The Robert C. Williams Paper Museum will present an exciting new exhibition opening October 12th thanks to a generous donation by Margaretta Hausman, who is also funded the teachers workshop in July “From Plants to Paper” (see pg 6 & 7 for details).

Celebrating the work of James Christian Schaffer, the exhibit will be a journey through his pursuit for alternative papermaking fibers in the 18th century. His work was monumental in a time when papermakers were struggling due to a scarcity of cotton and linen rags.

Schaffer’s work holds great significance in papermaking history, and this is an important exhibit for the museum. Schaffer documented all of his research and compiled them into six volumes of experiments complete with samples of his paper. Dr. Doug Stone had these rare and precious volumes translated from old German to English for the museum, one of the few locations to own the whole set. These volumes will be among the artifacts on display.

“The Paper Quest of Jacob Christian Schaffer” will be on display from October 12th to December 22nd. Please join us for the opening celebration on October 12th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.
The Friends of Dard Hunter

This year will be our twenty-fifth anniversary of the gathering as Friends and to mark this very special occasion, arrangements have been made for this year’s annual meeting to take place in Chillicothe, Ohio – the home of Dard Hunter. We are especially proud to have the R.C. Williams - Paper Museum house the Dard Hunter Collection. The museum has done an extraordinary job in preserving this very important collection and has made this research information available to scholars around the world. We would encourage you to attend this year’s annual meeting by going to our web-site (friendsofdardhunter.org) and print out the registration form or to simply find out more about the organization.

The scheduled dates for the annual meeting are from Thursday, October 19th through Saturday the 21st with optional pre-conference events planned for Wednesday, October the 18th and Thursday morning and afternoon on the 19th. The meeting will officially begin Thursday evening with the Anita Lynn Forgach Keynote presentation. Dard Hunter, III will be our site host and present a very unique opportunity for our members to visit Mountain House, Dard Hunter’s home and studio. Terry Belanger, Rare Book Preservationist, University Professor and Curator of Special Collections at the University of Virginia, will be this year’s 2006 Anita Lynn Forgach Keynote Speaker. Terry is a historian, collector, and protector of one of humankind’s greatest inventions: the book.

Friend, Sara Gilfert, who has exhibited at the Museum, will be hosting one of several pre-conference events. Paper Circle, founded by Sara Gilfert, is a not-for-profit studio and gallery located in the Historical Nelsonville Arts District. The Paper Circle’s gallery will have a selection of pieces from Dard Hunter’s Mountain House Archives on display. The exhibition will spotlight historical, examples of elaborately printed tapa and other papers, Hunter’s book Primitive Papermaking with original samples, and numerous items related to papermaking and printing history. The work of Eileen Wallace will be shown in conjunction with these unique items. Using handmade paper as a foundation for her work, Ms. Wallace’s exhibition will include sculptural books and wall pieces that are inspired by and reflect the historical work from the Hunter collection. The text concerning the annual meeting was written by our Executive Director, Marion “Betsy” Cluff and I would encourage everyone, if you are not a dual member of the Friends of Dard Hunter and the R.C. Williams Paper Museum to join us this year by contacting Betsy. Please visit our web-site for more information and I hope you will join us for our 25th anniversary gathering and will become involved in the “Friends.” I personally cannot think of a warmer group of people who care with the quality of human touch and the greatest invention to mankind – paper!

Rudy Kovacs

An American Artist Abroad in Sri Lanka

At the end of 24 hours of travel, I spent New Year’s Eve under mosquito netting in Sri Lanka. My first dazed journal entry starts out, “2 ideas: 1—for the artist’s book project w/ my Italian friends…2—forgot the other idea.” My goal for the trip was to meet Sri Lankan artists and exchange information with them, by means of lectures, pulp-painting workshops, and artists’ studio visits. Many locals had already seen my pulp paintings, two nearly 4’x8’ landscape works made of flax, at the Ambassador’s Residence exhibition during the previous two years. The artists, architects, papermakers there were excited about the medium and the possibilities for their own work. One professional papermaker mentioned that he was feeling, for the first time, courageous enough to try making something artistic.

For a pulp-painting workshop series at the University of Visual and Performing Arts I had prepared and brought materials from the US. To refit a light and roomy printmaking studio into one ready for papermaking, Manisha Samarasinghe and his Chakra paper company contributed studio equipment consisting of vats and molds-and-deckles, plus a beautiful banana fiber/recycled-paper pulp. Two papermakers, Thuliya Fonseka and Manjula Abeysooriya, kindly lent their press.

I worked all week with some outstanding, enthusiastic participants. I agreed with the students’ comments—that in the workshops, something exciting was taking place, outside their normal frame of reference, and many felt the process would certainly continue in the future. This was all an amazing adventure. Every day I appreciated the graciousness and enormous assistance provided to me by Ambassador Jeffrey Lunstead and his talented wife Deborah Sharpe-Lunstead, as well as the staff of the US Embassy. Working with the people of Sri Lanka, it was gratifying hearing them imply plans to take place “When you come next time…” As a matter of fact, I’d be ready to do that in no time flat!

©Lynn Sures 2006
The Dard Hunter Research Center Moves!

The Museum’s Permanent collection has been moved from the Dard Hunter Research Center on 14th Street to our newly renovated Dard Hunter Research Center on 10th Street.

It was a huge undertaking for the museum and took over 3 months to get the collection moved! The best part is we are more accessible for researchers now.
Today there are many among us who glance at our gardens with a curious eye towards the type of unique papers we can make from the plants. But what must it have been like to be one of those mid-1700’s pioneers in search of alternative fibers to replace the incredible linen and cotton rag shortage that threatened papermakers “back in the day!” Hundreds of years before the many recipes of Lillian Bell and the clear guidance of Helen Heibert could be found on local bookshelves, Jacob Christian Shaffer embarked upon an eight year odyssey (1763 – 1772,) of experimenting with over sixty different plants from his garden and local fields. He left a seven volume treatise with accompanying paper samples that led the way for later experimenters to be successful.

The second week in July, I had the incredible privilege to work at the Robert C. Williams Paper Museum with eight adult students, learning about Dr. Shaffer and attempting to somewhat “follow in his footsteps” making a variety of plant fiber papers. On the first day of the week-long workshop, Cindy Bowden, Teri Williams and Fran Rottenburg introduced students to the Museum and the history of papermaking in the old and new worlds. Cindy gave the group a special glimpse of the Rare Book Collection, and Juan Chevere had everyone building their very own wonderful moulds and deckles.

As I arrived at the Museum it was difficult to contain my joy upon viewing the new George W. Mead Paper Education Center with its premier and comprehensive exhibit, “From Hand to Machine: the Evolution of Papermaking.” But I was drawn immediately to the equipped classroom/studio where I would be spending the next four days. Here was a papermaker/educator’s dream space, complete with a brand new Reina Hollander beater, great sinks, vat tables, a big press, marble drying rack, and lots of tables, counters and storage spaces. What a treat! Everyone had the opportunity to participate in the various steps of fiber preparation. We steamed Rose of Sharon twigs, then stripped them, cooked them in caustic and hand beat them to a pulp. We snipped banana leaves and cooked them as well. We gave that new Hollander a workout, beating cotton and abaca as our foundation fibers, then adding day lily leaves, jobe’s tears, cattail seed hair and stalk fibers, down of thistle, orchid leaves and other delights! We hand beat the milkweed and dogbane fibers and set up eastern vats for them and the Rose of Sharon. After everyone made plain samples sheets from each fiber, I pigmented some well-beaten cotton fiber and we worked with layers of color, stencils and inclusions.

The week of papermaking, sharing, creativity and friendship passed way too quickly. Juan Chevere kept the studio humming and somehow kept up with our fiber frenzy. The steadfast interns were busy with filling, emptying, carrying, watching pots boil, and lots of clean-up! What an outstanding team! The students made some beautiful papers and shared exciting ideas. The space was a pure joy to work in. We all agreed we are looking forward to revisiting the Museum when the Jacob Christian Shaffer Exhibit is up, October 12 – December 22nd, ’06.

Winnie Radolyn
The Tumba Paper Mill Museum of Stockholm

On a recent visit to Stockholm, Sweden, I had the pleasure of visiting the Tumba Paper Mill Museum, situated in the town of Tumba, a Stockholm suburb. The museum was reopened in June, 2005 after extensive renovation. Three of the museum’s four buildings are new. The main building houses an exhibition which tells the story of the development of Sweden’s banknote and the history of papermaking from the 17th century to the present, as well as, a conference room, a café and a museum shop. There is a building devoted to hand papermaking which is beautifully fitted out with molds and a vat, and couching and drying stations. One of the buildings recreates the living quarters of the original paper mill and tells the personal stories of several generations of papermakers who lived in this community. The farmstead of Tumba was bought by the Central Bank of Sweden in 1755 to enable the Swedish state to take control of currency production and halt counterfeiting. In 1758, the Dutch brothers Jan and Erasmus Mulder were invited to Tumba to head the paper mill which produced currency paper. The Tumba Paper Mill developed its own community which included a school, shop and factory.

In 2002, Crane & Co., maker of all United States currency paper, bought Riksbank currency operations, from the Swedish national Bank. The Tumba Paper Mill Museum, which functions under the Royal Coin Cabinet and is financed by the foundation “Tumba Bruk”, is situated next to Crane AB, the currency production company, in this historic setting. Fran Rottenberg

To find out more about the Tumba Paper Mill Museum visit their website at: [www.tumbabruksmuseum.se](http://www.tumbabruksmuseum.se)

L-R: Elin Ekeroth, Museum Assistant; Richard Kjellgren, Museum Director; Gunnar Stahl, Master Papermaker; Fran Rottenberg, Education Curator for the Robert C. Williams Paper Museum

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**Paper around the Globe!**

How much do you know about papermaking around the world? Test your knowledge of papermaking landmarks with the latest Paper Trail puzzle! Be sure to also read the articles in this edition about a paper workshop in Sri Lanka and a visit to a paper mill in Sweden!

**ACROSS**

1. Country home to Jacob Christian Schaffer
2. Region in Asia that continues to make paper books in the same shape as their ancient palm-leaf books
3. Country famous for using Papyrus before the invention of paper
4. City in Italy famed for innovation in watermarks
5. Country where the sugeta is used
6. State of the first paper mill in the US
7. City in Italy famed for innovation in watermarks
8. State leading in US paper production for over 45 years (also original home of the IPST)
9. US State home to Elbert Hubbard’s Roycrofters

**DOWN**

1. Country home to Jacob Christian Schaffer
2. Region in Asia that continues to make paper books in the same shape as their ancient palm-leaf books
3. State leading in US paper production for over 45 years (also original home of the IPST)
4. Country famous for using Papyrus before the invention of paper
5. Country where the sugeta is used
Register Now for Exciting Workshops!

In addition to the *Advanced Japanese Papermaking* workshop that is scheduled for January, there are three other exciting workshops planned for this winter that we hope you will be able to attend! General information regarding parking, reservation, contact, and payment information for all workshops held at the Paper Museum is detailed on Page 7. For your convenience, we have included a registration form on the following page. You may also make reservations via telephone or email.

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**From Plants to Paper**

Join Mona Waterhouse, expert teacher and papermaker, and experiment with alternative fibers. Make your own unique papers using a variety of plants and grasses.

*Event Information:*
*Days: Saturday, October 21, 2006*
*Time: 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm*
*Cost: $45 per person*
*Reserve by Wednesday, October 18, 2006*

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**Discover the Art of Basic Decorative Papermaking**

Participants will experiment with traditional and modern papermaking techniques under the guidance of papermaker Katy DeMent. We will examine ancient papermaking and the history of the craft through the ages. Projects include the forming of sheets of paper with a variety of fibers, mold and deckle building, the creation of “wet on wet” collages that include mementos from home, and production of a variety of handmade note cards, pulp paintings and sculptural pieces. Surface design, composition, and use of color and texture while creating sheets of recycled paper are important elements in the class.

*Event Information:*
*Day: Tuesdays, October 10 - November 14, 2006*
*Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm*
*Supplies: All supplies are included. (See supply fee below)*
*Costs: $150 per person + 15$ supply fee*

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**Advanced Japanese Papermaking**

Papermakers who have enjoyed our beginning Japanese papermaking workshops are invited to join Berwyn Hung to learn more advanced techniques. This is an advanced level workshop for papermakers who have some washi experience.

*Event Information:*
*Day: Saturday, January 13, 2007*
*Time: 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm*
*Supplies: All supplies are included. (See supply fee below)*
*Costs: $45 per person*
**WORKSHOP RESERVATION FORM**

Name: ___________________________  Address: ___________________________
Telephone: ______________________  Email: ____________________________

**Step 1:** Note preferences for upcoming workshops.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Attendee</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decorative Papermaking</td>
<td>Participants (with supply fees)</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>$165.00</td>
<td>$</td>
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<td>Tues. Oct 10-Nov 14</td>
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<td>From Plants To Paper</td>
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<td>Saturday, Oct 21</td>
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<td>Adv. Japanese Papermaking</td>
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**Step 2:** Designate method of payment.

- [ ] I am enclosing a check, made payable to Georgia Tech.
- [ ] I am paying by credit card. Please charge to: 
  - Visa  
  - Mastercard  
  - American Express

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Credit Card Number    Exp. Date  Signature

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**Step 3:** Mail this registration form with payment in full to:

The Robert C. Williams Paper Museum
Attn: Fran Rottenberg
500 10th Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30332-0620

**Note:** Payment must be received in full on the Wednesday before a Saturday Workshop.
Parking is provided in the lot next to the museum for all workshop Participants.
Museum Events
Winter 2006-2007

WORKSHOPS

Please call Fran Rottenberg, Education Curator, at (404) 894-5726 for more information and to make reservations. Additional details found on Page 4.

Discover the Art of Basic Decorative Papermaking
Tuesdays, October 10 - November 14, 2006
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm $150 per person + $15 supply fee

From Plants to Paper
Saturday, October 21, 2006
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm $45 per person
Reserve by Wednesday, October 18, 2006

Advanced Japanese Papermaking
Saturday, January 13, 2007
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm $45 per person
Reserve by Wednesday, January 10, 2007

GIFT SHOP SALES

Halloween Sale
Tuesday, October 31, 2006 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Christmas Sale
Thursday, December 21, 2006 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Valentine’s Day Sale
Tuesday, February 13, 2007 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

EXHIBITS

Watermarks: The Hidden Art
July 20, 2006 – September 22, 2006
Explore the hidden world of watermarks in this exhibit featuring watermarks from around the world. Light and shade (3-D style) watermarks, Chinese stencil watermarks of dragons, and intricate European line watermarks are only a few examples in the pieces in this fun exhibition.

The Paper Quest of Jacob Christian Schäffer
October 12, 2006 – December 22, 2006
A Renaissance man during the 1700s, Jacob Christian Schäffer completed seven volumes of experiments using plants to make paper. These German volumes contain recipes for using cabbage stalks, wasp nests, and even asbestos to make paper.
Previous Newsletter’s Puzzle

Rags to Riches Answer:

RAGS MAKE PAPER,
PAPER MAKES MONEY,
MONEY MAKES BANKS,
BANKS MAKE LOANS,
LOANS MAKE BEGGARS,
BEGGARS MAKE RAGS.

Did you figure out this cryptogram in the last Paper Trail?

Gift Shop News

This season’s featured item is our combination photo album and memory book. This beautiful book features a handmade paper cover boasting a delicate floral design. The album contains 30 sheets (a total of 60 pages) and an adjustable screw post binding for ease in adding pages. The sheets are 9¼” X 10¼” allowing you to insert relatively large photos. Come in today and claim yours while supplies last!

Look on page 9 for more information on Gift Shop Sales!

Paper Shreds:

Newsy Tidbits

75th Anniversary Book

Exciting News!
The 75th Anniversary Book project has been making great strides and is set to be released this Christmas! We are very excited about the nearly finished product. Thanks to everyone who has contributed this commemorative book!

Japan Foundation

Fran Rottenberg received a donation from the Japan Foundation to support the fifth grade classes from two schools, Mount Clair Elementary and Laurel Ridge Elementary, to attend a workshop on washi papermaking, history and culture. Berwyn Hung will be teaching the papermaking and two Emory Japanese scholars, Dr. Mark Ravina and Dr. Cheryl Crowley, are preparing materials on life in Japanese villages. Also we would like to thank Jessica Cork from the Japanese Consulate Generals office for her help with this project.
A recent article in *The Quarterly*, The Journal of the British Association of Paper Historians, by Christine Harrison described the life of Schäffer, his experiments with alternative papermaking fibers, and his determined scientific pursuit of renewable resources to produce a variety of papers. The mid-eighteenth century was a time of hardship for many European countries, Germany especially, due to war and a shortage of food supplies. It was also a time of impassioned scientific experimentation, notably in the search for raw materials to meet the increasing demand for books and printed information on paper.

According to Dard Hunter, Schäffer experimented with over 40 varieties of plant material, producing 95 specimens of these papers, both in his own workshop and in the local paper mill. The materials he used were not very helpful to the papermaking industry, as they were often not readily available in the quantities necessary to produce paper on a large scale. Schäffer's experiments, however, were never intended to focus on commercially viable raw materials. Instead, his mission was to encourage other scientists and papermakers to broaden their outlook, to experiment in their own mills and discover for themselves new papermaking fibers. The shortage of rags had become acute by the 1860's, and Schäffer's biggest contribution was focusing Europe papermakers on alternative fibers. Moreover, Schäffer encouraged the use of plants to make cheaper grades of paper, producing disposable wrapping papers, storage and protective cartons, thereby saving rags for fine printing.

Although he was criticized on two occasions for his enquiries, Schäffer's reputation for openness, scientific curiosity and a willingness to share his successes and failures with others made him a respected figure in many fields. His introductions to the six volumes of his papermaking books often critiqued his own attempts, detailing how a professional papermaker could improve on his own experiments. Despite these seemingly accurate descriptions of the materials and methods used, there remains a mystery concerning the actual fibers used in Schäffer's paper specimens.

In 1898, a highly respected scientist, Wilhelm Herzberg, obtained a copy of Schäffer's six volumes, plus the two volumes in Dutch. He published a small book, comparing Schäffer's written statements about his specimens and his own fiber analysis of the volumes loaned to him for testing. To his surprise, Herzberg found almost no correlation to what Schäffer said was in the specimens and what his own tests showed. Herzberg concluded that the paper mill assistants must have altered the pulps when making specimens for Schäffer. Herzberg was convinced that Schäffer would never have knowingly misrepresented his experiments. Echoing this idea, Henk Voorn, noted paper historian, wrote in 1950 that probably no one will ever solve the riddle of Herzberg's findings versus Schäffer's detailed descriptions.

One possible explanation for this discrepancy is currently being explored: that the early editions of Schäffer's volumes contained a different set of samples than the later volumes. The first two single volumes were published in 1765. The later editions (Two in One volume, Six in One volume, two single volumes in Dutch) were published in 1770, 1771 and 1772. By this later date, Schäffer was writing books on completely different topics. He could possibly have delegated the production of later specimens to the local papermaker, Meckenhausener. (see photographs to compare/contrast different specimens from three different volumes (single volume, 2 in 1 volume, Dutch edition).

The Paper Museum at Georgia Tech University graciously allowed a private paper research firm to analyze microscopic samples of eight pages from the first two single volumes, the later Two in One volume edition, and the Dutch edition, all originally collected by Dard Hunter. A paper is planned to describe the tests, analyze the translated text of all six volumes, including a synopsis of the Dutch edition, in hopes of discovering a correlation between what Schäffer wrote and possible variations in the specimens produced in the various editions.

The exhibition beginning Oct. 12, 2006 in Atlanta at the paper museum is the starting point for this investigation into Schäffer's experiments, focusing on the history of developing alternative papermaking fibers in Europe. It is hoped that study of the various editions of Schäffer's volumes, owned by various libraries and private collectors around the world, will shed further light on the mystery of Schäffer's papermaking specimens.
Contact Us!

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Do you have an idea for an interesting article?  
Have you had exciting papermaking experiences?  
If so, we would like to hear from you!  
Please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Atlanta, GA  30332-0620