

Quarto

Guild of Book Workers
Midwest Chapter
Quarterly Newsletter

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Treasurer's Report

By Karen Hanmer, Glenview, IL

The Midwest Chapter currently has 109 paid memberships and three family members. Eleven of these are new members. Welcome!

As of September 30, the end of the first quarter of this fiscal year, we hold \$4268.47.

Barbara Korbels' *Three Dimensional Attachments* workshop in conjunction with the Kerrytown Bookfest in September was a financial as well as a didactic success. Thanks again to Hollanders for organizing this event.

News from our Studios

Scott Kellar's work will be on display at the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah from January 14—March 11.

For more information on the exhibit, *Design Bindings by Scott Kellar*, contact Marnie Powers-Torrey, Studio Manager, J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah, 295 South 1500 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84112 or call (801)585-9191

Greetings from the Chapter Chair

by Jim Canary, Bloomington, IN

It is near midnight and I am in an internet café in Rome after having installed Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* scroll here, which will be opening in two days. They plan to have an all night reading of the novel in Italian.

The scroll will be exhibited next in the Art Museum on the Campus of the University of Iowa in Iowa City, opening January 19th and running until March. This will be the first time the scroll will be displayed in its entirety. We have a 120' long display case which will be assembled on site. It should be quite an amazing exhibit.

The Lilly Library at Indiana University will be mounting an exhibition of pop-up books next May and I will have more information on that and activities around that in the next issue of Quarto. Paul Johnson, the well known English author and pop-up bookmaker, has expressed interest in returning and conducting more workshops in the US. I have offered to link him up with other chapter chairs. Hopefully we will be able to host him in at least one Midwest venue next year and share his travel expenses with other interested chapters.

Details of our annual spring chapter meeting will also be in the next issue of Quarto.

I don't have much other news but would like to wish you all happy holidays and best wishes for the coming new year. I will begin making contacts soon to plan for the annual chapter meeting.

New Online Book Arts Journal

The Bonefolder (<http://www.philobiblon.com/bonefolder/>) is a new peer-reviewed "open-access" e-journal for bookbinding and the book arts. An outgrowth of the Book Arts Web, *The Bonefolder* will serve a global audience and contribute to the body of knowledge in the book arts.

The Bonefolder will serve as a medium for the publication of articles on a variety of book arts topics. These include hand bookbinding, teaching, business practice, the history of the book, general tips & tricks, exhibitions, how-to technical articles, and reviews.

The namesake of *The Bonefolder* is *Das Falzbein*, a bookbinding journal which existed under various other names from 1927 to 1966 in Germany, providing generations of bookbinders with an important source of learning.

We would also like to pay homage to the excellent journals published by Designer Bookbinders, the Society of Bookbinders, and the Guild of Book Workers, who with their proven history of excellence in publishing and the promotion of the book arts have set the bar high.

In creating this e-journal we hope to provide a well balanced mix of articles by established and emerging authorities. The articles selected for this first issue will represent a snapshot of the range of articles we hope to present into the future. Authors are encouraged to submit articles for publication and will find a link to the Submission Guidelines at the left. Parties interested in becoming an editor/reviewer are encouraged to apply and will find more information by following the link to the Editorial Board. - Peter D. Verheyen, Publisher/Editor

A Salute to the *Audubon* Call for Entries

From Karen Hanmer, Glenview, IL

This year's Chicago Hand Bookbinders exhibition will be a salute to John James Audubon's *Birds of North America*. CHB will join forces with Mr. Audubon in creating an exhibit of bird-themed work. The binder may interpret this theme as strictly or loosely as desired, with subject matter ranging from actual birds to more tangentially related subjects, for example: other flying creatures or machines, Lady Bird Johnson, a cookbook of egg or poultry recipes, an altered book in the shape of any of the above. Another way to go with this theme could be a rigorous cataloguing on another topic, for example *Vegetables of North America*.

From March 8-May 23, 2005 the exhibit will be on display at Northwestern University Library in Evanston, IL. The books will then travel to the Joan Flasch Artists' Books Collection at the School of the Art Institute in Chicago.

Deadlines:

- 1) email the following information to Karen Kanmer at karen@karenhanmer.com by February 28, 2005: name, phone number and email address of the binder; title of the book and year of completion; and a brief description of the content, materials and methods used.
 - 2) Send books to arrive no later than February 28, 2005 to: Lesa Dowd, c/o Northwestern University Library, 1970 Campus Drive, Evanston, IL 60208. Lesa can be reached at 847-491-8788 or l-dowd@northwestern.edu
- The book must have been created between 2003-2005 and cannot have been exhibited in any previous CHB show.
 - Books may not be removed before the end of the exhibit.
 - Binder must be a member of CHB. Membership is open to anyone interested in the book arts. For membership information contact Eileen Madden at eileenmadden@ameritech.net

***Stone Eye* Catalog Now Available Online**

by Jeanne Drewes, East Lansing, MI

The National Guild of Bookworkers website <http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/> now provides online ordering for the Midwest Chapter's exhibition *Stone Eye* catalog. Thanks to Eric Alstrom for revising the web pages to include our catalog in the list of catalogs for sale. Thanks to Alicia Bailey for her continuing work as treasurer and taking orders and sending out the catalogs. Thanks also to Rebecca Shaffer who has been keeping the store of catalogs and packaged them up and sent them to Alicia.

You should be proud as Midwest members to have been a part of the first Guild catalog created in an innovative format of multimedia as well as print. This catalog set a standard for sales, which recouped all the outstanding expenses, a milestone for the National Guild. And it started here in the Midwest! Please continue to encourage sales of this our Midwest exhibition catalog.

Library of Michigan Book Arts Exhibit for Patrons

By Kevin Driedger, Lansing, MI

It all began simply enough. The Library of Michigan, where I work, had a few exhibit cases with no exhibits, so a colleague asked me to help remedy that situation. Like a cartoon snowball rolling down a hill, however, things just kept getting bigger. The final result? A statewide exhibit featuring the remarkable works of 20 of Michigan's most creative and innovative book artists, as well as samples from the library's collection of works by Michigan private presses – enough to quite snugly fill nine exhibit cases.

The *Michigan Book Arts Exhibit* displays the breadth of art and craft found in today's book arts: a fine binding in calf with lacewood veneer inlay; a folding paper dachshund; beautifully crafted letterpress printing; dadaist scrapbooks, and so much more. The exhibit also includes the original artwork from two Michigan illustrators, including Gijsbert "Nick" van Frankenhuyzen. Artists from many areas of the state are represented, including Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Lansing and a contingent of artists from Central Michigan University. Alongside the artists' works, visitors can see books from the library's collection of private presses, including Adagio Press, Cranbrook Press and works by Gwen Frostic.

Creating the exhibit within the Library of Michigan has attracted people who might not have otherwise encountered these creative works. By making the book arts and the work of talented Michigan artists more accessible to Library of Michigan visitors, many people have broadened their very definition of the word "book".

Early in the exhibit's run, the Library of Michigan sponsored an open house that was well attended by community members, participating artists and representatives from two local television stations. The Library of Michigan's book arts exhibit is open through Dec. 31. For more information, contact Kevin Driedger at kdriedger@michigan.gov or visit www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan.

Annual Standards of Excellence Meeting

by Rebecca Shaffer, Lexington, KY

The Annual Standards of Excellence meeting in Providence, Rhode Island has come and gone. As usual, it was excellent!

A high point in the Brown University repair bindery was the collection of Douglas Cockerell's hand tools. We each took away a sample ink imprint as a souvenir. Brown also has an interesting new approach to their artists' books. They are collecting the materials related to the execution of the book: working notes, diagrams, and models. Three such suites were on display. These materials go further than merely complimenting the finished work; they draw the audience into the dynamics of the artist's effort. ... an inspired idea! At RISD we were delighted with the huge collection of students' books - every one of them available to handle. Book binding is only a three month class in a graphic design curriculum. The students' brief exposure is made credible by an energetic motivating teacher. Some of the books produced were remarkable for so short an exposure, speaking to the gifted students at RISD.

Nancy Southworth presented vellum cover repair - as distinct from text repair. Her collection of slides showed remarkable repair work. Nancy has a great sensitivity to the difficulties of working with vellum. Whether she is flattening, reshaping, attaching, or repairing tears her end result is a book returned to its dynamic function without the potential for more damage due to repairs. She demonstrated techniques and offered tips on treatments.

Peter Geraty is edge gilder par excellence. And what a handout! He wanted us to be able to watch closely without missing details. The 17 page handout is the verbatim text of his demonstration. Answers to audience questions round out the information. Peter is detail oriented and so expert I left thinking that edge gilding is really just a walk in the park. One of the bonuses of attending Standards is the almost casual nature of discovering the perfected practices and fine tricks that presenters reveal. Peter's demonstration is loaded with perfected practices and fine tricks. The video will be a hot seller.

Kiyoshi Imai demonstrated a traditional Japanese 4-hole punch binding. I expected I would just sit back and watch something I already know well. However, those perfected practices and fine tricks kept the whole audience attentive and asking questions. While Kiyoshi has mastered traditional Japanese binding methods he has also adapted techniques that address issues important to him. Binding mechanisms, modern materials, aesthetics, and even time constraints were discussed. My favorite advice on binding materials was to visit Hong Kong or Hanoi where silk is cheap. Shall we charter a flight? We've got the tour guide!

Adam Larrson presented on a very special binding specific to mediaeval northern Europe. Adam is conservator at the Upsala Library (Sweden) which has 32 limp vellum bindings with exterior plate spine stiffeners. The attachment of the text to cover is by the sewing that passes through the spine plate. His slides showed a collection in superb condition. Adam then demonstrated the method of binding such a book by long stitch (some with weaving) and by link and long stitch. He showed samples of common thread and button closures for the typical flap covers. He was especially good at talking his way through the sewing demonstration and he spoke at length about decoration, material, and structure.

Of course Standards is also all about meeting up with binders seen just once a year, keeping up with old acquaintances, meeting new members and shopping. Nancy Lev Alexander and the local hosts ran everything so smoothly that the rest of just enjoyed. They are a hard act to follow but I know Portland is up to it in 2005.

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Mark your calendars!

More Than the Sum of the Parts: Columbia College Chicago's Center for the Book and Paper Arts Looks at Eight Decades of Artistic Collaboration

from Bill Drendel, Chicago, IL

Artists talk and ideas percolate. Artists collaborate and remarkable creations are born. Columbia's Center for Book and Paper Arts gathers some of the finest examples of historic and current artists' book and printing collaborations in their upcoming exhibition, *Hooked Up: ±1387 Artists Collaborate*. Included are works produced by WPA-era printing trade schools, projects from the collections of book programs across the country and the Columbia Center, creations that celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Gutenberg Bible, as well as an 'exquisite corpse' --an homage to the game created by the Surrealists in the early 20th century. Several projects in the exhibition have been created specifically for *Hooked Up*. Come see what happens when artists pool their talents.

The exhibition runs January 14 - February 19, 2005 [Gallery hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday]. Opening reception: Friday, January 14. 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Columbia College Chicago Center for Book & Paper Arts is located at 1104 S. Wabash Avenue, 2nd Floor. Both the exhibition and the opening reception are free and open to the public.

For more info, contact 312-344-6630 or book&paper@colum.edu or visit www.bookandpaper.org

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