 11:30 A.M. – 12:45 P.M. UICB, Iowa City. Tim Barrett on *Book Studies at the University of Iowa?*

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c/o Whitney Baker
Newsletter Editor
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Lexington, KY 40503