

The Early Book Society Newsletter
Spring 2008

Kalamazoo 2008

The Early Book Society is pleased to present six special sessions at the 43rd International Congress on Medieval Studies to be held at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, from May 8-11, 2008. This year, EBS sessions are scheduled from Thursday through Saturday. Sessions will take place in different rooms in Fetzer, Schneider and Bernhard, so please mark your conference programs and plan to wear your walking shoes (or leave enough time for the campus bus). Please also attend the annual business meeting of the Early Book Society when we will ask for session themes or topics for Kalamazoo 2009. Session ideas or initial proposals for the EBS conference in 2009 at the University of Exeter, tentatively titled "Promotion and Circulation of the Text: Packaging, Appropriation, Consumption in MSS and Printed Books, 1350-1550," are also welcome. The business meeting will be held on **Friday evening**, at 8:30 p.m. in Fetzer 1030.

I. Session 43: Thursday, 10:00 a.m., Bernhard 210

Letter Perfect: Uses of Scripts (or Fonts) in the Representation of Content

Presider: Mary Morse, Rider University

"Looking Again at *Lettre Bâtarde*"

Martha W. Driver, Pace University

"Differentiating Authority in *The Mirror of Our Lady*"

Michael Sargent, Queen's College, CUNY

"Choirbooks (and their Script) by Hand in a Machine Age"

Consuelo W. Dutschke, Columbia University

II. Session 81: Thursday, 1:30 pm, Schneider 1280

Charms, Chants and Cookery: Recipes in Medieval MSS and Printed Books

Presider: Jean A. Givens, University of Connecticut

"The Roots of Exeter Riddle 25"

Patrick J. Murphy, Miami University of Ohio

"Cooking up a Tale: Food, Foolery, and the Tricksters of the Fabliaux"

Mary Agnes Edsall, Bowdoin College

"'Sewid up at kyngis table': The Rhetoric of Recipe in Late-Medieval Verse"

Lisa H. Cooper, University of Wisconsin-Madison

III. Session 131: Thursday, 3:30 p.m., Schneider 1280

Mirrors and Manuals: Courtesy Books and Conduct Literature

Presider: Nicole Clifton, Northern Illinois University

“The Gendering of Courtesy in Conduct Literature of Late Medieval England”
Anna Dronzek, University of Denver

“Contents and Contexts of ‘How The Good Wife Taught Her Daughter’”
Christine Brovelli, Northern Illinois University

“*Proverbis* vs *The Falle of Princis*: The Fifteenth-Century *Melibee* and *Monk's Tale* in Huntington Manuscript 144”
Misty Schieberle, University of Notre Dame

“Audience, Context, Circulation: Exploring Ambiguities in the Conduct Literature of Late-Medieval England”
Eileen Kim, University of Toronto

IV. Session 350: Friday, 3:30 p.m., Bernhard Brown & Gold Room

Teaching the Middle Ages with MSS in the Twenty-First-Century Classroom

Presider: Carl Grindley, Hostos Community College, CUNY

“Illuminating Remediation: Recapturing Medieval Modes of Reading and Looking in the Classroom”
Sonja Drimmer, Columbia University

“Old Books, New Science: Does Size Matter to Students Working with MSS Today?”
David Watt, University of Manitoba

“Digital Medieval MSS at the Houghton Library and Beyond”
William P. Stoneman, Houghton Library, Harvard University

“Textual Criticism in the Undergraduate Classroom”
Erick Kelemen, University of Kentucky

V. Session 369: Fetzer 1035, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.

Pilgrimage of Pleasure: Literary Manuscripts/Books and Their Peregrinations I

Presider: Janetta Rebold Benton, Pace University / Metropolitan Museum of Art

“Contesting for the Codex: 700 Years in the Life of Yale MS 229”
Elizabeth Moore Willingham, Baylor University

“Wolves in the Fold: or, How to Read Medieval Fables”
Michael Dzanko, Ohio State University

“Some 15c Readings of Love’s *Mirror of the Blessed Life of Jesus Christ*”
 Ryan Perry, Queen’s University of Belfast

VI. Session 430: Schneider 1120, Saturday, 1:30 p.m.

Pilgrimage of Pleasure: Literary MSS/Books and their Peregrinations II

Presider: Martha W. Driver

“Gower in Transit”
 Derek A. Pearsall, Harvard University

“Sir James Ware and the Collecting of Middle English MSS in the Seventeenth Century”
 A.S.G. Edwards, De Montfort University

“Continental Printed Books and English Printers: How Texts Travelled”
 Julia Boffey, Queen Mary, University of London

Notes on Exeter 2009

As reported in the *Fall Newsletter*, the EBS conference theme for 2009 will be (tentatively) “Promotion and Circulation of the Text: Packaging, Appropriation, Consumption in MSS and Printed Books, 1350-1550.” Emma Cayley, Senior Lecturer in French, Centre for Medieval Studies, at the University of Exeter, has offered Exeter as the next EBS site. Exeter is well known for its books, including the tenth-century Exeter Book and the Exon Domesday Book of 1086. The library at the University of Exeter includes the Syon Abbey collections, including the nuns' library, the John Fletcher Syon history papers, Syon Abbey's medieval and early modern manuscripts, and papers relating to the community's reading habits. Incunabula may also be examined in the Dodderidge Library there. Sue Powell and Martha Driver will visit Emma Cayley this summer to investigate costs, accommodations, and facilities along with local eateries and wine bars (of course). Conference dates, along with other information on EBS in Exeter 2009, will be announced in this *Newsletter* (and on the EBS website).

JEBS 11 in Progress

The current issue of *JEBS* is with Pace University Press and includes a star-studded roster of contributors including Godfried Croenen, A.I. Doyle, Kristen M. Figg, Michael Foster, John Block Friedman, Victoria Louise Gibbons, Ralph Hanna, Phillipa Hardman, Takako Harashima, Olivier Legendre, Denis Muzerelle (in English translation with the French original), Catherine Nall, Patricia Stirnemann, Andrew Taylor, and Jacob Thaisen, among other important authors and reviewers. The contributors represent a range of scholars from graduate students to full professors and librarians who are making a mark in the valuable field of MS and early print studies (no puns intended). *JEBS* 11 will be sent in June 2008 to members whose accounts are current. Please submit longer papers (35 - 40 pp), with endnotes and a full Works Cited list, for consideration for publication in *JEBS* 12 (2009) in summer and early fall. These are substantial essays on any aspect of the history of manuscripts and/or printed books, with emphasis on the period between 1350 and 1550. Essays should be sent for consideration in duplicate with an abstract to Martha

Driver. A limited number of illustrations may be included with complete captions and permissions citations; Xeroxes of these should initially be sent with papers for consideration to the editor. Notes on recent discoveries (4 -10 pp), highlighting little-known or recently uncovered texts or images, may be sent to Linne Mooney, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York, King's Manor, York YO1 7EP UK. These shorter essays include only endnotes (not a Works Cited list). Inquiries are welcome <LRM3@York.ac.uk>. Please send brief descriptions (200-650 words) of little- or lesser-known collections and libraries of interest to the Society to Martha Driver, Early Book Society, Department of English, Pace University, 41 Park Row, New York, NY 10038. Members of the Early Book Society who are recent authors may send review books for consideration to Susan Powell, Reviews Editor, Department of English, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT UK. Sue may be contacted at <S.Powell@salford.ac.uk>. For general information, contact M.Driver@pace.edu.

Subscription Information

While many EBS members will receive *JEBS 11*, the current issue for 2007-2008, with their membership renewal, further copies must be ordered separately. If you are ordering extra copies (or back issues), you can pay with VISA (in U.S. dollars) using the order form that can be downloaded from the Pace University Press site at <<http://www.pace.edu/press>>. Libraries may purchase copies directly from Ingram Library Services (1-800-937-5300). A membership renewal form for 2007-2008, which includes the cost of *JEBS 11*, may be found on the last page of this bulletin. Members are asked, however, to pay their dues promptly. Membership is for the academic year. Members in the UK and elsewhere who pay Linne Mooney in pounds sterling should do so by mid-April, so *Journal* orders may be placed with Pace University Press in a timely fashion. Americans and other members paying in U.S. dollars should pay not later than the annual business meeting at Western Michigan (May 9, 2008), so the proper number of orders and address labels can be given the Press on return. UK and Continental payments are made to Linne Mooney, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York, King's Manor, York YO1 7EP UK, but before the April deadline, please, if you wish to include the *Journal* with your subscription for this year. E-mail: LRM3@York.ac.uk.

EBS Website and 2008 Membership List

Martha Rust at New York University is the webmaster for the EBS site housed at NYU <www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS>. The site currently includes an electronic version of the *Newsletter*, announcements of interest to the EBS membership, the current membership list for 2007-8, and the Honor Roll citing those who have paid their EBS dues for 2007-8. Suggestions for other items members would like to see included on this site (announcements of forthcoming books, of conferences or talks and exhibitions) may be sent to: <martha.rust@nyu.edu> or to <mdriver@pace.edu>. Because the costs of producing and mailing the EBS membership booklets have risen annually and because the EBS membership list is posted online already, the membership booklet will not be produced this year. However, a version of the current address booklet for 2008 will be provided in PDF format as an attachment for members to download should they so choose. If the membership feels strongly that a booklet should be produced, please let Martha Driver know (mdriver@pace.edu or marthadriver@hotmail.com); the Society

may be able to afford production of hard copy every other year if dues are slightly raised (but we hesitate to do this).

EBS Book Series

Reformations: Three Medieval Authors in Manuscript and Movable Type by Rebecca Schoff was published in January 2008. This is the second in the EBS monograph series Texts and Transitions: Studies in the History of MSS and Printed Books published by Brepols. Publication of the third volume in the EBS series, *The Poet's Notebook: The Personal Manuscript of Charles d'Orléans (Paris, BNF MS fr.25458)* by Mary-Jo Arn has been scheduled for May. A fourth series volume titled *Anne Bulkeley and Her Book: Fashioning Female Piety in Early Tudor England. A Study of London, British Library MS Harley 494* by Alexandra Barratt is currently in press. The first of the EBS series, *The Making of Poetry: Late-Medieval French Poetic Anthologies* by Jane H. M. Taylor, published in August of 2007, has received several glowing reviews (see *JEBS* 11 and another in *The Medieval Review*). The series draws on the ideals and aims of the Early Book Society. Through Brepols, EBS publishes monographs dealing with late medieval manuscripts and early printed books to about 1550, particularly those that explore the transition from manuscript to print and questions to do with readers and literacy, owners and patronage, the dissemination of texts, and the reception of medieval texts. A 'text' may be either a word or an image, where a picture serves also as a text that can be read and interpreted. The focus is mainly on manuscripts and books produced in England or for the English market, and closely related French and Continental works. The series includes monographs of about 250 - 300 pages, collections of previously published essays by one author (updated and revised), or in some cases essay collections with a clearly unified theme or one main subject. Authors are encouraged to include illustrations. Pictures are reproduced in black and white, though color illustrations may be included in special cases. Authors are responsible for purchasing photographs and securing the permissions to reproduce them.

The immediate organizers and general editors of the series are Martha Driver (Pace University, NY) and Derek Pearsall (Harvard University, emeritus). The advisory board comprises scholars expert in the various fields of late medieval and early modern literature and culture and in the history of manuscripts and books. The members of the board are: Julia Boffey (Queen Mary, University of London), Jennifer Britnell (University of Durham), Ardis Butterfield (University College, London), Philippa Hardman (University of Reading), Dieter Mehl (University of Bonn), Alastair Minnis (Ohio State University), Oliver Pickering (Brotherton Library, Leeds), John Scattergood (Trinity College, Dublin), and John Thompson (Queen's University, Belfast). Those interested in inquiring about submissions should contact Simon Forde at Brepols <simon.forde@brepols.net>, Derek Pearsall <Derek@apearsall.fsnet.co.uk> or Martha Driver <mdriver@pace.edu>.

A Repertorium of Middle English Prose Sermons

While the many reviews in *JEBS* 11 testify to the talents, commitment and brilliant scholarship of EBS members, we wish particularly to highlight the remarkable achievement of Veronica O'Mara and Suzanne Paul who have just published the monumental four-volume *A Repertorium of Middle English Prose Sermons* with Brepols. Described effusively by A.S.G. Edwards as "an extraordinary achievement, one of the most substantial contributions to ME prose studies ever," the *Repertorium* contains details of over one thousand Middle English prose sermons from more than one hundred and fifty manuscripts, dating from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. These beautiful volumes are organized first by library collections. Entries include manuscript descriptions, contents of the volume, and detailed analysis of the sermon or sermons, including authorship, occasion, summary, Biblical quotations and exempla, and bibliography. Detailed indices cite persons, places and concepts, biblical themes, and quotations. Please encourage your university and local libraries to purchase a copy of this important reference work.

Image Banks and ListSrvs

BiblioPat

This discussion group considers all aspects of the history and management of libraries including conservation issues and is open to French-speakers who work in public libraries, both as employees and as researchers. The intention of the site is to share information in a broad range of areas. Posts are vetted by a moderator and not all posts are accepted for inclusion. For more information, see:

<http://listes.enssib.fr/wws/info/bibliopat>

British Library Harley Collection

The Harley MS collection of the British Library is now at least partially accessible online through the Catalogue of Illuminated Manuscripts at

<http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/welcome.htm>

Digital Collection of Medieval & Renaissance Manuscripts

Sponsored by the Rare Book Department of the Free Library of Philadelphia, this website includes images from western European codices and fragments in the library's collections that date from the eleventh through sixteenth centuries. Highlights of the Free Library's collection include Bibles, Books of Hours, heraldic and religious treatises, and miscellanies. Images are organized by country and are readily accessed. The site which is easy to navigate (particularly recommended to college and graduate students) is available at: <http://libwww.library.phila.gov/medievalman> and is also linked to the Digital Scriptorium site, which is also readily viewed, accessed and searched.

Medieval Manuscripts in Dutch Collections

The MMDC database contains descriptions of all medieval Western MSS to 1550 written in Latin script and preserved in both public and semi-public collections in the Netherlands. All texts written in Latin or Western European vernacular languages are included. See <http://www.mmdc.nl.static/site>.

National Library of Scotland: Two Helpful Websites

To mark the five-hundredth anniversary of printing in Scotland, the National Library of Scotland is displaying its unique copy of John Lydgate's *The Complaint of the Black Knight*, printed on April 4, 1508, by Chepman and Myllar. April 4 is also the date of the unveiling of a new website sponsored by the NLS focusing on printing in Scotland from 1508 to 1800. See: <http://www.nls.uk/firstscottishbooks/index.html> A related exhibition will open in the NLS in June. An illustrated catalogue *Scottish Printed Books: 1508-2008* will be published in conjunction with the exhibition. For manuscript historians, the NLS has also reproduced every page of its illuminated Murthly Hours. See: <http://www.nls.uk/murthlyhours/index.html>

Parker Library, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University

Through a partnership with Stanford University, the Parker Library expects to reproduce digital images of each page of its 538 MSS and printed books (dating from the sixth through sixteenth centuries) by the end of 2009. Images from some of these volumes can be found already at this address: <http://parkerweb.stanford.edu/parker/>

Seven Hundred Years of Birgittine Spirituality and Culture

As reported in the *Medieval Academy Newsletter* (Winter 2007), the journal *Birgittiana* has focused two issues (2204, 2005) on publication of the proceedings of a 2003 conference celebrating the Seventh Centenary of St Bridget's birth. For tables of contents and information on how to purchase the set, contact Tor Nyberg, editor of *Birgittiana*, by e-mail: tny@hist.sdu.dk

More News on BL Readers' Cards Renewal

Readers of this *Newsletter* may have noted a description in the fall 2007 issue of the difficulties confronting scholars living outside the UK when trying to renew their readers' cards at the British Library. Essentially, readers, even long-time readers with expired readers' cards in hand, must also bring along a passport with a utility bill, bank statement, home insurance policy or "firearms licence" (!) to confirm their home address. Martha Driver, a reader in BL collections for some 25 years, was told that a FAX of an electric or phone bill was not adequate to renew her card, though with a FAX she could get a one-day pass to the collections. She was eventually sent original bills with her home address from New York City as a second form of identification (though the arrival of these documents was held up by a postal strike in London), and her card was then quickly

renewed. When asked to make another annual contribution to The American Trust for The British Library, Driver sent a copy of the *Newsletter* article to explain why further funds were not forthcoming. She then received a letter from Lansing Lamont, President of the American Trust, explaining that if she had simply shown her ATBL donation card, she would have been awarded her reader's pass with no fuss. But the story does not end there. Kate Bower of the British Library then sent an e-mail saying that this was not so at all: "Unfortunately, showing an ATBL membership card is no guarantee to our Reader Admissions staff that the individual concerned has not recently moved residence." For scholars living outside the UK wishing to renew readers' cards while in London, please consult http://www.bl.uk/services/reading_reading.html

Elaine C. Block, *Misericordia* Founder, Dies

by Judith Bronfman

Elaine C. Block, founder of Misericordia International and a prominent art historian, died in New York on March 7, 2008. She was 82 years old and divided her time between homes in New York and Paris. Elaine Block earned her Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin in elementary education and in her professional life taught at Hunter College, CUNY. While working on ways to teach reading and writing to children through music and art, she became interested in misericords, then an area of little interest to art historians. By the time of her death, she knew and had photographed probably every misericord and choir stall in Western Europe, and misericords had become part of art history's mainstream.

In 1983 a serious fire in the historic Cathedral at Saint-Claude (Jura) near the Swiss border destroyed half of the church's choir, made in the fifteenth century by Jehan de Vitry. Although tourists from around the world sent in their photos of the choir, only Elaine had a full set of photographs with notes explaining the meaning of the images. When he saw her materials, the Chief Architect of France wept: the choir could now be accurately reconstructed. Elaine acted as a consultant to the craftspeople working on the project. In December 1999, Rouen Cathedral was struck by lightning, and part of the roof fell into the choir, destroying or damaging many of the choir stalls. Once again, Elaine came to the rescue. The cathedral did not have photographs of the choir, but she did and the reconstruction was based on her work.

In addition to founding Misericordia International, which sponsored biannual international conferences in addition to sessions at Kalamazoo and Leeds, Elaine was the founder, editor, and chief contributor of *The Journal of Profane Arts*. The *Journal* began as a slim paperback, but recent issues have been more substantial and devoted to single themes like *Tradition iconographique au Moyen-Age* or *Les Stalles de la Cathédrale de Rouen: Histoire et Iconographique*.

Elaine's scholarly work culminated in a projected five-volume *Corpus of Medieval Misericords* published by Brepols. The first two volumes, France and Iberia, are in print, and the third volume is in its final proofing stages. With her dear friend and collaborator, Frédéric Billiet, she had just published a ground-breaking work, the *Lexicon* (also with Brepols), which standardized the terminology for misericords and choir stalls.

Elaine is survived by her children, Randall Block and Karen Davis, Laurie and Jerry Spigal, and Linda Block, and her grandchildren, Jeffrey, Peter, Kalman, Solomon,

Kaley, and Leanne. Because she was a woman of amazing generosity with an amazing zest for life and adventure, she amassed a large circle of adopted children and grandchildren, friends, and collaborators, all of whom will miss her greatly.

Donations made in Elaine's memory may be sent to her son, Randall Block, at 45 Lafayette Road, Newton, MA 02462. (Checks should be made out to Misericordia International.) Checks in euros should also be made out to Misericordia International and sent to Frédéric Billiet, 190 Chaussée Jules Ferry, 80090 Amiens, France. The funds will be used to support this June's Misericordia International colloquium in France and future activities of the organization.

Contributions Report on the Nick Howe Memorial Fund

The Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund which supports projects of The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at The Ohio State University has already raised \$20,000 donated in Nick's memory. The endowment target is \$50,000. People who knew Nick or know his work are invited to donate online at <https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive>. The fund number is #480256. Or checks made out to the Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund may be sent to The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, The Ohio State University, 308 Dulles Hall, 230 W. 17th Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43210-1361 OR to M.J. Wolanin, Director of Development, 020 Mershon Center, 1505 Neil Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43210-2602.

A.E. Lowe Paleography Fund

The American School of Classical Studies in Rome where E.A. Lowe conducted post-doctoral research 100 years ago is honoring Lowe and his scholarship by endowing a book fund in his name. The E.A. Lowe Paleography Fund will be used to add to the collection of the American School of Classical Studies. The AAR intends to raise \$25,000 for the fund; an anonymous donor has already contributed \$12,500 toward this goal. Donations and pledges to be paid over several years are both accepted. Checks made out to "American Academy in Rome" should be sent by **August 31, 2008**, to the AAR at 7 East 60th St., New York, NY 10022-1001 or funds may be contributed online by that date at <http://www.aarome.org>

More News About Jean Preston's (Amazing) Art Collection

According to the London *Times* (January 29, 2008), in addition to the Fra Angelicos owned by long-time EBS member Jean Preston, which hung in Jean's guestroom in Oxford, Jean owned Pre-Raphaelite paintings by Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. These were hung in Jean's modest breakfast nook. Jean further owned a Kelmscott edition of the *Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*, valued at close to £100,000. This volume was found after her death under a cardigan in Jean's wardrobe. Jean's Burne-Jones and Rossetti were accepted by the Ashmolean in lieu of death duties. *Thanks to Pamela Robinson for suggesting this item.*

Constabulary Notes from All Over

Atlas Stolen in Brittany

Librairie Loeb-Larocque (31 rue de Tolbiac, 75013 Paris, France) reports on their website the theft of a seventeenth-century atlas containing 48 color maps of all parts of the world from a private home in Brittany, France, on August 20. The atlas has a manuscript index and is bound in contemporary brown calf. A PDF describing the contents of the atlas is posted at http://www.loeb-larocque.com/ENGstolen_atlas.html It is expected that the thieves have or will break up the book to sell the maps separately. Those with information are encouraged to e-mail: info@loeb-larocque.com

Ptolemy Map Returned

A Ptolemy world map (printed in Ulm, Germany, in 1482), which was cut from a copy of the *Cosmographia* in Madrid's Biblioteca Nacional with an X-Acto knife by a researcher and sold to a Sydney art dealer, was returned to Spain in February by the Australian government. Anthony Byrne, parliamentary secretary to Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, stated: "Australia wants to send a message to the world that stealing cultural heritage is not a tolerated practice." Antonio Cosano, Spanish ambassador to Australia, commented further that "Australia is not a safe haven for the illicit export of the cultural heritage of any nation." The map was returned under a 1970 UNESCO agreement signed by Spain and Australia that prohibits illicit import, export and sale of cultural artifacts. The Ptolemy map is one of sixteen rare documents stolen last year by César Gómez Rivero from Madrid's Biblioteca Nacional. Twelve of these have subsequently been recovered.

Billions Lost Yearly in Cultural Crime

Paul Grondahl, a staff writer for the *Albany Times Union*, quoted an FBI estimate that \$6 billion is lost yearly "in crimes against cultural institutions worldwide" (February 24, 2008). The recent discovery of major theft of historical documents from secure stacks by an employee in the New York State archives has caused librarians in the area to rethink security measures. Ellen Fladger, head of special collections at Union College in Schenectady, had cameras installed after students stole documents (pertaining to the history of their fraternity) from library's public reading room. The students were subsequently disciplined, and the documents recovered.

Smiley Redux

As reported by Kathrin Day Lassila, editor of the *Yale Alumni Magazine* (July/August 2007), security in Yale University Libraries was tightened after E. Forbes Smiley dropped an X-Acto blade on the floor beside the table where he was cutting maps out of bound volumes in the Beinecke Library (five maps were found in his possession). Smiley was later given a five-year sentence in prison for theft. While the Beinecke has an electronic catalogue and keeps records of every item ever seen by readers, Yale's Sterling Map Collection kept no such lists, and only a quarter of the 11,000 maps had been entered into the electronic catalogue. Even cards for the maps were themselves found missing. As reported earlier in these pages, University Librarian Alice Prochaska hired an outside auditor, Bill Reese, head of William Reese Company (a specialist dealer in Americana and travel editions), to assess the damage; 100 maps have now been identified

as stolen (11 were subsequently recovered). Though the Sterling Map Collection has had an illustrious history, Lassila points that “By the early 1990s Sterling was having trouble just keeping the rain out.” Currently, however, careful track is kept of maps; scholars are observed on two video cameras; and “The Map Collection has also opened a successful line in digital cartography.”

Update on Transylvania Book Heist

Another article in this *Newsletter* (Spring 2005) described a violent theft at Transylvania University (Lexington, Kentucky) in which four thieves used a Taser gun during the crime, gagged and bound the Special Collections librarian and made off with an edition of the *Hortus Sanitatis*, printed for Antoine Vérard ca. 1500 and an illuminated manuscript written at Winchester in 1425, along with a first edition of Charles Darwin’s *On the Origin of Species*, and twenty Audubon sketches. The four men, two of whom were students in the area, are now serving 87-month prison terms. A panel of judges of the sixth US Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in February 2008 to extend their sentences, adding an additional two to four years.

(thanks to Sylvie Merian for forwarding some news articles for this section)

Calls for Papers

The Shape of Time in the Middle Ages and Renaissance is a one-day interdisciplinary conference (the Barnard Medieval and Renaissance Conference) to be held at Barnard College, New York, on **Saturday, 6 December 2008**. This conference encourages submissions on a range of subjects concerning how time was measured, represented and imagined in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Talks might focus on calendars, almanacs, astronomical texts, or the expression of time in literature, fine arts, music, theater, historiography, law and science. Abstracts of up to one page with *vita* should be sent by **May 15** to Laurie Postlewait, Dept of French, Barnard College, 3009 Broadway, NY, NY 10027 or by e-mail: lpostlew@barnard.edu Website: <http://www.barnard.edu/medren/>

Translating the Middle Ages is sponsored by the Program in Medieval Studies and Center for Translation Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and will be held on **October 28 and 29**. Submissions for papers on the theory and practice of translation in the Middle Ages, including textual and visual translation, are invited. The poet W.S. Merwin (also translator of Dante’s *Purgatorio*) and former U.S. poet laureate Robert Pinsky (translator of Dante’s *Inferno*) will read from and discuss their work. Participants are to submit completed papers by **October 1** to be circulated to the other members of their panel. Selected conference papers will be published. Abstracts of 300 words should be submitted by **April 15**. Send abstracts and inquiries to: Karen Fresco, Director, Program in Medieval Studies, kfresco@uiuc.edu.

The Hidden and the Revealed in Medieval and Early Modern Culture, sponsored by Rider University (NJ), will be held on **February 11, 2009**. Papers exploring revelation and concealment, presence and absence in medieval and early modern texts, images and

music are invited. How did medieval and early modern cultures apprehend and reveal the hidden? How does the hidden reinforce the presence of the revealed? Presentations should be 20 minutes long. Abstracts should be submitted by **May 1**. For inquiries or more information about preparation of the abstract, please contact:

medievalconference@rider.edu. This conference is sponsored by Rider University and the Delaware Valley Medieval Association.

Conferences, Colloquia, Talks, Exhibitions of Interest to EBS Members

Apr 18–Aug 10 Illuminating the Medieval Hunt, an exhibition at the Morgan Library and Museum, New York, highlights the Morgan's copy of *Livre de la chasse*, written by Gaston Phoebus (c. 1387) and made in Paris in 1407. In preparation for a facsimile, the Morgan MS has been disbound: illuminated leaves will be displayed allowing viewers to 'walk through' pages displayed in the galleries. For further information, see <http://www.themorgan.org/exhibitions/>

July 1–6 "Lawman in His Context," the Sixth La3amon/Lawman International Conference, At Gregynog Hall (Univ. of Wales), Newtown, Powys, Wales. For more information, contact the organizers: Raluca Radulescu, r.radulescu@bangor.ac.uk; or Rosamund Allen r.s.allen@qmul.ac.uk.

July 7–11 "Efficacy / Efficacité," the 8th International Conference on Word and Image Studies, sponsored by the International Association for Word & Image Studies, Paris. The conference focuses particularly on relationships between texts, images and politics, along with the uses of text and image in the performing arts as well ceremonies, festivals, political rallies. For further information, contact Véronique Plesch, vbplesch@colby.edu; or Béatrice Fraenkel fraenkel@club-internet.fr; or <http://www.iawis.org>.

July 11-13 "Multilingualism in Medieval Britain, 1100–1400," Bristol University, UK, features talks by Caroline Barron, Keith Busby, Alan Fletcher, Tony Hunt, Tim Machan, Anthony Musson, Thea Summerfield, Jocelyn Wogan-Browne, and Laura Wright. Contact: Ad Putter, a.d.putter@bristol.ac.uk; or Dr. Judith Jefferson, j.jefferson@bristol.ac.uk.

July 12-16 "1408–2008: The Age of Gower," the First International Congress of the John Gower Society, at Queen Mary and Westfield College, Mile End. Speakers, conference program, information about (cheap) conference accommodation in London and other information are now posted at: <http://www.johngower.org> For Gower attendees going on to the New Chaucer Society Congress in Swansea, coaches have been arranged and can be booked in advance. A stop in Ewelme will include a tour of the tomb of Chaucer's granddaughter and alms houses led by John Hines. Contact: R. F. Yeager,

Dept. of English and Foreign Languages, Univ. of West Florida, Pensacola FL 32514
<rfeager@hotmail.com>.

July 18-22 The Sixteenth International Congress of the New Chaucer Society will be held at the University of Wales, Swansea (Wales). Contact: Ruth Evans, ruth.evans@stir.ac.uk; or Stephanie Trigg, sjtrigg@unimelb.edu.au. Website: <http://artsci.wustl.edu/~chaucer/congress/congress2008call.php>

Sept 2-5 "Teaching Writing, Learning to Write," the XVIth Colloquium of the Comité International de Paléographie Latine CIPL), will be held at Senate House, University of London. Contact: Pamela Robinson, Institute of English Studies, Univ. of London, Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU, UK pamela.robinson@sas.ac.uk. Website: <http://www.palaeographia.org/cipl/london/londonPapers.htm>

Membership Form

The Early Book Society grew out of sessions planned for the International Congress on Medieval Studies (Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo) by Sarah Horrall and Martha Driver. Founded as an independent entity in 1987, the Society was formed to bring together all those who are interested in any aspect of the study of manuscripts and early printed books. EBS now has 475 members in the US, Canada, Japan, Ireland, Great Britain, and on the Continent. Membership brings announcements of EBS activities, including the biennial conference, as well as the membership list and the *Journal of the Early Book Society*, both published annually, along with pre-publication discounts on books of interest to members and access to the EBS chatline.

Dues are \$40 or £24 for 2007-2008. All members are asked to pay by mail not later than May 1, 2008, or in person at the annual EBS business meeting at Western Michigan (May 9) so that copies of *JEBS* may be ordered in a timely fashion. *JEBS* may also be ordered separately from Pace UP (see www.pace.edu/press for details). Those who have paid dues are indicated on the EBS website: <<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS>>. Please share a copy of this announcement with an interested friend.

I enclose \$40 or £24 as dues for 2007-2008 membership in EBS.

Name: _____

Address: _____

e-mail address: _____

Affiliation: _____

Research interests: _____

Members wishing to pay in US dollars should send \$40 to Martha Driver, Early Book Society, Department of English, Pace University, 41 Park Row, NY, NY 10038. Members paying in pounds sterling should send £24 to Linne Mooney, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York, King's Manor, York YO1 7EP UK. Visit our Website at <http://www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS>. Send newsletter items of interest to the editor Samantha Mullaney Samantha.Mullaney@gmail.com.