

Newsletter  
Summer 2005

## ADVANCES IN KATER-BIND PROCESSING

### WHAT'S NEW? WEB SITE UPDATE

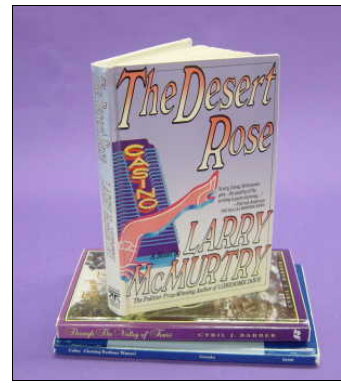
**H**ave you checked out our web site lately? We now have 3 ways for you and your students to have your theses bound at Kater-Crafts:

- ◆ **TRADITIONAL METHOD:** Our driver can pick up the theses with your regularly scheduled bindery shipment, or your students can bring the pages to the bindery. We are located 12 miles east of downtown Los Angeles off the 605 Fwy. at Whittier Blvd.
- ◆ **THESES BY MAIL:** Theses pages can be sent to us through the mail: there is a form to download on our website as well as instructions and a buckram cover color chart.
- ◆ **THESES ONLINE:** You can e.mail your thesis as an Adobe PDF attachment and we will print the pages for you. Instructions on our web site explain the process and provide an online form to submit your information.

**A**t our web site [www.katercrafts.com](http://www.katercrafts.com) you will find useful information for preparing your bindery shipments: we have instructions for periodicals, books and textbooks, and you can download our shipment forms, check cloth colors and get lettering instructions.



**S**ummer is textbook season at the bindery and in June the old textbooks start arriving by the truck load. It is satisfying to see these tattered volumes repaired, rebound and ready for the start of another school year.



**W**e began offering our Kater-Bind process in the early 1970's as an inexpensive method of putting a hard case binding on paper backed books. Most covers were actually made of paper, but publishers are now using

varied materials, inks, U.V. and plastic coatings which produce beautiful covers that are resistant to our laminating film and the adhesive that binds it. Every cover coming into the bindery is different and it has proven impossible to standardize the laminating temperature to insure even bonding.

We now color photocopy the original book covers, laminate the copy and use this over boards to make the hard cover. This insures good quality lamination and since we are able to enlarge the image, it eliminates the white border that sometimes appeared around the original cover.

Photocopying enables us to Kater-Bind older books with worn or torn covers preserving the original graphics and vintage look. We can also save the smyth sewn signatures maintaining the strength of the original volume.

We return the original covers to the library so that they can be used for display purposes.



Do you have questions about our Bindery/Library software? **ABLE** links the libraries' binding databases with the binders', facilitating the exchange of information and automating many of the activities associated with library binding. You can call Claudia Ortega at (562)692-0665, or e.mail her at [ABLE@katercrafts.com](mailto:ABLE@katercrafts.com). You will also find a link to the **ABLE™** Support site at [www.katercrafts.com](http://www.katercrafts.com).

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES AVAILABLE AT KATER-CRAFTS

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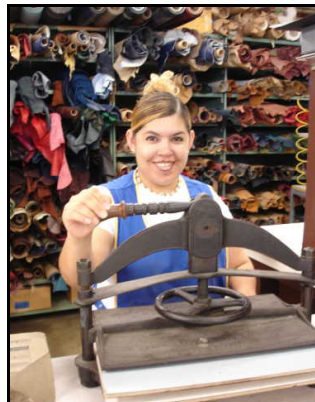
In addition to Library Binding we offer many other services that can be of value to your library or institution. You can see pictures and get additional information regarding these services on our web site [www.katercrafts.com](http://www.katercrafts.com).

- ◆ Restoration, repair and de-acidification of old books, magazines, journals, Bibles, boxes, maps.
- ◆ De-acidification and Mylar encapsulation of flat items such as maps, posters, newspaper clippings, letters and other paper documents enabling them to be studied and handled without damage. Mylar encapsulated documents can also be bound into a book.
- ◆ Custom made protective Clamshell boxes, Phase boxes and slipcases to protect valuable or fragile volumes from damage and to allow shelving information to be lettered on the spine.
- ◆ Custom Ring binders, Presentation binders and Commemorative scrapbooks: perfect for retirement gifts, marriages, births or for travel photos. The front can be personalized with foil embossed lettering or a logo, or custom artwork can be reproduced and foil embossed. A photo or other print can be inset into the cover. Pages can be custom make or photo sleeves that you supply.
- ◆ Sheet music and pamphlets can be bound in flat binders with a sturdy, clear polyester cover and book cloth spine. Flat or stubbed pockets can be added to hold music parts, maps, or any loose materials.
- ◆ Newspaper and Newsletter binding: newsprint should be de acidified before binding to prevent further acid damage. We can bind oversize newspapers, protecting them from damage and allowing easy readability.

### KATER-CRAFTS EMPLOYEE PROFILES



Miguel Angel Olvera, an important member of our management team, is beginning his 15th year at Kater-Crafts. Over the years Miguel has performed many jobs at the bindery, starting in the Forwarding Department where he worked his way up from selecting inlays and applying back lining to more skilled tasks such as trimming volumes, cutting boards and rounding and backing the spine. Along the way he learned foil stamping and is a master technician in this precision art. Miguel is also in charge of our Editions binding, guiding the volumes from receiving through to completion. Miguel lives near the bindery with his wife and two young daughters.



Lucy Davila works in our Restoration and Fine Binding Department. Last month she celebrated her 15th year at Kater-Crafts. Lucy has a natural talent, an artistic eye and a love of crafts that she says she recognized during her childhood in Guadalajara, Mexico. When she started at the bindery she was taught to make clamshell boxes. After a year or so of watching what the other restorers were working on, she asked to learn more binding techniques. Lucy does beautiful hand binding, period style binding and restoration, and is often given special projects. Lucy's daughter Jennifer just turned 5 years old.



Mercedes Rocha has been with Kater-Crafts since 1962. She started in the Case making Department and was Lead Person there for many years. Mercedes has taken time off over the last 43 years to have 5 children and raise her younger sister from the age of 12. She and her husband are now the very proud grandparents of 14 girls and 5 boys. Mercedes is in charge of Billing and Shipping. Since she is the last one to check the jobs before the work is packed for delivery, she frequently has to find any missing volumes or "stragglers" that have gotten separated from the rest of the job during the binding process. Mercedes says that she counts books in her dreams at night.



## THE CHANGING BOOK

**M**el and Bruce recently attended “*The Changing Book Exposition*” at the University of Iowa. The meeting was attended by bookbinders, conservators and library personnel from all corners of the U.S.

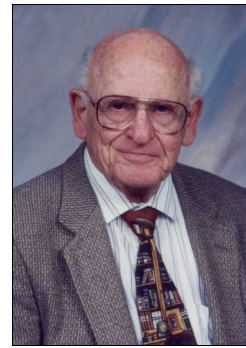
The event began with an outdoor “tent show” in the sweltering 104° heat. There were demonstrations of papermaking, printing and bookbinding techniques in the open sided tent in a grassy field on campus.

The following 3 days were in air conditioned facilities which housed several bookbinding exhibits and vendors’ booths which were visited between talks and slide shows presented by about two dozen speakers from various fields of library science, book production and conservation. Topics ranged from primitive Tibetan book production to current conservation practices to collection management and the future of books, including eBooks.

The meeting was as much a tribute to Bill Anthony as to the book itself. Bill was an Irish Bookbinder trained in the traditional European manner – serving many years as an apprentice and journeyman in several binderies in the UK until he came to Chicago in 1965 as a Master Bookbinder. In turn, Bill trained many young bookbinders and helped establish the Standards of Excellence seminars produced annually by the Guild of Book Workers to promote quality and craftsmanship in hand book binding and conservation. Bill was the head of conservation at the University of Iowa and taught bookbinding there, one of the few institutions which offer a degree in book arts.

**S**ome of the book related organizations that Kater-Crafts belongs to that might be of interest to your library:

- ◆ Library Binding Institute: [www.lbibinders.org](http://www.lbibinders.org)
- ◆ Guild of Book Workers: [www.palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg.gbww](http://www.palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg.gbww)
- ◆ Hand Bookbinders of California: [www.sfcfb.org/html/hbc.html](http://www.sfcfb.org/html/hbc.html)
- ◆ Miniature Book Society: [www.mbs.org](http://www.mbs.org)



**K**ater-Crafts was started by Mel Kavin in 1948 when he returned from service in WWII. The bindery began in the basement of his house in east Los Angeles. After outgrowing several other locations near downtown L.A., we built our current facility and moved to Pico Rivera in 1964. Kater-Crafts is still family owned and operated. Mel is celebrating his 89th birthday in September! He still comes in to work every day and would love to hear from any of you who know him. [mel@katercrafts.com](mailto:mel@katercrafts.com)

### Bindery Contacts:

(562) 692-0665



- ◆ Questions about your billing or to schedule a pick-up:  
Call Erica Martinez  
[office@katercrafts.com](mailto:office@katercrafts.com)
- ◆ Rick Kavin - Questions about library binding, ABLE, or general bindery information.  
[rakavin@earthlink.net](mailto:rakavin@earthlink.net)
- ◆ Bruce Kavin - Questions about preservation and restoration services, special bindings and short run editions.  
[bkavin@earthlink.net](mailto:bkavin@earthlink.net)
- ◆ Claudia Ortega - Questions about library binding, ABLE, or general bindery information.  
[ABLE@katercrafts.com](mailto:ABLE@katercrafts.com)
- ◆ Judith Howard - Troubleshooter: any questions or suggestions you have regarding our service or our products.  
[jraefox@earthlink.net](mailto:jraefox@earthlink.net)

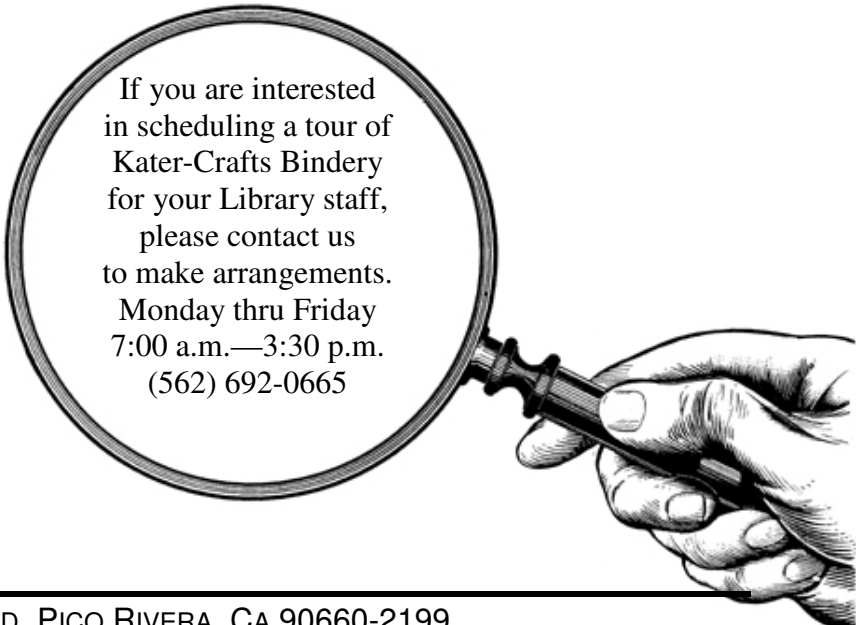


4860 GREGG ROAD, PICO RIVERA, CA 90660-2199

**KATER-CRAFTS BOOK BINDERS**



**K**ater-Crafts Bookbinders is a full service bindery. We take pride in producing work of the highest quality at reasonable prices. Our binding conforms to the NISO/Library Binding Institute standards for library binding. You can read or download the NISO/LBI standards at [www.lbibinders.org](http://www.lbibinders.org). The L.B.I. Website also has a calendar of events, a useful glossary of terms and FAQs as well as links to other sites and publications of interest to libraries.



If you are interested in scheduling a tour of Kater-Crafts Bindery for your Library staff, please contact us to make arrangements.  
Monday thru Friday  
7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.  
(562) 692-0665

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