



The Chaucer Newsletter

A Publication of the New Chaucer Society

Volume 18, Number 1

Spring, 1996

Offers to Host The 1998 Congress Invited

The Society welcomes invitations from members whose institutions would be interested in hosting the 1998 International Congress. We have received a few invitations, and solicit further proposals. The Trustees will decide on a site for the Eleventh International Congress at the 1996 Trustees' meeting that will be held just prior to this year's congress in Los Angeles. Members wishing to make invitations should present them to the Executive Director by June 15, 1996, to allow the Trustees ample time to review the choices.

Christian Zacher, Executive Director
New Chaucer Society
Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Ohio State University
1841 Millikin Road
Columbus, OH 43210-1229
fax: (614) 292-1599

UPDATE: ATTRACTIONS OF LOS ANGELES

As you may have noted in the Program for the Tenth International Congress (July 26-29, 1996), the J. Paul Getty Museum will host a reception for congress attendees on the afternoon and evening of July 28. During the reception attendees will have the opportunity to view an exhibit entitled "Illuminating the Mind's Eye: Memory and Medieval Book Arts." Tom Kren, curator of MSS at the museum, says the exhibit will show that manuscript illumination, in addition to enhancing the beauty of a folio, was largely used as a mnemonic device. Several very famous manuscripts will be on display, ranging from the twelfth to the fifteenth century. Though the exhibit will not be very extensive, it should be spectacular.

The Autumn 1995 Chaucer Newsletter (17.2) provided a list of local points of interest for members attending the Los Angeles Congress in July. At the time the newsletter was produced, many of the venues listed had not yet made public their 1996 schedules. The following list of the updated information comes courtesy of the congress's co-chairperson for local arrangements, Edward Condren of UCLA.

Museums

Museum of Contemporary Art
(Continued on p. 4)

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**NEH Funds
MS Catalog Project**

Kathleen L. Scott, an independent scholar from Amherst, MA; Michael T. Orr, associate professor of art history at Lawrence University, Appleton, WI; Martha W. Driver, professor of English at Pace University, Pleasantville, NY; and Ann Eljenholm Nichols, professor of English at Winona State University, Winona, WI have been awarded a \$102,650 research grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities to study illustrations and other pictorial representations in English manuscript books from the late Middle Ages to the early Renaissance period. The grant will fund the research project, which will be conducted in the British Isles and North America, for two years. During their research, the four scholars will catalog the pictorial contents of English manuscripts from between 1380 and c.1525 and produce a series of indices for all illustrations in English MSS from the period. The illustrations will be indexed in a variety of ways, including by subject, by date, by MS author/title, and

by repository location. The project will result in the first comprehensive survey of pictorial subject matter in late fourteenth-, fifteenth-, and early sixteenth-century English MSS and should prove useful to scholars working in a variety of disciplines related to medieval studies. Scott, an authority on English MS illustration of the fifteenth century and a member of the NCS, will direct the project.

(This notice was contributed by Rick Peterson, Manager of News Services, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI.)

**Special Thanks
for Assistance**

The Secretary for Membership and Finance would like to thank the members who responded to the "plea for assistance" published in the Autumn 1995 Newsletter. Emerson Brown, Mary Joan Cook, Delmar C. Homan, Robert Kinpointer, and Karl Zink kindly offered their copies of volume 3 of the Chaucer Newsletter to fill a gap in the Society's archive.

**Conference
Announcements**

The Ninth International Conference of the Spanish Society for English Medieval Language and Literature (SELIM) will be held 26-28 September, 1996 at the University of the Basque Country (U.P.V./E.H.U.). For more information contact Margarita G. Bon, U.P.V./E.H.U., Facultad de Filologia, Geografia, e Historia, Dept. Filologia Inglesa, Marques de Urquijo, s/n, 01006 Vitoria-Gasteiz, España; email: fipgibon@vh.ehu.es.

The 1996 meeting of the Medieval Association of the Midwest will take place October 11-12 at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, IN. David Aers will be the plenary speaker. Call for papers deadline is June 1, 1996. For more information, contact Harriet Hudson, Dept. of English, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809.



LA Update (cont. from p.1)
(213) 626-6222

250 S. Grand Ave., south of West
1st St. (Downtown LA)

March 17, 1996-July 28, 1996
"Hall of Mirrors: Art and Film
Since 1945."

April 21, 1996-August 11, 1996
"Ed Moses: A Retrospective of
Paintings and Drawings 1951-
1996."

June 30, 1996-November 3, 1996
"Kineholz: A Retrospective."
July 28, 1996-April 13, 1997 "Art
in Los Angeles: Selections from
the Permanent Collection."

Armand Hammer Museum

(310) 443-7000
10899 Wilshire Blvd. at Westwood
Blvd.

April 24, 1996-August 18, 1996
"Sexual Politics: Judy Chicago's
Dinner Party in Feminist Art
History."

Music and Theater



Hollywood Bowl/LA Philharmonic

(213) 850-2000
2301 N Highland Ave. (Hollywood)
The Summer Under the Stars series
is quite a tradition in Los
Angeles. Most of the audience
comes an hour early with their
box dinners and wine. The Bowl
staff is well set up for this,
providing quickly inserted tables
in the box-seat area and
comparable amenities for the
grandstand seats.

July 23, 1996 Yo Yo Ma and the LA
Philharmonic, Essa Pekka Salonen
conducting.

July 25, 1996 LA Philharmonic,
"Great Music from Russia," Essa
Pekka Salonen conducting.

July 26-27, 1996 Hollywood Bowl
Orchestra, "Tunes from Broadway;"
Carol Burnett, guest; John
Mauceri, conducting.

July 29, 1996 Chamber Music at
the nearby Ford Amphitheater.

July 30, 1996 The Magnificent
Kirov Orchestra (visiting from
Russia): Borodina; mezzo soprano;
Gergiev, conducting.

UCLA/Westwood Playhouse (UCLA's
connection with the professional
theatrical community will be dark
during the congress)

Alternatively:

The Ahmanson Theater

Carousel directed by Nicholas
Hynter, an Academy Award nominee
for *The Madness of King George*

The Mark Taper Forum

Changes of the Heart, adapted and
directed by Steven Wadsworth from
the play by the eighteenth
century French playwright
Marivaux.

Sports



The Los Angeles Dodgers are on a
road trip during the entire NCS
Congress. (cont. next p.)

The California Angels will play series with the Milwaukee Brewers July 25-28, 1996. The night games on July 25 and 26 begin at 7:05 pm, and the day games on July 27 and 28 at 1:05 pm. Anaheim Stadium is approximately 45 minutes from the Beverly Hilton.

Thoroughbreds are racing this time of year at Del mar Racetrack in San Diego, which is a two hour drive south of Los Angeles.

San Diego

If you make drive to San Diego, The following points of interest are also worth considering. The San Diego Zoo is one of the most renowned in the world. Part of the zoo's grounds reverse the traditional arrangement with animals out in the open and the visitors confined. San Diego also has splendid Seaworld, well worth the visit. Trained Killer Whales swim in unison, and dolphins put on a spectacular performance. Seaworld is located in an attractive park setting.

Edith Rickert Needs Your Assistance

Virginia Leland (Bowling Green State U) has brought it to the attention of the Society that Edith Rickert was buried in an unmarked grave, and Leland would like to ask whether other Chaucerians would join her in contributing to the purchase of a marker for Rickert's grave. The Secretary for Membership and Finance has been in touch with current proprietors of the cemetery (Oak Woods, 1035 East 67th Street, Chicago, Illinois), who confirm that Miss Rickert's grave is unmarked, and that she has no living kin. The Society is thus free to erect a monument

in memory of Rickert.

On behalf of Virginia Leland, we will accept and hold contributions from members until enough funds have been received to buy and install a marker. (The cemetery owners estimate that a modest monument can be purchased and erected for approximately \$600.) Members may contribute by sending their gift, along with brief identifying notes, to the Secretary at the Society office. When sufficient funds have been collected, the Secretary will consult with Leland and Oakwoods, and make arrangements for a marker. We will, of course, keep the membership informed of the progress of this project.

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U

Members interested in contributing to the Library of Charles University in Prague should contact Jan Cermak/Department of English & American Studies/Philosophical Faculty/Charles University/Jan Palacha 2/110 00 Praha 1/Czech Republic. Two Years ago the NCS Trustees donated a complete set of SAC to the University and many members of the Society remain interested in helping promote study of Chaucer and his time in Prague.

Newsletter Submissions

The New Chaucer Society accepts both computer and traditional printed submissions to the *Chaucer Newsletter*. If computerized, the submission may be in ASCII, Binary, or WP5.1 format; it must be stored on IBM compatible diskette, preferably three and one half inch. Computerized submissions should be accompanied by a hardcopy of the text. Please include your address, phone number, and e-mail address with any submissions.

The *Chaucer Newsletter*, distributed twice a year to New Chaucer Society members, is intended primarily as a vehicle of Society business. Its ephemeral nature makes it unsuitable for substantial articles, but we are always happy to publish discussions of research in progress and other activities of interest to Chaucerians. The Deadline for the Autumn issue is 1 September; for the Spring issue, 1 January. Send materials to Christian Zacher, Editor, or Bryan P. Davis, Assistant Editor, at the address below. You may also reach the NCS office by phone (614) 292-2061, by fax (614) 292-1599, or e-mail davis.498@osu.edu.

The New Chaucer Society

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

The Ohio State University

1841 Millikin Road

Columbus, Ohio 43210-1229

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