CAXTONIAN

JOURNAL OF THE CAXTON CLUB VOLUME XIV, NO. 7 JULY 2007

Abraham Lincoln

His interpersonal intelligence

Robert Cotner

Abraham Lincoln! Abraaaahhhaam Liiiinnncooolnnnn! (as Carl Sandburg might have spoken it) This name rings down through our history like a pentameter of classical poetry.

No president has been as gifted as the man from Illinois, who served in the White House from 1861 until his assassination on this very day, April 14, 1865—seven score and one year ago.

No president was less prepared academically to serve as the nation's Chief Executive as the "Rail Splitter" from the Prairie State.

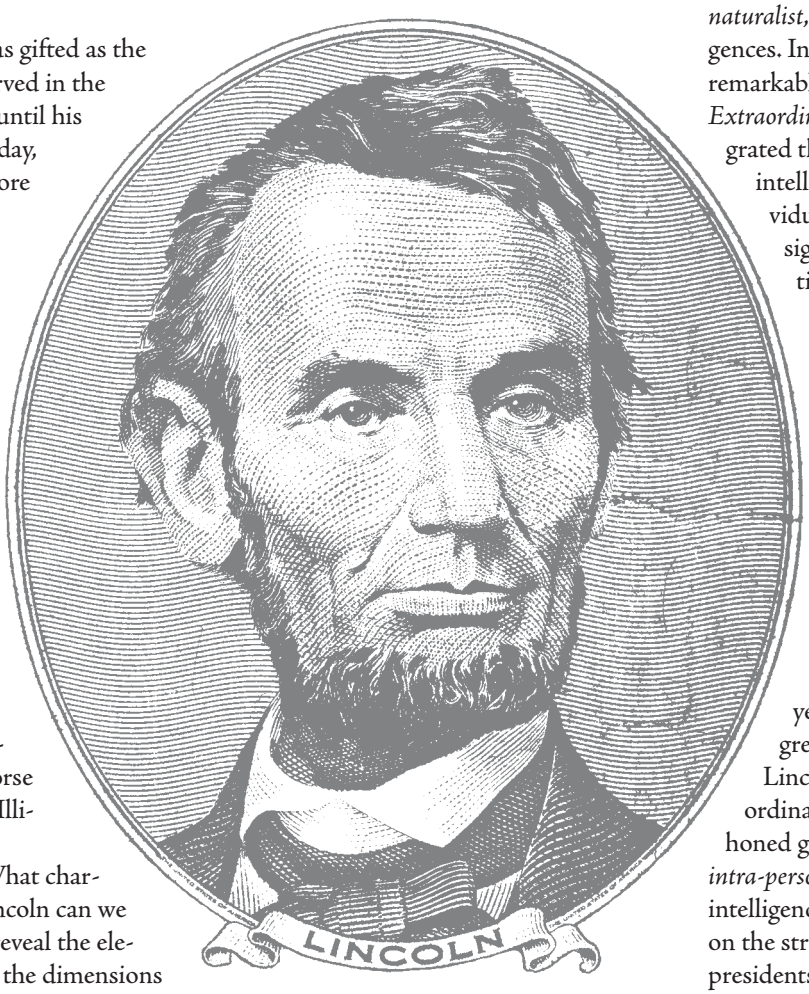
No president, including our founding leader, George Washington, assumed the mantle of leadership at a more difficult time in the nation's history.

No president achieved success so singularly his own and so humanly comprehensive as the One-Horse Lawyer from Springfield, Illinois.

How is this possible? What characteristics of Abraham Lincoln can we tease from his life, which reveal the elements of his achievement, the dimensions of his accomplishments?

We must, of course, look to the mind for answers, for it is in the mind and through the intelligences generated by that singular organ of the being, which defines each of us in unique and compelling ways. In 1983 an important book was published that helps clarify and intensify the understanding of the human intellect. The book, *Frames of Mind*, by Howard Gardner, identifies seven "intelligences."[1]

"In ordinary life," Gardner wrote, "these intelligences typically work in harmony, and so their autonomy may be invisible."[2] It is, thus, difficult to speak of "linguistic" intelligence alone, although most of our education programs use this intelligence to measure *all* intelligences. The six other intelligences identified by Gardner were *musical*, *logical-mathematical*, *spacial*, *bodily-kinesthetic*, *intra-personal*, and *inter-personal*.



In a subsequent book, *Intelligence Reframed*,[3] published in 1999, Gardner expanded the list of intelligences to include *naturalist*, *spiritual*, and *existential* intelligences. In 1997, Gardner published a remarkable and very important book, *Extraordinary Minds*,[4] in which he integrated the specifics of his study of human intelligences into biographies of individuals he thought represented significant achievements in intellection.

In this book, he says, "If there should be a science of extraordinariness, it must somehow meld these two positions. Extraordinary persons must indeed be constructed out of the same building blocks as the rest of us; but by the time they are formed, they are no longer indistinguishable from the proverbial man (or woman) on the street."[5]

I propose to you this day—141 years after the assassination of our greatest president—that Abraham Lincoln was indeed a certified "Extraordinary Person," whose personally honed gifts in the realms of *linguistic*, *intra-personal*, *inter-personal*, and *spiritual* intelligences set him apart from the person on the street for all time, and from all of our presidents, as well.

We could take "The Gettysburg Address" as a primary case in point for all of the superb intelligences of Lincoln. "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, con-

See LINCOLN, *page 2*

CAXTONIAN

LINCOLN, *from page 1*

ceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." The sheer poetry of that opening sentence still astounds! The magnitude of the accomplishment in the 278 words of the address, as Gary Wills has so admirably delineated, redefined the American republic and paved the way for the Emancipation Proclamation.[6]

Wills wrote: "Lincoln does not argue history… He *makes* history. He does not come to present a theory, but to impose a symbol, one tested in experience and appealing to national values, with an emotional urgency entirely expressed in calm abstractions…. He came to change the world, to effect an intellectual revolution. No other words could have done it. The miracle is that these words did. In his brief time before the crowd at Gettysburg [he spoke less than three minutes] he wove a spell that has not, yet, been broken—he called up a new nation out of the blood and trauma."[7] Every dimension of Lincoln's superb intellectual composure was in place and fully functioning in the preparation for and delivery of this incomparable speech on November 19, 1863.

During his life, Lincoln said little about himself or his intellectual capacities. Joshua Speed, Lincoln's long-time close friend, wrote about Lincoln on December 6, 1866, as recorded in William Herndon's important *Herndon's Lincoln*, that in all of Lincoln's habits—"eating, sleeping, reading, conversation, and study"—he was "regularly irregular."[8] Speed recorded one of the few personal assessments of Lincoln on his own mind. Speaking of Lincoln's mind to Lincoln as being remarkable, Speed said Lincoln disagreed: "No, you are mistaken," Lincoln said. ´"I am slow to learn, and slow to forget that which I've learned. My mind is like a piece of steel—very hard to scratch anything on it, and almost impossible after you get it there to rub it out."[9]

Perhaps this is the source of Carl Sandburg's marvelous image of Lincoln, expressed before a joint session of Congress in 1959, that Lincoln "…was a man of steel and velvet, who is hard as rock and soft as drifting fog, who holds in his heart and mind the paradox of terrible storm and peace unspeakable and perfect."[10]

Think with me now on a single intelligence of Lincoln—his *interpersonal* intelligence. I am going to let my friend Howard Gardner organize this portion of what I say. Gardner observed, "the personal forms of intelligence reflect a set of powerful and competing constraints: the existence of one's own person; the existence of other persons; the culture's presentations and interpretations of selves."[11]

The existence of one's own person

Carl Sandburg gives us a marvelous sentence about the coming into existence of Lincoln's own person, saying, "'Time had been required to grow Lincoln."[12] The self that Lincoln grew over the years emerged from the bleakest of environments, physical, personal, and social. But something inherent drove him toward a personhood that indeed became, to use Gardner's words, a "second-level regulator, an overall metaphor for the rest of the person, and one that can, as part of its 'duties,' come to understand and to modulate an individual's other capacities."[13] Indeed, the Lincoln we know, the Lincoln we love, is the summation of his personal intelligences.

Nancy and Thomas Lincoln, his sister Sarah, and his stepmother, Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln, helped Lincoln forge early in life a person, a self, remarkable for its sterling qualities of ethical considerations, intellectual pursuits, and personal dependability. By the time he arrived at New Salem in Sangamon County, Illinois, at the age of 22 in 1831, he presented a personality already committed to whom he would be known as in later years. David Donald in *Lincoln* describes Lincoln's early success in New Salem: "Everyone grew very fond of this hardworking and accommodating young man, so able and so willing to do any kind of work. Quickly he established himself with the men of the town, who gathered daily at the store run by Samuel Hill and John McNeil, to exchange news and gossip. They welcomed Lincoln because…he had an inexhaustible store of anecdotes and stories."[14]

There was something else in this personhood that was obvious only by insinuation. Lincoln expressed this embedded ambition in a letter he wrote to the people of Sangamon County on March 9, 1832, in his first attempt at public office. He wrote, "Every man is said to have his personal ambition. Whether it be true or not, I can say for one that I have no other so great as that of being truly esteemed of my fellow men, by rendering myself worthy of their esteem."[15]

The existence of other persons

Gardner says the *sense of self* is the "balance struck by every individual—and every culture—between the promptings of 'inner feelings' and the pressures of 'other persons.'"[16]

The Clary Grove gang of New Salem repre-

sents Lincoln initially reaching successfully toward other persons to define himself. His relationship with the Clary Grove boys began with a fight where he established respect through his physical strength and courage. It ended with his first successful election, led by the Clary Grove gang, as militia captain during the Black Hawk War in 1832.

Gardner said that, "In an advanced form, interpersonal knowledge permits a skilled adult to read the intensions and desires—even when these have been hidden—of many other individuals and, potentially, to act upon this knowledge—for example, by influencing a group of disparate individuals to behave along desired lines."[17] Nothing better describes what Abraham Lincoln did in his rising aspirations to high elected office. He learned people! Integral to his education in humanity, however, was kindness toward, and not exploitation of, others. Lincoln, in fact, seemed to anticipate what architect Louis Sullivan would write many years later: "Kindness is the sanest of powers, and by its fruits shall Democracy be known."[18] Kindness defined Lincoln's unique interpersonal intelligence.

Lincoln's life on the Eighth Judicial Circuit, his courting of and marriage to Mary Todd, and his local and state-wide political endeavors offered a wide range of development of the interpersonal skills that would mark his presidency and leadership during the American Civil War.

One story must suffice from the early years: In 1854, Lincoln had, through the strong efforts of Joshua Giddings of Ohio and his local supporters, lined up sufficient support to bring about a Whig victory over the Democrats in Illinois for Lincoln's nomination for a U.S. Senate bid. Richard Carwardine said that, in the "heterogeneous and fragmented membership" of the assembly, Lincoln slipped from first place on the first ballot, with Lyman Trumbull having five votes, the exact number Lincoln needed to win. But Trumbull forces would not yield any votes.

On the ninth ballot, Lincoln capitulated his 15 votes to Trumbull's rising position, in order to assure a Whig victory for Trumbull. Carwardine explains the result: "Lincoln was deeply disappointed but, unlike his wife, showed no bitterness toward the new senator and his cluster of supporters, with whom he remained on good terms. After all, they owed a debt of gratitude which they would later repay with interest."[19]

His very success in winning the nomination to the presidency as the first Republican candidate in 1860 is a signal achievement in interpersonal intelligence, directly related to the incident with Lyman Trumbull in 1854. Running against men better educated, more experienced, and more palatable to the educated public, Lincoln built an inner coalition committed to him and his candidacy, and, through them, he won the 1860 nomination as the Republican candidate.

Doris Kearns Goodwin's recently published *Team of Rivals*, one of the finest Lincoln studies I have read, presents rich evidence of Lincoln's interpersonal intelligence and its extraordinary success during his presidency. Selecting as the heart of his cabinet the very men who were his archrivals for the nomination in 1860, Lincoln brought disparate contenders together to shape the government in its most trying and fragile hour.

Goodwin set the stage in her opening chapter, "Four Men Waiting," for the rivals to square off in Chicago's Wigwam, where the Republican nomination for president would take place on May 18, 1860. Lincoln—the 51-year-old "dark-horse candidate"—was in Springfield, poised with his strategic team in place in the Windy City. William Seward, age 59, the distinguished U.S. Senator from and former Governor of New York, was in his 20-room home in Auburn, New York. Salmon P. Chase, age 52 and Governor of the State of Ohio, waited in the Governor's mansion in Columbus. And 66-year-old Judge Edward Bates spent the day in his estate near St. Louis, surrounded by his wife and large family.

Goodwin summarized the situation: "On that morning of May 18, 1860, Bates's chief objective was simply to stop Seward on the first ballot. Chase, too, had his eye on the frontrunner, while Seward worried about Chase. Bates had become convinced that the convention would turn to him as the only real moderate. Neither Seward nor Chase nor Bates seriously considered Lincoln an obstacle to their great ambition."[20]

Lincoln's strategy, which he instilled in his colleagues representing him in the Wigwam, had been to "give offense of no one. He wanted to leave the delegates 'in a mood to come to us, if they shall be compelled to give up their first love.'"[21] Come they did, on the third ballot, and Lincoln was his party's nominee.

It is difficult to conceive of a president with a more magnanimous spirit than Abraham Lincoln in the White House during the turbulent years of the American Civil War. The spirit of magnanimity created the core of his cabinet, composed of the very men from whom he took the Republican nomination in Chicago. He forged, through them, a leadership team—a "team of rivals"—each of whom considered himself superior to Lincoln, better prepared to be president, and more deserving of the Presidency than he. These three men became the major "other persons" on whom Lincoln had to exert influence during the next four years of his life.

Edward Bates, Border State Judge, was Lincoln's first cabinet choice, and he met with Bates while still in Springfield. The eldest of the competing presidential candidates, Bates had turned down cabinet appointments in the Fillmore administration in 1850 and wasn't eager to join the Lincoln cabinet. Bates' first choice for a cabinet position, however, was Secretary of State, but Lincoln wanted Seward in that position. Through splendid finessing, Lincoln got Bates to agree to become his Attorney General. Because of the delicate relationship between North and South at that moment, Lincoln and Bates arranged a "leaked" early announcement of Bates' cabinet appointment in the *Missouri Democrat*. Goodwin reports, "The Bates' appointment received positive marks almost everywhere."[22]

His contests were not only between his rivals and himself but also between the rivals themselves. Seward and Chase were two competing and contemptuous persons; neither wanted the other on Lincoln's cabinet. Because Lincoln refused to remove Chase's name from consideration, Seward

See ***LINCOLN****, page 4*

LINCOLN, *from page 4*
submitted his resignation before he was nominated to the Senate as Secretary of State. Lincoln waited patiently, Goodwin reports, and "his gracious manner again soothed a troubled situation."[23] Through his exquisitely honed interpersonal intelligence, Lincoln prevailed, and Seward became Lincoln's Secretary of State and one of his closest associates through the next four years.

Because Chase did not reply to Lincoln's offer to become Secretary of the Treasury, Lincoln sent Chase's name to the Senate for confirmation without Chase's approval. Chase happened to be on the Senate floor when Ohio colleagues came to congratulate him on his nomination. The proud Chase, angered at Lincoln's presumption, confronted Lincoln and refused the appointment. Lincoln, master of one-on-one persuasion, convinced Chase to accept the position in his cabinet. "In the end," Goodwin observed, "Lincoln had unerringly read the character of Chase and slyly called Seward's bluff."[24]

Goodwin summed up Lincoln's rivals in this splendid manner: "Seward, Chase, and Bates—they were indeed strong men. But in the end, it was the prairie lawyer from Springfield who would emerge as the strongest of them all."[25]

The culture's presentations and interpretations of selves

But who was this prairie lawyer from Springfield? New Yorkers had met him and were favorably impressed in the Cooper Union address on February 27, 1860. Horace Greeley said the "speech of Abraham Lincoln at the Cooper Union last evening was one of the happiest and most convincing political arguments ever made in this city." Of Lincoln, who had extended his interpersonal intelligence to a new, non-Midwestern audience, Greeley wrote, "Mr. Lincoln is one of nature's orators, using his rare powers solely and effectively to convince, though their inevitable effect is to delight and electrify as well." Summarizing Lincoln's New York talk, Greeley said, "No man ever before made such an impression in his first appeal to a New York audience."[26]

Lincoln had developed his intellectual gifts as a speaker to establish common ground with the people. He took oratory seriously in his time and communicated well when he had time to prepare his text in advance. Ronald White has given us an important view of Lincoln through his splendid book, *The Eloquent President*. White said, "Lincoln wrote for the ear. Most politicians and academics write for the eye. Lincoln often spoke or whispered out loud before putting his Faber pencil to paper."[27]

His was an evolving persona in American culture, measured almost always along partisan lines. Republicans liked him, if they did not love him; Democrats tolerated him, if they did not hate him. Carl Sandburg, whose early research in Lincoln studies gave us the monumental six-volume biography, reported that Massachusetts Congressman Richard Alley thought that, "In vital matters, Lincoln was tough and unbending.... But in small and unimportant matters 'Mr. Lincoln was so yielding that many thought his excessive amiability was born of weakness.'"[28]

What we have here is a Kentucky-born Hoosier from Illinois, who marshaled his substantial resources, physical and intellectual, to do what the Founding Fathers were not able or willing to do. Lincoln not only *restored* the Union; he *recreated* the Union with a new expression of equality for all people, which we are still attempting to fulfill, with grace, dignity, and justice. He was Commander-in-Chief in the final battles of the American Revolution that were fought among ourselves in the cities and countryside of our own land in a war called the American Civil War.

By the time of his assassination, Lincoln had established himself, with his cabinet and with the general electorate, as a thoroughly honest, unusually intelligent, kind and sympathetic leader of the nation. His emerging understanding of the slavery issue, culminating in the Emancipation Proclamation, his strong leadership of his generals under the command of Ulysses Grant, and the Appomattox Court House meeting between Lee and Grant, in which Lincoln's kindness dominated the terms of Southern surrender, brought understanding and appreciation of this most gifted and generous leader. His assassination achieved martyrdom for the prairie lawyer from Springfield. And indeed, with his death in the Peterson House at 7:22 AM, April 15, 1865, he did, as Edwin Stanton, his Secretary of War, intoned, "belong to the ages."[29]

Abraham Lincoln!

Abraaaahhhaam Liiiinnncoooolnnnn!

The name rings through our history like a pentameter of Classical Poetry.

Two of the greatest poems in the canon of American literature, "Oh Captain! My Captain!" and "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" by Walt Whitman stand as ultimate expressions of an appreciative poet and a thankful people commemorating the greatness of our 16th president.

I conclude with another Whitman poem, which, in its brevity and directness, seems to speak as if an apostrophe to Abraham Lincoln. Considering this poem a tribute to Lincoln, the last line is a perfect finale to what I have said today:

This is what you shall do: Love
the earth and sun and the animals,
despise riches, give alms to every
one that asks, stand up for the stupid
and crazy, devote your income
and labor to others, hate tyrants,
argue not concerning God, have
patience and indulgence toward
the people.... and your very flesh
shall be a great poem.[30]

§§

Presented at The Caxton Club April 14, 2006

NOTES

[1] Howard Gardner, *Frames of Mind*, New York: Basic Books, Inc., 1983.

[2] Gardner, p. 9.

[3] Howard Gardner, *Intelligence Reframed*, New York: Basic Books, Inc., 1999.

[4] Howard Gardner, *Extraordinary Minds*, New York: Basic Books, Inc. 1997.

[5] Gardner, *Extraordinary Minds*, p. 4.

[6] Garry Wills, *Lincoln at Gettysburg*, New York: Simon & Schuster, 1992.

[7] Wills, p. 175.

[8] William H. Herndon, *Herndon's Lincoln*, Springfield: The Herndon's Publishing Co., [n.d.], p. 521.

[9] Herndon, p. 522.

[10] Carl Sandburg, "Abraham Lincoln, the

See ***NOTES TO LINCOLN****, page 7*

FABS Seattle 2006

Bernard Rost

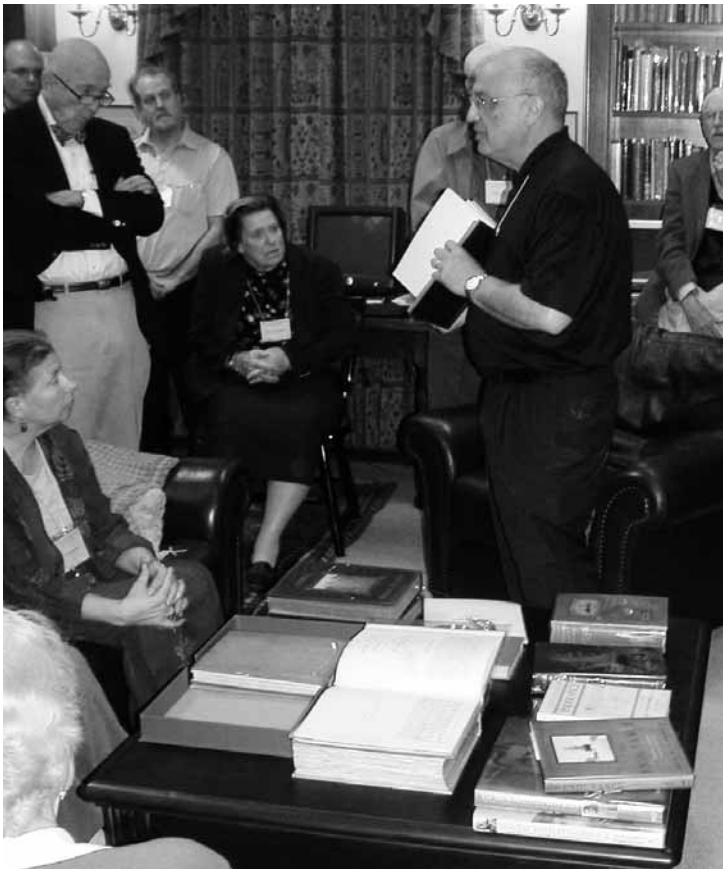
Seventy five registrants assembled in Seattle on Wednesday afternoon, May 10th, for the first event of the 2006 FABS Book Tour and Symposium. Participants came from 15 states. Outside of Washington State, Ohio, California, and Michigan led in attendance.

The Seattle Asian Art Museum, our first stop, took me by complete surprise because it is Art Deco inside and out. It was built 1931-33 and ranked as having one of the top 10 collections of Asian art outside Asia. A charming vaulted gallery was recently restored and currently shows deco sculpture from the 1930s that replaced jade exhibits. For the record, we did tour the museum library.

The next morning our two busses took us to red square at the University of Washington. There stands the great Suzzallo Library. The second floor reading room is awesome. It resembles the nave of a cathedral. It measures 65 feet high, 52 feet wide, and 250 feet long. Again I was surprised when I learned that the architect of the library also was the architect of the deco Asian Art Museum. He was Carl F. Gould, (1873-1939). The library building is described as an example of the Collegiate Gothic style; ground was broken for it in 1923.

A major collecting interest in Seattle is exploration of the Pacific Northwest. An icon of this was displayed in the UW special collections library for us. It is the first American edition of Biddle's 1814 narrative of the Lewis and Clark expedition. It is in two volumes in original boards, largely uncut and has the original Samuel Lewis engraving of William Clark's map of the West.

Next in UW special collections was Book Arts. Sandra Kroupa, Book Arts/Rare Books curator, has been involved for 38 years working with students and artists who make a statement with one of a kind or limited edition books. Her talk about the books displayed and how they came to be made me want to stay on. The next day on Bainbridge Island she joined our hosts who showed us their Buxton-Sears Book Arts collection. The Buxtons built a house just to display their collections. The house is also used for retreats and meetings.



Dr. Martin Greene shows his collection of travel and exploration

Symposium panel: Robert H. Jackson, moderator, F. Scott Brown, Dr. Donald W. Miller, Jr., Dr. Terry Belanger, Professor Meade Emerit

The Rainier Club, site of dinner Thursday, has a splendid Bierstadt painting of Mt. Rainier in the lobby. Also impressive is a four figured Remington bronze. I sat next to Jeff Coopersmith who was hosting a tour of his American history collection the next day. His rapid fire conversation was a prelude to over an hour nonstop presentation in his home.

The FABS Symposium on Saturday was held in the Frye Art Museum auditorium. The Frye, with a splendid art collection, was another one of the surprises on the tour.

There were two speakers who spoke about their collections. Dr. Donald W. Miller, Jr's topic was, "On the Collecting Road with Writers of the Beat Generation." Meade Emory, retired UW law professor who was a deputy director of IRS in the 1970s, gave us a magnificent 20-page handout on his topic, "Late 18th Century Northwest Coast Maritime Exploration: A Bibliographic Tour."

The two serious collectors were followed by F. Scott Brown, Editor of *Fine Books & Collections* magazine. His topic was "Current Fashions in Collecting." He was followed by Dr. Terry Belanger, head of the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia. Terry's topic: "The Ties That Bind—What Do Collectors Have to Say to Each Other?"

Some of Terry's remarks served to deflate some of the pretensions of the serious collector such as the search for icons and the collector's sense of the importance of his

See ***FABS SEATT:LE****, page 8*

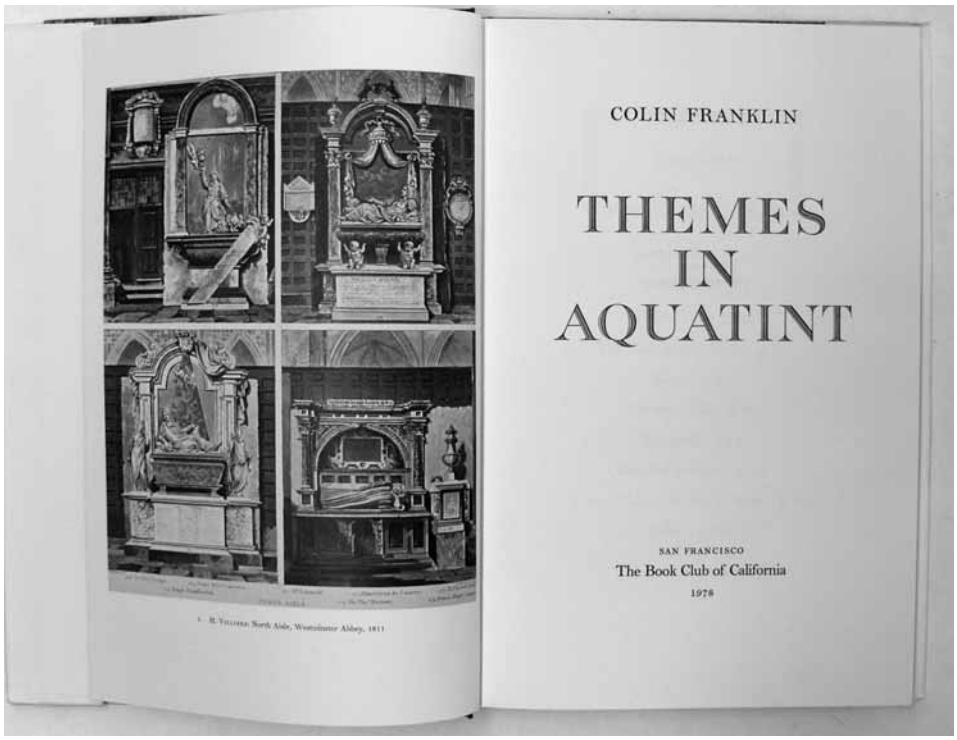
John Dreyfus, Typographer and Book Designer

Suzanne Smith Pruchnicki

I had the pleasure of meeting John Dreyfus face to face on a bibliophile jaunt to England in March 1974. 1 traveled with the New York Typophiles in a group led by the 88-year-old Dr. Robert Leslie, who had been a medical doctor during the decades of his first career, but decided at age 50 to return to his earliest love, printing, and founded The Composing Room in New York City.

In England the group first visited Will Carter's Rampant Lion Press in his Cambridge home. John Dreyfus, a longtime friend of Will and of Dr. Leslie, accompanied us to this and other shrines to the art of printing.

I had, of course, "met" John Dreyfus in some of my favorite books—books he designed.



Dreyfus designed Themes in Aquatint *for the Book Club of California*

John was born April 5, 1918. He was the son of Edmond and Marguerite Dreyfus. (His father was a stockbroker who emigrated from Alsace; his mother was from Paris.) He liked to say he was born in London's Hyde Park. He attended Oundle School and read Economics at Cambridge where he acted in student productions. At Cambridge he met Will Carter, who printed a special menu in honor of John's 21st birth anniversary dinner. Though John became interested in letterpress printing and learned to set type, Will could not afford to hire help.

When he finished at Cambridge, John was hired for a job at the Cambridge University Press, whose famous typographical advisor, Stanley Morison, was a hero of Dreyfus. According to Nicolas Barker's obituary in the *Independent*, Dreyfus had been captivated by Morison's transformation of the typography of the *Times* back in 1932. But soon after John began his job, in the summer of 1939, he was called up for military duty. He served in France, Belgium and Holland, often working on ambulance trains. His first experience of Antwerp was during its bombing. For the first time John saw the famed Plantin Moretus Museum of Printing there. In the Amsterdam area, he made the acquaintance of Jan van Krimpen, about whom he later wrote a book.

After the War, John returned to Cambridge and its press, becoming Assistant University Printer in 1949. He married Irene Thermauer, who had grown up in Paris. Early in his life John collected the printing of the English type designer and bookmaker John Baskerville. His quest to locate Baskerville's original punches brought him to the French firm of Deberny and Peignot that in 1953 returned the punches to England; they were given to Cambridge University Press.

Dreyfus diversified his career. He was hired by Monotype Corporation. In 1956 he became the European consultant for Limited Edition books published by George Macy. In 1953 John and Irene made their first safari to the United States, visiting Ray Nash at Dartmouth College, the Stinehour Press, the Newberry Library and R. Hunter Middleton, director of the Ludlow Typograph Company of Chicago. The couple traveled to San Francisco where Jake Zeitlin greeted them warmly, arranging a luncheon with local printers Ward Richie and Saul Marks.

According to Barker, Dreyfus had a huge hand in the landmark "Printing and the Mind of Man" exhibit at Olympia and the British Museum in 1963. Says Barker: "His design for the catalogue was a masterpiece of simple but logical typography, embellished with Reynolds Stone's beautiful woodcut lettering." From 1968 to 1973, Dreyfus was President of the Association Typographique Internationale.

Dreyfus later designed *Themes in Aquatint* for the Book Club of California, located in San Francisco. He also became a good friend and frequent lecturer for the Typophiles, then under Dr. Leslie's presi-

dency. Through Dr. Leslie's connections with American and European printers he encouraged, met, dined and accommodated in his large house many of those he invited to lecture at the monthly Typophile meetings. As a friend of Dr. Leslie's I can attest to his hospitality. I stayed at his home in October of 1976 at the time that Father Catish of St. Ambrose College in Iowa was the lecturer for the Typophile series.

For many years John spent time in and between the United States, England, and the continent. He continued his work as consultant at Cambridge Press, the Curwin Press, and Yale University Press, as well as continuing a series of lectures in England. He received many awards, his two favorite being the Frederick W. Goudy Award in 1984 and The Gutenberg Prize in 1996 (the latter conferred by Gutenberg's city of Mainz, Germany).

It is interesting to note John's connection with Stanbrook Abbey Press and his correspondence with the printer nun, Dame Hildelith Cumming of the Order of Saint Benedict.

Then, too, he enjoyed the friendship of the Grabhorns [The Grabhorn Press]. Their major opus, *The Leaves of Grass* by Walt Whitman with illustrations by Valenti Angelo, was published in 1930, an unfortunate period for private press books during The Great Depression. Even such a masterpiece as this book had few buyers.

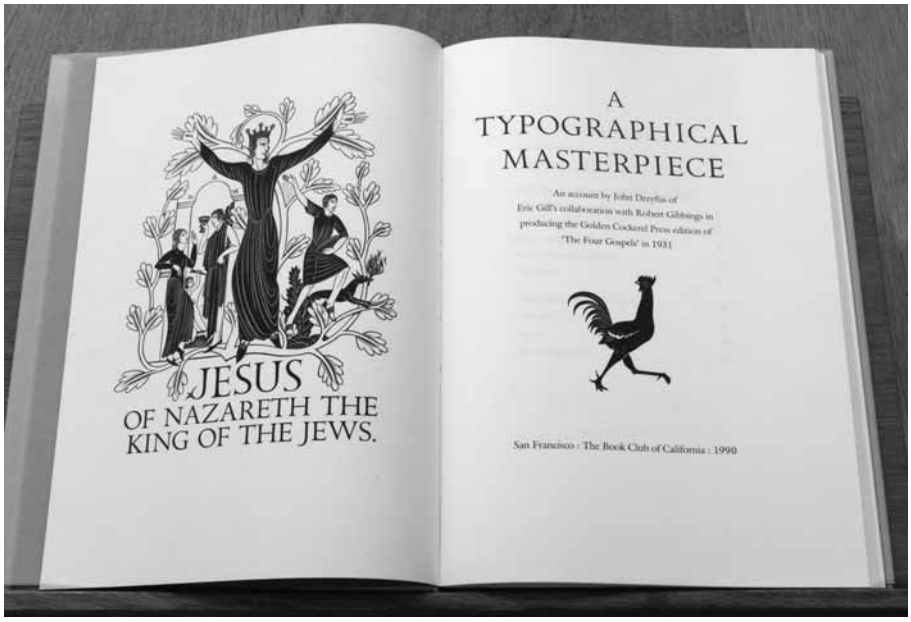
Dreyfus became the friend of Adrian Wilson, perhaps in part because of his affinity with Wilson's excellent *Printing for Theatre*. John loved the theater from his youth and generally went once a week to plays at The Garrick Theatre when in London.

John was a superb correspondent who immediately answered all letters that arrived in the London early morning postal delivery. If even a few days tardy in responding, he apologized to his correspondent.

John was a lover of movies, painting, cuisines, and the theater—as well as fine printing. In later life, Dreyfus wrote three books: *A History of the Nonesuch Press* (1981), a portfolio of 18th century Type specimens (1982), and *A Typographical Masterpiece* (1994), his analysis of the Golden Cockerel *Four Gospels*.

John Dreyfus died on December 29, 2002. At his wake it was remembered that *The Book of the Four Gospels* was a comfort to him when his son died in a car accident in Africa. A copy of the book was placed in his coffin during his wake.

Dreyfus' final book was a tribute to the Golden Cockerel Four Gospels



§§

Books pictured are from the special collections department of Northwestern University Library, and were photographed by Robert McCamant. Dreyfus himself, at age 80, is from the ATypI web site, and was photographed by Christine Steiner.

NOTES TO LINCOLN, *from page 4*

Incomparable," a lecture before the U.S. Congress, Feb. 12, 1959.

[11] Gardner, *Frames of Mind*, p. 276.

[12] Sandburg, *Abraham Lincoln — The Prairie Years*. II, New York: Harcourt Brace & Co., 1926, p. 259.

[13] Gardner, *Frames of Mind*, pl. 275.

[14] David Herbert Donald *Lincoln*, London: Jonathan Cape, 1995, p. 39.

[15] Abraham Lincoln, *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, I, New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1953, p. 9.

[16] Gardner, *Frames of Mind*, p. 242.

[17] Gardner, *Frames of Mind*, p. 239.

[18] Louis Sullivan, *The Autobiography of an Idea*, New York: Dover Publications, 1956, from the original 1924 edition, p. 280.

[19] Richard Carwardine, *Lincoln*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006, p. 64.

[20] Doris Kearns Goodwin, *Team of Rivals*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf 2005, p. 27.

[21] Goodwin, p. 10.

[22] Goodwin, p. 286.

[23] Goodwin, p. 317.

[24] Goodwin, p. 318.

[25] Goodwin, p. 319.

[26] Ronald C. White, Jr., *The Eloquent President*, New York: Random House, 2005, p. 134.

[27] White, p. xxii.

[28] Sandburg, *Abraham Lincoln — The War Years*, III, p. 450.

[29] Donald, p. 599.

[30] Walt Whitman, in "Preface," *Leaves of Grass*, New York: Self-published, 1855. Later used in "By Blue Ontario's Shore," lines 235-247.

Mary Jane Anderson: Librarian, ALA executive, Caxtonian

Peggy Sullivan

The last time I planned to see Mary Jane Anderson was the evening of the Caxton Club Revels, December 21, 2005. She regularly drove to evening meetings of the Club from her home in St. Joseph, Michigan, and occasionally also came to a luncheon meeting. But she did not appear that evening.

It turned out that she had just been diagnosed with cancer and, in something of a freak accident in her home, she had suffered a spiral break in her leg. So she did not make it to the 2005 Revels.

For the next several months, in hospitals and care centers in St. Joseph and Coralville, Iowa, she maintained an upbeat approach to the numerous problems associated with both her leg and the cancer. She was fortunate to have a wonderful, caring daughter, Meg Wagner, in Coralville, who, with her husband and two young sons, provided much care and support to Mary Jane during those months. Earlier this spring, Mary Jane and the Wagners had jointly bought a home in Coralville where she died peacefully on May 23. Mary Jane was 71 on her last birthday in January.

Mary Jane's interest in the Caxton Club began when I told her about some of the events and people I had encountered there. She became a non-resident member in 1999, and noted her interests as: "American children's literature, including Tomie de Paola, Newbery and Caldecott award books, and related ephemera." She did not mention an abiding interest in Noah's Ark, including books, figures, and other representations of that age-old story, nor her collection of pop-up books, from which she had given some to recent Caxton Club Revels auctions.

A graduate of Florida State University's library school, Mary Jane began her career in school libraries in Florida, but soon moved into public libraries in a variety of positions and places in Florida, Maryland, Illinois, and Michigan. Her last position was as director of the public library in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Mary Jane came to national attention in the library world when she became the volunteer editor of the journal *Top of the News*, sponsored by the American Library Association's Children's Services Division and Young Adult Services Division. From 1971 to 1974, she brought to that work insightful and imaginative editing and had one of her first opportunities to mentor a wide variety of people new to the library profession. She developed those and other opportunities further when she became executive director of those two divisions here in Chicago at ALA Headquarters, where she served from 1974 to 1982. Her responsibilities there changed over the years, but they included extensive international and domestic travel, rapport with numerous publishers, administration of all aspects of the annual Newbery and Caldecott Award selections and celebrations, hosting numerous international visitors, and representing ALA in many areas relating to library service to children.

In the years since 1982, she did freelance work as an editor, taught on an adjunct basis at the library school at Rosary College (now Dominican University), worked in public libraries in the Chicago area, directed the public library in Wilmington, Illinois, and returned briefly to school librarianship in that area before moving to St. Joseph.

A resolution prepared in Mary Jane's honor for presentation at the American Library Association conference in June notes that she served as member and chair of numerous ALA committees, and was twice elected to its Council. It notes that she had the gifts of being both feisty and gracious, having the know-how to assist others in drafting resolutions even when she disagreed with their intent, and that her loyalty to the Association and her commitment to librarianship were memorable.

Mary Jane's life was enriched by her love for theatre, music, travel, good food, and the fellowship of friends. She came frequently to Chicago for many kinds of theatrical events and loved to discuss their merits over a good meal— or even over a bad meal! She maintained a wide range of friends, some of them dating back to her college days, and was a thoughtful participant in many communities, including her activities in Rotary and the Anglican Church as well as her many commitments to libraries and librarianship.

§§

FABS SEATTLE, *from page 5*

collection to others. He played down fashions in collecting, stating that even dust jackets were once considered a fashion and were not listed in early catalogues. But he was encouraging toward book collecting and referred to John Carter's book, *Taste and Technique in Book Collecting*.

Speakers at the closing banquet were Pat and Rosemarie Keough with their son Glen. The Keoughs had spent six months in Antarctica making photographs for a book they produced. With twin slide projectors they told the story of their project for this limited edition book.

There was so much more that we saw in addition to the above. But the people I met and talked with were the highlight of the tour for me. Many thanks are due to the FABS Seattle committee, The Book Club of Washington, all the site hosts and the Symposium participants. I understand that the next FABS Tour will be Washington, D.C. in October, 2007.

§§

Photographs by the author.

CAXTONIAN FOOTNOTES

Wynken de Worde

It is always reassuring to hear from distant Caxtonians who reveal that they miss being able to attend the meetings and the social interactions with their fellow-Caxtonians. Such an expression was broached to the Worde by current Rhode Islander **Barry Scott** ('92). Barry's wife, Joanne, an erstwhile librarian at the University of Chicago, has joined him as a rogue librarian, a maverick, who has left that herd to partner with Barry in his antiquarian bookselling. Barry always wanted the Caxtonian liquor hoard to include Booker's bourbon, and Bookbinder's soup as the appetizer.

Under the category of "It's not who you are, it's who you know": The distinguished leader of one of Chicago's older bibliophilic organizations could not score tickets in advance for the session involving E. L. Doctorow during the Printers Row Book Fair. If only he knew somebody who was somebody at the Harold Washington Library, or Columbia College, somebody with some Chicago clout who could get the President and the First Lady into the talk. Fortunately there were some ticketed no-shows that left seats available just in time.

Some who missed another literary favorite of the Nobel Committee at the PRBF23, may have caught him the next night on WTTW-TV. Lucky Carol Marin got to interview John Updike about his topical new novel, Terrorist. It was inspired when Updike was visiting his wife's second son, in New York City, where he personally witnessed the crash of the first World Trade Tower (the collapse of the second tower was obscured by the dust from the first). Wynken wonders if anyone has started a collection of 9-11 fiction???

Caxtonians spotted at PRBF23 include **Charles Miner** ('87), **David Mann** ('87), **Ed Bronson** ('04)—who was partially interviewed by a young Asian journalist—**Dorothy & Junie Sinson** (both '00), **Ed Hirschland** ('95), **Larry Solomon** ('94), **Evelyn Lampe** ('92), **Ed Ripp** ('05), **Art Miller** ('69), **Tom Swanstrom** ('00), and **Paul Gehl** ('88) & **Rob Carlson** ('03) — who were forced to walk 100 yards from their residence on the north bank of Congress Parkway to get to the Fair which began at the south bank of the drive. **John LaPine** ('03) had to put up with a hundred competitors outside the door of his Dearborn Street brick-and-mortar bookshop. Encroaching members of the trade included **Bob Brooks** ('95), **Brad Jonas** ('89), **Tom Joyce** ('82), **Sam Stott** ('02), and **Dan Weinberg** ('05).

Here's a scoop Mike Sneed does not have. You read it here first. **Leslie Hindman** ('84) may soon announce that she is opening a dedicated division for books & manuscripts at her namesake auction gallery.

§§

HAYWARD BLAKE, *from page 11*

Edna St. Vincent Millay, *The Arrow of Gold: A Story Between Two Notes* by Joseph Conrad, and *Time's Arrow* by Martin Amis, in which the hand on the clock is an arrow and the story is told backward. He has books "on the Fletchers, the people who made arrows in England. My study is the way the word 'arrow' is used other than visually. If I can ever get the time I want to do the book—take my thesis from school and work it into a real book."

"There was this study of the arrow as man's oldest symbol universally understood and used today. You can't open a bottle without an arrow telling you which way to turn. There are arrows on the computer, signs, telling you where to turn left, or, you are here, and even on the top cap of a fire hydrant, telling you which way the water turns on. I have thousands of slides of arrows from all over the world.

"Paul Rand had a particular approach to design of a logo. He would show the client things, kind of as a lead up to the thing, not alternatives, but ways of expressing, until he finally gave them the one he wanted them to buy.

"I never give clients more than one answer. I consider the problem. I understand it and analyze and if they've given me the right information, I give them a solution. I don't give them choices. Sometimes a client would say, 'Can you give us some cover ideas?' No. I don't do that. What is the book? I design the whole thing. I don't start from the cover, the cover comes from the inside. So I didn't last long with clients who wanted three or four cover ideas. That's not how I work. What's the problem? What's the objective? I'll give you the solution. It's hard for people to understand that. They want to participate. They want to be involved. Since they can't draw or design they want you to do it and then they will pick and choose or they will say, 'Let's take that type and this blue and that brown and let's put it together'.

"I joined the Caxton Club [in 1960] when a couple of members including Jim Wells from the Newberry Library invited me to attend a couple of meetings. They pointed out that I was only involved with designers and design organizations. They said I had to get out and meet other people. The fact that Caxton was about books was a good thing. But I did meet doctors, lawyers, printers, whatever—a big variety. And going to the meetings, sitting at any table, there's always interesting conversation. I try to not sit with the same people. But that's how I got involved—they were right. I spent all my time with design people, in design organizations, doing exhibits—my life was design. The Caxton Club gave me a broader appreciation of different people, different points of view."

§§

Photograph by Robert McCamant.

Book and manuscript-related exhibitions: a selective list

Compiled by John Blew

"Yours to Explore" Genealogy exhibit (selections from the Library's collections) at the Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago 312- 255-3700 (closes 14 July 2006)

3rd National Collegiate Handmade Paper Art Exhibition & Alumni Show (juried show of student works from eleven institutions that teach hand papermaking) at the Columbia College Chicago Center for Book and Paper Arts, 1104 South Wabash, 2nd floor, Chicago 312-344-6630 (closes 29 July 2006)

Collegiate Paper at Columbia College
Hanneke Reylea, untitled self-portrait.

Books and prints related to ancient Egypt from the Mary W. Runnells Rare Book Room on display in the Reading Room of the Field Museum Library, 3rd floor, Field Museum, 1400 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago (to gain access to the Reading Room, see a security guard at any entrance to the Museum) 312-665-7887 (closes 31 August 2006)

"Forlorn Funnies" (classic comic books from the Libraries' collection) at the Ryerson and Burnham Libraries of the Art Institute of Chicago, 111 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 312-443-3671 (closes 11 July 2006)

"Scotiana, mostly from the Collection donated by R. Douglas Stuart and in honor of Robert D. Stuart, Jr.'s 90th birthday" at the James R. Getz Archives and Special Collections of the Donnelley and Lee Library, Lake Forest College, 555 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 847- 735-5064 (closes 31 August 2006)

"Donor recognition exhibit - significant items purchased using endowed funds over the last two years" at the Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections (enter through Main Library), Northwestern University, Evanston 847- 491-3635 (closes 8 September 2006)

"Following the Twins Through History" (star charts, astronomical artifacts and related materials from antiquity to the current period which depict the constellation Gemini) at the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, 1300 South Lake Shore Drive (the Museum Campus), Chicago 312- 322-0300 (closes 31 August 2006)

"Enrico Fermi, The Life of a Scientist" (images and documents including his Chicago years) at the John Crerar Library, University of Chicago, 5730 South Ellis Avenue, Chicago 773- 702-8717 (closes 8 September 2006)

"Revolution and Invention—24 Floral Masterpieces, 1801," a recently acquired portfolio of plates by Gerard van Spaendonck, the greatest flower painter of his era, at The Sterling Morton Library, The Morton Arboretum, 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle, IL 630- 968-0074 (closes 15 July 2006)

"Timuel D. Black, Jr.: Seven Decades in the Struggle for Human Rights" at the Woodson Regional Library of the Chicago Public Library, 9525 South Halsted Street, Chicago 312- 747-6900 (closes 31 July 2006)

Members who have information about current or forthcoming exhibitions that might be of interest to Caxtonians, please call or e-mail John Blew (312-807-4317, e-mail: jblew@bellboyd.com).

Club Notes

Membership Report, May 2006

1) New members: We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Tony Farthing, the founder of Farthing Fine Binding in Rockford, Illinois, a traditional hand-book bindery in the British tradition. His work has included elaborate leather bindings, rare first editions, and Incunabula. Tony's membership was proposed by Wendy Cowles Husser and seconded by Harry L. Stern.

Gabriel Gomez, Associate Professor in the Library Information and Media Studies Program at Chicago State University, has a deep interest in the changing form, nature, and use of books in an age of digital media. His membership was proposed by Bob McCamant and seconded by Kim Coventry.

William A. Gordon, a member of the Board of Library Advisors of Northwestern University, collects English lithographs and other art books from the late 18th and early 19th centuries. His membership was proposed by R. Eden Martin and seconded by Bill Milliken.

Richard Lamm, a resident of Freeport, Illinois, is a manuscript collector and a trustee of The Manuscript Society. His membership was proposed by Anthony Mourek and seconded by Peter Stanlis.

2) Fiscal year results to date: These additions bring to the total to twenty-two new members elected since the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1, 2005).

3) Planning for fall 2006. Paul Ruxin has arranged another excellent schedule of speakers for our 2006-2007 dinner programs and the Friday Luncheons Committee (Bill Locke, Ed Quattrocchi, and Dorothy Sinson) is preparing a followup to this year's fine schedule of luncheon speakers. One or more of these programs is likely to be of special interest to friends with whom you will be talking during the summer months; consider putting a note on your calendar to invite them as your guests.

—Skip Landt, Bill Mulliken

Caxtonians Collect: Hayward Blake

Twentieth in a series of interviews with members.

Interviewed by Kathryn R. J. Tutkus

"When you want a job done, hire a busy man." Trouble is, when you pick a man like Hayward Blake—always busy, and always getting results—it sometimes takes a while. Months of pestering him to find a bit of time in the midst of his very busy schedule finally netted an occasion when we spoke of design, his book collection, and how he came to be a member of the Caxton Club.

Blake still maintains his design business, does the signage and landscaping for the building where he and his wife Simone reside, is a member and serves on the committees of the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies (FABS), Society of Typographic Arts (STA), American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) and the Caxton Club for which he finds time to design pieces such as our last exhibit catalogue, *Disbound and Dispersed: The Leaf Book Considered*.

Hayward has an "eclectic" collection of books. He reads every day in his work but still goes to bed every day reading. What he reads often depends on what he is working on.

Though Blake does not have much time, he enjoys "the leisure of reading a novel, like *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger." But he's been at work on *Alphabeta: How 26 Letters Shaped the Western World* by John Man for a while. "It's a short history of the modern alphabet and how it came to be. It's slower reading." But it remains in the 25 or so books lying near his bed with bookmarks stuck in them.

Blake's collection began when he was in high school and purchased a favorite art teacher's book. He remembers the teacher as an excellent communicator, who chose to stay close to his alma mater, Yale, by teaching high school art near New Haven, Connecticut. In the summer he hiked in Maine while writing and illustrating books.

"I also have books about arrows, about design, about typography, about photography. I have books about books and books about type. I have many of the old Caxton Club books. And books about designers. For example, Maholy Nagy came to Chicago to start the Institute of Design. I have a rare book written by his wife—very special because she collected all the information about him and what he did. It's rich in that sense."

One book Hayward showed me that particularly impressed me is *Telephone Book: Technology, Schizophrenia, Electric Speech* written by a scholar at the University of Nebraska, Avital Ronell. The cloth-bound book has a telephone key pad embossed on the cover. It resembles a telephone book—yellow pages at the end—though it is much more spectacular. It was designed by the late Richard Eckersley. Blake says, "It helps to say graphic designer. People don't ordinarily use that phrase, but he, Eckersley, was a designer. He was given a manuscript, he worked with the author, but he designed it to reflect a telephone book. He worked at the University of Nebraska Press all of his career. He just changed direction when he did this. Most of his books were very thoughtfully designed, beautiful—but this one is experimental."

Blake has a collection of books from the Grolier Club. One he likes in particular is a chap book about the history of the Grolier Club logo, how many people designed it over the years.

Blake was in the United States Army Signal Corps, "which had a lot to do with communication. My love of arrows got started there, though it wasn't as strong as it was as later when I was in college and the arrow suddenly became my thesis. I was caught up with typography, the arrow, and letterpress books."

He was influenced by Paul Klee's writings about the arrow. He and other Bauhaus colleagues insisted on functional craftsmanship in every field. The Bauhaus style is characterized by economy of method, severe geometry of form, and design that takes into account the nature of the materials used. It revolutionized art training by combining teaching of pure arts with study of crafts. "The Bauhaus teaching is that you learn to be able to do anything. It enables you to approach problems in a broad sense. Now people come out of school and specialize. They go into packaging or displays or whatever."

Blake has *Make Bright the Arrows* by

See ***HAYWARD BLAKE****, page 9*

Robert J. Adelsperger: U of I Chicago Librarian, Caxtonian

Robert J. Adelsperger, formerly special collections librarian at the University of Illinois at Chicago Library, died May 19th at the age of 80. He was a member of the Caxton club from 1966 to 1999.

He served the university for 41 years. He began his professional association with UIC in 1959, in the serials and acquisitions section of the library at the University of Illinois Chicago Undergraduate Division at Navy Pier. In 1965, when the library opened at the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, Adelsperger organized the rare book room. He served as curator of special collections and at various times as acting personnel librarian and acting head of technical services at UIC's Library of the Health Sciences-Chicago. He was also, for a time, an associate professor. He retired from the university in 2000.

Edward Valauskas described his achievement: "Bob built an amazing collection at UIC. It included a fine collection of books on slavery; a unique collection of books related to Chicago; an enormously diverse collection of books on private presses; a fine literary collection with significant works by D.H. Lawrence and other twentieth century authors; architectural works by Frank Lloyd Wright and others; and many other important and valuable books."

Ed recalled visits by Tony Garnett, a bookseller from St. Louis. "He would visit the campus in a VW bus filled with rare

books! Bob and I would meet Tony on Morgan Street and just work our way through the van, pulling books for the collection. From Tony, we acquired a wonderful and complete set of books by the Black Sparrow Press, all limited editions signed by authors such as Charles Bukowski, Robert Creeley, and Diane Wakoski. Bob and I always looked forward to Tony's visits."

Mary Ann Bamberger, who also worked with him at UIC, remembered that his style of getting acquisitions at the library was mainly to build a circle of donors. "He was a gentleman with a tremendous wit. Conversations with him were always a pleasure: he had a story on every topic. People naturally enjoyed being around him."

Adelsperger was active in the UIC Senate, twice serving on the Senate Council. He was a charter member of the campus's Phi Beta Kappa chapter and was its secretary for many years. He chaired the Senate Committee on Student Admissions and served on the campus Promotion and Tenure Committee.

A life member of the American Library Association, Adelsperger chaired the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of ALA's Association of College and Research Libraries. He was a member of the local chapter of the American Association of University Professors. Besides the Caxton Club, he was an active member of several book and literary societies including the Friends of Literature, the Chicago Foundation for Literature, and the Society of Midland Authors.

Adelsperger was a University of Illinois alumnus having received his Bachelor's degree and his Master's degree in Library Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

A memorial service was held Monday, June 19, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

§§

Photograph courtesy Linda Naru, UIC.

Bookmarks...

Next Year's Dinner Program forecast:

Wednesday, **September** 20, 2006: Alistair Black, University of Leeds, England. Wednesday, **October** 18, 2006: Gordon Turnbull, General Editor, Yale University, The Private Papers of James Boswell. Wednesday, **November** 15, 2006, Joseph Parisi, former editor, *Poetry* Magazine. Wednesday **December** 20, Revels. Wednesday, **January** 17, 2007, John Crichton, Brick Row Book Shop, San Francisco. Wednesday, **February** 21, Geoffrey Smith, Curator of Rare Books, The Ohio State University Library. Wednesday, **March** 21, 2007, Gary Johnson, President, The Chicago History Museum. Wednesday, **April** 18, 2007, Stuart Sherman, Professor, Fordham University. Wednesday **May** 16, 2007, Robert Jackson, Collector, FABS co-founder, Cleveland Ohio. Wednesday, **June** 20, 2007, to be announced.