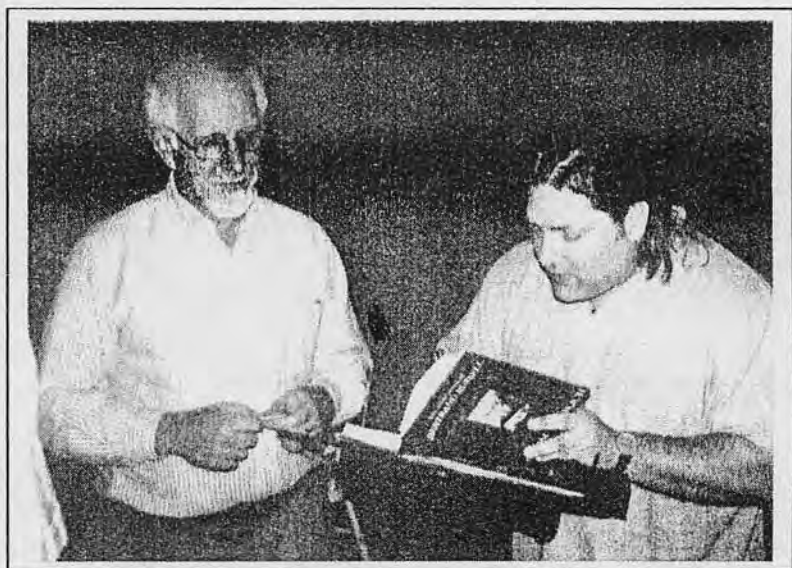


THE BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY QUARTERLY

November 2002

No. 116



Thom Weidlich in Rochester

Thom Weidlich (right) signs a copy of his new book for GRRS-er Gerry Wildenberg during his visit to Rochester. Read the full story of Thom's visit inside!

THE BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY

The Bertrand Russell Society was founded in 1974 to foster a better understanding of the life, work and writing of Bertrand Russell (1872-1970) and to promote ideas and causes he thought important. The Society's motto is Russell's statement, "The good life is one inspired by love and guided by knowledge." (*What I Believe*, 1925)

THE BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY HOMEPAGE

<http://www.users.drew.edu/~jlenz/brs.html>

Webmaster: John Lenz, jlenz@drew.edu

THE BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY QUARTERLY

Editor: Peter Stone

Associate Editors: Phil Ebersole, Tim Madigan,
Rachel M. Murray, David White

Letters and unsolicited articles, book reviews, etc. are welcome. Editorial correspondence should be addressed to:

David White, Department of Philosophy, St. John Fisher College,
3690 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618 USA, dwhite@sjfc.edu.

Opinions expressed in the *Quarterly* are entirely those of the authors and should not be attributed to the Bertrand Russell Society or any other individual or institution.

OFFICERS OF THE BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY

Chairman of the Board
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

David White
Alan Schwerin
Ray Perkins
Chad Trainer
Dennis J. Darland

QUOTE OF THE *QUARTERLY*

"My main interest is defending humanism as an alternative morality, of happiness here and now, of autonomy and individual freedom and dignity, and of the value of the exuberance of this life."

BRS Honorary Member Paul Kurtz, quoted in Dinitia Smith, "A Vigorous Skeptic of Everything but Fact." *New York Times*, June 19, 2002, p. E1. (See also "Updates on Awards and Honorary Members" in this issue.)

Kurtz at his most Russellian.

THE BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY QUARTERLY

November 2002

No. 116

CONTENTS

From the Editor	2
Abercrombie and Iraq	4
Letter from the Chairman	5
IT'S TIME TO RENEW!!!	6
2003 Annual Meeting	7
BRS Board Elections—Vote Now!	8
In Memoriam: Harry Ruja	11
BRS Receives Bequest	11
A Russellian is Born—Update	11
Articles	
White on a Shocking Encounter with BR	12
Stone on Irving Copi	14
Smith on Gould's Memorial Service	15
Bock on GRRS Visitors	17
Reviews	
Chapman on <i>Why I Am Not a Christian</i>	23
Regular Features	
Russell-Related Odds and Ends	25
News from the Humanist World	32
Updates on Awards and Honorary Members	33
Who's New in Hell	36
Pose with Bertie!	39
BRS Business and Chapter News	
Greater New York City Chapter of the BRS	40
BRS Library	41
Treasurer's Report	48
Greater Rochester Russell Set	Inside Back Cover

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!!!
See page 6 for details!

From the Editor:

Dinner at Louie's

Right after I joined the BRS back in 1990, I benefited from some amazing luck. The first BRS Annual Meeting to take place after I joined (1991) was held at Lehigh University, in my hometown of Bethlehem (Pennsylvania, not Israel). I was an undergraduate at Penn State University at the time, and didn't have much of a conference budget, and so this coincidence gave me the opportunity to attend.

A year later, I was a summer intern at SANE/FREEZE: Campaign for Global Security, a peace organization based in Washington, DC (later renamed Peace Action). Still lacking much money (my internship "paid" the princely sum of \$50 a week), I had enjoyed my first BRS Annual Meeting and was anxious to attend my second. Fortunately, the BRS made it easy for me again; the 1992 Annual Meeting was held at American University in Washington that summer.

Admittedly, my luck ran out the following year; the 1993 Annual Meeting, held in San Diego, is the only meeting I've missed since I joined the Society. Still, my luck had held strong in allowing a poor student to attend two annual meetings in a row on a shoestring. But I think the most valuable piece of good fortune I enjoyed in those days took place even before I attended my first Annual Meeting. For in the spring of 1991, I received an invitation to attend a special event in honor of Russell, one that made quite an impact for me.

"PRAISE THE LORD!" read the postcard. "Lord Russell, of course," it went on. The card invited me to attend a celebration of Russell's birthday, to be held in Allentown that May. (Allentown, for those unfamiliar with Pennsylvania geography, sits right next to Bethlehem.) The meeting took place at Louie's, a quaint Italian restaurant downtown, and was organized by longtime BRS mainstay Lee Eisler and his new wife, Jan. Also attending were BRS members Glenn Moyer and his wife, along with a few others that Eisler and Moyer had dragged along. (Much of dinnertime was taken up with explaining whose birthday we were celebrating.) This was to be the first of several yearly birthday parties for Russell that I would attend at that restaurant, and I would always come away with interesting stories to tell, although I also learned to be careful telling them. (Note to all 19-year-old boys out there: never admit to other 19-year-olds that you've attended a birthday celebration for a dead British philosopher.)

There hasn't been a birthday party for Russell held in Bethlehem for several years now. Lee Eisler, who kept the BRS running smoothly for years as both Vice President for Information (it was he who responded to my initial expression of interest in the BRS) and editor of the *BRSQ*'s predecessor, the *Russell Society News* (I have succeeded him; I cannot replace him), passed away in 1998. Jan Loeb Eisler, currently a Board Member of the BRS, now resides in Florida. But to this day, I retain a lot of fond memories of those dinner parties. They surely helped cement my commitment to the BRS as much as the Annual Meetings or even Lee's fine newsletter.

And yet the fact remains that I was incredibly lucky to have such an annual celebration held right in my own backyard. Although the BRS has members scattered throughout the world, it has provided few opportunities outside the Annual Meeting for members to interact. Granted, it has a growing presence on the programs of the American Philosophical Association. But these programs are traditionally oriented towards professional philosophers; events aimed at the Russellian-in-the-street are few and far between.

The situation improved dramatically six years ago, when the Greater Rochester Russell Set (GRRS) was formed. Starting from humble beginnings, when meetings of four (three of whom were the organizers of the group) were not uncommon, the group has grown to the point where its local gatherings rival the BRS Annual Meeting in size. It has also taken a leadership role in the national society, with one of its founding members (David White) currently serving as Chairman of the Board and another (yours truly) editing the *BRSQ*. It has even begun to attract emulators, slowly but surely; a New York City chapter has formed, a Boston chapter has been explored, and there has been talk of a chapter in Indianapolis.

But while the GRRS can do many things, it cannot be everywhere at once. Our meetings offer regular opportunities only to the denizens of upstate New York. In order to get a Russell "fix" between Annual Meetings, one either has to be very lucky in where one resides—as I had been back in Bethlehem—or willing to put up with one heck of a commute. (At least one BRS member has expressed a willingness to attend GRRS events provided we can pay his plane fare from England. His request, along with every other request made to the GRRS that would require a budget, is still pending.)

Ultimately, if Russell-related events are to cover the land one day, they will have to come about through the initiative of the membership. If you would like to see the BRS become more visible in your area, there are many things you can do. You don't have to start a full-scale chapter (although if you'd like to give it a try, the GRRS will provide all the advice and assistance it can.) Arrange a speaking engagement for a distinguished Russellian in your town. Borrow an audio or video recording of Russell from the BRS Library, and set up a public viewing. Or, if even these events are beyond your resources, keep it low key. Throw a birthday party for Bertie. Find a nice restaurant (doesn't have to be Italian), invite some friends, and have a ball. If it goes well, there are plenty of other Russell-related milestones throughout the year to celebrate. You may discover that you have more energy for spreading the good word about the BRS than you initially thought.

One more thing. Once you've decided to hold a Russell-related event, let us know about it. The *BRSQ* would love to publicize your event, and will happily publish articles and photographs dealing with them. Consider it our own small way of keeping alive the memory of dinner at Louie's.

Abercrombie and Iraq

On October 10, 2002, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 296-133 to authorize President Bush to carry out military action against Iraq. (Three House members did not vote, and three House seats were vacant at the time.) The following day, the Senate approved the same measure by a 77-23 vote. Among the courageous minority opposing the President was Rep. Neil Abercrombie (D-HI), the only member of Congress to belong to the BRS. The *BRSQ* would like to thank Rep. Abercrombie for remembering the words of Exodus 23:2—"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil." Bertrand Russell's grandmother inscribed those words on a Bible she gave to him as a birthday present when he was a boy. They are as sound today as they were then. We salute Rep. Abercrombie's courage and good sense, and hope he will continue to work for peace as best he can.

(These views reflect only the opinions of the *BRSQ* Editorial Board. The BRS plays no role in partisan politics and endorses no candidates.)

Letter from the Chairman

Our Society is a strange one, as special interest groups go. We have an excellent mix of people with different kinds of interests in Russell, and we serve as a link between the pulse-beat of popular culture and the most dry-as-dust scholarship. The membership seems pleased with the revived *BRSQ*, and the Greater Rochester Russell Set (GRRS) continues to sponsor impressive programs month after month. Perhaps not everyone is aware of the many other opportunities that come with membership in the BRS. Not only are full manuscripts welcomed by the editors of the *BRSQ*, but members may also care to submit ideas for a story or brief reports on local events. This December we have a program at the American Philosophical Association (APA) meeting in Philadelphia. Attendance by all members is very much encouraged. A program has also been prepared for the San Francisco meeting of the APA, March 26-30. Please consider, also, attending a birthday celebration on or about May 18. (See the editorial in this issue.) That would be a great time to volunteer to lead a book discussion at your local school or library. "Nobel Prize Winner" is often a good hook for getting attention. If you plan to be in New York, by all means get in touch with Warren Allen Smith about meeting with the second U.S. Chapter of the BRS. (See "The Greater New York City Chapter of the Bertrand Russell Society" in this issue.) The GRRS is full of ideas for those who want to start their own local chapter. Finally, there are many members who do not attend the Annual Meeting. This year the meeting will again be at Lake Forest College at the end of May. So far as I know, everyone who has attended these meetings has had a good time. Lake Forest (outside of Chicago) is a great location for a family vacation. I hope to see many of you at these events.

David E. White
Department of Philosophy
St. John Fisher College
3690 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14618
dwhite@sjfc.edu

GRRS-er Joins *BRSQ* Staff

Phil Ebersole, an active member of the GRRS, has joined the *BRSQ* team as an associate editor. Phil is a retired journalist who wrote for the Rochester *Democrat & Chronicle*; his skills should thus prove very valuable to us. Welcome aboard, Phil!

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!!!

All BRS memberships (except Life and Honorary memberships) expire at the end of the calendar year. And so if you haven't renewed your membership already, **now is the time!** To renew your membership, just use the handy membership form in the center of this issue. Indicate on the form that this is a renewal. Please return it to our treasurer, Dennis Darland, at 1406 26th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201-2837, USA. You can pay by check (payable, in U.S. Dollars, to "BRS") or money order. You can also pay by credit card using Paypal on the web. Just go to <http://www.paypal.com>, and open a free account. Then pay your dues using brs-pp@qconline.com as the recipient's e-mail address when prompted. There is no charge to make a Paypal payment, which (foreign members take note) will be handled in U.S. dollars. In the e-mail message that Paypal will send from you to our treasurer (Dennis), be sure to state the purpose of the payment (membership renewal). Do not include your credit card info in the message. Do include any change in your name and address. Dennis will send you an e-mail receipt, and update the membership records accordingly.

Unsure if you've renewed already. The *BRSQ* endeavors to make things as easy as possible. Just check the mailing label on this issue. It will have one of the following four-digit numbers on it:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 2002 | means you are paid through 2002, but still need to renew for 2003. |
| 2003 | means you have indeed renewed for 2003, and so are all set for the year. |
| 7777, 8888, or 9999 | means you are a Life Member, Honorary Membership, or receiving the <i>BRSQ</i> as a courtesy. In any case, you never need to renew. |

Check for your number, and you'll always know your status.

If you have any questions about your membership, feel free to write to Dennis at djdarland@qconline.com.

The BRS is constantly looking for ways we can make it easier for you to keep your membership current. We'd hate to lose any member because of a misunderstanding over the timing of a dues payment. If you have any suggestions to help us improve the process, please drop the *BRSQ* a line.

**The 2003 Annual Meeting of the Bertrand Russell Society
Lake Forest College (Lake Forest, IL)
May 30-June 1, 2003**

After arranging a very successful BRS Annual Meeting at Lake Forest College last year, BRS Board member Rosalind Carey has agreed to host the 2003 BRS Annual Meeting at Lake Forest as well. The BRS is very appreciative of her hard work, both this year and next.

BRS President Alan Schwerin is currently preparing a website with information about the conference and a call for papers. In the meantime, members may also submit paper proposals to Alan at the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ 07764 USA, (732) 571-4470, aschweri@monmouth.edu. Please direct all other questions about the conference (concerning housing, food, travel, etc.) to Rosalind Carey, Department of Philosophy, Durand Hall, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL 60045 USA, carey@hermes.lfc.edu. Particulars will appear in the February 2003 *BRSQ*, or on BRS-List if they are available sooner. (See "Are You on BRS-List?" below.)

The *BRSQ* encourages every member to attend and participate in our second meeting at Lake Forest! See you there!

Are You on BRS-List?

BRS-List is the BRS's official listserve, used to send members information about Society activities and to discuss Society business. The listserve is open only to members of the BRS, and all members are encouraged to join. To join the list, visit <http://mailman.mcmaster.ca/mailman/listinfo/brs-list> and fill out the form. Alternatively send the message

subscribe

to brs-list-request@mailman.mcmaster.ca.

Any questions regarding BRS-List can be directed to the listserve's owner, Ken Blackwell, at blackwk@mcmaster.ca.

Note that BRS-List is **not** the same as Russell-I, a listserve run out of McMaster for the purpose of discussing all things Russellian. Please keep this distinction in mind when posting to one or the other list.

BRS Board Elections—Vote Now!

It's time for the BRS to fill the eight seats on its Board of Directors that fall vacant at the end of the year. Please cast your vote for up to 8 of the 9 candidates whose statements appear below. You may also write in candidates if you wish. Candidates must be members of the BRS in good standing.

A ballot appears at the center of this issue (right under the renewal form). Please return your completed ballot to BRS Librarian Tom Stanley at Box 434, Wilder, VT 05080 USA, or at tom.stanley@vallet.net. If a couple has a joint membership, each member of the couple is entitled to a vote; just photocopy the ballot and send one copy for each member. All ballots must include the name and signature of the member voting. (Ballots will be viewed only by the Elections Committee and the Secretary.) All ballots must be received by **December 31, 2002**.

Board Candidate Statements

Andrew Bone is Senior Research Associate at the Bertrand Russell Centre at McMaster University. He worked on an ad hoc basis for the old Bertrand Russell Editorial Project before joining it full time in January 1997. He first seriously engaged Russell's life while researching the emergency legislation under which Russell was charged in the First World War. (He conducted this research for his Ph. D. thesis in Modern British History.) He was an assistant editor on Volume 15 of *The Collected Papers of Bertrand Russell* and is the editor of Volume 28, *Man's Peril, 1954-55* (currently at press) and Volume 29, *Détente or Destruction, 1955-57* (in progress).

David Goldman has been a member of the BRS for nearly 20 years. A psychiatrist and psychoanalyst affiliated with the Department of Psychiatry at New York University Medical Center and the Columbia University Psychoanalytic Center, respectively, he has focused on dealing with depression as a major source of personal unhappiness and with the psychiatric consequences of the threat of nuclear war. In these endeavors, he has been interested in the effect of rigid moral systems, dogmatic religious indoctrination, and political strictures on the development of healthy personalities and socially just societies. He is a Director of the National Coalition of Mental Health Professionals and Consumers, which fights against managed care abuses, loss of patient rights of confidentiality, and for the preservation of professionals' decision-making autonomy. He belongs to numerous progressive organizations, and once organized a

"Psychiatric Consequences of Nuclear War Conference" for the New York Chapter of the Physicians for Social Responsibility in the early 80's, one of the first efforts to deal with dangerous Reagan first-strike policies. In 1987, he addressed the BRS Annual Meeting on the inherent tendencies for positive and life-enhancing behavior against a prevailing psychological theory that the depressive position was the more truthful basic framework for perception and action. He is also currently preparing a talk for the BRS 2003 Annual Meeting on Russell's impact on psychiatry. As a Director, he would work to expand membership in psychiatric societies, urge greater visibility for BRS on the public issues of to-day, and work to develop cooperative ventures for public radio and TV informational programs with the Center for Inquiry.

Nick Griffin is a philosopher at McMaster University who is interested in logic, epistemology, and Bertrand Russell. He has edited two volumes of Russell's *Selected Letters*, co-edited two volumes of his *Collected Papers*, and is the author of *Russell's Idealist Apprenticeship* as well as many articles on Russell's life and work. He is currently general editor of *The Collected Papers of Bertrand Russell* and the Director of the Bertrand Russell Research Centre at McMaster, where he is working on an online edition of Russell's complete correspondence.

David Henehan has been a practicing lawyer ("solicitor" in Russell's parlance) for over 35 years. He has been a secular humanist since childhood, and currently serves on the Center for Inquiry, Inc. and its affiliated corporate boards as well as on a local Rotary handicapped children's camp board. A former Unitarian, he has also served the First Unitarian Church of Rochester as a board member, Vice-President and President. He has belonged to the BRS for many years, attending many annual meetings of the society and participating actively in the GRRS. A graduate of Hamilton College and Cornell Law School, he thinks it is important for the Board of Directors to consist not only of academics but other interested professionals and persons with business experience. He further believes that lawyers are uniquely qualified to serve on non-profit boards.

Justin Leiber (B.Phil., Oxford; Ph.D., University of Chicago) is a Professor of Philosophy at the University of Houston. His books include *Noam Chomsky: A Philosophic Overview*; *Structuralism*; *Can Animals and Machines Be Persons?*; *An Invitation to Cognitive Science*; *Paradoxes*; *Beyond Rejection*; *Beyond Humanity*; and *Beyond Gravity*. (Most of these works are also available in translation.) He has also published over fifty papers in philosophy and cognitive science journals, including papers on

Russell, Wittgenstein, J. L. Austin, Helen Keller, and Moja (a recently deceased chimpanzee). More information about him is available at <http://www.hfac.uh.edu/phil/leiber/jleiber.htm>.

Chandrakala Padia is the Director of the Banaras Chapter of the BRS. She started this chapter in 1989, and since then she has been actively involved in propagating and disseminating the humanist ideas of Bertrand Russell. Under her leadership, the Banaras Chapter organizes its own annual conference every year, along with many other talks by distinguished scholars. Her book, entitled *Liberty and Social Transformation: A Study in Bertrand Russell's Political Thought*, has been widely acclaimed. She completed this book at the Russell Archives at McMaster University. Since then she has published many papers in renowned journals, including one in *Russell*. Presently, she is Professor of Political Science and Director of Center for Women Studies at Banaras Hindu University. She holds many key positions in the academic world and has been made member of various national bodies; recently, for example, she was named National Fellow at the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla. Her most recent book is entitled *Feminism, Tradition, and Modernity*, and has been published by the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla.

Cara Rice was brought up with a respectful attitude towards secular humanism. Bertrand Russell's *Why I Am Not a Christian* figured prominently in the family library. She has, however, always avoided taking the merits of her upbringing for granted. She attended undergraduate school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she was politically active. She is currently preparing to be certified for teaching high school English, as a Masters of Science in Education candidate at the University of Pennsylvania. There she is incorporating Russell into her studies and plans to utilize his thought in her student teaching as well. She is studying Dewey and Russell's philosophies of education and has completed two projects this year based largely on Russell's *Education and the Social Order* and the *History of Western Philosophy's* critique of Plato's *Republic*, respectively. In addition, she is planning to write a term paper that will discuss Dora and Bertrand Russell's Beacon Hill School experiences. She originally got her husband, Chad Trainer, involved in the BRS by giving him a membership as a 1998 holiday present. She and Chad live in Pennsylvania several miles from Russell's World War II residences, which they periodically visit. She is interested in continuing to attend the Society's annual meetings and in presenting at some of them.

Peter Stone is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Rochester. His research includes critical and democratic theory in addition to Russell. He has been a Board Member of the BRS since 1997, and was Secretary of the Society and Board from 1998-2001. He has also chaired the BRS Awards Committee from 1998-2001, and served an additional year as committee member. He is currently chairman of the *Bertrand Russell Society Quarterly* Committee, and in that capacity serves as editor of the *BRSQ*. He is also a founder and active participant in the GRRS. He hopes to make membership outreach a top priority for the BRS.

Ruili Ye received her Ph.D. in Computer Science from the City University of New York (CUNY). Her dissertation topic was a first-order logic formalization of belief with names. She is currently an assistant professor at CUNY and a co-chair of the newly-founded Greater New York City Chapter of the Bertrand Russell Society.

In Memoriam: Harry Ruja

On February 28, 2002, Harry Ruja died of complications from a stroke suffered last December. He was 90. Harry was for years a mainstay of both Russell Studies and the BRS. He co-edited with Ken Blackwell the massive three-volume *Bibliography of Bertrand Russell* (Routledge, 1994), and chaired the BRS Board of Directors. He will be sorely missed. A tribute to Harry will appear in a forthcoming *BRSQ*.

BRS Receives Bequest

The BRS recently received a check for over \$1000 from the life insurance policy of Artie Gomez, a longtime member of the BRS. An obituary of Mr. Gomez, a resident of Pittsfield, MA, appeared on March 27, 2002 at <http://www.iberkshires.com/community/obituary/obituary.php3?person=1790>. The *BRSQ* would like to acknowledge this generous gift and extend our sincerest best wishes to Mr. Gomez's family and friends.

A Russellian is Born—Update

The February 2002 issue of the *BRSQ* carried news of the birth of Sophia Russell Spike, named (of course) after Bertie. It now appears that Sophia's father, Jeffrey Spike, has joined the BRS. The *BRSQ* welcomes him into the BRS and trusts that he will read to Sophia from our newsletter at bedtime.

Articles:

**Author Reports a Shocking Encounter with BR
David White**

Warren Allen Smith and Ken Blackwell noticed a Russell anecdote in Doris Grumbach's *The Pleasure of their Company* (Beacon Press, 2001), which the publisher has been advertising as "a shocking encounter." Here is the full text (which appears on pages 83-84):

In the first year at the *Forum*, and for the second time in my short life, I came, in a humorous sort of way, close to greatness. Peter Blake had been a tutor to Bertrand Russell's young son, Conrad, in England. When Russell was invited by Albert Barnes to lecture at his house in Merion, Pennsylvania, Peter and I once met him at the station on his return to the city and took him to his hotel in New York, where he stayed until it was time to give his Rand lecture in the city.

The manager at the Lafayette, at Tenth Street in Greenwich Village, seemed delighted to welcome Lord Russell. I remember watching him sign the register with a flourish and wondered if he were being accorded free privileges. It was probably not so, because after our drinks at a marble-topped table in the coffee shop, we went upstairs to Russell's room, a tiny cell of a place without a private bath.

When Peter went down the long hall to the men's room, I was alone with Russell. The seventy-two-year-old philosopher closed the door, pushed me down on the bed, opened the buttons of his fly, and climbed atop of me. He was a small but amazingly virile chap. Fortunately, by the time he had succeeded in reaching through the layers of my clothes, Peter had returned and interrupted the proceedings.

Russell was most nonchalant at being interrupted, Peter pretended not to notice as the great man closed his buttons and I, much relieved, rearranged my skirt and sweater. We said good night to Russell, he to us (I think I

remember he kissed us both sedately on the cheek), and we left. As we walked down the stairs I thought, I remember clearly: this is as close as I am ever likely to come to having sex with a Nobel Prize winner.

Intrigued and confused, the *BRSQ* wrote to Ms Grumbach as follows:

September 30, 2002

Dear Ms. Grumbach,

An article submitted to our journal contains a reference to the story you tell about Bertrand Russell in *The Pleasure of Their Company*. Our fact checker has raised some issues about the anecdote. Our present intention is to include an editorial note pointing out the apparent discrepancies, but we would like to hear from you or your publisher if there is an explanation.

You do not give a date for the alleged incident, but the reference to your first year at the *Forum* (p. 83) and to Russell working for Barnes and giving his Rand lecture (p. 84) all point to a date late in 1942. You then mention that Russell was seventy-two, but he was only seventy in 1942. Far more significantly, you say "I remember clearly: this is as close as I am ever likely to come to having sex with a Nobel Prize winner." (p. 84) The trouble is that Russell's Nobel Prize was not until 1950, so you could not have had that thought as you "walked down the stairs" in 1942.

Here is a transcription of the prompt reply we received:

Memory is a slippery slope. I erred by 2 years on Russell's age (not a serious error). I remember thinking of R's celebrity as I left the hotel. The thought about the Nobel Prize must have come later. Mea culpa...Sixty years is a long, long time to hold events fast in memory.

Doris

P.S. All else is exact, I believe.

Irving Copi Remembered

Peter Stone

On August 19, 2002, Irving Marmer Copi died at the age of 85. A retired University of Hawaii philosophy professor, Copi is best known for his numerous books on logic—notably *Introduction to Logic*, which has gone through 11 editions to date. In 1998, Copi received the BRS Annual Award “in recognition of his exemplary contributions to logic and philosophy in the Russellian tradition” (to quote from his award plaque).

At the time Copi was given the award, I was chairing the BRS Awards Committee. I therefore had the privilege of both offering Copi the award and then sending him the plaque once he had accepted it. In response, I received a lovely handwritten postcard which I still have. In tribute to Professor Copi, I reproduce the text from the postcard below.

August 4, 1999

Dear Dr. Stone,

Thank you and the Bertrand Russell Society for the beautiful plaque sent to me last month. I am indeed honored! I was very lucky to have participated in Russell's Seminar at the University of Chicago in 1938-39. He was indeed an inspiration to me, and to many others who attended it. They included Profs. Rudolf Carnap, Charles Morris, Sr. (of the Math or Chemistry Dept.) and others in that enormous lecture hall to which the seminar was ultimately moved from the tiny seminar room for which it was originally scheduled.

Russell was an easily approachable teacher who set aside one evening a week at his apartment in Chicago for interested students to come and discuss philosophy with him. His beautiful young wife “Peter”, a flirtatious redhead, was a charming hostess. One night he perched himself on the arm of a sofa and showed how he worked as coxswain of the boat that engaged in weekly racing at Cambridge. He shouted: “By the HOLY left leg of the HOLY lamb of God—STROKE!” A delicious memory now sixty years old!

I saw Russell again around 25 years later when I spent part of a sabbatical in England. He had been retired for some time and spent part of his time in London and part in the West of England. It was a pleasant visit. I was somewhat surprised to find him set in his “super-

empiricist” convictions, but we didn't really argue the issues but were satisfied to make as clear as we could to each other what our different convictions were. He was a beautiful old man and I was sorry not to be able to agree with what he said.

These are old memories of a man much older and wiser than myself. I think of him with deep affection and reverence. I think it fair to say that I did and still do love him—as a teacher, a friend, and an inspiration!

Yours Very Sincerely,

Irving M. Copi

Russell is an inspiration to many of us, but there are increasingly few people alive who can claim to have derived that inspiration in person. Copi will be dearly missed.

Stephen Jay Gould
September 10, 1941-May 20, 2002
Warren Allen Smith

Recently, we noted the death of Stephen Jay Gould, recipient of the 2000 BRS Award (see “Updates on Awards and Honorary Members,” BRSQ #115, August 2002). In this issue, we present a report on the memorial service held for Gould in New York City by a longtime BRS-er.

Stephen Jay Gould's memorial was memorable for its wit, humor, and appreciation of his having so successfully popularized paleontology and evolutionary biology.

On May 30, 2002, the New York City Fire Department's Color Guard and Pipes and Drums commenced the memorial by performing outside New York University's Vanderbilt Hall. Then to the slow beat of a single snare drum, Mrs. Rhonda Gould along with members and friends of the Gould family marched solemnly into the auditorium. Several hundred had already assembled, filling the room to capacity.

The first to speak was Philip Furmanski, chairman of New York University's Biology Department. He recalled how the two had co-taught biology, how Gould had been a cherished colleague with profound feelings of the responsibilities a scientist has both to his science and to the public.

But he was not just Bahamian Cerion snails, fossils, and the punctuated equilibrium theory. Gould, he said shifting his tone, also loved W. C. Fields, Mae West, and the Yankees baseball team. Toward the end of his life, suffering from the mesothelioma that would kill him, Gould valiantly had wanted to live long enough to finish two books he still had in him. Regretfully, this was not to be.

Niles Eldredge, of the American Museum of Natural History and author of *The Triumph of Evolution and the Failure of Creationism*, explained some of Dr. Gould's basic and admittedly controversial views. The two had suggested that evolutionary change does not involve a steady process of slow change but, rather, fossil records show it came in fits and starts. During millions of years, for example, species changed little or not at all. But intermittently species did change, and new forms appeared in the fossil record, punctuating the rapid change, leading to their theory's being called *punctuated equilibrium*. Gould, he said, was "arguably the most famous scientist of our time" and his passing "will leave a void that nobody can fill." One paleontologist Gould did not agree with, said Eldredge to everyone's amusement, was the paleontologist and Jesuit priest, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin.

Richard Burger, a childhood chum, told tales of their riding the "F" train together, Gould easily memorizing all the subway stops. At Jamaica High School, in the city's Borough of Queens, Gould had sung folksongs with the school's leftists and, a sign of his genius, had declared joyfully that all reasonable people *had* to be atheists, not believers. Later in life, Gould had a habit of carrying twenty-seven or so pens in his shirt pocket, Burger noted, adding with a smile that probably eighteen of them were bone dry.

Gould's stepson, London Shearer Allen, related what an inspiring mentor his step-father had been and how as a teenager he had been encouraged to study reptiles, had even been taken on a memorable trip to Costa Rica's jungles to study flora and fauna. Mourners were amused when he reported that his stepfather had been a great help and an ideal person to proofread some of his student research papers at NYU.

Oliver Sacks, a neurologist and friend, called Gould a polymath, humanizing him by saying he loved humor, parties, Gilbert and Sullivan, baseball, but, above all, dinosaurs.

One of Stephen's two sons, Ethan Gould, said he and his father bonded with their interest in baseball. "I promised Dad I would read one of his books," he said, admitting that he was not the academic genius his father

was. "I never did read one of his books. But I will now," he added to everyone's amusement.

Alan Dershowitz, the lawyer, sent a message that was read, one in which he detailed his own appreciation for Gould's many scientific findings.

Two selections were then sung by The Boston Cecilia—"Funeral Sentences for the Funeral of Queen Mary" by Henry Purcell and "The Blue Bird" by Charles Villiers Stanford. Over the years, Gould had enjoyed singing with the group, and the memorial ended with the two songs, following which the single snare drummer led Mrs. Gould and the immediate family out of the auditorium.

"Why," the musical group's conductor was asked, "was the Purcell music with its theistic overtones chosen? Why not something like Haydn's 'Creation,' which Gould once told reporter Alexander Star has a text right out of the heart of the Enlightenment, one praising reason, knowledge, and liberal values." Well, replied Barbara Bruns, the family had agreed to the two selections, one secular and one religious, and Dr. Gould himself had sung the Purcell selection with the group in the past. "But he was a naturalist, a non-believer!" she was told. The musical conductor had no further explanation but was informed that, for many who had assembled, the equilibrium of the memorial had been *punctured* by the choice of the one religious work, not *punctuated*.

GRRS Visited by Distinguished Russellians **Alan Bock**

The late summer and early fall of 2002 was a period of unprecedented activity for the Greater Rochester Russell Set (GRRS). During this period three guest speakers, one from McMaster University and two from New York City, journeyed to Rochester to address our local group, now housed in new quarters at the Daily Perks Coffee House.

The first to arrive was Andrew G. Bone, who motored down to Rochester from Hamilton, Ontario in August to talk on "Russell and the Communist-Aligned Peace Movement in the Mid-1950s." Russellians will recall that Andy had presented a paper with this title at the 2001 Annual Meeting at McMaster, subsequently published in *Russell: The Journal of Bertrand Russell Studies* (Summer 2001).

As has become customary for our out of town guests, a pre-lecture dinner party was provided by various members of the steering committee. Kim's Asia House restaurant was the scene of our August repast attended by (in addition to Andy) David Henehan, Peter Stone, Phil Ebersole, David and Linda White, and Pat and Alan Bock.

In a well-researched presentation, Andy pointed out that Russell's outlook on international politics had been greatly altered by the Soviet Union's successful atom bomb test in 1949 but that there was considerable delay before his anti-communism softened perceptibly. However, by the time of his famous broadcast on "Man's Peril" just before Christmas 1954, Russell had long since passed his most belligerent anti-Communist phase. This turnabout came mainly through external factors: a crisis within western Communism and the emergence of broadly based movements for peace that could not easily be tainted by their critics as "pro-Soviet."

In an exhaustive historical analysis, Andy went on to discuss how Russell and Russia went from confrontation to coexistence; Russell's anti-anti-communism during the McCarthy period; and finally the Russell-Einstein manifesto that ultimately led to the Pugwash Conferences.

Russell, Andy concluded, demonstrated a shrewd understanding of the delicate balance that had to be struck between accommodating and excluding pro-Soviet elements in the wider peace movement. This, according to Ronald Clark, "was a tricky operation which only the aristocrat would have attempted with equanimity and which Russell, almost alone among living men, had the background and resolution to carry out with some chance of success."

September saw the first of two visitors from New York City—Thom Weidlich, author of *Appointment Denied: The Inquisition of Bertrand Russell* (Prometheus, 2000). This book discusses the famous court case whereby Russell was denied a teaching appointment at City College of New York (CCNY).

A week and a half before Thom's arrival, a preview of his talk (of sorts) was provided via a live telephone interview on Rochester's PBS AM station WXXI. On Wednesday, September 4, 2002, Thom was interviewed from NYC by local radio host Bob Smith on his show "The 1370 Connection." The interview lasted from noon to 1 PM. Smith had obviously read *Appointment Denied* recently and was well-versed on the facets and nuances of the case. A recurring theme throughout the program was the relevance of the case in today's world. Thom admitted that when

he first started researching for the book he thought the case so bizarre that it was unique; ultimately, however, he concluded that such a situation could repeat itself today given the right circumstances. Smith, too, thought it was astounding and deplorable that one of the greatest living philosophers, a future Nobel Prize winner, could be denied a teaching appointment because his radical views on sex and other matters were turned into a political football. However, Smith thought that the whole thing added to Russell's luster in the long run since his views (e.g. companionate marriage) which were so shocking in 1940 had by the 1960s become common-place and "ho hum."

Smith's probing questions throughout the interview brought out all the major facts of the case: Bishop Manning's antagonism toward Russell's sexual politics; the public outcry over Russell's radical views; his surprised and overwhelmed defenders in academia; the political chicanery of Tammany Hall politicians itching to get at their nemesis LaGuardia (who, in the end, chose to drop the "hot potato" of academic freedom); and, finally, the court fight brought about by the "purchase" of a plaintiff, Mrs. Jean Kay of Brooklyn, who claimed that her daughter would be corrupted by Russell's teaching even though, ironically, this would have been impossible given that the day sessions at CCNY in which Russell would have taught were at that time restricted to male students.

On Thursday, September 12, 2002, Thom flew from JFK to Rochester for a whirlwind 24-hour visit. He was met at the airport by Tim Madigan; the two were then joined for lunch by BRS members Pat and Alan Bock. After lunch Thom was shown one of Rochester's most famous landmarks—the George Eastman House, home of the founder of the Eastman Kodak Company. In addition to being a historic site, this building now houses a photographic museum. Many of the rooms in the mansion contained plaques describing the life and times of George Eastman. During a tour, we learned, among other things, that Eastman gave much of his great fortune to charity; that he instituted one of the very first employee profit-sharing plans anywhere; and, interestingly, that he was a rationalist who did not believe in the hereafter or in traditional religion.

A few hours later, what has now become the traditional "pre-talk" dinner was held at the Beale Street Café and was attended by all the "usual suspects" of the GRRS. At 7 PM, we all promptly trooped over to Daily Perks, where a "good crowd" of about 30 people (including many new faces) joined us. Thom was introduced by Tim Madigan, who informed us that he has known Thom for about 15 years. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the famous case, Thom published an article in CCNY on the

subject in *Free Inquiry*. Tim Madigan and others at the magazine at the time then suggested that Thom write a book on the subject. That book was completed and published by Prometheus Books ten years later.

The City College case, in Thom's view, was an incredible story with a fascinating cast of characters. First of all there was Russell himself, viewing the proceedings with increasing frustration in far-off California. While his writings and lifestyle were "what the case was all about," he himself would only play a bit part as the case unfolded. Next, there was the Episcopal Bishop of New York, William T. Manning, who started it all with his letter to New York's major newspapers objecting to the Russell appointment. He was a strange mixture of liberal altruism in social welfare matters and rigid, uncompromising conservatism in all matters pertaining to sex. He, of course, was appalled by Russell's lifestyle. Thom thought that both men were "preachers"—Manning championed dogmatic theology, Russell twentieth-century secularism. Thom also artfully introduced the large cast of supporting players—Ordway Tead, Chairman of the Board of Education governing CCNY; various other members of the Board, holding widely divergent views; Morris Cohen, John Dewey, Sidney Hook and other academics who came to Russell's defense; the students, almost unanimous in support of the Russell appointment, who were led by Robert Klein, president of the student council; James J. Lyons, the flashy Bronx Borough President and a number of Tammany Hall politicians; the Catholic diocese's new bishop, Francis Spellman, who worked mainly behind the scenes (which became one of his trademarks); Joseph Goldstein, the lawyer who brought the suit on behalf of Mrs. Kay and her daughter; the Honorable John E. McGeehan, the Tammany judge, whose willingness to ignore proper legal procedure and rule as he did was an important factor; and, finally, the "Little Flower," Fiorello H. LaGuardia, Mayor of the City of New York who failed to stand behind his own Board of Education.

Years later, in 1957, Russell would recall that "In New York Christian churches, Episcopalian and Roman Catholic accused me of offenses of which I was not guilty, and, when their libels were repeated in a law court, succeeded in preventing me from denying the accusations on the technical ground that I was not an interested party." In taking exception to a review of "Why I Am Not a Christian" in which the reviewer claimed that individual Christians often act with merit, Russell agreed but said his main concern was with Christianity as a social force and wrote "Your reviewer thinks that the kind of Christianity which I criticize ended with the end of the Regency, but George IV had been dead some time in 1940."

Warren Allen Smith made his second visit to Rochester in October 2002. Last year, he discussed his monumental *Who's Who in Hell* (Barricade Books, 2000); this year his subject was his new paperback, *Celebrities in Hell* (Barricade Books, 2002). Last year he appeared on the "Brother Wease" radio show; this year, like Thom Weidlich, he was interviewed live from New York City by Bob Smith on the latter's "1370 Connection."

I tuned in a little early and was pleasantly surprised to catch the last five minutes of an interview with Salman Rushdie on the preceding program. I could not help thinking how appropriate it was that the author of *The Satanic Verses* should be a prelude (of sorts) to the author of *Who's Who in Hell*. As W. C. Fields might have said: "How FORTOOITUS!" Later in the week, Rushdie gave a lecture at the University of Rochester attended by both Warren and our own Tim Madigan. At a reception afterward, Warren gave Rushdie a copy of Taslima Nasrin's latest book.

Nasrin, who is prominently featured in *Who's Who in Hell*, has been called the "female Salman Rushdie," as the two have had similar experiences with Islamic fatwas. She is a physician as well as a poet-novelist-journalist and was recently convicted of blasphemy (in absentia) in her native Bangladesh and sentenced to one year in jail. (See "News from the Humanist World" in this issue.) Encouragingly, Rushdie told Warren that he did not think that Nasrin would have any security problems during a forthcoming book tour of North America and that he wished her well.

The "Smith on Smith" program proved to be a lively one, with many interested callers representing diverse points of view. Fred, the first caller, almost sounded like a "set-up" when he dropped the phrase "no atheists in foxholes" giving Warren the opportunity to describe his experience on one of the world's most famous foxhole sites, Omaha Beach, in 1944. Warren also noted that Sir Arthur C. Clarke, among many others, was a famous "atheist in a foxhole." Perhaps Warren might consider doing some future compilation of "Atheists in Foxholes." The second caller, "Jim from Canandaigua," proved to be none other our own Jim Judkins, a regular attendee of GRRS meetings. He provided some rationalist quotes and a short poem by Barbara Smoker. Warren gave him an A+ on his quotes and informed him that Barbara Smoker can be found on page 1027 of *Who's Who in Hell*. Halfway through the program, Smith and Smith broke for a commercial from the program's sole sponsor—"Northeast Seminary of Roberts Wesleyan College, offering masters of divinity and masters of theology degrees." The next caller, Mary, registered some surprise at the program's sponsor and then went on to take Warren to task for making fun of religion when he used the phrase "Holy Spook." He explained that he is

an inveterate humorist and would continue to be so. What is humor to some is blasphemy to others—which is no laughing matter. Martha (from Fairport) had a friendly and pleasant voice and articulated numerous concerns she had, as a Christian, with Warren's point of view which she thought was the "flip side" of religion. Originally raised as a Catholic, she had been an atheist for a while but had been brought back to religion by reading the works of C.S. Lewis and was now a Methodist (Warren's old religion). However, she saved her most effusive praise for her current literary interest—Thomas Cahill, author of *Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The World before and after Jesus*. Martha obviously likes to read and, no doubt, will continue to evolve. The whole hour seemed to fly by.

Warren flew into Rochester on Thursday, October 10, 2002. Conveniently, the pre-lecture dinner was held at McGregor's Restaurant, which is right across the street from Daily Perks. For the third month in a row, our meeting attracted a crowd of more than 25 people. At the outset, Warren reported that he and Thom Weidlich are starting a Bertrand Russell group in New York City (see "The Greater New York City Chapter of the Bertrand Russell Society" in this issue), and that they have been much encouraged by the success of the Greater Rochester Russell Set (whose sixth anniversary approaches). He recalled that he had begun writing to celebrities more than fifty years ago and, to his surprise, received replies from many of them (but not from Einstein—perhaps he should have written in German). This, of course, was the genesis of *Who's Who in Hell*. He told us that he consulted the publisher Lyell Stuart, who set the price at \$125, and that 300 copies have been sold to libraries, including the Vatican Library. (Even the FBI has a copy.)

Warren also discussed many of the figures listed in *Celebrities in Hell*, providing surprising bits of new trivia. For example, the great actress Sarah Bernhardt had a wooden leg and was once asked by the opera composer Gounod if she prayed. When she answered "No, I'm an atheist," Gounod (who vacillated between mysticism and voluptuousness) fell to his knees and prayed. More interesting was the news that Charlie Chaplin was inspired by Robert Ingersoll and that he once wanted to play the title role in a movie about the life of Christ. The movie mogul who turned him down said that "it would have been the greatest religious picture ever made but he would have been run out of Indianapolis." We also learned that Isaac Asimov knew all the lyrics to Tom Lehrer's "The Vatican Rag." Warren regaled us with interesting stories of many other celebrities including Marlon Brando, Jesse Ventura, George Carlin, Ted Turner and George Clooney. After Warren took questions, Linda and David White invited all present to a reception at their house; many attended.

Book Reviews:

The Continuing Influence of *Why I Am Not a Christian*

We here reproduce a review of *Why I Am Not a Christian* that appeared in the BMJ (formerly British Medical Journal) two years ago. The review was written by Dr. Simon Chapman, an Associate Professor in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of Sydney and (ironically enough, given Russell's devotion to his pipe) one of Australia's leading anti-smoking advocates. The BRSQ would like to thank the BMJ for permission to reproduce this article.

Reprinted from BMJ 2000; 320: 1152 (22 April).

A Book That Changed Me

Why I am not a Christian

Bertrand Russell

Routledge, £9.99, pp 208

ISBN 0 415 07918 7

In 1969, at the age of 17, and after eight schooners of lager and a night of murderous vomiting to celebrate my final matriculation exam, I left my home in rural New South Wales and moved to a university hall of residence in the parental Gomorrah of Sydney. In the room opposite me was an earnest man from Hong Kong, 10 years my senior, who late at night would tap on my door to invite me to play chess and drink jasmine tea. He was studying for a Ph.D. on the mathematical philosopher Gottfried Leibnitz, and his room was full of books with titles that both frightened and excited me at the prospect of all I would need to know now that, overnight, I was no longer a child. On the first night I entered his room the title of one burnt into my brain—Bertrand Russell's *Why I am not a Christian*.

Such profanity promised to fit well with other unwritten books that swirled in my callow head: *Why I No Longer Live with My Parents*; *Things to Do with Naked Girls*; *Mind Altering Drugs for Beginners*. I asked if I could read it, and I recall switching off my light at 3.30 a.m., drunk with excitement at the eloquent defilement that I'd just consumed. Not since I'd wolfed down *Lady Chatterley's Lover* in an afternoon at the age of 13—after being handed it by a conspiratorial librarian with pearls and hair in a bun—had I had such joy from a book.

I'd been brought up in the high Anglican church, and God had been a problem for me ever since I, at about age 10, had asked my parents, "If God made the world, who made God?"—something that Russell now informed me was the naïf's way of phrasing the argument from first cause. The imperious canon from our cathedral was invited home for afternoon tea to plug the dyke of the boy's worrying scepticism: staring at me with that look, he said there was simply no need to keep on asking the question—it all just started with God. "Sure...right," I thought. Church for me had been the pageantry, the lusty singing on cold Sunday mornings, the scented mothers fussing with scones and jam after the service, but especially the chance to pash choirgirls after practice on Thursday nights. I'd had little truck with the theology, and the stuff about heaven seemed patent anthropocentric wish fulfillment, clasped to the bosoms of the mostly aged parishioners who seemed determined to believe in it all.

The shackles of the afterworld fell off that night, and in rode the exhilarating awareness that my gut level scepticism in fact had whole tribes of authors to support it. Russell's book was soon followed by Joachim Kahl's *The Misery of Christianity: Or a Plea for a Humanity Without God*. This catalogued the horrors wrought in the name of religion, while championing the values that many religions wanted to claim as their own. Jean Paul Sartre's essay *Existentialism and Humanism* consolidated the rift while securing the importance of taking responsibility for your beliefs and values. It also gave me a French philosophical badge that I wore as an undergraduate, along with my pretentious Gitanes cigarettes and taste in excruciating films by Bresson, Renoir, Resnais, and Truffaut.

Russell's book, and much of what I learnt about his life, embodied two of the most important things in my later life—passion for justice and intellectual scepticism. It'll be in my own 17 year old's Christmas stocking this year.

Simon Chapman, *associate professor*.

Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of Sydney, Australia

New in Russell Studies!

Would you like to find out what's new in Russell Studies? Then visit the "Forthcoming, New and Recent Works in Russell Studies" page at the website of the Bertrand Russell Archives at McMaster University. The page is at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/russdocs/forthnew.htm>.

Regular Features:

Russell-Related Odds and Ends

- Edmund Blair Bolles has edited a book entitled *Galileo's Commandment: 2,500 Years of Great Science Writing* (W.H. Freeman, 1999). The book contains essays by several figures associated with Russell, such as Einstein, Popper, Gould, and Chomsky. It also contains an essay by Russell entitled "What Einstein Did." The essay consists of a selection from Russell's book *The ABC of Relativity*.

Source: Peter Stone

- The September 2001 issue of *Monthly Review* contains a review of the second edition of Morton Sobell's *On Doing Time* (Golden Gate National Park National Parks Association, 2001). The review, by Lawrence Kaplan (whose wife is Sobell's cousin) mentions Russell's involvement with the campaign to free Sobell:

The FBI was troubled by the existence of the Sobell Committee, which tried to effect his release and educate people about the case. The agency did its best to infiltrate the Committee, to impede its work and to discredit famous people—such as Bertrand Russell—who spoke out in support of Sobell.

The review is at <http://www.monthlyreview.org/0901kaplan.htm>.

Apparently, the book itself contains no mention of Russell, although it does contain a photograph of Russell welcoming Sobell's wife, Helen, into his home in 1963. Helen Sobell, incidentally, died in April 2002. An April 25 obituary in the *Guardian* mentioned the work by Russell, as well as Pablo Picasso, in support of Sobell. The obituary is by Godfrey Hodgson.

Those interested in learning more about Sobell (who was convicted with the Rosenbergs of espionage in the midst of the worst hysteria of the Cold War) might wish to check out two of Russell's public letters on the case that are included in Ray Perkins' *Yours Faithfully, Bertrand Russell: A Lifelong Fight for Peace, Justice, and Truth in Letters to the Editor* (Open Court, 2001).

Source: Ken Blackwell & Ray Perkins

- The Canadian magazine *Westworld BC* ran a travel article in its February 2002 issue entitled “Ode to an Iguana.” The author, Ian Hannington, details his various excursions to Puerto Vallarta. In the course of his musings, he mentions his favorite sculpture in the city, a recent work by Sergio Bustamante entitled *En Busca de la Razon* (“In Search of Reason). The statue depicts a “gownclad being with a large head shaped like an inverted triangle” standing “with arms and mouth open, giving up at a ladder that reaches into the sky, up which are climbing two similar but smaller characters.” “On a plaque at the base” of this picturesque work, Hannington notes, “is a partial quote from Bertrand Russell’s *The Conquest of Happiness*, in Spanish, which suggests: ‘Rationality consists in the main of internal harmony. The man who achieves it is freer in his contemplation of the world.’”

Source: Peter Stone

- The February 9, 2002 issue of the *Vancouver Sun* featured an article by Annabel Lyon entitled “The Invention of Love: In Shaping Our Understanding of Love, Literature Can Be as Insidious as It Is Eloquent, as Fickle as It Is Sincere.” Lyon castigates the great writers for bamboozling the public with so much advice on love, much of it contradictory. Great literature suggests that love is “essential, unsatisfying, portentous and exasperating. It provokes cynicism, defensiveness, joy and sincerity.” To prove her point, she selects eight quotes from great writers, and invites the readers to match them to their authors. One of them comes from Russell’s *Conquest of Happiness*. (Russellians will have to check out the article to discover which one, although it’s not hard to guess by keeping in mind that Russell wasn’t a poet.)

Source: Peter Stone

- Rabbi Dr. Chaim Simons, of Kiryat Arba, Israel, has published a book online entitled *A Historical Survey of Proposals to Transfer Arabs from Palestine 1895 – 1947*. Among the proponents of transfer discussed are David Ben-Gurion, Franklin Roosevelt—and, at one point at least, Bertrand Russell. The discussion of Russell reads as follows:

Bertrand Russell was an English philosopher and mathematician. In his later years, Russell was actively engaged in the campaign for nuclear disarmament. For his numerous writings, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.

In 1943, Bertrand Russell wrote about his views regarding a future Jewish State. With regard to the Arab question, he distinguished between the theoretical solution and the practical realities.

For the theoretical solution, he put forward the idea of transfer. He wrote that "it should be possible to offer adequate compensation for any disturbance, and to cause the Arabs voluntarily to surrender inconvenient rights in return for perhaps more valuable concessions elsewhere."

However, in practical terms, he concluded that the problem was much more complex. This was not because he felt transfer was unethical or wrong, but because "the question is inflamed by the very general rise of Asiatic self-consciousness, and a determination to assert the rights of Asia as against the white man." Even in the eyes of the most enlightened Indian inhabitants, Russell considered that Zionism appeared as an ally of British imperialism. He did not feel that there was "the faintist [*sic—ed.*] justification for this view;" however since it was widely held, it was politically important.

In support of his claims, the author cites the following works: Bertrand Russell, "Zionism and the Peace Settlement." *The New Palestine* (June 11, 1943); Bertrand Russell, "Zionism and the Peace Settlement." *Palestine: A Jewish Commonwealth in Our Time* (1943); and Dina Porat, "Bertrand Russell on the Jewish State: 1943," *Zionism* 3 (Spring 1981).

The book, which offers a not-so-subtle defense of less-than-voluntary transfers (otherwise known as "ethnic cleansing") by Israel today, is online at <http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/Senate/7854/>.

Source: Ken Blackwell

- Reviews of Carole Seymour-Jones' *Painted Shadow: The Life of Vivienne Eliot* (London: Constable Robinson, 2001; New York: Doubleday, 2002) continue to appear. The *Times Colonist* of Victoria, British Columbia ran a review by Sheldon Goldfarb on June 23, 2002. Goldfarb bemoans the length of the book, which makes for a rather monotonous read given how little of note actually happened in Vivienne Eliot's life. Goldfarb even concludes that "somehow

Seymour-Jones manages to make even the sex a bit tedious after a while, though it is interesting to discover that Bertrand Russell slept with just about everybody; it makes one want to reread his book *The Conquest of Happiness*.”

In another review that appeared in the September 30, 2002 issue of the *New Yorker*, Louis Menand takes a swipe at Russell in his review of Carole Seymour-Jones' *The Life of Vivienne Eliot* (New York: Doubleday, 2002; earlier reviews of this book are discussed in the “Odds and Ends” section of the August 2002 *BRSQ*). Menand, whose review of Seymour-Jones' book is largely negative, describes Russell as “a sexual predator who permitted himself to become temporarily infatuated with the women he seduced.” In Russell's defense, however, he notes that Russell's affair with Vivienne was one that “her husband [T.S. Eliot, of course] either tacitly condoned or was remarkably obtuse about.” The most memorable line, however, is probably the opening one, which asks a question we've all asked ourselves at least once—“T. S. Eliot's sex life. Do we really want to go there?”

Source: Peter Stone & Phil Ebersole

- *The Historian*, magazine of the Historical Association, featured an article in its Summer 2002 issue on Russell's role in the Cuban Missile Crisis. The article is by a student named Victoria Martin. The article reviews various perspectives on Russell's role; however, it generally takes for granted the U.S. position on the Cold War and the missile crisis, and so the overall judgment of Russell is negative.

Source: Ken Blackwell

- The September 2002 edition of the *Atlantic* features a review by Christopher Hitchens of Martin Amis' *Koba the Dread: Laughter and the Twenty Million* (Talk Miramax Books, 2002). The review is entitled “Lightness at Midnight: Stalinism without Irony.” In the course of the review, Hitchens mentions that Amis takes George Bernard Shaw, H. G. Wells, Fabian socialism, and the Bloomsbury group all to task for their “indulgence shown toward Stalinism.” At this point Hitchens, in turn, takes Amis to task as follows:

Amis, who briefly mocks the gullibility of the Bloomsbury and *New Statesman* tradition...forgets that the grand prix for prescience here belongs to the atheist, socialist, and anti-

imperialist Bertrand Russell, whose *The Practice and Theory of Bolshevism* (1920) was the first and in many ways the most penetrating critique.

Read this at <http://www.theatlantic.com/issues/2002/09/hitchens.htm>.

Source: *Chad Trainer*

- The September 2002 issue of the British magazine *Prospect* features an article by Russell scholar A.C. Grayling entitled "Lives of the Mind." Grayling discusses the recent surge of interest in philosophical biography (and taking a moment to promote his forthcoming biography of Descartes). His article has several interesting things to say about Russell and Wittgenstein—two prime subjects of philosophical biography—including the following:

It must be admitted, however, that most philosophical biographies suffer from one of two shortcomings. Either they are well written, because written by professional writers, but fail to give an adequate account of their subjects' thought; or they succeed in doing the latter because written by philosophers, but reflect all too well the latter's stock-in-trade-the dry academic paper...

By chance, the two biographies that spring to mind as examples of success on both fronts are about Wittgenstein: Ray Monk's excellent *Ludwig Wittgenstein: The Duty of Genius* and the peerless *Young Ludwig* by Brian McGuinness, the first of two projected volumes whose sequel, alas, seems destined not to appear.

Monk's biography of Wittgenstein is deservedly well known. Written with grace and clarity and buoyed by Monk's admiration for his subject, it is also a useful introduction to Wittgenstein's main ideas. It is better for a biography that its author feels sympathy for its subject (although best of all is tolerant objectivity) and Monk is a Wittgenstein sympathiser. One result is that his Wittgenstein, who, in reality, was an egregiously difficult character—arrogant, resentful and egocentric—is painted as a tortured genius who should, in Monk's view, be forgiven much. Compare Monk's two-volume account of Bertrand Russell's life. Monk self-confessedly hates Russell, and his increasingly hysterical distortions of the life threaten to reduce his account to a mountain of waste-paper.

Go to <http://www.prospect-magazine.co.uk> for the article.

Source: Dan Kervick

- On September 17, 2002 the CBC rebroadcast a TV interview with Russell by Elaine Grand. The rebroadcast was part of the CBC's 50th birthday celebrations. The interview took place in October 1958 and was originally broadcast the following January. The BRS Library owns a copy of the interview. (See "The BRS Library" in this issue).

Source: Nick Griffin & Ken Blackwell

- On October 14, 2002, the *Boston Globe* ran a review by Ed Siegel of three plays currently being performed in the Boston area. A Berkshires-based acting troupe called Shakespeare & Company is putting on the plays as part of "The Vienna Project," a series of cultural events highlighting the contributions of Viennese artists. One of the plays is entitled "Wittgenstein v. Popper: The Main Event." The play describes the famous confrontation between Wittgenstein and Popper that also provided the substance to the recent book *Wittgenstein's Poker* (see "Odds and Ends," *BRSQ* #112, November 2001 and #114, May 2002). Siegel describes these events, as depicted in the play, with the following:

Standing in Karl Popper's corner is Bertrand Russell, who has watched Wittgenstein absorb everything he taught him. But with a mixture of awe and anger Russell then watched Popper turn that knowledge on its head.

Much is debated in this hour, including the limits of philosophical inquiry. But at the heart is the impossibility of using knowledge to declare a thing objectively good or evil. Without that, the world becomes an unspeakably awful place for Russell (and for us?). But Wittgenstein, like Undine and Friedl, the protagonist in the first piece, is determined to follow what he sees as the truth, no matter how lonely the path.

The article is available online at the *Boston Globe's* website at http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/287/living/Works_reflect_the_sadness_of_a_centuryP.shtml.

Source: David White

- Bent Soup, a rather twisted online humor magazine, features a page spoofing efforts to educate teens about sex and drugs. The article discusses, among other drugs, marijuana, which it indicates is “*also known as grass, suck weed, naughty lipsticks, Bertrand Russell’s pipe of peace, retarded dandelions, technicolour tobacco.*” The BRSQ would welcome speculation (productive or otherwise) as to how the connection from Russell to marijuana was made. The Bent Soup page is at <http://www.bentsoup.com/teen.html>.

Source: Gerry Wildenberg

- Russell Press Limited, established in Russell’s lifetime by the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, has recently issued a new brochure, complete with a photograph of BR. The Press, which was established to “provide a supportive and cost-effective printing service to the voluntary sector,” is on the web at <http://www.russellpress.com>.

Source: Ken Blackwell

- An international organization known as the Principia Cybernetica Project (PCP) has a website at which it declares its mission to “tackle age-old philosophical questions with the help of the most recent cybernetic theories and technologies.” The website is at <http://pespmc1.vub.ac.be/DEFAULT.html>. The website contains an article that further explains its mission by comparing it with that of Russell and Whitehead’s *Principia Mathematica*, the inspiration for the project. Russell and Whitehead, the article explains, “applied mathematical methods to the foundation of mathematics itself, formulating the laws of thought governing mathematical reasoning by means of mathematical axioms, theorems and proofs.” “Our contention,” the article continues on behalf of the PCP, “is that something similar should be done with cybernetics: integrating and founding cybernetics with the help of cybernetical methods and tools.” The article on *Principia Mathematica* and Principia Cybernetica is at <http://pespmc1.vub.ac.be/PRMAT.html>.

Source: Peter Friedman

- The website Find a Grave offers information on Russell’s memorial plot. (Russell was cremated, and thus has no literal “grave.”) The listing for Russell features a brief biography and pictures and is at <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=21194>.

The site also allows visitors to leave electronic "flowers" and a note for the deceased described on the site.

Source: Ken Blackwell & Dennis Darland

News from the Humanist World

- Another sentence of death by stoning requires the attention of humanists everywhere. According to the Rationalist International's September 19, 2002 bulletin, a woman named Amina Lawal Kurami faces becoming the first person to be executed by stoning since the northern states of Nigeria have implemented Sharia (Islamic law). Amina is an unwed mother-to-be who confessed her pregnancy to authorities without understanding the consequences under the current regime of holy fascism. (Needless to say, she had no attorney present.) An appeal of the decision has been filed. Other capital cases are also being entered in Sharia courts.

Sharia is illegal under the constitution of Nigeria, an ethnically and religiously diverse country. However, Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo is reluctant to act. He needs to hear from rational people around the world that Nigeria must not be allowed to follow in the footsteps of the Taliban. Rationalist International is asking everyone to contact President Obasanjo, urging him to stop the execution of Amina and ban the Sharia courts of northern Nigeria. President Obasanjo can be reached by e-mail at webmaster@nigeria.gov.ng or by regular mail at The Presidency, Federal Secretariat, Phase-II, Shehu Shagari Way, Abuja, Nigeria. Copies of any messages sent to him should be sent to Rationalist International at HQ@rationalistinternational.net. Rationalist International is at <http://www.rationalistinternational.net>.

- The Center for Inquiry International (Amherst, NY) is pleased to announce the opening of a new Center for Inquiry in Florida (CFI FL). The center is the fourth of its kind, joining others in Amherst, Los Angeles, and the New York metropolitan area. Like its sisters, the CFI FL will host conferences, seminars, family-oriented programs, and perform secular celebrations such as marriages, memorials, and namings, as well as generally encourage the development of critical thinking.

For more information, contact the CFI FL at P.O. Box 8099, Madeira Beach, FL 33738-8099, (727) 209-2902, vanpelt@tampabay.rr.com.

The *BRSQ* thanks Paul Kurtz (BRS Honorary Member and CFI International Chair) for announcing the opening of the new center, and Jan Loeb Eisler (past BRS Vice President and CFI FL Chair) for passing the news along.

- The *BRSQ* continued to correspond with the Buddhivadi Foundation (See *BRSQ* #112, November 2001, and #115, August 2002), a humanist organization based in India. The Foundation attended a meeting of FIRA (Federation of Indian Rationalist Associations) in September, during which it distributed copies of the *BRSQ* to interested individuals and organizations. Further information about the Foundation and its activities will appear in a forthcoming *BRSQ*.
- The Campus Freethought Alliance (CFA) has a new website featuring an online forum as well as downloadable flyers and other resources aimed at the student activist for humanism. The site is at <http://www.campusfreethought.org>.
- Those with a suitably blasphemous sense of humor may enjoy Heresy House, which offers original cards, posters, and t-shirts for the discriminating atheist. The one-man company, which bills itself as "Funnier than Hell, and much cooler..." is online at www.heresyhouse.com. The site features numerous quotes by famous freethinkers, including the following gem: "So far as I can remember, there is not one word in the Gospels in praise of intelligence." The author of that line is well-known and loved by all of us.
- Russellians might also enjoy Battleground God, an online computer game dealing that asks participants a series of questions about their beliefs about God, religion, and morality, and then rates the consistency and palatability of the answers given. The game is located at TPM Online, "The Philosopher's Magazine on the Internet, at <http://www.philosophers.co.uk/god.htm>.

Updates on Awards and Honorary Members

- On June 14, 2002, the *Guardian* announced that a group of prominent writers, academics, and artists had endorsed a statement opposing the U.S. government's ongoing response to the September 11 terrorist attacks. The article was by Duncan Campbell. The statement, entitled "Not in Our Name," condemned the U.S. government because it has "declared a war without limits" and "instituted stark new measures of

oppression.” Signatories of the statement described in the article included Ed Asner, Martin Luther King III, Tony Kushner, Edward Said, Gloria Steinem, Alice Walker—and BRS Honorary Member Noam Chomsky. The statement, with an expanded list of signatories, appeared subsequently in the September 19 *New York Times*.

The statement is currently available online at <http://www.nion.us/>. That site also contains a complete list of signatories to date, and provides an opportunity for additional individuals to sign the statement. (The initiators are also collecting donations for further promulgation of the statement.) Among the signatories on the complete list is Russell’s former secretary Ralph Schoenman, identified (with Mya Shone) as part of an organization entitled the Council on Human Needs.

- On June 19, 2002, the *New York Times* ran an article entitled “A Vigorous Skeptic of Everything but Fact.” The subject? BRS Award Recipient and Honorary Member Paul Kurtz. The article, by Dinitia Smith, features an interview with Kurtz that mentions the Center for Inquiry, *Skeptical Inquirer* and *Free Inquiry* magazines, and Prometheus Books. The article focuses on Kurtz’s concern that the media is uncritically promoting the paranormal—through sympathetic depictions of astrology and communing with the dead, for example. Russell puts in an appearance when Smith describes a “strange painting” gracing the Center for Inquiry’s walls. The painting, Smith reports, is “based on ‘The Last Supper,’ with Susan B. Anthony, Sidney Hook, Charles Darwin, Leonardo da Vinci, Bertrand Russell, Voltaire and other atheists and humanists seated around the table instead of the apostles.”

Also noteworthy is the recent two-part interview with Kurtz (entitled “The Bull Fighter: Skeptic Paul Kurtz Leads the Struggle to Open American Minds”) in *City*, the most prominent free weekly newspaper in Rochester, NY. The interview ran in the September 18-24 and September 25-October 1, 2002 issues of the paper, and featured Kurtz’s views on mediums, crop circles, the media, the Pledge of Allegiance, and numerous other subjects. The interviewer, Ron Netsky, mentions the “strange painting as well,” but without mentioning Russell’s presence in it. Netsky does, however, describe the prominent display cases at the Center for Inquiry honoring Russell, Carl Sagan, and Karl Popper.

- Speaking of Popper, the July 26, 2002 issue of *Chronicle of Higher Education* features an article on a pair of conferences being held to commemorate the centenary of his birth. The article, entitled "Giving Karl Popper His Propers" and written by David Cohen, notes the slow and steady rise in Popper's reputation in recent years. The review notes the recent book *Wittgenstein's Poker* (discussed in several recent "Russell-Related Odds and Ends" columns in the *BRSQ*) in discussing the relationship between Popper and Wittgenstein, as well as the relationship of both to Russell. Popper was both an Honorary Member of the BRS and the winner of the BRS Award in 1992.
- On August 29, 2002, the *Hindustan Times* ran an editorial denouncing the decision by the Bangladeshi government to ban *Utal Hawa* (Gusty Wind), the latest book by BRS Honorary Member Taslima Nasrin. The *Hindustan Times* editorial should still be available online at <http://www.hindustantimes.com/news/printedition/290802/detEDI03.shtml>.

More recently, BBC News reported that Nasrin had been tried *in absentia* by a Bangladeshi court for derogating Islam in her writings. (The BBC correspondent in Dhaka, Moazzem Hossain, spelled her name "Nasreen.") The court sentenced her (*sans* any ability to offer a defense on her part) to a year in prison. The full story is at http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/2324245.stm.

- The September 1, 2002 issue of the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* noted the death of Irving Copi, recipient of the 1998 BRS Award. (See "Irving Copi Remembered" in this issue.) His obituary quotes a colleague of Copi as follows: "I doubt that any philosopher since (Bertrand) Russell, and maybe not even Russell, has sold more books than Irving Copi." See it at <http://starbulletin.com/2002/09/01/news/story11.html>.
- The September 30, 2002 issue of the *Nation* ran a short piece on BRS Honorary Member Nelson Mandela's September 9 interview with *Newsweek*. In the interview, Mandela sharply criticized U.S. foreign policy and concluded that "the United States of America is a threat to world peace." The complete *Newsweek* interview is online at <http://www.msnbc.com/news/806174.asp>.
- Also appearing in the September 30 *Nation* was a review of *The Structure of Evolutionary Theory* (Harvard University Press, 2002) by BRS Award Recipient Stephen Jay Gould. The review, by H. Allen

Orr, attempts to measure how much of Gould's radical theory of "punctuated equilibrium" still stands after 3 decades of criticism. Orr makes an interesting attempt to link Gould's approach to science with his admiration of Thomas Kuhn's classic work, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*.

Speaking of reviews of Gould, David Hawkes' rather idiosyncratic review of *The Structure of Evolutionary Theory* in the June 10, 2002 issue of the *Nation* (see the "Updates" section of the August 2002 issue of the *BRSQ*) attracted a huge number of responses, most of them highly critical. Some of these responses appeared in the October 14 issue of the *Nation*, along with a response by Hawkes; a longer version of the exchange has been posted to the *Nation's* website at <http://www.thenation.com>.

Who's New in Hell

Due to popular demand, the BRSQ will run an occasional new feature entitled "Who's New in Hell." (Well, actually there was no demand—but no one objected to the idea.) This feature will update BRS-ers on news regarding Warren Allen Smith's encyclopedia of non-believers, Who's Who in Hell (Barricade, 2000). It will report on new people to be "added" to hell, news coverage concerning the work, and other insights which will hopefully delight the nonbeliever in all of us. (Any Russellian must have a little bit of unbeliever in them, whether or not she or he follows a religion. When Russell's jailer learned of his agnosticism during his imprisonment in World War I, he reportedly shrugged and said, "Well, we all worship God in our own way." Perhaps Russellians all fail to worship God in their own way as well...)

- *Who's Who in Hell* and its abbreviated successor, *Celebrities in Hell* (Barricade, 2002) have each attracted media attention. For example, the February/March 2002 issue of *Irish America* features a short piece by Marilyn Cole Lownes entitled "Who's Irish in Hell?" The *National Enquirer*, of all places, ran an article on *Celebrities in Hell* in its February 19, 2002 issue. In addition, Greenwich Village's *Villager* (not to be confused with the *Village Voice*) mentioned *Celebrities* and the *Enquirer* article the week the latter came out. (Warren Allen Smith is a longtime fixture in the Village.) And the April 1, 2002 issue of *Library Review* featured a brief review of the work by Manya Chylinski. The review was largely favorable, though it found Warren's reasons for including Bo Derek in the book to be "a bit questionable."

- *Celebrities in Hell* has also received attention in the humanist press. *The Humanist* ran a favorable review of the book by Fred Edwards in its September/October 2002 issue. The review chides Warren for failing to include a number of important humanist-oriented celebrities, including Leonard Bernstein, Phil Donahue, Theodore “Dr. Seuss” Geisel, Yoko Ono, and Gene Roddenberry. Warren promises that a subsequent edition of the book will right all wrongs. A less favorable review by BRS member Tom Flynn appeared the fall 2002 issue of *Free Inquiry* under the title “Gossip on the Half Shell.”
- Warren Allen Smith himself has also received his fair share of media attention as of late. On May 19, 2002—the day after Bertie’s birthday—the *New York Times* ran a short article entitled “A Mentor Shares a Secret that Really Wasn’t.” The article, by Charlie LeDuff, details a recent meeting between Warren, a retired high school teacher, and one of his former students, a photographer. At the meeting, Warren learned that his efforts to conceal his gay identity during his tenure as a teacher were less-than-completely-successful. (The student, by the way, was Ed Keating, a photographer who won a Pulitzer Prize for his pictures of the World Trade Center. It was Warren’s letter to Keating congratulating him on his work that led to the meeting. Keating supplied the pictures for the article.)

In addition, Warren has a listing in the 2002 volume of *Contemporary Authors* (volume 195), which lists among his many life achievements his membership on the BRS Board of Directors since 1973—no small feat, given that the BRS was founded in 1974.

- *Celebrities in Hell* lists a number of humanist-related organizations in its directory of “Organizations of Interest to Freethinkers.” For each organization, Warren also includes a “representative example of someone associated with that label, although not especially a label of the person’s choosing.” The directory lists the BRS prominently, and includes *BRSQ* Editor Peter Stone as a “representative example” of a BRS member. It also provides links to the BRS Homepage as well as the Russell Archives at McMaster University.
- Richard Lingeman’s new biography *Sinclair Lewis: Rebel from Main Street* (New York: Random House, 2002) contains the following reference to Warren and his research project that culminated in *Who’s Who in Hell*:

When a writer and editor named Warren Allen Smith sent [Sinclair Lewis] a questionnaire asking him to choose from several definitions of *humanism* the one most congenial to him, Lewis selected naturalistic (scientific) humanism. To an earlier query about his religion, he contended that people raised without religious belief seemed as happy and as ethical as those who did have a faith (p. 447).

- The title of Warren's *magnum opus* appears to be more popular than Warren could have imagined. An Englishman named Robert Chalmers has just seen his first novel published—under the title *Who's Who in Hell* (Grove Press, 2002). The novel tells of the life and loves of a young man so obsessed with the darker side of the celebrity obits page that he begins compiling a book entitled...*Who's Who in Hell*.

In case that wasn't confusing enough, one of Warren's friends recently reminded him that Peter Ustinov wrote a play entitled *Who's Who in Hell*. The play debuted on Broadway in December 1974 at the Lunt-Fontanne Theater, but closed after only 8 performances—despite a cast that included Beau Bridges, Olympia Dukakis, and Ustinov himself. (Ustinov, of course, is featured prominently in both *Who's Who* and *Celebrities in Hell*.)

For current information on *Who's Who in Hell*, visit the author's website at <http://wasm.ws>.

On the Lighter Side...

Having nothing better to do with its time, the GRRS has taken to collecting limericks about Russell as well as composing some of its own. The best of these little gems will appear occasionally in the *BRSQ*. We begin with a little ditty by the *BRSQ*'s own Tim Madigan.

There once was a fellow named Bertie
Whose manner was likeably flirty.
To L. Wittgenstein
He was just an old swine,
But WE love him for being so dirty!

Any BRS-ers who think they can do better than this are welcome to submit their own poems, limericks, haikus, etc. about BR. Try—I repeat, TRY—to keep the filth to an absolute minimum. Thanks for your understanding.

Pose with Bertie!



The last issue presented a picture of *BRSQ* Associate Editor Tim Madigan posing with the renowned bust of Bertie at Red Lion Square, London. Tim, however, was not idle on his visit. He invited others to join in the newly-inaugurated tradition of “posing with Bertie.” This photo depicts Anja Steinbauer (left) and Rick Lewis, editors of the magazine *Philosophy Now*, in appropriately reverential poses beside the Good Lord. The *BRSQ* would like to encourage other Russellians to help make this a tradition by posing with this renowned bust and sending us pictures of the event. There’s no easier way for a tourist in London to break into the *BRSQ*!

BRS Business and Chapter News:

**The Greater New York City Chapter of the
Bertrand Russell Society (GNYCCBRS)
Warren Allen Smith**

On 1 August 2002, the Greater New York City's chapter of the Bertrand Russell Society became the second such chapter in the United States, following the lead of the one in Rochester, New York.

The GNYCCBRS was founded by Mr. Warren Allen Smith, Mr. Thom Weidlich, and Ms. Ruili Ye for the purpose of holding informal get-togethers for those interested in various aspects of Lord Russell's philosophy, including his statement, "The good life is one inspired by love and guided by knowledge." (*What I Believe*, 1925).

The first meeting was held in Manhattan on 4 September 2002 at the New York Ethical Culture Society, 2 West 64th Street. An overflow crowd in Mortimer Adler's library heard Mr. Smith discuss his just-published *Celebrities in Hell* (Barricade Books, 2002, paperback 288 pages, \$14.95). "Hell," Russell once wrote, "is a place where the police are German . . . the motorists French . . . the cooks, English." Smith added that Hell also is a silly theological invention, and his book lists from A to Z numbers of boldface people in the entertainment and show business world who have gone on record as agreeing, from Larry Adler, Luis Buñuel, and George Carlin to Bruce Willis, Frank Zappa, and Nick Zedd.

Future meetings will be held in the five boroughs and nearby in Connecticut and New Jersey.

In September Mr. Weidlich spoke to the Rochester chapter about his book, *Appointment Denied: The Inquisition of Bertrand Russell*, telling about the 1940 incident in which Russell was denied a teaching position at City College in New York City because of his views about morality. In October, Mr. Smith spoke to the Rochester chapter about his book, *Celebrities in Hell*. Bob Smith, of Radio WXXI, interviewed both about their respective books.

Future meetings will be informal, will devise activist projects, and will provide a way to meet other philosophically-minded individuals.

The chapter publicized the 26 October 2002 Sidney Hook Conference at the CUNY Graduate Center. Also, it made plans to entertain Dr. Taslima Nasrin when she arrives from Sweden on a book-signing tour to speak November 7th at Columbia University and be interviewed by CNN and a city radio station, after which she will travel to Yale, the University of Connecticut, Dartmouth, Harvard, the University of Charleston in South Carolina, and the University of California.

Individuals wishing to become members or be on the chapter's e-mail list are invited to contact Warren Allen Smith, 31 Jane Street (Box 10-D), New York, NY 10014, wasm@mac.com.

The BRS Library

Starting with this issue, the BRSQ will run semi-regular updates on the BRS Library. We begin in this issue with a catalogue of the Library's collection.

Founded in 1975, the BRS Library comprises donations from members, publishers and broadcast organizations. The Society's book sales program offers a selection of current and out-of-print titles at a discount. A lending library—containing both books by or about Russell and audio cassettes of Russell's speeches, debates, and interviews—is available to Society members.

To inquire about sale or loan of a book or tape, please contact Tom Stanley, BRS Library, Box 434, Wilder VT 05088 USA, thomas.stanley@valley.net, or visit the BRS Library webpage at <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Olympus/4268/>.

Books for Sale:

The Bertrand Russell Dictionary of Mind, Matter and Morals \$ 5.00
by Lester Denonn. Citadel Press. Paper.

Bertrand Russell: A Political Life \$ 5.95
by Alan Ryan. O.U.P. Paper.

The Selected Letters of Bertrand Russell, Vol. 1 \$12.95
by Nicholas Griffin. Houghton-Mifflin. Cloth.

Bertrand Russell: A Life \$14.00
by Caroline Moorehead. Viking. Cloth.

Rereading Russell: Essays on Bertrand Russell's Metaphysics and Epistemology \$ 8.95
edited by Savage and Anderson.
University of Minnesota Press. Cloth.

Bertrand Russell \$19.00
by John Slater. Thoemmes Press. Paper.

The Life of Bertrand Russell in Pictures and His Own Words \$10.95
edited by Christopher Farley and David Hodgson. Spokesman. Paper.

History of the World in Epitome \$ 1.25
by Bertrand Russell. Gaberbocchus Press. Paper.

Authority and the Individual \$ 7.95
by Bertrand Russell. Unwin-Hyman. Paper.

In Praise of Idleness \$ 8.95
by Bertrand Russell. Routledge. Paper.

Political Ideals \$ 7.95
by Bertrand Russell. Unwin-Hyman. Paper.

Prices are postpaid. Please pay by check or money order to "The Bertrand Russell Society."

Books for Loan:

Catalogs and Bibliographies of Russell's Works:

Blackwell, K. and C. Spadoni. *A Detailed Catalog of the Second Archives of Bertrand Russell*

Denonn, L. *The Bertrand Russell Collection of Lester Denonn*

Martin, W. *Bertrand Russell: A Bibliography of His Writings, 1895-1976*

Collections of Quotations from Russell:

Denonn, L. *The Bertrand Russell Dictionary of Mind, Matter & Morals*

Egner, R. *Bertrand Russell's Best*

Eisler, L. *The Quotable Bertrand Russell*

Books by Russell:

The ABC of Atoms
The ABC of Relativity
The Amberly Papers
The Analysis of Mind
The Art of Philosophizing & Other Essays
Authority and the Individual
The Autobiography of Bertrand Russell
Bertrand Russell Speaks His Mind
Common Sense and Nuclear Warfare
The Conquest of Happiness
Education and the Social Order (Education and the Modern World)
On Education Especially in Early Childhood (Education and the Good Life)
Essays in Scepticism
Fact and Fiction
Freedom Versus Organization
Has Man a Future?
German Social Democracy
The Good Citizen's Alphabet
History of Western Philosophy
Human Knowledge: Its Scope and Limits
Human Society in Ethics and Politics
Icarus or the Future of Science
The Impact of Science on Society
An Inquiry into Meaning and Truth
Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy
New Hopes for a Changing World
The Prospects of Industrial Civilization
In Praise of Idleness
Justice in Wartime
Marriage and Morals
Mysticism and Logic
My Philosophical Development
Nightmares of Eminent Persons
An Outline of Philosophy (Philosophy)
Philosophical Essays
Political Ideals
Portraits from Memory
Power: A New Social Analysis
The Practice and Theory of Bolshevism (Bolshevism: Theory and Practice)
*Principia Mathematica to *56*

The Principles of Mathematics
Principles of Social Reconstruction (Why Men Fight)
The Problem of China
The Problems of Philosophy
Religion and Science
Roads to Freedom: Socialism, Anarchism and Syndicalism (Proposed Roads to Freedom)
Satan in the Suburbs
Sceptical Essays
The Scientific Outlook
Unarmed Victory
Understanding History
Unpopular Essays
War Crimes in Vietnam
Which Way to Peace?
The Will to Doubt
Wisdom of the West
Why I am Not a Christian

Collections of Russell's Papers:

Blackwell, K., et al. *Cambridge Essays 1888-99*
Eames, R. and K. Blackwell. *Theory of Knowledge: The 1913 Manuscript*
Egner, R. and L. Denonn. *The Basic Writings Of Bertrand Russell*
Fienberg, B. and R. Kasrils. *Bertrand Russell...A Selection of His Correspondence with the General Public 1950-1968.*
Griffin, N. *The Selected Letters of Bertrand Russell, Volume I*
Marsh, R. *Logic and Knowledge: Essays 1901-1950*
Pears, D. *The Philosophy of Logical Atomism*
Rempel, R., et al. *Contemplation and Action 1902-14*
Rempel, R. *Prophecy and Dissent 1914-16*
Ruja, H. *Mortals and Others: Bertrand Russell's American Essays 1931-1935*
Russell, B. *The Selected Papers of Bertrand Russell*
Seckel, A. *Bertrand Russell on Ethics, Sex, and Marriage*
Slater, J. *Logical Atomism and Other Essays 1914-19*
Slater, J. and B. Frohmann. *Essays on Language, Mind and Matter 1919-26*

Books about Russell:

Aiken, L. *Bertrand Russell's Philosophy of Morals*

Andersson, S. *In Quest of Certainty: Bertrand Russell's Search for Certainty in Religion and Mathematics*

Ayer, A.J. *Russell*

Blackwell, K. *The Spinozistic Ethics of Bertrand Russell*

Brink, A. *Bertrand Russell: The Psychobiography of a Moralist*

Chomsky, N. *Problems of Knowledge: The Russell Lectures*

Eames, R. *Bertrand Russell's Dialogue with his Contemporaries*

Garciadiego, A. *Bertrand Russell and the Origin of the 'Set-Theoretic' Paradoxes*

Grattan-Guinness, I. *Dear Russell-Dear Jourdain*

Griffin, N. *Russell's Idealist Apprenticeship*

Hager, P. *Continuity and Change in the Development of Russell's Philosophy*

Hill, C. *Word and Object in Husserl, Frege, and Russell*

Hylton, P. *Russell, Idealism and the Emergence of Analytic Philosophy*

Ironside, P. *The Social and Political Thought of Bertrand Russell*

A.D. and G. Wedekiny *Russell and Analytic Philosophy*

Jager, R. *The Development of Bertrand Russell's Philosophy*

Jourdain, P. *The Philosophy of Mr. B*rr* and R*ss*ll*

Kilmister, C.W. *Russell*

Kuntz, P. *Bertrand Russell*

Leithauser, G. *Principles and Perplexities: Studies of Dualism in Selected Fiction of Bertrand Russell*

Lewis, J. *Bertrand Russell: Philosopher and Humanist*

Meyer, S. *Dewey and Russell: An Exchange*

Nath, R. *The Ethical Philosophy of Bertrand Russell*

Park, J. *Bertrand Russell on Education*

Patterson, W. *Bertrand Russell's Philosophy of Logical Atomism*

Pears, D.F. *Bertrand Russell and the British Tradition in Philosophy*

Rodriguez-Consuegra, F. *The Mathematical Philosophy of Bertrand Russell*

Vellacot, J. *Bertrand Russell and the Pacifists in the First World War*

Weimer, D. *The Rhetorical Approach of Bertrand Russell: A Study in Method*

Tributes to Russell:

Coates, K. *Essays on Socialist Humanism in Honor of the Centenary of Bertrand Russell*

Klemke, E.D. *Essays on Bertrand Russell*

Savage, C. and C. Anderson *Rereading Russell*

Schlipp, P. *The Philosophy of Bertrand Russell*

Slater, J. *Bertrand Russell*

Winchester, I. and K. Blackwell *Antinomies and Paradoxes*

Biographies of Russell:

- Clark, R. *The Life of Bertrand Russell*
Clark, R. *Bertrand Russell and His World*
Cooke, A. *Six Men*
Crawshay-Williams, R. *Russell Remembered*
Darroch, S. *Ottoline: The Life of Lady Ottoline Morrell*
Feinberg, B. and R. Kasrils *Bertrand Russell's America, 1945-1970*
Gottschalk, H. *Bertrand Russell: A Life*
Lamont, C. *Yes To Life: Memoirs of Corliss Lamont*
Monk, R. *Bertrand Russell: The Spirit of Solitude*
Moorehead, C. *Bertrand Russell: A Life*
Russell, D. *The Tamarisk Tree: My Quest for Liberty and Love*
Tait, K. *My Father Bertrand Russell*
Wood, A. *Bertrand Russell: The Passionate Sceptic*

Audio Tapes for Loan:

- Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech 1950 45'
Mind and Matter 1950 52'
Bertrand Russell in Australia 1950 55'
Living in an Atomic Age 1951 90'
Life Without Fear 1951 34'
Portrait from Memory: Whitehead 1952 15'
Leonardo's Day-And Our Own 1952 30'
Man's Peril 1954 15'
Russell Einstein Manifesto 1955 30'
The World and the Observer 1958 30'
Kalinga Prize Press Conference and Acceptance Speech 1958 48'
Address to the CND 1959 30'
The Influence and Thought of G.E. Moore 1959 42'
Address to the Vietnam Teach-In 1965 14'
Appeal to the American Conscience 1966 29'
Is Security Increasing? 1939 30'
Russell-Copleston Debate on the Existence of God 1948 20'
The Attack on Academic Freedom in Britain and America 1952 30'
Bertrand Russell 1952 30'
Face to Face 1959 30'
Bertrand Russell Speaking 1959 52'
Woodrow Wyatt Interviews, Series 2 1959 52'
Woodrow Wyatt Interviews, Series 3 1959 52'

Close-Up CBC 1959 30'
Speaking Personally: Bertrand Russell 1961 90'
Open End 1962 90'
Studs Terkel Interview 1962 39'
On Nuclear Morality 1962 32'
Interview on Vietnam 1965 10'
Merv Griffin Interview 1965 24'
Bertrand Russell 1975 15'
Bertrand Russell as a Philosopher 1980 15'
Bertrand Russell 1986 100'
Portrait of the Philosopher as Father 1980 30'
Bertrand Russell's Philosophy of Education 1990 15'
Bertrand Russell's Pacifist Stance in World War I 1992 30'
Russell vs. Dewey on Education 1992 115'
The Life and Times of Bertrand Russell 1962 40'
Beatrice Webb on the Russells/Russell on the Webbs 1966 35'
Sound Portrait of Bertrand Russell 1980 60'
Bertrand Russell: A Reassessment 1980 43'

Rustlings **Gerry Wildenberg**

"Rustlings" presents a simple substitution cipher based on the writings of Bertrand Russell. Below is today's coded quote in which each letter stands for another letter. For example BERTRAND RUSSELL could be coded as OREGENAQ EHFRRYY, O=B, R=E, et cetera. The quote below uses a different code. After solving the cipher, try to identify the source of the quote it conceals. The solution will appear in the next issue.

HFD HK ZVD NDGOUOZDFZ MDYCOUHFO HK RQFTUFM UO
ZVQZ OHRD ODXZUHFO HK ZVD VCRQF GQXD QGD RHGQYYP
SDZZDG ZVQF HZVDGO.

Solution to *Rustlings* Puzzle, August 2002

"[M]athematics may be defined as the subject where we never know what we are talking about, nor whether what we are saying is true."

Bertrand Russell, in "Recent Work in the Philosophy of Mathematics." *International Monthly* 4 (July 1901): p.83-101. Reprinted as "Mathematics and the Metaphysicians" in *Mysticism and Logic* (Norton, 1929), ch. V.

Bertie and the Bomb 1984 40'
 Religion and Science 1994 132'
 What I Believe: 3 Complete Essays on Religion 1995 145'
 Bertrand Russell and A.N. Whitehead 1996 150'

Bertrand Russell Society, Inc.
3rd Quarter Treasurer's Report
Cash Flow, 7/1/02 Through 9/30/02

Compiled 10/9/02 by Dennis J. Darland
 BRS Treasurer (djdarland@qconline.com)

Category Description

BALANCE 6/30/02 6,157.53

INFLOWS

Contributions

Contrib-BRS 1,027.09

TOTAL Contributions 1,027.09

Dues

New Members 100.00

Renewals 763.57

TOTAL Dues 863.57

Other Income 82.00

TOTAL INFLOWS 1,972.66

OUTFLOWS

Bank Charges 9.35

Library Expenses 8.24

Meeting Expenses 445.88

Newsletter 734.13

Other Expenses 23.25

TOTAL EXPENSES 1,220.85

OVERALL TOTAL 751.81

BALANCE 9/30/02 6,909.34

Greater Rochester Russell Set

Celebrating Six Years of Monthly Russell
Meetings Open to the Public

GRRS Receives Attention at McMaster

In August, the GRRS's monthly meeting featured a guest speaker—Andrew Bone, Senior Research Associate at the Bertrand Russell Research Centre at McMaster University. (See "GRRS Visited by Distinguished Russellians" in this issue.) Bone's highly successful appearance has received welcome coverage at the Centre's website. Check it out at <http://www.humanities.mcmaster.ca/~russell/whatsnew.htm>.

Program, Winter & Spring 2002-2003

Dec. 12	<i>The ABC of Armageddon</i>
Jan. 9	<i>Yours Faithfully, Bertrand Russell</i>
Feb. 13	<i>Wittgenstein's Poker</i>
Mar. 13	Russell and the Prisoner's Dilemma
Apr. 10	"An Outline of Intellectual Rubbish"
May 8	Russell on Video (Celebration of Russell's Birthday)

Note: All dates and topics are subject to change.

Daily Perks Coffee House

389 Gregory Street, Rochester, NY

For information call Tim Madigan at 585-424-3184 or write
tmadigan@rochester.rr.com or visit

http://sun1.sjfc.edu/~wildenbe/grrs/russell_poster.html.