

## IN THIS ISSUE

EPTEMBER 2012

•	RECENT ACQUISITIONS	1
•	Public Programs	2
•	WIGGINS LECTURE Poetry & Print in Early America Symposium	3
•	2012 Isaiah Thomas Award in Publishing	) 3
•	Annual Meeting	4
•	BICENTENNIAL GALA	4
•	Two at 200 Open House	4
•	BARON LECTURE	4
•	BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION	5
•	AAS PUBLICATIONS	5
•	War of 1812 Conference	6
•	Programs for K-12 Teachers	6
•	CHAVIC SUMMER SEMINAR	7
•	History of the Book Summer Seminar	8
•	NEW AAS FILM	8
•	NEW MEMBERS	9
•	News	11
•	AAS HERITAGE	12

For more information: www.americanantiquarian.org



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## The Society Acquires Twelve Letters Written by Isaiah Thomas

We are always interested in acquiring letters written by AAS founder Isaiah Thomas, and they do not often become available. This year, however, we were able to add twelve Thomas letters to the manuscript collections. Three of them were offered to us at the New York Book Fair in April. In one, written in 1797 to Rev. Joseph Lothrop of West Springfield, Massachusetts, Thomas explains the business advantages of selling Lothrop's two volumes of sermons as a set rather than individually. Two other letters, from 1819, are to William Tudor in Boston. One is a reply to Tudor's request for Thomas's memories of James Otis, Jr. and the other concerns a Jewish phylactery found in western Massachusetts that was regarded by some as a proof that Native Americans were descendants of the lost tribes of Israel.

Only a month after we acquired these

three letters, a dealer offered us nine others written between 1792 and 1802. Five were written by Thomas to New York City lawyer Timothy Green and concern Thomas's efforts to collect debts owed him. The other four are addressed to the Philadelphia printer William Young; Isaac Beers, a bookseller in New Haven; another letter to Rev. Lothrop; and Alexander Thomas, Isaiah's distant relative, former apprentice, and partner in Walpole, New Hampshire.

These two acquisitions are likely the largest number of Isaiah Thomas letters to come to AAS in a single year since Thomas's death in 1831.

Funding for these acquisitions came from the Henry F. DuPuy Fund, the John T. Lee Fund, Adopt-a-Book, the Isaiah Thomas Fund, and the Isaiah Thomas Descendants Fund.

-- Thomas Knoles

NUMBER 84

## **CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL!** Fall Public Programs

Major Exhibition 200th Annual Meeting Books Conference Symposium Bicentennial Gala New DVD Copper Dome & Banners on Antiquarian Hall

## **BICENTENNIAL SERIES: FALL PUBLIC PROGRAMS**





Left: Thomas Birch, U.S. Frigate Constitution, Isaac Hull Esqr. Commander, 1813. Right: The Lost Cause, 1872.

## Celebrating History & Changing Perspectives

Anniversary celebrations – of events, relationships, and institutions – offer an opportunity to reflect on the past, to take a reckoning of the present, and to look forward to the future. The Society's bicentennial provides a special opportunity to examine just how much has changed – or not changed – over the last 200 years.

Similarly, the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the sesquicentennial of the Civil War are providing scholars and artists with a chance to present fresh perspectives on key events in United States history. Our signature series of public programs this fall features some of the nation's most distinguished historians and performers and their work surrounding these commemorations.

#### WAR OF 1812 October 12, 7:00 p.m.

Alan Taylor, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, begins the fall series on October 12 with a lecture based on his latest book, The Civil War of 1812: American Citizens, British Subjects, Irish Rebels, & Indian Allies. Taylor, professor of history at the University of California, Davis, will describe how the War of 1812 had the potential to fundamentally change the relationship between the United States and Canada. Hard-fought battles along the border might have led to the annexation of Canadian lands, or to the demise of the young American nation. Instead, the two sides fought to a draw, to be followed by centuries of peaceful coexistence.

Taylor's lecture will also serve as the keynote for a conference on the War of 1812 for kindergarten to grade 12 teachers taking place on October 13 (see p. 6 for details). To complement the lecture and conference, an exhibit of items in AAS collections concerning the War of 1812 will be on display in Antiquarian Hall.

# EARLY AMERICAN MUSIC October 16, 7:00 p.m.

Public programs continue with a performance by Early American music historian David Hildebrand, a co-founder of the Colonial Music Institute in Maryland. Hildebrand performs frequently for museums, historical societies, at Colonial Williamsburg and Mount Vernon, and in schools, appearing in an early nineteenthcentury costume and playing period instruments. On October 16 he will present "In Vogue with the Vulgar: Music during the War of 1812." His performance will feature music that was heard in homes, on the streets, and in taverns and theaters. He will also explain the origin of the Star-Spangled Banner.

Selections from AAS's Isaiah Thomas broadside ballad collection, which provides a fascinating window on the culture of Boston around the time of the War of 1812, will also be performed. In 1813, the year after he founded the Society, Thomas purchased broadsides from Boston printer Nathaniel Coverly. After returning to Worcester, Thomas had almost 300 of them bound in three volumes and put in AAS's collections. The title for this program comes from his inscription on the volumes, which states that he had the broadsides "bound up for Preservation – to show what articles of this kind are in vogue with the vulgar at this time." They cover topics ranging from responses to the War of 1812 and its effect on Boston trade and shipping, to bawdy drinking songs, to celebrations of historic events.

#### THE CIVIL WAR November 1, 7:00 p.m.

David Blight, Class of 1954 Professor of American History at Yale University and one of the nation's foremost historians of slavery and resistance, will shift the focus from the War of 1812 to reflections on the Civil War over time. His lecture on November 1, "From Emancipation to Civil Rights and Beyond: Legacies of the Civil War at 150," will discuss the impact of the Civil War at fifty-year intervals. Blight will also consider how this great conflict is still felt in roiling American political debates.

Although this lecture will draw on Blight's latest work, *American Oracle: The Civil War in the Civil Rights Era*, his time as an AAS Peterson Fellow contributed to a previous, Bancroft Prizewinning book, also on the Civil War and its commemoration, *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory.* In *Race and Reunion,* Blight explored the ways in which the Civil War was remembered in the fifty years after the end of the conflict, weaving together a narrative of literature, history, and public memorials.

## **2012 WIGGINS LECTURE**



Phillis Wheatley, Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral, 1773, frontispiece portrait.

## In Search of Phillis Wheatley

Vincent Carretta, professor of English at the University of Maryland and a specialist in eighteenth-century transatlantic historical and literary studies, will deliver the twentyninth annual James Russell Wiggins Lecture in the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture on September 28 at 7:00 p.m. This annual lecture is named for James Russell Wiggins, editor of the *Washington Post* and chairman of the Society from 1970 to 1977.

Carretta's lecture will focus on his process behind writing the first full-length biography of Phillis Wheatley, *Phillis Wheatley: Biography of a Genius in Bondage* (2011). Despite her fame and success as a poet, her situation as both a woman and slave in the eighteenth century meant she left behind many mysteries surrounding her life, but little material from which biographers could work. Now, 250 years after her slave ship's arrival in Boston Harbor, Carretta has been able to shed light on many of these mysteries and give new voice to the first English-speaking person of African descent, and the second woman, to publish a book in America.

Wheatley was only about seven years old when she stepped off a slave ship in Boston in 1761, but rose to international renown with the publication of *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* in 1773, written while she was still a slave and a teenager. Despite her early success, she died in poverty and obscurity, making it even more difficult to discover the details of her extraordinary life. Carretta's extensive background in transatlantic history and literature made it possible for him to discover more about Wheatley's upbringing, her road to freedom, and her post-emancipation life, as well as her probable involvement in the publication and distribution of her own work.

AAS has its own treasures related to Wheatley, including a desk and hutch bookcase that is believed to have belonged to the Wheatley family, two manuscript poems, and two first edition London printings of *Poems on Various Subjects*. This book of poems includes a dignified frontispiece portrait of Wheatley, depicting her in the midst of writing.

Carretta has written and edited ten other books, most recently *Equiano, the African: Biography of a Self-Made Man* (2005) and *The Life and Letters of Philip Quaque, the First African Anglican Missionary* (2010), co-edited with Ty M. Reese. He has recently held fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the John Carter Brown Library, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the University of London, the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for Afro-American Research at Harvard University, and the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton.

This lecture will also serve as the keynote for the Poetry & Print in Early America symposium on September 29.

# Poetry & Print in Early America

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The Bibliographical Society of America and AAS will host a research symposium on September 29 to mark the publication of A Bibliographical Description of Books and Pamphlets of American Verse Printed from 1610 Through 1820. The book was compiled by Roger Stoddard, curator of rare books emeritus at the Houghton Library at Harvard University, and edited by David Whitesell, curator of the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia. Bibliographers, scholars, and book dealers will address aspects of early American poetry in panel discussions on collecting; race, religion, and early American poetry; and poetry in circulation.

The introductory keynote, "Three Tasks of the First Poetry: Announcing Discovery, Invoking Society, and Disclosing History," will be delivered by David Shields, McClintock Professor of Southern Letters at the University of South Carolina. More information on the conference is available on the AAS website, www.americanantiquarian.org/ poetryandprint.htm.

## Celebrating the Life of a Patriot Printer: A Tribute to Isaiah Thomas

On September 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the Rochester Institute of Technology will honor AAS with the 2012 Isaiah Thomas Award in Publishing. In addition to the award ceremony, the program will feature a panel discussion entitled "Preserving the History of News in a Digital Age" in the Campus Center of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, followed by tours and a special exhibition of Isaiah Thomas materials at AAS.



The 200th annual meeting of the American Antiquarian Society will be held on October 26, 2012. A collectors' roundtable will showcase gifts to the Society in honor of its bicentennial with significant additions to the collections on display in Antiquarian Hall.

A symposium will be held in honor of Georgia Barnhill, who retired as director of the Center for Historic American Visual Culture in July. Her tenure at AAS will be considered from different vantage points, from curatorial expertise and scholarship to her talents as a mentor, to collection development and innovative programs, to changes in the Society over that time.

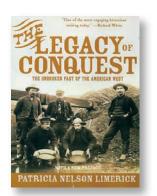
On Saturday, October 27, a special tour of Rural Cemetery, where many of the Society's early benefactors are interred, will be offered for members. The tour will be led by AAS member and Worcester Historical Museum executive director William Wallace.

A sensational black tie gala will be held that evening in Antiquarian Hall. The theme is "Black & White & Read All Over." Invitations will be sent in September.

Two at 200 Bicentennial Open Houses at the First Baptist Church & Antiquarian Hall October 20 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The AAS Open House will include tours and a performance of Isaiah Thomas - Patriot Printer

## 2012 ROBERT C. BARON LECTURE



"Those Who Labor in the Archives Are the Chosen People of God, If Ever He Had a Chosen People': Or, How *The Legacy of Conquest* Could Have Been a Better Book If Its Author Had Spent a Season at the American Antiquarian Society"

Patricia Nelson Limerick, a Western American historian at the University of Colorado, Boulder, will deliver the ninth annual Baron Lecture on October 25 at 7:00 p.m. This lecture is named for Robert C. Baron, past AAS chair and president of Fulcrum Publishing in Denver. This lecture invites a distinguished AAS member who has written a seminal work of history to reflect on one book and its impact on scholarship and society since its publication. Limerick will be exploring the ways in which her book, *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West*, would have been improved by spending time in the AAS archives.

The Legacy of Conquest, published in 1987, was a groundbreaking book in scholarship on the West. One of the central texts of what came to be known as the "New Western History," Legacy of Conquest represented a key moment in the ongoing revision of Frederick Jackson Turner's frontier thesis, which dominated Western history writing for much of the twentieth century. Instead of Turner's emphasis on the impact of the process of "westering" on white settlers from the East who moved West, Limerick's work charted a course that took more seriously the role of the physical environment of the West in shaping the region and its history. The Legacy of Conquest demonstrated, in lively and compelling prose, how the environmental characteristics of the West combined with the ongoing dynamic of Anglo conquest of Native Americans to define the history of the trans-Mississippi West.

Now, twenty-five years later, Limerick shares the instructive and amusing journeys that her book undertook, reflecting on the "substantial and genuine virtue" that *Legacy* would have gained from time spent in Worcester. With the substitution of one noun, the title of this talk takes Thomas Jefferson's famous tribute to yeoman farmers and turns it into a tribute to yeoman historians who spend their time with documents and manuscripts. As a "big picture" historian, Limerick has said she feels indebted to the labors of those who explore and manage archives.

Had Limerick explored AAS's collections relating to the West, she would have found an exceptional array of items, thanks to the generosity of two donors: Donald McKay Frost and Thomas W. Streeter. Donations from these collectors – given between the late 1940s and 1960s – included broadsides, newspapers, eighty-six watercolor and pencil sketches created by British artist Henry James Warre in 1845, railroad and canal material, printed Indian treaties, and thousands of other volumes.

Patricia Limerick is the faculty director and chair of the board of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado. She has dedicated her career to bridging the gap between academics and the general public and to demonstrating the benefits of applying historical perspective to contemporary dilemmas and conflicts. Her other books include *Desert Passages* (1985) and *Something in the Soil* (2000). She has received a number of awards and honors recognizing the impact of her scholarship and her commitment to teaching, including the MacArthur Fellowship (1995 to 2000) and the Hazel Barnes Prize, the University of Colorado's highest award for teaching and research (2001). She regularly contributes essays to op-ed pages of local and national newspapers, and in the summer of 2005 she served as a guest columnist for the *New York Times*.

# Bicentennial Exhibition in NewYork!



The Society's bicentennial exhibition – *In Pursuit of a Vision: Two Centuries of Collecting at the American Antiquarian Society* – will be on view at the Grolier Club in New York from September 12 through November 17, 2012.

The Grolier Club is located at 47 East 60th Street and the gallery is open to the public free of charge, Monday through Saturday, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This exhibition introduces nearly thirty of the many individual scholars, philanthropic collectors, librarians, members, and book dealers who have helped build the Society's rich collections over its first two centuries and includes almost 200 items. The full-color catalog provides descriptions and eighteen essays on aspects of the Society's collecting history.

## **Bicentennial Books**

AAS has published a number of bicentennial books, two associated with important exhibitions. All are available through Oak Knoll Press (www.oakknoll.com) and in Antiquarian Hall. *In Pursuit of a Vision* is also available at the Grolier Club.

- In Pursuit of a Vision: Two Centuries of Collecting at the American Antiquarian Society, a generously illustrated catalog, includes a hand list for the Grolier Club exhibition, detailed entries, and essays on aspects of the Society's collecting history.
- The American Antiquarian Society, 1812-2012: A Bicentennial History by Philip F. Gura traces the development of the library and the contributions made by its librarians as collectors, scholars, and stewards of the nation's history. This is an engaging portrait of a unique American institution, illustrated with images of people, buildings, and items in the AAS collections.
- The exhibition catalog *With a French Accent: American Lithography to 1860* examines the impact of French lithography on the American lithographic business and more broadly, on American culture. This exhibition was originally shown

at the Davis Museum at Wellesley College (March 14 through June 3, 2012) and will travel to France in 2013.

- Joseph J. Felcone's book the most recent in a fine tradition of publishing bibliographies at AAS – is *Printing in New Jersey*, *1754-1800: A Descriptive Bibliography*. This comprehensive volume contains full descriptions of all 1,265 known products of every eighteenth-century New Jersey press, as well as indices for printers, publishers, provenance, and a general index. Printing offices are listed alphabetically, chronologically, and geographically, and over twenty-five percent of the items included have not been previously recorded.
- A Place in My Chronicle: A New Edition of the Diary of Christopher Columbus Baldwin, 1829-1835, was the first AAS bicentennial book, published in 2010. Although his tenure as AAS Librarian was brief, Baldwin had a lasting impact on the Society. In addition to describing his work as the first paid librarian (thanks to a generous bequest from Isaiah Thomas), the diary describes everyday life in the early nineteenth century, national politics, and his opinions on a range of topics including temperance, religion, and slavery.

## **PROGRAMS FOR K-12 TEACHERS**



### CONFERENCE ON THE WAR OF 1812

What better way to celebrate AAS's bicentennial than with a conference on another major and related bicentennial, that of the War of 1812. On October 13, in cooperation with the New England History Teachers Association (NEHTA), AAS will present a conference on the War of 1812 for K-12 teachers. This daylong conference will take a long view of the war, looking at its military, political, and cultural implications both during and after the conflict, with a plenary talk by AAS member William Fowler of Northeastern University. Concurrent breakout sessions will cover all aspects of the war, including the war at sea; the war in an international context; the culture of the period as expressed in the music and images of the time; the war's impact on American politics; and how the war influenced the development of Canadian culture, among others.

Participants will take part in sessions that highlight the latest historical scholarship and provide ideas for pedagogical approaches in the classroom. This will include sessions on music, graphic art, lesson plans, and recently published histories. Opportunities to explore AAS materials related to the War of 1812 will be presented in a workshop on images of the conflict and an exhibit in Antiquarian Hall. In a fitting end to the day, David Hildebrand will perform

# Yankee-Doodle Scratch't, [Amos Doolittle, 1813].

Brother Jonathan administering a salutory cordial to John Bull.

music from the war during a reception closing the conference.

The keynote will be delivered by Alan Taylor, author of *The Civil War of 1812*, the previous evening (see p. 2). For a full schedule and to register, see the AAS website, www.americanantiquarian.org/warof1812conf.htm

In addition to the War of 1812 conference, AAS will be offering four other daylong workshops over the course of the 2012-2013 school year and the summer of 2013. These workshops will be offered to interested teachers from all over New England, with special underwriting for Worcester Public School teachers to attend at no cost.

## NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC SITE COLLABORATIVE

The New England Historic Site Collaborative (NEHSC) was delighted to host its first two groups of teachers earlier this year. The first group, from Glendale, California, spent March 27-31 in New England. They were split into two groups, the fifth grade teachers focusing on "Colonial Encounters and the American Revolution," and the high school teachers studying "Nineteenth-Century Industry and Reform Movements." Between the two groups they visited AAS, Plimoth Plantation, Slater Mill and the Museum of Work and Culture in Rhode Island, the Massachusetts Historical Society, Old Sturbridge Village, Deerfield Teachers' Center of the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, and the Tsongas Industrial History Center in Lowell.

The second group, from Manatee, Florida, spent June 17-23 exploring the ways in which key events in American history can be told from traditionally under-represented perspectives. This included examining the situation of African-Americans in Boston during the Revolutionary War with the Massachusetts Historical Society, the relationships between colonial settlers and Native Americans at Plimoth Plantation, the roles of women and immigrants in Lowell, and the power of words for women and slaves at AAS. Ed O'Donnell from the College of the Holy Cross and Bruce Laurie from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, both AAS members, served as lead scholars for this group's trip.



## **CHAVIC SUMMER SEMINAR**

Seeing the CivilWar: How Visual Culture Recorded, Interpreted, and Remembered the Conflict



The 2012 Center for Historic American Visual Culture (CHAViC) Summer Seminar, Seeing the Civil War: How Visual Culture Recorded, Interpreted, and Remembered the Conflict, was held from June 17-22. The seminar was led by Joshua Brown, executive director of the American Social History Project/Center for Media Learning at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. He was ably assisted by Georgia Barnhill and Lauren Hewes, the Andrew W. Mellon Curator of Graphic Arts. Nan Wolverton, the new director of CHAViC, was on hand as well. Guest lecturers included David Jaffee, professor and head of New Media Research at the Bard Graduate Center; Lynne Bassett, an independent scholar and historian of textiles; Debra Block, director of education at the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library; Richard West, historian of political prints and nineteenth-century magazines; and Patricia Hills, professor of art history at Boston University.

The first workshop on nineteenth-century graphic processes looked at items from the AAS graphic arts collection, emphasizing the importance of being able to distinguish between different types of prints. In a subsequent hands-on workshop focusing on photographic processes, participants working in pairs identified daguerreotypes, tintypes, ambrotypes, carte-de-visite portraits, and cabinet photographs.

Since photography played an important part in the documentation of the Civil War, the seminar looked in particular at work by Matthew Brady and Alexander Gardner. Other topics included the roles women played in the Civil War through the textile trades, providing soldiers with everything from bedding to uniforms; illustrated journals (including *Harper's Weekly, The New York Illustrated News*, and *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*) and their publication of slavery and anti-slavery imagery; and Civil War-era maps, including one that documented the number of slaves in southern counties.

A discussion of political prints and political iconography in

Standing: Gregory Pfitzer, Bridget Marshall, Joon Hyung Park, Richard West (guest faculty), Kelli Morgan, Jonathan Hartmann, Fiona McWilliam, Nan Wolverton (AAS), Melanie Hernandez, Joshua Brown (seminar leader), Aaron Schackelford, Christopher Schnell Seated, from left: Tanya Stone, Sarah Weicksel, Gigi Barnhill (AAS), Theresa Leininger-Miller, Lauren Hewes (AAS), Jaleen Grove, Elizabeth Kiszonas

periodicals included an opportunity to examine rare Confederate magazines in Richard West's personal collection. Items from AAS collections of particular interest included maps, games, patriotic envelopes, broadside ballads, sheet music, and valentines. Participants developed a good sense of the meaning of obscure symbols and imagery through these workshops. After sessions on the publication and distribution of prints, and one on paintings of the Civil War, participants returned to the reading room to do research or accompanied Gigi Barnhill to the Worcester Art Museum to look at American paintings. The final sessions were on imagery surrounding Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and prints that memorialized the Civil War, some of which commemorated the deaths of individual soldiers, others focusing on political change after the War, such as the Fifteenth Amendment. After lunch and closing remarks by Joshua Brown, the group disbanded. The participants' evaluations of the week-long seminar were positive and many predict that imagery will be integrated more fully into future research agendas and courses.

## HISTORY OF THE BOOK SUMMER SEMINAR African American Cultures of Print

The 2012 History of the Book Summer Seminar from July 8-13, *African American Cultures of Print*, set out to investigate how, on the one hand, the methodologies of print culture might enrich our understanding of African American writing, and on the other, how African American archives might transform our approaches to the study of print culture.

A wonderful group of participants from as far away as Paris and as close as Boston dug into the American Antiquarian Society's deep holdings in early African American print culture, including newspapers, children's books, broadsides, engravings, religious narratives, and a host of other texts. Participants not only studied these objects as fascinating artifacts but also asked how they might recast our understanding of contemporary scholarly debates-indeed, how they might challenge the very definition of African American print culture. Sessions examined the role of visual culture, reading the array of visual materials by and about African Americans in light of the presumed visibility of race; traced the relationships between print culture and the production of African American publics, counterpublics, and other collectivities; explored different modalities of literacy; and asked how our understanding of African American print culture would change if we untethered it from the figure of the author to consider readers, editors, engravers, typesetters, and other print-culture workers, as well.

Guest faculty Eric Gardner (Saginaw Valley State University) and Radiclani Clytus (Brown University) enriched the conversation enormously, while visits to Boston's Museum of African American History and the eighteenth-century Printing Office of Edes and Gill—not to mention a stop by the neighboring homes of David Walker and Maria Stewart—brought home the many ways that physical spaces inflect the production of print. The seminar demonstrated the breadth of AAS's African American collections, their importance to helping us discover more about early African American print culture, and their potential to help us reexamine what we already thought we knew.

- Lara Langer Cohen and Jordan Alexander Stein, co-leaders



Row 1 (front): Toni Wall Jaudon, Heidi Morse, Barbara McCaskill, Sarah Patterson; Row 2: Sam Sommers, Krystal Appiah, Erin Forbes, Bryan Sinche; Row 3: Trevor Sangrey, Michael Roy, Lori Leavell, Tara Bynum; Row 4: Andrea Stone, Jared Hardesty, R.J. Boutelle, Andreá Williams; Row 5: Jeffrey Cottrell, Nicole Gray, Jordan Alexander Stein (seminar co-leader), Nathan Jérémie-Brink; Row 6: Molly O'Hagan Hardy, Lara Langer Cohen (seminar co-leader), Eric Gardner (guest faculty), Paul Erickson (AAS)

## New Film Showcases the Society's Culture and Collections

The Society has produced a new DVD that shows the diversity and extent of AAS collections and demonstrates the accessibility, inspiration, and transformation that many readers have experienced doing research in Antiquarian Hall.

Director of outreach Jim Moran wrote and served as executive producer of the project. Moran worked with Lawrence Hott and Diane Garey of Florentine Films/Hott Productions to produce an eleven-minute film that provides a general orientation to the Society and six short modules that describe aspects of the Society's collections and activities in greater depth. The modules describe access to the collections, preservation, collections, scholarly programs, programs for K-12 teachers, and fellowships.

Lawrence Hott and Diane Garey began working together in 1978 as members of the Florentine Films consortium. They formed Florentine Films/Hott Productions in 1981. Since then they have produced nearly two dozen films for national broadcast on PBS most recently including *The War of 1812; Divided Highways; John James Audubon: Drawn from Life; Niagara,* and *The Adiron-dacks.* They have received an Emmy Award, the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, the Erik Barnouw History Award, the George Foster Peabody Award, five American Film Festival Blue Ribbons, and fourteen CINE Golden Eagles, and have been nominated for two Academy Awards. Their films have been broadcast internationally and the filmmakers have presented their documentaries in special programs in Canada, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Algeria, and Great Britain.

These new AAS films feature many members and friends who speak powerfully of what the Society and its collections mean to them and the nation. Testimonials are provided by well-known AAS members Jill Lepore, Nathaniel Philbrick, and David McCullough, former fellows Honorée Jeffers, Allison Stagg, and Ilyon Woo, Worcester teacher Linda Forte, historians and AAS members William Fowler and Scott Casper, and AAS Councilor William Reese.

The film and video modules will premiere in September on the AAS website and will be shown at AAS events and before tours of Antiquarian Hall.

## NEW MEMBERS Twenty-five new members were elected at the semiannual meeting, held on April 20, 2012 in Boston.

#### JESSE ALEMÁN

#### Albuquerque, New Mexico

Jesse Alemán is a professor of English and coordinator of American Literary Studies at the University of New Mexico. His scholarship and teaching focus on nineteenth-century American literature and the emergence of Mexican America. He is currently working on *Wars of Rebellion*, a book that considers nineteenth-century Hispanic writing about the American Civil War in the context of wars in Cuba and Mexico.

### DAVID P. ANGEL

#### Worcester, Massachusetts

David P. Angel is president of Clark University, where he has taught since 1987 in the departments of geography and economics and served as provost from 2003 to 2010. He is a pioneering researcher on industrial environmentalism and clean technologies and, since taking his current office, has continued the long tradition of engagement by Clark presidents in the Worcester community.

#### ELIZABETH BLACKMAR

New York, New York

Elizabeth Blackmar is professor of history at Columbia University specializing in social and urban history. Her books include *The Park and the People: A History of Central Park* (with Roy Rosenzweig, 1992) and *Manhattan for Rent, 1785-1850* (1989), which examined the housing market in antebellum New York and the rise of the apartment house. She is currently at work on a project on the legal history of land and inheritance.

#### COLIN CALLOWAY

Hanover, New Hampshire

Colin Calloway is the John Kimball, Jr. 1943 Professor of History and professor of Native American studies at Dartmouth College. His many books on Native American history include *The Scratch of a Pen: 1763 and the Transformation of North America (2006); One Vast Winter Count: The Native American West Before Lewis and Clark (2003);* and *The American Revolution in Indian Country (1995).* 

#### FERN D. COHEN

Sands Point, New York

Fern Cohen is a collector of rare nineteenthcentury books on topics including botany, horticulture, and children's gardens. She is a former elementary school teacher and librarian and currently serves on the boards of several non-profit foundations. She and her husband, Hersh Cohen, have exhibited their collections at the Grolier Club in New York, where she is a member of the Council.

#### J. CHRISTOPHER COLLINS Worcester, Massachusetts

J. Christopher Collins is senior vice president and general counsel of Unum US, which includes among its corporate predecessors the Paul Revere Life Insurance Company. He has been active in the leadership of the Worcester Art Museum, the Bridge of Central Massachusetts, the Worcester Regional Research Bureau, the Nativity School of Worcester, the Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness for the city of Worcester, and the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce.

#### GLENN C. DEMALLIE

Worcester, Massachusetts

Glenn C. DeMallie is a Worcester investment advisor of long standing with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney and a consistent supporter of the American Antiquarian Society. He is a board member of Family Services of Central Massachusetts and the Girls Welfare Society of Worcester, a corporator of Girls Inc. and Becker College, and a former trustee of the Higgins Armory Museum.

#### GEORGE L. DRESSER

Jefferson, Massachusetts

George L. Dresser is an attorney with a practice focused largely on land conservation and other complex trust arrangements. He is one of the founders of the White Oak Land Conservation Society and the Greater Worcester Land Trust, and his AAS roots extend back through his grandfathers Frank Dresser (elected 1909), Waldo Lincoln (elected 1898), Daniel Waldo Lincoln (elected 1869), William Paine (elected 1812), Levi Lincoln, Jr. (elected 1812) and Levi Lincoln (elected 1812).

#### **Stephen Ferguson**

#### Princeton, New Jersey

Stephen Ferguson is curator of rare books in the Princeton University Library. He has long been interested in the history of libraries in the United States, especially those at institutions of higher education, now documented in a database of 9,800 libraries. He participated in the 2006 History of the Book in American Culture summer seminar at AAS. In 2009, he was the general editor of the catalog *Liberty and the American Revolution: Selections from the Collection of Sid Lapidus.* 

#### THOMAS A. GRAY

Carolina Beach, North Carolina

Thomas A. Gray, a graduate of the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture, has devoted his life to decorative arts and historic preservation. In addition to his private collecting, he has served on the boards of Old Salem, Inc., the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, and the Old Salem Toy Museum, which he cofounded. He has also served as president of the Historical Preservation Society of North Carolina. He has received the Ruth Coltrane Cannon Award, the state's highest award in historic preservation, and the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, awarded by the Governor of North Carolina.

#### ASHTON HAWKINS

New York, New York

Ashton Hawkins, a lawyer, has played an important role in the development of art law including as a member of the group that drafted the UNESCO Treaty on International Movement of Works of Art. He is widely known for his patronage of the arts and served for over three decades as counsel to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He is chairman *emeritus* of the Alliance for the Arts and a trustee of the World Monuments Fund and the New York Studio School. He is past chairman of the Dia Center for the Arts.

#### **ROBERT E. JOHNSON**

#### Worcester, Massachusetts

Robert E. Johnson was appointed in 2010 as the tenth president of Becker College, which traces its history to Leicester Academy (founded 1784) and is now recognized as a leader in the fields of computer game development, veterinary science, business, education, and nursing. He serves on the boards of many local organizations including the Colleges of Worcester Consortium and the Worcester Regional Research Bureau, as well as the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative and the national Council on Competitiveness.

#### **BREWSTER KAHLE**

San Francisco, California

Brewster Kahle, an Internet entrepreneur, philanthropist, and activist, is the founder

of the Internet Archive. He is a member of the board of the Electronic Frontier Foundation and a supporter of the Open Content Alliance, a group of organizations committed to making a permanent, publicly accessible archive of digitized texts. He also serves on the boards of Public Knowledge, the European Archive, and the Television Archive.

## EDWARD LINENTHAL

Bloomington, Indiana

Edward Linenthal is professor of history and adjunct professor of American Studies at Indiana University. He is the editor of the *Journal of American History*, the flagship journal of the Organization of American Historians, and has long been a consultant to the National Park Service on the interpretation of historic sites. His books include *Sacred Ground: Americans and Their Battlefields* (1991), which examined the preservation of battle sites at Lexington and Concord, the Alamo, Gettysburg, Little Bighorn, and Pearl Harbor.

#### **Trish Loughran** *Urbana*, *Illinois*

Trish Loughran is associate professor of English and history at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where she teaches courses on early American literature, politics, and culture, with a special emphasis on material and visual culture. Her first book, *The Republic in Print: Print Culture in the Age of U.S. Nation-Building*, 1770-1870 (2007) won the Oscar Kenshur Book Prize in Eighteenth-Century Studies.

#### A. MITRA MORGAN

Brookline, Massachusetts

Mitra Morgan is the co-founder and chief curator of Joss & Main, an innovative online purveyor of goods for the home. She previously created and marketed her own line of children's products and held executive positions in the travel and financial services sectors. She also served as a director of Morgan Construction in Worcester. As an AAS member, she follows her father, Barrett Morgan (elected 1991), and her grandfather, Weld Morgan (elected 1966).

#### SALVATORE MUOIO

New York, New York

Salvatore Muoio founded S. Muoio & Co. LLC in 1997 as the manager of several private investment partnerships, having served previously at Gabelli Funds and Lazard Freres. He is an active and enthusiastic collector of American maritime books, emphasizing shipwrecks, pirates, navigational books, narratives, and fiction, such as the works of Herman Melville.

## JOHN L. NAU III

Houston, Texas

John Nau is past chairman of the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and of the Texas Historical Commission. He also serves on the board of the Civil War Preservation Trust, the National Park Foundation, and of Houston's Downtown Historic District. President of Silver Eagle Distributors, he is a charter member of the Monticello Cabinet in Charlottesville, Virginia.

#### JOHN G. PALFREY

Cambridge, Massachusetts

John Palfrey is the fifteenth head of school of Phillips Academy, Andover, and a director of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard Law School. He is the chair of the steering committee of the Digital Public Library of America and a trustee of the Knight Foundation. His ancestor, John Gorham Palfrey, author of *History of New England*, was elected to AAS in 1856.

### DEVAL L. PATRICK

Milton, Massachusetts

Deval L. Patrick is Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. While eight members of AAS held the governorship in the nineteenth century, the last AAS member to have held the office was Calvin Coolidge (Governor, 1919-1921, elected to AAS 1925, U.S. President, 1923-1929, AAS president, 1929-1933). Before taking office in 2007, Governor Patrick served as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights and as an executive with Texaco and Coca-Cola.

#### DWIGHT PITCAITHLEY

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Dwight Pitcaithley is College Professor of history at New Mexico State University, where he has taught since 2005. For the previous decade, he was Chief Historian for the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. A scholar of the American West and of nineteenth-century American history, he has written widely on the causes of the Civil War, historic preservation, and the role of public history.

#### JOSEPH ROACH

#### New Haven, Connecticut

Joseph Roach is Sterling Professor of Theater and English at Yale University. His books include *It* (2007) and *Cities of the Dead: Circum-Atlantic Performance* (1996), which received the James Russell Lowell Prize from the Modern Language Association and the Joe E. Calloway Prize in Drama and Theatre. He is also the recipient of the Barnard Hewitt Award for outstanding research in theatre history, and a Lifetime Distinguished Scholar Award from the American Society for Theatre Research.

#### **FATH DAVIS RUFFINS** *Washington*, D.C.

Fath Davis Ruffins is curator in the Division of Home and Community Life at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History in Washington. She is a scholar of African American history and culture and has curated numerous exhibits at the NMAH, as well as exhibitions at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati and the National Afro-American Museum in Wilberforce, Ohio.

#### **ROBERT WARRIOR** Urbana, Illinois

Robert Warrior is director of American Indian Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he is a professor of American Indian Studies, English, and history. An enrolled member of the Osage Nation, his books include American Indian Literary Nationalism (with Jace Weaver and Craig Womack, 2006) and The People and the Word: Reading Native Nonfiction (2005). He is the founding President of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association.

#### **MATTHIAS WASCHEK**

Worcester, Massachusetts

Matthias Waschek was appointed director of the Worcester Art Museum in 2011. He previously served for eight years as executive director of the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts in St. Louis, where he shaped the identity of the new institution, and as director of academic programs at the Musée du Louvre in Paris, where his duties included not only curatorial work, but also teaching, lecturing, and publishing.

## NEW COPPER DOME & BANNERS ON ANTIQUARIAN HALL



Funding for the restoration of Antiquarian Hall's signature copper dome this summer was generously provided by the George F. and Sybil H. Fuller Foundation. After the familiar green patina was replaced by new copper, five banners were installed on the Park Avenue and Salisbury Street façades. Four feature collection items and words that succinctly describe activities of the Society: Research, Lectures, Programs, and Fellowships. The banner to the left of the entrance says "AAS Celebrates 200 Years – A national research library of American history & culture – Founded in 1812." Custom-designed hardware will allow the banners to be changed in the future.

## NEWS FROM MEMBERS, FELLOWS & STAFF

#### MEMBERS

David Rumsey, who has collected 150,000 maps, atlases, globes, school geographies, and maritime charts since the 1980s, received the 2012 Warren R. Howell Award from Stanford University. He is the chairman of Luna Imaging and president of Cartography Associates, which is dedicated to expanding free online access to historical maps. To date, he has made over 30,000 images of maps available on the Internet. His collection will be donated to Stanford and housed in the David Rumsey Historical Map Center, now in the planning stage, to be located in the university's Green Library and accessible online.

Jeffrey D. Groves, a professor of literature at Harvey Mudd College who began a five-year term as vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty in July, was awarded the 2012 Henry T. Mudd Prize in recognition of his extraordinary service to the college over two and a half decades. The citation recognizes his creativity, collegiality, leadership (particularly in developing popular interdisciplinary courses), passion for teaching, and expertise.

**Thomas A. Horrocks** has been appointed director of the John Hay Library at Brown University, effective July 9, 2012. He has

served as associate librarian of Houghton Library for Collections at Harvard University since 2005. Before his time at Houghton, he was director of the Center of the History of Medicine at Harvard's Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.

#### **FELLOWS**

Current AAS-NEH Fellow **Joe Adelman**'s article on the current plight of the post office – "The Postal Service is a Civic Institution, Not a Business" – was published in the April 25, 2012 online edition of *The Atlantic*.

Seth Cotlar, a former Peterson Fellow and now associate professor of history at Willamette University, was awarded the 2012 James Broussard Best First Book Prize by the Society of Historians of the Early American Republic in recognition of his book, *Tom Paine's America: The Rise and Fall of Transatlantic Radicalism in the Early Republic* (2011).

Caitlin Rosenthal, a 2010 Botein Fellow, completed her doctorate in the History of American Civilization in May 2012. This year she is the Newcomen Fellow in Business History at Harvard Business School, working on a book based on her dissertation on the transformation of numerical thinking during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, focusing specifically on how quantitative analysis changed management practices.

### **S**TAFF

Fond farewells: Georgia Barnhill, founding director of the Center for Historic American Visual Culture (CHAViC), retired in July after forty-four years at AAS. Anne Hendrickson retired from acquisitions in July after six years. Caroline Sloat, director of book publishing, retired in August after almost twenty years at AAS. In May, cataloger Samantha Klein left the North American Imprints Program (NAIP), and Rebecca Chabot left the outreach staff to pursue a Ph.D. in history at the University of Connecticut.

New arrivals & staff changes: Anna Moir joined the staff in April as coordinator of development operations. In May, Elizabeth Pope, the former head of readers' services, was named curator of books. Kim Toney was appointed assistant reference librarian, and Tracey Kry was named reading room manager and assistant curator of manuscripts, also in May. Nan Wolverton, the former curator of decorative arts at Old Sturbridge Village and a museum consultant and lecturer at Smith and Amherst Colleges, started as the new director of CHAViC in July.

### American Antiquarian Society

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# AAS Heritage



The American Antiquarian Society's centennial celebration takes on a special interest this year, with the bicentennial. The centennial festivities began on Tuesday, October 15, 1912, with a reception in Antiquarian Hall, which had been completed the previous year. There were more than 500 attendees, primarily from the Worcester area, with an orchestra playing behind palms on the mezzanine. The reception was largely a celebration of the new building, and guests were conducted through the stacks and offices. On Wednesday morning at 10:00, there was a business meeting for members in Antiquarian Hall which included the announcement of a particularly important gift from Frederick L. Gay—the manuscript records of the Council for New England for the years 1622-1623. After the meeting, wire manufacturer, former Congressman, and AAS Councilor Charles G. Washburn delivered an address on the history of the Society.

A reception and luncheon for members and guests was held after the meeting at the home of AAS President Waldo Lincoln. That afternoon, the First Unitarian Church in downtown Worcester was the site of a large public event featuring more speeches and the singing of hymns. The celebration concluded with a dinner for members, delegates, and guests at the Worcester Club. There were six speakers, including United States President William Howard Taft, who had been elected a member of the Society that morning. According to the October 17, 1912 *Worcester Telegram*, the President gave a speech "lauding the society for the work it had done and will continue to do," and that his remarks elicited "vociferous applause." Another article describing the celebration concluded "The reader may be gratified at learning that it is the intention of the Society to celebrate its next centennial anniversary in 2012." Happily the Society has grown and thrived and we can now intend to celebrate our 300th in 2112.