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IN THIS ISSUE OF THE WAYZGOOSE GAZETTE

An Eventful Year at the International Printing Museum

The Los Angeles Printers Fair



NUMBER 43 • SUMMER 2010

CARSON • CALIFORNIA

AN EVENTFUL YEAR AT THE INTERNATIONAL PRINTING MUSEUM

From Wood Type & Book Arts to Dickens Himself

BY MARK BARBOUR

AFTER FINISHING ANOTHER GREAT SCHOOL YEAR WITH OUR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, WORKING WITH NEARLY 20,000 STUDENTS, THE MUSEUM STAFF AND DOCENTS HAVE BEEN BUSY WITH OUR VARIOUS SUMMER ACTIVITIES.

One of our highlights of this summer was the Museum's "Independence Day Celebration." Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams entertained a sold-out crowd of 250 guests, many of which were experiencing the Printing Museum for the first time. The special show, *Confounding Brothers*,

was written by our own Phil Soinski (aka Franklin), and is a lighthearted but insightful revisiting of the work in establishing our new country. In the Museum galleries guests were also able to learn about the truly first Declaration of Independence, being the PRINTED version on July 4th, 1776, and not

the one so beautifully written a month later and signed by John Hancock, etc. Where else in the country can you step up to a colonial printing press and print your own copy of that famous Dunlap *Declaration of Independence*?

MORE SUMMER FUN AT THE MUSEUM

Another highlight of the summer was our "Wood Type Day" on August 14th. The day-long event featured a viewing of the film *Typeface* about the historical making and modern artistic use of wood type, followed by a wonderful talk on the Rob Roy Kelly Collection of Wood Type in Austin, Texas, by David Shields. Guests were able to print various wood type keepsakes on presses in the museum galleries, including the final color of the special wood type alphabet poster, designed by our own Ethan Lipton and his son Joshua. APHA of Southern California co-sponsored the event with the Museum.

Later in August, the Printing Museum hosted the final reception for TYPECON LA, the annual international gathering of type designers and aficionados, young and old. For a group fully into type and letterforms, the evening at the Printing Museum was like a candy store. Every typesetting process was in full operation, from hand casting with a half-dozen historical type molds, casting names on the Linotype and Ludlow, to hand setting metal and wood type from the extensive collection. The International Printing Museum is truly the only place in our country for such an experience!

Our fall calendar is already full with activities, beginning with our annual "Constitution Day Celebration" on September 11th. Guests will be able to experience how the Constitution came about by participating as delegates to the Constitutional Convention

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Curator Mark Barbour printing Declaration of Independence with John Hancock at Independence Day Celebration.



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IS ISSUED REGULARLY FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE PRINTING MUSEUM, FOUNDED IN 1988 BY DAVID JACOBSON AND ERNEST A. LINDNER, FEATURING THE LINDNER COLLECTION OF ANTIQUE PRINTING MACHINERY.

Designed by Simpson Pirtle Design, Orange
Mailing services donated by Bill Rivera, MMI Inc.

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MUSEUM HOURS Sat 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

or by appointment during the week for groups and other visitors.

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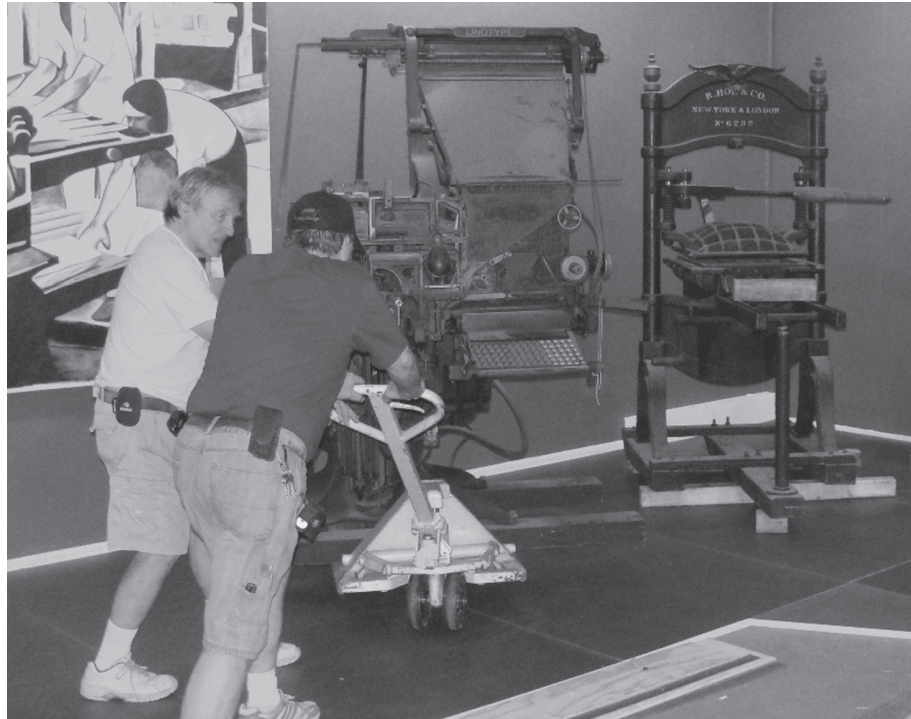
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Installing exhibit at 2010 LA County Fair, "From the Industrial Age to the Computer Age."



Museum guest printing keepsake on an 1860 Hand Press during Wood Type Day.

of 1787 in the Museum's Heritage Theatre. Ben Franklin and James Madison help the delegates reach decisions on issues, resulting in the signing of the Constitution.

For the entire month of September, the Printing Museum will be featured at the Los Angeles County Fair in the Fine Arts

Building. Five key machines from a 19th century hand press and proof press to a Linotype and stone litho press are part of the working exhibit "From the Industrial Age to the Computer Age." Fair guests will have a chance to set type and print their own keepsakes, learning of the important role of printing in our modern civilization.

2010 LOS ANGELES PRINTERS FAIR
The Los Angeles Printers Fair will be held on September 25th, the signature event of the Printing Museum. This year we will have nearly 70 vendors, from book artists and printers to used equipment sales, showcasing the exciting world of paper and printing. We are anticipating more than 500 guests once again bringing every square inch of the Printing Museum to life, including the front galleries, the parking lot and the Book Arts Institute.

Besides the vendors, we will have artists demonstrating various printing processes and we will have a one-day exhibition of very rare books, "The First Information Revolution: The Printed Book from Gutenberg to Franklin." Book collector



Docent Dan Craig assists one of our little guests in printing a keepsake on the Harma Press during a Book Arts Tour.

Merle Bobzien will be displaying nearly two dozen sumptuous books from his collection, including two titles printed by Ben Franklin himself.

A DICKENS HOLIDAY

Charles Dickens will be our special guest in December at our traditional "Dickens Holiday Celebration." Each year, this has been a standing-room only event for more than 200 guests as they participate with Dickens in the retelling of *A Christmas Carol*, printing Victorian cards and enjoying the sounds and tastes of merry old England. This year the event will be on two days, December 11th and 12th.

We have printed two very special limited edition keepsakes for our Friends and donors. The first is a beautiful setting of the quote, "Type Has Changed the World." Ethan Lipton directed the letterpress printing of seven colors to make this beautiful tribute to the power of the printed word. The second is the wood type poster, "One Hundred Years of Wood Type," printed using 26 different fonts of wood type from our collection. Ethan and his son Josh designed and letterpressed the copies. If you haven't received your copy of either keepsake, drop us a note or email and we'll be sure to send it along.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support of the International Printing Museum as we continue to grow and expand both our programs and collection, but also the community of people we are reaching. ●

THE **2ND ANNUAL** **LA PRINTERS FAIR** estb 1988

A CELEBRATION OF **PAPER & PRINT**
INTERNATIONAL PRINTING MUSEUM

SEPT 25 2010

PIASC 2010 FAIR SPONSOR
Printing Industries Association, Inc. of Southern California

TIME: 9 AM - 5 PM **ADMISSION: \$5 ADULTS | \$4 STUDENTS**
PARKING: THE K-MART SHOPPING CENTER ACROSS THE STREET



Sponsored by the Printing Industries Association of Southern California (PIASC), the Los Angeles Printers Fair showcases the art of printing and paper in historical and contemporary forms. We invite you and your friends to attend "A Celebration of Paper & Print."

A large number of vendors showcasing the book arts, letterpress printing, paper, printmaking, handmade announcements and invitations, and more. Swap meet with letterpress equipment, supplies, type and presses (including those hard to get Vandercooks!). Demonstrations throughout the day within the Museum's galleries.

\$5 general admission and \$4 for students. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. We will also have a children's area with book arts activities.

You can pre-purchase tickets at www.printmuseum.org. Cold drinks will be available for sale. No food will be served but cold drinks will be available for sale.



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