



The ENDPAPER

Newsletter of the Library Binding Institute – January 2005

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Foreward

By Debra Mills Nolan, CAE

Although I am new to the Library Binding Institute (LBI), this feels like a familiar place. Is it because of the friendly emails that many of you sent prior to my first day on the job? Possibly. Is it because of the warm reception I received from LBI members in frigid Boston during the recent ALA meeting? Could be. Or, is it because LBI's mission resonates with my professional experience to date? Maybe it's a combination of all three.

Having worked with the archival community for more than twelve years, most recently as the interim executive c0-director for the Society of American Archivists, I came to appreciate the value of preserving the historical record and making it accessible. I also came to deeply respect a profession that works tirelessly to better society and the human condition.

It hasn't taken me long to discover that library binders, like archivists, are passionate about the art and science of their craft. I felt this in Paul Parisi's energetic pace as he gave a whirlwind tour of ACME Bookbinding to a group attending the ALA Midwinter meeting. I saw this in Jack Bendror's smiling eyes as he reflected on how the industry's machinery has changed over the years. The collegial way that library binders interact with one another reflects shared beliefs about the importance of library binding work. And, the mutual respect that I witnessed between library binders and their customers at the ALA meeting indicates to

me, a shared recognition of the importance of these two professions.

Like archives, library binding is a profession steeped in tradition. Books have been around, in one form or another, for hundreds of years. Caring for the printed word so that it can be preserved and made accessible recognizes the sanctity of the human endeavor, in times past and in times present.

The culture of library binding has been handed down from generation to generation - between parents and children, mentors and protégés, within families, and outside families. In light of this, the very fabric of what many of you do and who many of you are is connected in a profound way.

Like most professions in modern society, library binding has been significantly affected by the benefits and consequential demand of technology. The library binding response to this, individually and collectively, will shape the future of the industry.

That said, it is critical for library binders to talk – among themselves, with customers, and to their trade association. If library binders are going to stay ahead of the curve, it is essential for dialogue to take place.

Remember, you are the experts with a wide range of services and expertise. A library binder should be the *go-to* person for preservation librarians with questions or concerns about how to care for their books. The Library Binding Institute should be widely

Foreward (cont.)

known as the premiere resource for information and education on library binding. And, the library community, among others, should know that bookbinding is the best long-term preservation option. Are we there yet?

Thank you for welcoming me into the library binding fold. I look forward to hearing from you, meeting you, and learning more about the library binding industry. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you as your executive director in such a noble endeavor. Your phone calls and emails are most welcome. I can be reached at (561)745-6821 or dnolan@lbibinders.org.

As you can see on page one, the office has moved to sunny south Florida. You are welcome to stop by for a visit if you are in the area. P.S. My apologies for the lack of brevity. I'll refrain from taking up so much space next time!

Library Binding Presence At ALA Midwinter Meeting, Jan. 14 - 17

Jan Merrill-Oldham Reception

Long-time library binding advocate, Jan Merrill-Oldham, was honored Friday, January 14, at the St. Botolph's Club in Boston. The celebration, sponsored by Preservation Technologies, saluted Merrill-Oldham, this year's recipient of the ALA Paul Banks-Carolyn Harris Award, which recognizes the contribution of a professional who has been active in the field of preservation and/or conservation for library and/or archival materials. Among other things, Merrill-Oldham co-authored the *"Guide to the Library Binding Institute Standard for Library Binding"*, with Paul Parisi, which was published by ALA in 1990. Several LBI members attended.

Library Binding Discussion Group (LBDG) Meeting

Librarians, library binders, and library binding suppliers spent Sunday, January 16, talking about issues affecting the industry. John Salistean, LBI president, kicked things off by welcoming everyone and provided an update on LBI's activities and areas of focus. Debbie Nolan, LBI's new executive director, followed and shared information on her past experience and observations of the library binding industry so far. Nolan noted the importance of collaboration in order to stay ahead of the curve. Pat Harris, NISO executive director, then reported on the five-year affirmation of the ANSI/NISO Z39.78 - 200X Library Binding Standard. Harris stressed the importance of standards as they relate to maintaining high quality products and services. Discussion then took place about ALA's draft 2010 strategic plan. Laura Cameron of Stanford University, chaired the event and serves as co-chair, along with Nolan, of the discussion group.

Proposed Library Binding Workshop

A workshop on library binding has been proposed to take place on Friday, June 24, as an ALA annual meeting pre-conference workshop. Designed to give participants the tools they need to make the library binding case to their administrations, the workshop will also cover topics from selection and quality control to drafting an RFP and choosing a commercial library binder. Finally, participants will learn about the innovative services of commercial library binders. Be assured that LBI, your trade association, is involved in the planning process and will provide more information once it is available.

ALA Draft 2010 Strategic Plan

In its draft strategic plan, "ALAhead to 2010", ALA identified six overarching goals to help guide the association over the next five years. Accompanying each goal is a goal statement that answers: "What would constitute success?" The draft goals and goal statements are:

1. Advocacy/Value of the Profession

Goal Statement: ALA and its members will be leading advocates for the value of libraries and librarians.

2. Education

Goal Statement: Through its leadership, ALA will ensure the highest quality of graduate education for librarians and continuing education of equally high quality for all library staff.

3. Public Policy

Goal Statement: ALA will be a key voice in formulation of national and international policies that impact library and information services.

4. Building the Profession

Goal Statement: ALA will be instrumental in recruiting and developing a highly qualified and diverse library work force.

5. Membership

Goal Statement: Members will receive outstanding value for their ALA membership.

6. Organizational Excellence

Goal Statement: ALA will be an inclusive, effectively governed, well-managed, and financially strong organization.

ALA's draft strategic plan presents opportunities for collaboration. The relevance of library binding and the need for quality library binding education and

training will never go away. What can LBI and the library binding industry do to assist ALA in reaching its 2010 draft goals? What are the commonalities between ALA's strategic goals and mission of the Library Binding Institute? If you have thoughts on this, please send them to Debbie Nolan at dnolan@libibinders.org.

To read ALA's draft strategic plan go to: <http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governingdocs/aheadto2010/draftstrategicplan.htm>. The deadline for comment is January 31.

Tsunami Library Relief

ALA, on its web site, sends a heartfelt message to the library associations and national libraries affected by the tsunami that wreaked havoc in Asia and parts of Africa last month. "Please know that the library community in the United States grieves for the suffering that you, our colleagues, and your nation are enduring," remarks Carol Brey-Casiano, ALA President. "I know that meeting basic needs is a priority, and you may rest assured that U.S. library workers have been contributing to relief organizations during this terrible time."

Brey-Casiano goes on to relay ALA's concern about the need to reconstruct libraries and library collections. According to the ALA web site, "Initial reports in Sri Lanka alone report damage or destruction to over 200 libraries."

More information on international efforts to rebuild libraries and their collections in this devastated part of the world can be found at <http://www.ala.org/ala/iro/iroactivities/tsunamirelief.htm>.

LBI 70th Annual Meeting May 6 – 9, 2005

Draft Schedule

Plan to attend the 70th annual meeting of the Library Binding Institute, May 6 – 9, at the Starr Pass Marriott Resort and Spa, in Tucson, Arizona.

Drawing on the beauty of its location in Tucson Mountain Park, the resort features elements of the lush desert and far-reaching landscape throughout its design. Nature-inspired touches can be found in the warm Southwestern interiors including ceilings crafted from Saguaro-cactus spines, floors and walls hewn from stone, and subtle landscaping designed to preserve the environment.

While there you may want to take advantage of the resort's 20,000 square foot spa which captures the Native American mystique. The JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort uses nature as its designer, incorporating elements of its lush desert surroundings to promote relaxation and revival.

When you are not in meetings or enjoying the spa, you may want to take in the resort's 27 holes of championship golf or get back to nature by hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding.

The resort's spacious guest rooms feature a private balcony or patio with views overlooking the mountains, golf course, swimming pools or city lights. LBI room rates are \$145 single/\$145 double and the cutoff date for making room reservations is April 14. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-228-9290 or 520-792-3500.

For more information, on the Starr Pass Marriott Resort and Spa go to www.starrpassmarriott.com.

Friday, May 6

6:00 – 8:00 pm Welcome Reception

Saturday, May 7

7:30 – 8:30 am Breakfast in Exhibit Area

8:30 – 10:00 am Educational Session

10:00 – 10:45 am Break in Exhibit Area

10:45 am – Noon Supplier Presentations

Afternoon Free Time

6:00 – 7:30 pm Suppliers Reception

Sunday, May 8

7:30 – 8:30 am Breakfast in Exhibit Area

8:30 am – Noon Board Meeting

Annual Meeting

Looking Ahead

Afternoon Free Time

6:30 – 7:30 pm Cocktail Reception

7:30 pm President's Dinner

Monday, May 9

8:30 – 9:30 am Continental Breakfast

9:30 – 11:30 am Looking Ahead

Afternoon Free Time

Look for the meeting registration form in next month's *Endpaper*.

Technical Director's Report

By Werner Rebsamen

New Opportunity for Library Binders?

During a recent trip back to my hometown Zurich, I had an opportunity to visit the BuBu Book Bindery. In addition to being known as a sophisticated edition binder, BuBu is also known for its outstanding hand binding department. Many well-known facsimile bindings like the *Book of Kells* are part of the BuBu legend. In fact, the *New York Times* (January 29, 1990) featured a picture of Hans Burkhardt, the bindery owner, sewing a Book of Kells by hand onto double cords in the same fashion as was done a thousand years ago.

Years ago, Mr. Burkhardt purchased the L.O.S. library binding system. Library and on-demand bookbinding now generate forty percent of BuBu's income.

During DRUPA 2004, Hans Burkhardt invited me to see his new Bookmaster 360 in operation. The first of its kind used in daily operation, the Bookmaster 360 has generated a great deal of interest in the bookbinding community because of its ability to take virtually any book, double fan it, trim it on three sides, back line it with headbands and case it into a hardcover. The final result-- every 10 seconds-- is a finished, rounded, hard cover binding. Each book can be of a different in size. Several articles have been written about the Bookmaster 360 in European trade journals and I reported on it almost four years ago when I had a chance to evaluate the first prototype during DRUPA 2000. The brain behind this remarkably new system was Peter Schmidkonz, the inventor of the L.O.S. system.

Hans Burkhardt no longer calls himself a "Bookbinder" but instead refers to his trade as Book Architects! The very latest, most successful endeavor is the Book Factory

which can be found online at www.bookfactory.ch. As digital

photography is increasing faster than anyone expected, the question then is, what to do with all those pictures? Sure they can be burned onto a CD but, what then? Do you carry a notebook computer around to show the picture to someone? No. This is why a digitally printed hardcover book is the logical solution and has so much success.

In a special pamphlet, BuBu advertises that anyone can create his or her own photo book. Go to his web site and download the necessary software. Thereafter you create your own book, 24 to 64 pages, approx. 8 1/2 x 11 inches. The pictures and texts can be arranged by the user, page by page. The software allows one to choose various dimensions, tilt, cut, move, and make dark pictures lighter. Once these steps are taken, a CD can be burned and mailed to the Book Factory. In approximately two weeks, the finished, digitally printed laminated hardcover book arrives on your doorstep. Amazingly, the software allows for the creation of one's own cover. The titles for the front and spine can even be chosen. The books are hardcover bound on the new Bookmaster 360. It takes only two people to hard cover bind over 300 such books within an hour. The quality is exceptionally good and the cost for such a book is approximately \$40 for a 24-page book. This is a perfect example of what I have been teaching for decades - never stand still, always adjust to the trends and technologies available, and with it will come success.

Technical Director's Report (continued)

Publishers Library Bindings

Often, LBI gets inquiries with regard to library bindings offered by publishers. One such question was sent to the executive director of LBI. "In your capacity as Chair of the Association of Library Collections & and Technical Services Library Binding Discussion Group, would you please help us with the following patron inquiry? – Other than NISO standards, is there a publishing industry definition of "Library Binding?" In Baker & Taylor, I sometimes see an entry for a "library binding" and wonder if this means the edition meets NISO standards or is there another (simple) standard that this is referring to? The patron is a librarian in a school library and has trouble with books falling apart and was discussing with publisher's salespeople the problem."

Following was my response: "After a 50+ years career in book manufacture and education of such endeavors, I'm very familiar with your question and most of all, with your unfortunate experiences of book bindings coming apart. Certified Library Bindings must meet or exceed NISO/LBI specifications. Publishers "Library Bindings" have no such Standard and their specifications vary from plant to plant. Initially, the books were bound as edition binding. Publishers then began to request that part of their orders be processed as reinforced "library" bindings. These bindings did get reinforced end papers and most often, a somewhat better covering material. No extra linings over the spine as specified under NISO. It seems, publishers are only interested to make an extra dollar with such "library bindings."

Together with dedicated ALA librarians, LBI published a Standard for "Durable Hardcover Bindings." This NISO project, Z39.66-1992, was chaired by a well-known ALA librarian Carolyn Clark-Morrow.

Although many hours were spent drafting these specifications, many publishers do not follow it and may not know it exists. Given this, the best way to circulate library books is to use the services of a library binder who is certified and binds books in accordance to the NISO/LBI Standard which includes pre-bound library books bound in accordance to these specifications."

News and Events

The Changing Book Expo

July 22 – 25, 2005

An exposition celebrating the legacy and future of book conservation within the context of the evolving book will be offered at the University of Iowa Libraries, July 22 – 25, 2005, in Iowa City, Iowa. This event will explore how perceptions of the traditional book are changing and how the field of conservation is responding to these changes. It will provide perspective on the continuing role and preservation of the paper book, illustrate trends in print book production, suggest prospects for those beginning their careers and examine visions for the future of the book. Speakers will include a variety of innovative book specialists, educators, and conservators. For more information, go to the expo web site at www.lib.iowa.edu/book2005/.

The Google Web Library

In the article, "Questions and Praise for Google Web Library" (*New York Times*, December 18, 2004), author Felicia R. Lee presented a variety of comments from the scholars about Google's plan to convert leading research library holdings into digital files that are accessible, free-of-charge, over the Internet. Proponents are enthused that research material from the country's most prestigious libraries will be

News and Events (cont.)

more readily available. Those who are cautiously optimistic speculate about how this will alter the more traditional roles libraries and librarians have filled. Then there are copyright issues to consider. Finally, champions of the printed book, like Robert Darnton, a professor of history at Princeton, believes, "that by looking at a book's binding and paper quality, a researcher can discern much about the period when it was published, the publisher, and the intended audience." A December 21, 2004 follow-up editorial in the *New York Times*, *The Electronic Library*, concludes by stating that "the Google project will enhance the usefulness of the books it encompasses, but in no way will it render them obsolete." The Google project provides challenges and opportunities for the library binding industry. How will this affect you? Something to think about.

Preservation Data and Automation Survey

The Intellectual Access to Preservation Data Interest Group of the ALA/ALCTS/PARS conducted a survey in 2004 to determine, among other things, which preservation activities libraries record and how they record these activities. To view the survey results, go to http://staffweb.library.northwestern.edu/preservation/reports/PARS_Preservation_data_survey.pdf.

IMLS National Award for Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) announces the 2005 competition for the National Awards for Museum and Library Service which honor outstanding American museums and libraries that have made extraordinary contributions to their communities. The principal criterion for selection is the museum or library's

commitment to public service through exemplary and innovative programs and community partnerships.

Library nominators may direct questions about the National Awards for Museum and Library Service by e-mail to [Michele Farrell](mailto:Michele.Farrell@imls.org) in the IMLS Office of Library Services or by phoning (202) 606-5394. Or, for more information, go to www.imls.org. The postmark deadline for receipt of all materials is **February 15, 2005**.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is an independent Federal grant-making agency dedicated to creating and sustaining a nation of learners by helping libraries and museums serve their communities.

Register Now for the ALA 2005 Annual Meeting, June 23 – 29!

The earlybird registration deadline for the ALA 2005 Annual Meeting is March 4. If you plan to stay at an ALA hotel while there, you may want to book your room now. Several of the ALA hotels have already filled. For more information, go to www.ala.org.

The Endpaper Endeavor

The Endpaper monthly newsletter of the Library Binding Institute is designed to keep members informed of professional news and events. If you know of a topic or happening that might be of interest to the library binding industry, please let us know. Submissions can be sent to dnolan@lbibinders.org.

Monthly issues will vary in length and the format is evolving. If this particular format is not good for you, please let us know.

For more information about the Library Binding Institute, please contact Debbie Nolan, executive director, at (561)745-6821 or dnolan@lbibinders.org.

This Just In ...

Report from ALCTS-PARS Physical Quality and Treatment Discussion Group
RBMS Curators and Conservators Discussion Group, ALA Midwinter, Boston
January 16, 2005, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Attendance: 41

At the ALA Mid-Winter meeting in Boston the ALCTS-PARS Physical Quality and Treatment Discussion Group and the RBMS Curators and Conservators Discussion Group asked Alan Puglia, Conservator for Houghton Library Collections in the Weissman Preservation Center, Harvard University Library, to discuss the creation and management of their Quick Repair program.

Alan Puglia developed the program to address a variety of conservation needs in the Houghton Library, including reducing the number of books that have been set aside in the "book hospital" for treatment. The Quick Repair program focuses on special collection items that can be repaired in an hour or less on-site with limited space and equipment.

Prior to the work day, Mr. Puglia selects appropriate repairs from items that have outstanding treatment requests. Developing selection criteria has been an ongoing process but is the most important aspect of the Quick Repair program according to Mr. Puglia. In general, he chooses books with sound structures that do not have compound problems (e.g. a book that has torn pages and a loose board and needs dry cleaning). He also relies on curatorial input to define goals and repair expectations for each collection.

Several conservators from the Weissman Preservation Center participate in the repair session one day each month. Participating conservators and technicians bring their own tools and supplies with them since the conservation lab is not housed within

Houghton Library. The majority of treatments fall under the following categories: dry cleaning, paper repair and hinge-ins, corner repair, leather consolidation, inner hinge repair, simple sewing, and board attachment. Mr. Puglia returns to the library the day after the repair session to perform quality control on the repairs.

One of the most innovative parts of this program has been the development of their own solvent-soluble repair tissue. Alan Puglia and Priscilla Anderson developed this tissue specifically for these Quick Repair sessions. More information on the tissue can be found in their publication "Solvent-Set Book Repair Tissue," American Institute for Conservation Book and Paper Group Annual 22: 3-8 (2003).

All of the repairs are held to conservation standards including reversibility, stability, durability, and aesthetic consideration. Mr. Puglia works closely with the curators of each collection to ensure their needs and priorities are met, as well as to keep them informed of the progress the conservators are making on the collections. In 3-1/2 years, they have held 39 Quick Repair Sessions and repaired 1,015 books.

Much discussion followed the presentation regarding repair techniques and strategies for presenting this information to our home institutions. We also discussed how curators, conservators and preservation librarians may have to shift our approaches and our expectations when we consider the wide range of treatment possibilities that are available.

Submitted January 21, 2005

Heather Kaufman, co-chair PQTDG
Beth Doyle, co-chair PQTDG
Jennifer Hain Teper, chair CCDG
