Greetings Midwest Chapter Members,

I am Emily Martin your new Chapter President. First off I would like to thank Laurie Ketchem-Shrick for her four years of service as president. She has left us in fine shape as a chapter, 119 members strong.

I will introduce myself I live in Iowa City, Iowa and teach bookbinding and artists’ books classes at the University of Iowa Center for the Book. The rest of the time I am a studio artist making movable/sculptural artist’s books and prints. I recently had my book *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* accepted for the Designer Bookbinders’ International Competition, Oxford England where it received a silver award. That book and another of my books *Out There In Here* have been accepted into the CBBBAG Art of the Book exhibit, which will open this summer.

I hope many of you will be participating in the Plainly Spoken binding exhibition coming this fall. I am also a member of the Delaware Valley Chapter and they have organized several collaborative book projects where members combine to make the pages and then each member does their own binding. I am curious if Midwest Chapter members would be interested in a project along these lines. If so drop me an email at emilymartin@mchsi.com so I can get an idea of interest.

Hand Papermaking Survey

This survey and online database has been created by members of the Friends of Dard Hunter. Our goal is to create a database that will document the history of the revival of hand papermaking in the 20th and 21st centuries and to accurately reflect current hand papermaking activity.

We welcome all hand papermakers and handmade paper artists to share their history and current information with the rest of the hand papermaking community.

Parts 1 and 2 are multiple-choice questions and Part 3 allows participants to share additional information about their hand papermaking. Part 4 is for representatives of an organization, paper mill, or educational program.

Preview questions (always good to do before filling out) and participate at [http://handpapermakingcommunity.wordpress.com/the-survey/](http://handpapermakingcommunity.wordpress.com/the-survey/)
**Workshops and Classes**

**Paper in Three Dimensions - A workshop with Helen Hiebert**

Hosted by the Herron School of Art in Indianapolis, IN. Sponsored by the Midwest Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers

Saturday and Sunday August 10-11, 2013
10:00am – 4:00pm
Cost: $215, Materials $25 (to be paid the first day of the workshop)

In this class, we will investigate papermaking, paper folding, model making and other techniques to create a sampling of small sculptural forms that expand and collapse, open and close, fold and unfold. These techniques will be utilized to make inflatable paper balls, book structures, lamps, lanterns and other sculptural adaptations.

Helen Hiebert is the author of four how-to books about paper, has appeared on Sesame Street, has produced two films, and writes a weekly blog about all things paper. She teaches, lectures and exhibits her work internationally. Helen is the vice president of the International Association of Hand Papermakers and Paper Artists and a regular contributor to Hand Papermaking Newsletter. She lives and works near Vail, Colorado. To register, please contact Mary Uthuppuru, at mary@springleafpress.com

**Three Workshops by Sharon Sharp**

Flag Books: Content in Motion
Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC. August 2
http://tcva.org/workshops/id/923

Journals with Exposed-Stitch Spines
August 6, 13, & 20 (with an optional session on the 27th)
Florence Thomas Memorial Art School, West Jefferson, NC

Exploring Every Angle: Complex Effects with Simple Book Forms
September 14-15
Morgan Art of Papermaking Conservatory and Educational Foundation, Cleveland, OH

Sharp Handmade Books/Curious Pursuits Press
sharon@sharphandmadebooks.com
www.sharphandmadebooks.com

**Your Ideas, Your Paper, Your Books**
Morgan Conservatory
Cleveland, OH
June 13 - 16
Taught by Amanda Degener and Debra Howe

www.morganconservatory.org/
From Pulp to Paper and Beyond
July 22 – 26, 2013
Asheville Bookworks, West Asheville, NC
taught by Bridget O'Malley
www.ashevillebookworks.com

Dye Paper Bind Books Class
August 6 - 9
Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais, MN
taught by Amanda Degener
www.grandmaraisartcolony.org

Korean Papermaking and Hanji Crafts
August 3 - 4
Morgan Conservatory, Cleveland, OH
http://morganconservatory.org/event/korean-papermaking-and-hanji-crafts/

Exhibitions and Opportunities
Bind-O-Rama 2013
Historic Cut-away Binding Structure Models
Entries due October 31.
Details and entry form below

These can be historic or contemporary, complex or simple, but should be exquisitely and creatively crafted to reveal the layers of the book. Examples can be seen in the University of Iowa Library's digital collection, from the conservation lab.

Happy binding and look forward to your entries by OCTOBER 31..

Details and entry form at

Plainly Spoken
Midwest Guild of Book Workers
Traveling Exhibit, 2014-15

- Nov 2013 – Jan 2014   Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas. Lawrence, KS
- Jan – Apr 2014   University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI
- Apr – Jul 2014   The Newberry. Chicago, IL
- Aug – Nov 2014   University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA
- Jan – April 2015   Minnesota Center for the Book. Minneapolis, MN

Member News
Karen Hanmer was “Miss May” in Eden Workshops' monthly Bookbinders Digest newsletter, "published" by a British binder living in France:
http://us1.campaign-archive2.com/?u=24c10645640d6810712e53083&id=be5028060a&c=90a6a9a2a9
The Guild of Book Workers Annual meeting in Iowa City began with a tour of local points of interest. We enjoyed each stop on the tour so much that the greatest challenge was tearing ourselves away from one place in order to visit the next.

Our first stop was the University of Iowa Oakdale Paper Facility. Tim Barrett, director of the Center for the Book, led our tour of the space where he and student co-workers make European- and Japanese-style papers. During our visit, two students were working together at making European-style paper to see if they could match the daily rate of production achieved during the height of Europe’s hand-papermaking. A number of us on the tour contributed to the day’s total by making sheets of our own to add to the post.

Those of us who had not seen paper being made before were surprised to find what cold and wet work it is, especially during an April of temperatures mostly in the 30s. The truly cold weather of January and February is saved for making Japanese-style paper, since the kozo fiber deteriorates too quickly in warmer weather.

We all crowded into the small lab where Tim has used various scientific instruments to analyze more than 1500 paper samples in order to better understand why some papers have outlasted others. He demonstrated for us a machine that folds a piece of paper over and over until it breaks and counts the folds. The paper from your home printer can fold about eight times, but a dollar bill can fold several hundred times without breaking.
Our next stop was the conservation lab in the main library of the University of Iowa where we met Gisele Simon, conservator, and Gary Frost, conservator emeritus. A number of books from the large collection of historical models were on display. Gary told the short version of the story of how the UI Center for the Book came to be and of how the work in the conservation department has been passed from one conservator to the next over the years. It would take several days to see and study all the books in the collection of models, but we had to move on to our last stop on the tour: North Hall.

North Hall is home to a number of book arts classrooms. Emily Martin led the tour. The Center for the Book has expanded into several new spaces over the last couple of years. The extensive collection of type and presses assembled at UI in the 1940s found a home in a newly built classroom across the hall from the binding classroom. Newly acquired papermaking equipment now lives in what used to be the boys’ locker room when North Hall was a grade school, so that papermaking classes can be taught at the same location as binding and printing. Calligraphy is now the only book arts topic taught outside of North Hall. Other recent additions include the aptly named Tiny Gallery, for exhibits pertaining to book arts, and a classroom of computers and a large-format printer for artist book classes.

Many thanks to Tim, Gary, and Emily for showing us around.

Reception at the Paper Nest
By Mary Uthuppuru
After we reluctantly finished the tours, we were generously hosted by Elizabeth Munger of Paper Nest (http://papernestpress.com/). It was a great chance to see just what the shop is up to and it is impressive! The small space has wonderful books, tools and select supplies and equipment for sale in addition to cloth tool wraps, t-shirts and loads more! We even got to witness some printing on the lovely presses in the time that we were there.

It was a wonderful chance to continue conversations with people we hadn’t seen in a while. A HUGE thank you to Elizabeth for facilitating such a nice time!
Lecture by Greg Prickman  
By Mary Uthuppuru

Soon after the reception, we all met at the Main Library in the Special Collections and were treated to a lecture by Greg Prickman, the Head of Special Collections. Among the amazing things Greg showed us was a twelve volume extra illustrated set of books about the life of Napoleon. “Extra Illustrated” refers to the practice of taking a work and adding material inside to suit your taste. In this instance, the volumes of Napoleon’s life contained numerous prints and inclusions. The bindings were stunningly gold tooled and decorated which give merit to the maker’s self-proclaimed title “The Most Elaborate and Unique Set of Books”.

![Image: Some of our members looking at the volumes.](image)

The volumes carry with them an interesting story of Midwestern involvement surrounding the development of these books. The story started with their creation in Chicago, and ends in Iowa City when Mrs. Ranny, an Iowa native, bought the set. These books are a one of a kind and a real privilege to have been handled by all of us there. Once the lecture concluded, we were all given the opportunity to have a closer look at the items pulled and to look around the rest of the collection.

Saturday, April 13, 2013

Since we were in two different buildings, many of our members met at the Java House for an assortment of delicious breakfast pastries and coffee before we all headed to our prospective workshops. We had several nice discussions about our chapter and tossed around some ideas for events in the future. Since all good things must come to an end, or at least change into other good things, we all headed to the workshop spaces.

Miniature Monster Abecedarian Workshop with Bexx Caswell  
By Mary Uthuppuru

We all sat down around the large worktable with Bexx Caswell in the bindery classroom in North Hall to learn how to make Miniature Monster Abecedarian book. Abecedarian books can be traditional alphabet books, collections of poetry that proceed with the alphabet: each stanza starting with a new letter, or many other creative uses the alphabet as the central theme. We looked at several examples of these possibilities that Bexx brought with her, especially a few by Edward Gorey which set the perfect mood for the class’s ABC monster theme.
After seeing so many great examples, we had some time to come up with the content of our own mini monster books. We knew there wasn’t a whole lot of time for this step, so everyone got busy right away.

Step by step we were walked through the binding structure. Due to her clear and methodical teaching style, Bexx made it easy to follow the steps of the non-adhesive structure. We eagerly continued with the project at our work spaces.
By the end, we were surrounded by wonderful little monsters and we all had fun looking at the content generated in such a short amount of time, some of which gave us a good laugh. It was a wonderful measure of the huge amounts of creativity that the class possessed and the wonderful things a good instructor like Bexx can extract in such a limited amount of time.
Expandable Crossed Structure Album with Peggy Johnston
By Barb Korb

Peggy Johnston surely began preparing for her workshop – Expandable Crossed Structure Album Formats – in January to be ready for the Midwest Guild workshop in April. She arrived on Saturday morning, wheeling a cart filled with the various parts for constructing 32 album pages and a flexible leather cover – all pre-cut so we could dive right into work. Apparently, that wasn’t work enough. She also spent many hours culling her massive collections to provide us with a miscellany of printed images to make our albums come alive. The result of all her preparation was an outstanding, well-organized workshop that twelve lucky members of the guild attended.

None of us had any idea how intense the workshop would be until Peggy informed us that she’d concentrated two workshop days into one. Intense it was, but strangely satisfying, when we walked away with over 30 different album pages in a handsome leather cover. While only one or two participants actually finished the project during the allotted workshop hours, we all had sufficient instruction to complete the project in our own studios. Yes, there were written instructions, too, with diagrams of the completed pages and measurements for each AND a small brass label holder, with rivets, and a title label for the front cover. Perfection.

Among the varied album pages were very simple structures such as an accordion fold page; a single card folio with a sewn-in paper signature; and a single page with a tab. More complicated pages included a top-entry mat (2 sided); a woven circle pocket; and a diagonal pocket folder. The most unconventional page (called the stock book signature) featured a folded window shade that held a variety of small clippings, such as stamps.

A bonus feature of the class was its location. Giselle Simon, Conservator, very generously offered the use of the university’s new Conservation Lab which was spacious enough for all the participants to have adequate workspace and plenty of room to move around while collecting the varied parts for our project. The chairs were comfy, the lighting was great, and we were well taken care of during the hours we spent laboring over our work.
Many thanks to Peggy for all her work and for sharing her bountiful knowledge and storehouse of supplies.

**Show and Tell**  
By Mary Uthuppuru

Thanks to Emily Martin keeping the bindery classroom in North Hall open for us, we were allowed some time after both workshops to bring some of our own work out to share. This is always a great opportunity to match pieces with the people who put them together. Often times, a book is experienced without a face and a voice to go with it, so we were lucky to be able to ask one another questions about methods and techniques.

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**Dinner and Meeting**

To conclude such a great weekend, Midwest members met at the Motley Cow for dinner and the chapter meeting. Dinner was a great time to continue visiting with one another and the food was delicious. The meeting took place afterwards, and despite the noise, we were able to take care of this year’s objectives, one of which was to elect our new president, Emily Martin. Welcome Emily! And a huge thank you to Laurie Ketcham-Schrick for devoting so much time to the Midwest chapter as our former president. We all appreciate your contribution to such an important position!
Treasurers Report: The chapter has a current balance of $14,109.70 prior to final expenses for the annual meeting and workshops. The chapter is donating $500.00 toward the Horizon Exhibition at the Chicago Public Library. This will be in the form of sponsoring lecture and meet the artist events.

Program Chair Report: Program chair Mary Uthuppuru reported that a two-day workshop with Helen Hebert is scheduled for August in Indianapolis. Helen Heibert workshop at the Herron School of Art in Indianapolis: August 10-11, 10-4, both days.
Non MW GBW Sponsored events coming up:
Hook Pottery Paper in LaPorte, IN: Tool Making workshop with Jim Croft April 27-28, 2013, and Helen Heibert Watermark Workshop, August 3-4

Workshop Report: Mary Uthuppuru thanked all who helped organize and produce the meeting and accompanying events: Bexx Caswell and Peggy Johnston for the workshops, and UICB for the tours and use of classroom and conservation lab.

New Business:
Annual Meeting Stipends: The issue of providing stipends to the officers to attend the annual meeting was not discussed. The members in attendance voted by email on the following issues:
"The board of the Midwest Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers decided that very important issues concerning the Chapter did not get presented at the Annual meeting in Iowa City on April 13, 2013. It is an issue that we have an obligation to revisit every year, but got overlooked this year. COULD YOU RESPOND BY EMAIL BY APRIL 30th AS TO WHETHER YOU SUPPORT THESE MEASURES? If we get no response from you we will assume that you support this measure.

ISSUE ONE: "A stipend of $100 will be paid to each officer of the Midwest Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers to attend the Annual meeting."

ISSUE TWO: "The registration for the Chapter Chair to attend Standards will be paid by the Chapter."

SEND YOUR YES OR NO VOTE IN RESPONSE TO EACH OF THESE ISSUES BY APRIL 30, 2013 TO Peggy Johnston: wavelandstudio@att.net

The secretary received 9 votes for Issue One with 4 abstaining, and 8 votes for 1 against Issue Two. So, the issues have carried.

Exhibit Opportunity: Julia Miller’s Books that Speak Plain will be the subject of a set book exhibition supplemented with historic binding models. The exhibit will open at the Newberry Library in Chicago in 2013, and will travel to five locations, listed below. The book is available in sheets from Julia or Hollanders.
Books Will Speak Plain
Intent to Enter Form: May 1, 2013
Artwork must be postmarked by: October 4, 2013

Tour schedule
1. Spencer Research Library. University of Kansas, KS
2. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI
3. Newberry. Chicago, IL
4. University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA
5. Minnesota Center for the Book. Minneapolis, MN
Regional Workshops Subsidy: Karen Hanmer moved to continue workshop subsidy up to $300 for another year. Emily Martin seconded. Motion carried.

2014 Annual Meeting: To be held in Chicago. Details will be forthcoming at a later date.

Elections: Peggy Johnston moved that election of the President and Newsletter Editor be held in odd-numbered years, and the Secretary/Treasurer and Program Chair be elected in even-numbered years. The motion was seconded by Karen Hanmer. Motion carried.

President: Ann Poe nominated Emily Martin for the office of President. Barb Korbel seconded the nomination. Emily accepted the nomination and will be the president of the Midwest Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers for a two year term.

Newsletter Editor: Peggy Johnston nominated Mark Arend for a second term as Newsletter Editor, and Mary Uthuppuru seconded the nomination. Mark accepted the nomination and will continue as Editor for another two year term.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Johnston
Secretary/Treasurer