



THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
NEWSBOY



Horatio Alger, Jr.

1832 – 1899

A magazine devoted to the study of Horatio Alger, Jr., his life, works, and influence on the culture of America.

VOLUME XLIV

MAY-JUNE 2006

NUMBER 3

Annual convention issue

On to Omaha!

- Convention recap
- Annual treasurer's report
- Complete auction results
- Photos and other highlights

-- Full coverage
begins on Page 3



Robert Routhier, right, officially turns the Horatio Alger Society presidency over to Michael Morley.
Photo by Juanita Durkin

First look at an early Alger short story!

THE FOURTH OF JULY, AND HOW JOSHUA PETTIBONE SPENT IT

-- See Page 5

President's column

Janice and I finished our relocation to Gardnerville just before June 1. This took us seven months — we won't want to move again for a while.

Our new mantra is "weed control." I have a newfound respect for anyone who owns property in a wild-fire zone. I also know more than I want to about Cheatgrass, Tall Whitetop and Yellow Star thistle.

One of the interesting features of our Gardnerville house is that every room has an alcove/molding shelf (the total shelf space is over 54 feet) that can be double-stacked with books of any size. A nice feature for bibliophiles. Alas, we have already filled these built-in shelves — we brought over 210 boxes of books with us. We're going to have to sell books in self-defense. More on this topic in the next President's Column.

Since most of us are book collectors, here is something I'd like to ask of all of you:

1. How do you organize your collection(s)? Do you organize by publishers, or in a chronological order, or by binding?

2. What particular hazards are part of your living environment (floods, wildfire, humidity, insects, etc.)? How do you protect your book collection? For example, we've known people who have built humidity-controlled sub-basements to protect their books.

When we bought the Gardnerville house, we were particularly taken with the orientation—much of the interior space is protected against direct sunlight. We also liked the fact that this area is relatively dry, which means we don't have to use dessicants to protect against silverfish or other moisture-loving insects.

3. Do you have insurance to protect your collection? We added extra coverage to our home insurance, since standard homeowners' policies only cover contents at about two-thirds the cost of rebuilding a home.

4. Have you formally inventoried your collection? If so, how did you do it? Some people simply make a videotape or take photos, whereas others formally set up a database listing title, publisher, price paid, condition, and date of purchase.

We had a formal presentation on this topic at the 2004 convention, but it would be nice to repeat this information for the benefit of those who could not attend, or for those, like me, who tend to forget!

Please reply with your responses to has@ihot.com; Janice and I will write a *Newsboy* article on this topic

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HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

To further the philosophy of Horatio Alger, Jr. and to encourage the spirit of Strive and Succeed that for half a century guided Alger's undaunted heroes — youngsters whose struggles epitomized the Great American Dream and inspired hero ideals in countless millions of young Americans for generations to come.

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The above rates apply to all want ads, along with ads offering non-Alger books for sale. However, it is the policy of the Horatio Alger Society to promote the exchange of Alger books and related Alger materials by providing space **free of charge** to our members for the **sale only** of such material. Send ads or "Letters to the Editor" to *Newsboy* editor William R. Gowen (PF-706) at 23726 N. Overhill Dr., Lake Zurich, IL 60047. E-mail: hasnewsboy@aol.com

H.A.S. CONVENTION REPORT

On to Omaha!

By William R. Gowen (PF-706)

The sun smiled on the Horatio Alger Society's 42nd annual convention, "On to Omaha!" Well, it did for those Partic'lar Friends who arrived a day or two early at the Doubletree Guest Suites, located in central Omaha, Nebraska, on 72nd Street.

So for those of us who relaxed Wednesday afternoon and evening in bright spring weather, and also stopped at one of Omaha's legendary steak houses for dinner, little did we know that when official registration got underway Thursday afternoon, it would begin to rain ... and rain ... and rain, right through our time of departure on Sunday. There were no violent storms; just a steady rainfall.

But, of course, we'd been through inclement weather at past conventions, always a risk when scheduling a multi-day event during the spring.

Our convention co-host, Bart Nyberg, had just returned home from the hospital after having emergency surgery for treatment of pneumonia. That left it up to Mary Ann, not only to raise the curtain Thursday afternoon on the convention but to care for her husband. As his several-week recuperation began, Bart had to remain home, and doctors strongly discouraged visitors.

Yet somehow, Mary Ann was able to get the hospitality suite opened on time. Fortunately, Janice and Mike Morley, early arrivals, volunteered to take charge of the hospitality suite, passing out registration packets as members arrived, as well as doling out the free refreshments on hand. The Morleys had plenty of opportunity to introduce the group to Holly, their hurricane rescue dog, a friendly, black Labrador retriever. Holly was orphaned during Hurricane Rita, which struck the Gulf Coast last September, and was offered by the Morleys' local veterinarian as part of a nationwide hurricane pet rescue adoption program.

The official registration package assembled by the Nybergs included a comprehensive visitors' guide, fold-out map of Omaha with all major attractions marked, along with several other Omaha-related goodies. Each registrant also received a custom-made computer mouse pad with a full-color reproduction of the Medal Library cover of Alger's *Only an Irish Boy*.

There remained plenty of time in the afternoon to visit Omaha's two major antiquarian bookstores located within The Old Market, a restored shopping area with brick-paved streets and historic 19th century buildings housing numerous shops, restaurants and other attrac-



Mary Ann Nyberg welcomes her Partic'lar Friends to the 2006 H.A.S. convention at the Doubletree Guest Suites in Omaha, Nebraska. Photo by Wendy Sipes

tions. Omaha-area antique malls also proved popular among Partic'lar Friends.

The first official event of the convention was the annual Board of Directors' meeting which H.A.S. President Bob Routhier called to order at 4:40 p.m. in the hotel's Atrium Lounge, and was adjourned at 6:12 p.m. A full report on the meeting can be found on Page 12.

By dinnertime, a majority of members, family and guests had arrived, and the group headed to several local restaurants, many choosing a place to savor one of those world-famous Omaha steaks. A popular spot for a dozen or so members was Anthony's, located on 72nd street a couple miles south of the hotel.

After dinner, an ad hoc "auction committee" worked late into the evening going through the large number of items to be auctioned on Friday afternoon, which had to be organized and tagged. The hospitality suite, with its large separate bedroom, was a perfect location for organizing and assigning lot numbers to the consignment and donation materials.

Friday, April 28

The traditional Directors' Breakfast was held in the Atrium Deli, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Other members
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Editor's notebook

Another annual convention is history, and with it remain many fond memories.

Yes, it rained — but it did not dampen the spirits of those who attended.

I would also like to thank Wendy Sipes and John Juvinal's daughter, Juanita Durkin, for taking digital photos at the convention, many of which appear here. We've only been able to fit 14 of them into this issue, but more will be coming in the July-August *Newsboy*, including our annual H.A.S. award winners.

Just before leaving for a recent vacation, I learned from a longtime fellow Tom Swift collector that yes indeed, there is ANOTHER new Tom Swift series from Simon and Schuster, the publisher which took over the Stratemeyer Syndicate series and trademarks in the 1980s. The new series, by S&S's Aladdin Paperbacks division, consists of volumes about 170 pages in length with a cover size of 5 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 7 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches. This is slightly larger than the S&S Archway series from the early 1990s and virtually the same size as the paperback versions of the Wanderer series from the early 1980s.

Regardless of size, just how good are these new adventures of the legendary teenage inventor?

While on vacation, I read *Into the Abyss*, the first title, although as Tom Swift aficionado James D. Keeline (PF-898) wrote in a recent e-mail after reading both books in the breeder set (a third volume has been announced for October), the second book, *The Robot Olympics*, seems likely to have been written first because "... it has better introductions of characters, scenes and relationships."

However, Keeline notes that *Into the Abyss* was the

President's column

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incorporating whatever responses we receive from the H.A.S. membership.

I wish you all a pleasant and productive summer, with lots of books finding their way into your collections and memories.

Your Partic'lar Friend,
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logical choice for the first published title because "it is a more dramatic and better hook into the series."

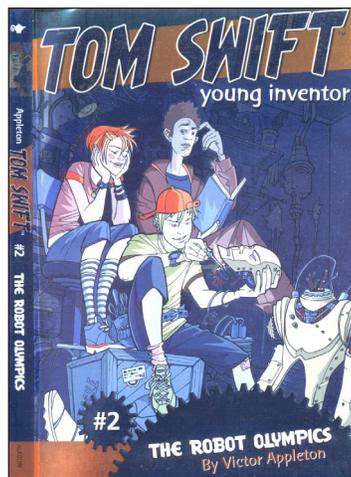
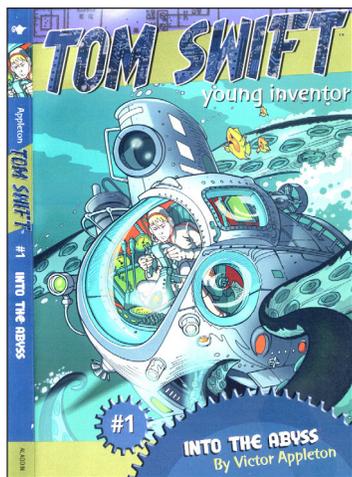
While on vacation, I visited John Dizer (PF-511), the world's reigning Tom Swift fan, who freely admits he would not have pursued a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering if not for his reading Tom Swift while growing up. I told him I had just finished reading the first book and asked him to read the second and offer his opinion. Here are a few of his comments:

"*The Robot Olympics*, No. 2 in the Tom Swift young inventor series, is a fun read. If you are a real Tom Swift aficionado, just don't take it seriously. The names are the only thing that connect it to any of the earlier Tom Swift series. Some of the names are the same, though the characters are not.

"Tom still lives in Shopton, though Shopton continues to move around the country, as it did in the earlier series. Andy Foger, first-class villain from the first series, is back and still villainous. Bud Barclay is back from the second series but is African-American and a school reporter. Tom's sister, Sandy, is also back from the second Tom Swift series. I miss Mr. Damon and Eradicate Sampson from the first series. Tom is still a teenager and inventive genius and seems to be a composite of the previous Toms. He speaks supposedly 'standard American teen,' which probably appeals to the standard American preteen reader more than it does to me. Anyway, the series is good entertainment as long as you don't try to relate it to the other Tom Swift series."

I should note that when Dizer says "preteen" he is right: the books are marketed for ages 8-12, three or four years younger than the target years for the original 1910-35 G&D series.

The new books will sell for \$4.99 each, although Volume 1 carries a price of \$1.99 to attract readers perhaps unfamiliar with Tom Swift.



AN ALGER TRIO

Part One: Horatio Alger and his Scrapbook

By Peter C. Walther (PF-548)

Scrapbooks may be nice to keep, but they're even nicer to look at, especially when kept by famous persons. Scrapbooks as kept by writers, especially the writers our Partic'lar Friends are interested in, tend to be rare indeed, and when they do come miraculously along they should be lovingly and properly examined.

Such is my intention with regard to Horatio Alger's Scrapbook. Maybe many of you never even knew he kept one or assumed that whatever he did leave behind him was part of the cache of papers trashed by his sister, Olive Augusta Cheney, after his death. However, it seems that at least one of his Scrapbooks has survived (surely there must have been others) in the Edward Stratemeyer Collection at the New York Public Library. It had been microfilmed on a single 35mm reel along with much Stratemeyer correspondence as well as Stratemeyer's business ledger, and has now been made available to me. Although the Stratemeyer Papers have been in the public eye for the last decade or more, the Scrapbook itself seems to have languished shamefully, almost totally ignored.

Thanks to that scion of academicians, Dr. John T. Dizer, who I understand received the microfilm courtesy of Deidre Johnson, I now have it to peruse, examine and ponder over. And ponder it I have. Sometime ago, I invested in a microfilm reader that I might enjoy the luxury of microfilm research in my own home without maddeningly subjecting my patience (and my temper!) to chattering college freshmen, cell phones, heated oversexed conversations, noxious fumes, repellent public toilets and continuous distractions, which many college libraries seem more than willing to provide. I have looked through the pages of this Scrapbook and wish to make a few observations for the benefit of the majority of you who have never seen it.

The Scrapbook proper contains a signature name and date on the front flyleaf: "Horatio Alger, Jr., 1859." It consists mostly of newspaper material from the decade of the 1850s extracted from the Boston weeklies of the day and pasted in a random order. These sources consist primarily of *True Flag* and *Yankee Blade*, with an occasional cutting from *Olive Branch*, *The American Union* and *Dodge's Literary Museum*, among others.

There seems to be an odd exception in a further 1893

sketch which I will comment upon below. Some items are dated by Alger himself, many remain undated, and yes, there are a few surprises, at least for me. What was found in these pages included mostly short sketches, longer stories, squibs, verse, editorials and much miscellaneous filler material in the nature of humorous paragraphs.

At the conclusion of the microfilmed contents of the Scrapbook are two additional highly significant items: a vital Stratemeyer-Cheney contract, as well as a letter Stratemeyer received from Mrs. Cheney herself, with which I will close this first installment of my "Alger Trio."

I have liberally consulted *The Bibliography of Short Stories, Articles And Poems Of Horatio Alger, Jr.*, as compiled by Victor A. Berch and Edward T. LeBlanc in 1990. By my count, there are some 19 relevant items in the Scrapbook which are not cited in this bibliography but should be, and it is these which I would like to list and comment upon, however briefly.

I am told that the original is very brittle, which may account for its sole availability in microfilm form. Only dates and sources as provided by Alger in the Scrapbook are given here; otherwise assume that they are anonymous. In one instance I have been able to extrapolate some evidence, which I have supplied as needed, but by and large this material will speak for itself.

Most of these 19 items are probably new to many of you, and they certainly provide the springboard for further research along similar lines.

One:

"How John's Idea Came Out," by Horatio Alger, Jr. *Boston Sunday Globe*; October 29, 1893

Technically speaking, this is not a part of the pasted Scrapbook items but apparently newspaper cuttings which someone (Olive, most likely) must have noticed in the *Globe* and inserted them loosely between the pages of the Scrapbook. I suggest "Olive," since along with the story itself are coupons for dress patterns that were something that may well have interested her as well as Horatio's story.

Editor's note: This story was discovered in 1992 by Gary Scharnhorst as published October 29, 1893 in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, interestingly the same date as

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AN ALGER TRIO

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the *Globe's* publication of the story. It was reprinted in *Newsboy*, Vol. XXX, No. 5, September-October 1992.

Two:

"Simon Peter-Molly Haskins" A fanciful exchange of whimsy.

Three:

A sequence of humorous anecdotes concerning Mrs. Belcher. Published in *Yankee Blade*:

"Mrs. Belcher's Curtain Lecture"
 "Mrs. Belcher On The Know-Nothings"
 "Mrs. Belcher's Sixth Curtain Lecture"
 "Mrs. Belcher On The Liberty Of The Press"
 "Mrs. Belcher On Boarding Schools"
 "Mrs. Belcher's Curtain Lecture"

Four:

"Why She Wept" by Carl Cantab.

Five:

"A Parody" by Timothy Verse.
 Is this a new pseudonym to be watchful for?

Six:

A Sequence of humorous travel anecdotes featuring Aminadab Spike:

"Letter From Mr. Spike In Paris"
 "Mr. Spike Gets Into Clichy"
 "Mr. Spike And Louis Napoleon"
 "Aminadab Spike In France"

Seven:

"The Secret Of His Grief" by Timothy Verse.

Eight:

"Explosive Fire-Wood" by Carl Cantab.

Nine:

"The Broken Compact; or, Satan Outwitted" By Carl Cantab.
 December 11, 1853.

Ten:

"The Pot Of Gold. A Pretty Cute Story."

Eleven:

"Snow" — Editorial.

Twelve:

"Victorine; or, The Little Flower Vender [sic]. A Story Of The First Napoleon Dynasty."

Published in *Olive Branch*, October 22, 1853.

The handwriting here is not Alger's; very possibly it is that of Olive Augusta Cheney. This sketch may very

well have been written by her rather than by her more famous brother .

Thirteen:

"Ireland In America" — Editorial.

Fourteen:

"The Fourth Of July, And How Joshua Pettibone Spent It."

By "A New Contributor."

Published in *The American Union*, July 1, 1854.

This humorous story is reprinted for the first time that I know of in this issue of *Newsboy* as an added attraction to mark the festivities of a Fourth of July, 152 years later. Coincidentally this same newspaper carried Alger's "Mrs. Brown Stout!" on the last page. As readers of *Newsboy* may recall through its reprinting of several important stories, Alger was anything but "A New Contributor" to *The American Union* during this period.

Fifteen:

"John Bull At Fault" by Carl Cantab.

Sixteen:

"The Model Young Man" — Editorial.

Seventeen:

"The Model Young Woman" — Editorial.

Eighteen:

"The Habitual Borrower" — Editorial.

Nineteen:

"The Art Of Poetry" — Editorial.

It is a fair conclusion to draw, I think, that these Scrapbook clippings are all by Alger; after all, what would have been the point otherwise? In the days before Xerox machines, a Scrapbook such as this would have given some degree of literary permanence to material that might otherwise have been lost and was pretty much all that an author had recourse to, unless of course a more durable form of publication was possible.

We all know about *Bertha's Christmas Vision*, Alger's first published book, a collection of the author's sketches and poems. Yet we can also imagine how much other early material was not collected, some of it doubtlessly lost -- and how many issues of these early newspapers have not survived.

It is known that many theatre people kept scrapbooks of newspaper clippings pertaining to their careers: stage appearances, reviews, town topics and the like. Writers were no different. William T. Adams, for instance, kept an 1853 Scrapbook of his editorials for *The Star Spangled Banner*, pasted in after much the same fashion and, of course, many another author would have done so as well, only we don't know about them. A goodly portion of Alger's Scrapbook items are cited in the Berch-LeBlanc Bibliography, but it is those which do not appear that

piqued my interest to formulate this article and share my findings.

Attempting to pinpoint some of these hidden sources may prove daunting but not impossible. One likely avenue of exploration is the *Boston Daily Advertiser* for the period November 1853 to May 1, 1854, when Horatio Alger was an assistant editor. Up to a short time ago I was blissfully unaware of this, and I am indebted to Mr. Robert Kasper, the noted Cheney authority, for drawing my attention to it.

On my next research trip, an agenda of mine will be to scan the issues during this time period for further possible Alger material. It may well be that some of the items tagged above may have appeared during Alger's editorial tenure at the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, and if so there may exist other sketches and varied miscellany that were not "scrapped" in the book. If my investigations prove fruitful, I may have more to say about this subject at another time, and hopefully there may appear in these columns a further list of stories and verse to add to the Alger checklist of ephemera.

And now, as promised, I wish to close with the Cheney letter to Stratemeyer. I sense that her letter poses further unresolved issues on the items in the Scrapbook (could Mrs. Cheney have been referring to another Scrapbook? I find absolutely no common denominator between the Alger stories in this Scrapbook and the two

Stratemeyer books she mentions but that, as they say, is a discourse for another day.

39 1/2 Pond Street
Natick, Mass. April 3, 1904

Dear Mr. Stratemeyer,

Your letter and cheque were received, and I return the contract signed.

I also give permission to use the material you desire, from the scrap-book, to be used in connection with the two stories of "The Young Book Agent" and "From Farm To Fortune."

I wrote to Ormond Smith, in relation to the publication in cloth, of the biographical books by the Federal Book Co., and he has promised to present the matter to them.

I should be glad to have you return the scrap-book, as soon as you have made a transcript of the matter you need from it.

Thanking you for your promptness in the business matter. I remain

Very truly yours,
O. A. Cheney

Apparently, Edward Stratemeyer never returned the Scrapbook ... and shouldn't we consider ourselves fortunate that he didn't?

THE AMERICAN UNION

A Story for the Times.

Written for The American Union.

THE FOURTH OF JULY, AND HOW JOSHUA PETTIBONE SPENT IT.

BY "A NEW CONTRIBUTOR"

Squeak the fife and beat the drum
Independence day is come!
Let the roasting pig be bled,
Quick twist off the cockerel's head,
Quickly grab the pewter platter,
Heap the nut-cakes fried in batter,
Set the cups and beaker glass,
The pumpkin and the apple sauce,
Send the keg to shop for brandy;
Maple sugar we have handy,
Independent, swaggering Dick,

A noggin mix of swinging thick!
Sal, put on your russet skirt,
Jothem, get your *boughten* shirt;
To-day we dance to tiddle-diddle,
Hero comes Sambo with his fiddle —
Sambo, take a dram of whiskey,
And play up Yankee Doodle frisky!
Thus we sing and dance and play,
On glorious Independence Day!"

Joshua Pettibone sat on the settle in the kitchen corner, apparently very intent on a perusal of the Farmer's Almanac — that repository of mysterious lore — but it was evident that his thoughts were intent on something else.

"What in nater's the boy doing?" asked his mother, looking up from a pile of stockings, which she was darning assiduously; "if he ain't twistin' up the almanac as if it wasn't any more than a piece of brown paper. What are you thinking about, Josh?"

"Next Tuesday's Independent Day," answered Josh.

"Well, what if it is? I'm sure I'm willing."

"They're going to have great doings down in Bostown then," pursued Josh.

"Well, I hope they'll enjoy themselves; but it ain't anything to me, as I knows on."

"And I want to go down and see it," said Josh, mustering up

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THE FOURTH OF JULY

(Continued from Page 7)

his courage to give utterance to so daring a proposition.

“Want to see the Fourth of July in Bostown?” ejaculated his mother; “is the boy crazy! Ain’t it the Fourth of July here as well as there, I should like to know?”

“Well, I spose ’t is; but I never was in Bostown, and I want to go. They’ve got a great many shows there, I reckon, and I’m bound to see some of ’em.”

“Joshua,” said his mother, solemnly, “it would be the ruination of ye; you’d get shot down by the millingerry that tramp up and down the roads in the city. You ain’t nothing but a boy, and could n’t be trusted no how.”

“Ain’t I nineteen, and ain’t I six feet high, I’d like to know — and didn’t Bill Gleason, that’s only fourteen and a head shorter, go down last Fourth, and have a smashing good time, and not get hurt? And why shouldn’t I? — I’m as tall as father now.”

“But you hain’t got his experience, Joshua.”

“I’ve got enough to go to Bostown.”

“You’d better give up the notion, Joshua,” said Mrs. Pettibone, shaking her head.

“If I do,” said Josh, spiritedly, “I’ll be dar—”

“Do n’t answer, Josh,” said she, reprovingly.

“Then I’ll be blasted!”

“That’s as bad as tother.”

“Well, I’ll be goshed, any way,” said Josh, with determination; “if father won’t let me go, I’ll run away and go to sea, and maybe get drowned; and never come back, and then won’t you wish you hadn’t done it?”

“Stop talking in that dreadful way, Josh,” said his mother, anxiously.

“Then you’ll ask father?”

“Why, yes, if you’ve made up your mind.”

“I’ve been a-makin’ it up for the last six months.”

In consequence of the conversation above narrated, Mrs. Pettibone, whose apprehensions Joshua had worked upon to good purpose, succeeded in obtaining her husband’s consent to the plan.

Early on the morning of Independence Day, Joshua stood at the door of the farm-house, arrayed in his Sunday’s best, awaiting with a heart palpitating with joy, the arrival of the stage which was to bear him to the great city, of which he had dreamed much, and thus constitute an era in his existence.

The stage drew up in fine style before the door; Joshua, too impatient to bid good-bye to his anxious parents, leaped upon the box with the driver, feeling all the while as if Paradise was about to be revealed to him.

“My son,” said Mr. Pettibone. “do n’t yer be wasteful of yer money, and do n’t get into any bad scrapes.”

“And remember, Joshua,” said his mother, “to keep all the commandments.”

“Goshed if I do n’t,” said Joshua, gleefully, as he cracked the

whip, by permission of the driver, and the horses started.

At length the streets of Boston, densely packed with human beings, became visible to our hero.

He was completely bewildered.

“Well, if this don’t beat our trainin’ day all to smash,” he ejaculated; “where can a ll the people come from?”

“There’s a good many people in the world,” said the driver, philosophically.

“That’s a fact,” said Joshua; “but what am I to do among such a crowd of folks? It looks like the Town Hall when all the people have come to vote.”

“I suppose you can get along as well as other folks; anyhow, you’ll have to get out here.”

“Can’t I go along with you?”

“No, I’m going to take out the horses.”

Joshua found himself alone; there were multitudes hurrying by on every side, but he knew not one of them. Not knowing which way to go, he stood in mute bewilderment, with his hands in his pockets, and his mouth wide open, staring at the scene before him, but feeling as uncertain whither to direct his steps as the mariner who has steered away from his course upon the vast ocean, and has no compass and no chart by which to right himself.

His rather grotesque appearance attracted the attention of a couple of boys, who were standing at a little distance.

“There’s a greeny, I’ll bet a hat!” said one of them, nudging his companion, and pointing at the same time to Joshua.

“A regular one, and no mistake,” responded the other.

“Let’s have a little fun out of him.”

“How?”

“Just look, and you’ll see how I’ll fix him.”

So saying, he took a bundle of crackers which he had with him, and slyly attached it with a pin to one of Joshua’s immense swallowtails. He then by the aid of a match lighted one of them, and quickly retired among the crowd.

The plot took effect.

Josh was aroused from his revery by a portentous explosion in his immediate rear, which was followed by a second and third in quick succession.

He started in wild amazement.

“By thunder!” he exclaimed, “what if one of their cannons has been bustin’?”

The explosions increased in rapidity.

“What’s the matter?” asked he, in wild apprehension, of his next neighbor.

“Look behind you,” was the reply.

One look was enough; he darted away, crying — “Help! help! murder!” at the extent of his lungs, knocking down half a dozen children in his progress, before his course was finally arrested by a police-officer.

“What do you mean by making such a disturbance?” said that functionary, sternly.

“O, I’m burning up — I’m exploding! Don’t you hear it?”

“Pooh! It’s only fire-crackers.”

“O, take ’em off, mister, do, and I’ll give you most anything

you ask — ten cents, or ninepence, or anything.”

The officer took off the cause of Joshua’s apprehension, whereupon the latter pulled out two three-cent pieces and four coppers and offered him.

“Never mind it,” said the latter, smiling; only be careful not to get into another such scrape.”

“Goshed if I do I any way, I’m much obleeged to ye, mister, and if ever you should come up to Crumpville I’ll treat yer, goshed if I don’t.”

Just then Joshua’s attention was arrested by a company of “millingterry,” as he called them, and he followed in their wake to the common, where a large number of others were collected.

“My stars, what a lot of millingterry there is in Bostown! I guess the Britishers wouldn’t like to come very near them.”

The claims of hunger began to act powerfully upon Joshua’s system, and he looked with eager eyes towards a temporary stand which had been put up beside the side-walk.

“Darn the expense,” said he; “I’ll have something to eat, if it breaks me. What’s the price of them apples, mister?”

“Two cents a-piece.”

“Well, I s’pose if I take two you’ll let me have ’em for three cents.”

“Couldn’t do it.”

“Well, who cares? You may give me two, any way.”

Josh hunted about for some change, but having only a little, concluded to get a bill changed.

“Can you change that?” said he, presenting a three-dollar note, with an air as if he thought it very doubtful.

“Certainly,” and in a trice a two and the remainder in change was deposited in his hand. The first he placed in his pocket, and retired a little apart to count the other, to make sure it was all right.

“Please, mister,” said a boy clad in a tattered frock-coat, which hung down to his feet, and with the cuffs pulled up to adapt the length to hat of his arms, “please, mister,” said he, in a low, whining voice, “to give me a little money to buy bread with?”

“You don’t say that you hain’t had no bread to-day?” asked Joshua, looking up in astonishment.

“Not a bit,” said the boy, stoutly, adding to himself, “nor I don’t want none, as long as I can get cakes and pies, and sich.”

Joshua’s compassion was aroused; he took out a cent from his pocket and held it out to the boy.

The latter, instead of taking it, made a grab at the contents of the other hand, which contained the silver change, and in an instant was making his way through the crowd.

The movement was so quick, and the surprise so great, that our hero stood for a moment without saying a word.

At length he recovered sufficiently to shout — “Constable!” at the extent of his lungs.

“What’s the matter?” asked a policeman.

“Thief! robbery!”

“Where’s the thief?”

“He’s run off.”

“Where? In what direction?”

“I — I don’t see him now.”

“Then I can’t help you.”

“And what’s to become of my ninety-six cents?” asked Josh, in dismay.

“You’ll have to do without it; you must look out the next time.”

“As much as I can earn working hard two days,” said Josh to himself; “if ever I ketch that boy, won’t I pitch into him.”

The sight of the fountain upon the common somewhat diverted his thoughts from the recollection of his loss, and he threaded his way through the crowd in order to obtain a nearer view of it.

He succeeded in reaching the brink, when, most unfortunately for him, there was a sudden rush among the crowd behind him, and poor Joshua was precipitated into the turbid depths. He was forthwith helped out by the bystanders without having sustained any material damage, apart from being, in vulgar parlance, “as wet as a drowned rat.”

His unmentionables, which, by the liberality of a country tailor had been made of great amplitude, hung down in most inelegant carelessness, and his whole appearance was that of one to whom the Fates have been unpropitious.

Not withstanding this unlucky *contretemp*, Joshua had no idea of losing the display of fire-works in the evening, to which, more than anything else, he had been looking forward with eager anticipation.

He managed to while away the time, and succeeded in drying his clothes, in a measure, before evening. The long expected hour arrived, and Joshua beheld with unfeigned delight the first rockets, which shot through the air. His excitement was shared by those around him, who were mostly Irish. Among such inflammable spirits, a little spark very soon kindles a great conflagration.

So it was in the present case. A contest for precedence, originally confined to two, quickly spread till two or three dozen were engaged. Joshua was in the thick of the fight, and was bandied around so unceremoniously by both parties, that his long-tailed blue, the pride of his heart, was completely torn off his back, and his hat trampled under foot.

Under the circumstances, it was not singular that the police, on making their way to the spot, seeing his disarray, took him for one of the prime movers of the disturbance, and as such, conveyed him, despite all his remonstrances, to the lockup, here he was detained over night.

Unfortunate Joshua Pettibone! It would be difficult to conceive the horror with which he found himself in this calamitous state.

“What will dad and marm say when they hear of it?” he thought. “I’ll be darned if I ever come to Bostown again to spend the Fourth.”

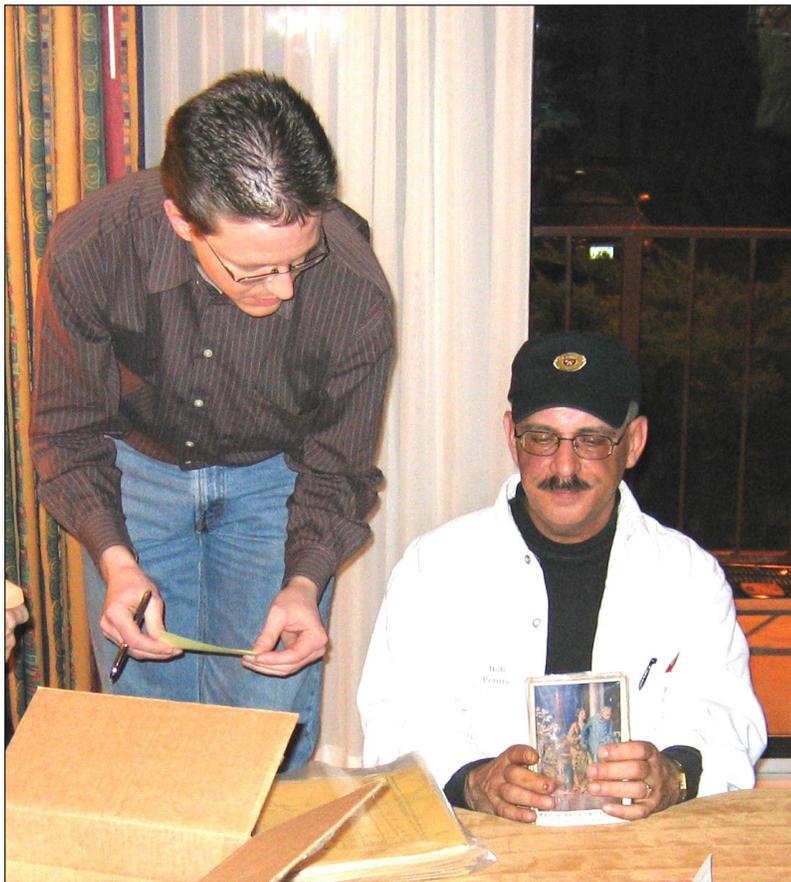
Our hero was let off the next morning with a trifling fine, his demeanor convincing the court that he was more “sinned against than sinning.”

The moment he was set free, he turned his steps homewards, there to astonish all by a narration of the series of disasters which befell him on “Independence Day.”

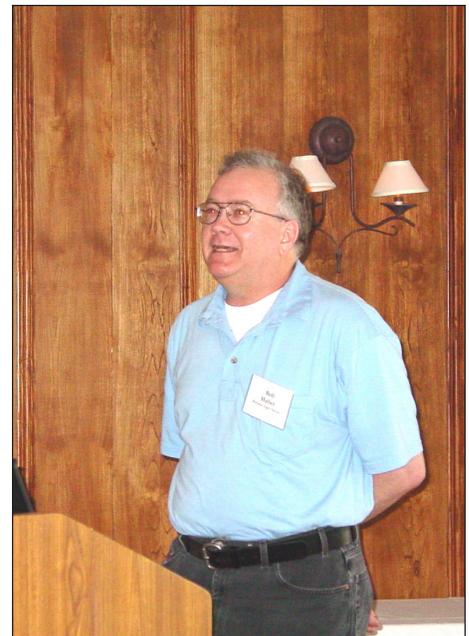
2006 convention memories



Many important topics were discussed at the annual H.A.S. Board of Directors meeting on Thursday afternoon. Photo by Wendy Sipes



Bob Sipes and Bob Petitto help organize the numerous items submitted for the annual auction. Photo by Wendy Sipes



Bob Huber gives his illustrated presentation on the wide world of Boy Scout literature. Photo by Juanita Durkin



John Juvinal (PF-537), attending his 29th consecutive H.A.S convention, relaxes near the Atrium fountain. Photo by Juanita Durkin



Jeanette Routhier enjoys a visit from Holly, Mike and Janice Morley's adopted Hurricane Rita rescue dog. Photo by Wendy Sipes



Larry and Vivian Rice, along with Mike and Janice Morley, get together during Friday's dinner at Sam and Louie's New York Pizzeria. Photo by Wendy Sipes

Horatio Alger Society Board of Directors Meeting

Omaha, Nebraska
April 27, 2006

In Attendance:

Robert R. Routhier, President
Michael Morley, Vice President
Robert E. Kasper, Executive Director
William R. Gowen, Editor
Ken Broadie, Director
Lee Switzer, Director
Robert G. Sipes, Director
Arthur W. Smitter, Director
Milt Ehlert, Director
Lawrence R. Rice, Director

Absent:

Christine DeHaan, Treasurer
Bart W. Nyberg, Director
David Yarrington, Director
Thomas Kline, Director

Robert R. Routhier, President, called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

Old Business:

President Routhier presented the minutes from the 2005 Director's meeting for ratification by the board. A motion was passed to approve the minutes; it was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

Art Smitter, one of the convention hosts of the Grand Rapids convention, mentioned that some souvenir glasses were still available from the 2005 convention.

New Business:

Rob Kasper, Executive Director, presented the annual financial report in the absence of the treasurer. Gross income for the previous 12 months was \$7,854.53 and expenses were \$8,840.22, resulting in a net loss of \$985.69 for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2006. Total cash on hand includes \$2,241.51 in checking deposits and \$7,755.56 in a certificate of deposit for a total of \$9,997.07. Interest earned on the funds in the certificate of deposit was \$195.53. The deficit for the year was caused by lower auction proceeds, higher printing expenses including the 2006 membership roster, the payment of an extra

issue of **Newsboy** not paid in the previous period and a small overrun from the 2005 convention.

Robert E. Kasper, Executive Director, reported total membership at 166. This includes 132 Regular members, one Sustaining member, 12 Life, 11 Honorary and 10 Libraries. There were four new members added during the previous 12 months and 14 drops. Two new libraries were added (Baylor and SMU, both located in Texas).

The **Newsboy** Report was given by William R. Gowen, editor. He noted that the color issues of **Newsboy** will continue when articles and related illustrations are appropriate. The print run for **Newsboy** is currently 250 issues and may be reduced considering the current membership level. It was decided that six issues will be published during the next 12 months, with the frequency of publication reviewed at next year's board meeting.

The Nominating Committee Report was presented by Rob Kasper on behalf of the Committee Chairman, Bob Huber. Nominations for President are Michael Morley, Larry Rice for Vice President and Chris DeHaan for Treasurer. These are two-year terms. Nominees for the three directors are Bernie Biberdorf, Carol Nackenoff and Kyoko Amano. The directors serve three-year terms. Brad Chase was nominated to serve a one-year term to complete Larry Rice's last year.

Bob and Wendy Sipes offered to host the 2007 convention in Shelbyville, Indiana. Tentative convention dates will be May 3-6, 2007. The board voted to present this offer to the members at the business meeting. Future convention venues were also discussed including Reno, Nevada and Charlottesville, Virginia.

Strive and Succeed Award receipts for the previous 12 months totaled \$1,520.00. This included a \$500 donation from Vice President Mike Morley and a matching contribution from his employer. The board voted to award \$1,000.00 to this year's recipient. The balance will be made available next year.

President Routhier reappointed Bill Gowen and Rob Kasper to three-year terms as **Newsboy** Editor and Executive Director, respectively.

Other new business discussed included changing the domain name for the society Web site, adding a PayPal account so that prospective members can pay their dues through the Web site, researching an article on Horatio Alger for *Firsts Magazine* and contacting previous convention hosts for updates on **Strive & Succeed Award** recipients. Also discussed was a possibility of a mid-year board meeting to be held in October at Northern Illinois University to meet with Lynne Thomas, Head of Rare Books and Special Collections, to discuss future plans of the Horatio Alger Society Repository.

President Routhier adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert E. Kasper
Executive Director
Horatio Alger Society

TREASURER'S REPORT

INCOME

Auction proceeds	\$2,673.00
Membership dues	3,420.00
Interest	195.53
Strive & Succeed Award donations	1,520.00
H.A.S. merchandise:	
Back issues	27.00
Pin	5.00
Tile	14.00
Total H.A.S. merchandise	46.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,854.53

EXPENSES

Auction consignment payouts	\$1,564.80
Convention:	
Award plaques	317.50
Convention deficit 2005	680.40
Total convention	\$997.90
Executive Director's expenses	535.33
<i>Newsboy</i> expenses:	
Printing	\$3,793.15
Postage	770.90
Supplies (envelopes, etc.)	173.14
Total <i>Newsboy</i> expenses	\$4,737.19
Illinois Secretary of State	5.00
Strive & Succeed Award	1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8,840.22
NET INCOME	(-\$985.69)

Balance sheet as of April 25, 2006

ASSETS

Current assets (checking/savings)	
Certificate of deposit (CD)	\$7,755.56
Checking account	740.42
S&S Award	1,501.09
Total checking/savings accounts	\$9,997.07
Total current assets	\$9,997.07
TOTAL ASSETS	\$9,997.07

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Equity:	
Opening balance, equity	\$4,763.05
Retained earnings	6,219.71
Net income	(-985.69)
TOTAL EQUITY	\$9,997.07

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$9,997.07

Submitted by Christine DeHaan, Treasurer
April 27, 2006



A portion of the books and other memorabilia for the annual consignment and donation auction are displayed on Friday, April 28. The auction raised nearly \$1,300 for the Society. Photo by Wendy Sipes

'On to Omaha' — registration list

Ken Broadie (PF-1053)
Fort Worth, Texas

Bradford S. Chase (PF-412)
Enfield, Conn.

Ann Chase
Enfield, Conn.

Rolfe B. Chase (PF-602)
Prescott, Ariz

Kitty Chase
Prescott, Ariz

Milton F. Ehlert (PF-702)
Grand Rapids, Mich.

William R. Gowen (PF-706)
Lake Zurich, Ill.

Gordon Huber (PF-843)
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Jeanne Huber
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Robert G. Huber (PF-841)
Madison, Wisc.

John R. Juvinall (PF-537)
Hinsdale, Ill.

Juanita Durkin
Justice, Ill.

Robert E. Kasper (PF-327)
Richmond, Va.

Robert L. Kersch (PF-946)
Great River, N.Y.

Jeff Looney (PF-903)
Charlottesville, Va.

Janice Morley (PF-957)
Gardnerville, Nev.

Michael Morley (PF-934)
Gardnerville, Nev.

Carol Nackenoff (PF-921)
Swarthmore, Pa.

Bart J. Nyberg (PF-879)
Omaha, NE

Mary Ann Nyberg (PF-861)
Omaha, NE

Bob Petitto (PF-1086)
Carol Stream, Ill.

Lawrence R. Rice (PF-757)
Maine, N.Y.

Vivian R. Rice
Maine, N.Y.

Robert R. Routhier (PF-889)
Swartz Creek, Mich.

Jeanette Routhier (PF-1055)
Swartz Creek, Mich.

Barry Schoenborn (PF-1087)
Nevada City, Calif.

Bob Sipes (PF-1067)
Shelbyville, Ind.

Wendy Sipes
Shelbyville, Ind.

Arthur Smitter (PF-952)
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Linda Smitter
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Lyle A. Stohlmann (PF-1093)
Louisville, NE

Lee Switzer (PF-882)
Fridley, Minn.

Gaylene Switzer
Fridley, Minn.

Angelo Sylvester (PF-928)
New York, N.Y.

Mary Sylvester
New York, N.Y.

TOTAL: 35
H..A.S. MEMBERS: 26

MEMBERSHIP

New member

J. Donald Allen (PF-1094)
P.O. Box 5
Goode, VA 24556-0005
E-mail: donallen@inmind.com

Change of address

Arthur P. Young (PF-941)
9 Sandy Brook Drive
Durham, NH 03824 (603) 868-1609
E-mail: ayoung@niu.edu

New & corrected e-mail addresses

Robert R. Routhier (PF-889)
E-mail: brr001@power-net.net

Barry Schoenborn (PF-1087)
E-mail: barry@wvswrite.com

Send all address and e-mail updates to:

Horatio Alger Society
P.O. Box 70361
Richmond, VA 23255

BOOK REVIEW

Girl Sleuth. Nancy Drew and the Women Who Created Her. Melanie Rehak. Orlando, Austin, New York, San Diego, Toronto and London, 2005: Harcourt, Inc. Hardcover; 384 pages, illustrated. ISBN: 0-15-101041-2. Price: \$25.00. Discounts available through major online retailers.

Reviewed by Mary Ann Nyberg (PF-861)

Mildred Wirt. Harriet Stratemeyer Adams. Nancy Drew. Those three names are linked forever in a relationship complete with the dysfunctional family arguments and accusations.

This book presents one of the best developments of the Nancy Drew writing saga that I have yet read. Both Mildred and Harriet are followed throughout their childhood, through their productive years of writing and publishing, and finally into their final years and deaths.

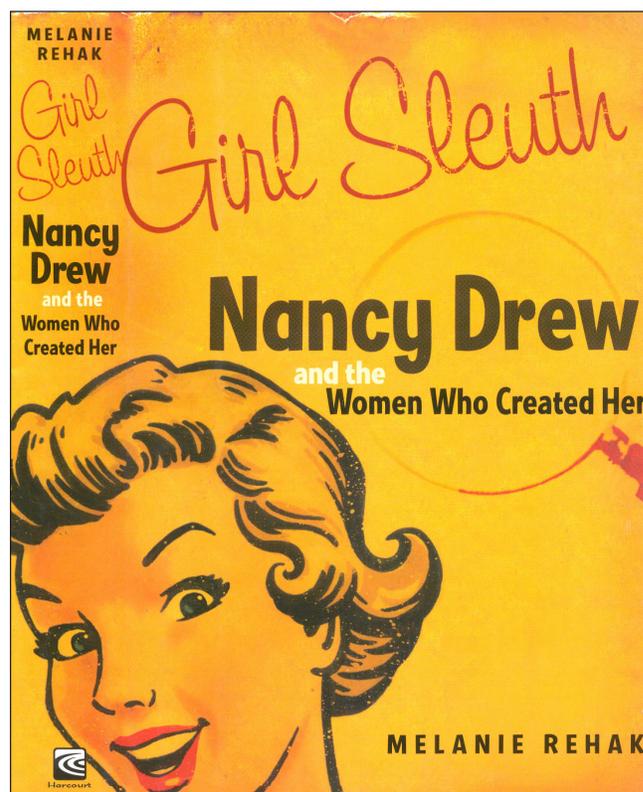
Harriet Stratemeyer Adams had no intention of being a publisher. Born in 1892, she was enrolled at Wellesley in 1910, at a time when college education for young women was the exception. Offered a job at *The Boston Globe* upon her graduation, Edward Stratemeyer would not hear of his daughter taking a job; she was to live at home until safely married.

Having the benefit of a vigorous education, Harriet wanted to work. Her father finally agreed to her working, but only for him. And she was to work out of the house, not from his office. Her job was to edit manuscripts and galley proofs. Her education in the Stratemeyer Syndicate writing style began immediately; she discovered a whole page of a manuscript, written by a ghost writer, crossed out by Stratemeyer, and the single word "Crash!" substituted at the top of the page. In another, an entire page had been replaced with the word "Bang!"

Harriet's career as a junior editor in training was soon over. She married one year after college graduation and did not plan to work in publishing again.

Side by side with Harriet, the the book's author relates Mildred Wirt's childhood, born in 1905, and educated at the University of Iowa. Athletic, a diver, a competitive swimmer, a basketball player, a star of the college newspaper, and a journalism graduate, Mildred answered an ad she saw in *The Editor* magazine in 1926:

"The Stratemeyer Syndicate, Edward Stratemeyer, Proprietor, of Newark New Jersey and New York City, can use the services of several additional writers in the preparation of the Syndicate's books for boys, books for girls, and rapid-fire detective stories. These stories



are all written for the Syndicate on its own titles and outlines, and we buy all rights in this material for cash upon acceptance..."

The rest, as they say, is history. Mildred Wirt was soon to be at work on Stratemeyer's latest project, Nancy Drew. However, Edward Stratemeyer was never to realize the enormous success of his latest heroine, as he died May 10, 1930, just 12 days after the launch of the Nancy Drew series.

Harriet and her sister Edna originally intended just to keep the business going until the firm could be sold. In the Great Depression of the 1930s, they did not find any buyers, nor did they receive any serious offers from anyone who actually had any money. And so, the two sisters went to work to save the Syndicate, a difficult job, as Harriet stated she did not originally know the difference between Bomba the Jungle Boy and Joe Hardy.

The book covers the development of Harriet as the heart and soul of the Syndicate (Edna having moved to Florida) and of her relationship and friendship with Mildred Wirt, and their gradual separation. Harriet, who developed into an accomplished story outliner and editor, felt Nancy Drew was her fictional daughter. When the famous court case of Simon and Schuster vs. Grosset & Dunlap went to court May 27, 1980, Harriet was 87 years old. Mildred Wirt was 74. Harriet did not

(Continued on Page 16)

Annual H.A.S. consignment auction results

<u>Item</u>	<u>Consgr.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Consgr.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>
<i>Young Captain Jack</i> (S&S pb)	Milt Ehlert	Bob Sipes	\$10.00	<i>Charlie Codman's Cruise</i> (Winston)	Milt Ehlert	Ken Broadie	\$30.00
<i>From Farm Boy to Senator</i> (S&S pb)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	13.00	<i>Ned Newton</i> (Federal)	Mike Morley	Lee Switzer	60.00
<i>A Cousin's Conspiracy</i> (Westbrook)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	11.00	<i>Ben's Nugget</i> (A.L. Burt, dj)	Anon.	Ken Broadie	75.00
<i>The Backwoods Boy</i> (S&S pb)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	16.00	<i>Struggling Upward</i> (A.L. Burt, dj)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	75.00
<i>Helen Ford</i> (Winston)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	25.00	<i>Randy of the River</i> (S&S, pb)	Milt Ehlert	Ken Broadie	20.00
Barbour: <i>Center Rush Rowland</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Kersch	10.00	<i>Strong and Steady</i> (Whitman, dj)	Milt Ehlert	Art Smitter	30.00
<i>Young Folks</i> (1866)	Bob Petitto	Bob Huber	45.00	<i>Stables: Cruise of the Snow Bird</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	7.00
<i>A Debt of Honor</i> (A.L. Burt)	Anon.	Barry Schoenborn	4.00	<i>Stables: Life at Sea</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	5.00
<i>Phil the Fiddler</i> (Hurst, dj)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	27.00	<i>Strug.Upward/Phil Fiddler</i> (Nautilus)	Bob Routhier	Bob Huber	20.00
<i>Grit</i> (Hurst, dj)	Bob Routhier	Brad Chase	155.00	<i>From Canal Boy to Pres.</i> (S&S, pb)	Bob Routhier	Rob Kasper	8.00
<i>Ragged Dick</i> (Heritage Press)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	11.00	<i>Slow and Sure</i> (Superior, pb)	Bob Petitto	Ken Broadie	7.00
<i>R. Coverdale's Struggle</i> (S&S pb)	Milt Ehlert	Ken Broadie	16.00	<i>Facing the World</i> (Westbrook)	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	18.00
Henty: <i>With Lee in Virginia</i> (Scrib.)	Bob Routhier	Mike Morley	20.00	<i>Tom the Bootblack</i> (Superior, pb)	Bob Petitto	Ken Broadie	12.00
Henty: <i>With Lee in Virginia</i> (Scrib.)	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	10.00	<i>A Cousin's Conspiracy</i> (Superior, pb)	Bob Petitto	Ken Broadie	18.00
Henty: <i>Redskin and Cowboy</i> (Scrib.)	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	12.00	<i>Golden Argosy</i> , group of 50 issues	Bob Petitto	Bob Huber	300.00
Henty: <i>Orange and Green</i> (A.L. Burt)	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	26.00	<i>Paul the Peddler</i> (Winston)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	60.00
Henty: <i>With Wolfe in Canada</i> (G&D)	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	5.00	<i>The Backwoods Boy</i> (S&S, pb)	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	5.00
Henty: <i>By Pike and Dyke</i> (Scrib.)	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	10.00	<i>The Young Explorer</i> (H.T. Coates)	Mike Morley	Ken Broadie	25.00
Henty: <i>With Wolfe in Canada</i> (Scrib.)	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	21.00	<i>St. Clair: For Home and Honor</i>	Mike Morley	Lee Switzer	65.00
<i>Sam's Chance</i> (Loring, 1st ed.)	Bob Routhier	Carol Nackenoff	42.00	<i>Five Hundred Dollars</i> (Amer. Pub.)	Mike Morley	Ken Broadie	35.00
<i>Julius, the Street Boy</i> (Westbrook)	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	13.00	<i>Ralph Raymond's Heir</i> (S&S, pb)	Bob Petitto	Ken Broadie	11.00
<i>Bound to Rise</i> (Loring, 1st ed.)	Bob Huber	Lee Switzer	105.00				
<i>Ragged Dick</i> (Loring, 1st ed.)	Bob Huber	Barry Schoenborn	460.00				
<i>From Farm Boy to Senator</i> (1st ed.)	Bob Routhier	Mike Morley	45.00				
<i>The Nugget Finders</i> (John F. Shaw)	Bob Routhier	Angelo Sylvester	25.00				
Otis: <i>Life of Paul Jones</i> (A.L. Burt)	Bob Routhier	Angelo Sylvester	3.00				

Total lots: 47

Total bids: \$2,026.00

Commission to H.A.S.: \$405.20

Net proceeds to H.A.S.

from all auctions: \$1,280.20

BOOK REVIEW

(Continued from Page 15)

recognize Mildred Wirt and, when introduced, uttered in shock "I thought you were dead."

Girl Sleuth. Nancy Drew and the Women Who Created Her tracks the lives of the two women with tenderness and a scholar's eye for detail. The publishing history, the outlines, the disagreements over how Nancy should appear, the efforts of both Harriet and Mildred to keep working through family deaths, economic depression, money troubles, and ill health are drawn with a strong but understanding hand.

The final years and death of these two talented and energetic women has not closed the book on Nancy Drew. Although later Drew stories such as *The Casefiles*

were written and published, it is the originals, outlined by Harriet and written by Mildred [See editor's note, below, for source of latest research] that continue to be the ones we all remember, love and collect. This book is a wonderful read for those who loved Nancy Drew and thought Carolyn Keene was the world's best writer!

Editor's note: James D. Keeline (PF-898) has posted on his Web site a full listing of the authors of the books and creators of the outlines for each of the first 78 titles in the Nancy Drew series. This list includes the original versions of the G&D titles, the 1959-75 rewrites of Volumes 1-34, and the Simon & Schuster Wanderer Books editions (1979-85). Visit www.keeline.com, then click on "Stratemeyer Syndicate," "Nancy Drew" and "Who Wrote Nancy Drew?" You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view this file.

Annual H.A.S. fund-raising auction results

<u>Item</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>
Two Winston Alger books	Bob Routhier	Ken Broadie	\$10.00	<i>The Young Explorer</i> (P&C)	Mike Morley	Bob Sipes	\$20.00
Castlemon: <i>Frank/Don Carlos Rancho</i>	Mike Morley	Bob Sipes	5.00	<i>Brave & Bold; Adrift in N.Y.</i> (S&S, pb)	Bob Routhier	Carol Nackenoff	5.00
Optic: <i>Lightning Express; Switch Off</i>	Bob Routhier	Barry Schoenborn	11.00	Newsboy hot pan holder mitt	Janice Morley	Brad Chase	8.00
Optic: <i>The Sailor Boy; Brave Old Salt</i>	Bob Routhier	Barry Schoenborn	5.00	Sheet music: "The Orphan Newsboy"	Larry Rice	Brad Chase	30.00
Optic: <i>Young Voyagers; GoldThimble</i>	Bob Routhier	Barry Schoenborn	19.00	Two misc. girls' books	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	3.00
Optic: <i>Make or Break; Haste and Waste</i>	Bob Routhier	Barry Schoenborn	7.00	Three misc girls series mysteries	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	2.00
Optic: <i>The Soldier Boy; Fighting Joe</i>	Bob Routhier	Barry Schoenborn	20.00	Snell: <i>Soolook the Wild Boy</i>	Anonymous	Jeff Looney	5.00
Optic: <i>Bear & Forbear; Dorcas Club</i>	Bob Routhier	Barry Schoenborn	3.00	Five misc. pub. boys' books (d/j)	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	10.00
Optic: <i>All Adrift; Brave Old Salt</i>	Bob Routhier	Barry Schoenborn	4.00	Chase: Burt, Donohue guides (w/box)	Milt Ehlert	Ken Broadie	12.00
Optic: <i>Shamrock & Thistle</i> (2 copies)	Bob Routhier	Barry Schoenborn	17.00	Five misc. publishers mysteries	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	1.00
Otis: <i>A Runaway Brig</i> (A.L. Burt)	Brad Chase	Bob Sipes	10.00	<i>Popeye & Queen Olive Oyl</i> (Whitman)	Brad Chase	Bob Kersch	5.00
Three misc magazines, 1915-17	John Juvinall	Bob Sipes	20.00	<i>Donald Duck</i> comic (Whitman)	Brad Chase	Barry Schoenborn	3.00
Two Wallace's Farmer magazines	John Juvinall	Bob Sipes	13.00	<i>Bobbsey Twins</i> book (G&D, inscribed)	Jack Bales	Mike Morley	50.00
<i>Phil, the Fiddler</i> (Porter & Coates)	Mike Morley	Bob Sipes	10.00	<i>Nancy Drew</i> book (G&D, inscribed)	Jack Bales	Mike Morley	125.00
Ballantyne: <i>The Young Fur Traders</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	3.00	<i>Sun Series</i> reprint (Bob Sawyer)	Bob Huber	Bob Sipes	10.00
Ballantyne: <i>Gascoyne</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	3.00	<i>Sun Series</i> reprint (Bob Sawyer)	Bob Huber	Bob Sipes	10.00
Three misc. boys' books	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	4.00	<i>Sun Series</i> reprint (Bob Sawyer)	Bob Huber	Bob Sipes	10.00
Two Whitman TV Adventures	Anonymous	Carol Nackenoff	7.00	<i>Joe's Luck</i> (M.A. Donohue)	Bob Routhier	Angelo Sylvester	2.00
Blaine: <i>The Rocket's Shadow</i> (G&D)	Anonymous	Milt Ehlert	1.00	Three misc. Alger paperbacks	Bob Huber	Angelo Sylvester	3.00
Ellis: <i>Ned in the Block House</i> (Cassell)	Bob Routhier	Angelo Sylvester	2.00	Three misc. pub. flying series books	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	4.00
Reid: <i>Flag of Distress</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	5.00	Wooden pictorial Alger plaque	Milt Ehlert	Ken Broadie	37.00
Reid: <i>Bruin; The Bear Hunt</i>	Bob Routhier	Mike Morley	15.00	Two <i>Saddle Boys</i> books (C&L)	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	3.00
Reid: <i>Afloat in the Forest</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	3.00	Kingston: <i>Powder Monkey to Admiral</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	7.00
<i>Ballads of Bravery</i> (L&S, 1870)	Rob Kasper	Bob Petitto	10.00	Hancock: <i>Gram. School Boys of Gridley</i>	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	16.00
Mayes: Alger biography (1928)	Bill Gowen	Juanita Durkin	12.00	<i>The Poetical Works of Milton</i>	Mike Morley	Bob Sipes	7.00
<i>The Young Book Agent</i> (G&D)	Bill Gowen	Barry Schoenborn	15.00	Patchin: <i>The Battleship Boys at Sea</i>	Mike Morley	Angelo Sylvester	1.00
<i>The Young Musician</i> (Penn, reprint)	Bill Gowen	Ken Broadie	75.00	Three souvenir pins, 2000 convention	Carol Nackenoff	Art Smitter	2.00
<i>Joe the Hotel Boy</i> (G&D)	Bill Gowen	Angelo Sylvester	10.00	Five misc. boys' books	Bart Nyberg	Juanita Durkin	1.00
Bill Crider: <i>Cursed to Death</i>	Larry Rice	Juanita Durkin	18.00	Three misc. comic books	Brad Chase	Juanita Durkin	1.00
24 misc. U.S. plate blocks (1960s)	John Juvinall	Bob Petitto	20.00	Two misc. boys' books	Mike Morley	Bob Kersch	5.00
Five Alger reprints (misc. publishers)	Lee Switzer	Barry Schoenborn	1.00	Pewter plate, Great Seal of the U.S.	Lee Switzer	Bob Kersch	9.00
Four misc. H. Irving Hancock books	Bart Nyberg	Bob Sipes	5.00	Recordings from Edison cylinders	John Juvinall	Milt Ehlert	6.00
<i>Helping Himself</i> (M.A. Donohue)	Milt Ehlert	Barry Schoenborn	4.00	Recordings from Edison cylinders	John Juvinall	Bob Sipes	6.00
Gardner: Alger bio/biblio. (1st ed.)	Milt Ehlert	Lee Switzer	16.00	Recordings from Edison cylinders	John Juvinall	Jeff Looney	6.00
<i>Strive and Succeed</i> (H. Alger Assoc.)	Rolfe Chase	Mike Morley	14.00	Beadle: <i>Ham, Eggs, and Corn Cake</i>	Bill Gowen	Carol Nackenoff	6.00
<i>Ragged Dick</i> (Whitman)	Milt Ehlert	Angelo Sylvester	3.00	Beadle: <i>Ham, Eggs, and Corn Cake</i>	Bill Gowen	Ken Broadie	6.00
Three misc. Algers (M.A. Donohue)	Lee Switzer	Angelo Sylvester	3.00	Beadle: <i>Ham, Eggs, and Corn Cake</i>	Bill Gowen	Jeff Looney	6.00
<i>The Canal Boy Who Became President</i>	Rob Kasper	Angelo Sylvester	5.00	Beadle: <i>Ham, Eggs, and Corn Cake</i>	Bill Gowen	Bob Petitto	6.00
Leisure Hour Library, 16 issues	Bob Routhier	Bob Sipes	8.00	Beadle: <i>Ham, Eggs, and Corn Cake</i>	Bill Gowen	Art Smitter	6.00
Two Goldsmith boys' books (d/j)	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	2.00				
Three Bird Boys books (Donohue)	Bart Nyberg	Angelo Sylvester	2.00				

Total lots: 80

Total bids: \$875.00

On to Omaha!

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enjoyed breakfast on their own, either at the hotel's breakfast buffet or nearby restaurants.

With breakfast finished, it was time to head to the hotel's Executive Place Room for the morning program. President Bob Routhier made the traditional welcoming remarks, and Mary Ann Nyberg welcomed everyone to Omaha and also gave an update on Bart's status.

Routhier turned the floor over to the morning's presenters. *Newsboy* editor Bill Gowen talked on "William O. Stoddard: From White House to Author," discussing how this upstate New York native, born in 1835, first met Abraham Lincoln while working as a newspaper editor in Champaign, Illinois, and subsequently followed the career of Lincoln the lawyer and politician, eventually joining him in Washington, D.C., as a secretary following the 1860 presidential election.

The talk included not only Stoddard's brief term with the Virginia militia and his nearly four years in the White House, but his second career as an author, mainly of books for young people. His writing career took off in the late 1860s following a move to New York City, and continued for nearly four decades. The talk was illustrated with PowerPoint projections of photos of Stoddard and of many of his most important books.

Former H.A.S. President Bob Huber gave a presentation titled "Boy Scout Literature," also accompanied by digital slides, which illustrated many of the popular (and not so popular) Boy Scout series and non-series books of the early decades of the 20th century.

Following a discussion session with both presenters, President Routhier called the annual H.A.S. business meeting to order, beginning with his introduction of new members Bob Petitto (PF-1086), from Carol Stream, Illinois; and Barry Schoenborn (PF-1087), from Nevada City, California.

The first order of business was the official vote for the site of the 2007 convention, proposed for Shelbyville, Indiana, and hosted by Bob and Wendy Sipes. A motion was made, seconded, and a voice vote approved Shelbyville as the location, with the projected dates of May 3-6, 2007. Shelbyville is located about a half-hour drive southeast of Indianapolis.

Executive Director Robert E. Kasper read the annual membership report, as submitted at the Board of Directors meeting. It included a total membership of 166, with 132 Regular members, one Sustaining member, 12 Life members, 11 Honorary members and 10 Libraries.

Kasper also discussed the ongoing effort to boost membership, including the possibility of adding a PayPal link to the official H.A.S. Internet site in order to help

attract new members and to provide existing members a more convenient means of paying annual dues.

In further discussion of the **Strive and Succeed Award**, Mike Morley brought up the fact that in 2005 and 2006, his employer, eBay, Inc., had provided a matching gift, which allowed for a \$1,000 total stipend to the recipient. However, with his move to Nevada he no longer works for eBay, and that particular gift will no longer exist. He urged that members check with their employers, since the Horatio Alger Society is incorporated as a 501(c) not-for-profit organization. As such, it is eligible to receive matching donations from employers who offer that program. The directors confirmed that the current \$1,000 gift should be maintained for as long as the Society has sufficient financial resources.

President Bob Routhier also brought before the membership the previous day's discussion among the directors of having former convention hosts contact their **Strive and Succeed Award** winners (or their high school counselors) for updates on their college and professional careers. Hopefully, this information would then appear in *Newsboy* on a periodic basis.

In the absence of Treasurer Chris DeHaan, Executive Director Robert E. Kasper presented the annual Treasurer's Report to the membership. Highlights are included in Board of Directors meeting report on Page 12, and the complete Treasurer's Report is reproduced on Page 13.

The previous day's discussion of the frequency of publication for *Newsboy* was brought up to the membership, along with the Board of Directors' decision to maintain the current six issues per year as long as practicable.

The main item on the agenda was the election of officers. The nominating committee's slate was as follows: for President, Michael Morley; for Vice President, Larry Rice; For Treasurer, Christine DeHaan. For Board of Directors, with three-year terms to expire in 2009 — Bernard A. Biberdorf, Kyoko Amano and Carol Nackenoff, with Brad Chase nominated to fill the final year of Rice's term on the board.

President Routhier opened the floor for additional nominations. There were none, and the full slate was elected by acclamation. Routhier then thanked the three outgoing directors for their three years of service: Bart Nyberg, David Yarrington and Arthur Smitter.

Following a brief discussion of the afternoon schedule for the annual auction, new H.A.S. President Michael Morley adjourned the meeting at about noon.

The annual buffet-style luncheon followed immediately in the hotel's Cedar Street Grille.

Immediately following lunch, the auction committee brought the auction items to the Executive Place Room for the afternoon's main event: the selling of more than

120 lots of books and memorabilia, including consignments and donations.

The auction got under way at about 1:20 p.m., with auctioneers Bob Routhier, Larry Rice and Bob Huber briskly moving through the numerous items. This year's "high winning bid" honors went to a Gardner first edition of *Ragged Dick*, consigned by Huber and sold to Barry Schoenborn for \$460. Second-high honors went to a collection of 50 issues of *Golden Argosy*, consigned by Bob Petitto and bought by Huber for \$300. In all, the donation auction raised \$875, and the Society's commission from the consignments totaled \$405.20, earning the Society a grand total of \$1,280.20. (Complete auction results can be found on Pages 16-17).

By late afternoon, the auctions had concluded and members had about an hour of free time to gather in the hospitality suite, and to prepare to leave the comfort of the hotel for the drizzly Omaha weather and a trip via car pools to the nearby Sam & Louie's New York Pizzeria. Waiting for us was a buffet-style dinner of pizza (of course), pasta and salads. Sam & Louie's proved to be a wonderfully spacious, informal place with friendly service and a buffet line continually replenished with hot entrees and delicious desserts.

For the remainder of Friday evening, the hospitality suite remained open, with members stopping by for conversation, Internet surfing and the like.

Saturday, April 29

The hotel's Atrium Deli was open early for breakfast, with other nearby options for breakfast available as nearby as a walk across the parking lot. Meanwhile, members were setting up the Executive Place Room for the annual H.A.S. book sale, which began at 9 a.m. and ran for about two hours.

Free time began following the sale, including lunch at local restaurants, either nearby in midtown Omaha or in The Old Market. Again, plenty of time was available to visit bookstores and antique malls (several as far away as Lincoln, home of the University of Nebraska), as well as such famous attractions as the Henry Doorly Zoo or the Strategic Air Command Museum. Of course, the ever-present steady rain accompanied all such ventures away from the hotel.

Saturday evening's traditional highlight is the annual Horatio Alger Society banquet, with this year's event (held in the Executive Place Room) centered around the presentation of the annual **Strive and Succeed Award**. This year's recipient was Ashley Burks, a senior high school resident of Omaha's Girls and Boys Town.

Mary Ann Nyberg introduced Ashley as follows:

"When Ashley Burks arrived at Girls and Boys Town in June of 2003, she was a girl without hope. Academically, Ashley was not successful. She frequently did not go to school. When she was at school, she



Ashley Burks, a senior at Omaha's Girls and Boys Town, proudly holds her *Strive and Succeed Award* certificate after being presented with the honor by convention host Mary Ann Nyberg. Photo by Wendy Sipes

couldn't get along with teachers or her peers, which resulted in numerous suspensions. Her freshman year in high school resulted in mostly D's and F's. Ashley's personal life was no better. Her father was not part of the family. Ashley and her mom fought often. She had spent time in detention treatment facilities, and foster placement. Unfortunately, none of these had a lasting positive impact on her. She needed a change.

"Since arriving at Girls and Boys Town, Ashley has turned her life around. She is known as a person of great character and a leader of the senior class. In January of this year she was inducted into the National Honor Society. She works two jobs, holds a position of leadership on the NJROTC drill team, and maintains a GPA that is just under a 4.0. Ashley strives to be involved in school life. She is a member of the chess club, student council and HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America). By the end of the school year, Ashley should have her Certified Nursing Assistant license. Ashley has worked hard to achieve the many successes she has had at Girls and Boys Town. She is respected by her peers and by her teachers. She has been accepted to Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph, Mo., where she will pursue

(Continued on Page 20)



Bob Huber, Rob Kasper and Jeff Looney relax at Sam and Louie's New York Pizzeria.

Photo by Wendy Sipes



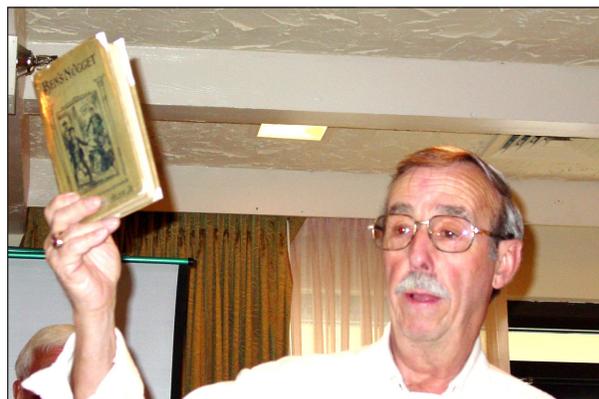
Carol Nackenoff and Lee Switzer take a break prior to the annual H.A.S. business meeting.

Photo by Wendy Sipes



Mike Morley and Rolfe Chase discuss Alger (what else?).

Photo by Wendy Sipes



Bob Routhier asks for an opening bid on a dust-jacket copy of *Ben's Nugget*.

Photo by Juanita Durkin

On to Omaha!

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a career in nursing."

Ashley then was presented with a certificate, a copy of Alger's *Strive and Succeed*, and most significantly, a check for \$1,000, to assist with her college expenses.

The banquet also traditionally includes the annual H.A.S. awards, and this year's recipients were as follows:

- The Carl Hartmann Luck and Pluck Award was presented to 2005 convention co-hosts Arthur and Linda Smitter, Dave and Maybelle Yarrington, Milt and Carol Ehlert and Christine and Doug DeHaan.

- The Richard Seddon Award was presented to Gordon W. Huber (PF-843).

- The President's Award was presented to Bernard

A. Biberdorf (PF-524).

- The Newsboy Award was presented to Newsboy Editor Bill Gowen (PF-706).

Executive Director Robert E. Kasper announced the official auction results, with this year's net proceeds of \$1,280.20 surpassing the 2005 total by just over \$172.

To close the festivities, newly elected H.A.S. President Mike Morley was officially introduced by outgoing President Bob Routhier.

The remainder of the evening was spent socializing in the hospitality suite and throughout the hotel.

Sunday, April 30

The annual farewell buffet-style breakfast at the Atrium Deli provided an opportunity to get together one last time before wishing each other well and hoping we'll all meet again next spring in Shelbyville Indiana.