



# Well, it really is letterpress!

A few weeks ago a Letterpress Combo Kit had been making the rounds on various letterpress related lists. [Check it out here](#).

Like most folks active in letterpress I think their reaction was like mine: Good grief!!!

But after looking at it and thinking just a bit I thought to myself: all in all not a bad idea.

Why would I say that? Well, what set most of us off I am sure is the implication in the promotion that within minutes, you too can do letterpress printing.

First you must realize that this kit is aimed at scrapbook folks primarily.

Secondly, it hit me that the old Kelsey Company back in its early days made bold claims with their small 3x5 and 5x8 presses. I know those in commercial letterpress at the time had fits about the ads Kelsey and a



few others were putting out regarding their small presses and commercial printing.

I thought of that when I saw this latest "kit."

But something else hit me. Way back in my youth (I don't think I had even reached my teen years) I was introduced to the Swiftset Rotary Press (these are the "toy" presses that use rubber type, etc.). I was not

alone in this introduction, as it seems half of the APA membership once owned one of these presses.

These were indeed toys and I can only imagine what even the hobby letterpress printer at the time thought of them. Things were said I am sure in the same order of what is being said about this latest gizmo.

But the truth is, the Swiftset press is what really got me hooked on "printing" and it wasn't long before I was looking for a "real" press. Might not—in some instances—this be the same here? After working on this latest gadget, might not someone want to explore and do more with letterpress on a real press? Might it not be a tool to introduce even more to the total letterpress experience?

Let's not be so quick to turn out noses up!



# WAYZGOOSE REPORT

Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum held their first ever Wayzgoose on November 20-22. Wood type aficionados from around the country converged on the Two Rivers, Wisconsin site to partake in two days of seminars and fellowship. Included in that group were members Paul Aken and Bob Piontkowski. Special thanks to these gentlemen for their report and photos.



Left, a punch press used to stamp designs into blocks for boders. Above, a pattern is being traced while cutting a letter on the pantograph.

By PAUL AKEN

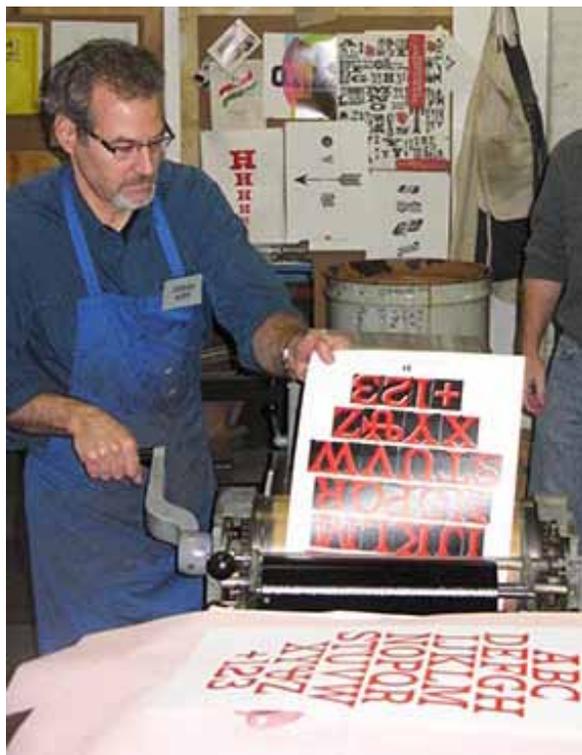
Over 80 attendees were welcomed to the Hamilton Wood Type Museum in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, on November 20th for their first Wayzgoose.

Rick Kegler, founder of P-22 Type Foundry gave the first talk of the evening on "The State of Type" or crossing the digital divide in the wrong direction. He explained the beginnings of P-22, current projects and including the release of both a digital and metal font of type designed by Jim Rimmer. He showed a short video of Jim designing, cutting patterns, and matrices and casting of type.

The next speaker was Juliet Shen, of Seattle who presented the process of designing of a new wood type alphabet for the Tulalip Tribes of their 500 year old language "Lushootseed" This patterns for this font were cut digitally and the wood type cut using the pantograph at Hamilton.

Before and after the presentations the attendees socialized, formed new and renewed old friendships.

Saturday consisted of four hour long simultaneous presentations that smaller groups of attendees rotated through. The first was given by Jim Moran who is the curator and archivist at Hamilton. "Saving the Globe Collection". The Globe collection



Photos starting at left and going counter-clockwise: Richard Zauft pulls a print of the black to complete the run with the new Matthew Carter wood typeface, "Carter Latin"; Cartin Latin on the press bed; First run and the finished run; Matthew Carter and a participant look over some of the overprinting effects with his new typeface.



consisted of many skids and boxes of poster cuts and type that were donated to the museum. They had been stored in a semi trailer for forty years in unorganized poor conditions. The museum has started to sort through and print the cuts for the posters and wood type from this company.

The next presentation was by Norb Brylski, a retired employee of Hamilton and now a volunteer at the museum. He explained the process of making wood type and demonstrated the use of the pantograph by cutting some letters including one from the "Lushootseed" alphabet.

Next, Paul Brown, an Associate Dean of Art, from Indiana University spoke on some of the "Treasures" at Hamilton including a Darius Wells font and how it came to the museum. He also spoke on the manufacture of wood borders that were made by Hamilton. These were done by stamping steel dies into wood in various patterns.

Lastly the attendees were given a chance to print a two color specimen sheet of the new wood font "Carter Wide." Mr. Carter was on hand to sign the sheets.

Saturday evening consisted of a dinner, round table discussion and film "Typeface." Sunday morning was the "poster exchange" for participants who brought posters.

A tremendous Wayzgoose that was well organized and interesting to all.



The Darius Wells font at the museum.



A finished block off of the pantograph. Two different letters that need to be saved apart.



Three large blocks from the Globe collection for a rodeo poster.



Steel stamps of designs used to make borders.



The 80 plus attendees listen with rapt attention to Rich Kegler of P22.

FROM THE PRESIDENT  
HOWIE GELBERT



What a great year for the APA! Let me just fill you in on some of the events.

The Wayzgoose in Iowa was very successful and informative. I could not attend, but kept in touch with Rick von Holdt and "the gang." My applause, to all of them. For those of you who attended, I am sure you will echo my sentiments as well.

Lets use this as a springboard for 2010! Austin Jones and his crew are gearing up for the 2010 Wayzgoose in West Virginia, June 10th. I have spoken to Austin and he has some great events planned, and new ideas of how to make this a wonderful weekend. Lets give him our support! Mark your calendars now. You can also offer to print for the 2010 Goose and if it goes in the bundle it will count as a contribution towards your four pieces.

I also want to thank Melanie Mauro of the Heirloom Press for taking on the

responsibilities of the large bundle mailing (posters). Speaking of the *Journal*, my thanks to Mike O'Connor, our Secretary Treasurer, for the great job he is doing with the *Journal*!

There also have been some changes made with regard to your APA board. Due to some personal reasons, Ezma Hanschka, has resigned from the position of vice-president. Ezma remains an active member of APA, and I thank her for time served. She will always be an asset to this fine organization. Jim Daggs has accepted the position of Vice-President. Jim had been a director of the APA. Leaving a director's spot open, Jessica Spring has agreed to fill this position. I welcome you all and appreciate your commitment to the APA.

One of the hardest jobs in the APA is that of mailer. Don Tucker, our mailer, works very hard to make sure you receive your bundles on time each month. We owe Don our thanks! It wouldn't hurt to let him know this from time to time! Please be sure to read your by-laws with regards to the requirements and regulations for your submissions. Be aware of sizes, types of printing and what the bundle sizes are and when! These are the rules- it is not the mailers doing! These rules will be enforced.

The end of the year is approaching and your bundle pieces will be counted. The

person, behind the scenes who does the counting is our Archivist, David Kent. David, thank you for all your help and a job well done. A thank you to our other directors, Ernie Blitzer and Dick Niehaus. As past presidents, we appreciate their vast knowledge.

I thank you all for your involvement in the APA and wish you and your families a happy holiday season! Please stay involved and print. Looking forward to a great APA 2010!

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## Christmas gifts? Check out APA items on Briar Press

**Briar Press** has posted some shop aprons, tote bags, mouse pads, coffee mugs, post-



age stamps and t-shirts with APA logos. The items with the APA logo can be found more easily by clicking APA on the left of the main page

under "Browse this Store." Be sure to take a look at this page and send in an order! Thanks Elizabeth.