

The Endpaper

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

A Newsletter from HBI and the Library Binding Institute



**Hardcover
Binders
International**
Library Binding Institute

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Photo Books, Education, and Networking During the 2010 HBI Spring Conference in Anaheim

Photo books were the primary topic of discussion during the 2010 Spring Conference of HBI and the Library Binding Institute, February 18 and 19, in Anaheim, California. Nearly thirty members and first-time guests attended the event which began with a networking reception on Thursday, February 18.

The meeting continued on Friday, February 19, with the following presentations:

- "New Ways to Bind Photo Books," Werner Rebsamen, HBI Technical Director
- "Photo Books for Long-Term Preservation," Mark Mizen, Creative Memories, Director of Digital Development
- "Photo Book Market," Dimitrios Delis, Photo Marketing Association, Market Research Director
- "What's On the Horizon," Industry Supplier Updates

The conference concluded with a networking lunch. Immediately following this, the annual conference of the Digital Image Marketing Association (DIMA) conference began. Most attending the HBI/LBI conference stayed to attend the DIMA educational sessions, networking events, and trade show of the Photo Marketing Association (PMA). HBI/LBI members served as panelists on Sunday, February 21, for a DIMA session entitled, "Finish the Job." (See photos on next page).

Members are looking forward to the 2010 Fall Conference, October 23 – 26 (pending finalization of the hotel contract), based in Springfield, IL. Three bindery tours are scheduled along with a 75th anniversary celebration. The binderies to be toured are Bound to Stay Bound, PermaBound, and R & R Bindery.



Photo Courtesy of Werner Rebsamen

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Images from “Finish the Job”

HBI/LBI Members served as Panelists at this DIMA session of the PMA.



The Panelists, from L-R: Mark Hancock (Utah Bookbinding), Dave Robbins (Ecological Fibers), Lang Wightman (LBS), John Jacobson (On Demand Machinery) and Debra Nolan (Executive Director, HBI/LBI).



John Jacobson, On Demand Machinery



Dave Robbins, Ecological Fibers

Photos Courtesy of
Werner Rebsamen



Lang Wightman, LBS



Mark Hancock, Utah Bookbinding

Members and Friends at the 2010 PMA Show



Photos Courtesy of Werner Rebsamen

Remembering Bud Parisi

1926-2010

Reprinted with permission;
www.acmebook.com

Angelo “Bud” Parisi began his bookbinding career in 1946 at the Harvard Bindery where he worked as a “hand finisher” decorating the covers of library books with gold leaf, hand-set brass type, gas flame, and artisan skill. Bud was soon annoying his boss by encouraging the use of Linotype cast lead type and a Kensol stamping machine to letter a cover in a single “hit” rather than one line at a time by hand. Bud’s ambition led him to invest in some old machinery so he could work nights and weekends at home, stamping diaries with personal names and logos for a large bindery. As his business grew Bud asked his boss at Harvard if he could switch to part-time work. His boss agreed initially, but on the first day that Bud was scheduled to be off; he called and fired him. This was 1958. Bud had two children, Carole age seven and Paul age 5. As they were driving to a doctor’s appointment Bud told his wife Anne that he had been fired. She told him to drive faster---she had gone into labor. Their third child John was born that day, October 31.

Bud had no business training or experience. He had only \$1000 in cash borrowed from his sister. He had little prospect of success. But Bud was confident and determined. He had recently purchased a two-family house so that the rent could pay his mortgage. He had no reliable income, so he worked nights cleaning bathrooms at Filene’s to put food on the table. With no letter of introduction, Bud went to visit the librarians at the Boston Athenaeum and Simmons College to ask for work. He impressed them with his character and initiative and was given a few books to bind.

And so began Acme Bookbinding. You might wonder where Bud got this name. Well, Acme means the pinnacle or top and it was first in the phone book. In those days the alphabet was the key to a high ranking in the Yellow Pages---the equivalent today of a high rank on Google.



Bud’s business philosophy was simple. Produce the best product possible. Be honest. Let your customers be your sales force. His method of hiring a staff was also simple—remember that he had no money. Bud put up signs in colleges around Boston. Young people applied for the jobs as part time workers. They were smart, learned quickly and understood his tenuous situation. Slowly the company grew.

In 1978 Bud and his son Paul purchased the successor to the Harvard Bindery—New England Bookbinding. Bud’s old boss was now working for Bud. This acquisition of a company 50% larger than

Acme Bookbinding was a stretch, especially since the combined company was limited to its then 12,000 SF 4th floor space at 300 Summer Street in Boston. Soon it was clear to Bud that the space, home to Acme Bookbinding for 20 years, was hurting the company—even though the rent was dirt cheap.

Now Bud was on a mission. He wanted to buy a building to house his growing company. He found a perfect site—5 acres in Charlestown with a burned out 25,000 SF building—that needed “some work”. But no bank would give him a loan. His friends told him that he had tunnel vision. No one would lend to a business with limited assets and an unimpressive financial record. But Bud was determined. He called on all the major banks, and then moved on to suburban banks far from his business. Bud finally got his break at Shawmut Needham Bank. The loan officers were impressed by his persistence and knowledge. Unbelievably, they loaned Bud \$500,000. Now he had just 3 months to close the deal with the seller, renovate the building and prepare it to house a bookbinding company.

The stress was more than Bud bargained for. With a full agenda of “things to do” Bud took a shortcut on a machine setup, disabled a safety and had an accident that smashed three fingers on his right hand. Undaunted, Bud

Remembering Bud Parisi

1926-2010

tackled his therapy and slowly he regained the use of fingers he was told he would never use again. Fired up by the need to get things done—Bud became the general contractor to renovate “his” new home. Bear in mind that Bud had no training as a contractor. He was indomitable and “he had no choice”. Bud succeeded in this transition—and 3 years later, after another bindery acquisition, Bud was doubling the size of Acme’s building—and 13 years later he would double it again when the company added trade binding to its library binding base.

During those years of growth, Bud gave control of his business to his sons, Paul and John. He continued to work but he had found a new passion. On his 40th birthday, Anne bought golf clubs for Bud. Little did she know how this would change their lives? Bud attacked golf with his full energy. It would not be long before Bud was in the running at member-guest championships with his clutch putting and long drives. His cherished achievements were two holes in one and several rounds of golf where he broke 80.

They say that behind every successful man is a strong woman. Well Bud certainly had that in Anne. Together they built a family and a company. They shared 60 years of marriage. They fought cancer and emphysema. They were a team.

Bud was one of seven children. He had 2 sisters and 4 brothers and a mother who had the most marvelous laugh one could imagine. Bud’s mother was called Honey—she lived to the age of 100.

Bud valued his family above all else. His children meant the world to him. He believed in hard work. He never made excuses. He was quick to point out a better way to do most anything. He always had something to say—and much of what he had to say might have been taken as criticism. But he was usually right.

Under his strong exterior and sometimes gruff demeanor, Bud had a heart of gold. He did not think himself to be good with words—but he could rattle off a joke on any subject with just the right message. He had an amazing talent for numbers, inherited by his children and grand children and evidenced in his skill at card playing—a skill



and passion also inherited by the grandchildren. First Kelly, then Justine, then Grant, then Chase, then Reid and finally Sean—he was so proud of them. He delighted at their every achievement.

I will always carry close to my heart Bud’s favorite sayings.

- If you have time to do it over again, you have time to do it right the first time---and you would do it over again if Bud was involved.
- Measure twice, cut once.
- Don’t be impressed by what people say, but pay attention to what they do.

Unfortunately for all of us, and for Bud, cigarettes robbed him of his golden years. He lived his life with courage and he ended it the same way. He was not afraid. He told me that he was ready to dance with the angels. His last wish was that all of his children and grandchildren strive for happiness—and to look for it in the relationships with family. Bud was proud of all of us, but I don’t think he ever realized how proud we were of him.

In addition to his children and grandchildren, Bud is survived by his brother Charles and his sister Mary. Bud would also like to include Iris Lienres, his caregiver of the past 12 years, in this list of family. She enabled Bud and Anne to live on their own when their health began to fail them. Special mention should also be given to Bud’s daughter Carole who would not allow the medical system to give up on her dad.

Preservation Week is May 9-15, 2010

Preservation Week planning and events are moving forward quickly and the opportunity for each and everyone of you in the preservation and conservation community is here now to become a part of the effort!

What can you do?

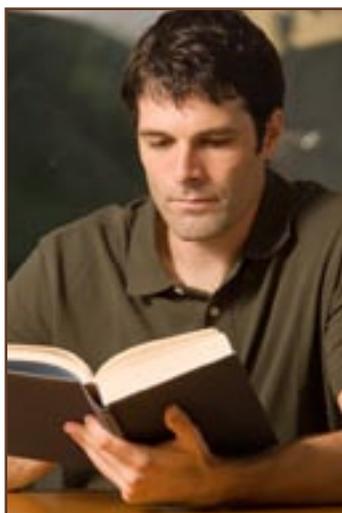
1. If you work in a library, archive, museum you can start planning now for an event, exhibit, speaker or other public outreach for the week of May 9-15. Preservation Week is outreach to the general public to help them understand the importance of appropriate action on their part to extend the life of their collections, whether those collections are family photos or digital messages, baby books or collections of all sorts. See <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alcts/confevents/preswk/index.cfm>.

ALAALCTS has a growing website that already has resources and more are being added weekly. Right now there is a Speakers' Bureau that needs to be populated with your names and interest to provide resources for speaker events during the Preservation week and other times during the year.

by Jeanne Drewes, *Chair, PARS Taskforce, Preservation Week*

2. Please strongly consider, right now, signing up for the Speakers' Bureau by going to <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alcts/confevents/preswk/tools/bureau.cfm> and registering online as a speaker. It takes less than five minutes to sign up.
3. Ask your conservator and preservation specialist friends to sign up as well.
4. Help spread the word about Preservation Week and help even more by being a part of this national effort to draw attention to the importance of preserving collections, your collections are the future of collections tomorrow if they are cared for, protected, preserved.

And because I know many of you and know your passion for and dedication to preserving our cultural heritage, let me also thank you right now for your help in making Preservation Week the success I know it will be, and more importantly thank you for helping the public understand how their own actions can preserve their treasures now and into the future.



What's On Your Cover?

Paul Parisi, ACME Bookbinding, just finished reading *The Snow Leopard*. According to Paul, "this is a remarkable story of a man, his friend, and the team of guides who hike the Himalayan mountains of Nepal, his spiritual examination in the context of Buddhism—the narrator's wife had recently died, and their quest to find a snow leopard—a metaphor for an elusive goal. This is a marvelously written book with unmatched imagery and attention to all the detail one could witness or experience on such an adventure." Paul is now reading *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson, winner of the Pulitzer prize.

Email dnolan@hardcoverbinders.org and share what's on your cover!

LBI Cunha/Swartzburg Award

Robert Harriman and Jeffrey Field, in recognition of their outstanding efforts to promote, coordinate and manage the United States Newspaper Program (USNP), are the recipients of the 2010 LBI George Cunha and Susan Swartzburg Preservation Award. USNP is a collaborative national effort spanning a quarter of a century that brought scholars, historians, researchers, librarians and archivists from 50 states and two territories together to inventory, catalog and preserve the newsprint record of a nation.

The Preservation and Reformatting Section (PARS) of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) will present the award on Sunday, June 27th, at the ALCTS Awards Ceremony during the 2010 American Library Association Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The LBI Cunha/Swartzburg Award is sponsored by LBI: The Library Binding Institute and includes a \$1,250 grant and citation.

Established in 2007, the award honors the memory of George Cunha and Susan Swartzburg, early leaders in cooperative preservation programming and strong advocates for collaboration in the field of preservation. The award acknowledges and supports cooperative preservation projects and/or rewards individuals or groups that foster collaboration for preservation goals.

Harriman and Field built a very large, very successful program due to the project design and through their strong organizational and communication skills. They emphasized developing the local leadership among participants and building up local as well as national networks.

Field and Harriman participated in standards development and worked closely with project managers to assure that microfilm produced with combined National Endowment for the Humanities and local funding would meet national standards and library and archive preservation

practice. In addition to his leadership role in bringing together preservation scientists to formulate a research agenda, Field contributed to the development of the national standard for newspaper preservation microfilming. Harriman participated in the development and publication of newspaper imaging standards and played a central role in the construction and maintenance of a national newspaper bibliographic database. The project produced microfilm that is available to library and archive patrons everywhere and now is also being digitized to make it accessible online.

The Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) is the national association for information providers who work in collections and technical services, such as acquisitions, cataloging, collection development, preservation and continuing resources in digital and print formats.

ALCTS is a division of the American Library Association.



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HBI and the Library Binding Institute
Welcomes the Following New Member

Mark Hunt
Standard Finishing Systems
www.sdmc.com
Joined February, 2010

Insider's Perspective

A Librarian's View of Ebook Acquisitions

by Maxim van Gisbergen, Elyse Profera, and Christine M. Stamison; Swets

"Although they are a relatively small part of a library's budget, ebooks are being adopted by librarians, providing an alternative source of information to end users. Research done by Swets shows that ebooks constitute approximately 9% of total book expenditures, and that number is expected to double within the next 3 years. While this figure shows current interest and potential growth for ebooks, it also reveals that print books are still necessary. Nevertheless, there are a number of libraries adopting an "e-first" approach for books. "

To read the complete article, go to <http://www.infotoday.com/IT/dec09/vanGisbergen-Profera-Stamison.shtml>.

Colleges Test Amazon's Kindle E-book Reader as Study Tool

Updated 2-23-2010, By Steve Kolowich, Inside Higher Ed

"Even before Apple announced the iPad, higher-education technologists predicted that e-book readers were on the brink of becoming a common accessory among college students; last fall, two-thirds of campus CIOs said they believed e-readers would become an "important platform for instructional resources" within five years, according to the Campus Computing Project."

For the rest of the article, go to http://www.usatoday.com/news/education/2010-02-23-IHE-Amazon-kindle-for-college23_ST_N.htm?csp=YahooModule_News.



Textbook Publishers Heading to iPad

by Lance Whitney

Publishers Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Kaplan Publishing, McGraw-Hill Education, and Pearson have signed deals to be among the first to port their textbooks over to Apple's new tablet. Heading to the iPad as well as the iPhone and iPod Touch will be their textbooks, study guides, and test prep manuals."

For more information, go to http://news.cnet.com/8301-13579_3-10446865-37.html?tag=TOCmoreStories.0.

LBI 75th Anniversary Trivia Challenge



In the January 2010 issue, we asked:

Where and when did LBI hold its first annual meeting?

Answer: Hotel Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio, September 26-27, 1935

Here's this month's question:

Who authored the "Polyvinyl Acetate Adhesives for Double-Fan Adhesive Binding" report in 1992?

Look for the answer in the next issue of *The Endpaper*.



PMA Australia
June 4-6, 2010
Melbourne, Australia
<http://www.pmaaustralia.com.au/>



**Hardcover
Binders
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Library Binding Institute

What, When and How to Bind: Commercial Library Binding Basics

Presented by the California Preservation Program and the Library Binding Institute

A one-day workshop focused on frontline staff and the factors to consider in the binding decision-making process in academic, public, and special libraries, and how to get the best value from diminishing binding budgets.

Friday, May 14, 2010 • Arcadia, CA

Speakers:

Laura Cameron, Preservation Department,
Stanford University Libraries

Eric F. Fairfield, Vice-President – Library Binding Services,
The HF Group

David J. Martinelli, Library Binding Services,
University of California

When:

Friday, May 14, 2010

Registration 9:30 a.m. • Workshops 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Where:

Arcadia Public Library • 20 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91006

Cost:

No fee; just your time, energy, and institutional commitment.

Funding provided by the Library Binding Institute and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, Library Services and Technology Act

All attendees will receive a copy of the newly released Library Binding Toolkit. The Toolkit contains a copy of the Guide to Library Binding Standard (a companion piece to the *Library Binding Standard*) which promotes and supports effective collection maintenance programs by increasing knowledge of library book binding standards, processes, and cost-saving techniques.

The workshop will focus on the importance of library binding for preservation of library materials, parts of the book, leaf attachments, and repairs. In addition, selecting material for commercial library binding, effective communication with the binder, and bindery and quality control processes will be addressed. Attendees will also participate in small group hands-on exercises.

Please note: Attendees are invited to bring library books with unusual binding issues.

Registration Deadline - May 7:

Pre-registration required. Send name, position and institution to: jpage@calpreservation.org

For content information contact: Laura.Cameron@stanford.edu

ALA Releases Multi-Year Strategic Plan Draft

The American Library Association has released a DRAFT of its multi-year strategic plan. The document, which includes a 3-5 year planning horizon as well as a 10-30 year planning horizon, outlines both outcomes-oriented goals as well as core ideologies and long range vision for the organization.

The 3-5 year planning goals represent strategic areas of focus for the next three to five years. The goals articulate the outcomes ALA would like to achieve and answer the question, "What will constitute future success?" The achievement of each goal will move the organization toward realization of its envisioned future. Goal areas include:

- Advocacy and Public Policy
- Building the Profession
- Transforming Libraries
- Member Engagement
- Organizational Excellence

The organization identified 40 Mega Issues which are issues of strategic importance that represent challenges the organization will need to face in defining the ultimate direction of its long-range plan. These issues represent potential impediments to achievement of the envisioned future and form a basis for dialogue about the choices facing the organization. These questions can also serve as an ongoing menu of strategic issues that ALA governance can use--in a knowledge-based approach to gathering insights relative to ALA's strategic position and directional choices--to create regular opportunities for strategic dialogue about the issues facing the profession of librarianship.

Among the 40 Mega Issue questions identified, these were identified as the most frequently asked (not in priority order):

1. How will ALA ensure the future relevance of libraries?
2. How can ALA create greater satisfaction from member involvement?
3. How will ALA truly succeed in implementing transformative organizational change?
4. How will ALA ensure its future financial success?
5. How will ALA keep up with the changing role of technology within libraries?
6. How should ALA respond to the changes in the publishing industry?
7. How will ALA position itself globally?

In addition to a 3-5 year planning horizon, ALA embarked on an effort to identify its core ideology and envisioned future. Core ideology describes an association's consistent identity that transcends all changes related to its relevant environment. It consists of two elements - core purpose - the association's reason for being - and core values - essential and enduring principles that guide an association in creating its culture and making decisions. Envisioned future conveys a concrete yet unrealized vision for the association. It consists of a big audacious goal - a clear and compelling catalyst that serves as a focal point for effort - and a vivid description - vibrant and engaging descriptions of what it will be like to achieve the big audacious goal.

For a complete review of this planning document, please visit the LBI/HBI website at www.hardcoverbinders.org.

Save the Date! October 23-26, 2010
HBI/LBI 2010 Fall Meeting and 75th Anniversary Celebration
Hilton Springfield • Springfield, IL • 217-789-1530

To make a reservation, copy and paste this link in your browser: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/SPFSHHF-HBI-20101023/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Rates: \$89 single/double; Cutoff Date: October 2, 2010

Technical Director's Report

Werner Rebsamen



Photo Books and Library Binding

This year, as LBI celebrates its 75th anniversary, we can all look back with pride on what we have achieved. While we formed our trade organization in 1935, our history begins many years earlier. It was 1923 when the first binding standards were drafted—a joint endeavor between librarians, book-manufacturers and library binders.

It was in 1935, however, that the library binders decided to start their own trade organization. The book manufacturers (BMI) concentrated on edition binding and wrote stringent specifications for school text-books. The library binders, (LBI) in cooperation with ALA, wrote perhaps the toughest specifications for library binding. Both of those standards, NASTA and LBI, were updated virtually every year as technologies and materials changed. In the year 2000, LBI partnered with the National Information Standards Organization in an effort to enhance the credibility of the Standard. Through this partnership, the ANSI/NISO/LBI Z39.78-2000 was developed. As we learned at our meeting in Anaheim, this Standard is now up for review.



There were so many displays of finished photo book covers, many made abroad. This calls for minimum specifications to control quality.

While change is never easy, we all recognize that technology is moving forward and we have no choice but to adapt to such an evolution. One great example of this is adhesive binding with PUR or the new BASF/Ribler system. Outside the formal meetings in Anaheim, there were interesting dialogs among members on the topic of the standard for Library Binding that is up for renewal. If you have any thoughts on that topic, our board members would like to hear your thoughts.

Another great moment in LBI's history came during our fall 2007 meeting in Springfield. Membership had declined, due in large part to the mergers between businesses and smaller businesses closing up shop. The trend made the support of a full-time position and office for LBI very questionable. Worse, many suppliers and supporters of our semi-annual events were no longer

interested in seeing an attendance of only a dozen or so actual library binders. The board had to face reality and decided to expand access to this great organization. No changes were made to our traditional, certified library binders. They still have to qualify and the topic of re-certification, examination will be covered in a later edition of *The Endpaper*. A younger, enthusiastic true library binder just furnished us with a 9-page proposal on this topic. How nice to see our younger generation willing to continue and uphold these stringent specifications.

Continued next page

The meeting in Anaheim revealed a similar trend for photo books which again is a compliment to our board members to merge groups with similar goals under one roof, although these endeavors are different. Dr. Mark Mizen addressed our audience on "Photo Books for Long-Term Preservation." Where library binders discussed the preservation and maintenance of collection of books for 75+ years, we now, in our digital age, must also include how we preserve our photographic keepsakes. The only way we can preserve such memories are in the form of books. Dr. Mizen then gave clear warnings that external hard drives, prints, CDs and DVDs will not be able to pass-on those photos to your grand-children. Memory cards and CDs will most likely go the way of floppy disks or magnetic tapes. Best of all, his committee, which involves library binders, seeks solutions and eventually an international standard that the books produced must last at least 100 years!



Amazing displays of On-demand and Photo Book Bookbinding machinery by ODM

Book Testing

With all the experiences gained testing library books at the LBI/RIT book-testing laboratory, it was a pleasure to listen to Dr. Mizen when he explained the concepts of book durability and required testing. He covered items like pages falling out (perfect binding), separation of the cover from the book block, abrasion resistance of cover-materials and printed images, heat-thermal stability, storing books in a humid climate and the future of a Photo Book Standard.



At UniBind, they offered a Gilding machine also capable to transfer pictures to the edges.

Sound familiar? As longer as we work together, we recognize a close relationship between library binding and the production of on-demand and quality photo books.

Dr. Mizen's concerns became evident as I toured the large DIMA/PMA show at the beautiful Anaheim Convention Center. Next to cameras and related items, there were unbelievable displays of photo book printing, software systems and for us, incredible exhibitions of how to bind photo books. There were many Chinese companies advertising their pre-made photo book covers. Some "instant" case-making equipment offered used pressure sensitive covering materials and endpapers. How will these bindings react in an ever-changing environment? Such endeavors need to be tested and separated from a future photo book binding standard.

There was an array of bookbinding machinery shown; the largest display was, by far, at the ODM booth. It is amazing how such on-demand or one-book-at-a-time machinery has developed over the years. Panorama books seemed to dominate.

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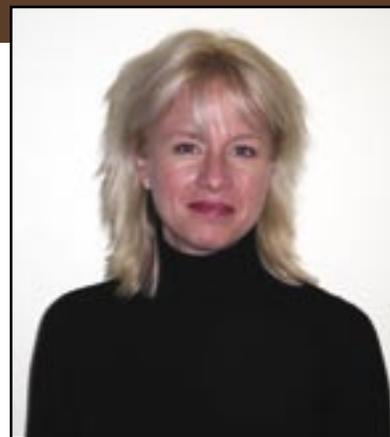
An HBI member just purchased such a machine from Photobook Technology, whereas another member, who already has several of these photo-book mounting machines looked seriously into the all-new lay-flat adhesive binding technology offered by Ribler, a topic covered in-depth in the next issue of *ShelfLife*.

Coming back to the 2007 decision by the LBI board to open our great bookbinding organization to new endeavors has proven to be a great success. It added 17 new

members last year and that trend seems to continue. We already look forward to our fall meeting, when we will have a chance to visit three different LBI and HBI bookbinding facilities. May this most successful trend of binding one book at a time continue for all of us who love quality book bindings, whether they are library, on-demand or photo books.

Werner Rebsamen is Professor Emeritus at the Rochester Institute of Technology and the technical consultant to HBI and the Library Binding Institute. He can be reached at wtrebs@metrocast.net.

Debra S. Nolan, CAE



Recently, I was handed a copy of "The Last Lecture" by Randy Pausch. You may have heard of it. Pausch was a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon who delivered his last lecture, "Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams," after discovering 2 months prior that he was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer. Fifteen years later, the significance of his lecture lives on even though Pausch is no longer living.

Pausch reflects on topics such as leadership, gratitude, fortitude, and humility. In this book, he gives real life examples in simple and direct terms. It is an easy and enjoyable read. You can also view the one-hour and sixteen minute video on U-Tube. Just google, "The Last Lecture Video."

If you were to deliver a last lecture, what words of wisdom would you impart? It might be an interesting exercise to jot down the big picture themes along with the finer points, and see if you are living now in accordance with this.

I wish to take the opportunity to acknowledge the life of Bud Parisi, 1926 – 2010, who started ACME Bookbinding in 1958 with \$1,000 cash and three children, ages 7 and under. He has left a lasting legacy, through his business

and his children, and the world is a better place because of Bud. On behalf of HBI and the Library Binding Institute, we extend our hearts and condolences to the Parisi family.

Something to Think About

A book is the only place in which you can examine a fragile thought without breaking it, or explore an explosive idea without fear it will go off in your face. It is one of the few havens remaining where a man's mind can get both provocation and privacy.

~Edward P. Morgan.