

In commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Jersey Library Association Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award, we are publishing an updated version of this article, originally featured in the 2013 Summer issue of *The Chronicle*.

## SUSAN GARRETSON SWARTZBURG (1938-1996)

By Elsalyn Palmisano and Frederic C. Pachman



"I would like to invite you to dinner at my apartment" is how her typewritten letter begins, and how we first came to know our friend and colleague, Susan Garretson Swartzburg. "The dinners began in 1980 if you were one of the fortunate librarians to receive this letter which served as your entrée to the world of preservation and conservation; and the opportunity to mingle with students, faculty, specialists and librarians from New Jersey, the United States, and the world."

As a nationally and internationally renowned Rutgers SCLIS preservation librarian her accomplishments and consultations ranged from national libraries and archives to Ivy League institutions, local public libraries, historical societies and museums.

She taught more than a 1000 graduate students as a faculty member, presented workshops on preservation, and was responsible for establishing the Preservation Management Certificate program at Rutgers and the Book Arts Center at Wells College in Aurora, New York, her alma mater.

She carried the torch for the formation of the NJLA Preservation Section in 1983 and edited the newsletter, and presented countless programs at conference. In partnership with Neha Weinstein, Susan was guest editor of the

Preservation Issue of *New Jersey Libraries* in Spring 1985. She wrote on the topics of conservation and preservation for many library science journals and her book [Preserving Library Materials](#) (Scarecrow Press, 1990) still holds a cherished spot on our shelves.

Susan was an active member of many professional organizations including the International Federation of Library Associations, American Library Association, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, American Association for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, and Princeton Preservation Group.

Upon her return from an IFLA conference in China in 1996 she was hospitalized and later succumbed to pneumonia. Her memorial service in the Kirkpatrick Chapel on the Rutgers University campus was attended by a sorrowful crowd who mourned the loss of a mentor, colleague, friend, and fellow librarian.

The Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award presented at the annual conference of the New Jersey Library Association since 2003 by the History and Preservation Section, "recognizes a NJLA member who, over a substantial number of years, has made exceptional contributions to the awareness, understanding, and/or preservation of archival and library materials in New Jersey".

**The first four Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award Honorees**  
(left to right) Elsalyn Palmisano, Ralph Ocker, Betty Steckman, Gary Saretzky (2006)



**Swartzburg Preservation Award Honorees**  
(left to right) Deborah Schiff, Tim Corlis, Bob Stewart (2016)



**Swartzburg Preservation Award Honorees**

(left to right) Chad Leineweaver, Michelle Stricker, Elsaly Palmisano, Gary Saretzky, Frederic Pachman (2018)

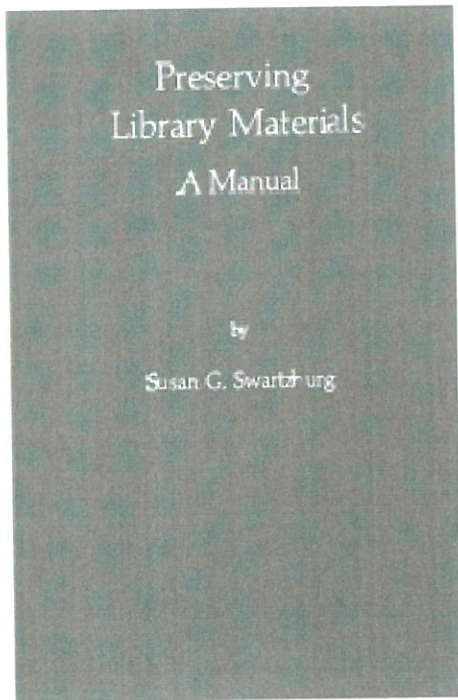


**Swartzburg Preservation Award Honorees**

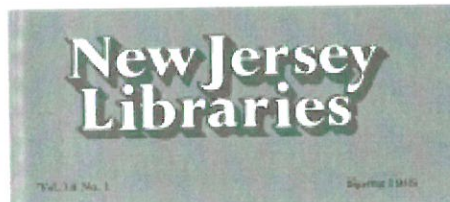
(left to right) Tim Corlis, Sarah Hull, Karl Niederer, Gary Saretzky, Elsaly Palmisano, Michelle Stricker, Chad Leineweaver (2019)



And what's an article without at least a mini-bibliography? Here are some of the classic texts authored and edited by Susan G. Swartzburg. How many titles do you have in your Library?

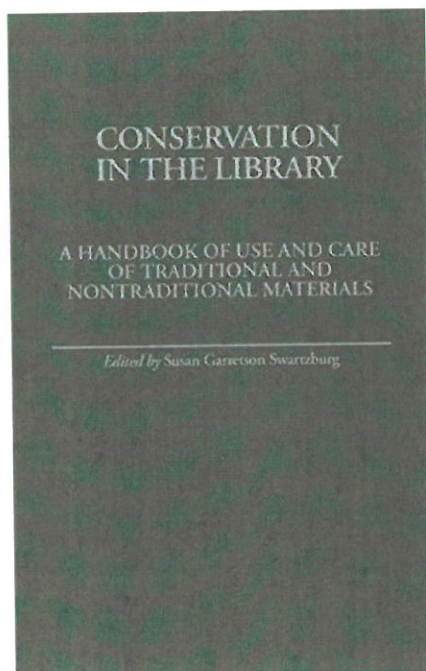


( Scarecrow Press, 1980 )

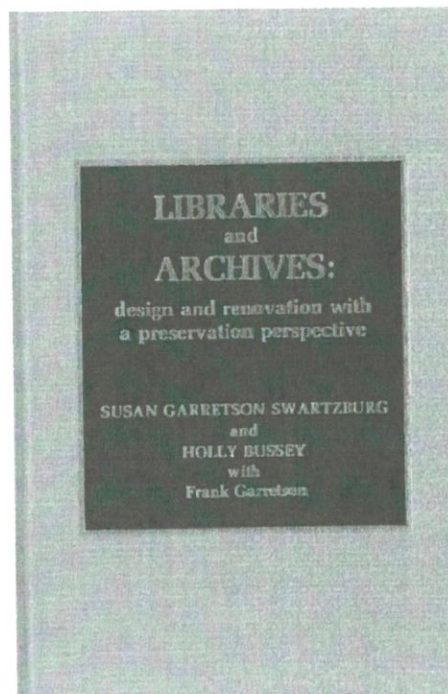


PRESERVATION

( Edited by Susan Swartzburg and Neha Weinstein 1985 )



( Greenwood Press, 1983 )



( Scarecrow Press, 1991 )



## History and Preservation Section Susan G. Schwartzburg Preservation Award

2003	Elsalyn Palmisano	West Long Branch Public Library
2004	Ralph Ocker	Ocker & Trapp Bindery
2005	Elizabeth Steckman	New Jersey State Library
2006	Gary Saretzky	Monmouth County Archives
2007	Joseph Hugh DaRold	Plainfield Public Library
2008	Susan Gulick	Joint Free Public Library of Morristown Morris Township
2009	Peggy Norris	Ridgewood Public Library
2010	Michele Stricker	New Jersey State Library
2011	Miriam Kornblatt	Morris County Library
2012	No Award	
2013	Frederic Charles Pachman	Altschul Medical Library Monmouth Medical Center
2014	Timothy Corlis	Rutgers University Libraries
2015	Deborah Mercer	New Jersey State Library
2016	Robert Stewart	Asbury Park Public Library
2017	Sarah Hull	Plainfield Public Library
2018	Chad Leinaweaver	Joint Free Library of Morristown Morris Township
2019	Karl Niederer	New Jersey State Archives
2020	Deborah Schiff	Piscataway Public Library
2021	Tom Ankner	Newark Public Library
2022	John Ward Beekman	Jersey City Public Library

# The Chronicle



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## 2022-2023 H&P Section Executive Board

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Vice President: John Beekman  
Secretary: Jacquelyn Oshman  
Past President: Ken Kaufman

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Juber Ayala  
Jessica Myers  
Gary Saretzky

## Ex Officio

Tara Maharjan  
MARAC NJ Caucus  
  
Michele Stricker  
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To submit articles, news or calendar events to **The Chronicle**, email Kathlyn Kelly at [kkelly@sclibnj.org](mailto:kkelly@sclibnj.org).

If possible, please include images with captions/attribution.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Beth Zak-Cohen, Section President

Hello all,

We have two big items coming up this Spring!

First of all, we have H&P Elections coming up in March. Many of our positions are already filled with some amazing members but we do have some openings. Particularly as I write this we are still looking for someone to fill the role of Vice President. This is a leadership position which leads into President and is a great opportunity to take on a leadership role in NJLA and network with your fellow librarians and archivists. We also may be looking for members at large, who support the board, and a professional development coordinator, who would plan events that help our members learn professional skills.

Secondly, as always, we are looking towards the NJLA Conference at Harrah's in Atlantic City which is May 31 - June 2, 2023. It's a big year because it's the 25th anniversary of the H&P section, and the 40th of its predecessor - the Preservation section. We are planning a luncheon to honor the anniversary which will hopefully be attended by some of our past award winners. You can read more about the anniversary in this newsletter.

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