



Aldus Society Notes

Fall 2021

Volume 21, No. 3

From the Former President

This has been a year of unique – indeed, once-in-a-lifetime (we hope) – challenges! Nurturing the Society without the benefit of in-person fellowship and live programs/events has been the goal of the Board. We feel that through email communications and Zoom gatherings we can be hopeful that the spirit of the organization remains intact and eagerly awaits the resumption of normal programs and other events this fall.

We had to cancel (actually just postponed) our last two programs of the 2019/20 program year, cancel our summer picnic, postpone or reformat all of our 2020/21 programming, and cancel our holiday party and silent auction. We were able to meet for a holiday gathering on Zoom, and two of our scheduled program speakers presented their talks via Zoom: Koritha Mitchell on her new edition of the 1892 African American classic novel, *Iola Leroy*, by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, and Anne Trubeck on the history and uncertain future of handwriting. Additionally, we were invited by the Caxton Club of Chicago to join their virtual programs, of which there have been quite a few (including one by our own Eric Johnson!). Although a relatively small number of Aldus members attended these meetings, they were greatly appreciated by those who did attend. All the while, of course, the whole Society looks forward to resuming the fellowship we have missed over the 17 months – YES, it's been that long!

The programs that have been postponed have all been rescheduled for next year, starting this month. The schedule was printed in the May newsletter (and see the following pages for our fall programs), and as of this writing, here are a couple of updates: the August 12, 2021 program by the cartoonist Jeff Smith has been

moved to one year later to August 11, 2022; and Jolie Braun, who had been considering doing a virtual program sometime this summer, has instead been added to our regular schedule for March 10, 2022. Her talk will be on the history of canvassing and subscription book sales. (We are still working on a program for February 2022.)



The Board of Trustees changed their board meeting schedule over the last year to meet bi-monthly instead of monthly, and these meetings were all on Zoom. Actually, the virtual format worked quite well, probably because there are only seven people and an agenda. The board is considering keeping the virtual format for the board meetings, but will probably return to the monthly schedule in the fall.

Departing the board at the end of the program year in May, as they reached the end of their terms, were President Harry Campbell and Secretary Mary Saup. The current Trustees are: Dan Jensen (treasurer), Jolie Braun (secretary), Tony Sanfilippo, Betty Sawyers, David Brightman, Jack Salling, and Tricia Herban.

With my best wishes to you all,

Harry Campbell

Aldus Society Meetings

*Regular meetings of the Aldus Society are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month between September and May. Meetings are held at **Thurber Center, 91 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio** (unless otherwise announced). Socializing at 7:00 p.m. Free parking on Jefferson or behind Thurber House and at State Auto rear parking lot (between 11th St. and Washington).*

The Aldus Society

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Photographer at Large

George Cowmeadow Bauman

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September 9, 2021 Program Ladies First: Women's Innovations in Comics and Cartoon Art

By Caitlin McGurk



Caitlin McGurk, co-curator of the 2019 exhibit *Ladies First* at The Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, will give a whirlwind presentation on the impact of women cartoonists on the field of cartoon art. From the first female political cartoonist and the first female-created superhero, to the feminist voices that emerged from underground and alternative comics in the 1960s-90s, this presentation will explore how women have always pushed cartoon art forward and paved the way for contemporary artists working today.

Caitlin McGurk is an Associate Curator and Associate Professor at The Ohio State University Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, the largest collection of comics and cartoon art in the world. She leads the comics history and education outreach efforts at the library, manages publicity and community events, and curates exhibitions. Caitlin has also worked for

and interned at The Center for Cartoon Studies' Schulz Library, the Bullet Comics Collection of Columbia University, and Marvel Comics. She has written for *Diamond Comics Bookshelf* magazine for educators and librarians, published her own comics, and serves on the council for Cartoon Crossroads Columbus (CXC) and as a juror for the CMA/CCAD Columbus Comics Residency Program. McGurk's research and scholarship is on women in comics, alternative and underground comics, and early comic strips. She is currently working on a book about early *New Yorker* magazine cartoonist Barbara Shermund.

October 14, 2021 Program Hour by Hour: Reconstructing a Medieval Breton Prayer Book

By David Gura

Intact manuscripts from Brittany, France, dating to the Middle Ages are rare finds on today's market. So when one of the few remaining examples was sold at auction in 2011 and subsequently dismembered by a dealer in order to increase the profit from selling the pages individually, it represented a severe blow to the community of scholars, collectors, and connoisseurs interested in medieval culture. *Hour by Hour: Reconstructing a Medieval Breton Prayer Book*, follows Dr. David T. Gura's journey to uncover the story of this book, its importance to the people who owned it, and his current effort to put it all back together. Of the 129 leaves known to have been in

the original manuscript, Gura has found 92 of them in places as far away as Europe and Japan. The project has been exhibited three times and featured in *The New Yorker* and *Medievalists.net*.

Dr. David T. Gura is Curator of Ancient and Medieval Manuscripts at the University of Notre Dame, and Concurrent Associate Professor of Paleography in the Medieval Institute, where he teaches courses in Medieval Latin, Latin Paleography, Western Codicology, and Greek Paleography. He is also the originator and director of Notre Dame's Winter School in Latin Paleography and Codicology in collaboration with the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana in Rome, Italy. In addition to publications on the Ovidian commentary tradition, he is the author of *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College*, which resulted from 7 years of intensive research on the local collections. Currently, he is completing a critical edition of Arnulf of Orléans's grammatical and allegorical commentaries to Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Dr. Gura hails from Northeast Ohio and received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in Greek and Latin from The Ohio State University.

Website: www.davidtgura.com
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November 11, 2021 Program

A History of Arguments for Freedom of Expression

By Wes Baker



Wes Baker will discuss a topic that is still crucial today, highlighting several important works along the way from the first arguments for freedom of expression in England in the 17th century to the first U.S. Supreme Court case to apply the First Amendment to the states in the 1930s. He will illustrate his talk with several original sources, an important two volume bibliography and contemporary editions and works on the topic.

Dr. Baker has been at Cedarville since 1977, teaching courses in media law, media ethics, news writing and reporting, Christian approaches to the media, survey research, Web analytics, and data-driven journalism. His research interests are in the intellectual history of freedom of expression, the "image/word" conflict, and the effect of new communication technologies on society and particularly on media and journalism. Dr. Baker has twice received the Faculty Scholar Award at Cedarville, an Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Technology Award at the International Conference on College Teaching and Learning, and the Dr. Allen Monroe Integration of Faith and Learning Award. He is a member of Investigative Reporters and Editors, the Radio Television Data News Association (RTDNA), and the Web Analytics Association (WAA). Wes is a long-time member of Aldus, and has previously presented a talk on Freedom of the Press.

FABS News Addendum

The May newsletter included an update on the controversy surrounding the possible resignation of several FABS member societies in protest that one of the FABS founding members, the Rowfant Club of Cleveland, has remained a “men only” club.

At the end of the update I suggested that “we can all be hopeful that if Cleveland area non-Rowfant bibliophiles desire a non-discriminatory society, someone will create one!”

I received a kind note from reader Carl Weitman reminding me that, in fact, there already is another one very active in the Northeast Ohio area – the Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society (NOBS). I know our members are well aware of NOBS, and I apologize for the unintended slight.

The Editor

By Kevin Grace, 2021:

Cincinnati's Literary Heritage: A History for Booklovers

A Book Review by George Cowmeadow Bauman

For those who love books and hold affection for the city of Cincinnati, this helpful and inspiring book is for you. Just glance through it and you'll soon be checking out websites and doing other research to prepare for a literary road trip to Cincinnati for a serious—and fun—hit of bookishness via bookshops, libraries, small society programs, institutional programs, et al.

The author is the head of the Archives and Rare Books Library at the University of Cincinnati, as well as the University Archivist. He teaches in the University Honors Program on the global culture of books and reading. As such, he has access to extensive historical materials which inform this book.

He has done a thorough job of researching the substantial literary heritage of Cincy. It would have been most enjoyable to ride along as his book buddy to all the sites he visited for information. Of course many of the places he writes about are long gone, but not from memory and resource material.

Cincinnati's Literary Heritage: A History for Booklovers is stuffed full of interesting information—did you know that John Wilkes Booth was an actor in Cincinnati? Harriet Beecher Stowe was reduced to running a boarding house?—and has made the book very readable. One page leads to another and another and...

Grace's fascination with the history of literature in Cincy was due to an unexpected visit while an undergraduate in 1972 to “a legendary bookstore”—Acres of Books, which also was known as Bertram Smith's Acres of Books.

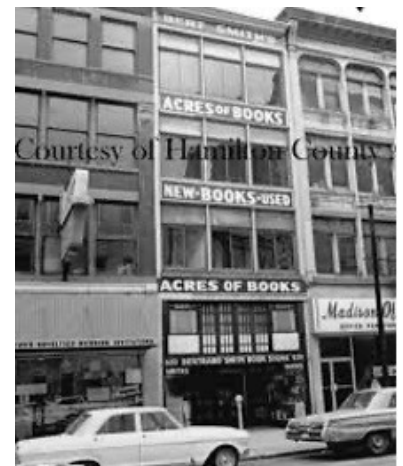
He describes the beginnings of that well-known bookstore, writing that founder Bertram Smith, a very knowledgeable bookman, used to hang out in a certain Cincinnati saloon after his WWI military service. Perhaps to pay his bar bill, he began selling used and

rare books from his bar stool, saving and scrounging enough capital to open a store on Main Street in 1927. Eventually he got the itch to travel and passed the bookstore to his wife so he could head west, landing in Long Beach, CA, where he opened another Acres of Books, which lasted 70 years as book purveyor to the celebrities. Mrs. Smith later handed the original bar-born shop off to Bertram, Jr. And after going through other hands, the store closed in 1991.

The scent unique to such used bookstores, Grace writes, is “the smell of wistful desire and soft comfort.” When people entered my late bookstore in Columbus, they often stopped, took in a deep nose-breath, and sighed, “I love the smell of old books. If only they could bottle that scent.” It has been tried, with dubious results.

As well, Grace also writes of the still-open, well-known Ohio Book Store, on Main Street. Five floors of books, the top floors of which have a warehouse feel. A personal note: The first time I was there, on a very hot day, I was dressed for dinner. However, the place wasn't air-conditioned, and those upper floors were oppressively hot and dusty, not conducive to a natty appearance in a restaurant. I didn't care; I was in a good used bookstore!

Inspired by Christopher Morley's *Parnassus on Wheels*—the prequel to *The Haunted Bookshop*, Melanie Moore opened the Cincy Book Bus in 2019. Her classic 1962 VW van is now a pop-up bookshop on wheels,





which sets up near cafés, flea markets, and festivals. Wouldn't that make a great life?! The profits are used to buy and distribute children's books to schools and rec centers. Gotta find her on our next visit.

There are so many stories in this book that I can mention only a few. It's well worth the modest price to pick up a copy for a few hours of entertaining reading and a great resource.

By 1855, a British publication reported that "Cincinnati had a burgeoning business profile that revolved around the printed word," with 12 publishing houses, bookbinders and booksellers, ink manufacturers, libraries and reading rooms. All this led the city to be called the "Literary Emporium of the West."

Drama productions have a long history in the Queen City. Grace traces early presentations as far back as the soldiers in Fort Washington, on the banks of the Ohio River in the late 18th century, who put on "makeshift productions of dramas and comedies with which they were familiar, including a few interpretations of the Shakespeare canon..."

In both amateur and professional productions, Shakespeare has been honored, and Grace gives us a long chapter, "For the Love of Shakespeare." A Shakespeare Club was formed in the mid-19th century, which showcased quality actors—including the aforementioned John Wilkes Booth—who boated up and down the Ohio River to appear to a citizenry quite familiar with the Bard. Even Thomas Edison, in town working as a telegraph operator, attended shows at the National Theater.

English novelist Frances Trollope—she of *Domestic Manners of Americans* (1832) fame, and mother of noted

novelist Anthony—wrote of her dislike of the theaters and most of the actors of Cincinnati, comparing them unfavorably to the illustrious English actors she'd seen. Her book's representation of Cincinnati stung its residents' self- and public image. (She did like the meat and vegetables.)

For several pages Grace discusses the distinguished history of poetry in town, which has its own poet laureate program.

Libraries were important to the citizenry, nearly from the establishment of the city. The Mercantile Library was founded in 1835 and claims to be the oldest continuously operating library west of Philadelphia.

The Ohio Mechanics Institute created a library which became an important cultural center for the town, and it is said that when Thomas Edison was living in Cincinnati, he read through every book there. Other libraries were formed during the 19th century, indicating what a learned population Cincy had. In 1853, the first Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County was established.

Cincinnati had nine Carnegie libraries built at the beginning of the 20th century. Eight survive, with seven still serving as libraries.

And of course the various libraries at the University of Cincinnati add to the sense of a community devoted to a culture of reading and literature. Grace writes that "the paragon of book architecture in Cincinnati is the Blegen Library," now a part of the University of Cincinnati library system. Put that on your list of things to check out the next time you're in town.

Grace tells of the many literary societies, going back

to 1829. Cincinnatians prioritized education; book production, distribution, conservation, and presentation were part of that.

Book collectors abounded, such as William A. Procter of Procter and Gamble fame, who bought three famous private local libraries and donated them to the University of Cincinnati library. We read of a collector who amassed 10,000 volumes on Masonry. One devoted bibliophile of Southwest Ohio had been booking in England, shopping for rare volumes. He had a ticket to come home on the Titanic. “However, he was visiting a bookstore and became so taken with the wonderful books that he missed his voyage...” See? Books can save your life!

I’ll bet some of you have a beautiful glass-front barrister bookcase of oak or mahogany made by the Cincinnati firm of Globe-Wernicke, which became a world leader in office furniture, including those familiar—to us of a certain age—with library card catalogs. But by World War II, the company’s facilities were taken over for military production, followed by mergers and takeovers which sucked the life out of the company.

Harriet Beecher Stowe’s time in town, 1833-1836, is noted. While living in Cincinnati, she attended a slave auction in Kentucky. Later she used impressions from that visit to inspire her to write *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. She may be the most famous of all Cincy authors. You can visit the Stowe House for more detailed information: stowehousecincy.org.

Famous (in his time) author Lafcadio Hearn was a Cincinnati newspaper writer, who Grace states “can be credited for being one of the first American journalists to capture the essence of African American lives and to render their speech and song lyrics in a realistic way.” He scooted out of town and ended up in Japan, where he wrote several books on the culture of that country. As well, “his greatest achievement was rendering the unknown society of Japan to Western readers in a lucid and vibrant manner...”

McGuffey’s Readers? Published in Cincinnati for a Miami University professor and sales were in the tens of millions. McGuffey was recruited to be the president of Cincinnati College and teach moral and intellectual philosophy. Taking a class in moral philosophy with a professor who was presumably making millions might have been interesting.

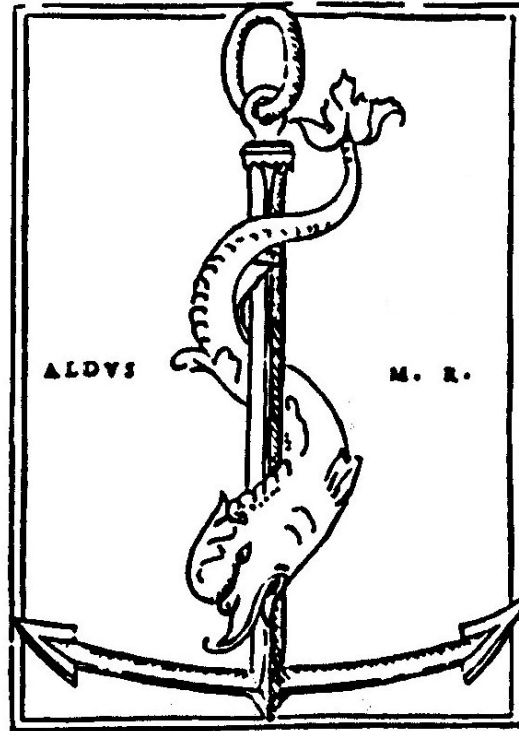
The Ault and Wiborg lithography and printing inks were the leaders in the world.

Of particular interest to us Aldines is the mention of Aldus Manutius, an early 1500s Venetian printer, who makes an appearance on the exterior of the “Cincinnati Times” building, as well as in their lobby, along with his distinctive dolphin-and-anchor design (meaning “make haste slowly” or do steady and reliable work). This recognition gives evidence of an awareness of international printing history going back centuries.

Grace concludes, “Today there is a vibrant writing community in Cincinnati that is matched with exceptional libraries and literacy programs, book arts, buildings and some very fine bookstores selling both used and new volumes,” though he admits that many local bookstores have disappeared over the past decade.

The back matter of *CLH* has terrific material to assist anyone wanting to connect with literary places and organizations in Cincy:

- “Twenty-five Essential Organizations for Books, Reading and Writing”
- “Fifteen Literary Points of Interest”
- “Fifty Essential Books for Understanding Cincinnati”



As with any publication of the History Press, the book has many photographs to illustrate the development of a book consciousness in the city. My favorite is an early one of a bookmobile sent out by the public library system.

A companion book to check out at the library is *Literary Cincinnati: The Missing Chapter* (2011) by Dale Patrick Brown.

Cincinnati’s Literary Heritage: A History for Booklovers is highly recommended for armchair travel, or even better, a road trip to Cincinnati, a city with an illustrious literary history.

Note: This review was originally commissioned by the Ohioana Library for their Ohioana Quarterly. Used by permission.

Harmonizing the American Frontier

By Scott Williams

At some peril of sinking, the pioneers' keelboat was caught in an ice jam on the northern arc of the Ohio River near Beaver, Pennsylvania. The few women on board were not happy! Icebound for a month, over Christmas 1825 and into the New Year, they lived in a tiny room with their boat's famous scientific library. The keelboat was christened *The Philanthropist* but quickly got nicknamed *The Boatload of Knowledge*. They were all slowly headed west to a new utopia that would transform mankind. The captain was Robert Dale Owen, son of world-famous-at-the-time Robert Owen. Robert Dale had just come from Europe, having visiting communes in Holland. He was now leading a group of world-famous scientists and thinkers down the Ohio to Indiana. His father, Robert Owen—who coined the word socialism—had bought Harmonie, Indiana, from George Rapp and his Harmonists. Rapp's commune was already a renowned destination for immigrants and the curious. Even better, it was “move-in-ready” for some 900 arriving Owenite communards. Years later, in 1843, former “captain” Robert Dale Owen would be elected by Indiana voters to the U.S. House of Representatives. Staying on mission, he would sponsor legislation to form The Smithsonian Institution “for the increase and diffusion of knowledge.”

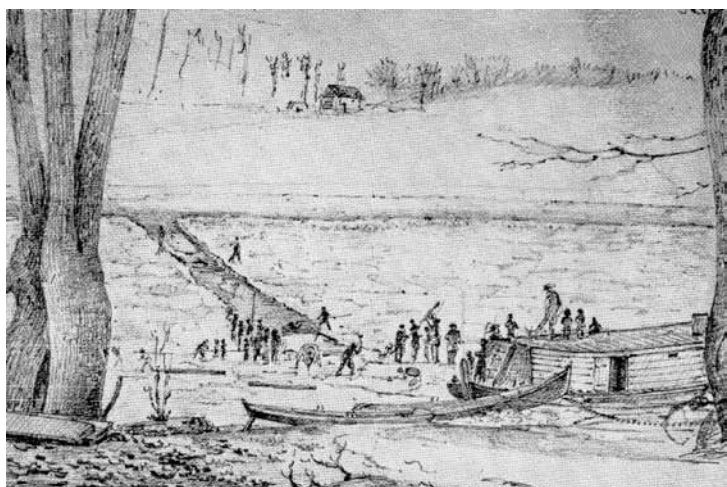


Fig. 1. One of the most dangerous jobs around? Cutting an ice channel to free *The Philanthropist* on January 8, 1826. Illustration by C. A. Lesueur, French naturalist, artist and explorer. Source: *To Holland and to New Harmony*. Robert Dale Owen's Travel Journal 1825-1826. Edited by Josephine M. Elliott. Indiana Historical Society, 1969.

The story of these two communal experiments on the American Frontier is as different as night and day.

Born in 1757, George Rapp grew up angry in a small-town northwest of Stuttgart, Germany. He famously herded pigs through his town square as Easter Service was being let out. In 1791 he declared himself a prophet. A good prophet he was; by 1802 he had 12,000 followers. Upon

release from prison in 1803 he gathered 800 followers, who donated all of their wealth to Rapp, and together they migrated to the “Land of Israel” – the United States – to escape from the Duchy of Württemberg and that Antichrist named Napoleon. He prophesied that to the far west, in America, the Sun Goddess (angel) would descend on a crescent moon to announce the return of Jesus and paradise on Earth. George Rapp was described as tall, blue eyed, broad-shouldered with long hair and a patriarch's beard, and having a powerful voice to match his commanding presence. Interestingly, once in America, George Rapp complained about defectors to his cause back in Germany. His “organizers” began predicting that the Sun Goddess would appear in the far east! Soon, German colonies on the steppes of Russia and the Ukraine were popping up to await the Sun Goddess, too.

In 1814 George Rapp moved his Harmonists from Pennsylvania to the Northwest Territory. He acquired about 20,000 acres (30 square miles) of wilderness on the Indiana banks of the Wabash just before it spills into the Ohio River. George noted that all it lacked was a steam engine! It was a bold move as only two years earlier the War of 1812 saw Native Americans fighting American frontier colonists. Yet, historians report that the new colony got along with local natives. After all, they were strict pacifists, refusing military conscription. And for internal matters, stocks and pillories were forbidden; if someone failed to work for the common good, they were asked to voluntarily leave, or, if needed, kicked out without physical punishment.

Their new Indiana town was named Harmonie to reflect their belief that singing in harmony put them closer to God. Indeed, the first know book they published in Indiana was a song book. In the end, they would be called both Harmonists and Rappites. George Rapp was no dummy. Crafts people in all



Fig. 2. A good portrait of Father Rapp wearing a conehead hat! Source: no publisher noted; printed with a number of postcards celebrating the 1914 centennial of Harmonie's founding.

the trades joined him, and he adopted a skilled business manager as his own son. Arriving in 1814, they quickly constructed well-designed prefab houses. Not until 1902 would prefab homes be offered in the Sears & Roebuck catalog; and not until 1947 could you buy a prefab enamel-coated steel home from Lustron here in Columbus! Each prefab Rappite home came with a smoke free chimney that could keep the house warm in winter and had a little oven on the chimney's side for day-to-day cooking. Larger standalone kitchens were also built nearby for use. Harmonist industry then ramped up quickly and diversified into all sorts of quality products that were in high demand. New Orleans drinkers thought Harmonie's whisky to be the best! Soon, Harmonie, Indiana became the wealthiest town on the Frontier—modern comforts and no poverty in Harmonie!

Thanks to the Robert Owen Bicentennial Conference 1771 – 1971, I acquired a Rappite *Cookbook* that was included with the 2-day conference proceedings. Published by Southern Indiana Gas & Electric Company, the editors state that each recipe was pre-tested to assure viability. This pamphlet shares many nuggets about the Harmonists. There are so many nuggets – their love of flowers, their famous labyrinth that the Owenites destroyed, etc. Quoted here, is one of their recipes that looks doable:

Molasses Cookies Recipe:

- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup shortening, melted
- ½ cup hot water
- 1 cup sorghum molasses
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons soda
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 6 cups flour
- 1 cup nuts
- 2 cups raisins soaked in hot water and drained

“Mix all ingredients except flour and eggs. Beat eggs, fold into mixture, add flour. Roll out fairly thin, cut with medium cookie cutter, bake at 375 for about 8 to 10 minutes. It is told that these cookies were made in the fall, stored in tubs under the bed and served as part of the winter sweets.” Would that be one cookie a week?

Following their song book, the Indiana Harmonie Society's printing press published only one other book in 1824, both in German and English. It was titled *Thoughts on the Destiny of Man* and outlined Father Rapp's philosophy. A quick check on the web shows a few English copies for sale in the \$2,500 to \$5,000 range. Catalogers note that the title page had to be printed in Pittsburgh.

Rapp's philosophy and prophecy is complex, of course. In a nutshell, Harmonie would be a utopia on Earth, an Annex to the Kingdom of Heaven, preparing for the arrival of the Sun Goddess and Jesus. Rapp preached a form of mutual economic cooperation under an Evangelical Millennialist Protestant Prophecy (what a mouthful!). Families were allowed, but celibacy was expected; the celibacy rule ultimately doomed the Rappites, some authors claim. Rapp's prophecy was derived from the New Testament's *Revelations*, written by St. John while in exile on the island of Patmos, Greece. It foretold the Apocalypse and return of Jesus. Perhaps the only Saint in the Bible to actually *eat* a book, St. John helped to popularize the Number of the Beast “666” and a host of other demons and apocalyptic scenes which are still used, to this day, by prophets and conspiracy theorists. In particular, for this story, was the seven-headed dragon who had an evil thing about the Sun Goddess! In Middle Ages Europe, nothing could beat the stories of St. John's *Revelations* to reflect their apocalyptic times and the hope that Jesus would appear soon to end their misery. Indeed, one shaggy beast named Peluda terrorized the French town of La Ferté-Bernard during the Middle Ages. Being rejected by Noah for his Ark, and now living in France, it was described as having hairy green quills that could shoot out poisonous stingers, a snake-like head, and turtle-like feet.



Fig. 3. A circa 1320 depiction of unclean spirits (poisonous frogs) spewing from the mouths of the seven-headed dragon and his buddies (Covid anyone?). Source: “Forty paintings from an early 14 th century manuscript of the Apocalypse. Engagement Calendar for the year 1970, the 100th Anniversary of The Metropolitan Museum of Art – The Cloisters.”



In the end, to be closer to East Coast markets, George Rapp sold Harmonie to Robert Owen in 1824. The Rappites moved back to Pennsylvania and founded the town of Economy (what a great name!). George would lose some followers in 1829 when he predicted Jesus' return that very year. Nonetheless, he lived until 1847, dying a few months shy of ninety years of age. Ultimately, he facilitated one of America's most successful communal experiments which built three sequential towns that existed from 1805 to 1906. For those interested in delving deeper into George Rapp's amazing story, a good start would be with Karl John Richard Arndt (1903-1991) whose legacy of publications focused upon German-American history is so significant.

In closing, Robert Owen christened his new town New Harmony, and the rest is history... Too much history for this article, but perhaps for a "Part II" article, someday. After all, Robert Owen and his Owenites had a tremendous impact on Western history. But for their new secular utopia called New Harmony? It lasted only two years!

Fig. 4. A circa 1390 depiction of a mean looking seven-headed dragon on the *Tapestry of the Apocalypse* in Angers, France (Chateau du Roi René). Source: from a 1950s real-photo postcard published by "Service Commercial Monuments Historiques, Grand Palais, Paris."



Fig 5. A close-up from an engraving by Albrecht Dürer, circa 1498, showing the Sun Goddess descending on her crescent moon with the seven-headed dragon in a bad mood. There's lots more action shown in Dürer's full engraving!

Bookmarks Bookstore

By Nancy Campbell

For those of us who love a good bookstore, “Bookmarks” in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, is worth a visit if you’re traveling south. Housed in a former garage near the theater district, you walk through an arcade to a sunny alley behind the buildings that face Fourth Street (or park in the adjacent lot off Holly Avenue). Many bookstores have delightful features – neon tap-dancing signs, resident cats, coffee bars. At Bookmarks there is a wall of recommendations from dozens of book clubs around the city, an impressively large Story Time area, and “Blind Dates with Books.”



Harry was impressed with the section of “Books about Books.”



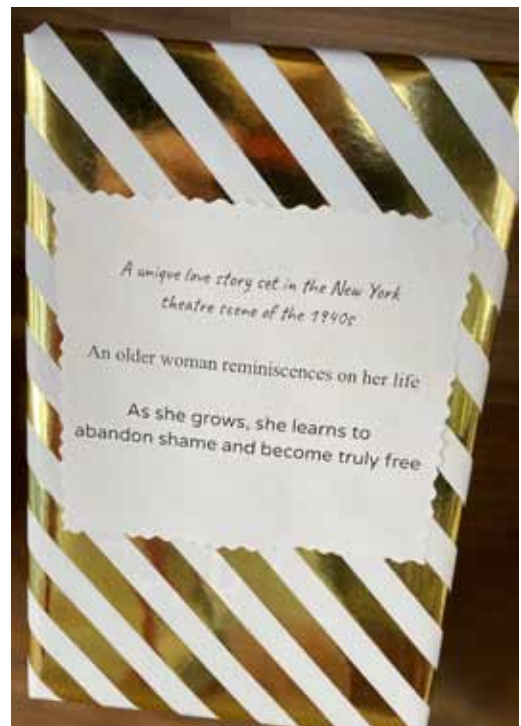
According to their website, “Bookmarks is a literary arts nonprofit organization and independent bookstore that works to ignite the love of reading. We believe in books with purpose and are passionate about connecting our community with books and authors...Bookmarks began as a literary arts nonprofit in 2004. Over the last 17 years, Bookmarks has worked to connect people with books and authors through an annual Festival of Books & Authors, year-round events, and outreach programs including Authors In Schools and Book Build.”

Bookmarks
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<https://www.bookmarksn.org>



This is a portion of the reading suggestions from area book clubs.

With the titles hidden and an enticing series of blurbs, there is a shelf of good reads for young people to take a chance on.



Somebody, please, what book is this?
 I want to read it!

Colorfully wrapped books for adults are also available for those willing to try the unknown.

