



# The ENDPAPER

Newsletter of the Library Binding Institute – DECEMBER 2005

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## Happy New Year!

The LBI office extends best wishes to members and friends for a happy and prosperous new year.

## LBI Member Survey

Look for an LBI spring meeting survey to arrive via email by December 31. Your input will shape the meeting content, schedule, and other programming activities. There will also be questions related to the fall meeting and the frequency of LBI meetings. The 2006 spring meeting will take place May 5 – 7 in Clearwater Beach, Florida. The 2006 fall meeting will take place September 21 – 24 in Whitefish, Montana.

## LBI Member Gathering at the American Library Association (ALA) 2006 Midwinter Meeting January 20 – 23, San Antonio

The ALA 2006 Midwinter Meeting, January 20 - 23, in San Antonio, Texas presents an opportunity for LBI members to gather informally. If you are interested in meeting for a cash bar social at 6:00 pm, on Saturday, January 21, please contact Debbie Nolan at [dnolan@lbibinders.org](mailto:dnolan@lbibinders.org). The location will be announced prior to the meeting.

Following are meetings scheduled to be held during ALA Midwinter that may be of interest to LBI members:

### Saturday, January 21, 2006

8:00 a.m. - Noon

Preservation Administrators Discussion Group

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Library Binding Discussion Group

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Preservation Instruction, Education, and Outreach

### Sunday, January 22, 2006

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

PARS Physical Quality and Treatment of Library Materials Discussion Group

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

PARS Discussion Group

### Monday, January 23, 2006

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

PARS All Committee Meeting

For more information, go to [www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2006/home.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2006/home.htm).

## First Quarter Invoices to be Sent In January 2006

Look for your first quarter invoice to arrive via email (unless otherwise requested) by January 15, 2006.

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**2006 Industry Events – Mark Your Calendar!** (Repeated from the November *Endpaper*)

American Library Association  
2006 Midwinter Meeting  
January 20 – 23, 2006, San Antonio, TX  
[www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2006/home.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2006/home.htm)

National Association for Printing Leadership  
Top Management Conference '06  
March 1 – 5, 2006  
Ritz Carlton Grande Lakes, Orlando, FL  
[www.napl.org/events/TMC\\_2006/TMC\\_2006.htm](http://www.napl.org/events/TMC_2006/TMC_2006.htm)

National Association for Printing Leadership  
Annual Conference '06  
March 1 – 5, 2006  
Ritz Carlton Grande Lakes, Orlando, FL  
[www.napl.org/events/TMC\\_2006/TMC\\_2006.htm](http://www.napl.org/events/TMC_2006/TMC_2006.htm)

BookTech Conference and Expo 2006  
March 20 – 22, 2006  
Hilton New York, New York City, NY  
[www.booktechexpo.com](http://www.booktechexpo.com)

Book Manufacturer's Institute  
2006 Management Conference  
April 29 – May 2, 2006  
The Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, FL  
[www.bmibook.com/html/1\\_set.html](http://www.bmibook.com/html/1_set.html)

Library Binding Institute  
2006 Annual Meeting  
May 5 – 7, 2006  
Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater Beach, FL  
[www.lbibinders.org/Calendar.htm](http://www.lbibinders.org/Calendar.htm)  
Canada Library Association  
61st Annual Conference  
June 14 – 17, 2006  
Ottawa, Ontario  
[www.cla.ca](http://www.cla.ca)

American Library Association  
2006 Annual Meeting  
June 22- 28, 2006, New Orleans, LA  
[www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2006a/2006an.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2006a/2006an.htm)

Library Binding Institute  
2006 Fall Meeting  
September 21 - 24, 2006  
Grouse Mountain Lodge, Whitefish, MT  
[www.lbibinders.org/Calendar.htm](http://www.lbibinders.org/Calendar.htm)

Book Manufacturer's Institute  
2006 Annual Conference  
October 22 - 25, 2006  
The Ritz Carlton Hotel, Naples, FL  
[www.bmibook.com/html/1\\_set.html](http://www.bmibook.com/html/1_set.html)

**Onward!**

**By Debra Mills Nolan, CAE**

"Life can only be understood backwards;  
But it must be lived forward." Kierkegaard

This time one year ago, I began my new position as executive director of the Library Binding Institute. Eager with anticipation, I looked forward to meeting members with whom I had spoken and exchanged emails. Learning more about library binding – the history, benefits, and present day issues – presented a new and exciting challenge. I was honored to be bestowed with the important task of working with members to move the organization forward.

As I recall this time in my life, I am happy to report that this past year has presented a tremendous opportunity for professional growth and I look forward to the possibilities that the new year brings.

Following are just some of the accomplishments of the past year which include:

- a smooth management transition;
- enhanced relationships and communication with allied organizations including the American Library Association, the Music Library Association, SOLINET, NEDCC, and the National Information Standards Organization;
- an expanded monthly *Endpaper*;

-an expanded *The New Library Scene*;

-and, a redesigned, content rich web site.

The groundwork has been laid, during this year of transition, for LBI to move forward on solid ground. The organization has a dedicated staff committed to its advocacy and growth. Its members and allied professionals champion the importance and future of library binding.

Thanks to you all for your encouragement, patience, and the kindness that you have extended to me. My time with LBI has been personally and professionally rewarding.

## **Technical Director's Report By Werner Rebsamen**

### **Taller Paperbacks**

Did you notice some published paperbacks have recently increased in trim size? They are still the same width but now taller. So, if you market a paperback binding for a certain price, the cost for materials may now be somewhat higher. Why the larger trim size? According to an article published in *The New York Times*, the eyesight of people reading books is getting worse and books are harder to read. More mass-market paperbacks are sold every year than any other book - 535 million of them! It sounds like a lot but the market shows a steady decline, 11 percent from a decade ago. Hardcover books declined 7 percent. These figures were published by the Book Industry Study Group (BISG). Years ago, I shared the following data with my audiences: Of all the paperbacks printed and bound, 60 percent go to the recycling waste bin unsold. For hardcover books, that figure was 40 percent. I believe today's publishers are smarter. They no longer commit themselves to large, initial runs and warehouse those finished books. In addition, publishers initiated another trend, that of short deliveries. If, for example, bookstores order 100 books of a bestseller, they may only get 50. This has to do with the

tremendous cost of unsold copies returns. On-demand publishing may also have an impact. Nevertheless, the numbers published by BISG are for sold copies only. Actual production figures must be much lower due to the facts as stated.

As mentioned, the widths of the new version of paperbacks are still the same, just the heights are taller. The new size is 4 1/4 inches by 7 1/2 inches, which represents an increase of 3/4 of an inch in height. This is because they must fit into the wire racks at airports, grocery stores, and similar places. A taller book costs more money and publishers have increased the prices \$2 to \$3 dollars each. The taller page allows publishers to increase type size by up to a half-point, to 10 1/2 points, and to increase the leading – the space between lines – to 14 1/2 points from about 12. As a result, a page of the taller books has about 32 lines, compared with as many as 38 lines in their predecessors. Not all publishers follow this trend but those who do are receiving complimentary e-mails from enthusiastic readers. For binders, this means we need to re-stock larger boards, endpapers, covering and reinforcing materials, and don't forget, publishers increased their prices!

### **Digitizing An Entire Library Collection – Good or Bad News for Library Binders?**

The December 19 issue of *Newsweek* (page E18) featured an article on digitizing library collections. The article described modern, robotic scanning devices which allow operators to scan books for about 10 cents a page, that is still \$80 - for an 800 page volume. Supported by Microsoft and Yahoo, a massive collection of the British Libraries and the University of California Libraries will be digitized and available for anyone with a web browser. Google made arrangements with the New York Public Library, Harvard, Oxford, Stanford and the University of Michigan. The biggest challenge has not to do with technology but with copyright laws. Books published prior to 1923 can be scanned without any problems. But these large companies with deep pockets have something else in mind. A new program

announced by CEO Jeff Bezos, "Amazon Pages," shows only a few pages to whet the reader's appetite, then allows the customer to purchase more access to the book, similar to music on iTunes. These books can be copied, printed **and bound**. It is that last word that caught my attention. With much faster printers coming soon, these piles of printed pages need to be bound. I'm sure, if people pay just a few cents per page to download them, they are likely looking for a good binding, most likely a hardcover. Therefore, we should welcome such trends. Even library custodians seem to be optimistic that their physical embodiments will remain vital, because of the social aspect of visiting libraries and the draw of real books.

As for scanning books and reporting of such activities taking place at RIT, Jay Fairfield, ICIBinding Corporation and LBI president, informed me that they already offer in-house book scanning, utilizing the Kirtas Technologies Bookscan 1200 machine. That is indeed good news and shows exceptional leadership adjusting to an ever changing industry. After all, library binding is a service industry and many libraries, large and small, may want to have certain material digitized, yet they do not have the volume to justify the cost for a book scanning device. Maybe during LBI's 2006 spring meeting, Jay and others can share some of their insights and experiences on book scanning.

### **Mending Torn Pages**

Recently, a librarian suggested that all torn pages be repaired with Japanese tissue paper and paste. This conservation librarian made a reference to section 6.4 of the ANSI/NISO/LBI Standard on Library Binding: "All paper tears shall be repaired with transparent pressure-sensitive alkaline paper mending tape." She went on to indicate that she was not aware of any such product that meets this description. Alkaline paper would not be transparent; most pressure-sensitive adhesives are rubber based and will yellow, embrittle, and or become tacky or hard. She recommended the use of a pressure-sensitive adhesive to include a

requirement that the adhesive is acrylic. She then listed an alternate suggestion: mend with high alpha-cellulose tissue (like Japanese paper) and reagent grade wheat starch paste, or with heat-set tissue using high alpha-cellulose paper and a thermosetting acrylic.

Input from librarians is always appreciated. However, the question is "Who is going to pay for such a task?" *The Guide to the Library Binding Institute Standard for Library Binding*, written by Jan Merrill-Oldham and Paul Parisi, has an interesting chapter (page 7) on this particular issue where they discuss the term "archival" in conjunction with alkaline mending tape.

To further research this topic, I contacted one of the most prestigious companies to produce transparent archival tape. Neschen, who has sent me a wealth of information with regard to newer versions of Filmoplast has taken on this project. In the *January Endpaper*, I will report on their input. They have shown an interest in LBI and will most likely attend the spring meeting.

This topic warrants more discussion and for this reason, I will write an article on this for spring 2006 issue of *The New Library Scene*. LBI member input is welcome. The deadline is January 31; please respond to wtrebs@localnet.com.

Happy Holidays and All Best Wishes for the New Year!

### **Something to Think About...**

"The paperback is very interesting, but I find it will never replace a hardcover book - it makes a very poor doorstep." Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

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