

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTES From Anne W. Cleveland

Today, a friend posted a wonderful “conversation” on a blog about a Shakespeare group that he and a friend started—out of frustration that they missed the fun of reading and “playing” at Shakespeare. His poignant description of its origins reinforced my belief that the written word is going to continue to be healthy despite Twitter and texting.

Matt shared that during his middle-school years, “spent in budget-starved public schools in California, the reading aloud of Shakespeare plays was the centerpiece of the English curriculum...Plays like *King Lear*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Othello* were my first introduction to the classical canon. The galloping rhythm of iambic pentameter buried itself somewhere in my limbic system and sent me scuttling to the library for the *Complete Works*; I may have been the only 13-year-old in the state of California to have read *Cymbeline* and *Henry VIII* under anything other than duress.”

Matt’s friend Randy was distressed when his daughter reached eighth grade and had no similar exposure to Shakespeare. So he invited her friends to their apartment

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DOROTHY THE BOOK BINDER A Dream Realized

One of the first things I did as the new director here was to assess our use of space. The children’s library was a wonderful large room, but it was situated in an interior, windowless area with little personality. The microfilm cabinets and readers were located on the ground floor of the main building, far from the vaults. A lovely room overlooking King Street was filled with oversized print books and audiotapes. As most of you know, we have done a great deal of shifting in the last 18 months, and the changes have brought us the “French” Conference Room, the Mouzon Map Room, a new Research and Writing Center, the redecorated Fellows Room (pictured below, left), and a charming children’s library called the “Rabbit Hole.”

What still nagged at me was the underused first floor of the Barnwell Annex (pictured below, right). Through tremendous work and dedication, volunteers on the Programs Committee began a wonderful bi-annual book sale a number of years ago, using the ground floor as a repository for the books we receive. The event brought new people to the Library and provided a valuable service

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to read *Macbeth* aloud. As he said, "It is Shakespeare's shortest tragedy and abounds in witches, blood, death, treachery: the things kids love. Curtain-rod swords and bed sheet robes were encouraged. Parents were welcome, but only kids could read. They had a fine time; we were jealous."

In response to Randy's envious reaction, Matt pointed out that they could do something similar. And they did. For the last 11 years, the group has met and read Shakespeare aloud—and probably more importantly, their encounters have led them to discuss other things they read.

The reason I was struck by Matt's blog is that one of our new members expressed a similar desire to explore how the Library Society could return to its origins of membership (and more importantly participation) which was based on encouraging people to gather and discuss books and ideas just as Herman Melville had been encouraged by Library Societies of the 1800s to study literature and history.

We talked through how we could disseminate—as well as ask for—suggestions for a list of recommended books that would target shared curiosities. By way of example, he suggested topics such as the history and development of maps and navigation—Toby Lester's *Fourth Part of the World* or Dava Sobel's *Longitude*; food and spirits—*Brewmaster's Table* by Garrett Oliver; or Language development—Simon Winchester's *The Professor and the Madman...Making of the OED*. Assuming there

DOROTHY THE BOOK BINDER

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to the community. Still, the entire floor was used only two weekends a year, which didn't seem to be productive. Inspired by Marge Palmer's love of books and her expertise in caring for them, the idea of transforming the space to a bindery and archival work room took root. As luck would have it, I mentioned my vision to our "Secret Santa" and learned that her mother had been a bookbinder. Just as Santa Claus makes children's wishes come true, our angel has brought the dream to fruition by pledging to underwrite the project.

On May 9, demolition of the space began. Don't worry. We will still host the books sale twice a year; however, by midsummer we will have an elegant, extremely useful area that will enhance our ability to care for our treasures. While our extraordinary benefactor prefers to remain anonymous, her dear mother's name will adorn our new bindery as "Dorothy the Bookbinder's Room."

is sufficient interest, the Library Society could host discussion nights when volunteers would coordinate events for members to meet new friends and spend more time with old ones while discussing their revelations from the shared experience of common reading.

If one accepts the premise that people read more when they think that those in their community also are investing time in understanding/experiencing the same literature, then we could hopefully ignite a more connected Library Society's membership from such a "shared experience."

Many of our sister organizations host discussion groups on the "Great Books," but I think the suggestion that we focus on more current literature and topics is especially relevant. For instance, it was interesting to learn that within five hours of the announcement that Osama bin Laden had been killed, several publishing houses announced that books about Navy Seals and the raid would be available within weeks. The first eBook on the Seals was released on Tuesday, May 10, and I received a request from one of our members that we get a local retired Seal to come discuss the book.

Please share your thoughts on how we can pursue this intriguing idea. We will hold our first Discussion Group on Tuesday, October 11, and information will be posted on our website. Please take advantage of this exciting new venture. Your participation will reaffirm my belief that the interest in books remains strong and healthy - which is very comforting on this lovely summer day.

***Ravenous Reader* RESCUED**

For 17 years, Pat Giacinto served the Charleston community by offering a welcoming well-informed presence through her book shop, the *Ravenous Reader*. On May 31, she closed her door, the victim of a struggling economy and a changing approach to reading. Although the Library Society had no budget line item to address such an event, the opportunity to embrace someone with Pat's talents seemed too good to miss. As of June 20, Pat will join us as a "Reader's Advisor", an Acquisitions Assistant, and the Young Readers Development Coordinator. We are happy to welcome her to the family.

MEADWESTVACO GIFT AFFIRMS LIBRARY SOCIETY'S CATALOG CONVERSION PROJECT

Our members have always respected and valued the work done at the Library Society, and we are fortunate that two extremely generous foundations share those beliefs.

The Library Society's vast and historically significant collections can be utilized by researchers only if they are aware of their existence. To accomplish this, it is imperative that we continue to build its online catalog of our vast holdings so that researchers may remotely access those records. Three years ago, we were able to convert 48% of our current card catalog to an online catalog; however, we need additional manpower to properly finish the retrospective conversion.

In January, the MeadWestvaco Foundation announced

that it would donate \$15,000 as a matching challenge grant to continue our catalog retrospective conversion project, with an emphasis on the Library's natural history collection. Believing that this is a worthy goal and desiring to add further incentive to the project, Betsy Saal and her son and daughter-in-law, Dunne and Rogan Saal, coordinated a remarkably charitable donation from the Joseph J. Schott Foundation. Both grants will enable the Library to publicize and increase accessibility to the organization's collections.

Please join us in helping meet these challenges by contacting Anne Cleveland by phone at (843) 723-9912 or by e-mail at acleland@charlestonlibrarysociety.org. Thank you for your support.

WE ARE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THE INAUGURAL SEASON OF THE CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY MUSIC PROGRAM

I am thrilled to announce the inaugural season of the Charleston Library Society Music Program that will provide a venue to musicians where they can collaborate and inspire. If you have been fortunate enough to attend one of Laura Ball's *Unedited* concert series, Yuriy Bekker and the CSO's chamber concerts, or the Renaissance Ensemble's vocal presentations, you know that the Library Society offers a wonderful, acoustically responsive space for performances.

One of the goals of this institution is to bring people together to enjoy and share culturally enriching experiences. Our intention is to engage our members and the greater Charleston public with a diversified, very high-quality offering of affordable musical performances by leading Charleston-based artists from October through May.

The overarching program will include three distinct parts: a continuation of the of innovative *Unedited* performances by Laura Ball and other Charleston musicians, a chamber music series utilizing the talents of most of the area's chamber music groups, and Classical Kids, an exciting program produced by Chamber Music Charleston.

- I. The *Unedited* program will continue the imaginative offerings of this last season, such as "Beatles Bach and Beer" and "Civil War Songs" led by Laura Ball.
- II. The Chamber Music program will consist of six concerts on Thursday evenings, one each month from October through May. With the aim of forging collaborative relationships, the performing groups will feature the finest chamber musicians in the area, including CSO Camerata Society led by Yuriy Bekker, Khoma, Vynnytsky and Friends led by Natalia Khoma and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, and others to be announced.
- III. Chamber Music Charleston's Classical Kids will offer concerts to entertain and educate the next generation of music lovers.

As you all know, good music can be expensive—and often requires an excellent piano. We have just purchased a 1927 Steinway Model B concert grand, so in addition to the announcement of our multi-faceted Music Program, we are launching a CLS Music and Piano Fund. We need to raise about \$40,000—first, to assure the success of our first season and second, to begin the process leading to the acquisition of a concert quality piano.

We look forward to announcing the season's schedule as we approach the beginning of our first season in October, 2011. In anticipation, we thank all of you for your active support of the Library Society.

ANNOUNCING AN EFFORT TO RE-KINDLE THE ROOTS OF THE LIBRARY SOCIETY
DISCUSSION GROUP: ADVENTURES IN READING

The Library Society is pleased to announce receipt of a modest grant to promote a recommended reading list as well as host a reading and discussion group which will focus on different content areas, depending on interest.

As our members probably know, Library Societies originally were formed to facilitate the exchange of ideas when reading material was scarce and options for entertainment did not include electronic medium. Revolutionaries wanted to find their kindred spirits, and Library Societies recommended the content and provided the forum for active discussions.

In the modern era, many of us are overwhelmed with entertainment options and too rarely do we encounter new friends who share a common reading experience. The grant funds will enable CLS to leverage its unique position in Charleston (and history) to bring together kindred spirits who share a passion for reading and discussion.

The inaugural (and experimental) group will meet in the Conference Room on the second Tuesday in October, November, January and March to discuss a book read by all. Wine, beer and light appetizers will be served. Given the importance of Charleston's history as a "new world" port, the theme for the first 2011-12 Discussion Group will focus on Navigation and Maps.

Meetings will be informal, with a goal of participants having an opportunity to SHARE their perspectives, interests and passion for reading through discussion of a suggested book. Because sessions are based on conversation and active participation, enrollment may be limited. Reservations are requested, and the gatherings are open to members and non-members.

Discussion Group: Adventures in Reading

Individual session: \$10 members; \$15 others

We will have a place on our website where members can submit recommendations for this subject area along with brief summaries on why a book is recommended. The Library will have at least 10 copies of each book that is chosen.

Martin Skelly will lead the first session, using *The Fourth Part of the World*, written by Toby Lester as his point of departure. He writes,

"This book does a terrific job of encouraging an appreciation for how people have developed a 'world view.' I particularly enjoyed learning about how early maps were 'oriented' towards the sunrise (East), how the discovery of the compass led to greater confidence among sailors for leaving the coastline, how books (and knowledge) were exchanged by the affluent with the help of scribes and much, much more. If you want a more comprehensive 'taste' of the book, you can review a summary as well as two videos at <http://www.tobylester.com>. I hope you enjoy!"

GRATITUDE TO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE

Benjamin Allston Moore, Jr. has been a dedicated supporter of the Library Society for many years. Ben's passion for reading is evident every week as he comes in to return and check out books, and his good humor and counsel enabled the board and the executive director to successfully launch an exciting strategic plan for the future. It is hard to believe that he has passed the gavel and is merely "past president" now. His dedication to this institution is so heartfelt

that he inspires those around him to share his passion. **Angie LeClercq** worked tirelessly for the Library Society even while she oversaw the complete renovation of the Citadel's library and devoted herself to enhancing its collections. A true intellect and a generous Charlestonian in the finest sense of the word, she has served our board with grace and creativity. Although she leaves the Board of Trustees, we know that she will remain an energetic member.

***Unedited: A Concert Series
with Laura Ball and Friends***

2011-2012 SEASON SCHEDULE

*All tickets \$15, unless otherwise noted.
Season tickets: \$90*

“I Love a Piano” Gala Fundraiser
September 16
7:00 PM
Tickets \$50

Beatles, Bach & Beer
October 13
7:00 PM

Brazilian Nights: Amor e Cantar
November 10
7:00 PM

Bluegrass Christmas
December 4
5:00 PM

Chanson! with Margaret Kelly Cook
February 9
7:00 PM

Musical Madness
March 15
7:00 PM

Letters and Notes - The Civil War Volume II
April 12
7:00 PM

Spoletto Warmup - *Unedited* Goes East
May 17
7:00 PM

CONSERVATION UPDATE

A vital aspect of the Library Society’s mission in the next few years involves the conservation of our historically significant collections. Last year, through the efforts of Joel Oppenheimer and the Audubon Gallery, our 1775 Mouzon map of the Carolinas was restored, and we have appealed to our generous patrons to continue this important work.

So, it is with great excitement that we announce that we have received funding for the conservation of two very special sets of books in our collection that were in dire need of help. Through the generous help of Melvin Seiden, Ruth Knopf, and an anonymous donor, we were able to send the three volume set of Redouté’s *Les Roses* to a conservation lab to be cleaned and repaired. In addition, the two volume set of Marc Catesby’s *A Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahamas* is being restored through the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Armfield.

We thank our donors for the extraordinary support they have given us to extend the life of these volumes so that they will be available for future generations. We will have a special event to celebrate the return of these books next fall.

**THE ASSOCIATION OF FELLOWS
OF THE CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY**

In 2010, the Association of Fellows of the Charleston Library Society was founded to support the conservation and development of the collections. The Association attracts like-minded individuals who share a passion for literature, history, and the Library. This group plays an increasingly prominent role in securing the financial health of the Library and the maintenance of its historic collections. Furthermore, they enjoy the satisfaction that a significant portion of their support will conserve an important work in the collection. Throughout the year, Fellows are invited to various programs and receptions for an opportunity to become better acquainted with one another and updated on activities at the Library.

Welcome to Our New Members!

Mrs. Conrad Albert
Ms. Caroline Alexander
Ms. Patricia Alexander
Ms. Andrea Ansley
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Applefeld
Dr. Franklin Ashley
Archie & Barbara Baker
Samuel Monroe Baker
Mrs. William H. Barnwell, II
Mr. William R. Beak
Ms. Sheila Beardsley
Ms. Edith C. Beattie
Ms. Lauren Bell
Mr. Denis Bergin
Ms. Renee Black
Mr. Francis Blair
Mrs. Jeri Blair
Dr. & Mrs. Walter M. Bortz, III
Mr. Thomas Bradford
Mr. Julian V. Brandt, III
Ms. Lydia Ann Breedlove
Mrs. K. G. M. Brockbank
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew W. Burden
Mr. & Mrs. John Burkel
Mr. & Mrs. Homer Burrous
Mr. Richard Campbell
William D. & Jean Campbell
Ms. Kelly Carr
Ms. Linda Carrington
Jeri Chaplin & Peter Herman
Mr. William C. Cleveland, IV
Mr. & Mrs. Priestley C. Coker, III
Ms. Pru Collier
John & Maureen Corless
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Corwell
Dr. & Mrs. Leland H. Cox
R. Thomas Cox, III
Ms. Beth Anne Crane
Cammy & Philip Cranworth
Mr. Mitchell Crosby
Mr. James A. Cummingham
Ms. Jennifer Davis
Mr. James D. Decker
Nicholas Diamond
Ms. Elizabeth Dixon
Mrs. Kathryn Durst-Glenn
Mr. John Eckstine
Ms. Caroline L. Eddy
Mr. Roy Flannagan
Mrs. Katharine D. Ford
Ms. Barbara Fredericks
Carlos & Christian Garcia

Larry & Shannon Gillespie
James Bolan Glover, V
Tina, Sydney & Miranda Graves
Ms. Pat Fox Green
Mr. & Mrs. William Green
Mr. Zebulon Green
Col. William Griffen
Michael Griffith & Donna Reyburn
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Hagood
Mrs. Lou Rena Hammond
Ms. Leigh J. Handal
Mr. David Hansen
Mrs. Cynthia Hayes
Mr. Richard R. Hayes
Doug & Joan Hazelton
Ms. Barbara Hearst
Mr. Michael A. Henning
Dr. Winthrop B. Hepburn
Ms. Ann Hicks
Mr. George M. Hillenbrand, II
Mr. & Mrs. Griff Hogan
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Holland
Mr. J. Blanding Holman, IV
Ms. Patti Holsclaw
Ms. Erin Hood
Mr. John Vander Horst
Mrs. Katherine M. Huger
Mr. David R. Jackson
Audrey & Jerry Jacobson
Ms. Joy Jarvis
Ms. Judith Johnson
Mr. Raymond Keegan
LCDR Elinor S. Kessel (Ret.)
Marlon Kimpson, Esq.
James & Heide Klein
Mr. Lawrence C. Kobrovsky
Mr. Kristoff Kohlhagen
Ms. LaClaire Laffitte
Ms. Carolyn Laney
Mr. Emil E. Lansu
Mr. Henry Laurens
John & Melinda Laurens
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Leadem
Mr. E. Matthew Lee
Ms. Ani Lees
Mr. Steven Levin
Mr. Kenneth A. Lewis
Ms. Madonna C. Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. O. Edworth Liipfert
Mrs. Caroline Lind
Ms. Kristin Lindley
Mr. Charles Lohr

Ms. Jenna Lyles
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm McAlpin
Dr. Peter McCandless
Ms. Christie McCoy-Lawrence
Mr. & Mrs. Barclay McFadden, III
Mr. Jamie McGlone
Mr. H. Chapman McKay
Mr. & Mrs. William N. McKeachie
Mr. & Mrs. James R. McNab, Jr.
Mrs. Jessica McQuarters
Mr. Gerard F. MaDan
Mr. Brendan Maloney
Dr. Francine R. Margolius
Mr. James Marianski
Mr. & Mrs. W. B. Massey
Mrs. Henry B. Middleton
Dr. Deborah Milling
Ms. Debbie C. Mohr
Elizabeth & Richard Morrison
Mr. George Morrison
Mabry & Thomas Morrison
Mrs. Michaela Mueller
Alexander Munnell
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas C. Munnell
Ms. Judith Murdoch
Ms. Justine Nathan
Mr. Arnold Nemirow
Mr. & Mrs. John Noble
Mr. & Mrs. Richard-Kerr Oliver
Mr. J. Martin Page
Mr. Alex A. Pappas
Miss Jamie Parks
Ms. Margaret A. Pearl
Mr. J. Randolph Pelzer
Capt. & Mrs. Theodore Pettersen
H. Dickman Pfann
Mr. & Mrs. William E. Pitts
Benjamin & Geraldine Pogue
Mr. & Mrs. William C. Putnam
Sonny & Sherry Ray
Miss Stanyarne Reid
Kathleen H. Rivers
Ms. Katherine O. Roberts
Mrs. H. Douglas Robertson
Mr. Eddie Rozier
Mrs. Elizabeth Saal
Ms. Linda Sanders
Ms. Susan Sanders
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Scott, Jr.
Dr. Kent Scott
Sally Self
Det. Reginald Sharpe

Mr. David Sikes
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Smartt
 Jim & Barbara Smith
 Mrs. Sally J. Smith
 Philip & Starr Snead
 Carl L. Stanitski, M.D.
 Craig A. Stevenson
 Ms. Nancy Stockton
 Ms. Pauline P. C. Stoney
 Mr. Ewell G. Sturgis, III
 Dr. & Mrs. Charles Summerall
 Col. Paul Sykes
 Mr. Harold R. Talbot
 Ms. Louise L. Talbot
 Mr. Juan Tamarit

Mr. Jack Tankersley
 Amberjade M. Taylor
 Mrs. Halette Thiers
 William George Thomas, IV
 Mr. Edward J. Thornton
 Ms. Elizabeth B. Tiller
 Martha Tucker
 Ms. V. E. Turk
 Mr. Scott Turkington
 Molly & Stephen Valerio
 Julia & Derk van Raalte
 Mr. Daniel Vara
 Mr. & Mrs. Torben von Staden
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard von Werssowitz
 Mr. Tom Waldrep

Mr. Edward Wall
 Mr. William Want
 Ms. Elizabeth B. Warren
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Weissinger
 Mr. William A. Werrell
 Cara White & Martin Bluford
 Mr. G. Clay Whittaker
 Mr. Jay Williams, Jr.
 Ms. Rose-Marie E. Williams
 Dr. & Mrs. Bill Woodward
 Ms. Charlotte Zacharkiw
 Thomas John Ziegler, II
 Mr. Stephen Ziff

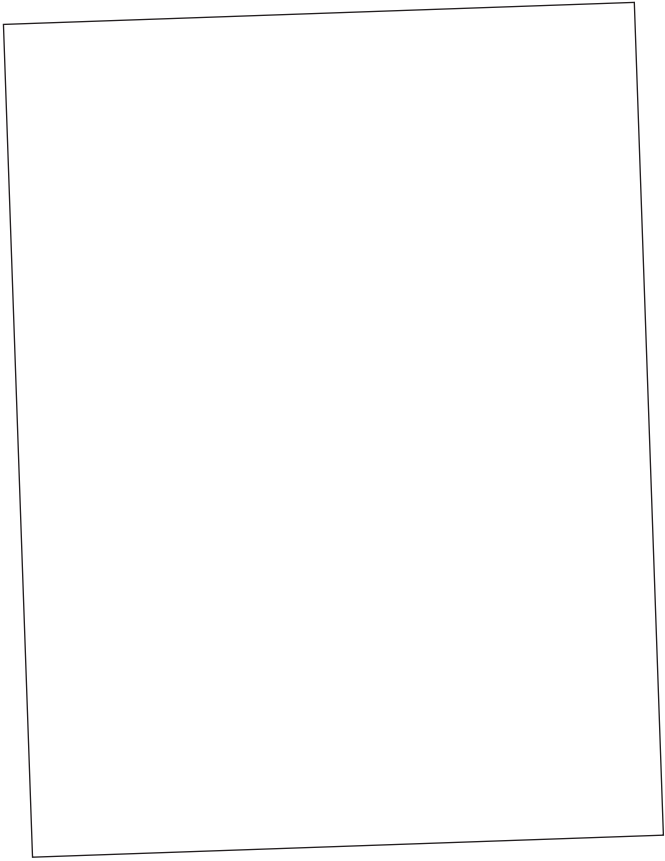
A Few of Our Recent Acquisitions... SPRING 2011

FICTION

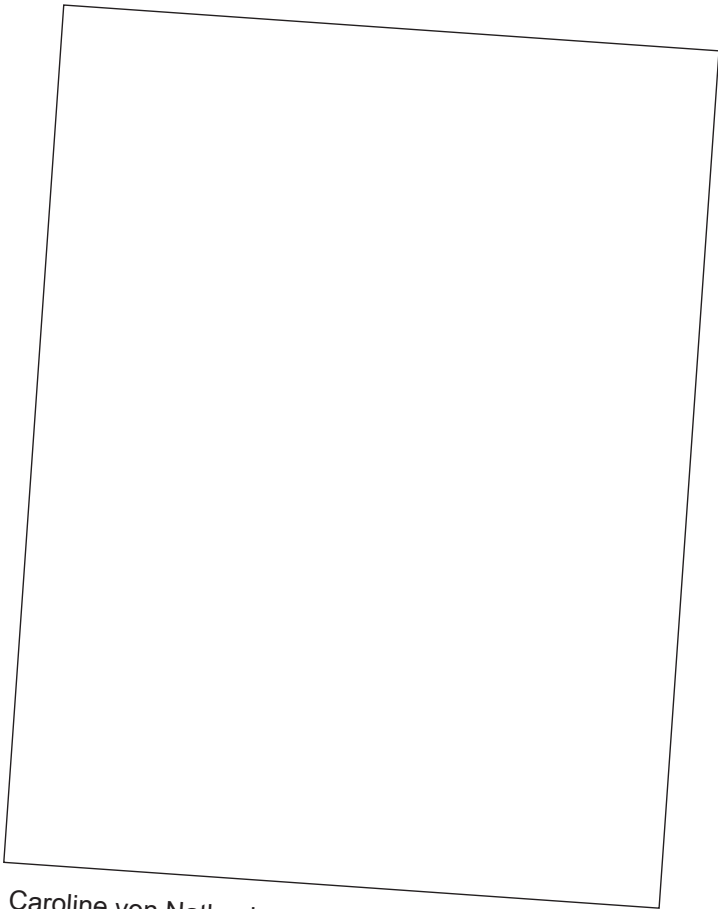
Binchy, Maeve	<i>Minding Frankie</i>
Brown, Eleanor	<i>The Weird Sisters</i>
Brown, Victoria	<i>Minding Ben</i>
Clark, Mary Higgins	<i>I'll Walk Alone</i>
Coben, Harlan	<i>Live Wire</i>
Connelly, Michael	<i>Fifth Witness</i>
Cumming, Charles	<i>Trinity Six</i>
Edgarian, Carol	<i>Three Stages of Amazement</i>
Gardner, Lisa	<i>Love You More</i>
Griffin, W.E.B.	<i>The Outlaws</i>
Hannah, Kristin	<i>Night Road</i>
Hart, Carolyn	<i>Dead By Midnight</i>
Higgins, Jack	<i>The Judas Gate</i>
Johnson, Mat	<i>Pym</i>
Kellerman, Jonathan	<i>Mystery</i>
McLain, Paula	<i>Paris Wife</i>
Plain, Belva	<i>Heartwood</i>
Taylor, Brad	<i>One Tough Man</i>
Todd, Charles	<i>A Lonely Death</i>
Turnbull, Peter	<i>Aftermath</i>
Vreeland, Susan	<i>Clara and Mr. Tiffany</i>
Walsh, Jill Paton	<i>The Attenbury Emeralds</i>
Winspear, Jacqueline	<i>A Lesson In Secrets</i>
Woods, Stuart	<i>Strategic Moves</i>

NONFICTION

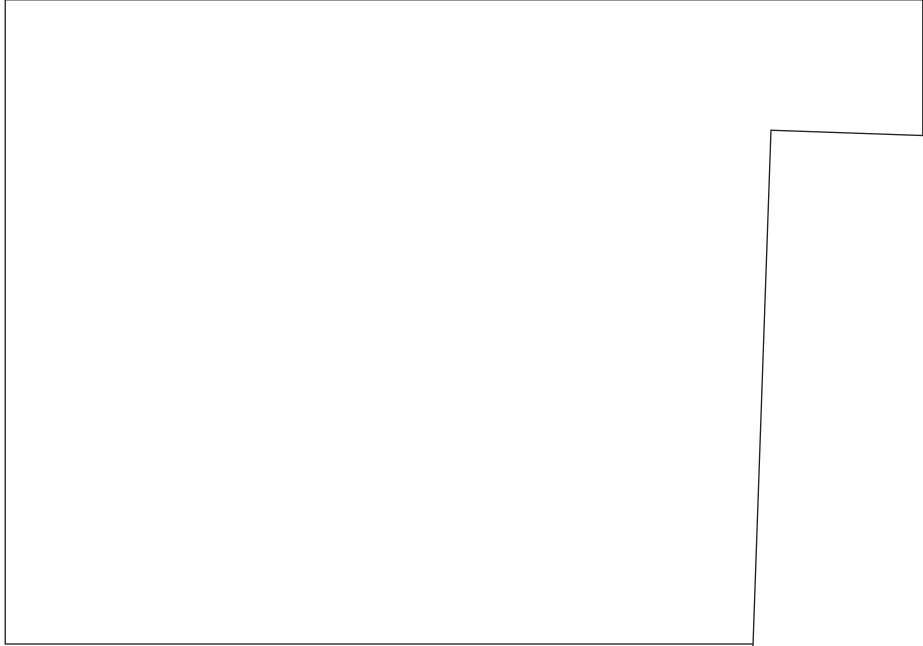
Allen, Thomas	<i>Tories</i>
Burstein, Andrew	<i>Madison and Jefferson</i>
Collins, Billy	<i>Horoscopes for the Dead: Poems</i>
Eisenhower, David	<i>Going Home to Glory</i>
Ephron, Nora	<i>I Remember Nothing</i>
Foer, Joshua	<i>Moonwalking with Einstein</i>
Frazier, Herb	<i>Behind God's Back: Gullah Memories</i>
Hicks, Brian	<i>Toward the Setting Sun</i>
Hillenbrand, Laura	<i>Unbroken</i>
Manegold, C.S.	<i>Ten Hills Farm</i>
Mandela, Nelson	<i>Conservations With Myself</i>
Sass, Erik	<i>The Mental Floss History of the United States</i>
Schiff, Stacy	<i>Cleopatra</i>
Spurling, Hilary	<i>Pearl Buck in China</i>
Tremlett, Giles	<i>Catherine of Aragon</i>
Waller, Douglas	<i>Wild Bill Donovan</i>
Whyte, Mary	<i>Working South</i>



Jonathan Green's Wide Angle Lunch: Gullah Heritage Built on Rice



Caroline von Nathusius, founder of Wide Angle Lunches, with speakers Matt (left) and Ted Lee



Cathie Smith and Larry Spelts at a Wide Angle Lunch



Felix von Nathusius and Meg Cleveland Pitts at the inaugural Young Professionals' Dinner

