On a snowy January evening, a sterling new acquisition was knocked down to AAS in a Massachusetts auction room: a volume of ten early American pamphlets in a fine contemporary American binding with an intriguing provenance. The pamphlets—all sermons or discourses on theological topics—range in date from ca. 1709 to 1735, and were printed in Boston, Newport, R.I., New London, Conn., New York, and Philadelphia. One is an anonymous response to an early Benjamin Franklin tract; another was issued by Franklin’s older brother James, in whose shop Franklin learned to print. No fewer than three were issued from the New York press of John Peter Zenger, just prior to the famous 1735 trial in which he was acquitted of seditious libel.

Remarkably, given AAS’s unparalleled strengths in early American imprints, all ten pamphlets were needed here. Eight are new to the AAS collections, one improves a defective copy already at AAS, and one (a Zenger imprint) was found to differ textually from the AAS copy. All of the pamphlets are rare, being known in from two to five copies apiece. Few early American imprints (and fewer complete copies) from this period now enter the antiquarian book market, and this most unusual opportunity to acquire ten early “Evans” items for AAS was too tempting to pass up. This acquisition was made through the Sid & Ruth Lapidus Fund.

The pamphlets were collected by Jonathan Parsons (1705-1776), a native of West Springfield, Mass. who, following graduation from Yale in 1729, was called to the pulpit in Lyme, Conn. Parsons annotated several of the pamphlets, noting that at least two were gifts: one from the New London printer Timothy Green, another from Nathaniel Clap, a minister in Newport. Parsons had the ten pamphlets bound together into a “sammelband” (tract volume), probably ca. 1735 and possibly in Timothy Green’s bindery. The well preserved binding of mottled sheep, blind-tooled in a panel design with sprinkled edges, is charming for the out-of-square boards used to form its covers. Per the annotation inside the front cover, this was apparently volume no. 6 in Parsons’s library, which presumably grew larger over the next four decades. By 1770 Parsons was minister to a congregation in Newburyport, Mass., where he attended the famous Great Awakening revivalist George Whitefield on his deathbed and preached the funeral sermon. No other volumes from Parsons’s library are known to be at AAS. Perhaps others will soon trickle onto the antiquarian market—if so, AAS will be waiting.

— David Whitesell
FOR THE LOVE OF TEA, LIBERTY, AND LETTERS:
CREATING AND DEFINING AMERICAN CULTURE AND VALUES

AAS is pleased to announce the spring series of public lectures, which are programs designed to highlight the work of our members and fellows, showcase the kinds of research done in the collections, and explore the history and culture of the United States during the time period of the Society’s collections. The spring lectures will examine the unknown protestors of the Boston Tea Party, the Revolutionary War’s power couple, the full life of America’s great lexicographer, and the role of blacks in the Civil War.

On April 5 at 7:30 p.m., Benjamin L. Carp will launch our series with “Teapot in a Tempest: Massachusetts and the Boston Tea Party.” Based on his book Defiance of the Patriots: The Boston Tea Party and the Making of America, Carp will discuss the participants involved in the audacious act and their motivations. Benjamin Carp is an associate professor of history at Tufts University and held a Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellowship at AAS in 2001-2002.

Among the many items in AAS collections related to the Boston Tea Party, there is one that recalls that event quite literally: a bottle of tea collected from the Boston Harbor after the three ships’ cargoes were destroyed on Dec. 16, 1773. The tea was gathered on the beach at Dorchester Point by young Thaddeus Mason Harris (1768-1842). Dr. Harris became a Unitarian minister in Dorchester and was one of the Society’s incorporators in 1812. He was also Harvard College Librarian from 1791 to 1793 and Massachusetts Historical Society Librarian from 1837 to 1842.

Joshua C. Kendall continues our spring series with a presentation on April 19 at 7:30 p.m. on “Noah Webster and the Creation of an American Culture.” Kendall researched Webster at AAS, with a particular focus on letters between Webster and AAS founder Isaiah Thomas. The letters, which range in date from 1784 to 1789, provide a glimpse at negotiations between Webster and Thomas regarding the publication of A Grammatical Institute of the English Language, Webster’s schoolbook for American children. This correspondence is marked by differences of opinion between the two men as to the terms of Thomas printing A Grammatical Institute. However, the two men reached an agreement and, in 1789, Thomas printed his first edition of the work. By 1804, he had printed twenty-eight editions of Webster’s popular book, examples of which can be found in the AAS stacks.

AAS members James Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton will give their lecture, “Liberty and Justice for All: The Civil War as Blacks’ Second American Revolution,” on May 12 at 7:30 p.m. The Hortons will discuss the mobilization of blacks into unofficial militias during the 1850s. These men were preparing for a civil war in which 200,000 blacks would take up arms. The lithograph The Fifteenth Amendment recognizes the efforts of black soldiers with a vignette on the right side titled “We will [sic] protect our country as it defends our rights.”

Jim and Lois Horton are serving as the 2010-2011 Mellon Distinguished Scholars in Residence, and they are using the year to primarily conduct research for A Documentary History of African Americans from 1619 to the Civil War, which will be part of the Oxford University Press Pages in History series. The AAS community is benefitting from the guidance of two such prolific authors who have co-published a number of books on African-American history, including Black Bostonians: Family Life and Community Struggle in the Antebellum North (1979); In Hope of Liberty: Culture, Community and Protest Among Northern Free Blacks, 1700-1860 (1998); A History of the African American People (1997); Hard Road to Freedom: The Story of African America (2001); and The Man and the Martyr: Abraham Lincoln in African American History and Memory (2006).

AAS member and award-winning historian Joseph J. Ellis will speak on June 2 at 7:30 on “Abigail and John: A Love Story.” He draws upon the thousands of extant letters between John and Abigail Adams to study the relationship of this dynamic couple, analyzing how and why their friendship prevailed even in times of doubt and distress.

Joseph Ellis is the Ford Foundation Professor of History at Mount Holyoke College, and First Family: Abigail and John Adams is the most recent of his studies of Revolutionary-era personalities. His 1997 book, American Sphinx: The Character of Thomas Jefferson, won the National Book Award. Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation, published in 2001, won the Pulitzer Prize in History. In addition to writing about John Adams in his 1993 book Passionate Sage, Ellis provided commentary on Adams and his wife in “John and Abigail [Adams]” for PBS’s The American Experience.
WIGGINS LECTURE

IGNITING THE WAR: HARRIET BEECHER STOWE’S UNCLE TOM’S CABIN, ANTIMSLAVERY POLITICS, AND THE RISE OF LINCOLN

This year marks both the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Harriet Beecher Stowe, and AAS is pleased to announce that the 2011 James Russell Wiggins Lecture in the History of the Book in American Culture will honor both of these landmark events. This year’s Wiggins Lecture will be delivered on May 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Antiquarian Hall by David S. Reynolds. His talk, titled “Igniting the War: Harriet Beecher Stowe’s Uncle Tom’s Cabin, Antislavery Politics, and the Rise of Lincoln,” will explore the political influence of Stowe’s bestselling novel. An AAS member and Distinguished Professor of English and American Studies at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, Reynolds will draw on materials from his forthcoming book, Mightier Than the Sword: Uncle Tom’s Cabin and the Battle for America (available in June 2011).

Reynolds says, “I chose to write a book about Harriet Beecher Stowe’s Uncle Tom’s Cabin because I felt the full story about this landmark novel—its roots, its impact on the Civil War, and its long-term influence—had never been told. My book shows that this novel had an influence on American race relations and on progressive movements abroad unmatched by any other work of imaginative literature. Also, the novel’s influence on many aspects of culture— theater, music, films, advertising, and mass merchandising—is immense.”

Many items in AAS’s collections illustrate Reynolds’s argument, including playbills, playing cards, and images. Items such as color lithographs brought scenes from Stowe’s work to life and contributed to the pervasiveness of Uncle Tom’s Cabin in antebellum American life. “First Meeting of Uncle Tom and Eva” depicts the fair-haired little girl with her companion in shackles. This New York print may have hung on many parlor walls, a daily reminder of the book’s subject matter.

In addition to Mightier Than the Sword, Reynolds is working on a reissue of the 1853 Illustrated Edition of Uncle Tom’s Cabin to be published in June by Oxford University Press. Known in its time as the Splendid Edition because of its impressive engravings, the book pairs Stowe’s text with illustrations by Boston artist Hammatt Billings.

This annual lecture is named for James Russell Wiggins (1903-2000), who was chairman of the Society from 1970 to 1977 and editor of the Washington Post.

Adopt-a-Book

The fourth annual Adopt-a-Book evening will be held on Tuesday, March 29, at 6:00 p.m. This event, which is open to the public, is an excellent opportunity to see AAS collection items and hear curators talk about what they are acquiring and why. Adoptions are noted on a bookplate and in the AAS catalog, and the proceeds go directly to the acquisitions fund. Items include single issues of newspapers, books, and lithographs, with plenty of affordable options.

The 2011 catalog will be posted on the AAS website on March 15, when the adoption process begins. Those who attend in person will also have a chance to see and adopt items not listed online. The catalog will remain on the website and orphaned items can still be adopted after March 29.

Admission is $20 per person, which includes drinks and hors d’oeuvres. Please join us for a delightful evening in Antiquarian Hall. RSVP by March 23: (508) 471-2135 or via e-mail, arapp@amuca.org.

Among the items in this year’s Adopt-a-Book catalog is a child’s handkerchief, shown here. The printer, Henry Bowen, was printing in Boston as early as 1818 and produced books, periodicals, broadsides, and ephemera until his death in 1874. Throughout the nineteenth century, he also produced a number of broadsides printed on textiles like cotton, muslin, and linen. These printings included commemorative handkerchiefs for the opening of the Bunker Hill Monument, and textile broadsides printed with temperance messages and political rhetoric. He also printed several textiles intended for children such as handkerchiefs emblazoned with the Golden Rule, bible verses, or moral lessons. This handkerchief has a more historical and patriotic message. The border is made of state and territorial seals, arranged in geographical order from Maine, down the east coast and west to the Oregon territory, reinforcing ideas of Manifest Destiny popular in the 1840s. The central portion reprints a 1776 letter by John Adams written the day after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, as well as a paragraph claiming the coinciding deaths of Adams and Thomas Jefferson on the fourth of July 1826. This handkerchief may have been printed for July 4th celebrations in Boston.
**Recommended Reading**

We invited AAS fellows to recommend a book on an aspect of American history or culture through 1876 that was published in the last year or two, with a brief note on why they liked the book.

**RECOMMENDED READING**

![Image of a book cover]

**Nora Titone’s My Thoughts Be Bloody: The Bitter Rivalry Between Edwin and John Wilkes Booth that Led to an American Tragedy** (2010) is a beautifully written and meticulously researched book that I recommend to anyone with an interest in nineteenth-century American history. The author narrates the travels—and travels—of the Booth family and situates them within a wide array of antebellum cultural developments: the California gold rush, urbanization, leisure and entertainment, sectionalism, and Civil War. Titone ultimately presents a completely new argument for why John Wilkes Booth assassinated Abraham Lincoln in April 1865, which is both surprising and convincing. It is the best kind of narrative history, an intellectually engaging page-turner.

— Megan Kate Nelson

Lecturer, Program in History and Literature, Harvard University

Jay and Deborah Last Fellow, 2008-2009

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![Image of a book cover]

**One of my favorite monographs on early American music is Arthur Loesser’s Men, Women & Pianos: A Social History** (1954; new paperback edition, 2011) with an introduction by Jacques Barzun. Presciently cultural in its themes, this rich work has current appeal in its long chronological scope (the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries writ large), analysis informed by gender and class, and its transatlantic approach by focusing on European countries in early chapters, ending with a long section devoted to the United States. Imbued with an engaging sense of humor unusual in academic writing—regarding his brother, he referred to himself as the “evil of two lesser”—this is substantive archival research that can appeal to educators as recreational reading as well as to musicologists, historians, and scholars of literature for its singular category of analysis.

— Peter Leavenworth

Independent scholar

Peterson Fellow, 2004-2005; AAS-NEH Fellow, 2007-2008

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![Image of a book cover]

**The Comanche Empire by Pekka Hämäläinen (2008)**, has made the greatest impression on me of anything I’ve read over the last couple of years. It is a veritable “paradigm shifter” in its insistence that we consider the Comanches of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to be an empire alongside more familiar European types. Hämäläinen demonstrates that the Comanches, by developing a dynamic equestrian and trading culture and constantly absorbing new groups of people into their confederacy, came to dominate a huge portion of the continent, stretching between the Rio Grande on the west, the Mississippi on the east, northward to the central Plains, and southward well into Mexico. The Comanches were so powerful that Spanish Texas and New Mexico can be said to have been subordinate to them, thereby turning our usual understanding of Indian-colonial relationships on its head. No book so profoundly illustrates the power of an Indian-centered perspective to reshape our understanding of American history.

— David J. Silverman

Associate professor of history, George Washington University


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![Image of a book cover]

**How do different spatial scales from the local to the sublime shape economic, social, and political processes, and even form the basis of profound emotional attachments? Can an abstract concept like the global, for instance, have an emotional appeal? These are the guiding questions of Hsu’s evocative study Geography and the Production of Space in Nineteenth-Century American Literature** (2010). This ambitious book illuminates a rich nineteenth-century archive through concepts from cultural geography to provide intriguing readings of Harriet Beecher Stowe alongside works by missionaries in China, as well as fascinating chapters on Melville and Sui Sin Far, among others.

— Carrie Bramen

Associate professor of English, State University of New York, Buffalo

AAS-NEMLA Fellow, 2008-2009

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**I found Samuel Moyn’s The Last Utopia: Human Rights in History** (2010) provocative and fascinating. Much of this energetically argued revisionist essay is about how and when and the now-pervasive discourse of “human rights” did not arise. Contrary to conventional wisdom, Moyn tells us, what we now think of as human rights did not originate in ancient Greek philosophy or monotheistic religion, did not receive its first full articulation in early modern natural rights theories and the democratic revolutions they inspired, did not widen in the ensuing crusades for abolition, emancipation, and international law. In fact, the “rights of man” championed by revolutionaries from Thomas Jefferson to Ho Chi Minh were always hitched to aspirations for collective self-determination through the creation of new nations. Meanwhile, internationalist visions for transcending the nation-state, most importantly international socialism, aimed to transcend individual rights as well. It was rather the perceived failure of these rival projects for political transformation—nationalist and internationalist, liberal and socialist—that led to the advent of human rights in recent decades as what Moyn movingly calls “the last utopia.”

— Jeffrey Sklansky

Associate professor of history, Oregon State University

ACLS Frederick Burkhardt Fellow, 2006-2007

Application deadline: March 11, 2011
CHAViC NEWS

NEH CHALLENGE GRANT

Last spring, AAS applied to the National Endowment for the Humanities for a $500,000 challenge grant to encourage the creation of an endowment to ensure the Center’s long-range future. We were thrilled to learn in early December that the Society’s proposal was accepted and fully funded. AAS has five years to complete the match. Not only is the award generous, the rigorous peer review process suggests the importance of the Center to a national audience.

CHAViC CONFERENCE

The fall conference Before Madison Avenue: Advertising in Early America, jointly sponsored by the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture (PHBAC) and CHAViC, has attracted over forty proposals and promises to be a very lively conference. Plan to be with us in Worcester on November 4 and 5. The program will appear on the AAS website in April.

HISTORICAL PRINTS IN ACADEMIA

One of the exciting transformations in the academic world is the teaching of courses on American prints of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Joni Kinsey at the University of Iowa taught a seminar on American prints several years ago and she has been generous in sharing her syllabus with others. Since then several other scholars have initiated courses. Kevin Muller at Chabot College in California and Nancy Siegel at Towson University in Maryland both have received high compliments from their students. Muller received a Jay and Deborah Last Fellowship that enabled him to spend four weeks reviewing prints at AAS to help flesh out his curriculum. We are eager to hear from others interested in similar curriculum development. I am trying to interest a university press in publishing a book of essays that would serve as an introduction to historical prints.

Thanks to Jay and Deborah Last, the American Historical Print Collectors’ Society, and to Diana Korzenik who established the Drawn to Art Fellowship, we continue to promote scholarly use of the AAS visual collections in innovative ways. We have received 28 fellowship applications for the coming year.

AHPCS MEETING IN WORCESTER

Lauren Hewes, Caroline Stoffel, and I are preparing for the annual meeting of the American Historical Print Collectors’ Society in Worcester in May. Activities include attending Brimfield’s great antiques show, seeing the Civil War exhibition at the Worcester Historical Museum (AAS is a lender), a day at Old Sturbridge Village, displays and presentations on prints at AAS, and a visit to the Worcester Art Museum. We hope to have 75 AHPCS members here to learn about the AAS collections and to enjoy central Massachusetts. Recent conferences have been held in St. Louis, Portland (Oregon), and Pittsburgh. In 2012, AHPCS will travel to Yellowstone National Park.

– Georgia B. Barnhill

CHAViC 2011 SUMMER SEMINAR

JUNE 19-24, 2011

Louis P. Masur of Trinity College will lead the 2011 CHAViC summer seminar, Picturing Reform: How Images Transformed America, 1830-1880, scheduled for Sunday, June 19, through Friday, June 24. Among the guest lecturers and topics are Amy Richter of Clark University (women’s reform movements), Joshua Brown, the executive director of the American Social History Project (antislavery and antiabolition), David Jaffee of the Bard Graduate Center (parlor culture and bourgeois sensibilities), Jack Larkin formerly of Old Sturbridge Village (David Claypoole Johnston), and Abigail Roror of the Lone Oak Press (printmaking processes). Professor Masur will offer sessions on interpreting images, photography and war, images of emancipation, Thomas Nast, and Jacob Riis. Lauren Hewes and Gigi Barnhill will also participate with sessions on photography and lithography. Registration information is posted on the AAS website.

Application deadline: March 18, 2011


Grout was killed in battle at Leesburg, Virginia, in October 1861, just two months after he enlisted. His untimely death at age eighteen inspired the popular Civil War tune The Vacant Chair, which was written in his memory. This item will be included in the Worcester Historical Museum exhibit To Arms: Worcester County Answers the Call, April to November 2011.
AAS is taking a leadership role in designing a unique regional collaboration for teacher training. Nine New England historic sites, museums, and libraries are developing a series of week-long summer institutes that offer a variety of hands-on, intensive, and engaging experiences for teachers. Entitled the New England Historic Site Collaborative, the program is centered on four historic themes in which New England played a key role. These include Colonial Encounters, from first encounters through King Philip’s War; The American Revolution, from the beginning of the Imperial Crisis through the first years of the war; Slavery and Reform, from the triangle trade through the abolition movement; and Nineteenth-Century Industry, from the introduction of factories in Rhode Island to the development of the Lowell mills.

Participating institutions, in addition to AAS, are the Deerfield Teacher’s Center at the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Historic New England, Massachusetts Historical Society, Mystic Seaport, Old Sturbridge Village, Plimoth Plantation, the Rhode Island Historical Society, and the Tsongas Industrial History Center and Lowell National Park.

Distinguished scholars and curators will lead these programs at historic sites, providing teachers with opportunities to work with primary source artifacts and documents. Interactive activities will allow participants to experience historical events as they happened in the places where they originally occurred.

By offering a comprehensive series of experiences that illuminate one particular theme, this new collaborative hopes to attract Teaching American History project participants who travel to historic sites throughout the country during the summer school vacations. Often the directors of such programs struggle to make all the necessary arrangements at various historic sites and to develop a coherent intellectual narrative that ties these experiences together and provides teachers with strategies that can be incorporated into their classroom instruction. The New England Historic Site Collaborative is a pioneering solution to these challenges.

AAS members who work with TAH programs are encouraged to spread the word about this new initiative. For further information or to discuss this program further, please contact AAS director of outreach James David Moran. He will be happy to answer questions about these programs and the exciting opportunities that will come from this collaborative effort.

Additional information is posted on www.americanantiquarian.org/nehsc.
FRANCIS R. CARROLL
Worcester, Massachusetts
Francis Carroll is chairman and CEO of the Small Business Service Bureau, which he founded in 1967 and now has more than 50,000 members. Carroll has filled the Bureau offices with his extensive collection of portraits and memorabilia relating to presidents and vice-presidents of the United States. He has also been instrumental in building a hospital in Vietnam in memory of fallen American soldiers and a Korean War Veterans Memorial in Worcester.

CAROL C. CLARK
Amherst, Massachusetts
Carol C. Clark is the William McCall Vickety 1957 Professor of the History of Art and American Studies at Amherst College, where she has taught since 1987. Prior to coming to Amherst, she served as curator of paintings at the Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth, Texas. Her most recent book is Charles Deas and 1840s America (2009), published in conjunction with an exhibition that she organized for the Denver Art Museum.

WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
Chappaqua, New York
William Jefferson Clinton is the forty-second President of the United States and founder of the William J. Clinton Foundation. Of the thirteen U.S. presidents who have been members of AAS, seven were elected after they left office (Adams, Jefferson, Madison, John Q. Adams, Hayes, Teddy Roosevelt, and Carter), four while in office (Monroe, Taft, Wilson, and Coolidge), and two before their White House years (Jackson and Franklin Roosevelt).

ALICE M. DELANA
Cambridge, Massachusetts
After a long and distinguished career teaching English and art history at Miss Porter’s School in Farmington, Conn., Alice Delana is active today as a docent and trip leader at the Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University, a lecturer for Harvard Alumni Association study tours, and a trustee of the Boston Athenaeum. She is a life trustee of the Watkinson Library at Trinity College and is currently serving as chair of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum.

SHANNON LEE DAWDY
Chicago, Illinois
Shannon Lee Dawdy is an assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Chicago. Her research focuses on the archaeology of the southeastern United States and the Caribbean, with a particular interest in Louisiana and Cuba. She is the author of Building the Devil’s Empire: French Colonial New Orleans (2008), which examines the ways in which French New Orleans, and many colonies like it, functioned outside of state controls. She was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in 2010.

H. RICHARD DIETRICH III
Chevy Chase, Maryland
Richard Dietrich is president of the Dietrich American Foundation, which was established in 1963 by his late father, H. Richard Dietrich, Jr. (also an AAS member) to collect historically and aesthetically important examples of American decorative and fine arts and to lend them to museums and historic houses around the country. An independent consultant in international development, Dietrich is also a trustee of the American Revolution Center in Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

FREDERICK H. EPPINGER
Grafton, Massachusetts
Frederick Eppinger is the president and CEO of the Hanover Insurance Group in Worcester, Massachusetts. Since coming to Hanover in 2003, he has not only led the turnaround of the 150-year-old company, but also greatly increased its involvement in the revitalization of Worcester, making investments in the Hanover Insurance Park at Fitton Field, the Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts, and most recently in the CitySquare development downtown.

ADAM GOODHEART
Chesterstown, Maryland
Adam Goodheart is director of the C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience and a lecturer in history and American studies at Washington College. Goodheart was a founder and senior editor of Civilization, the magazine of the Library of Congress, and is a frequent contributor to major magazines and newspapers. He is the director of the American Pictures Distinguished Lecture Series at the Smithsonian, and a board member of the Maryland Humanities Council.

DAVID M. HENKIN
Berkeley, California
David Henkin is a professor of history at the University of California, Berkeley. His scholarship focuses on popular culture and everyday life in antebellum America, and his books include City Reading: Written Words and Public Spaces in Antebellum New York (1998) and The Postal Age: The Emergence of Modern Communications in Nineteenth-Century America (2006), which received the Moroney Award from the U.S. Postal Service.

ELIZABETH ISENBURG
Haddam, Connecticut
In addition to sharing an interest in daguerreotype collecting with her husband Matthew Isenburg (an AAS member), Elizabeth Isenburg researches and collects materials relating to the history of the steamboat Arabia. The Arabia sank in the Missouri
River in 1856 and was dug out of the mud in 1885, its 200 tons of cargo and consignments (goods destined for western markets) and the belongings of its 130 passengers completely intact.

**J. Kehaulani Kauanui**
Middletown, Connecticut

**Dolores Kendrick**
Washington, District of Columbia
Dolores Kendrick is the Poet Laureate of the District of Columbia and the author of three books: *Through the Ceiling, Now is the Thing to Praise; The Women of Plums: Poems in the Voices of Slave Women* (1989), which won the Anisfield-Wolf Award; and *Why the Woman is Singing on the Corner* (2001). A member of the English faculty at Phillips Exeter Academy from 1972 to 1993, Kendrick has earned numerous honors, including a National Endowment for the Arts Award, the George Kent Award for Literature, and two Yaddo Fellowships.

**Peter M. Kenny**
New York, New York

**Rodrigo Lazo**
Irvine, California
Rodrigo Lazo is an associate professor of English at the University of California, Irvine. His first book, *Writing to Cuba: Filibustering and Cuban Exiles in the United States* (2005), focused on publications produced by Cuban exiles in the antebellum U.S. Lazo is currently writing a book on Spanish-language print culture in the early United States and editing a collection of scholarly essays titled *The Latino Nineteenth Century*.

**Jim Leach**
Washington, District of Columbia
Jim Leach is the chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Leach served for 30 years in the House of Representatives (R-Iowa), where he founded and co-chaired the Congressional Humanities Caucus. He has received numerous awards, including the Woodrow Wilson Award from Johns Hopkins University, the Adlai Stevenson Award from the United Nations Association, and the Sidney R. Yates Award for Distinguished Public Service from the National Humanities Alliance.

**Bernard Newman**
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Bernard Newman is president and CEO of a 90-year-old family business that manufactures paperboard (which is used in boxes, game boards, puzzles, book covers, and tablets) from 100% recycled material. These interests are reflected in his personal collecting passions for historic game boards, puzzles, and postal ephemera. Newman has served as board chairman of the Rosenbach Museum & Library and on many other boards and is a generous supporter of AAS.

**Michael O’Brien**
Cambridge, England
Michael O’Brien is a professor of American intellectual history at Jesus College, Cambridge. Among his many publications is *Conjectures of Order: Intellectual Life and the American South, 1810-60* (2004), which was awarded the Bancroft Prize, the Owsley Award by the Southern Historical Association, the Merle Curti Award by the Organization of American Historians, and was one of two nominated finalists for the Pulitzer Prize in History.

**Leah Price**
Cambridge, Massachusetts

**Marcus Rediker**
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Marcus Rediker is Distinguished Professor of Atlantic History at the University of Pittsburgh, where he is one of the nation’s leading scholars of the Atlantic slave trade. His recent books include *Villains of All Nations: Atlantic Pirates in the Golden Age* (2004) and *The Slave Ship: A Human History* (2007). He is currently working on *The Amistad Rebellion: A Sea-Story of Slavery and Freedom*, to be published in 2012.

**Benjamin Reiss**
Atlanta, Georgia
Benjamin Reiss is a professor and director of graduate studies in English at Emory University. His first book, *The Showman and the Slave: Race, Death, and Memory in Barnum’s America* (2001), was followed by *Theaters of Madness: Nineteenth-Century Insane Asylums and American Culture* (2008), which was researched in part at AAS under an AAS-National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship. He is also an editor of *The Cambridge History of the American Novel* (forthcoming).

**Robert S. Seymour**
Cobrook, Connecticut
Robert Seymour is the proprietor of Cobrook Book Barn, which is located in northwestern Connecticut in an early nineteenth-century barn. He has been one of the leading New England booksellers for four decades and has been described as an unsung hero in gathering and preserving the evidence of nineteenth-century American publishing history, helping collectors and institutions assemble collections of publishers’ prospectuses, rare bindings, and salesman’s sample books. He has been particularly helpful to AAS.

**Richard W. Thaler, Jr.**
Bronxville, New York
Richard Thaler is the managing partner of Lieutenant Island Partners, LLC. With more than 30 years of experience as an investment banker, Thaler is currently also an adjunct professor at Morehouse College, Atlanta, where he created and teaches the nation’s first college course on private equity. He is president of the board of *The Daily Princetonian*, a trustee of Pimlott Plantation, and a past trustee of Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge.

**William J. Zacks**
Edinburgh, Scotland
William Zacks is an Honorary Fellow in the School of Literatures, Languages, and Cultures at Edinburgh University. An American scholar of eighteenth-century Scottish and English literary figures whose collecting and research interests span the Atlantic, Zacks has been based in Edinburgh for 28 years. He is the author of *Without Regard to Good Manners: A Biography of Gilbert Stuart*, 1743-1786 (1992) and *The First John Murray and the Late Eighteenth-Century London Book Trade* (1998). A member of the Chairman’s Council of the American Trust for the British Library, he is a supporter of many libraries, including AAS.
Introducing AAS Podcasts

A curator’s observations, a dramatic reenactment recalling the beginning of the Revolutionary War, and recent lectures—all are available on the AAS website as podcasts. There is a link on the website’s home page, or go directly to www.americanantiquarian.org/podcasts.htm.

In a short video recorded behind the scenes in Antiquarian Hall, curator Vincent Golden talks about the history and characteristics of antebellum American newspapers and illustrated magazines.

The Patriot Printer recalls a momentous time in American history. Isaiah Thomas (played by actor Neil Gustafson) is shown publishing the first account of the shots fired in Lexington and Concord in his influential newspaper, The Massachusetts Spy. Thomas moved his printing equipment from Boston to Worcester, forty miles west and beyond the reach of British troops, just three days before those events.

AAS hosts a series of free public lectures each spring and fall and two are now available as podcasts: John Hench delivers the 2010 Wiggins Lecture, and Ilyon Woo talks about her book, The Great Divorce, on a case that rocked the Shaker community in the early nineteenth century. Additional podcasts will be posted in the coming months.

PAST is PRESENT

Past is Present has been recognized as one of the Best 25 History Blogs of 2011 by www.thebestcolleges.org, an independent ranking organization. The site notes, “Aspiring historians, established professionals, and curious learners will all find something worthwhile on this list.”

Find links to Past is Present, Common-place, and the AAS Facebook page on www.americanantiquarian.org.

2011 SEMIANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 15, NEW HAVEN

AAS members are cordially invited to the semiannual meeting on April 15 in New Haven, Conn. The meeting will be held at the Yale Center for British Art. A special members’ tour is scheduled at 10:00, with the meeting beginning at 10:45.

AAS member Harry S. Stout, professor of history, religious studies, and American studies at Yale, will give a lecture at 11:30 entitled “Abraham Lincoln: The Second Inaugural as America’s Sermon to the World,” followed by a question-and-answer session. Lunch will follow at a nearby bistro, formerly the Union League Club from 1880 until 1940.

Additional tours and side trips have also been arranged, including a visit to Yale’s collection of musical instruments and the Paskus-Danziger Rare Books Room at the Yale Law Library. On Saturday, April 16, members and their guests will tour the New Britain Museum of American Art, the Mark Twain House, and the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center in Hartford.

Details, including information about hotel accommodations in New Haven, are posted on the AAS website.
Members’ News

George A. Billias, Jacob and Frances Hiatt Professor of History Emeritus at Clark University, was awarded the 2010 James P. Hanlan Book Award by the New England Historical Association for American Constitutionalism Heard Round the World, 1776-1989: A Global Perspective. This award for the book of the year for Professor Billias’s work was the unanimous selection by the NEHA Book Award Committee. When it was published by New York University Press, the study was described as “monumental” by two leading American historians, Gordon S. Wood of Brown University and Robert L. Middlekauff of the University of California, Berkeley, while David R. Armitage of Harvard University called it “a heroic endeavor whose results will be debated and plundered by generations of scholars to come.” Billias, an AAS member since 1964, devoted 25 years to research and writing of the book.

John Block, chairman and publisher of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and the Toledo Blade, will host the Fellowship of American Bibliographic Societies book tour and symposium in Pittsburgh in mid-May. FABS, which is comprised of 32 North American book clubs and 14 international affiliates, will visit Boston in 2012, hosted by the Ticknor Society.

Annette-Gordon Reed, a legal scholar and historian, was named a 2010 MacArthur Fellow.

Loren Ghiglione, a professor at Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, received the 2010 Distinguished Service to Journalism History Award from the American Journalism History Association.

Dale Cockrell, a professor of musicology at Vanderbilt University and president of Pa’s Fiddle Recordings, recently released a new CD and published The Ingalls Wilder Family Songbook which includes all 127 songs in the Little House books with an introductory essay and notes.


Answering a bipartisan call from members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences has created the Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences to respond to the question “What are the top ten actions that Congress, state governments, universities, foundations, educators, individual benefactors, and others should take now to maintain national excellence in humanities and social scientific scholarship and education, and to achieve long-term national goals for our intellectual and economic well-being; for a stronger, more vibrant civil society; and for the success of cultural diplomacy in the twenty-first century?” AAS members serving on the committee include Richard H. Brodhead (co-chair), John W. Rowe (co-chair), Ken Burns, Drew Gilpin Faust, and Annette Gordon-Reed.

Fellows’ News

Sue Johnson, a Sigety Family Foundation Fellow at AAS in 2000-2001, works collaboratively with museums and rare book libraries to create artwork based on their collections. She is currently a visiting scholar at the University of Oxford and an exhibition of her paintings based on the illustrated catalog of a nineteenth-century collector, “The Curious Nature of Objects,” will be on view at the Pitt Rivers Museum at Oxford until May 2. For details: www.suejohnson1.com.


Spencer Keralis, a 2009-2010 Peterson Fellow, received the 2010 Book History Essay Prize of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) for “Pictures of Charlotte: The Illustrated Charlotte Temple and Her Readers.”

Staff News

Edwin C. Schroeder – a summer library page at AAS in 1988 – has been appointed Librarian of the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library at Yale University.

Thank you!

AAS welcomes your support in a variety of ways:

Donations of collection materials are appreciated. We are interested in anything printed in this country from colonial times through 1876 that is not already in an AAS collection. Please contact Peg Lesinski, head of acquisitions, if you have items to donate; she will get your offer to the appropriate curator.

Financial support is crucial to the work done at AAS. Details on the Isaiah Thomas Society, George Bancroft Society, Esther Forbes Society, endowed funds and fellowships, and the annual fund are on the AAS website. Please contact John Keenum, vice president for development, with specific questions. Donors are thanked in the annual report.
A Story of the Civil War Collection at AAS

Sometime before AAS moved into its current building, a shelf list was prepared for each of the alcoves where the books were housed in the second Antiquarian Hall, built in 1854. A binder titled Slavery and Civil War lists the contents of Alcove N. Shelves 1 through 47 contained publications relating to the Civil War and those numbered 48 to 94 held material relating to slavery and abolition.

Although some of the material opposing slavery preceded the war, the Civil War collection was a conscious creation of Samuel Foster Haven, AAS librarian from 1838 until 1881, whose portrait hangs in the northeast corner of the reading room. Haven realized the implications of “this extraordinary and fearful revolt” for AAS collections within six months of the April 12-14, 1861, attack on Fort Sumter. That October in his Librarian’s Report Haven reached out to members for their assistance, writing: “It falls within the province of our labors to collect, arrange, and preserve the materials, in the use of which such investigations may be made, and a faithful history of this great epoch written.” He called on all Society members to make systematic collections of newspapers from the states which had seceded, “and also all books, pamphlets, and whatever else may tend to explain or establish their claims and pretensions.” The shelf list indicates that large numbers of items in the collection date from the early years of the war, fitting the categories that Haven suggested.

It is a poignant note that Haven, thinking ahead to the needs of future scholars, also inadvertently created a memorial to his only son. Samuel Foster Haven, Jr., was a physician trained in ophthalmology, who returned to Worcester in 1858 to establish a specialist practice. In his spare hours he compiled the bibliography work of early American imprints that would eventually appear in the 1874 reprinting of Isaiah Thomas’s History of Printing in the Transactions of the American Antiquarian Society.

In August 1861, Foster, as the younger Haven was known, enlisted as a medical officer in the Union Army, serving as a surgeon in the 15th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers at the battles of Ball’s Bluff, Yorktown, Harrison’s Landing, Antietam, and Fredericksburg. Already injured by a Confederate shell while marching into Fredericksburg, he ignored an order to work in a hospital when the battle began and died on the field at Fredericksburg on December 13, 1862.

– Caroline F. Sloat