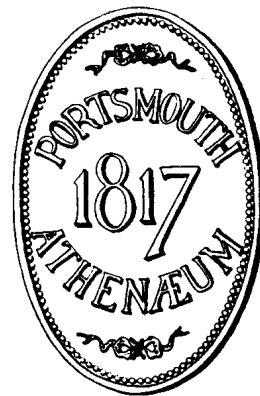


The Portsmouth Athenæum Newsletter

Spring, 2006



Letter from the President

In keeping with the tradition for new Athenæum Board Presidents, let me use this issue of the newsletter to introduce myself and plans. First and foremost, I am pleased to report that thanks to the fine work of my esteemed predecessor, Past President Mike Chubrich, the transition between his term and mine has been seamless. My immediate goal is to meet with all of our committees. So far, it has been a real treat to see them in action. All of the volunteers and staff work very hard, do so much so well, and have fun in the process. Based on the amount of laughter we shared at the meetings I have attended to date (Board included), you can be assured the Athenæum is a "happy ship"!

The principle goal of my two-year tenure will be to update our long range plan. Vice President Michael Baenan, Keeper Tom Hardiman and I are reviewing it now to assess what we have done (a great deal) and what we need to do over the next three to five years. Although it's early in the process, I anticipate that we'll be concentrating in the following areas: 1) how to ensure the Athenæum's financial condition sufficiently enough to maintain our collections, programs, and meet annual operating costs; 2) find ways to maintain the momentum we have gained and connections we've made through the Peace Treaty celebration, the Warner House exhibit, Concerts on the Hill and the New Hampshire World Affairs Council lecture.

I believe that the Athenæum is at a very interesting point in its institutional evolution. We have a strong collection, a deep tradition, and are held in high esteem within the community. My "day job" takes me around the region and whenever I mention the Athenæum, nearly everyone knows where we are, but few know what we are. That tells me that we're perfectly poised to find new ways to meet our mission while retaining that special sense of tradition we all feel when we enter the first floor reading room. I look forward to working with the Board, and committees and to getting to know more of you over the next two years. Stay tuned; in future issues we will keep you informed of our progress.

Wendy W. Lull, President

Inside:

From the Stacks:

Recent Accessions, Gifts & Acquisitions

Upcoming Events

April - June, 2006

Annual Meeting

Minutes of the January 11th Board Proprietors meeting

Collections News: Find That Which You Seek

The Athenæum's catalog database is now searchable online! Covering some 20,000 records, including all of the entries to the manuscript and photograph collections (many with images), the database continues to expand as we convert to digital files. A grant from the Rosamond Thaxter Foundation has enabled the transfer of digital images from the Isles of Shoals Collection. Many thanks to Evelyn Lamprey, who has been busy scanning our recent photographic acquisitions. Interested in in early photography? We're currently looking for volunteers to help scan our 12,000 cataloged images.

To search the online database, go to www.portsmouthathenaeum.org and click on the "Search Catalog" button on the left side of the page.

FROM THE STACKS

RECENT ACCESSIONS, GIFTS & ACQUISITIONS

■ RECENT LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS:

- Creating Portland : History And Place In Northern New England*
Selected Vital Records — Newton, New Hampshire
New England And The Maritime Provinces: Connections And Comparisons.
Benjamin Franklin : In Search Of A Better World
Maine Families In 1790 / Vol. 9
Amir D. Aczel, *Descartes' Secret Notebook: A True Tale Of Mathematics, Mysticism, And The Quest To Understand The Universe*
Mark Adkin, *The Trafalgar Companion : A Guide To History's Most Famous Sea Battle And The Life Of Admiral Lord Nelson*
Said Hyder Akbar, *Come Back To Afghanistan: A California Teenager's Story*
Hugh Amory, *Bibliography And The Book Trades: Studies In The Print Culture Of Early New England*
John Banville, *The Sea*
Michael Benanav, *Men Of Salt: Crossing The Sahara On The Caravan Of White Gold*
Taylor Branch, *At Canaan's Edge: America In The King Years, 1965-68*
Robert A. Caro, *Master Of The Senate*
Vincent Carretta, *Equiano, The African: Biography Of A Self-Made Man*
Chipstone Foundation, *Ceramics In America.*
Thomas Frederick Davies, *Memoir Of Joshua Winslow Peirce.*
Robert Dreyfuss, *Devil's Game: How The United States Helped Unleash Fundamentalist Islam*
Sarah Dunant, *In The Company Of The Courtesan: A Novel*
Timothy Egan, *The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story Of Those Who Survived The Great American Dust Bowl*
Margaret Axson Elliott, *Eliot*
Episcopal Church, *The Book Of Common Prayer, And Administration Of The Sacraments; And Other Rites And Ceremonies Of The Church*
Richard J. Evans, *The Coming Of The Third Reich*
Rudy J. Favretti, *Landscapes And Gardens For Historic Buildings :*
Nathaniel Fick, *One Bullet Away: The Making Of A Marine Officer*
Tim F. Flannery, *The Weather Makers: How Man Is Changing The Climate And What It Means For Life On Earth*
John Lewis Gaddis, *The Cold War: A New History*
Doris Kearns Goodwin, *Team Of Rivals: The Political Genius Of Abraham Lincoln*
Amy Butler Greenfield, *A Perfect Red: Empire, Espionage, And The Quest For The Color Of Desire*
Henry Hitchings, *Defining The World: The Extraordinary Story Of Dr. Johnson's Dictionary*
Maurice Howard, *The Vyne: A Tudor House Revealed.*
Maya Jasanoff, *Edge Of Empire: Lives, Culture, And Conquest In The East, 1750-1850*
Francis Jennings, *Empire Of Fortune: Crowns, Colonies, And Tribes In The Seven Years War In America*
Tony Judt, *Postwar: A History Of Europe Since 1945*
Alvin B. Kernan, *The Unknown Battle Of Midway: The Destruction Of The American Torpedo Squadrons*
Lucia Del Sol Knight, *The Encyclopedia Of Yacht Designers*
Samuel Larkin, *The Nightingale : A Collection Of The Most Popular, Ancient, And Modern Songs Set To Music*
Russell M. Lawson, *The American Plutarch: Jeremy Belknap And The Historian's Dialogue With The Past*
J. A. Leo Lemay, *The Life Of Benjamin Franklin*
Tom Lewis, *The Hudson: A History*
Judith Lindbergh, *The Thrall's Tale*
Christopher Mckee, *A Gentlemanly And Honorable Profession: The Creation Of The U.S. Naval Officer Corps, 1794-1815*
Catherine Merridale, *Ivan's War: Life And Death In The Red Army, 1939-1945*
Candice Millard, *River Of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey*
James Monroe, *1758-1831 The Papers Of James Monroe / Volume 2*

Gwyn Morgan, *69 A.D.: The Year Of Four Emperors*
 Gary B. Nash, *The Unknown American Revolution: The Unruly Birth Of Democracy And The Struggle To Create America*
 Judith Pascoe, *The Hummingbird Cabinet : A Rare And Curious History Of Romantic Collectors*
 Noreen C. Pramberg, *The Vital Records Of The Town Of South Hampton, New Hampshire, 1743 - 1900*
 Andrew Robinson, *The Last Man Who Knew Everything: Thomas Young, The Anonymous Polymath Who Proved Newton Wrong, Exp*
 Salman Rushdie, *Shalimar The Clown : A Novel*
 James Salter, *There & Then: The Travel Writing Of James Salter.*
 Vikram Seth, *Two Lives*
 Zadie Smith, *On Beauty: A Novel*
 Dava Sobel, *The Planets*
 Jmaes L. Swanson, *Manhunt: The Twelve-Day Chase For Lincoln's Killer*
 John Tayman, *The Colony*
 Carolyn L White, *American Artifacts Of Personal Adornment, 1680-1820 : A Guide To Identification And Interpretation*
 Sean Wilentz, *The Rise Of American Democracy: Jefferson To Lincoln*
 A.N. Wilson, *The Victorians*
 Steven E. Woodworth, *Nothing But Victory: The Army Of The Tennessee, 1861-1865*
 Tinsley E. Yarbrough, *David Hackett Souter: Traditional Republican On The Rehnquist Court*

■ GIFTS OF BOOKS

Michael Baenen: 3 boxes of books from the Estate of Richard Anthony Baenen
Chester Chellman: 45 volumes of NH State Papers
Lynne Crocker: Bird B. Stasz, *And That's the Way of It*
Charles Doleac: *Who's Who in the World* [2005]; *Who's Who in America* [2004]
Ronan Donohoe: Article on Dunbarton House from the magazine *Antiques*
Tom Hardiman and Anne Alie: Batty Langley, *Gothic Architecture: a Reprint of the Original 1742 Treatise*; Asher Benjamin, *Reprints of The Country Builder's Assistant, The American Builder's Companion, Rudiments of Architecture, Practical House Carpenter, and Practice of Architecture*; Robert Adam, *The Architecture, Decoration, and Furniture of Robert & James Adam*; *Selected from Works in Architecture*; Jimmy Carter, *Our Endangered Values: America's Moral Crisis*; Exeter, New Hampshire, *Where the River Meets the Tide*.
Mary Lou Hodgdon: Robert Wilson, *The Explorer King: Adventure, Science, and the Great Diamond Hoax*
Bill Holly: *Love Letters to Spike: A Telegrapher's Lament* (gift of the author)
Marcia Jebb: P.D. James, *The Lighthouse*; Martha Grimes, *The Old Wine Shades*
Barbara M. Jones: Nona B. Bruce, *The Fort at no. 4, 1740-1760*; Samuel MacClintock, *Rev. Samuel MacClintock's Journal, 1760*; and *Names of Men in Col. Goffe's Regiment*
Gerald Kelly: Lawrence Goldstone, *Slightly Chipped: Footnotes in Booklore*; *PHS Graduation Program 1918; 2 Orders of Service*
Cynthia Knapp: *Launching Program for the USS Thresher*
Wendy Lull: Jay Gallagher, *The Politics of Decline: A Chronicle of New York's Descent...*
Ellen Marlatt: "Archeological Excavations at the Portsmouth African Burial Ground"
Carolyn Marvin: Sheet of labels for Marvin Brothers "Pure Cod Liver Oil," ca. 1880.
Margaret Morrissey: Lives and Speeches of Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin
Lothar Patten: *The Life of an Ecologically Nice Man* (gift of the author)
Jane Porter: Anne Littlefield, *Locklin Tide Water Tales*
Peter Randall: *New Hampshire Notables*; *New Hampshire and the Federal Constitution*; Joan Whittaker Cummer, *A Book of Spinning Wheels*
Eleonore Sanderson: 9 issues of *Accent: Home and Garden*
Louise Tallman: Inscriptions at North Cemetery, Portsmouth, NH
Joyce & Kenneth Volk: Haynes Bonner Johnson, *The Age of Anxiety: McCarthyism to Terrorism*; Finfan O'Toole, *White Savage*
Gerald & Barbara Ward: *American Furniture 2005*; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, *American Painting: Elliot Bostwick Davis*
Lois Williams: *Religion at the Isles of Shoals: Anglicans, Puritans, Missionaries, UUS, and UCCS*
Ursula & Phil Wright: David Stephen Heider, *Encyclopedia of the War of 1812*

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL - JUNE, 2006
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

- APRIL 6 Louise Richardson and Dr. Robert Barth lecture on "The Archeology of the Warner House." Many examples of artifacts found on the grounds are included in our current exhibit "Coming Home: Treasures of the Warner House."
5:30 p.m. in the Research Library.
- APRIL 21 Lecture by Richard Candee on The Merchant's House in London and New England in the Early 18th Century. This is a joint program with the Warner House and PDAS.
5:30 p.m. at the Tyco Visitors' Center at Strawberry Banke.
- APRIL 22 The exhibit "Coming Home: Treasures of the Warner House" closes.
- APRIL 23 Brass concert performed by talented musicians from UNH: Amanda Allen, trumpet; Gretchen Snedeker, horn; Arthur Thovmaian, trombone; and piano accompanist, Professor Arlene Kies.
4 p.m. at South Church.
- MAY 11 Presentation and book signing by Bill Holly, author of *Love Letters to Spike: a Telegrapher's Lament, With a Brief, Eclectic History of Communications in the Seacoast*, a book based on a group of letters in the Athenæum collection.
5:30 p.m. in the Sawtelle Reading Room.
- MAY 21 Donald Hall, former New Hampshire Poet Laureate and internationally known prize-winning poet and author, will read from his new book, *White Apples and the Taste of Stone*. Books may be purchased. Donations accepted. The reading is the first in the Sanderson Poetry Series held in cooperation with ArtsAthenæum. A reception at the Athenæum will follow the program.
4:00 p.m. at the North Congregational Church.
- MAY 23 Kevin Lafond lectures on Merchant Scrip, an invaluable economic necessity used several times in the history of the Piscataqua Region, at a meeting of the Piscataqua Decorative Arts Society.
5:30 p.m. at the Tyco Visitors Center at Strawberry Banke. **\$10 for non-PDAS members.**
- MAY 27 Former President Dick Adams, a member of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Cemetery Committee, offers a tour of Portsmouth's historic North and Union cemeteries and showcases some of the excellent work being done by the Committee.
11 a.m. at North Cemetery.
- JUNE 20 Peter Michaud lectures on The Village of Salmon Falls, an overview of the mill's history and the village's social life, during a meeting of the Piscataqua Decorative Arts Society.
5:30 p.m. at the Tyco Visitors Center at Strawberry Banke. **\$10 for non-PDAS members.**
- JUNE 22 Charles E. Clark speaks on "The New Hampshire Seacoast's Community of Print Before 1800" in conjunction with the exhibit "Literary Lions," co sponsored by the Portsmouth Historical Society and funded by the NH Humanities Council.
5:30 p.m. in the Rockingham Annex Ballroom.
- JUNE TBA Opening reception for the exhibit "Literary Lions," celebrating 250 years of printing in the Seacoast. Invitations are forthcoming.

Space for Most Events is Limited; Please Call 431-2538, ext. 2, for Reservations

GENEROSITY

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR GENEROUS GIFTS

Annual Appeal:

Robert Barth
Peter Lamb

Arts Athenaeum:

Mary Cabrera
Michael Chubrich
Irja Cilluffo
Susan Harding
Ronda Baker Hill
Simeon Jarvis
Bruce MacIntyre
Elsbeth Pope
Merrilee Possner
Mark A. Tarbell

Book Fund:

Mary Cabrera
Steven Parker Feld
Elsbeth Pope
Barbara Renner
Donald Ricklefs
Neil Rolde
Mark A. Tarbell

Curatorial Committee:

Ellen Fineberg

Endowment:

Joan Barondes
Mary Cabrera
Charles DeGrandpre
Stacey Smith
Charles Tarbell

Donald Hickmott Fund

James L. Garvin
Woodard Openo
Joyce R. Zabarsky

Moyer Concert Patron

Elizabeth Cavanaugh
Ronan Donohoe
Lois Fonda
Ann Graf
Frank Graf
Cynthia Knapp
Wendy Lull
Jane Porter
Henry Sanders
Eleonore Sanderson
Regina Schirmer
Joyce Volk
William F. Wieting

Special Collections:

Mary Cabrera
Deborah Child
Peter Cook
Robert Dennett
Robert Dishman
Felice Fullam & Peter Sullivan
Ronda Baker Hill
Kevin Lafond
Frances Lord
Warren Pringle
Charles Tarbell
Charles W. Wendell

Unrestricted:

Evelyn Barrett
Christopher Bartlett
Larry Benedict
Peter Bergh
Maryellen Burke
Mary Cabrera
Michael Chubrich
Elizabeth Critchley
Charles Doleac
Joseph W. P. Frost
Joseph Hammond
Michael Harvell

Ronda Baker Hill
Herbert Kingsbury
James Labrie
Bradley Lown
Lawrence McManus
Patricia Meyers
James Munton
Stephen Munton
Warren Pringle
Lillian Quimby
Clinton Springer
Sharon Stephan
Robert Thoresen
W. Peter Torrey
Charles W. Wendell

Gift in memory of Libby Delano:

J. Michael Hughes

Gift in memory of Dale Tedeschiane:

Wendy Turner

Grants in support of our mission:

Friends of the Wentworth, in support of maintenance of the Friends Collection
New Hampshire Humanities Council, in support of the "Literary Lions" program series
Rosamond Thaxter Foundation, to add a searchable catalog to the Athenæum website
South Church Charity Fund, in support of cataloging the South Church manuscript collection



CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME

TO THE FOLLOWING NEW PROPRIETORS, MEMBERS, AND FRIENDS

Congratulations to the following new Proprietors previously introduced in the Newsletter:

Sara Delano

Richard Haynes

Timothy Lennon

David Sanderson

Welcome to new Subscribers *Kerry E. Cronin* of Rye, collection development manager at the Boston Public Library who is passionate about education and libraries; and York attorney *Wendy Starkey*, a collector of old books and atlases. She lives in York with her husband David.

Welcome and Thanks to These New and Renewed Friends of the Athenæum:

Nick Baker
Margaret Betts
L. David Day
Richard Grossman
Sarah Hamill

David E. Hersee, Jr.
William Littlefield
Anthony McManus
Jon & Kathy Ross
Donald Sloper

Jeff Warner
Kathleen Wheeler
Paul Young

THE PORTSMOUTH ATHENÆUM
Minutes of the Annual Meeting
Wednesday, January 11, 2006
3:00 P.M. in the Copley Research Library

Call to Order

President Mike Chubrich welcomed Proprietors and Subscribers to the 187th meeting of the Proprietors of the Portsmouth Athenæum. The minutes of the 186th meeting were presented. On the motion of Peter Lamb, seconded by Ted Gray, the minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting were unanimously approved.

A moment of silence was observed for remembrance of those who died during 2005: Betty J. Brighton, share 100, Ronald Forbes Buchan, share 162, Elizabeth Washburn Delano, share 208, and Joan Larson, share 314.

President Chubrich reported that Betty Jane Brighton had included in her will an unrestricted gift in the name of Raymond and Betty Brighton, the amount of which would be reported next year.

Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer Mike Kenslea reported that 2005 was a successful year financially for the Athenæum. Despite the expanded services offered by the Athenæum, the annual assessment had been maintained at the same level. Treasurer Kenslea thanked Tom Hardiman and Nancy Mulqueen for their efforts to keep the finances in fine form.

Report of the Keeper

Keeper Tom Hardiman delivered the Report of the Keeper, after which he noted that Robert Dunn had retired from the Athenæum and Lynn Aber had resigned and taken a new job as Librarian at Phillips Exeter Academy and that her position had been filled by Robin Silva.

Report of the Librarian

Librarian Robin Silva delivered the Report of the Librarian, after which Tom Hardiman noted that Robin has been on the Athenæum staff for nine years. Tom also reported that, of the twenty membership libraries in the country, the Portsmouth Athenæum is the only one with increasing book circulation and has the second smallest budget.

Reports of the Committees

Bill Purinton delivered the Report of the Investment Committee.

Ronan Donohoe delivered the Report of the Admissions Committee.

Rose Eppard delivered the Report of the Arts Athenæum – Exhibits Committee.

Bill Wieting delivered the Report of the Arts Athenæum – Performance Committee.

Dick Adams delivered the Report of the Building Committee.

Elizabeth Aykroyd delivered the Report of the Curatorial Committee.

Richard Candee delivered the Report of the Special Collections Committee.

The full substance of the reports of the Keeper, Librarian, and the Committees appears in the Spring 2006 newsletter.

Election of Officers and Directors

Judge John Maher, Chair of the Nominating Committee, introduced committee members Maryellen Burke and Michael Baenen. Judge Maher reported that when Michael Baenen had been approached concerning a potential nomination for the position of Vice President, Michael had recused himself and had not participated in the committee deliberations. Judge Maher presented the proposed slate of officers for the coming year. President Wendy W. Lull; Vice President Michael Baenen; Past President Michael E. Chubrich were nominated for two-year terms. Secretary Gail C. Drobynyk and Treasurer Michael E. Kenslea were nominated for one-year terms. W. Jeffrey Bolster, Cynthia E. Knapp, and Carvel B. Tefft were proposed for three year terms as Directors. Six Directors will continue to serve terms as previously voted. Peter Randall moved that the nominations be closed and that the recommendations of the Nominating Committee be accepted. Bill Wieting seconded and the membership approved the motion by consensus.

Report of the President

President Chubrich commented that it had been an honor and a privilege to serve as President the past two years. He noted that, on reflection, he had left undone some things that he ought to have done and had done some things that he ought not to have done. One of the things he had not done was to spur the Board to engage in a capital campaign. He commented that Joe Sawtelle had moved to make the Athenæum a leader in the local non-profit community. He also

noted that if we increased the endowment of the Athenæum we would be able to increase the wages and benefits for the dedicated staff members. Another item that President Chubrich had not done was to establish a reciprocal relationship with the Liverpool Athenæum, but he intends to do so in the near future. One of the things that he ought not to have done was to establish a fee for the Holiday Party.

Other Business

New President Wendy Lull thanked the directors for their efforts on behalf of the Athenæum. She welcomed the three new Directors and gave special thanks to those Directors whose terms had expired: Peter Lamb, Peter Randall, and Ellie Sanderson.

On motion of John Maher the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm and was followed by a small reception.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Drobynk, Secretary

2005 Keeper's Report

2005 was a year of challenge and change for the Athenæum. We lost a great deal of institutional memory with the retirement of Robert Dunn after 18 years of service, and the departure of Lynn Aber after 10 years of service to take a post at the Class of 1945 Library at Phillips Exeter Academy. Thankfully, Robert and Lynn have maintained their connections to the Athenæum by continuing as members.

Your library is still ably staffed by Librarian Robin Silva, Susan Kindstedt, archivist, and Ursula Wright, Research librarian. They are continually adding and updating the resources available in our electronic catalog, which now features images and circulation status of books.

Office Manager Nancy Mulqueen and bookkeeper Dorothy Polando, working with Treasurer Mike Kenslea, do an outstanding job of keeping us on a sound financial footing. Nancy has also been indispensable in grant writing and reporting.

This was year of anniversaries: the 100th of the Peace of Portsmouth, so admirably commemorated by our ArtsAthenæum Exhibits committee, and the 200th of our historic landmark building. With such milestones in mind, President Chubrich led us in looking to the future of our organization. Under a grant from the Partnership for Effective Nonprofits, we analyzed and quantified the remaining work recommended in our Long-Range Plan of 2001, and were able to accomplish some of the goals this year. Your building committee, aided by grants from the 1772 Foundation and the Marston Fund of the NH Charitable Foundation, completed a major restoration of the historic façade of the 1805 building and dramatically improved the lighting in the research library. Another grant from the NH Charitable Foundation, Piscataqua Region, we have launched an excellent website, **www.portsmouthathenaeum.org**, designed by Proprietor Evelyn Lamprey.

The Long-Range Plan called for using electronic resources as a means to expand services to our many members who do not live in the area and to improve service to those who do. It also helps us fulfill our mission of making our superb collections available to scholars without adding expensive staff costs. You can now use the website to check on coming events, to learn about the history of the Athenæum and our collections, and look up recent happenings in an archive of past newsletters. We have recently added a bulletin board, where members and friends can post questions about local history or art, or any other subject, and answer queries for others. Later this year, we hope to greatly expand the web services by putting a searchable catalog of our collections online. We also hope to address some of our long-standing space and shelving shortages and hope that you will help us.

In this extremely challenging environment for non-profits, your Athenæum continues to thrive because of its unique mission, which emphasizes cooperation and participation. The active participation of members who volunteer their time and talents has helped us to keep costs to a minimum, but more importantly demonstrates the pride of Proprietorship that is felt by our members. With your help, we are making progress toward the future, while maintaining a watchful eye on the bottom line.

2005 Librarian's Report

The Library has been busy in 2005. We had 492 researchers this year, a slight decrease from last year. However Ursula Wright has been busy answering research questions generated by the new web site. Visitors in the Reading Room increased over 20% to 162. Book loans increased for the second year in a row to 796. The overhaul of the circulation system continues to evolve. As our electronic library grows so does our ability to have up-to-date and accurate information on which books are out on loan. In the near future, look for new circulation logs, designed to allow us to keep our records more current and easier for you to fill out. Photo orders in the past were only occasional. This year Ursula Wright has become the go-to person in Portsmouth for photo reprints and scans. Again technology is changing how the Athenæum is

being used. Photo orders totaled almost \$2500, giving us over \$1700 in income.

This year over 2700 book titles were cataloged or imported to Past Perfect — our electronic card catalog. The Library (printed materials) section of Past Perfect contains almost 6200 records. We will continue to add data into Past perfect with a particular emphasis on completing the cataloging of the ephemera collection, locating and completely cataloging all the periodicals owned by the Athenæum and cataloging the Joe Frost special collection in the vault. Later this year the card catalog will be available to search through the web site.

We had 189 titles donated this year; the third year in a row donations have increased, a wonderful and generous trend — one we hope to encourage and promote by putting a wish list on the web site in the near future. We were fortunate this year to have had not only our usual suspects volunteering, but a few new faces as well. Caitlin Aber, Irene Crosby, Gail Drobnik, Meg Engelbach, Kinley Gregg, Marcia Jebb, and Margaret Morrissey all returned to continue their valiant efforts for the Athenæum. In addition we now have new member Hilda Versluys cataloging the curatorial objects. We send our good thoughts to Rachel Lyons, who returned to her home in New Orleans recently. She is a New Orleans resident and archivist with the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and Foundation displaced by hurricane Katrina. She generously donated her, as well as her father's time to inventory a special collection.

Michael Baenen and Peter Narbonne together with their legion of volunteers, Ellie and Dave Sanderson's barn, and a multitude of donations, made about \$4000 with the book sale. This money is used to buy new books and repair old ones. The adopt-a-book program exceeded all expectations in 2005, and with this year's annual meeting Lynne Crocker believes we will have completed all the repairs to the Tredick collection that are needed. When Lynn Aber created this program a few years ago, I don't think she knew what a wonderful tradition and legacy she started.

In the future new technology and the web site are going to change how we serve our proprietors and members of the community. We look forward to your input and will continue to adapt to meet those needs.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Silva, Librarian

2005 Investments Committee Report

For the year ended 12/31/05 the market value of the Athenæum's endowment was \$1,001,821.06. The investment management of our account is in the hands of Babson Capital Management. The year-end portfolio was configured as follows: cash \$54,286, fixed income securities \$278,411, and equity securities \$669,124. During 2005 these holdings generated dividend and interest payments of \$24,835, which were remitted and added to the Athenæum's operating income. An additional \$3,165 was drawn from endowment principal during 2005 bringing the total annual payout to an even \$28,000. This is well below the \$40,000 limit on withdrawals permitted under the Athenæum's investment policy.

Operating income was augmented by an additional \$41,700 of annual grant disbursements by the Greater Piacataqua Charitable Foundation, from donors' funds it manages specifying the Athenæum as beneficiary. The Investment Committee met quarterly during 2005 to review investment results with Babson Capital. Our portfolio has performed reasonably well under Babson's management over the past three plus years. Both fixed income and equity returns have been in line with, although somewhat below, the broad market averages. Our fixed income holdings (33% of the total) are of investment grade and invested short term with an average maturity of three years and a current yield of 5%. The equity portion of the portfolio is concentrated in well diversified, so-called "quality growth" common stocks. The largest holdings at year- end were Exxon-Mobil and TD BankNorth at just under \$30,000 each. During 2005 our BankNorth investment was reduced by about \$43,000 and reinvested in other equities, consistent with our intention to diversify this historically disproportionate position.

Looking ahead, the Investment Committee intends to review and propose changes to the asset allocation and security selection criteria contained in the Athenæum's "Statement of Investment Policy". In order to enhance potential returns and further diversify the portfolio we will consider adding permitted holdings in both international and smaller capitalization equity securities.

Respectfully Submitted,
William Purinton, Chair

2005 Admissions Committee Report

The Admissions Committee is composed of Ronan Donohoe, Rose Eppard, Tibbie Field, Vernis Jackson, and Jane Porter. The committee reviews applications and makes recommendations to the Board.

In 2005, the Athenæum welcomed 23 new Proprietors (See attached list). There are 18 subscribers currently awaiting proprietorship. These actions will bring us close to realizing the full compliment of membership voted last year. Once again, the committee would like to express its thanks to those Proprietors who have taken the time to write recommendations

for new members. These references are enormously helpful to the committee in its work, and we urge all proprietors who may be asked to provide such references to take the time to provide any and all such information, which gives the committee a better understanding of each candidate.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronzilla, Chair

New Proprietors, 2005 (23):

Larry Benedict	Rev. Edward J. Kelly
Juliana Cardone	Charles Lassen
Philip Cavanaugh	Frances Mallon
Mark Connolly	Laura F. Montville
Michael Dater	Michael Murray
Judy Day	Patrick Nerbonne
Rev. David W. Ellis	Frank Roth
Kinley Gregg	Max. L. Smith
Thaddeus Guldbrandsen	Amy Sutton
Angelynne K. Hinson	Hilda Versluys
John Hopkins	Jonathan Wyckoff
Marcia Jebb	

New Subscribers, 2005 (18):

Karen Bouffard	Timothy J. Lennon
Douglas Carey	Carol Lincoln
Katherine Clark	Andrew E. Ritzo
Robert E. Dunn	David Sanderson
Louis R. Fonda	John R. Schermerhorn
Barry B. Ghigliotti	Constance Seery
Richard Haynes, Jr.	Albert P. Stowe
Jane S. Hoffman	Mark Tarbell
Evelyn S. Lamprey	M. Elaine Tefft

2005 ARTSATHENÆUM Exhibits Committee Report

Our exhibit season began with the second of our Treasures series: Old York's Exhibit, guest curated by Tom Johnson. The Randall Gallery was turned into York's attic full of wonderful artifacts and ephemera. The lecture series was interesting and inventive, with letter readings and children's activities including the creation of Sailor's Valentines. This well attended exhibit was followed by the Athenæum's contribution to Portsmouth's Peace Treaty celebration. Fred Sharf generously exhibited his collection of Japanese and Russian lithographs, which he framed and labeled at his own considerable expense. He also prepared, printed and donated the show's catalogue. Eleanor Tracy, the exhibit's guest curator, presented the most ambitious lecture series we have ever undertaken, with seven scholars speaking on a wide range of subjects. The North Church and the Rev. Dawn Shippee allowed us the use of the sanctuary for our lectures, and the series drew residents and visitors alike in numbers ranging from 60 to a whopping 215 people. This well organized and planned exhibit actually ended well in the black despite its gargantuan expenses.

In December we hung another Proprietors Show. It is still on display in the Gallery for any of you who haven't seen it. It will be coming down on Saturday to make room for the Warner House Exhibit: Coming Home to the Warner House, opening with a reception on Saturday, January 28th at 4:30. This exhibit, guest curated by Joyce Volk, will feature items returned to the house through family donation and through acquisition. The catalogue for the show will be a book on aspects of the Warner House. The exhibit will end with a family reunion in April on the show's final weekend. Our summer exhibit will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the New Hampshire Gazette with an exhibit featuring writers, publishers and editors of the seacoast region entitled "Literary Lions." We could use some help from any of you interested in doing research on these luminaries. Please see me if you can help.

I would like to thank the untiring members of this committee who make all of this possible. Please stand and be recognized. I would also like to thank Mary Lou Hodgdon and Joan Lockhart for taking over the difficult task of scheduling Gallery Sitters.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rose Eppard

2005 Building Committee Report

We continue to reap the benefits of the prudent investments in our infrastructure that the Board of Directors have authorized over the past decade or so. The money we have spent in upgrading the various physical systems of the Athenæum — air conditioning, security, elevator, roofing, and so on — has given us a relatively worry-free environment, with very few problems to handle, and those of a minor nature.

In the past year our major projects included repointing the front façade of the 1805 Building, painting all of the exterior trim of our three separate buildings, and installation of new lighting in the Research Library. The brick repointing was funded through a grant of \$4695 from the 1772 Foundation, and therefore cost the Athenæum almost nothing. The work should easily outlast all of us present today. The long-overdue replacement of the fluorescent lighting fixtures in the Research Library with high-efficiency lamps has been a great boon to researchers and staff, who previously had to suffer

from dim, wholly inadequate illumination.

The coefficient of competency in the Building Committee advanced exponentially this year with the addition of Proprietor John Wyckoff to the committee. A self-employed construction contractor, John brings much-needed talent and energy. In addition to providing professional advice on several issues, he climbed rickety staging fifty feet high to repair a leaky gutter on the 1805 Building and assisted in the painting of the ceiling in the Research Library after the new lighting was installed.

Richard G. Adams,
Chairman, Building Committee

2005 Curatorial Committee Report

Since I became the chairman of the Curatorial Committee only recently, I have just begun to find my way around the collections and the files. As a graduate of the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture, I am appreciative of the importance of the collections of the Athenæum, a place where, in fact, I did a great deal of research for my master's thesis. Despite my museum experience, it is always daunting to take over from talented predecessors, and I am grateful for the guidance of Tom Hardiman and Ellen Fineberg.

The first priorities will be to continue the projects already begun, such as the entering of the collection catalog into the computer, a task which Hilda Versluys is doing for us. Other tasks for this year include an inventory and condition survey of the collection and the completion of the move of objects into the curatorial storage area. I look forward to working with the collection and the committee.

Elizabeth Rhoades Aykroyd,
Chairman

2005 Special Collections Committee Report

The Special Collections Committee this year was Richard Candee and Michael Baenen, co-chairs; members: Buzzy Dodge, Ronan Donahoe, Joseph W.P. Frost, Jack McGee, Jane Porter, and Dr. Warren Pringle, with Lynn Aber (now Susan Kindstedt) Archivist; Tom Hardiman, Keeper, & Mike Chubrich, President (ex officio).

Our goal is to keep local manuscripts, imprints, ephemera, serials and photographs from disappearing out of area and to purchase items that should come back to Portsmouth. We also encourage local institutions to deposit their manuscripts and photographs with us for public research use. We sometimes microfilm materials we cannot acquire, recommend materials for deaccession or transfer, seek Board permission to buy materials costing over \$2000, and review personnel and other staff needs for budgeting purposes. We meet as a group only occasionally, doing much of our work by email and individually with the staff.

This year, when Lynn Aber resigned, Susan Kindstedt was named Archivist, as she had already been processing all manuscript gifts and purchases, most of the North Church project and other institutional deposit collections, photographs, and any other special collections projects for the past several years. I'm glad we have finally made an "honest woman" of her in name, as well as in fact.

This year we've acquired a number of interesting diaries by gift including that of W. P. Young of Portsmouth (1881), Albert Henry Blanchard's 1845-46 diary while apprenticed to a Portsmouth druggist; and Margaret Scott Carter made the purchase of sail maker Lemuel Davis' 1895 diary possible. Mrs. Carl Akerly gave us a small, handwritten pamphlet "A Dissertation upon the Moral Sense" read in 1834 to the South Parish Mutual Improvement Society, and we acquired a number of letters, promissory notes, and other small manuscripts written to or by many 18th and 19th century Portsmouth figures. Of these nearly two dozen items, Michael Baenan, Pat Nerbonne, and Barbara Gregg donated toward the purchase of a letter from John Langdon to Tobias Lear. Among the manuscripts about Portsmouth -- many related to items already in the collection-- acquired in 2005 there are a series of unsigned volumes that Susan Kindstedt has recently reattributed from the names suggested by the booksellers who sent them our way. I asked her to tell us about this in her own words:

"In June of 2005 the Athenæum purchased two ledgers inscribed with the name Edward E. Sparhawk, 1871. One of the volumes appears to actually be an account book from the law office of Daniel Humphreys who served as US district attorney for New Hampshire from 1804-1827. The volume dates from 1805 to 1826 and includes legal services provided by Humphreys to various individuals: including Jonathan Warner (we has his executor), William Mullineaux, John Langdon, Edmund Roberts, and John Wendell. Daniel Humphrey's daughter, Abigail, married George King Sparhawk. George and their children included George, John and David H. These three individuals are all represented in the Athenæum's most recent purchase of Sparhawk materials including a diary and literary journal. Although purchased from a different source, these three new volumes also bear the inscription E. E. Sparhawk 1871. Most notable of the volumes the Board approved in December are George Sparhawk's diary accounts from

(continued on back page)

Portsmouth Athenæum 2005 Financial Summary (Final)

REVENUE:

Proprietor Assessments	\$ 77,209
Annual Appeal	24,193
Miscellaneous Contributions	18,654
Investment Income	24,974
Other Operating Income	56,822
Gain on Sale of Investments	-
Receipts for Special Purposes	<u>59,248</u>

(including gifts and grants) \$ 261,100

EXPENDITURES:

Staff & Related Costs	\$ 122,541
Collections	22,682
Utilities	11,853
Building, Maintenance & Renovations	13,832
Insurance, Office, Printing	32,883
Depreciation	29,868
Special Purpose Expenditures	<u>29,459</u>

\$ 263,117

OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE

Gain/ (Loss) on Sale of Investments	\$ 38,906
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ENDOWMENTS & RESERVE ADDITIONS:

Reserve Additions	<u><u>\$ 15,138</u></u>
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Balance Sheet

ASSETS:

Cash, including Savings Reserves	\$ 56,820
Invested Funds	917,162
Accounts Receivable	29,400
Prepaid Expenses	5,705
Fixed Assets	<u>578,061</u>

\$ 1,587,148

LIABILITIES:

Prepaid Proprietor Assessments	\$ 78,325
Deferred Income	6,714
Accounts Payable	<u>10,623</u>

\$ 95,662

FUND BALANCES:

Net Surplus	52,030
Fund Balances	1,439,456
Donald Margeson Fund	
Capital Campaign Fund	
Frances Warrick Fund	
Endowments:	
General	
Phyllis Hodgdon	
Bruce Ingmire	
Isles of Shoals	
Barbara Schmidt-Courvoisier	
Plant & Equipment Fund	<u><u>1,587,148</u></u>

from 1822-1827, 1822-1827, which mention both the Portsmouth Forensic Club and the 1823 Centennial Celebration (the brainchildren of Nathaniel Haven, Jr.). Also included in these volumes are names of books checked out of the Portsmouth Athenæum by John Sparhawk. Reunited through purchase from two different dealers, the now five volumes provide an interesting glimpse into several generations of one Portsmouth family.” Just the sort of activity that Special Collections should facilitate!

Not only do we collect manuscripts, but we try to add to our newspaper, local imprints, and ephemera collections. Thus we bought a copy of *The Youth's Companion* off eBay this year because it had an article on Thomas Bailey Aldrich. Greg Whalen also gave us a whole collection of 1910-1940 ephemera, postcards and pamphlets on the ill-fated Portsmouth submarine Squallus.

Our new photographs (mostly by local photographers Connors, Davis Bros., and others) include gifts from Ralph Morang, George Sherman, Jim Dolph, Kinley Gregg, Elizabeth Feren (in memory of Robert O. Galligan), a transfer from the Historical Society of Old Newbury and stereoviews from Jane Nylander that have all been listed in the Newsletter. We also bought some identified school class pictures and we added several interior shots of Quarters “A” (the Commandant’s home) to our collection that Dennis Robinson helped us find on eBay.

Especially significant was Jean Sawtelle’s large gift of William Mather Lamson’s glass plates from the PNSY including some of the Russo-Japanese Treaty 1905 activities and the 1906 year end celebration. Some of these you may have seen used on Art-Speak banners around town last summer and fall for the Treaty centennial.

Our Warrick Fund also permits the Athenæum to hire part-time professional help in processing of Special Collection materials. This past year Elizabeth Hamlin-Morin continued to work on our small collections, sending records to the Library of Congress for Internet access. Susan Kindstedt will continue this work as well as process our backlogged manuscripts and photographs using “Past Perfect” so you can find it all on the computer.

Among our valued volunteers: Kinley Gregg worked on the Ship Nestor Log Book, Amy Sanderson created an index for manuscript early church records for the town of Newington, Lindsey Wycoff (MLS student from Simmons College) worked on photograph processing, Sarah Hall (UNH History-Museum Studies graduate student) processed the William Mather Lamson glass plate negative collection, Irene Crosby began work on an index for the Albert Blanchard diary, Margaret Morrisey continued her ongoing project working on the Haven diaries and Marcia Jebb continues processing revisions to the Wendell Collection. In addition, Rachel Lyons (archivist for the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, temporarily displaced by Hurricane Katrina) cataloged rare books for us this fall.

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Committee,
Richard M. Candee & Michael Baenen, Co-Chairs

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Annual Meeting Issue