

Speakers

The Well-Dressed Book: A Symposium on Nineteenth-Century American Cloth Binding

R. Lee Hornbake Library, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland
March 14, 2008

Steve Beare worked as an organic chemist for DuPont for thirty-three years, retiring early to pursue his interests in antiquarian books and scientific instruments. In 1998, he took Sue Allen's Rare Book School course on 19th-century publisher's bindings and became intensely interested in the subject, which led to a new collecting interest. In 2006, while researching an obscure 19th-century New Jersey bookbinder's toolmaker named Samuel Dodd, he discovered Dodd's previously unknown priced stamp pattern book in the Winterthur Library. He has given several presentations on the volume, and published an article about the discovery in the October 2007 issue of *Common-place*. He plans to publish a facsimile with a detailed introduction.

Andrea Krupp, a book conservator at the Library Company of Philadelphia, has been researching 19th-century book bindings since 1995 and has written and spoken widely on the subject of book cloth. Her groundbreaking article, "Bookcloth in England and America, 1823-1850," which appeared in the *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* in 2006, will be published separately with an expanded catalog of cloth grains by Oak Knoll Press and the British Library in April 2008. She has a fine arts degree in printmaking and artists' books, and is an exhibiting artist represented by galleries in Pennsylvania, Delaware and California, where she is currently showing landscape paintings.

Jessica Lacher-Feldman is the public and outreach services coordinator and associate professor at the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library at the University of Alabama. She is also the project manager for "Publishers' Bindings Online, 1815-1930: The Art of Books," a project funded by an Institute of Museum and Library Services National Leadership grant. She is active in areas relating to exhibits, digital programs, and outreach in special collections and archives. A native of New York State, she holds graduate degrees in History and Library Science with a concentration in Archives from the University at Albany.

Douglas McElrath is Curator of Marylandia and Rare Books and the National Trust for Historic Preservation Library Collection at the University of Maryland and a member of the adjunct teaching faculty at Catholic University's School of Library and Information Services, where he teaches a course on special collections. He is currently engaged in a multi-phase project to explore the print culture of Baltimore in the 19th century. His research involves documenting the various actors in the book trades and related industries: printers, type founders, papermakers, booksellers, lithographers, engravers, publishers, and bookbinders. He presented

some of his preliminary research at a talk for the Washington Area Group for Print Culture Studies at the Library of Congress in 2007.

Robert J. Milevski is Preservation Librarian, Princeton University Library, and has been studying 19th-century publishers' bindings, signed bindings, and metal bookbindings since the early 1980s. His most recent article will appear this year in *Library History* and is entitled "Reading the Bible, Preserving the Precious Text: Latvian Peasant Metal-Clad Bindings." He is currently planning a monograph on the Riverside Press trade bindery and extra binding operations. He is also completing an article detailing an unknown production practice in a 19th-century English trade bindery.

Randy Silverman is the Preservation Librarian at the University of Utah's Marriott Library. He has worked in the field of book conservation since 1978 and has written and spoken widely on preservation and conservation, and on the conservation of 19th-century bindings in particular. His many publications on the subject include, most recently, "Can't Judge a Book without Its Binding," which appeared in *Libraries & the Cultural Record* in 2007. He serves as adjunct faculty at Emporia State University and the University of Arizona and has taught preservation courses in a number of other venues. He served as president of the Utah Library Association in 2000 and in 2007 received the Utah Humanities Council's "Humanities Award."

Allan Stypeck is proprietor (since 1973) of Second Story Books, which has two locations in the Washington metropolitan area and is one of the largest used and rare bookstores in the world, with more than one million books as well as manuscripts, maps, ephemera, prints, and posters. He is a member of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America and the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers and a Senior Member of the American Society of Appraisers. He is also one of the "Book Guys," who appear on a weekly show broadcast on public radio stations that features discussions with researchers, writers, publishers, book conservators, printers and book-makers of various kinds.

Michael Winship, the Iris Howard Regents Professor of English II at the University of Texas at Austin, was an editor of and contributor to *The Industrial Book, 1840-1880* (2007), volume three of *A History of the Book in America*. Among his other publications are studies of the publishing histories of Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* and Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, as well as *American Literary Publishing in the Mid-Nineteenth Century: The Business of Ticknor and Fields* (1995). For many years he has taught "The American Book in the Industrial Era, 1820-1940" at Rare Book School. While a college student in the 1960s, he apprenticed for two summers with master binder Arno Werner and after graduation worked as a forwarder at the Harcourt Bindery in Boston.