Mel Kavin

September 3, 1916 - March 9, 2006

On Thursday evening, March 9, long-time LBI member Mel Kavin passed away, peacefully, in his sleep at home. He was 89-years old. Devoted husband of wife Phyllis, he is survived by daughter Judy Howard and sons Rick and Bruce Kavin as well as three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

In recognition of Mel, an LBI Library Binding Memorial Fund will be created for those who wish to make contributions in memory of Mel or other deceased LBI members. The purpose of the fund is to provide scholarships for those who wish to pursue library binding educational opportunities. “This fund will honor the memory of those who have made significant contributions, like Mel, to the library binding industry,” said Debbie Nolan, LBI executive director. For more information, contact LBI at dnolan@lbibinders.org.

LBI members have already begun to share their fond memories of Mel. One wrote, “Mel was a pillar of the industry. Whenever an important decision was being discussed or a problem was facing us, you could count on Mel to speak up in favor of doing the right thing. Mel was a proponent of quality. He believed that the bedrock principle of business is to produce the best product and service possible, always, and to trust the customer to recognize value.” Another wrote, “Mel was someone very special. Most of all, he was a fine bookbinder with a great love for books.”

LBI Executive Director, Debbie Nolan, writes “Although I knew Mel for a relatively short period of time, it feels like I have known him my whole life. I will always remember the many kindnesses he showed me during my first year as LBI executive director. It was a privilege and an honor to be acquainted with such a kind and gentle spirit.”

Mel’s children extend their appreciation to those who have already offered their condolences. If you wish to contact them, you may do so at 562-692-0665, katercrafts@earthlink.net, or KaterCrafts Bookbinders, 4860 Gregg Road, Pico Rivera, CA, 90660-2199.

LBI will recognize Mel during the spring meeting, May 5th thru May 8th in Clearwater Beach, FL. If you have any thoughts, memories or photos to share, please send them to dnolan@lbibinders.org.
LBI Spring Annual Meeting Schedule  
May 5 – 8, 2006  
Sheraton Sand Key Resort  
Clearwater Beach, FL  

Deadline for Hotel Registration - April 4  
Deadline for Meeting Registration - April 15

Contact the LBI Office for the registration form which can also be found online at www.lbibinders.org/Calendar.htm.  
Hotel Website: sheronusandkey.com/  
Index.shtml.

Friday, May 5  
2:00 pm - Registration Desk Opens  
3:30 pm to 5:00 pm - LBI Board of Directors Meeting  
6:00 pm to 6:30 pm - LBI 75th Anniversary Presentation (reprise)  
6:30 pm to 7:30 pm - Sunset Poolside Reception

Saturday, May 6  
8:00 am to 8:45 am - Continental Breakfast  
8:00 am to Noon - Supplier Table Top Displays  
8:45 am to 9:00 am - Welcome/Opening Remarks  
9:00 am to Noon - Spotlight on Printing/Publishing Industry Trends - Vincent Mallardi, founder and past chairman of the Printing Brokers/Buyers Association.  
10:00 am to 10:30 am - BREAK  
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm - LBI Golf Outing-Belleview Biltmore Golf Course  
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm - Supplier Dinner Event, The Columbian Restaurant, Ybor City

Sunday, May 7  
8:00 am to 9:00 am - Continental Breakfast  
8:00 am to Noon - Supplier Table Top Displays  
8:30 am to 10:00 am - LBI Annual Meeting/In-Depth Review of LBI’s Financials  
10:00 am to 10:30 am - BREAK  
10:30 am to Noon - Supplier Presentations  
1:00 pm to 3:30 pm - Sea Life Safari Excursion  
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm - Beach Volleyball  
6:30 pm to 9:30 pm - President’s Dinner, Sand Key Fest Beach Cookout

Monday, May 8  
8:00 am to 9:00 am - Continental Breakfast  
9:00 am to 9:30 am - Werner Rebsamen Technology Update  
9:30 am to 11:00 am - Supplier Presentations  
11:00 am - Meeting Ends

What, When, and How to Bind: Commercial Library Binding  
Friday, May 12 - San Jose, CA  
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Presented by the California Preservation Program and cosponsored by the Library Binding Institute, this one-day workshop focuses on front line staff, and the factors to consider in the binding decision-making process. Participants will learn about the parts of a book, leaf attachment, repairs, how to prepare books to go to the bindery, and the bindery process. The workshop includes hands-on small group exercises with sample materials to be bound. Registration Fee: $45 for institutional representative or $70 for two. For more information, go to http://www.plsinfo.org/workshops/binding.htm.

He’s Back!  
Scott Harris with Paulymark USA  
In Phase One of expansion into the United States, Paulymark is pleased to announce the opening of the Paulymark USA office in Carmel, Indiana with Scott Harris as the National Sales Manager. You can reach Scott Harris at his office/fax 317-566-8868 or cell 317-625-8925, e-mail-paulymarkusa@aol.com.
Vincent Mallardi to Speak on Printing/Publishing Industry Trends at LBI Spring Annual Meeting, May 5 – 8, 2006

Founder and past chairman of the Printing Brokers/Buyers Association (PB/BA), Vince Mallardi is scheduled to speak on printing/publishing industry trends during LBI’s Spring Annual Meeting. The PB/PA is a 700-member world-wide organization of printing intermediaries who collectively account for more than $5 billion in annual sales. From 1977 to the present, Mallardi has been a management consultant in the areas of paper, printing, converting and distribution. He worked with the National Association of Printing Leadership (NAPL) as co-founder of the Management Plus program, and writer/editor of the NAPL Marketing Action Planner. He continues to be active with Printing Industries of America (PIA) and the Web Offset Association (WOA), for whom he has produced books and programs for the past twenty-seven years. Mallardi also publishes the authoritative annual forecast of the global printing industry, *Hot Markets* and regularly writes for *Printing Impressions* in the U.S. and Canadian *Printer* and Graphic Arts in Canada.

Golf at the Prestigious Belleview Biltmore Golf Club

Designed by the world famous golf architect, Donald Ross, the prestigious Belleview Biltmore Golf Course is a 71-par championship course. This scenic course has a reputation for its challenging design which harmonizes with the surrounding environment. For more information, go to www.belleviewbiltmore.com/golf.html. Scott Harris, Paulymark USA, will coordinate the event. Scott can be reached at paulymarkusa@aol.com or 317-566-8868.

Dinner at Columbia Restaurant; Fun in Ybor City

Named “One of the Top 25 Restaurants in Florida” by Florida Trend magazine (2005), the Columbia Restaurant was founded in 1905 by Cuban immigrant Casimiro Hernandez, Sr. Situated in Ybor City, a national historic landmark, the Columbia draws off its history and the unique culture of the area to create a memorable experience. Enjoy Spanish cuisine and a festive, lively atmosphere followed by time in Ybor City, if you wish, to explore the area’s nightlife. More information on the restaurant can be found at www.columbiarestaurant.com/ybor.asp. More information on Ybor City can be found at www.ybor.org/.

Sea Life Safari Excursion

Hosted by the Clearwater Marine Aquarium, the Sea Life Safari Excursion offers an entertaining and educational experience where participants will have a chance to learn more about the “sea critters” inhabiting the waters, enjoy shell hunting on a nearby island, and visit a “bird island”. Don’t be surprised when the wild dolphins surface to greet you! Snacks and sodas available aboard the pontoon boat for purchase. For more information, go to sealifesafaricruise.com.

President’s Dinner, Sand Key Fest Beach Cookout

Enjoy fresh Florida catch, grilled chicken, and other cookout favorites on the beach! The sound of the surf and the beauty of the west coast sunset will provide a stunning backdrop while you socialize with colleagues during this final evening event.
LBI to Offer Assistance Grants for the Preconference Workshop(s) on Library Binding

Sponsored by the ALCTS division of the American Library Association • Friday, June 23, 2006 • New Orleans, LA

LBI is offering assistance grants to librarians affected by Hurricanes Katrina and/or Rita to support attendance at the ALA ALCTS preconference workshop(s) on library binding, June 23, 2006, New Orleans. “Sometimes the funds for staff training simply aren’t available even though the need is there. The Library Binding Institute (LBI) is delighted to offer support to institutions which were especially affected by last year’s hurricanes.”

Two half-day modules on library binding will be offered. The morning module will discuss binding advocacy, budgets, and contracts. The afternoon module will focus on the decision making processes and factors to consider. For information on each module, please see the flyer on the next page. For more information on the assistance grants, contact LBI executive director, Deb Nolan, at dnolan@lbibinders.org or 561-745-6821.

NISO Launches RFID Committee

The National Information Standards Organization has formed a Technical Committee to create guidelines that outline best practices for the use of radio frequency identification (RFID) in library applications. Chaired by Dr. Vinod Chachra, CEO of VTLS Inc., the diverse group is composed of RFID hardware manufacturers, solution providers (software and integration), library RFID users, book jobbers and processors, and related organizations. The NISO Committee’s work is limited to RFID tags used in libraries, that is, tags operating at 13.56 MHz.

This best practices document will form a part of a larger input document on U.S requirements for the ISO TC 46 working group developing a standard data model for encoding information on the tag. The group will also coordinate with American Library Association/Book Industry Study Group working around the interaction of technology and privacy issues.

“The new RFID standards must help us achieve interoperability within the library industry and application isolation across industries,” explained Dr. Chachra. “First, the interoperability must be at the tag level, so that tags from various suppliers or from different libraries can be used by the RFID hardware in the library. Interoperability must also be achieved at the hardware level, where hardware from different suppliers can work with the tags already in the library books. Second, we must have vertical application isolation among different industries. In other words, we do not want CDs purchased at a store to trigger library security gates and library books to set off alarms at grocery stores. Most importantly, we must achieve these goals while protecting personal privacy.”

The committee evolved from an exploratory group formed at the October 2005 RFID Technologies Institute, which was jointly sponsored by NISO and the Center for Digital Knowledge at the University of North Texas-Denton.

Something to Think About...

“Once again, the greatest technique for bringing peace into your life is to remind yourself to always pick being kind when you have a choice of being right or kind...And remember, you have that choice in all of your interactions.” – Wayne Dyer, Your Sacred Self: Making the Decision to be Free
Advocacy, Budgets, and Contracts: The ABC's of Library Binding for Senior Level Professionals

Aimed at senior level professionals, this module on library binding focuses primarily on the administration of a library binding program through budgets and contracts. Participants will learn about different kinds of binding programs and the associated costs. They will discuss the functions of binding, relevant costs, maximizing the binding budget, and comprehensive and selective binding. They will review the contents of a library binding contract and discuss quality control and problem solving. Finally, they will learn about value added library binding services that can be incorporated into an institution's library binding program.

Speakers:
Andrew Hart, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Julie Arnott, University of Notre Dame Libraries
JC. Noyes, Bridgeport National Bindery
Debra Nolan, Library Binding Institute

Schedule:
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Binding Programs and Associated Costs
- Functions of Binding
- Overview of Relevant Costs
- Maximizing the Binding Budget
- Comprehensive and Selective Binding

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. - BREAK

10:30 a.m. - Noon
Communication and Collaboration: Getting What You Want Through Contract Negotiation and Compliance

Value Added Services Provided by Library Binders

What, When and How to Bind: The Decision Making Process and Factors to Consider

Aimed at front line staff, this module on library binding focuses primarily on making appropriate binding decisions. Participants will learn about the parts of a book, leaf attachment, repairs and how to prepare books to go to the bindery. They will also learn about the bindery process and participate in an interactive exercise with sample materials to be bound.

Speakers:
Kate Contakos, New York University
Jean Ann Croft, University of Pittsburgh
JC. Noyes, Bridgeport National Bindery

Schedule:
1:30 - 2:15 p.m. - The Decision Making Factors

2:15 - 3:00 p.m. - The Bindery Process

3:00 - 3:30 p.m. - BREAK

3:30 - 5:00 p.m. - Interactive Exercise with Sample Materials

Workshop costs:
$99 registration fee for one half-day module
$195 registration fee for both morning and afternoon modules

For more information, visit www.ala.org/alcts
or contact Julie Reese • 800-545-2433 x5034
Email: jreese@ala.org

The Library Binding Institute
4300 S. U.S. Highway One, #203-296 • Jupiter, FL 33477
561-745-6821 • www.lbibinders.org
It is said a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. Of the many binding materials and techniques which may affect a book’s strength, one of the oldest is the sewing technique. Although binders use many different methods, all agree sewing through the fold by hand or machine results in the very best and most durable method of any binding.

While I was employed at RIT, Richard Frieder, Head of the Preservation Department, Northwestern University Library, sent a letter with the following question:

What are the merits of machine sewing-through-the-fold versus doing so by hand, using methods found in today’s library binderies, e.g., sewing on sawn-in cords or tapes, and sawing the sections before sewing? It is my belief that sawing the sections, which is often done far too deeply, is very detrimental to the binding. Under these circumstances, I think machine sewing is superior to hand sewing, and I would be pleased to be proven right or wrong by your testing and research.

In response to his query, we contacted several commercial library binders and received different opinions. Some customers request tapes to be used when machine sewing for additional strength. Others indicate the opposite and do not think tapes furnish additional strength. (The ANSI/NISO/LBI Standard no longer requires tapes for machine sewing.) Some binders were against a research project to compare the strength of a hand-sewn text block versus one which is machine sewn since machine sewing is accepted by the library community and hand sewing is much more expensive. As students are always looking for thesis topics, I encouraged a young graduate student to undertake a study on this.

Unfortunately, students graduate and, despite a promise to finish their studies, most are never to be heard from again. For a teacher, these incidents can be embarrassing, especially if the projects are financed by trade associations like LBI or BMI. This is why students were required to supply me with preliminary reports. Following are the results of the preliminary report:

A total of 60 books were prepared and bound by a certified library binder:

- Hand sewing on sunken cords
- Hand sewing on tapes
- Machine sewing on tapes
- Machine sewing without tapes

Two destructive tests, the tensile page-pull and a tensile signature pull were chosen to measure strength. All books were identical, same paper, same signature page counts, and same trim size. The pages or signatures to be pulled were marked - outer sheet, inner sheet, center sheet. Although the actual results had some deviations, this is normal. Fifteen books of each averaged out any abnormalities. What were the findings? Interestingly, some machine sewn text blocks with tapes did not do as well as those without tapes. This supported one of my long standing arguments. The lining material a library binder uses over the spine will reinforce the spine like no other method. To make a long story short, the conclusion of the tests were that no type of sewing is, statistically, significantly stronger than another type of sewing. The strength of a sewn binding depends on other factors like the adhesives used, the size of the holes in the paper, adhesive penetration, and the strength of the paper itself.

In our next issue of The New Library Scene, we will discuss this testing project more in depth.

Libraries in Medieval Times
The Yahoo Bookbinding discussion group sometimes offers some interesting leads. One I very much enjoyed was “The Story of Books by Gertrude Rawlings 1901”. Check out www.aboutbookbinding.com/story/Main.html. The Story of Books covers the preservation of literature, books and libraries in medieval times, the beginning of printing, who invented moveable type, Gutenberg and the Mentz press, and early printing in Europe, England, Scotland and Ireland. It also includes segments on bookbinding and how a modern book is produced.
Book Sales Make Small Gains in the New Year

Publishing sales showed small gains for the first month of 2006 for most of the categories tracked by the Association of American Publishers (AAP). Adult Paperback continued to grow while Children’s/YA Hardcover took a small dip for the month. Net sales were up by 2.2 percent.

Sales for the Adult Hardcover category took a slide of 23.7 percent for January with sales of $52.0 million. Adult Paperback sales were strong with an increase of 26.3 percent (sales totaled $97.0 million). However, the Adult Mass-Market category saw a loss of 10.5 percent for January with sales totaling $45.6 million for this category.

The Children’s/YA Hardcover category saw a slight decline of 3.0 percent in January with sales totaling $30.1 million. The Children’s/YA Paperback publishing sales continued to rise with an increase of 31.7 percent with sales totaling $29.8 million.

Audio Book sales posted a small decline of 0.1 percent in January with sales totaling $9.1 million. E-books performed well with an increase of 50.3 percent in January with total sales of $1.5 million. Religious Books posted a decrease of 29.3 percent ($18.0 million).

Sales of University Press Hardcover books saw a 22.1 percent loss in January with sales of $7.5 million. University Press Paperback sales rose 9.7 percent with sales totaling $20.9 million. Sales in the Professional and Scholarly category saw a gain of 11.4 percent for the month, with sales of $49.2 million.

Higher Education publishing sales saw an 8.6 percent gain in January with sales totaling $224.3 million. Finally, the net El-Hi (elementary/high school) basal and supplemental K-12 category dipped by 9.9 percent in January, with sales of $83.8 million.

The Association of American Publishers is the national trade association of the U.S. book publishing industry. AAP’s more than 300 members include most of the major commercial book publishers in the United States, as well as smaller and non-profit publishers, university presses and scholarly societies. AAP members publish hardcover and paperback books in every field, educational materials for the elementary, secondary, postsecondary and professional markets, scholarly journals, computer software and electronic products and services. The protection of intellectual property rights in all media, the defense of intellectual freedom and the promotion of reading and literacy are among the Association’s primary concerns.

NOTE: All sales figures cited in this release are domestic net sales.

E-Paper Getting Ready for Distribution

By Werner Rebsamen

In many issues of this newsletter, I have reported the development of E-Papers. It is a new technology that promises to revolutionize the printing and electronic display industry.

A report issued March 16 by Quantum Paper stated that their electronic paper is bendable and lightweight, and can be created on a variety of substrates. According to their news release, “it is no exaggeration to call Quantum Paper’s electronic paper the most important development in the printing industry in more than 100 years.” What does it do? It is an electronic display printed on ordinary paper or other substrates (covering materials) which can be illuminated in its entirety or selectively. This illumination can be used to highlight or backlight selected areas or to produce programmable alphanumerical segment displays. Well, we have to wait and see how it will affect the book industry.

Another report issued March 20 by E-Commerce Times reports of a development by Hitachi – super thin screens, no thicker than a weekly magazine, run on so little energy they might, one day, significantly impact the publishing industry. E-papers may someday replace

(continued next page)
ALA Election Polls to Close April 24

The polls opened on March 15 for the 2006 American Library Association (ALA) election. All current ALA members as of January 31, 2006, are eligible to vote. Members must submit their ballots by April 24, 2006, at 11:59 p.m. CST.

For 2006 elections, all Web voters should have received ballots between March 15 and March 17, 2006, in a 48-hour email blast. This will ensure that voters have more time to cast their ballots. Members without email addresses, or who have email addresses that bounce, will receive a paper ballot package. Paper ballots also will be sent to members in good standing who requested them prior to March 3, 2006.

Paper ballot packages were mailed between March 15 and March 22, 2006. International paper ballot packages were mailed between March 13 and March 14, 2006.

ALA also has a new election domain name (www.alavote.org), allowing the email “From” line to be: 2006election@alavote.org. This change will make it less likely that any ballots will be identified incorrectly as spam.

Building on the association’s experience with the 2005 electronic election, a number of changes made last year will continue with the 2006 election process and ballot. The 2006 election will be ALA’s third online accessible election. The 2006 ballot meets all applicable W3C accessibility standards and can be read by common screen readers for the disabled. This allows ALA’s visually impaired members to navigate Web sites by converting text and other visual symbols to audible speech.

This election, council candidate biographies will be available in HTML format for members to review and print before entering the ballot package. A link to these is provided on the ALA Website (www.ala.org).

E Paper (continued from page 7)

printed pages and might also become a powerful new digital medium on their own.

Well, let’s wait and see. In 1950, “experts” told me not to become a bookbinder. Their advice was there would be no more books in the future because TV was on the horizon!

The E-Commerce Times made a statement that through the spread of the Internet and the rise of PC’s, information made ever more accessible lead not to the death of paper but to its proliferation. In 2004, worldwide paper production was roughly 400 million tons, compared to about 300 million in 1995. Well, we binders are experts in converting papers into beautiful books and keepsakes. Good thing there is more if it today than in years past.
The Education of an Executive Director  
By Debra Mills Nolan, CAE

Last week was an education. It began with my attendance at the BookTech Conference and Exposition in New York City. Featuring more than 150 speakers and 100 exhibitors, the primary focus of the event was on publishing and production trends, technologies, and services.

The sessions covered topics such as book market trends, the changing role of book production, short-run and the bottom line, and global sourcing. The products and services in the exhibit hall ranged from commercial printing and pre-press services to papers/cover materials/coatings to workflow software, binding, and on-demand printing. A conference highlight was the Digital Book Printing Forum. The forum keynote was given by Aaron Martin, Director of Print and Disc on Demand & Manufacturing Services, Amazon.com. Other speakers included Gilles Biscos and David Davis of INTERQUEST, who shared results from a recent survey designed to measure trends, challenges, and opportunities in the on demand print industry. Following this presentation, an end user panel shared their insights into the market. Panelists included Gordon Gottlieb, Jr., LexisNexis; Don Leeper, Bookmobile; Kirby Best, Lightning Source; Christian Schamberger, Mercury Print; and Bob Radzis, RT Associates.

In addition to learning by attendance at these sessions, I absorbed a great deal by making my way through the exhibit hall. It was enlightening to spend time in the hall with LBI members, nonmembers, and potential members. It was also interesting to learn more about the print industry’s market segments and opportunities.

Following my time at the BookTech Conference, I had the delightful opportunity to tour Bridgeport National Bindery in Agawam, Massachusetts. Each time I visit a member’s bindery, I learn so much about the people and the processes. This was no exception. It was delightful to meet long-time employees and see the bindery in action. LBI has been invited to tour Bridgeport National Bindery during its fall 2007 meeting. It is my hope we will have the opportunity to do so. The possibility will be discussed in Clearwater at our annual meeting.

My time at the conference, followed by my visit to the bindery, reinforced what I have known all along. Certified library binders are hardcover binding experts with much to offer new and growing markets. You are also savvy business people committed to product and service excellence with a genuine passion for your work. Finally, the relationships you have developed, internally and externally, demonstrate your kindness and integrity. I am honored to be affiliated with such a remarkable industry.

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