CAXT®NIAN

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The Library of Congress at 200 looks to the future

John Y. Cole

n 1800, preparing to move I from the city of Philadelphia to the swamps of the Potomac River, Congress knew it would need books. On April 24, 1800, President John Adams approved an appropriation of \$5,000 for the first Congressional library. The initial purchase, 740 volumes and three maps, arrived in Washington from England in 1801 and was stored in the still-uncompleted U.S. Capitol building. The small library was moved to various locations until August 24, 1814, when the British burned and destroyed the Capitol, including the 3,000-volume Library of Congress. The next year ex-President Thomas Jefferson, retired to Monticello and, needing cash, sold his 6,487-volume personal library, probably the finest in America, to the Congress to "reconstitute" its library.

Jefferson's library forever expanded the Library of Congress's scope, extending it far beyond the bounds of a legislative library. It included books on architecture, the arts, science, literature, and geography and in French, Spanish, German, Latin, Greek, and Russian. Jefferson believed that the American national legislature needed ideas and information on all subjects in order to govern a democracy, arguing that there was "no subject to which a Member of Congress may not have occasion to refer."

The acquisition by Congress of Jefferson's library provided the rationale for the expansion of the Library's collections and functions, then and now. Jefferson's belief in the power of knowledge and the direct link



The Great Hall of the Jefferson Building, the Library of Congress, Washington, DC. Photo by Jim Higgins, through the courtesy of the Library of Congress.

between knowledge and democracy inspired the Library of Congress' philosophy of sharing both its collections and its services as widely as possible.

Today the Library of Congress is the largest library in the world and our nation's oldest federal cultural institution. Its collection of 120 million items (including about 20 million books) in more than 460 languages, ranges from rare books to manuscripts, maps to photographs, and motion pictures to music. Supported primarily by taxpayers, it serves Congress, the public, and librarians and researchers around the world.

I became hooked on the Library of Congress and its history soon after I joined its staff in 1966. In 1977, Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin asked me to head his newly created Center for the Book, but I always kept one eye on the Center and the other on the approaching Bicentennial. In 1987 Dr. Boorstin retired, and President Ronald Reagan appointed historian James H. Billington as the 13th Librarian of Congress. I gave Dr. Billington two years, and in late 1989 I cornered him about the "forthcoming" Bicentennial, which was a mere 11 years away, presenting him with a brilliant plan that would celebrate the institution's history in brilliant and imaginative ways. Or so I thought. It turned out that not only was I too early, but that I also had the wrong plan. Dr. Billington let me know, gently, that, when it came time to celebrate our Bicentennial, which was not exactly yet on his mind, he knew he wanted the Library to emphasize, not the past, but "the development of funding strategies and pilot projects that would attract congres-

sional and public attention as well as potential private donors."

We did not formally establish our Bicentennial Steering Committee until October 1996, seven years later, and by then it was clear to all concerned, including this historian, that our commemoration would emphasize the institution's future. By then Dr. Billington had established the Library's first Development (fundraising) office and had created the Madison Council, our major private support group. By then he also was ready to seize on the Bicentennial as an opportunity for moving the institution forward into the 21st Century. His enthusiasm brought in members of the Madison Council, which became the Bicentennial's major funder.



CAXTONIAN

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Musings...

randma Norma and I decided last fall that it was time for Grandson Drake to have his first airplane flight. So we convinced his mother, Daughter Erin, that it was time (no small task), and she granted permission to take him to Washington, DC with us in October 1999. Norma had to attend board meetings over the weekend, and I would be free to be tour-guide to our six-year-old grandson.

As we boarded the MD-80 at O'Hare and Norma found our seats, I took Drake to the cockpit to meet the pilot and to see the controls of the jetliner. Before we left the cockpit, the captain turned on the plane's public address system, and Drake said for all aboard to hear and to the great pleasure of Norma, "I love you, Grandma!"

Drake's eyes glowed as we lifted from the runway and flew through the cloud cover. He had never seen the *tops* of clouds before, as they lay above the city like an eider down quilt. By the time we approached Reagan National, the clouds were behind us, and he could see the countryside and beautiful "Washington City" – as they used to call it.

When Norma went to her board meeting the next two days, Drake and I became tourists. We boarded the Metro deep below the streets at our hotel in Northwest Washington and rode down to the Mall. Drake wanted to see the Air and Space Museum, and the fossils – he is a great fan of fossils – at the Museum of Natural History. We visited the Lincoln Memorial, as well, and the National Archives, where we viewed the original documents of the nation's founding.

But I had a special place I wanted to show him, my very favorite space in all of Washington – perhaps in all of America. That is the Main Reading Room of the Library of Congress. I had brought my mother and father here in 1954, on their first visit to Washington, when I was a fledgling employee of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (you knew I had a checkered past, but you didn't know it was *that* shady!). As a graduate student at the University of Maryland in the 1970s, I had a private carrel in the stacks of this building, and Norma and our two children were frequent visitors here with me. Now I was introducing a new generation – my dear Drake – to this magnificent place.

I took him to the balcony high above the main floor of the reading room. I lifted and held him in my arms so he could see clearly over the balustrade. I explained the process of checking out books and showed him the circular desks below, where dozens of people studied. I watched his eyes move about the space, and I pointed

out the various statues, the artwork, and the balconies across from us, where people worked. His eyes finally moved upward to the magnificent dome, and he saw the arching panels of stained glass, which illuminate the entire interior of the room with a gentle glow of natural light. "It looks like a church," he whispered.

At another time I will explain to him that, in many ways, it is like a place of worship – where dwell the greatest treasures of the mind and the spirit of humankind. Utilized with devotion by men and women attuned to the full range of intellectual, artistic, and spiritual domains, the unfathomed mysteries of the universe may be explored and the unsolved riddles of the human circumstance may be resolved. This is, indeed, a temple to the "democratization of culture" as historian Wallace Ferguson wrote, brought about by the invention of the printing press, which "put a weapon in the hands of common man, far more potent than gunpowder in its equalizing force."

But for this day, I simply wanted him to remember the magnificent beauty of this room. I must confess, however, as I set him down, and my lips touched his soft cheek, a prayer was on my mind, for his own ultimate enlightenment and the immense joy that the pursuit of learning through books brings. A grandfather can hope for no greater legacy, it seems to me.

Remit of

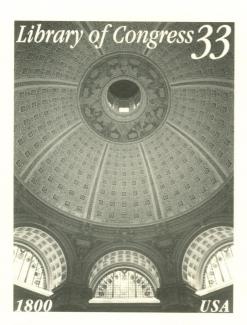
Robert Cotner, Editor



Grandpa Bob and Grandson Drake pose on the plaza of Union Station, Washington, DC in October 1999.



The Main Reading Room, Jefferson Building, the Library of Congress. Photo used through the courtesy of the Library of Congress.



U.S. postage stamp commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the Library of Congress, through whose courtesy it is used.



Robert Pinsky, American Poet Laureate, who will present a program in Chicago for the Library of Congress, June 14. Photo by N. Alicia Byers. Used through the courtesy of the Library of Congress.



The U.S. Mint commemorated the Library's Bicentennial with two specially minted coins. Used through the courtesy of the Library of Congress.

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What do I mean by "emphasizing the institution's future?" Answer: using the Bicentennial to strengthen and, if possible, expand the Library's relationships with its most important constituencies — the Congress, libraries, federal agencies, the creative and scholarly communities, and the general public. Special Bicentennial projects have been developed with each of these constituencies, and each of these projects carries well into the next decade. These include:

"Local Legacies" documents unique local cultural and historic traditions from Congressional Districts and every state for addition to the collections of the Library's American Folklife Center and for accessibility on the Library's principal Web site;

"Libraries-Creativity-Liberty" recognizes the key role that all libraries play in encouraging individual self-fulfillment, lifetime learning and democracy itself;

"Gifts to the Nation" encourages significant acquisitions and programs that enrich the Library's collections and shares those collections with the nation;

"America's Library" www.americaslibrary .gov, a new Library of Congress Web site, provides young people and families with an easy-to-use, multimedia online opportunity to learn about American history;

"Living Legends" recognizes and honors individuals who have made significant contributions to America's cultural, scientific, and social heritage.

The official celebration of the Bicentennial lasts until December 31, 2000, although our big day undoubtedly was April 24, 2000. In a ceremony in the Great Hall of the Jefferson Building, the original, 1897 Library of Congress building, the U.S. Mint introduced two Library of Congress commemorative coins, including the first U.S. metallic coin, and the U.S. Postal Service announced a new 33-cent postage stamp featuring the interior dome of the Jefferson Building's Main Reading Room. On the same day, the new Web site was launched, a live concert emphasizing the Library's popular music collections took place on the Capitol grounds, and a new exhibit about Thomas Jefferson (the Library of Congress is the major

repository of his papers) was opened. The Jefferson exhibit is open through October 31, and a second major Bicentennial exhibition, "The Wizard of Oz: An American Fairy Tale," can be seen in the Library's Great Hall through September 23.

I'll conclude with descriptions of Library of Congress Bicentennial projects, which I think will be of special interest to Caxton Club members. For a complete and detailed listing of these and all Bicentennial projects, consult the Library's Web site (www.loc.gov).

Bicentennial books: Four books are being published. Three are available now in major bookstores, and the fourth will be available in July. They are: America's Library: The Story of the Library of Congress, 1800-2000, by James Conaway (Yale University Press); Thomas Jefferson, Genius of Liberty (Viking Studio); The Library of Congress, An Architectural Alphabet (Pomegranate Communications); and, scheduled for July, The Nation's Library: The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., by Alan Bisbort and Linda Barrett Osborne (Scala Publishers).

Reconstructing Jefferson's Library: A fire in the U.S. Capitol on Christmas eve in 1851 destroyed two-thirds of the Library's collection, including approximately two-thirds of the personal library that Thomas Jefferson sold to the government many years earlier. A highlight of the Thomas Jefferson Bicentennial exhibition is the reconstitution for the first time of Jefferson's library in one place and in the order that Jefferson himself devised for their arrangement. With help from generous gifts from the Madison Council, the Library has been reassembling copies of the same editions of the works in Jefferson's library. His original library is now more than 90% complete and can be seen in a dramatic display in the current exhibition.

The Favorite Poem Project: Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky spearheaded a wonderful project that is providing the Library of Congress' Archive of Recorded Poetry and Literature with audio and visual recordings of Americans reciting or reading their favorite poems. Last year, Chicago's

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Anniversary Tribute to the Library of Congress

Alice Schreyer

The Caxton Club of Chicago congratulates the Library of Congress on the occasion of its 200th birthday. As a community of individuals with a shared devotion to the pleasure and power of books, Caxton Club members recognize with appreciation the Library's contributions to promoting and ensuring the vitality of book culture. We take pride in our nation's library as a symbol of the importance of books and reading in our society and as an active force in strengthening that role.

With its collections encompassing all subjects and areas of the world, the Library stands for freedom of expression and access for all Americans to the wisdom and creativity embodied in books. Through its programs in poetry and music; the Center for the Book, a catalyst for state and regional efforts to foster reading and literacy; services to the blind and physically handicapped; and digital initiatives to bring

Library
Continued from page 4

Newberry Library, the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, and our state affiliate, the Illinois Center for the Book, sponsored a "Favorite Poem" event at the Newberry Library. I am pleased to announce that another such event, featuring Mr. Pinsky and many citizens of the Chicago area, will be held at the Chicago Public Library at 6 p.m. on June 14. It is free and open to the public. The Bicentennial project, "The Favorite Poem," will be kept alive in future years through the Center for the Book and our 40 state affiliates. I hope to see many Caxtonians there.

Editor's note: A Nonresident Caxton Club member since 1994, librarian and historian John Cole is director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and cochair of the Library of Congress' Bicentennial Steering Committee. This article, written especially for the Caxtonian, details the Library's 200th anniversary celebration during the year 2000.

treasures of American history to schoolchildren and citizens of all ages, the Library of Congress enriches the lives of millions.

The Library's exhibitions and publications foster visibility for the arts of the book and enhance understanding of the cultural and historic treasures it holds. Research and development of standards for preservation of and access to library collections benefit the nation's libraries and the constituencies they serve.

Members of The Caxton Club note with particular pleasure the fact that the core of the present Library of Congress has its origins in the collection of Thomas Jefferson, whose love of books and passion for acquiring them is understood so well by every Caxtonian. Jefferson's books were his inspired companions and practical tools for daily living. He envisioned a library for members of Congress that covered all areas of knowledge, reflecting his

expansive view of the learning necessary for leaders of a democracy and his own encyclopedic mind.

The Library of Congress has richly fulfilled this vision in building its global collections, now the largest in the world. By sustaining this commitment to the book while exploiting new technologies to expand audiences for its treasures, the Library conveys to the world that the book will draw on its rich heritage the best of the past and new possibilities in the future.

The Caxton Club salutes the Library for all it has achieved and extends warmest wishes for continued success in bringing the aesthetic and intellectual values of the book to the broadest possible audience. •

April 24, 2000

Editor's note: Caxtonian Alice Schreyer, Curator of Special Collections at the University of Chicago Library, is the author of The History of the Book: A Guide to Selected Resources of The Library of Congress (1987).

I learn from the newspapers that the Vandalism four every has true at Washington over science as well as the arts, by the destruction of the mebles library with the noble edifice in Shich it was deprovided. If this transaction, as of that of Copin hagen, the world will entertain but one sentiment. They will see a nation suddenly on from a great war, full armed and full handed, taking advantage of another their shipping at Chatham, and De Ruylor rode trumphantly up the Thas he might in like manner, by the acknowlegement of their own his lorious, have for theer ships up to London bridge, and there have burnt them, the town these examples been then set. London, show thus monaced, i'as ne old, Washington is but in it; teems. my collection, it's condition and extent. I have been so years making it . I have ains, opportunity or expone to make it what it is . While residing in Paris I devoted every afternoon I was disengaged for a all the principal bookshores, turning over every book with my own hands and priller in every science. besides this, I had standing orders during the whole time I was Europe, in it's principal book marts particularly amsterdam, Frankford madrid such works relating to america as could not be found in Bonis. or again be effected; because it is hardly probable that the same opportunities the same time industry, proseverance, and exprense, with some knowless of the to bliography of the subject vould again happen to be in concurrences during the same provide, and after my return to america. I was lad to procure also chatever rela ted to the dulies of those in the high concerns of the nation . so that the collection

Thomas Jefferson wrote this three-page, signed autograph letter from Monticello on September 21, 1814, to his friend in Washington, Samuel Harrison Smith, then Commissioner of Revenue. The purpose of Jefferson's letter was to offer his private library to the nation, as a replacement for the fledgling Library of Congress that had been destroyed in the burning of Washington by the British on August 24, 1814.

Jefferson describes how he had built his library while he was in Paris, "examining all the principal bookstores, turning over every book with my own hands," and also by "standing orders, during the whole time I was in Europe, in its principal book-marts." Anticipating questions about why members of Congress might need a library of such broad scope, Jefferson maintained, "There is in fact no subject to which a member of Congress may not have occasion to refer."

Jefferson wrote the letter on a polygraph machine. This reproduction is from the copy actually sent by Jefferson to Smith and now in the University of Chicago Library. Jefferson's file copy is in the Library of Congress. The Jefferson letter is from the Butler-Gunsaulus Collection, Department of Special Collections, University of Chicago Library, through whose courtesy it is used.

Caxtonian and Friend of the Book, Elmer Gertz, Passes

Robert Cotner

A merica lost one of its most important friends of books on April 27, when Caxtonian Elmer Gertz died following heart by-pass surgery at the age of 93. The Chicago Tribune called him a "passionate litigator who gained parole for Nathan Leopold, overturned Jack Ruby's murder conviction, and rescued Henry Miller's Tropic of Cancer from government censorship."

Mr. Gertz was himself the creator of books — a friend of books as author. It was, in fact, his literary bent that distinguished him from his peers. The first of his 18 books was written when he was 25. A biography of writer Frank Harris, the book established the penchant he would have throughout life for concern of the underdog in American life and letters. He wrote for the Caxtonian (October 1999), "I have always been intrigued by flawed human beings endowed with literary genius." Rebecca West called the Harris biography a "great book," and it was favorably reviewed in the mainline press of the time. His final book, Remembering Mamie (1998), was a tribute to his beloved wife.

Mr. Gertz was a friend of those of his time who created books. The Chicago Sun-Times reported that Frank Harris was only "one of the prominent figures" with whom he corresponded, "to his never ending pride." These included Winston Churchill, Clarence Darrow, Leon Trotsky, George Bernard Shaw, Carl Sandburg, and Harry Truman, who sent him more than 100 letters before he died. One of his closest literary friendships was with Arthur Miller, who called him, "my everlasting friend and savior,...whom I know no better or greater." And Mr. Gertz became the heir-apparent of the famed trial attorney, Clarence Darrow, with whom he had a close personal and professional relationship until Darrow's death in 1938.

Mr. Gertz was, above all, one of the greatest friends of human freedom since early Renaissance days. It was his unabashed allegiance to human freedom and his belief that even hardened criminals were, as he wrote in the Caxtonian (May 2000) in what turned out to be

his last published essay, "fellow human beings in need of help." At lunch one day, he told me of a phone call he received after a risque motion picture had been shown on television. The caller, an old friend of his, thanked him for making it possible for the nation to see such "trash" on commercial networks.

"I am embarrassed," he told me, "when things like that happen, for that is not what I had in mind when I worked so hard for freedom from censorship."

"Why don't you write an essay about that?" I asked him. "Make it a part of the record — just for your own sake." Within a few days, I had an essay that did set the record straight. It was published in the Caxtonian (August 1999). He elaborated on what he told me at lunch. He wrote of the necessary personal, family, and religious responsibilities in human society to counter the extravagances of the media and publishing industries.

But, he asked, "If I were still in the practice of law, would I defend freedom of expression as vigorously as I did in the past?" He answered his own question: "Most assuredly!" I am reminded, as I write of him, of the stirring words of 15th Century Florentine humanist, Francesco Barbaro: "We have called the people...to liberty, and we have talked in these glorious terms not because we expected to subject everything to our power, but to take sides as free men for the freedom of others." No human being worked so long nor so hard as a free man for the freedom of others as Elmer Gertz worked.

And so, we have lost a great one, a humanist whose concern and commitment drove him until his dying day — a true friend of books. We shall miss the power of his presence and his gentle smile among us. We extend to his family our sympathy in these days of sadness. *

All my best
Then Deg

Herbert Cahoon Dies in New York

Robert Cotner

The New York Times (May 17) carried an illustrated obituary, "Herbert Cahoon, 82, Curator at Morgan Library." Mr. Cahoon, a Caxton Club member since 1954, was the curator for 35 years at the Morgan Library, one of the world's major repositories of books, papers, and handwritten documents of history's most famous people. During his tenure (1954-1989), Mr. Cahoon brought to the Morgan such important items as Brahm's First Symphony. Beethoven's "Ghost" Trio, and other significant works by Mozart, Schubert, Bach, and Verdi.

His literary additions to the Morgan included the draft in pencil of *The Little Prince*, as well as drawings by its author Antoine de Saint-Exupery, the manuscript for John Steinbeck's *Travels with Charlie*, and a missing volume of the *Journals of Henry David Thoreau*, found in 1956, completing a set that J. Pierpont Morgan had bought in 1899. Rare letters added during Mr. Cahoon's tenure included those from Voltaire, Erasmus, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Melville, and others.

Mr. Cahoon was a specialist in James Joyce and had agreed to write a piece for the *Caxtonian* in 1998, when a special Joyce issue (June 1998) was produced. He planned to tell of his attendance at the first production of Joyce's *Ulysses in Nighttown*, at the New York's Rooftop Theatre in 1958, a production in which John Astin was Associate Director. Unfortunately, Mr. Cahoon was hospitalized at the time and could not write the piece, for which he expressed great sadness.

Although he never attended a Caxton meeting, he was a regular reader of the Caxtonian, of which he was very fond. We shall miss him. We extend to his friends and family our sincerest condolences.

The President's Report, 1999-2000

C. Frederick Kittle

ur past year, almost ended, has been marked by numerous, diverse, and interesting programs, a superb exhibit, the progress on a book nearing publication, an increase in attendance and members, and the excitement of planning new ventures for The Caxton Club. All these testify to the interest, loyalty, and, most importantly, the spirit of volunteerism present among our members.

In particular, the efforts of the Council members and their devotion to the behind-the-scenes activities of the club can only be admired and cannot be extolled enough. The Millenium has been breached; we have many plans and a fine start for the next century. Our future looks bright! Here are reports by the various committee chairs, which give more detail about the good health of the club at year's end:

Treasurer, Christopher Oates Assets: Operating Account, \$19,850.02; Special Projects Fund, \$19,432.91; Second Century Fund, \$57,345.65.

Nominating, Jim Tomes

Council Class of 2003, nominated and elected: Sherman Beverly, Jr., Kim Coventry, Matthew Doherty, David L. Easterbrook, and Robert W. Karrow.

Exhibitions, Kim Coventry
The major activity of the Exhibitions Committee was to organize the exhibition, "Chicago Under Wraps: Dust Jackets from 1920 to 1950," which was held at the Ryerson Library of the Art Institute of Chicago. The exhibition was accompanied by a catalogue of the same title, published in conjunction with the Publications Committee.

Publications, Susan Rossen

A new membership directory was issued this year, and the Committee worked with the Exhibitions Committee on its catalogue. The committee continues working on the diaries (1865-1866) of John M. Wing, edited and annotated by Caxtonian Robert Williams and to be published by Southern Illinois Press in 2001.

Development, Gene Hotchkiss

The Development Committee is pleased to report that more than \$57,000 is in the Second Century Fund, the endowment portion of our club's asset base. The committee has met regularly to determine a strategy for further expansion of this important fund for the long-term health of the club. Working closely with the Council, it hopes to have underwritten through endowment all of the major programs of the club in the next few years.

Program, Ken Paterson

A wide variety of programs – from literature to design, from biography to photography – have been featured in the dinner meetings of the club this year. A testimony to the success of the programs is indicated by the numbers in attendance: We had an average attendance at dinner meetings of 75, with three programs bringing in more than 100 members and guests.

Caxtonian, Robert Cotner

The Caxtonian has been redesigned, beginning with Volume VIII, to the great pleasure of all. The publication received a grant of \$1,000 from Helen M. Harrison Foundation and several gifts from members to supplement the budget. The journal has been issued monthly with an increasing number of contributors, a wider variety of subjects, and continuing great pleasure for the editor.

Membership, John Chalmers

The current club membership stands at: Resident members, 225; Nonresident members, 55; Institutional members, 16. A new membership folder has been developed and is available to all members for sharing with friends and prospective members.

Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Society (FABS), Hayward Blake

As a founding member of FABS, The Caxton Club is active in all aspects of the organization. Along with 27 other clubs across the country, we share in the FABS website and newsletter. Members have attended study tours this year in Detroit and San Francisco.



Caxtonian Peggy Sullivan, past president of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) received the ALSC Distinguished Service Award in March 2000. The award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to library service for children. "Peggy Sullivan is an extraordinary ALSC member whose accomplishments and influence have an impact on all libraries," Jane Botham of ALSC commented. Caxtonian Sharon A. Hogan, University Librarian, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), was named Academic/Research Librarian of the Year by the Association of College & Research Libraries. Sponsored by ACRL and Baker & Taylor Books, the award recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic research librarianship and library development. Caxtonians salute Sharon for this signal honor in her career. Caxtonian Shawn M. Donnelley ran for U.S. Congress in the 10th Congressional District of Illinois. While she was unsuccessful in this try, she ran a solid campaign, and, we suspect, she will try again in the future. The bright side of the result is that we will see more of her at Caxton meetings than we would if she were a Congresswoman. We congratulate her on the courage and stamina of her run for Congress and wish her the very best, whatever her future plans are. Caxtonian Ed Quattrocchi presented a paper, "The Concept of Time in the Content and Structure of Dante's Commedia," May 5, at the 35th International Congress on Medieval Studies, the Medieval Institute, Kalamazoo, MI. The Rare Book School of the University of Virginia (June-August) will feature many Caxtonians or people with Caxton connections, as members, club speakers, and past membership. These include Greer and Sue Allen, Martin Antonetti, Nicholas Barker, Terry Belanger, D. W. Krummel, and Michael Winship. For

information, phone 804/924-8851.

Bookmarks...

Dinner Program
June 21, 2000
Paul Simon, Harry Mark Petrakis and George Anastaplo
Celebrating the life and works of Elmer Gertz

The passing of Caxtonian Elmer Gertz, on April 27, brought to close a career that spanned two Americas. He was, in many ways, one of the last living links to an earlier time of harsh, bareknuckled law and life in Chicago and the nation. He lived to see a more subtle, though no less corrupt, society born in the post-World War II era and continuing to the end of the century.

But through it all, he carried himself with grace, dignity, and courage. A man honored by his family, his city, and his colleagues, Mr. Gertz left a heritage that will be difficult to surpass. His literary legacy spanned 69 years. His legal career spanned 75 years. His social activism spanned his entire lifetime of 93 years.

As a member of The Caxton Club since 1964, he spoke at five luncheon programs, and his presentations were always sell-outs. Until his final illness, he attended nearly all dinner meetings. And he wrote a dozen articles for the *Caxtonian* in the past eight years. His essay on Clarence Darrow (March 1998) will be reprinted in a commemorative book on the Scopes Trial, Dayton, TN, for the 75th anniversary of that landmark legal event.

To mark his passing, The Caxton Club will celebrate the life and works of Elmer Gertz in its final meeting of the year. To assist in that effort,

close personal friends of Mr. Gertz, Senator Paul Simon, author Harry Mark Petrakis, and attorney George Anastaplo, will present brief eulogies. Mem-bers of the Gertz family will attend, and *Caxtonian* editor Robert Cotner will serve as host for the evening, tying together the various parts of the program with poetry.

This is an event all Caxtonians will want to share. Join us as we celebrate a life well lived among us by one of our own.

Kenneth Houston Paterson Vice President and Program Chair

Don't forget the June Luncheon, on the 9th – our last until the Fall – when Paul Gehl will share the background and history of the development of the Newberry's "Florentine Humanism and The Church Fathers" exhibition.

All luncheon and dinner meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in the Mid-Day Club, 56th floor of BankOne, BankOne Plaza, Madison & Clark, Chicago. Luncheon and discussion, 12:30pm. Dinner meetings begin with spirits at 5pm, dinner at 6pm, lecture at 7pm. BankOne's parking garage, 40 S. Clark Street, offers a special parking rate after 5pm to guests of the Mid-Day Club. When you leave, please tell the parking attendant you were at the Mid-Day Club, and your parking fee will be \$8. Members planning to attend luncheons or dinners must make advance reservations by phoning the Caxton number, 312 255 3710. Luncheon for members and guests, \$20. Dinner, for members and guests, \$35.

New Caxtonians Welcomed

The following persons have been nominated and elected to membership in The Caxton Club of Chicago. We extend to them each a warm welcome to this splendid fellowship of bibliophiles.

Robert J. Bibbee

Nominated by J. Ingrid Lesley Seconded by John P. Chalmers

Vincent Golden

Nominated by Don W. Krummel Seconded by John P. Chalmers

Susan Higinbotham

Nominated by C. Frederick Kittle Seconded by Ed Hirschland

Wendy C. Husser

Nominated by C. Frederick Kittle Seconded by Robert Cotner

Melissa J. Lee

Nominated by John P. Chalmers Seconded by Robert Cotner

Jerry O'Conor

Nominated by John P. Chalmers Seconded by Robert Cotner

Greg Prickman

Nominated by J. Ingrid Lesley Seconded by John P. Chalmers

Charles Simmons

Nominated by Ed Quattrocchi Seconded by J. Ingrid Lesley

Robert Sullivan

Nominated by Jay Marshall Seconded by John A. McKinven

Thomas E. Swanstrom

Nominated by Evelyn J. Lampe Seconded by Karen A. Skubish

T.S. Vandoros

Nominated by Harry Stern Seconded by Florence Shay

R. Quincy White

Nominated by John K. Notz Seconded by David S. Mann ❖