



# 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 XXXVIII

MAY-JUNE 2000

NUMBER 3

Convention issue

## *In a New World in West Chester*

*Horatio's here!*

Horatio Alger, Jr., left, is  
joined by new president Carol  
Nackenoff, and outgoing  
president Arthur Young at the  
annual H.A.S. banquet  
in Chadds Ford, Pa.

Photo by Doug Fleming



Horatio Alger's appearance arranged through the American Historical Theatre, Philadelphia, Pa.

- ☆ Convention in review
- ☆ Annual financial report

- ☆ Complete auction results
- ☆ Registration list, photos and more

-- Coverage begins on Page 3

**Former H.A.S. president Bob Sawyer remembered**

-- See Page 2

**The seven habits of highly effective Horatio Alger heroes**

-- See Page 17

## Editor's notebook

Shortly after the March-April issue of *Newsboy* went to press, we were informed of the death of Robert E. Sawyer (PF-455), former president of the Horatio Alger Society and host of the 1983 H.A.S. convention, "Collected in Columbus."

Bob, who was 89 when he passed away in Columbus, Ohio, on March 22, was a longtime friend of your editor; in fact, he was the person who invited me to join the Society back in September, 1982. I still have his letter, which included the following:

"Many of our members collect Stratemeyer, that is, beside the Stratemeyer-Algers. I think it would be well worth your while to belong. I'll enclose one of our applications in case you are interested. However, please don't feel obligated."

In a later letter, Bob explained that he was to host the 1983 convention, and subsequently mailed me a copy of the convention preview issue of *Newsboy*.

I attended "Collected in Columbus" (it seems like yesterday), first getting to meet many of the Partic'lar Friends still active in the Society today. Total attendance at Bob's convention was 53 members and 60 guests.

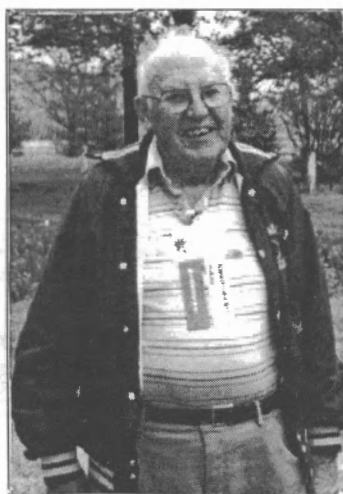
In subsequent years, I never failed to thank Bob for getting me to join, even though I was not a collector of Horatio Alger's books. I believe the idea of opening the Society to collectors of series books other than Alger got its impetus from Bob. He and I shared a common interest in the Rover Boys (although he was a big Alger enthusiast as well), and that's how our friendship grew.

In reading over the information sent me by Robert R. Sawyer, Bob's son, it's simply amazing the amount of time Bob spent in volunteer service to his community.

A few highlights of his personal and professional life:

Bob attained the rank of Eagle Scout in 1927 at age 16, earning 51 merit badges, more than twice the required

(Continued on Page 20)



**Bob Sawyer (PF-455) at the 1989 H.A.S. convention in Chillicothe, Ohio.**

## 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 — lads whose struggles epitomized the great American dream and flamed hero ideals in countless millions of young Americans.

### OFFICERS

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*Newsboy*, the official newsletter of the Horatio Alger Society, is published bi-monthly (six issues per year). Membership fee for any 12-month period is \$20, with single issues of *Newsboy* costing \$3.00. Please make all remittance payable to the Horatio Alger Society.

Membership applications, renewals, changes of address and other correspondence should be sent to **Horatio Alger Society, P.O. Box 70361, Richmond, VA 23255.**

*Newsboy* is indexed in the Modern Language Association's International Bibliography.

### BOOKS RECOMMENDED BY H.A.S.

- Horatio Alger, Jr., A Comprehensive Bibliography*, by Bob Bennett (PF-265); republished by MAD Book Co., 1999
- Horatio Alger or, The American Hero Era*, by Ralph D. Gardner (PF-053).
- The Fictional Republic: Horatio Alger and American Political Discourse*, by Carol Nackenoff (PF-921).
- Publication Formats of the 59 Stories by Horatio Alger, Jr. as Reprinted by the John C. Winston Co.*, by Bob Sawyer (PF-455) and Jim Thorp (PF-574).
- Horatio Alger Books Published by A.L. Burt*, by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- Horatio Alger Books Published by M.A. Donohue & Co.*, by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- Horatio Alger Books Published by Whitman Publishing Co.*, by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- Horatio Alger Books Published by The New York Book Co.*, by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- The Lost Life of Horatio Alger, Jr.*, by Gary Scharnhorst with Jack Bales (PF-258).

*Newsboy* ad rates: Full page, \$32.00; one-half page, \$17.00; one-quarter page, \$9.00; per column inch (1 inch deep by approx. 3 1/2 inches wide), \$2.00. Send ads, with check payable to Horatio Alger Society, P.O. Box 70361, Richmond, VA 23255.

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.

**Convention report**

# *In a New World in West Chester*

By William R. Gowen (PF-706)

**T**he spring weather was perfect as members of the Horatio Alger Society and their guests arrived at the Holiday Inn in historic West Chester, Pa., the first week of May for the 2000 H.A.S. convention, "In a New World in West Chester."

The registration officially began at 1 p.m. Thursday, May 4, although several members had arrived a few days in advance in order to do book and antique-hunting and visit the many places of historic interest in the Brandywine Valley.

The first official activity was the annual Board of Directors meeting, held in the hotel restaurant and presided over the President Arthur P. Young (see separate report on Page 10).

The remainder of the afternoon was spent renewing acquaintances with friends, many not having had an opportunity to see each other since the previous year's convention in DeKalb, Illinois.

The hospitality room was a beehive of activity throughout the weekend, but never more so than Thursday afternoon, when members and their guests stopped by to sign in, pick up their registration packets and souvenirs, and enjoy some refreshments. There was even time to make a quick trip to area book stores, as well as engage in the traditional hotel room wheeling-and-dealing for books among members who had brought along numerous "treasures" to trade or sell.

Early Thursday evening we headed to Swarthmore for an open house at the home of our convention host, Carol Nackenoff, and her husband, Jim Greer. This necessitated a car-pool arrangement to transport all the Partic'lar Friends and their families and guests for the 30-40 minute ride to the college town of Swarthmore. Somehow, we all managed to get our cars squeezed onto Carol and Jim's lovely corner lot on South Chester Road. Once inside the beautiful Victorian-style house, we had plenty of room to roam around, look at Carol's Alger collection and enjoy refreshments, along with a buffet-style dinner and dessert. This annual event has become one of the favorites among regular convention-goers.

After the dinner broke up at around 9 p.m., the car pools headed back to West Chester where we continued to socialize well into the evening.

On Friday, May 5, the major event scheduled in the morning was the special consignment book auction, which had been set up in the meeting room Thursday night. Prior to the auction was the Society's annual seminar session, with Ralph Carlson (PF-955) giving a



**Horatio Alger, Jr., makes a guest appearance at the annual H.A.S. banquet in Chadds Ford, Pa.**

Photo by Doug Fleming; Horatio Alger's appearance arranged through the American Historical Theatre, Philadelphia, Pa.

slide presentation on how Horatio Alger and his strive-and-succeed philosophy still exists today in society, in particular, the business and marketing worlds. The slides included numerous examples of Horatio Alger references in print advertising, along with newspaper and magazine articles.

The special consignment auction consisted of 103 lots of Alger books (including 34 first editions) and serial publications of his stories. This auction, conducted by Ed Mattson, raised a commission of \$513.15 for the Society (for complete results of all the auctions held at the convention, see Pages 11, 14, 15 and 16).

After lunch on our own, many members availed themselves the opportunity to visit the Brandywine River

*(Continued on Page 5)*

## President's column

### Greetings from our new President...

I find myself counting the weeks (now 40-something) until we meet again in Ottawa, a measure of how much I enjoyed seeing all of you who came to West Chester. Thanks to Rob Kasper, who arranged our visit by the latter-day Horatio Alger, Jr., to Ralph Carlson for arranging the pins modeled on the postage stamp, to Ralph and to Didi Johnson for their talks, and to everyone who helped out with various events at the convention.

Several of you have sent me very nice photographs of the weekend, which I appreciate. I also want to take this opportunity to thank Art Young for his steady and excellent helmsmanship of H.A.S. during the past year (he didn't have to perform like John Maynard!). I hope that I can serve the Society well, and I will be looking to veteran leaders for guidance. Thanks, too, to the outgoing Directors (Mike Morley, Larry Rice, and Peter Walther) and to Brad Chase for his tireless work on the Constitution and Bylaws.

Within a few days of writing this column, Jim, Alex, and I will be flying to Italy, where we will be vacationing for 16 days. We don't have as many weeks to spend there as Alger did during his 1860-61 trip, but we will spend time in some of the same spots, including Florence, Rome, Sorrento, Pompeii, and possibly Naples, where Alger reported that the cafes are very good places to study the people. While Alger ascended Mt. Vesuvius, he was much younger than two members of our family, and I doubt we will try this feat. I have been working with my Italian language tapes since the convention, and I hope I'll be able to handle the usual traveler's inquiries.

This will be the first time since 1984 that my academic leave falls during a presidential election season, which means I won't be teaching an elections course or bringing speakers to campus for a change. I can, instead, be a spectator and turn most of my attention backward in time to the period from 1890-1925. This is the period for my current research project on the politics of citizenship in the United States. I also hope I can do a bit more book hunting and get back into the musical performance activities I enjoy.

I wish you all a healthy, restorative, restful summer. Don't spend all your time on eBay! Let me hear about some of the interesting things you are doing!

Your Partic'lar Friend,  
Carol Nackenoff (PF-921)  
302 South Chester Road  
Swarthmore, PA 19081  
cnacken1@swarthmore.edu

### Thanks from our outgoing President...

All in attendance enjoyed the fine convention hosted by Carol Nackenoff in West Chester, Pennsylvania. There were a variety of cultural outings, trips to the inevitable bookstores, and a convivial evening at Carol's home near Swarthmore College. Special thanks to Carol, husband Jim, and son Alex. There's a lot of other thanks to go around: Ralph Carlson, for an excellent presentation on the multiple influences of Horatio Alger in all aspects of American life and culture; Deidre Johnson, for a stimulating presentation on early series books; and to the ghost of Horatio, who joined us for the Saturday evening dinner. Or was Alger really there?



**Arthur Young, left, and Murray Levin (PF-851) get together at the H.A.S. convention in West Chester, Pa.** Photo by Doug Fleming

One of the distinctive pleasures of serving as President is to preside over the annual awards ceremony. This year's **Dick Seddon Award** went to Bob Kersch, the **Newsboy Award** was shared by E. Christian Mattson and Tom Davis, and the **President's Award** was given to Brad Chase. Congratulations to everyone.

Continuity of the Society leadership was ensured once again by the election of three new board members, Richard Hoffman, Sam Huang, and Janice Morley. The Society elected Carol Nackenoff to serve as President, and Bob Huber to serve as vice president. Chris DeHaan has agreed to serve another term as treasurer. Rob Kasper was appointed for another three-year term as executive secretary and Bill Gowen was appointed to serve another three-year term as editor of **Newsboy**.

My term as your President has been personally rewarding, and I trust that the Society has made some progress. The friendships and common interests in the life and writings of Horatio Alger is the glue which binds us all. Thanks for the wonderful and unselfish support during the past year. A century and a half after Alger's first publication, we still bear witness to his contributions, and I am supremely confident that we shall do so well into the next century.

Your Partic'lar Friend,  
Arthur P. Young (PF-941)  
912 Borden Ave.  
Sycamore, IL 69178-3200  
ayoung@niu.edu

## *In a New World in West Chester*

*(Continued from Page 3)*

Museum (on a prearranged tour) in nearby Chadds Ford. The museum is home to the collections and studio of N.C. Wyeth, Andrew Wyeth and Jamie Wyeth, along with several other artists from the so-called Brandywine Valley school.

There were also opportunities to visit such nearby sights at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, or right in West Chester the QVC Studio Park, home of the QVC cable shopping network. And, of course, there were the visits to area book stores, in particular West Chester's own Baldwin's Book Barn, a five-story treasure trove located just minutes from the hotel.

At 4 p.m., a workshop was conducted at the Holiday Inn by Brad Chase (PF-412) on the new H.A.S. Constitution and By-laws. A few minor changes were noted for the revised document, which had been published in the March-April edition of *Newsboy*.

Immediately following the by-laws workshop was the annual business meeting, open to all members in attendance at the convention. President Arthur Young called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. The floor was opened to Old Business, starting with the Executive Director's Report from Robert E. Kasper (PF-327). He gave a Society membership update previously reported to the Board of Directors on Thursday: In the fiscal year ending April 30, 2000, the Society had a total membership of 231, with 21 new members added during the year and 17 members leaving the Society, four of them through death and the remainder by attrition.

*Newsboy* editor Bill Gowen (PF-706) reported that costs for producing the newsletter had remained fairly constant over the past several years, with only a slight increase in printing costs due to the rising costs of paper. First-class postal rates have remained constant, although another U.S.P.S. first-class increase is on the horizon.

The next item on the agenda was future convention sites. Next year (2001) is all set, with Doug Fleming (PF-899) having already presented the Board of Directors with his preliminary agenda, with the Embassy West Hotel and Conference Center in Ottawa, Canada, selected as the site for the weekend of May 3-6, 2001. Fleming announced that he would give a video presentation on Canada and Ottawa at that night's dinner.

Possible 2002 convention sites were discussed, with the possibility that Janice and Michael Morley will be the hosts for a return to the Scottsdale, Ariz., area, where Mary and Angelo Sylvester hosted the successful 1998 convention.

Further research into this and other possible convention sites will be held, along with invitations from any members to volunteer as future hosts.



**Brad Chase makes a point with President Arthur Young during the workshop on the new Horatio Alger Society Constitution and By-laws.** Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

Brad Chase gave his report to the membership on the Society's new Constitution and By-laws, and it was determined that the final revision of the document would be published in the July-August issue of *Newsboy*, and put to a mail ratification vote by the full membership of the Society.

The Nominating Committee report was heard next, the committee consisting of Murray Levin (PF-851), Bernie Biberdorf (PF-524) and Ed Mattson (PF-067). The committee's slate of nominees was as follows: for two-year term as President, Carol Nackenoff (PF-921); for two-year term as Vice President, Robert G. Huber (PF-841); and for Directors, whose three-year terms will run through April 30, 2003, Janice Morley (PF-957), Samuel Huang (PF-963) and Richard Hoffman (PF-570).

No additional nominations were received from the floor, the nominations were closed, and the slate was elected by a voice vote.

Treasurer Chris DeHaan presented her annual report, noting that last year's unusually high auction receipts resulted in total income for the fiscal year ending April 30 of \$18,649.52, leaving the Society with a net income for the year of \$3,632.23. (For complete Treasurer's Report, see Page 6).

Arthur Young turned the meeting over to new President Carol Nackenoff, and after a few remarks of thanks and appreciation to the membership in attendance, she adjourned the meeting.

Friday night's dinner, held at the Holiday Inn, was highlighted by the annual **Strive and Succeed Award**, given each year to a deserving high school senior who epitomizes the philosophy of Horatio Alger's young

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## MEMBERSHIP

### New members

Karen Callaway Williams (PF-1044)  
1018 Ironbound Ave.  
Plainfield, N.J. 07060 (908) 769-7160

Karen, a professional tap dancer, lists among her other hobbies tennis, golf and studying languages. She enjoys collecting and reading Alger's books, "following each blueprint for success." She learned about H.A.S. through reading biographies of recipients of the annual awards by the Horatio Alger Association of Famous Americans.

Lynda A. White (PF-1045)  
7 South University Ave., Apt. 6-A  
Fayetteville, AR 72701 (501) 521-8442

Lynda is a registered nurse specializing in pediatrics, whose outside interests also include gardening and crossstitch sewing. She started reading Horatio Alger's

books to her son when he was a child, and who has just started collecting the books himself at age 27. She learned about H.A.S. from an article in an antique trade paper.

Benjamin Blitstein (PF-1046)  
640 Green Bay Road  
Highland Park, IL 60035

Benjamin is an intake coordinator, who also lists target shooting and concert-going as his hobbies. He learned about the Horatio Alger Society from *Peoples Almanac*.

### Change of address

Robert Bennett (PF-265)  
6100 Cortaderia St., NE, Apt. #3611  
Albuquerque, NM 87111 (505) 338-5075  
E-mail: BobLuc3@cs.com

Jeff Looney (PF-903)  
1712 Concord Drive  
Charlottesville, VA 22901

## TREASURER'S REPORT

May 1, 1999 — April 30, 2000

### INCOME

Adopt-A-Newsboy .....	\$200.00
Advertisements .....	73.00
1999 auction proceeds .....	13,404.50
Membership dues .....	4,110.00
"Strive and Succeed" award donations .....	596.09
Misc. income. ....	116.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME .....</b>	<b>\$18,649.52</b>

### EXPENSES

Auction consignment payouts .....	\$8,812.18
Convention award plaques .....	155.70
Convention — other .....	825.00
Strive & Succeed Award .....	500.00
Friends of NIU Libraries .....	100.00
Misc. expenses .....	33.10
Newsboy expenses:	
Printing .....	\$2,876.42
Newsboy mailing (postage, UPS, etc.) .....	1,354.35
Supplies (envelopes, etc.) .....	145.20
<b>Total Newsboy expenses .....</b>	<b>4,375.97</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES ..... \$15,017.29**

**NET INCOME ..... \$3,632.23**

### Balance sheet as of April 30, 2000

### ASSETS

<b>Current assets (checking/savings)</b>	
Checking account .....	\$1,999.12
Money market .....	7,149.93
S&S Award .....	701.09
<b>Total checking/savings accounts .....</b>	<b>9,850.14</b>
<b>Total current assets .....</b>	<b>9,850.14</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS .....</b>	<b>\$9,850.14</b>

### LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Equity:	
Opening balance, equity .....	4,763.05
Retained earnings .....	1,454.86
Net income .....	3,632.23
<b>TOTAL EQUITY .....</b>	<b>6,371.23</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY ..... \$9,850.14**

*Submitted by Christine DeHaan, Treasurer*  
May 4, 2000

## In a New World in West Chester

(Continued from Page 5)

heroes.

New President and convention host Carol Nackenoff presented the award to Jason Loudon of Chester High School Academy. In her remarks, she said:

"Jason has been involved in the Upward Bound program at Swarthmore College, where he participates twice a week in tutorials in math, science and language arts. This is an extremely valuable program; my Swarthmore Political Science faculty colleague, Keith Reeves, who grew up in Chester, participated in the Upward Bound program when he was in high school. Upward Bound is a national academic enrichment program, designed to prepare aspiring high school students for college enrollment. It is funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

"Jason has earned Distinguished Honor Roll citations from 9th through 12th grades and he was an All-American Scholar Award recipient. His mother has impressed on him the importance of hard work and dedication. In the fall, Jason will be attending college. He has several offers and has just decided to attend Ithaca College, where Jerry Friedland's daughter was graduated."

Carol also mentioned that Jason was a track star, earning medals for indoor and outdoor track competitions, ranging from the 4x200-meter relay to the mile run. This spring he qualified for the Penn State 800-meter run and ran the 4x200-meter relay at the PIAA State Championships, also making the all-Delaware Valley track team as a junior and senior. He participated in the 1999 March of Dimes 5-10 mile Walk-a-thon.

"Jason has overcome many difficult socio-economic obstacles to earn his success as a student," Nackenoff said. "He attends public school within the politically embattled, impoverished Chester-Upland School District, whose schools rank near the bottom in state student performance measures. Despite adversity, Jason has

become an outstanding student-athlete and a role model for his peers. Education is a priority in his life. Jason is a Horatio Alger hero, struggling upward, striving and succeeding."

At the awards ceremony, Jason Loudon was accompanied by Upward Bound mentor and director emeritus Edwin Collins, and by the current Upward Bound director at Swarthmore College, Michael Robinson,

himself a graduate of the Upward Bound program, along with his grandmother, Mrs. Betty Melendez; his aunt, Donna Melendez; and his cousin, Betty Thomas.

In addition to a certificate and check to assist in his college expenses, Jason was presented a hard-cover copy of Alger's *Strive and Succeed*.

"I am going to be a doctor in about 14 years," Loudon said. "I'm going to make it."

At that point the entire audience gave him a standing ovation.

Following the dinner, there were two presentations. The first was by Deidre A. Johnson (PF-596), titled "From Abbott to Animorphs ... from Godlybooks to Goosebumps," a presentation —

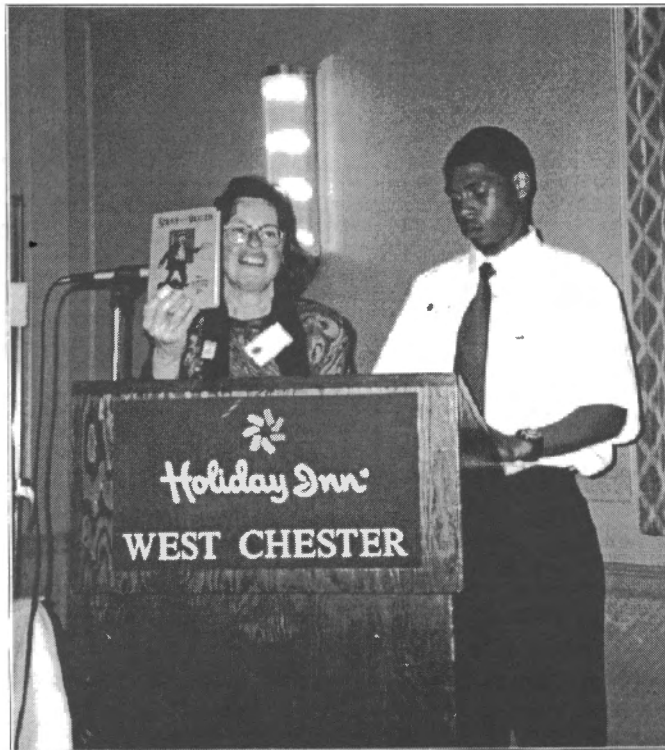
accompanied by color slides — exploring the evolution of boys' and girls' series books over the past century and a half.

The final presentation of the night consisted of two videos on Canada and Ottawa, shown by Doug Fleming, who will serve as host of the 2001 H.A.S. convention. Doug took questions from the audience and promised additional information on next year's convention for publication in upcoming issues of *Newsboy*.

Saturday morning's traditional event is the annual H.A.S. book sale, which was complicated somewhat this year when we were forced to move the event (and the auctions which were to follow) to a banquet room on the hotel's lower level. This necessitated large boxes of books being jockeyed down two flights of steps or lowered on the hotel's electric dumbwaiter.

The book sale ran from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at which

(Continued on Page 9)



**Carol Nackenoff presents a copy of Alger's *Strive and Succeed* to Jason Loudon, winner of the 2000 H.A.S. *Strive and Succeed* Award.**

Photo by Doug Fleming

# 'In a New World in West Chester' — Registration list

Lee T. Allen (PF-977)  
Stone Mountain, Ga.

Richard Hoffman (PF-570)  
Washington, D.C.

Betsy Allen  
Stone Mountain, Ga.

Gordon Huber (PF-843)  
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Bernie Biberdorf (PF-524)  
Fishers, Ind.

Jeanne Huber  
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Marcy Biberdorf  
Fishers, Ind.

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

Ralph J. Carlson (PF-955)  
Taylorsville, Utah

Deidre A. Johnson (PF-696)  
West Chester, Pa.

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

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

Donald L. Cripe (PF-919)  
Bremen, Ind.

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

Paul A. Cripe (PF-633)  
Bremen, Ind.

Dennis Lamereaux  
Hinsdale, Ill.

Thomas B. Davis (PF-976)  
Newark, Del.

Edward LeBlanc (PF-015)  
Fall River, Mass.

Christine DeHaan (PF-773)  
Wayland, Mich.

Rita LeBlanc  
Fall River, Mass.

Mary Ann Ditch (PF-861)  
Omaha, Neb.

William Leitner (PF-381)  
Coconut Creek, Fla.

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

Murray Levin (PF-851)  
Jenkintown, Pa.

Carol Ehlert  
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Van Daele Mabrito (PF-883)  
San Antonio, Texas

Douglas Fleming (PF-899)  
Pakenham, Ontario

Rauzia Nell Mabrito  
San Antonio, Texas

Jerry B. Friedland (PF-376)  
Monsey, N.Y.

Ed Mattson (PF-067)  
Baltimore, Md.

Ralph D. Gardner (PF-053)  
New York, N.Y.

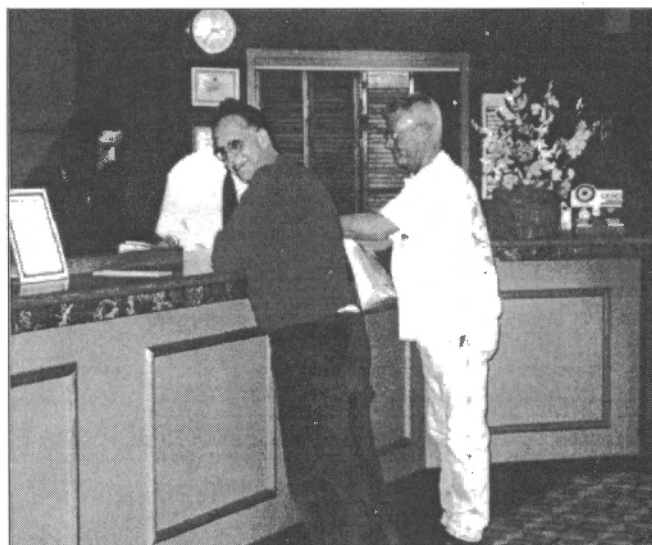
Renee Mattson  
Baltimore, Md.

Christine Gillespie (PF-1015)  
Wallingford, Pa.

Ivan McClymont (PF-722)  
Varna, Ontario

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

Marg McClymont  
Varna, Ontario



Peter Walther and Jim Thorp check in at the Holiday Inn registration desk.

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

Janice Morley (PF-957)  
Fremont, Calif.

Mary Sylvester  
Tamworth, N.H.

Michael Morley (PF-934)  
Fremont, Calif.

Keith Thompson (PF-035)  
Bellport, N.Y.

Carol Nackenoff (PF-921)  
Swarthmore, Pa.

Jim Thorp (PF-574)  
Nashua, N.H.

Bart J. Nyberg (PF-879)  
Downers Grove, Ill.

Peter C. Walther (PF-548)  
Millersville, Md.

Lawrence R. Rice (PF-767)  
Maine, N.Y.

Marc Williams (PF-958)  
League City, Texas

Vivian R. Rice  
Maine, N.Y.

Arthur P. Young (PF-941)  
Sycamore, Ill.

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

Jeanette L. Routhier  
Swartz Creek, Mich.

TOTAL REGISTRANTS: 53  
H.A.S. MEMBERS: 41

William D. Russell (PF-549)  
Hatboro, Pa.

Joseph T. Slavin III (PF-880)  
Arlington, Va.

Angelo Sylvester (PF-928)  
Tamworth, N.H.

## In a New World in West Chester

(Continued from Page 7)

time the room was rearranged for the annual consignment and fund-raising auctions. Over the next two and a half hours, Jerry Friedland and Ed Mattson auctioned off 174 lots, consisting of books and other Alger and non-Alger memorabilia (see auction results on Pages 14-16).

The entire afternoon was free time, including trips into town for lunch on our own and a good 4-5 hours for bookhunting at stores throughout the Philadelphia suburbs, as well as at area antique malls. And, of course, still a chance to visit Longwood Gardens, or for the adventure-some, a trip into Philadelphia to visit Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, Penn's Landing, the Betsy Ross House or any of the other historic landmarks in America's "Cradle of Democracy."

The annual H.A.S. banquet took place Saturday night at The Gables of Chadds Ford, a wonderful restaurant located in a historic, converted dairy barn located near the Brandywine River Museum on U.S. Route 1. We had the second-floor banquet room of this busy restaurant to ourselves.

It was evident from the start that this would be a special evening, as our special Guest of Honor was greeting and mingling with H.A.S. members and their guests as they arrived.

And the Guest of Honor? None other than Horatio Alger, Jr.\* himself!

Outgoing president Art Young served as unofficial host for the evening, first thanking the volunteers who assisted with the auctions. He introduced Executive Director Rob Kasper, who presented an unofficial report of auction receipts, noting that the Society's treasury

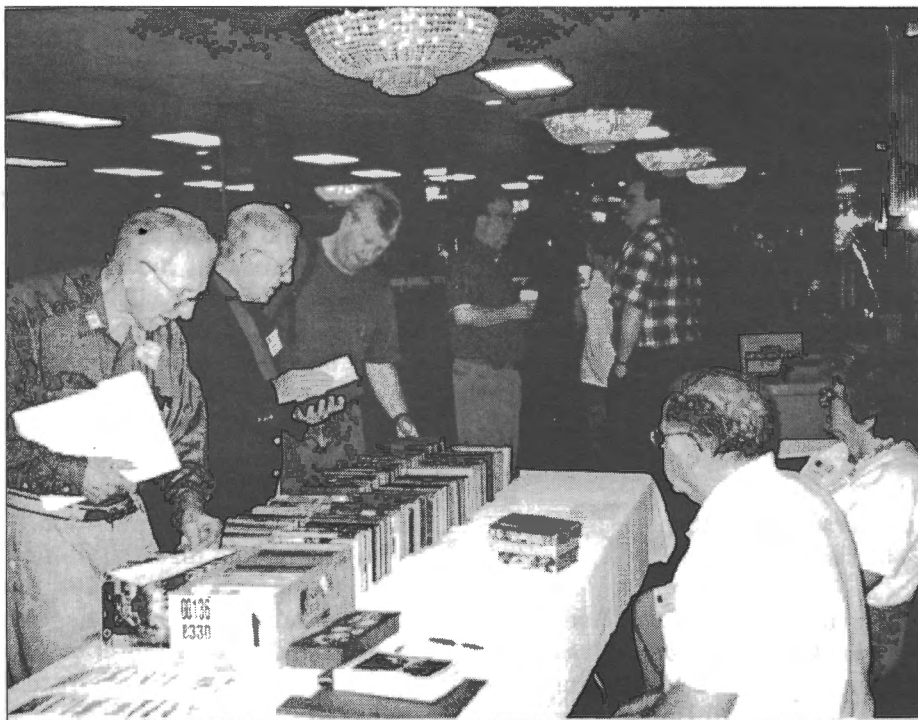
realized more than \$1,300 from the three auctions.

Young then expressed his thanks to Carol Nackenoff and her family for organizing and hosting a very successful convention, which earned a round of warm applause from the large gathering.

Following dinner, it was time for the annual Horatio Alger Society awards. Young presented the Richard Seddon Award to director Robert L. Kersch (PF-946) of

Great River, N.Y., who was unfortunately unable to attend the convention because of a prior commitment.

The Newsboy Award was shared by Ed Mattson (PF-067) and Tom Davis (PF-976), who had vitally contributed to Alger and boys' book collecting scholarship by publishing two important recent works: an updated edition of Bob Bennett's long out of print *A Collector's Guide*



The books of Marg and Ivan McClymont are examined, from left, by Milt Ehler, Keith Thompson and Mike Morley during the annual H.A.S. book sale held at the Holiday Inn, West Chester, Pa.

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

to the *Published Works of Horatio Alger, Jr.*, along with *A Collector's Guide to Hardcover Boys' Series Books*.

The President's Award went to Brad Chase (PF-412), for his ongoing work (spanning two years) on revising the Society's By-laws.

It was now time for Horatio Alger\* to address the audience, and after a few opening remarks he launched into a pair of his own poems, including a very dramatic reading of "John Maynard." It was a wonderful way to conclude the banquet, and Mr. Alger remained afterward to pose for photos with members and their guests.

The only official event that remained was the Society's traditional "farewell breakfast" on Sunday, which gave all Partic'lar Friends an opportunity to wish each other the best until meeting again next May in Ottawa.

\* Horatio Alger, Jr.'s appearance was arranged through The American Historical Theatre, Philadelphia, Pa., Pamela Sommerfeld, Producing Director.

# Annual H.A.S. Board of Directors meeting

Horatio Alger Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
West Chester, Pennsylvania  
May 4, 2000

**In Attendance:**

Arthur P. Young, President  
Carol Nackenoff, Vice President  
Robert E. Kasper, Executive Director  
Chris DeHaan, Treasurer  
William R. Gowen, Newsboy Editor  
Michael Morley, Director  
Lawrence R. Rice, Director  
Peter C. Walther, Director  
Angelo Sylvester, Director  
Thomas B. Davis, Director  
Douglas E. Fleming, Director  
Marc C. Williams, Director

**Absent:**

Robert L. Kersch, Director  
Ralph J. Carlson, Director

Arthur P. Young, President, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. Robert E. Kasper, Executive Director, reported total membership at 231. This includes 198 Regular members, 13 Life, 10 Honorary and 10 Libraries. There are no Sustaining members at this time. There were 21 new members added during the previous 12 months and 17 drops.

Discussed new software program for address database and mailing labels and various methods for informing members when their dues are due.

Chris DeHaan, Treasurer, reported income for the previous 12 months at \$18,649.52 and expenses at \$15,017.29. Net income was \$3,632.23. Total assets at this time are \$9,850.14. There is \$405.00 in membership dues on hand to be deposited.

William R. Gowen, **Newsboy** Editor, reported that mailing and printing costs are stable and have been averaging \$4,000 per annum during the last ten years. Our arrangement with Lansing Printing in Lansing, Michigan, is excellent and is expected to continue.

Revised bylaw procedures were discussed including adding a clause allowing for mail in votes for important society policies, honorariums for the Executive Director and **Newsboy** Editor and a change in auction fees. Revised fees for all consignment auctions will include a 20% commission to the society for all proceeds up to \$2,500, 15% for the next \$2,500 and

10% for all amounts exceeding \$5,000. This fee structure includes auctions conducted through the Estate Service. Also discussed were procedures for final promulgation of our new bylaws and constitution and voting thereof.

The report from the Nominating Committee was deferred until the business meeting. Arthur Young made two three-year appointments for Executive Director (Robert E. Kasper) and **Newsboy** Editor (William R. Gowen). These appointments will expire in 2003.

New business: Roster updates will be distributed to all convention attendees for the new directory. All other members will receive the update form in the next issue of **Newsboy**. The new directory is expected to be available in September.

Also, one board member suggested that a profile of former member Dick Seddon, who passed away in 1979, be published in **Newsboy** since most current members never had the opportunity to meet him. The annual **Richard R. Seddon Award** is conferred in his memory at every convention.

The Board has directed Janice Morley, with the assistance of Angelo Sylvester, to review plans for a 2002 convention in Scottsdale, Arizona, to be held at the Scottsdale Pima Motel or other such venue as appropriate. Janice will report to the Board of Directors in Ottawa with her recommendations.

Doug Fleming reported on his plans for the 2001 convention to be held at the Embassy West Hotel in Ottawa, Canada. The convention will take place from Thursday, May 3 through Sunday, May 6. A tentative schedule was distributed along with numerous suggestions for activities, events and local sightseeing. A convention schedule and registration form will be published in the January-February 2001 issue of **Newsboy**.

Arthur Young provided information from Northern Illinois University regarding a Horatio Alger Fellowship for the Study of American Popular Culture. The Fellowship Award consists of \$1,500, and can be used between July 1 and December 31, 2000. The deadline for applications is June 30, 2000.

Arthur P. Young, President, adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Kasper  
Executive Director  
Horatio Alger Society

# H.A.S. special consignment auction results

<u>Lot No. and Title</u>	<u>Pub.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Lot No. and Title</u>	<u>Pub.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>
1. Ben Bruce	A.L. Burt (1st.)	Michael Morley	\$25.00	42. Gleason's Monthly Companion (1 issue)		Chris DeHaan	10.00
2. Ben the Luggage Boy	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Larry Rice	70.00	43. Gleason's Monthly Companion (7 issues)		Lee Allen	35.00
3. Bound to Rise	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Angelo Sylvester	20.00	44. Gleason's Monthly Companion (3 issues)		Bob Routhier	30.00
4. Charlie Codman's Cruise	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Bob Routhier	115.00	45. Gleason's Monthly Companion (1 issue)		Angelo Sylvester	15.00
5. A Debt of Honor	A.L. Burt (1st.)	Angelo Sylvester	25.00	46. Gleason's Monthly Companion (5 issues)		Angelo Sylvester	35.00
6. Digging for Gold	P&C (1st.)	Marc Williams	50.00	47. Gleason's Monthly Companion (10 issues)		Angelo Sylvester	85.00
7. Facing the World	P&C (1st.)	Bob Huber	55.00	48. Gleason's Monthly Companion (1 issue)		Lee Allen	20.00
8. Frank Hunter's Peril	H.T. Coates (1st.)	Jim Thorp	50.00	49. Gleason's Monthly Companion (4 issues)		Arthur Young	30.00
9. From Canal Boy to Pres.	Anderson (1st.)	Larry Rice	10.00	50. Gleason's Monthly Companion (1 issue)		Michael Morley	20.00
10. From Farm to Fortune	Stitt (1st.)	Arthur Young	20.00	51. Gleason's Monthly Companion (5 issues)		Arthur Young	30.00
11. Herbert Carter's Legacy	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Marc Williams	45.00	52. Gleason's Pictorial (4 issues)		Marc Williams	50.00
12. Jack's Ward	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Carol Nackenoff	30.00	53. Gleason's Literary Companion (1 issue)		Lee Allen	5.00
13. Joe the Hotel Boy	C&L (1st.)	Richard Hoffman	30.00	54. Gleason's Literary Companion (1 issue)		Marc Williams	10.00
14. Luck & Pluck	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Carol Nackenoff	10.00	55. Gleason's New Pictorial (4 issues)		Angelo Sylvester	10.00
15. Making his Mark	Penn (1st.)	Richard Hoffman	60.00	56. Harper's Weekly ("Nothing to Wear")		Lee Allen	30.00
16. Mark Manning's Mission	A.L. Burt (1st.)	Didi Johnson	5.00	57. Harper's Weekly (12 issues)		Ed Mattson	50.00
17. Mark Mason's Victory	A.L. Burt (1st.)	Michael Morley	50.00	58. Harper's Weekly (6 issues)		Ed Mattson	50.00
18. Mark the Matchboy	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Michael Morley	70.00	59. Home Circle (6/20/74, "The Browns")		Rob Kasper	5.00
19. Nelson the Newsboy	Mershon (1st.)	Paul Cripe	35.00	60. Home Circle (1/16/69, "Isabel's Dream")		Lee Allen	15.00
20. Out for Business	Mershon (1st.)	Michael Morley	35.00	61. Tip Top Weekly (3 issues)		Arthur Young	40.00
21. Phil the Fiddler	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Jim Thorp	130.00	62. Brave and Bold Weekly ("Erie Train Boy")		Tom Davis	20.00
22. Risen from the Ranks	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Jerry Friedland	200.00	63. Happy Hours Library (8/1/95, 3 Alger stories)		Bill Russell	45.00
23. Rufus and Rose	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Angelo Sylvester	10.00	64. The Weekly Novelette (4 issues)		Arthur Young	40.00
24. Sam's Chance	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Bob Routhier	25.00	65. Merry's Museum (3/71; "John Maynard")		Didi Johnson	5.00
25. Seeking his Fortune	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Angelo Sylvester	40.00	66. Harper's New Monthly Magazine (11/57)		Angelo Sylvester	30.00
26. Shifting for Himself	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Larry Rice	25.00	67. Young Israel (6/78)		Bill Russell	20.00
27. Sink or Swim	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Chris DeHaan	25.00	68. Leisure Hour Library (No. 238; 2 Alger stories)		Lee Allen	5.00
28. Strive and Succeed	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Larry Rice	30.00	69. New York Weekly (6 Alger Stories; 1882)		Rob Kasper	5.00
29. Strong and Steady	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Larry Rice	60.00	70. The Fictional Republic (Nackenoff)		Bill Russell	30.00
30. Struggling Upward	P&C (1st.)	Paul Cripe	65.00	71. Alger: A Biography Without a Hero (Mayes)		Angelo Sylvester	11.00
31. Victor Vane	P&C (1st.)	Ivan McClymont	80.00	72. Alger Bibliography (Bennett; 1st. ed., 1980)		Michael Morley	20.00
32. Walter Sherwood's Prob.	H.T. Coates (1st.)	Jerry Friedland	50.00	73. Strive & Succeed (1967 edition)		Angelo Sylvester	7.00
33. The Young Book Agent	Stitt (1st.)	Richard Hoffman	40.00	74. From Rags to Riches	Macmillan	Chris DeHaan	1.00
34. The Young Miner	A.K. Loring (1st.)	Michael Morley	50.00	75. Alger Street (Westgard)	J.S. Canner	Milt Ehler	15.00
35. Erie Train Boy	Amer. Publishers	Brad Chase	12.00	76. Alger Bio/Biblio (Gruber)	Grover Jones	Larry Rice	25.00
36. Frank's Campaign	A.K. Loring	Angelo Sylvester	20.00	77. Mabel Parker	Archon Books	Milt Ehler	11.00
37. From Farm Boy to Pres.	J.S. Ogilvie	Michael Morley	25.00	78. Timothy Crump's Ward	Westgard	Marc Williams	7.00
38. Paul Prescott's Charge	A.K. Loring (2nd.)	Michael Morley	40.00	79. Alger: Biog. Without a Hero	Westgard	Marc Williams	1.00
39. Garfield Library (4 stories; 2 by Alger)		Michael Morley	150.00	80. Timothy Crump's Ward	Seddon (facsimile)	Bob Routhier	45.00
40. Gleason's Monthly Companion (3 issues)		Bob Routhier	30.00	81. Boy's Home Weekly (14 issues; Westbrook)		Bob Huber	50.00
41. Gleason's Monthly Companion (3 issues)		Lee Allen	20.00				

(Continued on Page 14)

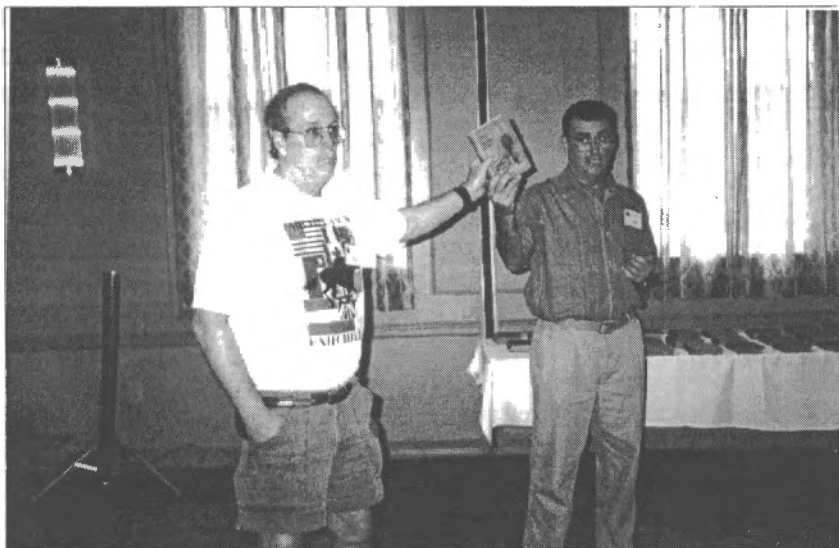


**The Holiday Inn in West Chester, Pa., was the location of the 2000 Horatio Alger Society convention, *"In a New World in West Chester."***

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

**Jerry Friedland and Arthur Young pose in front of the Horatio Alger collection of host Carol Nackenoff during her open house in Swarthmore, Pa., on the first night of the convention.**

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

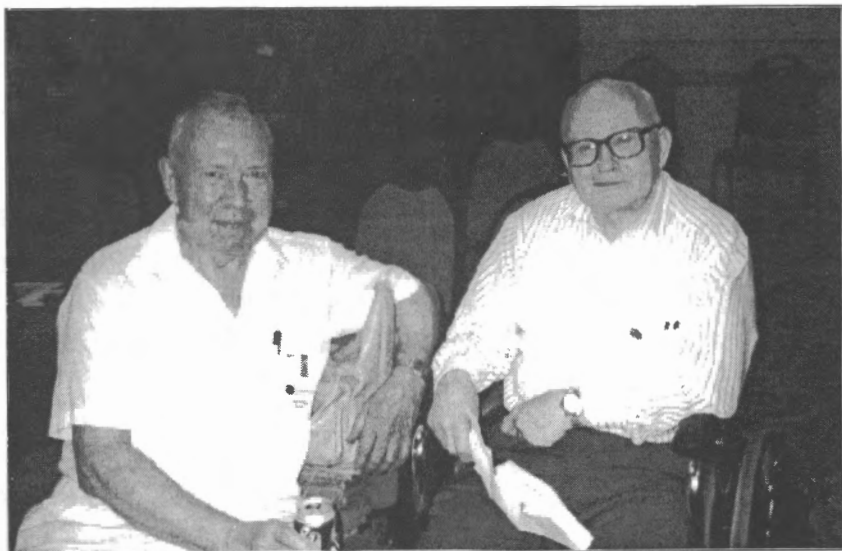


**What am I bid for this first edition of "Joe the Hotel Boy?" asks auctioneer Ed Mattson, right, as he and Tom Davis conduct the special consignment auction on Friday morning.**

Photo by Doug Fleming

**"Ralph greets Ralph"—Ralph Gardner (PF-053) and Ralph Carlson (PF-955) discuss the world of Horatio Alger as they get together during the 2000 convention in West Chester, Pa.**

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf



**Next year's convention host Doug Fleming (PF-899) and Eddie LeBlanc (PF-015) take a break during the special consignment book auction.**

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

**Convention host Carol Nackenoff and her husband, Jim, greet members and guests at the annual H.A.S. Banquet at The Gables of Chadds Ford.**

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf



# H.A.S. special consignment auction results

<u>Lot No. and Title</u>	<u>Pub.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Lot No. and Title</u>	<u>Pub.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>
<i>(Continued from Page 11)</i>				95. Tom Turner's Legacy	A.L. Burt (deluxe)	Bob Huber	10.00
82. New Medal Library (20 vols.; Street & Smith)		Rob Routhier	50.00	96. Paul the Peddler	A.K. Loring	Jim Thorp	5.00
83. Alger Series (13 vols.; Street & Smith)		Bob Routhier	40.00	97. Paul the Peddler	A.K. Loring	Larry Rice	25.00
84. Eight paperbacks	Misc.	Jerry Friedland	5.00	98. Swinton's Fourth Reader	Iverson, Blakeman	Christine Gillespie	5.00
85. Value Books paperbacks, 4 vols.		Angelo Sylvester	4.00	99. American Boy Magazine (4 issues)		Tom Davis	40.00
86. Superior Publishers paperbacks, 15 vols.		Bob Routhier	15.00	100. Seven rebound paperbacks, various		Angelo Sylvester	5.00
87. Donohue Alert Series paperbacks, 10 vols.		Ed LeBlanc	15.00	101. The \$500 Check	Federal (S&S)	Bob Routhier	25.00
88. Westbrook paperbacks, 10 vols.		Brad Chase	10.00	102. Advent. of Telegraph Boy	S&S	Larry Rice	70.00
89. Tom Thatcher's Fortune	A.L. Burt (fez ed.)	Arthur Young	45.00	103. Alger Potpourri; 9 vols., various publishers		Lee Allen	40.00
90. Tom the Bootblack	A.L. Burt (fez ed.)	Tom Davis	5.00				
91. Frank Fowler	A.L. Burt (fez ed.)	Arthur Young	40.00				
92. The Errand Boy	A.L. Burt (fez ed.)	Arthur Young	25.00				
93. Frank Fowler	A.L. Burt (fez ed.)	Larry Rice	2.00				
94. The Errand Boy	A.L. Burt (fez ed.)	Arthur Young	35.00				
				<b>Total lots:</b>		<b>103</b>	
				<b>Total bids:</b>		<b>\$3,421.00</b>	
				<b>Commission to H.A.S.:</b>		<b>\$513.15</b>	

# Annual H.A.S. convention consignment auction results

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cnsgr.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cnsgr.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>
"Mark the Match Boy" (Coates)	Bob Routhier	Marc Williams	\$15.00	"Collector's Guide/Series Books"	Ed Mattson	Jerry Friedland	25.00
"Canal Boy to President" (Federal)	Bob Routhier	Marc Williams	10.00	Two antique tins	Bill Leitner	Angelo Sylvester	4.00
"Joe the Hotel Boy" (C&L)	Bob Routhier	Marc Williams	10.00	Baseball cards and magazine	Bill Leitner	Angelo Sylvester	5.00
"Fame and Fortune" (Coates)	Bob Routhier	Marc Williams	5.00	Four misc. Algers (Donohue)	D. Lamoreaux	Larry Rice	3.00
Gleason's Pictorial, 12/30/54	Bob Routhier	Marc Williams	6.00	Photos: M. Monroe/FDR/Truman	Ralph Gardner	Larry Rice	3.00
Gleason's Pictorial, 4/29/54	Bob Routhier	Chris Dehaan	4.00	Four JFK photos	Ralph Gardner	Larry Rice	5.00
"Ben the Luggage Boy (Coates)	Bob Routhier	Marc Williams	5.00	Sheet Music: "By the Sea"	Ralph Gardner	Marcy Biberdorf	1.00
"The \$500 Check" (S&S)	Bob Routhier	Doug Fleming	20.00	Tape cassettes (MBA seminar)	Ralph Gardner	Bill Leitner	1.00
"Struggling Upward" (P&C, 1st)	Bob Routhier	Tom Davis	2.00	Tape cassettes (MBA seminar)	Ralph Gardner	Bill Leitner	2.00
"Rufus and Rose" (Coates)	Bob Routhier	Ivan McClymont	2.00	Book: "Legendary Comedies"	Ralph Gardner	Bill Leitner	2.00
"Ned Newton" (Federal)	Bob Routhier	Ivan McClymont	35.00	Book: "Legendary Westerns"	Ralph Gardner	Tom Davis	2.00
"Ben the Luggage Boy" (Coates)	Bob Routhier	Ivan McClymont	4.00	Sheet music: "Yankee Doodle Boy"	Ralph Gardner	Tom Davis	5.00
"The Young Bank Clerk" (Mershon)	Bob Routhier	Paul Cripe	8.00	"Uncle Wiggily" game board	Ralph Gardner	Tom Davis	2.00
"Ragged Dick" (Coates)	Bob Routhier	Don Cripe	1.00	Sheet music: "Oh, Ma Ma"	Ralph Gardner	Tom Davis	4.00
"Farm Boy to Senator (McKay)	Bob Routhier	Angelo Sylvester	8.00	Book: "Knitting in America"	Ralph Gardner	Bob Routhier	5.00
"The Young Outlaw" (Loring)	Bob Routhier	Angelo Sylvester	2.00	1972 N.Y. Daily News comic section	Ralph Gardner	Bob Routhier	1.00
"Lost at Sea"/W. Winter's Triumph"	Bob Routhier	Angelo Sylvester	8.00	Sheet music: "Old Folks at Home"	Ralph Gardner	John Juvinall	4.00
"Randy of the River" (G&D)	Bob Routhier	Ralph Carlson	40.00	Sheet music: "G. Old Summertime"	Ralph Gardner	Don Cripe	2.00
Student & Schoolmate, 1868	Bob Routhier	Didi Johnson	15.00	Sheet music: "On Moonlight Bay"	Ralph Gardner	Don Cripe	1.00
Student & Schoolmate, 1867	Bob Routhier	Lee Allen	25.00	Sheet music: "Norma Jo"	Ralph Gardner	Don Cripe	1.00
Student & Schoolmate, 1870	Bob Routhier	Arthur Young	40.00	Sheet music: "Can You Hear Me"	Ralph Gardner	Don Cripe	1.00
"Collector's Guide/Series Books"	Ed Mattson	Bob Huber	25.00	Sheet Music: "Meet Me Tonight"	Ralph Gardner	Don Cripe	1.00
"Collector's Guide/Series Books"	Ed Mattson	Jim Thorp	15.00	Sheet music: "Beautiful Ohio"	Ralph Gardner	Don Cripe	1.00

## Annual H.A.S. convention consignment auction results

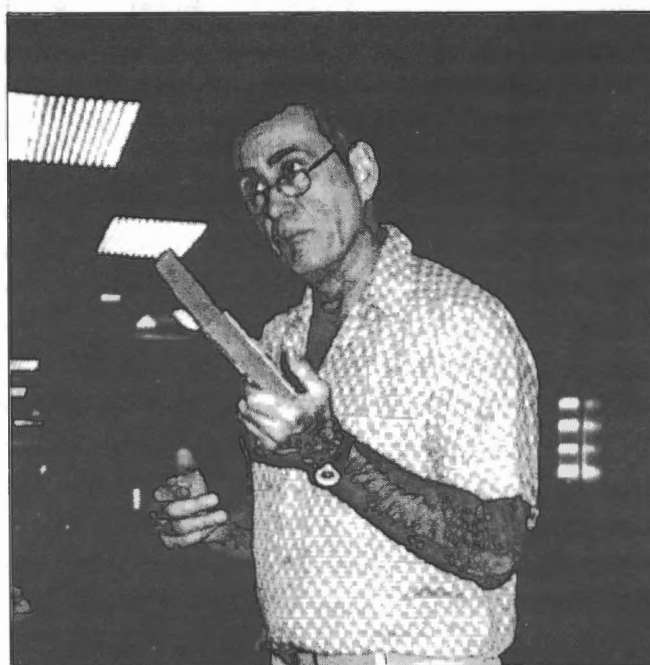
<u>Item</u>	<u>Cnsgr.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cnsgr.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>
Sheet music: "I Loved You Then"	Ralph Gardner	Don Cripe	1.00	Stratemeyer: "Campaign/Jungle"	Tom Davis	Paul Cripe	4.00
Sheet music: "Silver Threads"	Ralph Gardner	Ed LeBlanc	1.00	Whitman "Don Winslow" book	Tom Davis	Marc Williams	5.00
Six Coca-Cola coasters	Ralph Gardner	Angelo Sylvester	3.00	Dubois: "The Long Ranger," Vol. 1	Tom Davis	Bob Routhier	10.00
Book: "Aaron Slick"/misc. stamps	Ralph Gardner	Ed LeBlanc	4.00	"King of the Royal Mounted"	Tom Davis	Jim Thorp	11.00
Gen. DeGaulle memorabilia	Ralph Gardner	Didi Johnson	2.00	"Stirring Football Stories" (3-in-1)	Tom Davis	Gordon Huber	5.00
Antique cloth scrapbook	Ralph Gardner	Didi Johnson	5.00	"Dorothy & Wizard of Oz" (late reprint)	Brad Chase	Marc Williams	10.00
Pre-World War I coloring book	Ralph Gardner	Didi Johnson	1.00	"Ozma of Oz" (late reprint)	Brad Chase	Marc Williams	10.00
Arcade photo flip cards	Ralph Gardner	Ed Mattson	15.00	"The Scarecrow of Oz" (late reprint)	Brad Chase	Marc Williams	9.00
Lithographs: "Night before Xmas"	Ralph Gardner	Lee Allen	9.00	The Argosy, Vols. 7-13 to 9-5	Brad Chase	Bob Huber	75.00
1910 Saalfeld cloth book	Ralph Gardner	Arthur Young	45.00	Nautilus Alger reprint	Brad Chase	Ivan McClymont	1.00
"The Curlytops at Sunset Beach"	Jerry Friedland	Marc Williams	5.00	Nine misc. Whitman books	Brad Chase	Don Cripe	3.00
"Rough and Ready" (Coates)	Jerry Friedland	Doug Fleming	9.00	Nine misc. Whitman books	Brad Chase	Don Cripe	6.00
"Rufus and Rose" (Coates)	Jerry Friedland	Didi Johnson	3.00	Scharnhorst/Bales Alger bio.	Angelo Sylvester	Larry Rice	3.00
"Jimmy Kirkland" book	Jerry Friedland	Keith Thompson	10.00	"Falling in With Fortune" (G&D)			
"The Young Outlaw" (Loring)	Jerry Friedland	Keith Thompson	75.00	and "Silas Snobden" (Doubleday)	Angelo Sylvester	Ivan McClymont	2.00
"Try and Trust" (Loring)	Jerry Friedland	Keith Thompson	65.00	Two "Ralph of the Railroad" books	Joe Slavin	Ivan McClymont	6.00
Heyliger: "Bartley, Freshman Pitcher"	Jerry Friedland	Bob Huber	5.00	Two "Ralph of the Railroad" books	Joe Slavin	Don Cripe	6.00
"The Young Outlaw" (Hurst — D.J.)	Milt Ehlert	Brad Chase	45.00	Two "Ralph of the Railroad" books	Joe Slavin	Bob Huber	8.00
"Want and Hope" (Hurst — D.J.)	Milt Ehlert	Brad Chase	35.00	"Ralph and the Train Wreckers"	Joe Slavin	Lee Allen	50.00
Five misc. Algers in D.J.	Milt Ehlert	Brad Chase	10.00	"From Canal Boy to President"	Anon.	Bob Routhier	8.00
Three World. Synd. books in D.J.	Milt Ehlert	Michael Morley	5.00				
"Sam's Chance" (Winston — D.J.)	Milt Ehlert	Jim Thorp	30.00				
"Phil the Fiddler" (Hurst — D.J.)	Milt Ehlert	Jim Thorp	30.00				
Two Donohue Algers in D.J.	Milt Ehlert	Keith Thompson	10.00				
Stratemeyer: "Under Otis/Philippines"	Tom Davis	Marc Williams	4.00				
				<b>Total lots:</b>	<b>90</b>		
				<b>Total bids:</b>	<b>\$1,058.00</b>		
				<b>Commission to H.A.S.:</b>	<b>\$211.60</b>		

## Annual H.A.S. convention 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>
Castlemore: "Julian Mortimer"	Ed Mattson	Ivan McClymont	\$3.00	Map of United States	Ralph Gardner	Doug Fleming	1.00
Two G.A. Henty books	Ed Mattson	Marc Williams	2.00	Two Algers, 1 Ruth Fielding	Brad Chase	Don Cripe	1.00
"Fire, Snow and Water"	Brad Chase	Marc Williams	5.00	Three X-Bar-X Boys books	Tom Davis	Don Cripe	3.00
"The Lone Ranger," No. 1	Brad Chase	Marc Williams	3.00	U.S. bicentennial, coins, etc.	Ralph Gardner	Chris DeHaan	1.00
Salsa sauce	Jeanette Routhier	Janice Morley	10.00	Reagan inauguration: 2 tickets	Bill Leitner	Chris DeHaan	7.00
Tomato jam	Jeanette Routhier	Larry Rice	6.00	Book: "Only in America"	Bill Russell	Lee Allen	1.00
Bread & butter pickles	Jeanette Routhier	Tom Davis	21.00	National Homestead, 10/1897	Bill Russell	Arthur Young	20.00
Bread & butter pickles	Jeanette Routhier	Jerry Friedland	21.00	3 Westbrook Alger paperbacks	Brad Chase	Arthur Young	15.00
"P. Prescott's Charge" (Coates)	Brad Chase	Larry Rice	16.00	Alger commern. stamps, sheet	John Juvinall	Bernie Biberdorf	20.00
Argosy, 1/3/91	Bob Routhier	Didi Johnson	10.00	Canada stamp & coin set	Doug Fleming	Bernie Biberdorf	1.00
Desk pen set	Ralph Gardner	Janice Morley	3.00	Two misc. video tapes	Ralph Gardner	Bernie Biberdorf	2.00
Two Thornton Burgess books	Brad Chase	Ivan McClymont	6.00	Four Chip Hilton books	Brad Chase	Milt Ehlert	22.00
"Dick Onslow Among Indians"	Ed Mattson	Mary Ann Ditch	10.00	Four misc. Algers	Chris DeHaan	Lee Allen	10.00

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

<u>Item</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>
The American Boy, 5/06	Milt Ehler	Tom Davis	15.00
The American Boy, 7/06	Milt Ehler	Bob Huber	6.00
The American Boy, 12/06	Milt Ehler	Tom Davis	10.00
The American Boy, 2/07	Milt Ehler	Brad Chase	8.00
Bennett biblio. (revised)	Ed Mattson	Chris DeHaan	20.00
Bennett biblio. (revised)	Ed Mattson	Angelo Sylvester	16.00
Sheet music	Larry Rice	Don Cripe	3.00
Sheet music	Larry Rice	Don Cripe	2.00
Sheet music	Larry Rice	Rob Kasper	4.00
Sheet music	Larry Rice	Bernie Biberdorf	2.00
Sheet music	Larry Rice	Don Cripe	1.00
Sheet music	Larry Rice	Don Cripe	3.00
Assorted pinback buttons	Ralph Gardner	Jerry Friedland	5.00
Three misc. boys' books	Tom Davis	John Juvinall	3.00
H. Alger dominoes set	Ralph Gardner	Tom Davis	15.00
Three Moving Pict. Girls books	Joe Slavin	Tom Davis	6.00
Five purple Loring Algers	Bob Routhier	Angelo Sylvester	4.00
Two misc. Algers	Brad Chase	Don Cripe	2.00
Two Frank Webster books	Tom Davis	Don Cripe	1.00
Radio Boys/Mystery Hunters	Joe Slavin	Don Cripe	2.00
Two misc. Algers	Bob Routhier	Don Cripe	1.00
Canada souvenir key chain	Bill Leitner	Bill Russell	5.00
Misc. old post cards	Ralph Gardner	Carol Nackenoff	5.00
1979 H.A.S. Conv. poster	Ralph Gardner	Doug Fleming	6.00
"Horatio Alger" (Gardner)	Bill Russell	Rob Kasper	15.00
U.N. charter, paper memorabilia	Ralph Gardner	Betsy Allen	1.00
Two misc. video tapes	Ralph Gardner	Lee Allen	3.00
Two misc. video tapes	Ralph Gardner	Marc Williams	5.00
Canada stamp & coin set	Doug Fleming	Angelo Sylvester	1.00
1991 H.A.S. Conv. souvenir	Bill Leitner	Ed LeBlanc	1.00
Two G&D Burroughs reprints	Joe Slavin	Marc Williams	2.00
Two Brown P&C Algers	Bob Routhier	Marc Williams	7.00
Garlic mushrooms	J. and M. Morley	Jerry Friedland	11.00
Herb Italian mushrooms	J. and M. Morley	Jerry Friedland	7.00
Sweet Italian mushrooms	J. and M. Morley	Jerry Friedland	10.00
Three Boy Scouts books	Tom Davis	Marc Williams	1.00
Three misc. Algers	Bob Routhier	Marc Williams	8.00
Collectors Guide/Series Books	Ed Mattson	Marc Williams	25.00
Book on Civil War	Chris Dehaan	Bob Routhier	5.00
Chaddsford red wine	Marc Williams	Janice Morley	12.00
Chaddsford white wine	Marc Williams	Joe Slavin	15.00



**Ed Mattson solicits a bid during the annual H.A.S. consignment auction.**

Photo by Joseph Slavin III

<u>Item</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>
Three misc. boys' books	Tom Davis	Don Cripe	3.00
Four misc. boys' books	Tom Davis	Don Cripe	1.00
Tapes: Glen Gray Orch.	John Juvinall	Jerry Friedland	5.00
Tapes: "Fibber McGee & Molly"	John Juvinall	Ivan McClymont	12.00
Book: "The Mick"	Ed Mattson	Larry Rice	12.50
Two "Buddy" books	Tom Davis	Didi Johnson	1.00
Book: "Secret of the Golden Idol"	Tom Davis	Didi Johnson	1.00
Canadian maple syrup	Ivan McClymont	Ed Mattson	15.00
Hardy Boys Nos. 59-61 gift set	Brad Chase	Tom Davis	6.00
Rocks study guide	Bill Leitner	Tom Davis	5.00
Golden Argosy: 2/4/88, 3/3/88	Bob Routhier	Gordon Huber	9.00
Six misc. Algers	Milt Ehler	Jim Thorp	4.00
19 misc. Rover Boys	Anon.	Bob Routhier	10.00
Four Boys Scouts (Saalfeld)	Brad Chase	Bob Routhier	16.00
Alger souvenir playing cards	Brad Chase	Jim Thorp	3.00
Cartoon character magnets	Ralph Gardner	Joe Slavin	3.00
Blue Books (Haldeman-Julius)	Ralph Gardner	Didi Johnson	1.00

**Total lots: 84**

**Total bids: \$601.50**

**(All proceeds to H.A.S.)**

**Proceeds to H.A.S. from all auctions: \$1326.25**

# The seven habits of highly effective Horatio Alger heroes

By Bill Roach (PF-978)

School of Business, Washburn University

Topeka, Kansas 66621

and Mary Roach

Watson Library, University of Kansas

Lawrence, Kansas 66045

**H**oratio Alger, Jr., was a popular author of juvenile fiction between 1863 and his death in 1899. His popularity continued into the early 20th century when Edward Stratemeyer served as his literary executioner. Alger was an unrelenting advocate of the American dream: virtue and hard work yields a sure reward.

Stephen R. Covey is a contemporary advocate of an updated American dream: virtue and hard work consistent with an appropriate mission statement yield a sure reward. This article compares the Alger and Covey prescriptions for a successful life. The comparison follows the outline of Covey's book, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*.<sup>1</sup> The comparison is followed by a discussion of some of Alger's philosophy not explicitly accounted for as one of the seven habits.

## Habit 1: Be Proactive

Being proactive means more than just showing initiative. Being proactive means taking responsibility for one's life and making conscious choices about how to react to the circumstances of that life.

Alger heroes are proactive in both senses. Alger's street urchins show considerable initiative in soliciting business and providing more "value added." Ben the luggage boy aggressively pitches his service to disembarking passengers and learned to serve as a guide and a messenger as well as "smashing bags."<sup>2</sup> the primary initiatives shown by Alger heroes are in the areas of self-education. they read voraciously; they study languages; they tutor others; they learn bookkeeping.

While Alger heroes do not blame others for their poverty and woes, Alger the author clearly does. Frequently, the initial poverty of the protagonist is the result of the sharp business practices of some country squire, town merchant, or unscrupulous relative. While Covey does not absolve those that oppress the poor,

Covey focuses almost exclusively on the individual's response to difficulties.

## Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind

At first look, Alger and Covey seem to differ materially. Profound change occurred during Alger's time, but the pace of change was positively glacial compared with the contemporary era (Covey's time). Covey imagines a world that is changing rapidly. Participants in that world must plan for the ends they desire. Participants in that world can readily appreciate the importance of a personal mission statement. Alger heroes seem to be acting out predictable scripts. Chance or luck is a substantial element of that script. Alger heroes can prepare themselves for good fortune, but they cannot create good fortune for themselves. Alger heroes do not seem to need personal mission statements.

The problem is not that Alger heroes do not have personal mission statements; it is that they are not self-conscious enough to articulate them. In today's language, one might say that Alger heroes use a personal mission statement template, one supplied by his Unitarian upbringing. For the Alger hero, the method was the end. The intent was never to become rich and successful, but to live in a manner consistent with his values.

While both Alger and Covey probably have strong religious values, their writings tend to present these values in a secular, or at least nondenominational context. Alger was a Unitarian, so his religious values may seem more nondenominational than they are.

## Habit 3: Put first things first

For Covey, putting first things first involves having a plan, based on a personal mission statement. the plan dictates which things are "first" or most important. the goal is to put things first; that is, "Plan your work, and work your plan."

The difficulty is that emergencies frequently interfere with this practice. "When you are up to your ass in alligators, it is difficult to remember that your initial objective was to drain the swamp."

Covey gives some very explicit advice for implementing this habit. Alger heroes seem to do this naturally. Alger heroes avoid distractions: drinking, gambling and idle amusements. The first thing for most Alger heroes is education. Alger heroes are, for the most part, self-taught. They take advantages of the learning

(Continued on Page 18)

*Editor's note: This article was presented as a paper at the annual conference of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association in New Orleans, La., on April 21, 2000.*

## The seven habits of highly effective Horatio Alger heroes

(Continued from Page 17)

opportunities in everyday work life. Beyond avoiding distractions and pursuing an education, Alger's stories do not give as many supporting strategies as Covey does.

### Habit 4: Think Win / Win

The win/win aspect of Alger novels is very striking. Even when the Alger hero has been defrauded and impoverished by the villain, the hero does not insist on a win/lose solution. For example, in *Strive and Succeed*, when Walter Conrad outboxes the bully Peter Groot, he asks the students not to clap or cheer so as not to exacerbate the feelings of Peter.<sup>3</sup> Further, Walter "made up his mind neither by look nor word to remind Peter of his defeat, but to do all he could to spare him humiliation."

Similarly, when the Alger hero is a defrauded heir, he frequently makes financial arrangements with those who defrauded him to expedite a settlement and reinstatement.<sup>4</sup>

### Habit 5: Seek first to Understand, then be Understood

Covey's principle seems to be a combination of "active listening."<sup>5</sup> and some basic problem-solving technique. Active listening involves restating the views of the other conversant until that person agrees that they have been restated correctly. The active listener validates the views of the other conversant instead of judging them. The problem-solving technique in Habit 5 is to state the problem in terms of the difference between the desired outcome and the current outcome. At first, one might suppose that Covey has strayed from his value-oriented management paradigm. However, the value underlying this habit is to affirm the validity of the other conversant's view of the situation.

Alger novels usually offer an opportunity to see the hero "seek to understand." the hero, usually from the country, finds himself on the city streets with little money and few skills. Typically, the Alger hero finds a mentor, an older boy who knows the ropes.

In *Ben the Luggage Boy*, a naive Ben runs away from home to New York City; he finds a mentor in Jerry Collins. Jerry does not have the education or the sensitive nature of the hero, but he can teach Ben the skills he needs. Alger heroes have a moral core which resists change, but they are willing to learn virtue and practical skills from anyone.

### Habit 6: Synergize: Look for the third alternative

While Horatio Alger heroes have come to symbolize the self-made man, the heroes in Horatio Alger novels are never self-made men. If alternative one is to succeed

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**Stephen R. Covey**

FRANKLIN COVEY CO.

on one's own and alternative two is to fail, Alger heroes uniformly succeed by finding a third alternative: a helping hand. The helping hand can be a mentor or an institution like the Newsboys Lodging House.

The third alternative can also take the form of a compromise. If the Alger hero has been defrauded, he frequently does not insist on the return of all of his inheritance. By the time it seems likely that the hero will triumph, he is in a position to be generous and let the malefactors retain some of his wealth (see Habit 4).

### Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw

Covey and Alger are on the same page when it comes to sharpening the saw. Alger heroes value education. Even on the street, the Alger newsboy reads the papers and becomes conversant on the events of the day. They join debating societies and study languages with their more advanced friends. Sometimes they try to follow the path of Ben Franklin and become a printer's apprentice.

### Alger vs. Covey

Without thinking a great deal about the process, the Alger hero adopts a personal code of ethics that in-

Covey/ Alger	Habit 1 Proactive	Habit 2 Begin/End	Habit 3 First Things	Habit 4 Win/Win	Habit 5 Understand	Habit 6 Cooperate	Habit 7 Sharpen Saw
Hard work	+						
Filial		+	+		x	x	
Education	x	x	x		x		+
Fairness		+	x	+	x	+	
Loyalty		+	+		x	+	
Initiative	+		x				
Protective		+			x	+	
Classless		+		+	x	+	
Mentoring		+		+	x	+	+
Prudence		+				x	
Moderation		+				x	
Temperance		+				x	x

A plus sign indicates strong positive correlation. An x indicates weak positive correlation.

volves:

1. Hard work.
2. Filial piety.
3. Self education.
4. Fair business dealing, which avoids exploitation of the weak.
5. Loyalty to the employer.
6. Initiative and innovation in business dealings.
7. Protecting the weak.
8. Ignoring class and ethnic differences.
9. Finding a mentor for himself and becoming a mentor for another.
10. Living within his means.
11. Saving.
12. Avoiding frivolous or destructive entertainment; e.g., drinking, gambling, low theater, etc.

To some degree, the Alger prescription correlates with Covey's seven habits. A correlation matrix is shown above.

For the Alger hero, the virtuous life was the end. The intent was never to become rich and successful, but to live in a manner consistent with his values and to accept the responsibilities that come with a successful business career.

Covey does not advocate virtue opportunistically; however, in *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, there is a clear expectation that virtue will be rewarded. Or perhaps, on average, virtue is rewarded. Alger heroes seem to believe that virtue is the reward. Frequently, the Alger hero has a friend who is not successful, but just as virtuous. The friend does not suffer by the comparison with the Alger hero; he is a hero in his own life. Alger seems to have an organic view of society that is at the same time democratic. The supporting players have equal dignity with the stars in the economic play.

#### NOTES

1. Stephen R. Covey, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1989.
2. Horatio Alger, Jr.: *Ben, the Luggage Boy*. Boston: A.K. Loring, 1870; Chapter 1.
3. Horatio Alger, Jr.: *Strive and Succeed*. Alexandria, Va., Horatio Alger Association, 1994 reprint; p. 206.
4. Horatio Alger, Jr.: *The Young Acrobat*. New York: A.L. Burt, 1900 reprint, p. 257 et seq.

#### Editor's notes:

1. Stephen R. Covey's *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* is available over the Internet from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) in both hardcover and paperback editions. The trade paperback edition is offered at the discount price of \$11.20, plus postage and handling.
2. You are invited to visit Bill Roach's Horatio Alger, Jr. Resources Internet site, which includes electronic texts of Alger's works, along with a selection of course outlines and academic commentary on Horatio Alger, plus a list of museum and special library collections of Alger's writings and related materials. Direct links are provided to many of these related Web sites. The URL of the Horatio Alger, Jr. Resources Internet site is:  
[www.washburn.edu/sobu/broach/algerres/html](http://www.washburn.edu/sobu/broach/algerres/html)

Visit the official Horatio Alger  
Society Internet site at:  
[www.ihot.com/~has/](http://www.ihot.com/~has/)

## Editor's notebook

(Continued from Page 2)

number. Following graduation from high school in Geneva, Ohio, in 1929, he worked at a hardware store to save money for college. He went to Mount Union College in Alliance in 1931, and earned his bachelor's degree in 1934. While at Mount Union, he joined Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and was treasurer of his senior class, along with numerous other extra-curricular activities.

In 1936, he married Elizabeth May Middleton, and their first child, Robert Ray Sawyer, was born a year and a half later.

Although Bob had an Ohio teacher's certificate and was offered a position teaching physics and chemistry at Geneva High School, he decided to enter the business world and joined Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., in Akron in 1935, working himself up to territorial salesman before resigning in 1941 to form his own business, Sawyer's DX in Canton. In 1947 he sold that business and joined the Chicago Motor Club, one year later joining Sears, Roebuck & Co. in Canton as assistant manager. He retired from Sears in 1973 after 25 years' service.

Bob was very active in the Lion's Club, joining the Canton chapter in 1942 and elected its president in 1944, the same year he joined the Canton, Illinois, Morning Star Masonic Lodge (the two states both had towns with the same name, and in 1991 Bob traveled to Canton, Ill., to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of that town's Lions Club). In 1946 he helped to organize the Lionaires Barbershop Quartet.

Other community service positions included Chairman of the Advanced Gifts Committee of the Canton Community Chest in 1949 and presidency of the Canton YMCA in 1950. In 1963, he was named Sears' Citizen of the Year, competing against 50,000 Sears employees in the Midwestern Zone. As a reward, he and his wife, Elizabeth, were awarded a three-day trip to Washington, D.C., where they met President Lyndon Johnson, and numerous other dignitaries, including Senators Dirksen, Douglas and Sparkman.

Bob's hobbies, in addition to collecting and reading books, included woodworking. Following his move to Gahanna, Ohio (a suburb of Columbus) in 1973, he set up a shop in which he made hand-crafted dulcimers (a stringed musical instrument). Bob made more than 125 dulcimers in the next five years, and joined the Columbus Chippers, a woodworkers' club. He completed several Horatio Alger-related woodworking projects, including a beautiful, half-size bust of Alger.

Bob had become interested in Horatio Alger's books during this period, beginning his collection in 1975. He

joined the Horatio Alger Society in 1974, becoming its president in 1982.

In 1980, he self-published the *Sun Series*, a collection of nine of Horatio Alger, Jr.'s stories originally appearing in that New York newspaper, and he also collaborated with fellow Society member Jim Thorp (PF-574) on *The Publication Formats of Fifty-Nine Stories by Horatio Alger, Jr., as Reprinted by the John C. Winston Co.*, a 38-page bibliographic booklet that was published in 1984.

For his contribution to Alger scholarship through these two projects, Sawyer was given the Society's **Newsboy Award** at the 1992 convention in Waco, Texas. He also received the **Luck and Pluck Award** in 1979 and **Richard Seddon Award** in 1989.

Bob was preceded in death by Elizabeth, who died Oct., 16, 1986, just four months following their 50th wedding anniversary. In addition to his son, Bob, and daughter-in law, Phyllis, Bob is survived by two granddaughters and a grandson, along with four great-grandchildren.

Bob Sawyer was a true Partic'lar Friend who had a warm greeting and easy smile for everyone he met, and who was a true citizen of his community. We will miss him greatly.

\* \* \*

We now turn to our ongoing survey of prominent publishers of boys' and girls' books and the methods they used (if any) for identifying first editions. As mentioned previously, many of the more prominent publishers of adult fiction and non-fiction also produced juveniles, utilizing the various standard means of identifying first editions discussed in this space the past two issues, or they used their own proprietary means of identification. The previous installment ended with Harper and Brothers.

As previously mentioned, sources of information for this Editor's Notebook were *A Pocket Guide to the Identification of First Editions*, compiled by Bill McBride (self-published, Hartford, Ct., 1995); *First Editions: A Guide to Identification*, third edition, edited by Edward N. Zempel and Linda A. Verkler (Peoria, Ill.: The Spoon River Press, 1995); and *How to Identify and Collect American First Editions*, by Jack Tannen (New York: Arco Publishing Co., 1976). Additional information was gleaned by examining the books themselves.

### Hearst's International Library Co., New York

This is one of the lesser-known New York publishers involved with boys' and girls' series books. Many collectors confuse Hearst's International Library Co. with Hurst & Co. (see below), and that's why many of us refer to these books as HILCO books. This is an acronym taken from the identification of the publisher on the spine as H.I.L.Co. None of the three standard references

to first editions listed above describe this publisher or its first-edition points.

**Usual identification method:** Some series (like the **Jack Race Series**) used matching years on the copyright page (verso) and title page to identify the books as first editions. However, other series did not use this or any other method of identification. In those cases, the best way of narrowing down the printing history of the book under study is to look at the advertisements in the book or on the dust jacket.

**Prominent series and authors:** One of the scarcest of all boys' series is the **Jack Race Series** by "Harry Hale," believed by many researchers to be a pseudonym. All five volumes of this series were published in 1915, and the fact they were not picked up by another publisher results in their scarcity. The Stratemeyer Syndicate had series published by H.I.L.Co., including the first five volumes of the **Joe Strong Series** by "Vance Barnum," the three-volume **Rushton Boys Series** by "Spencer Davenport" plus the **Nan Sherwood Series** for girls by "Annie Roe Carr."

#### Henry Holt and Company, Inc., New York

This publishing firm, like many in the industry, has a complex history. It started out as Henry Holt; then through a series of mergers over the years became a part of Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

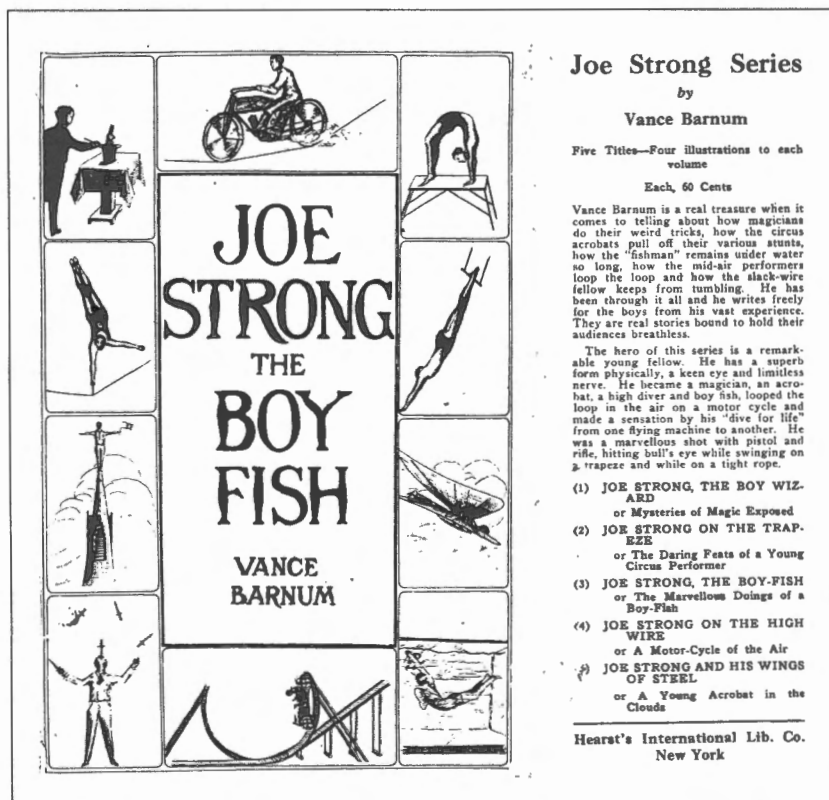
However, in the late 1980s, Henry Holt and Company split away from Holt, Rinehart & Winston. "We are now an independent trade book publishing company called Henry Holt and Company, Inc.," the firm said in a 1988 statement. "Holt, Rinehart & Winston still does exist, but it is a *different* company that produces textbooks rather than trade books."

**Usual identification method:** As expected from a firm with a complicated history, first edition identifica-

tion took several forms over the years. In a 1928 statement, Henry Holt and Company said: "We have never had a definite method of identifying a first edition in our books. Ordinarily, under the copyright line, we insert the dates of the printings so that any book which bears a single date is probably a first edition. In some cases,

however, where we know there is to be only one printing, no date is inserted. Also, when sheets are imported from Europe, no special notation is made."

Also, there are instances in which a matching year of publication on the copyright page and title page will identify a first edition. For example, *Tom Strong, Junior*, lists the copyright year as 1915, with below it the statement "Published, August 1915," and then prints 1915 on the title page for good measure. In the case of *Tom Strong, Lincoln's Scout*, the copyright page and title page show matching years of



The front panel and flap of the dust jacket for one of the titles published by Hearst's International Library Co. in the Stratemeyer Syndicate's Joe Strong Series.

1919, but "Published (month, year)" is not present.

To confuse matters further, later books like *Bob's Hill Boys in the Everglades* are stated first editions, in this case "First printing" is found on the copyright page.

**Prominent series and authors:** The most prominent boy's series by Henry Holt and Company is the 12-volume **Bob's Hill Series** by Charles Pierce Burton (1905-1939). Also, there are, the five-volume **Tom Strong Series** by Alfred Bishop Mason (1911-1919) and the **Slim Evans Series** by Thomson Burtis.

#### Houghton Mifflin Co., New York

Best known as a main-line publisher of books for adults, Houghton Mifflin also produced a handful of collectible juvenile series and "single" titles.

**Usual identification method:** A 1928 statement from this publisher says "It is our general custom to place the date on the title page of the first edition of all our books

(Continued on Page 22)

## Editor's notebook

(Continued from Page 21)

and to drop this date on all subsequent editions. Perhaps we have not invariably followed this custom, but it is our intention to do so. The copyright page after the first printing sometimes bears the legend 'second impression,' 'third impression,' 'fourth impression,' etc. This, however is not the general practice.

"There are very likely instances where the date has not been removed from the title page after the printing of the first edition, and therefore it would not be an infallible rule to look for a date on the title page, but you may be sure that if the date is omitted it is not a first edition," the statement concludes.

After 1953, Houghton Mifflin used a "First printing (month, year)" legend on the copyright page, with a descending number system introduced in the mid-70s.

**Prominent series and authors:** The best known is Arthur Stanwood Pier's *St. Timothy's Series*, along with a large group of historical novels (not part of series) for boys authored by Everett Tomlinson. In the case of the 11-volume *St. Timothy's Series*, the first title, *The Boys of St. Timothy's*, was published by Charles Scribner's Sons, with the remaining 10 volumes published by Houghton Mifflin. Other series by Houghton Mifflin include the three-volume *Boys' Golden West Series* (1920-22) and reprints of two titles in Henry L. Shute's *Plupy Stories*.

### Hurst and Co., New York

Like M.A. Donohue, this is one of the best-known of all reprint publishers of Horatio Alger Jr.'s books. Hurst, a prominent publisher of the "fifty-center" in the teens and 1920s, also produced first hard-cover editions of several prominent series in deluxe bindings, including two highly collected series written by Gilbert Patten, the creator of Frank and Dick Merriwell.

**Usual identification method:** As primarily a publisher of inexpensive juvenile books (either reprints or originals), Hurst did not designate first editions. Knowledgeable collectors can determine early (or possibly, first) printings by examining advertisements in the books or on the dust jackets.

**Prominent series and authors:** A total of 69 Horatio Alger titles were reprinted in inexpensive Hurst editions, according to Bob Bennett's *A Collector's Guide to the Published Works of Horatio Alger, Jr.*

The three best-known boys' series produced in the deluxe-quality Hurst bindings mentioned above are the six-volume *Oakdale Series* by "Morgan Scott" (Gilbert Patten), the five-volume *Rex Kingdon Series* by "Gordon Braddock" (Patten) and the six-volume *Frank Armstrong Series* by "Matthew M. Colton" (Walter Camp).

Numerous other Hurst series appearing in somewhat cheaper bindings include the *Boy Aviators Series*,

*Dreadnaught Boys Series*, *Boy Scouts Series* (Payson), *Bungalow Boys Series*, *Border Boys Series*, *Motor Cycle Chums Series*, etc. Many of these series were authored by John Henry Goldfrap (1879-1917) under such pseudonyms as "Howard Payson," "Capt. Wilbur Lawton," "Fremont B. Deering" and "Dexter J. Forrester." Also, several of these series were later reissued by A.L. Burt with identical cover illustrations.

### Lee and Shepard Co., Boston

Lee and Shepard (founded in 1862) and its 1905 successor, Lothrop, Lee and Shepard, are best known as publishers of works by "Oliver Optic" (William Taylor Adams), Rev. Elijah Kellogg, Everett Tomlinson and Edward Stratemeyer. In addition to titled series by these and other authors, Lee and Shepard also produced several publisher's series such as the *American Boys' Series* (which offered reprints of books by Kellogg, Optic and other authors in its stable).

For a comprehensive examination of this publisher, readers are referred to the June 2000 issue of *Yellowback Library*, in an article by Cary Sternick (PF-933) titled "Lee and Shepard — Boston Publisher." Sternick is currently preparing a Lee and Shepard bibliography which will list more than 100 series.

**Usual identification method:** Until early 1905, the year of that particular printing appeared on the title page, with the copyright page showing "Published (month, year)," the identical year to the copyright date.

After the firm became Lothrop, Lee and Shepard in 1905, corresponding dates faded from the scene. The means of identifying first editions was the "Published (month, year)" legend on the copyright page, without additional printings listed on that page. Lothrop, Lee and Shepard's system evolved over the years. In the early 1920s, "Published (month, year)" was dropped, and in a 1948 statement, the publisher said: "First editions published by our company have no markings. Subsequent editions are marked with the proper edition number on the copyright page."

In the 1970s, L, L & S adopted the practice of most contemporary publishers in going to a numbering system, in its case an ascending system in which the numeral "1" was erased for the second edition, then the "2" for the third edition, and so forth.

**Prominent series and authors:** Here are just a few of the many series published by Lee and Shepard, and Lothrop, Lee and Shepard: the *Old Glory Series*, *Dave Porter Series*, *Colonial Series*, *Soldiers of Fortune* and *Pan-American Series* by Edward Stratemeyer; the *Blue and Gray Series* by "Oliver Optic"; the *Phillips Exeter Series* by Albertus T. Dudley; the *St. Lawrence Series* by Everett T. Tomlinson; the *Norman Carver Series* by Clarence B. Burleigh; the *U.S. Service Series* and *Museum Series* by Francis Rolt-Wheeler.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Alger Society members:

I was quite pleased that Tom Davis and I were awarded the **Newsboy Award** for the year 2000. I wish to thank all the members of the Society who bestowed this honor upon us. A large amount of work went into the research and publishing of *A Collector's Guide to Hardcover Boys' Series Books*. We are happy that it was well received by the book community, but the real credit goes to the early pioneers of boys' series collecting. They, of course, are Harry Hudson, Stanley Pachon, Eddie LeBlanc, Wallace Palmer, Bill Gowen, Bart Nyberg, Cary Sternick, Walter Higgins, Norman Hopper, Jack Schorr and the many others who contributed to this work.

What we did was a compilation of all their work and to fine tune it. Again, I wish to thank you and all the supporters who helped us along the way.

Sincerely,  
Ed Mattson (PF-067)  
Antiquarian Bookseller  
Four Turtlerock Court  
Baltimore, MD 21234

Dear members of the Horatio Alger Society:

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

What a surprise to receive the **Newsboy Award** this year. But... making me share it with Ed Mattson, how cruel!

All kidding aside, both Ed and I were very honored to receive the plaques. Mine hangs in my library for all to see.

The H.A.S. annual convention is always fun. This year, at West Chester (a great job by host Carol Nackenoff) was the best ever.

Our publications, *A Collector's Guide to Hardcover Boys' Series Books* and more recently, Bob Bennett's *A Collector's Guide to the Published Works of Horatio Alger, Jr.* are holding their own. How nice to be recognized for our efforts.

And special thanks to Bob Bennett, Bill Gowen, Bart Nyberg, Art Young, Cary Sternick and other series and Alger collectors for helping us with our efforts.

Thomas B. Davis (PF-976)  
(One of the MAD men!)  
1 Arlington St.  
Newark, DE 19711

Dear members of the H.A.S.:

A few days after returning home from the convention, I was thinking of the book sale and, after looking for the books I brought back — I found that I did not have them. Then I remembered that I left the box of books on the table in the room of the sale.

I called the Holiday Inn and the lady said that she would talk to the cleaning women and then call me back. So far, I have not heard from her.

I think I had about 15 Street & Smith Algiers and about six Amos 'n' Andy cassette tapes. These were the books that I did not sell there. Please let me know if you know of the whereabouts of these items.

Sincerely,  
John R. Juvinall (PF-537)  
820 N. County Line Road  
Hinsdale, IL 60521

Dear Mr. Gowen:

I received in the mail today the March-April edition of **Newsboy**, in which Ralph Gardner and Gil Westgard had written tributes to my uncle, Wallace Palmer. Both were very touching, and it was comforting to know that others knew this beloved man as I did. I, too, was the beneficiary of hundreds of Wallace's incredible letters over the years.

However, in the three years since my father, Bill Palmer's, death, I had the opportunity to know Wallace in a way I had not known him previously. I visited him regularly, learning what a loving and endearing human being he was, and I am grateful for the privilege of all those experiences.

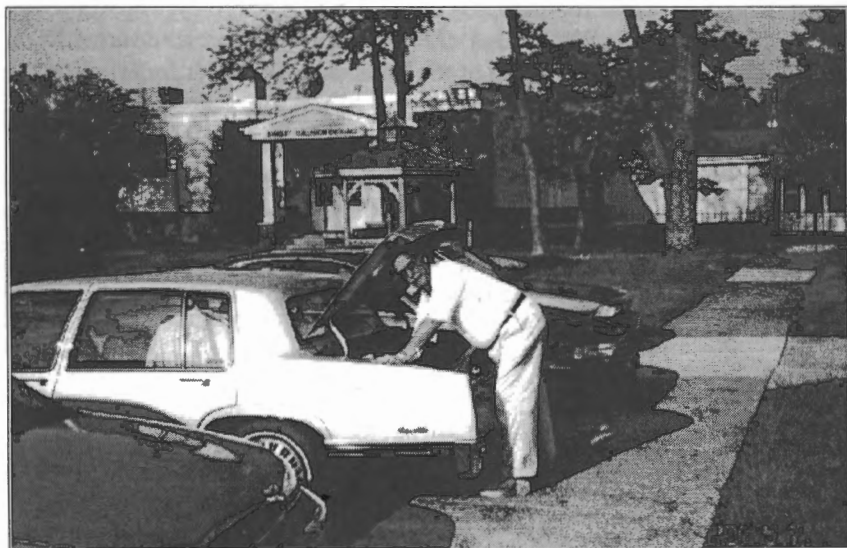
The Horatio Alger Society and Edward Stratemeyer were, indeed, the substance of Wallace's life, and he treasured his friendships with so many of you who shared his interests. He was virtually homebound since suffering a fall and subsequent broken ankle in 1998, and your letters to him were his lifeline to the outside world. I send my personal thanks to each of you for enriching his life as you did.

He will be greatly missed, but we each have our memories and, of course, all of those letters!

Sincerely,  
Polly Palmer Brunkhardt  
8451 Somerset Drive  
Prairie Village, KS 66207

## Letters welcome at any time!

Tell us about your book-collecting experiences by writing: Horatio Alger Society,  
23726 N. Overhill Drive, Lake Zurich, IL 60047; or by e-mail at [hasnewsboy@aol.com](mailto:hasnewsboy@aol.com)

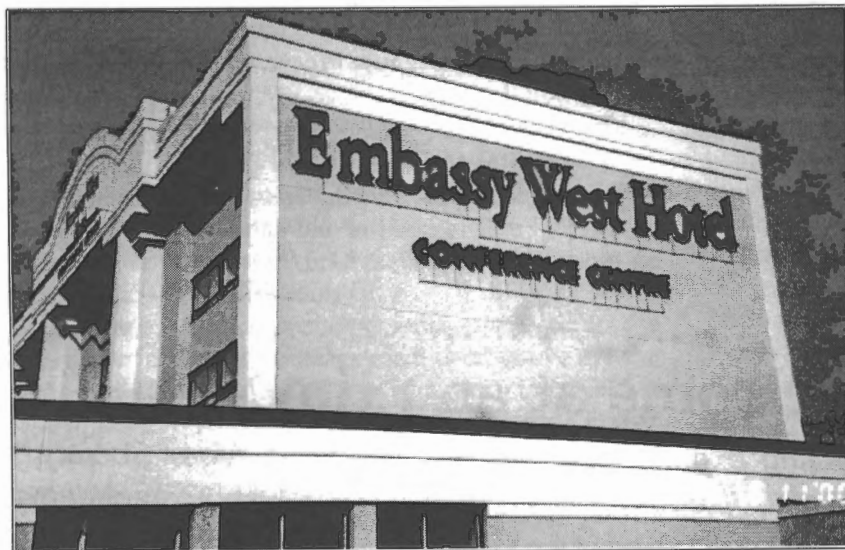


**Bob Routhier (PF-889) packs his car and prepares to head home to Michigan with all the books which he and his wife, Jeanette, acquired at the 2000 Horatio Alger Society convention, *"In a New World in West Chester."***

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

**Four of the Horatio Alger Society's new officers elected at the convention, from left: Janice Morley, director; Carol Nackenoff, president; Richard B. Hoffman, director; and Robert G. Huber, vice president.**

Photo by Doug Fleming



**The Embassy West Hotel and Conference Center in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada will be the site for the Horatio Alger Society's 2001 convention.**

Photo by Doug Fleming