LETTER FROM THE LIBRARIAN

I know that for all of us 2020 was a difficult, unprecedented year. I hope that you and your family are all in good health and wish you a much brighter 2021.

Despite our challenges, the Library has pivoted successfully in the virtual world, making significant progress in advancing our mission. Thanks to the dedication of our staff, and the support received from friends like you, we strengthened our commitment to innovation, inspiration, and inclusion for the benefit of people everywhere. Though we could not be together in person in the fall, we were heartened by the overwhelming participation in our first-ever virtual Council meeting.

The Library has made great strides in our efforts to reimagine the historic Jefferson Building for the 21st century and beyond. Most recently, we advanced our design plans for a first-ever education center that will inspire tomorrow’s leaders with the Library’s unmatched resources. We are grateful for the leadership and generosity of Chairman Rubenstein in this campaign, and offer special thanks to the Dwight D. Opperman Foundation, chaired by council member Julie Opperman, for a signature campaign gift. We thank other members who have participated and look forward to the involvement of many more in the coming months.

Over the years, the Madison Council has helped the Library demonstrate proof of concept in connecting even more deeply to new generations and diverse audiences. Thanks to these efforts, we secured our largest-ever grant from a private foundation: a four-year, $15 million grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. This grant will allow the Library to connect more deeply with Black, Hispanic, Indigenous and other minority communities by expanding our collections, using technology to enable storytelling and offering more internship and fellowship opportunities.

We completed a landmark initiative for the Library’s presidential papers begun with the critical support of the Council and several decades in the making. All 23 sets of presidential papers are now available, search-able on the Library’s website, a remarkable resource for the educational and scholarly community and the general public.

We are proud of the Council’s continuing efforts to add rare items to the national collection. As profiled in the pages that follow, we were able to add an important treasure to the Library’s history of astronomy collection, one of the most extensive in any cultural institution.

We are delighted to welcome many new Madison Council members and are grateful to those who recommended them. In this edition, we highlight Tom and Liz Glanville, carrying on the legacy of founding member Nancy Glanville, Nancy Brinker, recommended by Buffy Cafritz, and Kerry Healey, recommended by Norma Asnes. New members who joined past the spring publication date will be featured in our fall edition.

We were greatly saddened by the loss of Chairman Emeritus Ed Cox. As the second chairman in the Council’s history, Ed led the group at a formative time in its history, and did so with passion and dedication. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family in our thoughts and prayers.

More than anything else over the past year, my staff and I have missed seeing all of you, our extended family who make so much of what we do possible. We have missed your advice, wisdom, and enthusiastic support.

I know that for all of us 2020 was a difficult, unprecedented year. I hope that you and your family are all in good health and wish you a much brighter 2021.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our spring Council meeting.

Carla Hayden
14th Librarian of Congress

The Madison Council Bulletin is a publication of the James Madison Council of the Library of Congress.

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Cover: in this 1959 work “Constellations,” pochoir renderings of Joan Miró’s famous “Constellations” accompany commentary by surrealist poet André Breton.

On October 15 and 16, 2020, the James Madison Council held its first virtual meeting. The two-day event was an unqualified success, bringing together approximately 150 participants, including Council members, prospects, Library executives, curators, interns and staff.

Council Chairman Rubenstein opened the meeting on Thursday evening reading a rare communique addressed to Dr. Hayden and himself from James Madison. Madison informed them that he was pleased to be attending the first-ever virtual meeting of the group that bears his name, but that Dolly would be unable to attend because she had previously committed to attending another virtual meeting!

Following the clever introduction, Dr. Hayden welcomed Pulitzer Prize-winning author and longtime friend of the Library of Congress Jan Meacham for a conversation about his recent book "His Truth Is Marching on: John Lewis and the Power of Hope." The book, which was included in the gift boxes sent to Council members to enjoy during the meeting, is an intimate and revealing portrait of the late civil rights icon and longtime U.S. Congressman John Lewis, linking his life to the painful quest for justice in America from the 1950s to the present. The complete conversation can be viewed here: https://bit.ly/3izllyn.
Top Row: Ray White, curator of the Gershwin Collection at the Library, presented the latest acquisition made possible by the Madison Council for the Music Division—the manuscript score for “They Can’t Take That Away from Me.” This is one of the truly great songs from the final period of George and Ira Gershwin’s legendary collaboration. It is also considered one of the finest songs in the Great American Songbook. See the presentation here: https://bit.ly/2MdWYd7

The meeting’s musical element began when Chairman Rubenstein noted that the Library of Congress is the preeminent repository for manuscripts by American composer Samuel Barber, one of the most frequently performed and recorded American composers of the 20th century. Barber’s “Adagio for Strings” is considered by many to be one of the most popular of all 20th century orchestral works. Barber donated the music manuscript to the Library in 1943.

Chairman Rubenstein indicated that the premiere was given by Arturo Toscanini conducting the NBC Symphony Orchestra in a radio broadcast on November 5, 1938. This recording was selected in 2005 for the Library of Congress’s prestigious National Recording Registry. Because of its striking beauty and contemplative mood, the “Adagio for Strings” has been played at the funerals of such notables as Albert Einstein and Princess Grace of Monaco.

He then introduced a longtime friend of the Library, Roberto Díaz, president and CEO of the Curtis Institute of Music and a violist of international reputation. Roberto spoke eloquently about the Curtis Institute’s long relationship with the Library, and introduced the Dover Quartet who played a stirring rendition of “Adagio for Strings.”

Chairman Rubenstein opened the business meeting on October 16 with an expression of gratitude to Council members for 30 years of friendship and support — support that has been critical to the Library’s success. He recognized Julie Opperman for a $1 million gift from The Dwight D. Opperman Foundation to the Library’s campaign to enhance the visitor experience. He also thanked Buffy Cafritz, Tom Liljenquist, Katy and Ken Menges, and Dick Fredericks for their generous gifts to the Library’s campaign, as well as Diane and Craig Welburn for their continued support for the Howard University internship program at the Library, which will now be expanded to include the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

He announced that since the last meeting the Council has welcomed several new Council members: Tom and Carol Bartelmo—Tom is the president and CEO of the Kislak Organization as well as the CEO of the Kislak Family Foundation. Gigi Dixon is the new head of external relations for Wells Fargo and Company in Washington, D.C., a key philanthropic partner for the Library. Tom and Liz Glanville—Tom is the founder of Eschelon Energy Partners in Houston, Texas. Liz was the Founder, President, and CEO of DeVille Fine Jewelry until its sale in 2018. Tom is the son of the late Nancy Glanville, a founding member of the Madison Council.

Bottom Row: Howard University student Zephaniah Galloway was interviewed by the Librarian on her work in the Library’s Manuscript Division, made possible through the Archives, History and Heritage Advanced Internship program. This program is a joint effort by Howard University and the Library of Congress made possible by Diane and Craig Welburn to make collections in African American history and culture widely available. See the presentation here: https://bit.ly/3614Ju4
Michael Melton is the founder and president of MEM Enterprises Group, which owns, operates and manages Taco Bell and Five Guys restaurants as well as commercial real estate. Joyce and Tom Moorehead recommended Michael. Robert Meyerhoff and Rheda Becker are highly respected civic and cultural leaders and philanthropists from the Baltimore area. Alexander Mirchev is a prominent expert in international economic policy and geopolitics. He is president of Krull Corporation, as well as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. Julie Opperman recommended Alexander.

Marie Arana, the Library’s Literary Director, shared highlights of the highly successful virtual National Book Festival that took place at the end of September. She was followed by Council and Trust Fund Board members Dick Fredericks and Greg Ryan, who briefly discussed the Library’s investment strategy. The highlight of the meeting was a presentation by the Librarian, who shared with the group the latest progress on the re-envisioned visitor experience in the Thomas Jefferson Building.

The meeting concluded with a lively conversation between Chairman Rubenstein and Clay S. Jenkinson, in character as Thomas Jefferson. Jenkinson, a noted humanities scholar, author and historian, has appeared in several of Ken Burns’ documentary films and is the creator of the podcast and nationally syndicated public radio program, “The Thomas Jefferson Hour,” which airs on many NPR stations.

Above: Mark Dimunation, chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, and Stephanie Stillo, curator of the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection, prepared a special narrated display of the newly arrived Aramont Library. A comprehensive array of modern literature and art, the Aramont Library consists of 1,700 volumes of important literary editions, illustrated books, exhibition bindings, finely bound author collections and a singular assemblage of books from the early and mid-20th-century livre d’artiste movement. See the presentation here: https://bit.ly/3sKTEao
The Madison Council joined the vanguard of the electronic revolution when the Internet was still in its infancy. The Web had barely entered the nation’s consciousness when the Council helped the Library launch an ambitious project—the National Digital Library (NDL)—intended to provide free Internet access to the most historically important and educationally valuable materials in the collections of the Library and those of its partners.

The Madison Council soon undertook an effort to help fill that gap. In 1994, when a mere 3 million people were online, John Kluge (1914–2010) and David Packard (1912-1996) each gave $5 million to fund the Library’s digitizing efforts. In 1995, Congress agreed to contribute $15 million to the project if the private sector made a three-to-one match, and the goal for the project became raising $45 million and digitizing 5 million items from the Library’s collection by the year 2000. The initial funds went for multiyear contracts with vendors for digitizing text, images, photographs and recordings; an educational outreach program to help introduce primary source materials to teachers across the country; and an electronic archive to store and retrieve digitized materials.

In 1998, John Kluge made a $5 million challenge grant to help top off the funding. Thanks to a $2.5 million gift from AT&T, the Library surpassed its $45 million goal of private sector funding.

Today, the Library makes tens of millions of items of American and world history freely available to anyone with an Internet connection, and a project, more than two decades in the making, crossed the finish line.

All 23 sets of presidential papers in the collection—a total of more than 3.3 million images—are searchable on the Library’s website. “Arguably, no other body of material in the Manuscript Division is of greater significance for the study of American history than the presidential collections,” Janice E. Ruth, the division’s chief, said. “They cover the entire sweep of American history from the nation’s founding through the first decade after World War I, including periods of prosperity and depression, war and peace, unity of purpose and political and civil strife.”

Opposite: Abraham Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address; Alexander Gardner’s photograph of President Lincoln delivering his inaugural address on the east portico of the U.S. Capitol, March 4, 1865.
Above: Woodrow Wilson’s shorthand draft of the “Fourteen Points,” 1918.

Highlights include George Washington’s commission as commander in chief of the American army and his first inaugural address; Thomas Jefferson’s rough draft of the declaration of independence; and Abraham Lincoln’s first and second inaugural addresses, the latter including the iconic words: “With malice toward none; with charity for all.” Also included are the two earliest known copies of Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address; the handwritten manuscript memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant; and Wilson’s draft in shorthand of his famous 1918 Fourteen Points speech envisioning post–World War I peace.

At the same time, there’s a small paperbound book recording Washington’s expenses in 1793–94 and receipts from Chester Alan Arthur’s household, including for immense quantities of alcohol and cigars, likely purchased for entertaining. There are love letters from Grant to his wife, Julia Dent Grant, James A. Garfield’s final diary entry the day before his assassination in 1881; and details about the affect on those close to him of the untimely death of Major Archie Butt, aide to both Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft, when the RMS (Royal Mail Ship) Titanic sank in 1912. A bereft Taft told mourners at a memorial service for Butt that, because a president’s circle is so circumscribed, “those appointed to live with him come much closer than anyone else.”

Also included are many letters from citizens seeking public office— including presidential relatives. “Surely there is no more impropriety in your giving a few of the 82,000 offices (and minor ones at that) to your needy but honest and capable relations, than there was in their working day and night for your election,” Lucy Havell wrote pointedly to her cousin, President Benjamin Harrison, in 1889.

The Library’s collection of presidential papers ends with those of presidents from Herbert Hoover onward. Papers of John Adams and John Quincy Adams are at the Massachusetts Historical Society; and the Ohio Historical Society holds Warren G. Harding’s. Rutherford B. Hayes’ family retained his papers and opened a library in 1918 at his home in Fremont, Ohio.

The 23 collections the Library possesses, acquired through donation and purchase, are of such high value that Congress enacted a law in 1957 directing the Library to arrange, index and microfilm the papers for distribution to libraries around the nation, an enormous job that concluded in 1976.

When it became possible to digitize collections in the mid-1990s with critical financial support from the Madison Council and Congress, microfilm editions of presidential papers were among the first selected for scanning.

Between 1998 and 2005, the papers of Washington, Jefferson, Madison and Lincoln were digitized and put online: What was once available only on microfilm machines started to become accessible to anyone with an internet connection.

Several years later, work resumed to digitize the Library’s remaining presidential papers and, later, to migrate already digitized collections to the Library’s updated web platform, which enables easier access, including on mobile devices. Some original documents were rescanned in high resolution at that time, and others were added, including those not captured in the microfilm editions, along with documents subsequently acquired.

In 2017, a reading copy of Lincoln’s second inaugural address showing editorial changes became available on the Library’s website (it was not included in the microfilm edition), as did a cigar-box label from his 1860 presidential campaign rendering his “Honest Old Abe” nickname in phonetic Spanish.

During the past fiscal year, about 1.5 million new images were made available online, culminating in the release of the collections of Benjamin Harrison, Calvin Coolidge, Grover Cleveland and William Howard Taft. Taft’s papers, consisting of 785,977 images, are the largest among the Library’s presidential papers, perhaps befitting a man who stood around six feet tall and weighed well north of 300 pounds.

Wilson’s papers are the second biggest (622,211 images), followed by Theodore Roosevelt’s (462,638 images).

The Conservation Division assesses the stability of collection items, providing treatment or special-handling instructions for fragile items, which are scanned inhouse, now by the Digital Scan Center. For the presidential papers, digital-conversion specialists within the Manuscript Division performed quality review of images following receipt of scanned content, assisted at times by Library archives technicians.

“The Library’s decision to offer these indispensable resources online represents a tremendous boon to scholarship,” Calhoun said. “It is a service that has rapidly become not merely conducive but vital to the advancement of historical scholarship.”
The education center, a major element of the Visitor Experience, will inspire visitors to make the skills and practices of research a part of their lives and will invite them to use the Library’s resources for their own creative purposes.

One of the Library’s key missions is advancing civic and cultural literacy and engagement, particularly among the citizens and leaders of tomorrow. Helping us achieve this mission is the education center, a major element of the Visitor Experience, which will inspire visitors to make the skills and practices of research a part of their lives and will invite them to use the Library’s resources for their own creative purposes.

Scheduled to open in 2024, covering almost 6,000 square feet and staffed by knowledgeable, enthusiastic specialists — the education center will engage young people in exciting new ways. It will be a space that offers innovative technology to allow users to explore the Library’s collections digitally.

Located on the ground floor of the Thomas Jefferson Building, this space will invite visitors, particularly children ages seven to 13 and their accompanying adults, to apply curiosity and critical thinking as they explore, discover and find meaning using the Library’s resources.

The space will allow the Library to make the collections more accessible to a larger audience; encourage young people to build critical research skills around a variety of methods and materials; and increase visitors’ civic skills to foster community engagement.

Visitors will use the space to practice research skills using different kinds of tools — especially digital technology in a way that empowers them to guide their own experience and enables them to continue engaging with the Library far beyond Washington.
As a result of their experiences in the education center, the expectation is that visitors will understand that research is important and relevant to them personally; understand the value of the Library of Congress and what it offers; feel more connected to others via research as a social, interconnected and collaborative process; and understand how to apply research to civic (community) participation.

Designed to engage young users both intellectually and emotionally — whether they’re here for a single hour or for numerous visits over many years — the education center is at the heart of Dr. Hayden’s mission to grow scholars and inspire young minds to touch history, imagine their futures and write the next chapters in the story of America.

Shari Werb, the Library’s Director of the Center for Learning, Literacy and Engagement, is leading this initiative. Prior to coming to the Library, Werb was responsible for the development and opening of Q?rius (pronounced “curious”), an interactive and experimental learning space that brings the unique assets of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History out from behind the scenes.

This ambitious vision will require exceptional leadership and support from donors like you. We look to you as a key partner in this historic endeavor to add new vitality to one of the nation’s most iconic cultural hubs. For more information or to learn about naming this initiative, please contact Kaffie Milikin at KMilikin@LOC.gov.

Potential approaches to the space include:

**Reading Rooms**
Research challenges or quests will provide a framework for conducting research on topics that pique kids’ interests and address problems they care about. Families choose a challenge from a selection of options or create their own, then search for relevant information in model reading room areas organized by words, images, sounds and moving images. They then analyze the information they find to solve their challenge.

**Research + Remix**
Families choose a challenge focused on creativity and artistic expression from a selection of options — or craft their own. Upon choosing a challenge, families explore materials in a media bar, where they handle reproductions or facsimiles of Library materials. The media bar is designed for serendipitous exploration, but each challenge also includes clues about where families might look for information.

After they collect their materials, families move to a “remix station” to analyze their items and create something new with art supplies or digital resources. Then, they can send their work to digital displays to see their creations in the context of others, creating a sense of a community.

**Discovery Path**
Visitors encounter three immersive zones grouped by memory, reason and imagination. Families receive a small object embedded with a digital token, which they can tap to sensors to “collect” an item and save it. The heart of the experience features bold, sweeping architecture and a whimsical feel. A central spine offers seating; above it, a stream of dynamic media is projected on a curving band hanging from the ceiling.
In December 2020, Dr. Hayden announced that The Dwight D. Opperman Foundation, chaired by Madison Council member Julie Opperman, is donating $1 million to reimagine and enhance the visitor experience at the Library of Congress.

“The Library of Congress is, in my opinion, the nation’s greatest cultural institution,” said Opperman. “I am pleased to help support this great initiative for people the world over to discover more of its unique and vast treasures.”

“The Opperman Foundation’s support will help transform the way visitors experience our national library, and we are grateful,” said Dr. Hayden. “Future visitors to the Library of Congress will discover the many treasures held here to document our nation’s history and creativity.”

The Opperman gift will build on the significant investments of Congress and private philanthropy in the Library’s infrastructure. Earlier in 2020, Madison Council Chairman David Rubenstein announced a lead gift of $10 million to support the visitor experience plan, and the Annenberg Foundation donated $1 million, as well as a collection of photographic prints.

Robert Newlen, Executive Director, Dwight D. Opperman Foundation, stated, “Given Mr. Opperman’s lifelong professional and personal association with and love of libraries, this contribution would have meant a great deal to him.”

In 2019, Julie Opperman created the Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Woman of Leadership Award. A decades-long friend of Dwight Opperman, Justice Ginsburg had personally asked Julie to establish and carry out her sole legacy award. Honored to fulfill the request, she has selected the Library of Congress as the permanent home of the annual ceremony and gala.

The award recognizes “an extraordinary woman who has exercised a positive and notable influence on society and served as an exemplary role model in both principles and practice.” Agnes Gund, who has given over $100 million to support criminal justice reform and reduce mass incarceration in the United States, was the first recipient of the Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Woman of Leadership Award. Gund was presented with the award by Ginsburg herself in the Thomas Jefferson Building on February 14, 2020.

Julie Opperman has been a member of the Madison Council since 2011 when she made it possible for the Law Library to acquire two volumes of an extraordinarily rare 1478 edition of the “Casus breves” of Johannes de Turnhout (c. 1446-1492), printed by the Brotherhood of the Common Life at their Brussels press, Te Nazareth Gheprint. Only 13 copies of the 1478 edition of “Casus breves”—the oldest—are known to exist in the world. The Library of Congress’s edition is the only copy in the United States. Julie and her husband were the lead contributors in 2014 to the Library’s Magna Carta: Muse and Mentor exhibition which commemorated the 800th anniversary of the creation of Magna Carta.
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is supporting a multiyear initiative, “Of the People: Widening the Path,” with a four-year, $15 million grant. This initiative will allow the Library to connect more deeply with Black, Hispanic, Indigenous and other minority communities by expanding its collections, using technology to enable storytelling and offering more internship and fellowship opportunities.

This is the largest grant from a private foundation in the Library’s history and is among the largest grants that the foundation awarded in its 2020 cycle. Elizabeth Alexander, the foundation’s president explained, “We are proud to support Carla Hayden and the ‘Of the People’ initiative as the Library of Congress envisions and implements new ways to connect all Americans with its unparalleled resources. The Library of Congress is the people’s public library, and we are delighted that it will engage diverse and inclusive public participation in expanding our country’s historical and creative records.”

Many of the elements of this grant expand on the Library’s successful history of implementing initiatives that engage new and diverse audiences — initiatives often made possible by Madison Council members. Some examples include: the National Digital Library program, led in support by former Council chairman John W. Kluge and supported by many current and former members; the Junior Fellows program, with lead support from former Council chairman Gerry Lenfest, Marguerite Lenfest and Nancy Glanville Jewell; and the Veterans History Project, considered the largest oral history program of its kind in the nation and sponsored by AARP, represented on the Council by CEO Jo Ann Jenkins.

Working with Black, Indigenous, Hispanic and other underserved communities, “Of the People” will offer fellowships, residencies and training programs to individuals — including artists, filmmakers, librarians, researchers and community activists — who want to explore the Library’s vast collection and contribute their own work to its holdings. In total, the Mellon grant will allow the Library to offer up to 67 internships each year.

The program’s components share the goal of identifying new and diverse perspectives. The American Folklife Center, established at the Library in 1976, will support up to 10 individuals a year for three years with fellowships of $50,000 to work in their communities. Fellows will receive training in archiving and documentation and the ethics of undertaking this work. Final projects will be collected by the Library, shared with the communities, and made freely available on its website.

Digital projects are another fundamental component that will help the Library think about its collection in new ways. The Library will award 20 grants of $50,000 to $60,000 to cultural-heritage and higher education institutions, as well as three two-year residencies of $150,000 for artists or scholars to undertake more in-depth projects.

Finally, “Of the People” will expand the Archives, History, and Heritage Advanced Internship Program, a partnership between the Library and Howard University that was started in 2019 with a contribution from Council members Diane and Craig Welburn. The program offers paid internships to students enrolled in Historically Black Colleges and Universities as well as students from institutions serving Hispanic and Indigenous populations.

Library of Congress receives record-setting $15 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
The Madison Council made it possible for the Library to acquire a rare first edition of Johann Fabricius’s “Account of Spots Observed on the Sun and of Their Apparent Rotation with the Sun,” the first printed work on sunspots.

This volume is a landmark of the Copernican revolution in astronomy. Fabricius describes his observation of sunspots and correctly interprets them as part of the surface of the sun and as evidence of its rotation. This contrasts with the later publications by Christoph Scheiner (who saw the maculae as solar satellites) and Galileo Galilei (who considered them “clouds” above the surface of the sun).

Johannes Kepler himself, having observed a sunspot using a camera obscura, interpreted the phenomenon as Mercury transiting the sun.

Fabricius was one of the first astronomers to observe sunspots with a telescope and was the first person to publish an account of his observations. Fabricius was the eldest son of the famed astronomer, astrologer and Lutheran Pastor David Fabricius (1564-1617), who was a friend of Kepler and correspondent of Tycho Brahe, Willem Blaeu, Simon Mayr, among others.

While in Leiden, sometime near the end of 1610, Fabricius acquired one or more telescopes, which he brought home to his father’s house in Osteel, East Frisia.

Already well aware of the astronomical potential of the telescope from Galileo Galilei’s “Sidereus Nuncius,” the father-and-son team began telescopic observations, on the lookout for something new.

Johann first noticed sunspots at sunrise on March 9, 1611, … and for many weeks following was engaged with his father in daily observations whenever the weather permitted. Most of their observations were carried out via the camera obscura technique, which consists of forming a projected image of the sun through a pinhole opening into a suitably darkened room. They had first observed the sun directly through the telescope, a harrowing experience that Johann related in his work.

“Having adjusted the telescope, we allowed the sun’s rays to enter it, at first from the edge only, gradually approaching the center, until our eyes were accustomed to the force of the rays and we could observe the whole body of the sun. We then saw more distinctly and surely the things I have described [sunspots]. Meanwhile, clouds interfered, and also the sun hastening to the meridian destroyed our hopes of longer observations, for indeed it was to be feared that an indiscreet examination of a lower sun would cause great injury to the eyes, for even the weaker rays of the setting or rising sun inflamed the eye with a strange redness, which may last for two days, not without affecting the appearance of objects.” (Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers)

Fabricius correctly identified the spots as part of the sun itself. Changes in their apparent shape and speed as they moved across the solar disk indicated an axial rotation of the sun. Fabricius knew of this as a theoretical possibility from the writings of his father’s friend Kepler. In his 1609 “Astronomia Nova,” Kepler postulated solar rotation as the force responsible for planetary orbital motion. Fabricius had found the evidence Kepler lacked.

Johann correctly concluded that the spots were on the sun’s surface, rather than being the result of clouds or planetary transits. His father, David, disagreed with his son’s conclusion, still clinging to the old Ptolemaic cosmology … While Kepler read the pamphlet and admired it, Galilei and Scheiner were most likely unaware of its existence when they published their own sunspot treatises in January and March 1612, respectively. All those sunspot sightings, combined with the moons of Jupiter and other mounting evidence, constituted a tipping point among astronomers, including Scheiner, who abandoned his earlier stance that sunspots were solar satellites within 10 years. The Copernican model of the solar system replaced the old Ptolemaic model within a generation.

“Following his death, and that of his father, the young Fabricius was eclipsed in the priority controversy then flaring between Galilei and the Jesuit Christoph Scheiner over the discovery of sunspots. In their writings, both Kepler and Simon Mayr attempted to establish Fabricius’s precedence on the topic, but to no avail. It was only in 1723, following the discovery of a copy of his 1611 pamphlet, that Fabricius’s remarkable deductions regarding sunspots and solar rotation were rediscovered.” (American Physical Society News, March 2015)

There are now four copies in the United States (Library of Congress, Yale, Oklahoma History of Science Collection and Tulane).
NEW MEMBERS

Nancy G. Brinker
Nancy G. Brinker is Founder of Susan G. Komen and the Promise Fund of Florida. Recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, U.S. Ambassador and Lifetime Member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Nancy G. Brinker has been described as the leader of the global breast cancer movement. Her journey began with a promise to her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would do everything possible to end the shame, pain, fear and hopelessness caused by this disease. In one generation, the organization that bears Susan’s name has changed the world.

In 1982, shortly after Susan’s death from breast cancer at the age of 36, Brinker founded Susan G. Komen®. Brinker faced an uphill battle: newspapers balked at printing the words “breast cancer,” no one talked openly about the disease. Brinker broke the silence around breast cancer, and Komen is now the world’s largest grass-roots network of breast cancer survivors and activists fighting to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all and energize science to find the cures. Today, the organization has invested $3.2 billion in cancer research, education, screening and treatment.

Brinker’s creativity in raising awareness led to programs that at the time were revolutionary. In 1983, she founded the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure® series, which is now the world’s largest and most successful education-and-fundraising event for breast cancer. She also pioneered cause-related marketing, allowing millions to participate in the fight against breast cancer through businesses that share Komen’s commitment to end the disease forever. Komen’s unwavering advocacy for breast cancer survivors led to new legislation and greater government research funding. Major advances in breast cancer research have been touched by hundreds of millions of dollars in Komen funding.

Brinker’s determination to create a world without breast cancer is matched by her passion for ensuring every segment of society — from leaders to citizens — to participate in the battle. In 2009, President Barack Obama honored Brinker with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor, for this work. The same year, she was named Goodwill Ambassador for Cancer Control for the United Nations’ World Health Organization, where she continues her mission to put cancer control at the top of the world health agenda.

In 2010, Brinker released her New York Times best-selling memoir “Promise Me,” an inspirational story of her transformation from bereaved sister to the undisputed leader of the ongoing international movement to end breast cancer. She was named one of TIME magazine’s “100 Most Influential People” in 2008. From 2001–2003, she served as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Hungary and served as U.S. Chief of Protocol from 2007–2009, where she was responsible for overseeing all protocol matters for visiting heads of state and presidential travel abroad. In 2008, President George W. Bush appointed her to The Kennedy Center Board of Trustees.

In 2018, Brinker spearheaded creation of Promise Fund of Florida, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the outcomes and reduce deaths from breast and cervical cancers in Palm Beach County, where 80,000 women reside with no insurance and no medical home. The Promise Fund is utilizing partnerships, navigation, policy changes and community awareness to create a model of care to be replicated throughout the country. Community-based patient navigators will serve over 5,000 low-resource women in 2021. Brinker’s work on the Promise Fund has been featured across the U.S. and was also prominently recognized at the Aspen Ideas Weekend among world leaders in Abu Dhabi. In October 2020, the Promise Fund opened its inaugural Mammography Screening Center. At least 1,000 women will be screened during the first year of the center’s operation. The Promise Fund provides necessary education and screenings to prevent late-stage diagnosis and improve community health for under-resourced women confronting health disparities.

Brinker is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations, where since 2014 she has facilitated the organization’s task force on Global Health. She has received numerous accolades for her global work, including the prestigious Mary Woodard Lasker Award for Public Service, the Champions of Excellence Award presented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Porter Prize presented by the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, the Forbes Trailblazer Award, Ladies Home Journal’s “100 Most Important Women of the 20th Century,” and the Anti-Defamation League Americanism Award. She was named one of the 100 Most Trusted People in America by Reader’s Digest in 2013. In 2015, she was inducted to the National Women’s Hall of Fame, and in 2016, she received the Order of Lincoln Award — Illinois’ highest honor for professional achievement and public service. Her work also includes advocating for equality in the LGBT community, and she is honored to be a member of the Harvey Milk Foundation’s leadership and advisory board. Brinker currently serves as Global Advisor to HOLOGIC Inc. and is a contributor for Fox News. She hosts a weekly show on Newsmax called Conversations with Nancy Brinker.

Tom and Liz Gianville
Tom is the Founder and Managing Partner of Eschelon Advisors, LP, which provides energy and private equity investment and advisory services. He served as Chair of the Audit/Finance Committee of Itron, Inc. (NASDAQ “ITRN”) from 2013 to 2020 and continues as a director and member of this committee and Itron’s Governance Committee.

Tom is a Trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (“MFAH”). He is former Chairman and a Director of the National Association of Corporate Directors Texas TriCities Chapter. In addition, he is a member of the Independent Petroleum Association of America. He also serves as a Senior Member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Texas at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, having chaired its Audit Committee.

Itron is the world’s largest electric, gas, and water meter manufacturing, technology, systems, and software company. He is a director and Chair of the Audit Committee and member of the Compensation and Nominating Committees of MIND Technology, Inc. (NASDAQ “MIND”), an equipment provider to the geophysical, oceanographic, hydrographic, defense, and maritime industries. He is also a director of two private oil and gas exploration and production companies.

Earlier in his career, Tom was an officer of Reliant Energy, Inc., one of the world’s largest energy companies, based in Houston, and President of Enron Capital and Trade Resources Canada Corp., headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Tom graduated with an M.S. in Mineral Economics from Colorado School of Mines and holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Virginia, where he played on the school’s Division I soccer team.

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Liz was the Founder, President, and CEO of DeVille Fine Jewelry, Inc., until its sale in 2018. She was also an officer of Ashford.com, where she helped take this pioneering online jewelry and watch retailer public. She also held positions with Carter and Bulgari.

Liz has held board and committee positions at art organizations in Houston including MFAH, Society for the Performing Arts, and the Contemporary Arts Museum. She graduated with a B.S. from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and an MBA from the University of Houston.

The Glanvilles live in Houston, Texas, and have three children, Ali, Mackenzie, and Pierce. They enjoy cultural and adventure travel and have climbed some of the major peaks in the world in Europe, Asia, and the United States. Tom’s mother, Nancy Glanville Jewell, was a founding Council member and major funder of many efforts at the Library including the Junior Fellows Summer Intern Program.

Kerry Healey

Kerry Healey’s career spans higher education, elected office, and foreign and domestic policy. In September 2019, she became the inaugural president of the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream. The Center’s mission is to make the American Dream an attainable reality for millions of people around the world by focusing on four key pillars: education, health, access to capital and entrepreneurship. The Center will offer a broad array of educational programs, exhibits and events, both online and in person. The MCAAJ Visitor Center, located in the historic Riggs Bank buildings on Pennsylvania Avenue, across from the U.S. Treasury, is scheduled to open its doors to the public in July 2023.

Healey was previously the first woman president of Babson College, the 100-year-old business school consistently ranked as the country’s leading institution in entrepreneurship education. During her six-year tenure at Babson, Healey championed international entrepreneurs, created greater affordability and access for students, and oversaw a dramatic $200 million renewal of the Wellesley campus.

From 2003–2007, Healey served as Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor, where she led bipartisan efforts to improve services for the homeless, establish recovery high schools, and increased protections for victims of child abuse, drunk driving accidents, and sexual and domestic violence. She was also integral in crafting the state’s pioneering healthcare reform legislation.

Healey has been a fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government’s Institute of Politics and Center for Public Leadership, and a member or chair of the Hoover Institution, American Enterprise Institute, American Petroleum Council, Mid-Continent Oil and Gas, All American Wildcatters, Greenhill School, Children’s Medical Center, International Council of the Tate Gallery in London and Dallas Summer Musicals.

Ed Cox

Edwin “Ed” Lachbridge Cox, founding member and Chairman Emeritus of the James Madison Council, passed away on November 9, 2020. He was 99.

A founding member and Chairman Emeritus, who was instrumental in building the James Madison Council, Cox funded important initiatives including the Library’s Bicentennial Gala; the New Visitor Experience in 2006; acquisitions relating to Texas, and most importantly, the establishment of the Edwin L. Cox American Legacy Endowment that continues to support the acquisition of a wide range of materials of Americana for the collections.

At a number of key points, Cox guided the Madison Council to find new ways to perform its historic mission of making the Library and its collections available to users everywhere, such as signing collaborative agreements with a number of great libraries of the world, including the Bibliothèque Nationale, the Vatican Library and the British Library. His contributions have been strategically important both in expanding the Library’s outreach to our citizenry and in deepening its service to scholarship.

Cox attended Southern Methodist University for two years and eventually earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas at Austin. He later earned a master’s of business administration from Harvard. He served his country in the United States Navy as a Lieutenant and married Ann Rife before settling in Dallas to work alongside his father in the oil business.

He chaired SMU’s Board of Trustees and was a Trustee Emeritus. In 1978, SMU named its business school for Cox who continued his lifelong commitment to the university.

Ed and Ann collected impressionist art which led to his involvement with the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., where he served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and chaired the Collector’s Committee. Cox also served as Chairman and Trustee of the Dallas Museum of Art.

Cox was an avid tennis player and played every week until he was 95 years old.

Cox also served as Chair of the Keebler Company where he was instrumental in establishing the Keebler Elves as its trademark. He also served as Chair or Board member of Gillette, Dr. Pepper, Halliburton, Sedco, Inc., UV Corporation, First National Bancshares, Steak and Ale, Southwestern Life Insurance and Mississippi Barge Line.

He was a member of the Harvard University School of Business Board of Visitors and the Board of Overseers of the Hoover Institution. He was also a member or chair of the Salvation Army, Dallas Zoological Society, American Red Cross, Dallas Chamber of Commerce, World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas Business Hall of Fame, American Enterprise Institute, American Petroleum Council, Mid-Continent Oil and Gas, All American Wildcatters, Greenhill School, Children’s Medical Center, International Council of the Tate Gallery in London and Dallas Summer Musicals.

He served as a trustee for the George Bush Presidential Library at A&M. He was also a member of the Highland Park United Methodist Church. Ed Cox was predeceased by his wife, Ann Rife Cox. He is survived by his son Edwin L. Cox Jr., and wife, Kathie, of Athens, Texas; daughter Chan Ittleson and husband, Tony, of Palm Beach, Florida; son Berry and wife, Jesse, of Dallas; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

IN MEMORIAM

ED COX
On October 18, 2018, Council members Joyce and Thomas Moorehead made it possible for American baseball icon Henry “Hank” Aaron and his lovely wife, Billye, to be our honored guests.

Dr. Hayden interviewed Aaron asking him questions about his life, family, influences, and legendary career. Later, Council members and the Aarons were given a private, curator-led tour of the Baseball Americana exhibition. Curators escorted the Aarons to a display of Branch Rickey material, specifically his 1963 scouting report on rookie Henry Aaron. A staff member read the report aloud, including Rickey’s suspicion that young Aaron was a “guess hitter.” To the delight of everyone, Aaron cheerfully responded, “I WAS a guess hitter!”