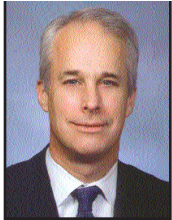


NOTES



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 3, SUMMER 2005

The Library acknowledges with gratitude the long and exemplary service of William J. Dean as Board Chairman and James Q. Griffin as Treasurer, after, respectively, thirteen and twenty-one years in these positions. They will both remain on the Board in non-officer capacities. These new officers were elected at a meeting of the Board on June 1.



CHARLES G. BERRY, CHAIRMAN

A Library member since childhood, Charles G. Berry joined the Board in 1993 and served as its secretary and legal counsel from 1996 to 2005. He is a partner in the New York office of Arnold & Porter LLP, where he specializes in commercial litigation. Mr. Berry lives in Manhattan with his wife Kathryn, an architect and frequent Library user, and their college-age twin sons, Nicholas and Samuel. His mother, Mrs. Rynn Berry, has also been a Library member since her childhood.

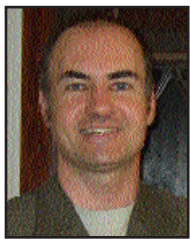


DANIEL M. ROSSNER, SECRETARY

Daniel M. Rossner became a trustee in 2002 and has served on the Book Committee, the Finance Committee, the Member Relations Committee, and the New York City Book Award jury. He is a partner in the law firm of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, where his practice focuses on structured and corporate finance. Dan and his wife, Nancy Chang, a public interest lawyer, are frequently to be found browsing the stacks or at Library events.

GEORGE L.K. FRELINGHUYSEN, TREASURER

George L.K. Frelinghuysen came onto the Board in 2003, joining the Finance Committee and assisting with the 250th Anniversary campaign. A Senior Associate with CHIPCO Asset Management, he lives in Manhattan with his wife Nonnie, a senior curator in the American Decorative Arts department of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and their two sons.



The Library is very pleased to announce that this summer we will begin work on the first phase of our renovation. This first phase will include a cluster of essential projects involving the passenger (east) elevator, members' restrooms, and the exterior of the building.

The passenger elevator will be given new mechanical equipment that should render it reliable and available once again for use by members. In anticipation of expansion of Library space both down to Stack Level 3 and at the top of the building, the passenger elevator's reach will be extended, with new stops installed at the Stack 3 level and on the sixth floor.

The restrooms by the Members' Room and on the floor immediately above will lose their bohemian patina and gain a sparkling new aura with fresh fixtures, finishes, and lighting. We will clean the building's facade and install a new canopy—improvements that we believe will cheer not only our members, but the public at large, and our neighbors in particular.

The Library will remain open during this work. We will, of course, post announcements both at the Library and on our website (www.nysoclib.org/renovation_update.html) of any significant noise or temporary changes in services that projects like this inevitably generate. We are delighted to have this project underway, and we believe it will thoroughly improve the Library for all who use it.





Margaret Mather Byard, a Library trustee from 1994 to 2000 and an honorary trustee thereafter, died May 17 in Salisbury, Connecticut, in her 95th year. Maggie, as she was affectionately known throughout the Society Library community, was an expert in 17th-century English literature who taught at Rutgers and Columbia. She was also an accomplished pianist. (Her Columbia Ph.D. dissertation, "The Idea of Harmony and Paradise Lost," drew on her understanding both of history and of music.) At the Library, she was the founding chair of the Visitors' Committee, and her comprehensive article on the Winthrop Collection, one of our major holdings, can be found at www.nysoclib.org/winthrop.html.

Maggie was born in Glasgow to a family of musical Scots and emigrated to the United States with her parents on the *Acquitania*. Educated at Fieldston and Smith, she became a citizen in the 1930s and worked as a journalist before beginning her second career in academia in the 1950s. She and her family were Library members from 1937, when she first wheeled her eldest child in a

perambulator to investigate the new site at 53 East 79th Street. Her late husband, Spencer Byard, was a trustee from 1952 to 1992 and chairman from 1979 to 1985.

Maggie was a rare combination of educated intelligence, human understanding, and kindness. Her comments, delivered with a trace of Scots burr, were often humorous but never cruel. She brought out the best in all those lucky enough to know her. She will be sorely missed.

-Barbara H. Stanton



A memorial service will be held at the Library in early July; for more information, call the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x230.

❖ *Please write or telephone the Library with any comments or suggestions. Visit our website at www.nysoclib.org.*

THE NEW YORK SOCIETY LIBRARY

53 East 79th Street
New York, NY 10021



The New York City Book Awards ceremony took place on May 4. Members of the Book Awards jury presented awards to the following winners: Edward Conlon for *Blue Blood* (Riverhead Books); David W. Dunlap for *From Abyssinian to Zion: A Guide to Manhattan's Houses of Worship* (Columbia University Press); The New York Transit Museum and photographer Andrew Garn for *Subway Style: 100 Years of Architecture and Design in the New York City Subways* (Stewart, Tabori & Chang); Russell Shorto for *The Island at the Center of the World* (Doubleday Publishing); Phillip Lopate for *Waterfront: A Journey Around Manhattan* (Crown Publishing) and Miriam Cohen and illustrator Thomas F. Yezerski for *Mimmy and Sophie: All Around the Town* (Frances Foster Books). A Special Citation of Merit was also presented to Arcadia Publishing for the *Images of America* series.



Clockwise from upper left: Edward Conlon, author of *Blue Blood*; Michael Henry Adams presents the award for *From Abyssinian to Zion*; Joan K. Davidson congratulates Gabrielle Shubert of the New York Transit Museum and Michael Jacobs of Stewart, Tabori & Chang; Miriam Cohen with Thomas F. Yezerski; presenter Elizabeth Barlow Rogers with winner Phillip Lopate; Russell Shorto, author of *The Island at the Center of the World*.

Photos by David Ortiz

The Young Writers Awards were presented on May 24. Judges Robert Quackenbush, Dave Johnson, and Carol Weston presented awards to winners Michal Tolk, Gabriel Merkin, Emma Hitchcock, and Cate Mahoney, and honorable mentions Lily Shoretz and Mary Lindsey.



Students from member school Ramaz turn in their competition entires



Clockwise from upper left: Cate Mahoney, Gabriel Merkin, Emma Hitchcock, Lily Shoretz, and Michal Tolk. Not pictured: Mary Lindsey.

Photos by S.E. Holliday