Studs Terkel, Winner of the 2002 BRS Award
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)

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THE BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY QUARTERLY
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QUOTE OF THE QUARTERLY
"We study Communist thought the same way Americans study the Bible."


Russell would no doubt agree.

THE BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY QUARTERLY
August 2002 No. 115

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From the Editor:

130 Years of Bertrand Russell

On May 18, 2002—Bertrand Russell’s 130th birthday—BRSQ Editor Peter Stone gave a public lecture at the Center for Inquiry (Amherst, NY) entitled “A Celebration of Bertrand Russell.” The remarks below were excerpted from this lecture.

Before discussing why we are gathered here today, I would like to acknowledge some of the reasons why we are not gathered here. We are not here to celebrate the birthday of Bishop Joseph Butler, the eighteenth-century philosopher and theologian, although his birthday is today. Despite the importance of Butler for the development of ethical theory, he’s not the sort who would normally draw a crowd at the Center for Inquiry. We are also not here to celebrate the birthday of the esteemed logical positivist Rudolph Carnap, also born on May 18. He’s a somewhat better candidate for a talk here, but the dormitive powers of his work would probably prove too much. We are not even gathered here to celebrate the birthday of the most famous Pole alive today, Pope John Paul II, though he shares his birthday with Butler and Carnap. (Incidentally, when a friend told me this morning that it was the pope’s birthday, I was a bit skeptical, as I’d never heard it before. But before coming to the Center for Inquiry today, I visited some of Buffalo’s fine used bookstores, one of which had a biography of Karol Wojtyla on its shelves. So I was able to confirm that the Catholic Church is indeed impossible to escape, even on May 18.)

Instead, we are gathered here to celebrate the life of the most important person born on May 18, Bertrand Russell. Russell would be 130 years old today, and we’re here to celebrate it. Now to many people in this country, this may seem like an odd thing to do—precisely because he’d be 130 years old now. This means that even though Russell was famously long-lived—he lived to be 97—he’s been dead for over 30 years. He died in fact about a year and a half before I was born. And so there are many people today who just don’t know Russell.

Let me share with you two quick anecdotes that should remind us all how many people don’t know Russell. Two years ago, I traveled with the Greater Rochester Russell Set (GRRS) to McMaster University, to attend the opening ceremonies of the Bertrand Russell Research Centre. The keynote speaker was Ray Monk, author of the two-volume biography of Russell, Bertrand Russell: The Spirit of Solitude 1872-1921 (Free Press, 1996) and Bertrand Russell: The Ghost of Madness 1921-1970 (Free Press, 2001). The second volume of Monk’s biography was available in Great Britain at that time but not in North America. However, at Monk’s talk it was announced that Monk would be at McMaster’s bookstore the next day to sign copies of the second volume. Fifty copies of the hefty tome had been brought to McMaster for the occasion. As my traveling companions can well recall, I was quite insistent that we arrive at the book signing early. After all, I reasoned, fifty copies of a biography like this will go like hotcakes, right? Needless to say, I overestimated both the size of the reading public and the extent of its interest in Russell. (I did get a signed copy of the book, however.)

A similar experience greeted me at a guest lecture I gave several months ago in a friend’s philosophy class. My topic was, of course, Bertie. Chastened by my experience at McMaster, I decided not to assume that the students would be familiar with Russell. So I decided to introduce Russell via some of the interesting names in his life, names that the students would have to recognize. How many students, I began by asking, have ever heard of Bertrand Russell?

The response did not surprise me. Not a single hand was raised. So I tried the indirect tactic. Well, how many of you have ever heard of John Stuart Mill (Russell’s godfather)? Still no dice. How about Jean-Paul Sartre (co-convenor with Russell of the International War Crimes Tribunal)? Nada. (To be fair, one student did tell me after class that she now remembered something about the famous existentialist from another class.)

OK, so philosophy is not the forte of this class. Time to switch to literature, I reasoned. How many of you have ever heard of T.S. Eliot (who studied with Russell at Harvard, then lived with him while getting his literary career of the ground)? Nothing yet. How about Virginia Woolf (who hung out with Russell during his Bloomsbury days)? One or two hands were raised (by female students, naturally). One more time. How about Joseph Conrad (after whom Russell named both of his sons)? The blank stares I received in response reminded me of nothing so much as Bailey, my girlfriend’s sister’s dog (a lovable animal, but not as well-schooled in western philosophy as she should be).

I think these stories constitute good evidence that Bertrand Russell is not a household name today. The BRS, to be sure, has its work cut out for it. This society was founded four years after Russell’s death, and was honored to have Russell’s only daughter, Katherine Russell Tait, as one of its founding members. (Both Tait and Russell’s surviving son, Conrad, are
currently Honorary Members of the Society.) The Society is now in its 29th year, and still going strong. Local chapters, like the GRRS, offer further promise of what the Society could accomplish, but also make plain how much work there is to do. And more members mean more resource to help this work along. (This is your cue to do all you can to drum up membership, of course.)

I'd like to close with a personal observation about what I find so fascinating about Russell. I came to him, like many people, through his criticisms of religion. I heard a talk on Russell at the Unitarian Church while in high school, and was fascinated by the man from the start. Unlike many people, however, the first book by Russell I read was not *Why I Am Not a Christian or Marriage and Morals*, or even *Sceptical Essays*; it was an old copy of *Common Sense and Nuclear Warfare* upon which I stumbled at a used bookstore. Not only did Russell speak to my adolescent misgivings about religion; he also had much to say to my continuing fears about the U.S. military-industrial complex. But the diversity of interests to which Russell can appeal only tells half the story. Studying Russell's life and thought leads one into the realms of philosophy, mathematics, politics, science, education, British history, American history, literature—the list seems endless. And that's the reason I continue to devote so much time to Russell; through him, a person can get quite an education about modern civilization. Russell's own life demonstrates that such an education is possible; and studying his life provides an excellent starting point for the pursuit of such an education today. Humanists and liberal-minded people everywhere thus have good reason to pay attention to the not-so-long-departed Bertrand Russell.

**Erratum**

The May 2002 issue of the *BRSQ* (#114), while exemplary in many respects, suffered from two small layout mistakes. Pages 4 and 37 got switched around (along with their page numbers, as the error would have been spotted otherwise), and a text box meant to appear on page 20 somehow got shifted to page 21, obliterating some text. The *BRSQ* has not yet identified those responsible for the mistakes; current suspects include Bishop Manning, Lyndon Johnson, and Dr. Albert C. Barnes.

**Letter from the Chairman**

Members who have papers or presentations to give on Bertrand Russell have at least four dates to keep in mind in addition to the Annual Meeting of the BRS.

- Eastern Division, American Philosophical Association, December 27-30, 2002, Philadelphia, PA, Philadelphia Marriott. Submissions for this program are now past due, but please try attend if you are in the Philadelphia—South Jersey area over Christmas. The BRS usually hosts a table at the evening receptions. You do not have to be a member of the APA to attend the convention.
- Pacific Division, American Philosophical Association, March 26-30, 2003, San Francisco, CA, St. Francis Hotel, Union Square.
- Central Division, April 24-26, 2003, Cleveland, OH, Renaissance Cleveland.

The Eastern Division plans to meet in Washington, DC in 2003 and Boston, MA in 2004, always during the week after Christmas. Papers or detailed abstracts should be submitted by the previous April 1. Papers for the Pacific and the Central programs may be submitted anytime before October 1, 2002. Session chairs and commentators are needed as well as presenters.

- May 18. The Center for Inquiry in Buffalo will again host a “Bertie’s Birthday” event, on or about May 18, 2003. There was a great show of international support by members this year, and we look forward to an even better turnout next year. If you cannot make the Buffalo event, why not stage a birthday event in your area?

Finally, if you know of other Russell related events, or if you would like to participate any of the above, by all means write or email:

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BRS Board Elects New Officers

At the 2002 Annual Meeting, the BRS Board of Directors elected David White as its new Chairman. It also reelected as Secretary of the Society and Board Chad Trainer, who was appointed to the position earlier this year after the previous officeholder, Steve Bayne, resigned. The BRS congratulates David and Chad and also thanks Ken Blackwell, outgoing Chair, and Steve Bayne for their service to the Society.

Call for Nominations
BRS Board of Directors

This fall, the Bertrand Russell Society will be holding elections to fill eight of the 24 positions on its Board of Directors. The time has come for nominations for those positions. Members are encouraged to send their nominations to Chad Trainer, BRS Secretary, 1006 Davids Run, Phoenixville, PA 19460, strawflampsacus@aol.com.

Please note that the deadline for nominations is October 1. The ballots will be sent out in the November issue of the BRSQ. Any member of the BRS may run for a seat on the Board. The eight members of the Board with expiring terms may be renominated and reelected. Members may nominate themselves; if you do this, please include a short (one-paragraph) statement about yourself and why you should be on the Board. A complete list of current Board Members is included below; please don't nominate any current Board member whose term does not expire this year.

Directors of the BRS
Officers of the BRS, elected annually, serve ex officio on the Board of Directors.

3 Year Term, Jan. 1, 2000 - Dec. 31, 2002: Steve Bayne, Jan Loeb Eisler, Keith Green, Nicholas Griffin, Justin Leiber, Chandrakala Padia, Bernard Linsky, Peter Stone

3 Year Term, Jan. 1, 2001 - Dec. 31, 2003: Kenneth Blackwell, Dennis Darland, John R. Lenz, Stephen Reinhardt, David Rodier, Tom Stanley, Laurie Endicott Thomas, David White

3 Year Term, Jan. 1, 2002-Dec. 31, 2004: Kevin Brodie, Rosalind Carey, Tim Madigan, Ray Perkins, Alan Schwerin, Warren Allen Smith, Chad Trainer, Thom Weidlich

2003 BRS Award Search Begins
Proposals Welcome

The BRS Awards Committee will soon begin its search for a person or organization to receive the 2003 BRS Award. This award is given annually to one or more people or organizations for outstanding achievement in one or more areas of concern to Bertrand Russell. The award may reflect achievements in either the academic or social and political realm, and achievements made in the recent past or over a lifetime. The award may also be given for extraordinary acts that, by the character they display, are particularly reminiscent of Russell at his best.

Members of the BRS are invited to propose individuals or organizations to the BRS Awards Committee to be considered for the 2003 BRS Award. Proposals should be sent to BRS Awards Committee Chair Kevin Brodie, 54 Cedar Swamp Road, Storrs, CT 06268, kevin.brodie@lebanonct.org.

The Committee will begin deliberating in the early fall, so please get your proposals to the Committee as soon as possible.

For those interested, the following is a list of previous BRS Award recipients:

1980 Paul Arthur Schilpp
1981 Steve Allen
1982 Henry Kendall
1983 Joseph Rotblat
1984 Dora Black Russell
1985 Robert Jay Lifton and Lester Denonn
1986 People for the American Way
1987 John Somerviile
1988 Paul Kurtz
1989 Paul Edwards
1990 (none)
1991 Planned Parenthood Federation of America
1992 Karl Popper
1993 Harry Ruja
1994 (none)
1995 Zero Population Growth
1996 W.V.O. Quine
1997 (none)
1998 Irving Copi
1999 Henry Morgentaler
2000 Stephen Jay Gould
2001 Stephen Toumlin
2002 Studs Terkel

BRSQ Expands!

To accommodate a tremendous flow of Russell-related materials, the BRSQ is expanding to 48 pages on a trial basis. We are pleased to see so much interest in Bertie and the BRSQ. Keep those articles, pictures, reviews, and Russell-related stories coming!
The BRS T-Shirt Saga Continues

Our latest t-shirt story arrives courtesy of BRS Vice President Ray Perkins, who not coincidentally is also in charge of t-shirt production. Plymouth State College, at which Ray teaches, recently invited veteran peace activist Jonathan Schell to campus as part of an endowed lecture series on war and peace. At the last moment Schell informed Ray that he was experiencing driver's license problems and would not be able to rent a car at the airport (in Manchester, NH) for the 60-mile drive to the college. As chair of the lecture series, Ray thus had to pick Schell up. As neither man had ever met the other, Ray decided that he needed some distinguishing feature for which Schell could keep an eye out. He decided to use, of course, a yellow Bertrand Russell t-shirt. (Schell has great respect for Russell the peace activist, and so the choice was particularly appropriate in this case.) It worked like a charm. Ray unfortunately did not have a BRS t-shirt handy to give Schell, although he did provide Schell with a copy of his new book *Yours Faithfully, Bertrand Russell: A Lifelong Fight for Peace, Justice, and Truth in Letters to the Editor* (Open Court, 2001).

Don't you be caught without something distinctive to wear! BRS t-shirts always make you stand out in a crowd (except at BRS Annual Meetings). So why not order yours today? The shirts are available for $10 each plus $3 postage. U.S. funds only, please. Please make checks out to the BRS, and send them to BRS Vice President Ray Perkins, 854 Battle Street, Webster, NH 03303, USA. Please specify size (M,L,XL) and color. Shirts are available in black, yellow, or white. Any questions about the shirts can be directed to Ray at perkrl@earthlink.net.

Are You on BRS-List?

BRS-List is the BRS’s official listserv, used to send members information about Society activities and to discuss Society business. The listserv 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/hrs-list and fill out the form. Alternatively send the message

subscribe
to hrs-request@mailman.mcmaster.ca.

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

The 2002 Annual Meeting of the Bertrand Russell Society

Pictures from the Annual Meeting

“*He’s got universals going all over the place.”* -Gregory Landini

“*It mentions Socratizing.*” -Edgar Boedegger

“*Wittgenstein never elaborates.*” -Alan Schwerin

...and the Editor's personal favorite...

“*There is no definitive ‘Froggy Went a Courtin’.‘*” -Tim Madigan
Minutes of the 2002 BRS Annual Meeting
Chad Trainer, BRS Secretary

The Bertrand Russell Society met for its 29th annual meeting at Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, Illinois. The meeting was from Friday, May 31 to Sunday June 2. Lake Forest College is located in a community that is very upscale, rather detached and quiet—one might say conducive to philosophic contemplation. In attendance were Kenneth Blackwell, David Blitz, Alan Bock, Pat Bock, Edgar Boedeker, Rosalind Carey, Peter Friedman, David Goldman, Nick Griffin, David L. Henehan, Kevin Klement, Gregory Landini, Dean Larson, Lou Lombardi, Timothy Madigan, Steve Maragides, Edward McLenathan, Nancy Mitchell, John Ongley, Karen Perkins, Ray Perkins, Stephen Reinhardt, Alan Schwerin, Peter Stone, Chad Trainer, David White, and Linda White.

On Friday, there was registration and a book table from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. From 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. there was a buffet and Ken Blackwell gave a talk about "Notable Passages from Recent Selections of Russell's Letters." This was followed by the BRS board meeting from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (See "Minutes of the 2002 Annual Meeting of the BRS Board of Directors.") and then the Greater Russell Rochester Set's hospitality suite/salon.

The Saturday morning program began with Greg Landini presenting his paper on "Russell's Distinction Between Logical and Semantic Paradoxes," followed by David Blitz's "Russell and Peace in the Middle East," and Chad Trainer's "Earth to Russell: The Limits of Russell's Views on Space Exploration" was the last paper of the morning.

After lunch, the BRS held its 2002 annual Business Meeting from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Alan Schwerin began the meeting by informing the members of the previous evening's developments at the board meeting.

Then the subject of fostering greater awareness of the BRS was discussed. Edward McLenathan mentioned the services of Elderhostels as something to be considered. Steve Reinhardt mentioned a catalog of services that provide lectures for senior citizens and could be to the Society's avail. David Blitz suggested paper contests, but Alan Schwerin countered that the efforts already made along these lines had not borne results in spite of the lucrative prizes. Steve Maragides insisted on the futility of such efforts. Ray Perkins stressed that people who have students need to do more work soliciting Russell papers. And Peter Friedman, while concurring with Perkins, pointed out the need for discovering ways and means in this area
and effectively getting on various “bandwagons” for exposure.

As a possible way to get greater attention, Alan Schwerin mentioned advertising in the American Philosophical Association publications. David Blitz proposed having a specific topic designated in soliciting papers. Ed Boedeker expressed concern that such designated topics might unduly limit submissions. Peter Stone and Peter Friedman said they saw no problems with specified topics for papers. David Goldman suggested specifying limited time periods for completing papers.

Alan Schwerin brought up for consideration, as a means to better attendance and exposure, the idea of having the BRS annual meeting during the academic year. Tim Madigan pointed out the problem with available dormitory space that would result. Schwerin raised the option of using hotels, instead. Peter Stone mentioned that the Center for Free Inquiry site in Los Angeles (a much discussed possible place for a meeting) didn’t offer dormitories anyway and could attract UCLA students. Alan Schwerin said that off-campus sites could reduce student attendance. Tim Madigan, however, saw no practical impact resulting, and Ray Perkins agreed. Ray reiterated that paper submissions were the best way to draw students into the BRS. David White said an advertisement for a spot on the APA programs was a good idea. And the Greater Russell Rochester Set spoke of how they could invite students to speak. Peter Stone said publication of papers in the Quarterly was an option. There was agreement that the Russell Prize Committee would be the proper group to address the matter. Greg Landini suggested free transportation to the APA conventions as a good incentive.

Peter Stone then encouraged the weekend’s presenters to submit their papers to the BRS Quarterly. He also explained that he had membership forms and free copies of the BRSQ to circulate and improve awareness and scholarship in the field of Russell. Alan spoke of how membership is a precondition for delivering a paper to the BRS, and he requested a greater number of submissions for the meetings, which, he said, would relieve the burden on the professionals.

The topic of getting greater publicity for the BRS was revisited, with Greg Landini focusing on the merits of documentary audio/visual materials, public access channels, and the like. Alan Schwerin mentioned the value of “philosophical corners” in student newspapers that would use quotations from Russell. Chad Trainer suggested that the BRS work more closely with the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation by reciprocally promoting each other in their respective publications. Peter Stone indicated his openness to the idea, and Ray Perkins said he had connections with the Foundation’s publication, The Spokesman, that could be of avail.

Ray Perkins also mentioned that, considering developments between Pakistan and India, as well as the new nuclear policy of Bush, a statement from the BRS to the U.S. is in order urging the elimination of nuclear weapons. He moved that the Society endorse the following statement: “We urge the US to negotiate, with the nations of the world, a treaty leading to the abolition of nuclear weapons under strict and effective international control. And, in order to reduce the danger of accidental nuclear war, we also urge the US forthwith to: (1) pledge ‘no first use’ of nuclear weapons, (2) de-alert its ICBMs, (3) ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and (4) preserve the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.”

Peter Friedman replied that other governments should be similarly urged. Greg Landini disagreed with the idea of the U.S. discarding nuclear weapons. Alan Schwerin asked if those present at the meeting were entitled to receive the APA resolutions. There was debate, and Alan Schwerin raised the question of what to do on the matter considering that the meeting’s allotted time was running out. David Goldman suggested voting on the issue and repudiating the verdict should the membership at large disapprove of the vote.

First, there was a vote on “whether or not to vote on the matter of the BRS issuing Ray Perkins’ resolution.” There were twelve votes for proceeding with a vote, and four votes against. Ray Perkins then reread his resolution. There were fifteen votes in support of the BRS issuing Ray’s resolution and six votes against Ray’s proposal. The meeting then concluded at 2 p.m. with Alan Schwerin explaining that the exact recipients of Ray’s resolution would have to be addressed at a later time.

The Saturday afternoon presentations began with Ed Boedeker’s paper: “Russell’s Distinctions between Pure and Applied Logic.” This was
followed by a panel discussion on Ray Perkins’ *Yours Faithfully, Bertrand Russell* with David White, Rosalind Carey, and Peter Stone as presenters and Ray Perkins as a respondent.

After some free time, the Red Hackle hour followed with some Red Hackle courtesy of Don Jackanicz. The Red Hackle hour started off with a bang attended, as it was, by no less than the distinguished author and journalist Studs Terkel, recipient of the Society’s Annual Award. Studs Terkel regaled everyone with anecdotes regarding his personal encounters with Russell. Studs Terkel’s vim and verve, combined with the generous amount of time he talked, certainly set a positive tone for the evening’s festivities. A full interview of Russell by Terkel was played, as well. There was the banquet, and then the evening was topped off again with the Greater Russell Rochester Set’s hospitality suite/salon.

The Sunday morning papers began with Kevin Klement’s “Russell’s anticipation of the Lambda Calculus,” followed by Alan Schwerin’s “Russell and the Early Wittgenstein on Scepticism,” and then Tim Madigan’s “Russell’s Influence on Music Theory.”

**Minutes of the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Bertrand Russell Society Board of Directors**

**Chad Trainer**

**Secretary, BRS Board of Directors**

At 8:30 p.m., on Friday, May 31, the BRS Board of Directors held its annual meeting. In attendance were Directors Ken Blackwell, Rosalind Carey, Nicholas Griffin, Peter Friedman, Tim Madigan, Ray Perkins, Steve Reinhardt, Alan Schwerin, Peter Stone, Chad Trainer, and David White. Steve Maragides, a longtime BRS member but not a director, was also present. Ken Blackwell opened the meeting with five items: next year’s meeting site, the question of whether or not candidates for BRS awards should be restricted to those willing to appear at the annual meeting, a possible new award for editing, encouragement of potential new members by a waiving of their dues, and elections for the coming year.

Before delving into these subjects, the subject of “outreach” was brought up. Peter Friedman explained his visions of promoting the BRS through a news site service that, while charging other organizations for its services, would not charge the BRS. The BRS, it was explained, would also profit from building relationships with related links and working with an advertising agency. Peter Friedman explained, however, that lack of progress on this front was attributable to insufficient resources. Ken Blackwell then suggested that the BRS’ Web page be examined with a view to recommending improvements, and Steve Reinhardt suggested advertising in the *Bertrand Russell Society Quarterly*.

Peter Stone pointed out the propriety of addressing last year’s Treasurer Report and Minutes. Alan Schwerin moved to accept last year’s Treasurer Report and Ray Perkins seconded the motion. Steve Maragides was asked to send thanks to Dennis Darland for the quality of Dennis’ work as Treasurer, and there was discussion of Dennis’ high value in this role, especially in adding stability to the Society. Ray Perkins made a motion to accept last year’s minutes and Peter Stone seconded it.

The location of next year’s meeting was then addressed. Ken Blackwell expressed regret that planning for a meeting at the Center for Inquiry’s Los Angeles site had not come to fruition. Peter Stone brought up the Greater Russell Rochester Set’s relationship with the Center for Inquiry, and David White said that Paul Kurtz has indicated complete support for the BRS using the Center. Nevertheless, the lack of an active member in California was considered a stumbling block. Peter Stone mentioned that Charles Weyand could be useful for outreach in this matter. Alan Schwerin asked how strong our support was in California. Peter Stone mentioned the increasingly aged status of the people in California, and Ken Blackwell pointed out that nobody from California attended last year’s meeting.

Ray Perkins volunteered Plymouth State College of the New Hampshire University as a fall-back site for the annual meeting but said that he would like to see the meeting in California come through. David White suggested California as the location for the meeting in two years so that there would be more preparation time. Alan Schwerin reminded the board of the difficulties last time in getting California to work as the place. Peter Stone pointed out that, in any case, there are advantages to having information on the annual meeting’s location as early as the November *Quarterly*.

Alan Schwerin moved to accept Ray Perkins’ offer of Plymouth State for next year’s meeting and to consider California as a further goal. Rosalind Carey suggested that Lake Forest could be used again, and Peter Stone expressed his support for this idea, saying that Plymouth State or the Los Angeles Center for Inquiry could be considered for 2004. Alan Schwerin then withdrew his motion, and a motion was made by Rosalind Carey for Lake Forest College as the location for next year’s meeting, which Alan Schwerin seconded. Concerning future meeting locations, Peter Friedman suggested Princeton but Ken Blackwell said that we need someone on site.
Brief discussion followed of having a meeting at City College of New York so as to provide the institution with a means to, at least, partially atoning for its 1940 treatment of Russell. At this point, Ken Blackwell indicated his unease with the present officers taking charge of this matter.

The subject of BRS awards was discussed, first, whether the BRS awards should require awardees to attend the meeting at which the award is announced. Alan Schwerin mentioned the disappointment involved in selecting awardees who are no-shows. But then the prospect of the BRS locking itself out from many possible awardees as a result of a change here was considered, and no motions for a change were made. Ken Blackwell clarified that it was only the main award of the BRS that was under consideration here.

The possibility of a new award for editing collections of Russell's papers and letters was brought up. Alan Schwerin stressed the importance of giving recognition to such editors. Tim Madigan suggested calling such an award the "Harry Ruja Award." Ken Blackwell, however, did not think this appropriate, as Ruja was best known as a bibliographer, not an editor. Peter Friedman then suggested calling it the "Russell Scholar Award." Peter Stone noted the already small pool of candidates and was joined in this observation by Nick Griffin. Alan Schwerin proposed an award for Russell editorial scholarship with a committee empowered to exercise discretion as to whether or not to issue an award. Then Ken Blackwell wondered whether a foreign language award would be in order. Alan Schwerin to whether or not to issue an award. Then Ken Blackwell wondered whether a foreign language award would be in order. Alan Schwerin moved that the current book awards committee have the discretion to make an occasional special award for editing. Ray Perkins seconded the motion.

Officer elections were considered next. Ken Blackwell said he was looking forward to retiring as Chair of the Board but would certainly stay on as a director. The directors then elected the following officers by acclamation:

President—Alan Schwerin (nominated by White, seconded by Perkins)
Chair—David White (nominated by Schwerin, seconded by Perkins)
Vice President—Ray Perkins (nominated by Schwerin, seconded by Stone)
Secretary—Chad Trainer (nominated by Schwerin, seconded by Griffin)
Treasurer—Dennis Darland (nominated by Stone, seconded by Perkins)

The directors expressed their gratitude to Ken Blackwell for his years chairing the Board and the meeting then concluded with Alan Schwerin thanking, on behalf of the Society, David White, Tim Madigan, Peter Stone, and Rachel Murray for the quality of their work with the BRSQ.

Studs Terkel at the 2002 BRS Annual Meeting
Peter Stone

On Saturday, June 1, 2002, Studs Terkel came to Lake Forest College to accept the 2002 BRS Award. He arrived during the Society's Red Hackle Hour, and drank heartily of Russell's favorite brand of scotch. Alan Schwerin presented him with a box of his favorite brand of cigars as well as Bombay gin, another of Terkel's favorites. Terkel reminisced about Russell with those assembled for about 45 minutes before departing for another engagement.

Peter Stone presented the award to Terkel on behalf of BRS Awards Committee Chair Kevin Brodie, who could not attend the meeting. The short duration of Terkel's stay precluded the delivery of Stone's formal remarks. These remarks are reproduced here, however, because they lay out the justification for giving Terkel the award.

Before proceeding with tonight's award, I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge the loss of a past award recipient. As you all know, Stephen Jay Gould, famed paleontologist and recipient of the 2000 BRS Annual Award, died only a few short weeks ago, after losing his second battle with cancer. (He survived the first, and told the story of it in his book Full House: The Spread of Excellence from Plato to Darwin to the enlightenment of us all.) There have very few people in the history of science and philosophy who could write both brilliant technical books for the specialist and elegant popularizations for the layperson. Russell was one, Gould was another, there haven't been too many, and so this is a real loss for both the life sciences and the reading public.

And now for tonight's main event. I've served on the BRS Awards Committee for several years now, including a stint as Committee Chair, and I can tell you that selecting a recipient for the BRS Award every year is quite a challenge. Despite our high standards, which require locating someone who exemplifies some aspect of Russell at his best, every year several candidates offer themselves to the committee's attention—an embarrassment of riches, one might say—necessitating a difficult choice.

This year, however, the committee had a wonderful tool for focusing its attention—Location! Location! Location! Once the decision to meet near Chicago was announced, one BRS member told the committee, if you're in Chicago you simply must honor Studs Terkel. And he was right.
Studs Terkel has many qualifications for the BRS Annual Award. For one thing, he had the excellent judgment and good taste to show up and accept the award in person. (Many of our distinguished award recipients in the past have not been so refined.) More seriously, there is a narrow and a broad reason for presenting Terkel with the award. The narrow reason is his important personal connection with Bertie—he conducted a famous interview with the Good Lord in 1962. In describing that interview, Terkel famously remarked that Russell was “The Man Who Shook the Hand of the Man Who Shook the Hand of Napoleon.” I suppose that means that tonight I become the man who shook the hand of the man who shook the hand of the man who shook the hand of Napoleon. I leave it to the logicians of the Society to sort that one out.

The broad reason, like the narrow one, concerns interviews. Interviewing, after all, is what Studs Terkel does. Interviewing everyone from peace activists to cleaning ladies. He interviews people to show us what people think about subjects that matter to us, and then puts it all down in well-written books just to make it all easy for us to try to get a handle on. Well, maybe not easy—the topics he discusses are rarely easy—but certainly a whole lot easier than it would have been without Terkel on the job.

These books have focused on topics like working (Working: People Talk about What They Do All Day and How They Feel about What They Do, Pantheon, 1974); race (Race: How Blacks and Whites Think and Feel about the American Obsession. New Press, 1992); important moments in our history, such as World War II (The Good War: An Oral History of World War Two. Pantheon, 1984); and most recently life and death (Will the Circle Be Unbroken? Reflections on Death, Birth, and Hunger for a Faith. New Press, 2001). Given Russell’s own ongoing concern with religion and the continuing temptation of people towards irrational faiths, I’m sure this last book will be of great interest to the members of the BRS.

Russell made expert use of the pen to advance the cause of a liberal and enlightened humanity, a cause motivated by his “unbearable pity for the sufferings of mankind.” Terkel has done much the same, but he has incorporated the microphone and the tape recorder, and the many voices they can capture, into the process. For this reason, we are proud to present the 2002 Annual Award to Studs Terkel. The award reads,

The 2002 Bertrand Russell Society Award to Studs Terkel
for dedicating his life to the abolition of the suffering of mankind in the spirit of Bertrand Russell.

My Memory of Russell
Studs Terkel

Note: Studs Terkel told me the story that follows over the phone, and I transcribed it. Since it is a transcribed portrait from memory, there may be some inconsistencies with other accounts of the Terkel-Russell meeting.—Kevin Brodie, BRS Awards Committee Chair

One of the most memorable moments in my life was visiting Russell, in 1962, in his cottage in North Wales, during the Cuban Missile crisis. I went to interview him, but the only thing he wanted to talk about was the crisis. I had a whole list of other things I wanted to discuss with him, but he wouldn’t have it. I sat down before him, and a secretary taps me on the shoulder and says “Only a half an hour.” Meanwhile, I am struggling to get my tape recorder to work. The tape keeps popping out. When I actually get it to stay and I press the record button, the tape won’t move. I am incredibly embarrassed. Russell says to me, “I believe you have problems with technology.” I said, “Lord Russell, technology and I are not empathetic.” He seemed to like that remark, and commented, “Technology is problematic in a number of ways,” and I knew exactly what he meant: the atom bomb.

I then got my tape recorder to work, and we proceeded with the interview, with the secretary tapping my shoulder every ten minutes to remind me of my time remaining. I wanted to ask Russell more general questions about war and the human race, so I broached the subject again. He said to me, “Only if you can trick me,” so I reached into my pocket to find a poem I knew he loved, one by Shelley about youth and age. Of course, I couldn’t find it. I can find everything else—my lunch receipt, a Cubs ticket stub, but not the poem. While I am searching, the secretary taps me again and says “five minutes.” Finally, I managed to locate it, and read it to him. Russell smiled, and said, “Very good, young man, that is one my favorites. You may ask me the question.” I then asked him about the prospects of the human race at this point in history, and he quoted Einstein to me: “Since the split of the atom, we need to find new ways of thinking. We cannot assume that bombs will solve our problems. We must find new ways of solving our problems.”

That is what I remember most: him quoting Einstein, and his remarkable patience with me. Here he is, an intellectual giant, in his nineties, and he never once showed the slightest irritation with me. His intellectual life spanned longer than anyone in history. I mean, he’s talking about nuclear
war, and his grandfather shook hands with Napoleon. That's quite amazing when you think about it. But that's what I remember. Me bumbling around, and his remarkable patience!

The 2002 BRS Book Award

BRS Book Awards Committee Chair Ray Perkins presented the 2002 BRS Book Award to Nick Griffin and Alison Roberts Miculan. In doing so, he made the following remarks:

The competition this year was stiff. I read all the 2001 entries in the New/Forthcoming Books section of the Russell Archives' website (except mine, which should have a 2002 date). However, the choice of the committee was unanimous. Nick Griffin's brilliant epistolary biography of Russell is a delight to read and is an important source of new biographical detail about one of the world's most interesting and important thinkers.

The award plaque reads,

The 2002 Bertrand Russell Society Book Award to
Nicholas Griffin, assisted by Alison Roberts Miculan, for
The Selected Letters of Bertrand Russell:
The Public Years, 1914-1970,
which has enhanced our understanding of Russell's life.

Many members may not be aware of the many prestigious books that have also won the award. To rectify this, we reprint below a complete list of past BRS Book Award winners:


2000—Russell on Ethics: Selections from the Writings of Bertrand Russell (Routledge, 1999), ed. by Charles Pigden.


Celebrating Russell’s Birthday

Alan Bock

As every BRS member knows (or should know), May 18, 2002 was the 130th birthday of the noble and illustrious Bertrand Arthur William Russell. In celebration, a 130th birthday party was held at the Center for Inquiry (CFI) in Amherst, New York (across the road from SUNY Buffalo.) The Center for Inquiry is the headquarters of CSICOP (The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of the Claims of the Paranormal) and its magazine, Skeptical Inquirer; as well as the Council for Secular Humanism and its magazine, Free Inquiry. CFI and its affiliated organizations are the brainchild of Paul Kurtz, an honorary member of the Bertrand Russell Society, who was prominently featured in the May 2002 issue of the BRSQ.

About forty people were in attendance at the event including a goodly number who traveled down from Canada. Among the Canadian contingent were BRS members Ken Blackwell (then Chairman of the BRS Board of Directors), Nick Griffin, and Andrew Bone.

The festivities began promptly at 5:30 PM with the presentation of a Bertrand Russell birthday cake which had been obtained from Wegmans, a local food chain. Wegmans has apparently developed a process whereby minute amounts of colored sugar can be applied to a cake to produce a frosting in the form of a portrait—in this case a portrait of Bertrand Russell. Sort of a digitally remastered frosting portrait, if you will. Bertie would undoubtedly have been impressed that, by the early twenty-first century, science would have progressed to the point where sugar could be transubstantiated into his portrait!

The highlight of the evening was a lecture by Peter Stone, a founding member of the Greater Rochester Russell Set (GRRS) and Editor of the BRSQ, who spoke on Russell’s continuing relevance to the modern world and why, although he has been gone for more than 30 years, he remains a figure of great interest both to those who remember him when he was alive and those who have just discovered him. Peter was introduced by Tim Madigan, a GRRS member and Chair of the Free Inquiry Editorial Board.

In his talk, Peter pointed out that some admire Russell’s work as one of the founding fathers of analytical philosophy, as well as his seminal contributions to the philosophy of mathematics. But most remember Russell as a champion of enlightened social ideals in face of some of the darkest moments of the twentieth century. He stood for women’s rights, peace, civil liberties, and many other causes. Also, he was not afraid to denounce the principle obstacles to these ideals as he saw them—namely, the fanatical creeds preached by both organized religion and nationalistic political movements. In the face of fanaticism, Russell urged use of reason and resistance to claims of dogmatic authority without succumbing to a paralyzing skepticism.

The Russell family can be traced back to the Tudors, as it was Henry VIII who raised them to the nobility. One ancestor of Bertrand was executed for conspiring against the Stuarts in the Rye House Plot. Historically, the family were Whigs and very liberal. Bertrand’s grandfather, Lord John Russell, was twice Prime Minister of Great Britain, and was probably most famous for his efforts on behalf of the Reform Bill. Bertrand’s parents, Lord and Lady Amberly, were eccentrics and freethinkers. His father, who was the author of An Analysis of Religious Belief, had aspirations for a political career, but these were ended rather suddenly when he announced in favor of birth control. This was nineteenth-century England, which was not yet ready for so radical a politician.

Tragedy struck when Bertrand was only four years old. His mother died of diphtheria. Shortly thereafter, his father also passed away, leaving Bertie and his brother Frank as orphans. Their custody became an issue. Their parents had wanted the boys brought up by a family friend, Douglas Spaulding, a freethinker, but the courts intervened and awarded custody to the grandparents. Shortly thereafter, their grandfather died, and so Frank and Bertrand were raised by their grandmother, who was definitely not a freethinker. She had many good qualities, however, and at the age of seventy had shockingly converted from Scottish Presbyterianism to Unitarianism. At the age of 12, Bertie was given a bible from her inscribed with one of her favorite biblical verses—“Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil” (Exodus 23:2). Bertrand Russell was guided by this biblical phrase for the rest of his life.

As expected, Russell went to Cambridge University, where he studied mathematics but later decided to switch to philosophy. Initially, he was influenced by Hegel; later, however, he claimed that he was a Hegelian until the day came when he actually sat down and read Hegel. He then decided to return to mathematics, which he now found quite exciting. It was in applying certain mathematical techniques to philosophy that he became one of the founders of analytical philosophy. His expertise in math...
would eventually lead to his collaboration with Alfred North Whitehead in writing his magnum opus, *Principia Mathematica*. Their financial reward for years of work on this vast project was a financial loss of 50 pounds each!

About this time, Russell married the first of his four wives, Alys Pearsall Smith, but the marriage ended in divorce. He would go on to marry and divorce Dora Black and Peter Spence. His last (and most successful) marriage was to Edith Finch; this marriage lasted until Russell’s death in 1970.

Russell bitterly opposed World War I and became active in the Union for Democratic Control and then the No Conscription Fellowship. As a result of his anti-war activities he was fined, dismissed from Cambridge and sent to prison for violating the Defense of the Realm Act (DORA). On the positive side, however, Russell learned to write quickly for a mass audience. He was always a clear writer and had produced a popular work entitled *Problems of Philosophy* in 1912. But now he was prepared for popular writing on a grand scale. He wrote a number of polemical books during the war, including *Justice in Wartime*, *Political Ideals*, *Principles of Social Reconstruction*, and *Roads to Freedom*.

After the “Great War,” Russell visited Russia, where he had a personal audience with Lenin. He was appalled by Lenin and the communist system, which he thought was as bad, if not worse than medieval Christianity. He then shocked and alienated many of his friends by writing *The Practice and Theory of Bolshevism*. After Russia he went to China for a year in 1922. At first he was worried about the offer of a job in China because it came from a person named “Fu Ling Yu,” but it was indeed a serious offer. He went there accompanied by his future wife Dora Black. The unmarried couple scandalized the foreign delegations and the missionaries in the country but the Chinese were enthralled by them. While in China, Dora became pregnant with Russell’s first child. On their return to England they were married (at BR’s insistence) so the child would be legitimate. He was named John Conrad after the author, Joseph Conrad, whom BR admired. (In fact, both of Bertrand Russell’s sons were named after Conrad.)

Dora and Bertie then opened Beacon Hill School, a progressive institution by which they hoped to test Russell’s theories regarding education. To finance the school, Russell began popular writing and lecturing on a grand scale. At this time he produced many of his popular works for the educated reader. *Works on science like The ABC of Atoms and The ABC of Relativity*. Works on sex like *Marriage and Morals*. Works on education such as *On Education and Education and the Social Order*. Works on how to lead a better life like *The Conquest of Happiness*. And works like *Sceptical Essays*, which brought together many of his thoughts on life. One of his most famous lines comes from this book—“I wish to propose for the reader’s favorable consideration a doctrine which may, I fear, appear wildly paradoxical and subversive. The doctrine in question is this: that it is undesirable to believe a proposition when there is no ground whatever for supposing it to be true.”

Eventually the school floundered, and Bertie’s marriage to Dora ended in divorce. He then married Peter Spence. Bertrand Russell had three children, two by Dora Black Russell and one by Peter Spence. His only daughter, Katherine Russell Tait, is an honorary member of the BRS, as is his younger son, Conrad Russell (the current Earl Russell).

In 1940, he was scheduled to take up an appointment at City College of New York, but the appointment was denied by the university due to a well-orchestrated campaign by the clerical fascist set. His work was described by an attorney who filed the case against Russell as “lecherous, libidinous, lustful, venerous, erotomaniac, aphrodisiac, irreverent, narrow-minded, untruthful, and bereft of moral fiber.” This case has been chronicled in a recent book entitled *Appointment Denied* (Prometheus, 2000). The book is by BRS member Thom Weidlich, who will be addressing the GRRS in September.

After the City College affair Russell, through Dewey, obtained employment teaching at the Barnes Foundation but this, too, eventually fell apart. However, using the time spent at the Foundation, Russell was able to produce *A History of Western Philosophy*, which turned out to be a huge financial success.

In his later years, Russell became somewhat more respectable, receiving the Order of Merit and the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1950. He then, however, became active in the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and the more radical Committee of 100. He was as a result arrested for civil disobedience at the age of 89! He died in 1970 at the age of 97.

A lively question-and-answer period followed the lecture; numerous inquirers tested Peter’s encyclopedic knowledge of matters Russellian. It did not appear that anyone left disappointed over not having had their questions answered—usually extensively. At the conclusion of the Q & A period, Paul Kurtz recalled that, while he was a student at Columbia back
in 1950 or 1952, he saw Russell in person at a Columbia-sponsored event. He noted that Russell received a standing ovation from the entire student body. This, of course, was about ten years after the infamous City College case. It was a thrilling scene, Kurtz remembered.

At the conclusion of the question-and-answer period, everyone was invited to tour the CFI library—the most extensive freethought library in the world. Our Canadian visitors seemed to be especially interested in browsing through the stacks and marveling at the collection. A five- or six-volume set containing the collected works of Jeremy Bentham was admired by Ken Blackwell, who informed us that it was an expensive set. While we were still down in the stacks one of our visitors from Toronto entertained us with a very brief but masterful impression of Bertrand Russell.

The tour of the library concluded the formal festivities at the Center. Since it was still early, a dozen or so people decided to go out to dinner. However, since it was Saturday night in Buffalo, attempts to obtain a table for 12 within a reasonable time at either Bennigans or The Olive Garden were unavailing, and so the group had to settle for the alcohol-free IHOP (International House of Pancakes). Despite the absence of a wine list, a very lively time was had by all. At the end of dinner, Paul Kurtz generously announced that the Center would pick up the dinner check for all in attendance. And so a celebration that began with cake ended with dinner.

*Alan Bock is an active member of the Greater Rochester Russell Set.*

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**Author Needed for Russell Reference Book**

Scarecrow Press, a leading publisher of reference works, is looking for an author(s) to write a volume on Bertrand Russell's Philosophy for its series of Historical Dictionaries of Religions, Philosophies and Movements. The book should have an introduction, chronology, bibliography and "dictionary." The dictionary comprises entries on famous persons (family, colleagues, critics), places, events, concepts, seminal works, etc. The whole book should run some 250-300 pages. Payment is by royalties. Prospective authors can write to the series editor, Jon Woronoff, 765 Route de Vesegnin, 01280 Prevezen, France. Please enclose a brief c.v. For more information on Scarecrow Press, please visit its website at [http://www.scarecrowpress.com](http://www.scarecrowpress.com).
End the Nuclear Danger: An Urgent Call
Jonathan Schell, Randall Caroline Forsberg, and David Cortright

The mission of the BRS is in part to champion the causes to which Russell was committed. And few causes absorbed as much of Russell's attention as that of preventing nuclear war. The BRS reaffirmed its support for this cause at its last meeting, where it passed a resolution in support of nuclear disarmament. (See "Minutes of the 2002 BRS Annual Meeting in this issue.) It is in support of this cause that the BRS reprints the call below, which appeared in the June 24, 2002 issue of The Nation (along with commentary by Schell). The Nation version appears online at http://www.thenation.com/doc.nhtml?y=20020624&s=schell2.

A DECADE after the end of the cold war, the peril of nuclear destruction is mounting. The great powers have refused to give up nuclear arms, other countries are producing them and terrorist groups are trying to acquire them.

POORLY GUARDED warheads and nuclear material in the former Soviet Union may fall into the hands of terrorists. The Bush Administration is developing nuclear "bunker busters" and threatening to use them against nonnuclear countries. The risk of nuclear war between India and Pakistan is grave.

DESPITE THE END of the cold war, the United States plans to keep large numbers of nuclear weapons indefinitely. The latest US-Russian treaty, which will cut deployed strategic warheads to 2,200, leaves both nations facing "assured destruction" and lets them keep total arsenals (active and inactive, strategic and tactical) of more than 10,000 warheads each.

THE DANGERS POSED by huge arsenals, threats of use, proliferation and terrorism are linked: The nuclear powers' refusal to disarm fuels proliferation, and proliferation makes nuclear materials more accessible to terrorists.

THE EVENTS of September 11 brought home to Americans what it means to experience a catastrophic attack. Yet the horrifying losses that day were only a fraction of what any nation would suffer if a single nuclear weapon were used on a city.

THE DRIFT TOWARD catastrophe must be reversed. Safety from nuclear destruction must be our goal. We can reach it only by reducing and then eliminating nuclear arms under binding agreements.

WE THEREFORE CALL ON THE UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA TO FULFILL THEIR COMMITMENTS UNDER THE NONPROLIFERATION TREATY TO MOVE TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS, STEP BY CAREFULLY INSPECTED AND VERIFIED STEP, TO THE ABOLITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. AS KEY STEPS TOWARD THIS GOAL, WE CALL ON THE UNITED STATES TO:

§ RENOUNCE the first use of nuclear weapons.
§ PERMANENTLY END the development, testing and production of nuclear warheads.
§ SEEK AGREEMENT with Russia on the mutual and verified destruction of nuclear weapons withdrawn under treaties, and increase the resources available here and in the former Soviet Union to secure nuclear warheads and material and to implement destruction.
§ STRENGTHEN nonproliferation efforts by ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, finalizing a missile ban in North Korea, supporting U.N. inspections in Iraq, locating and reducing fissile material worldwide and negotiating a ban on its production.
§ TAKE nuclear weapons off hairtrigger alert in concert with the other nuclear powers (the U.K., France, Russia, China, India, Pakistan and Israel) in order to reduce the risk of accidental or unauthorized use.
§ INITIATE talks on further nuclear cuts, beginning with U.S. and Russian reductions to 1,000 warheads each.

To sign the statement, go to http://www.urgentcall.org or send name, organization/profession (for ID only) and contact information to Urgent Call, c/o Fourth Freedom Forum, 11 Dupont Circle NW, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20036. We also need tax-deductible donations, made to Urgent Call, to disseminate this call.

This call was drafted by Jonathan Schell, Harold Wilens Peace Fellow of the Nation Institute and the author of The Fate of the Earth; Randall Caroline (Randy) Forsberg, Director of the Institute for Defense and Disarmament Studies and author of the "Call to Halt the Nuclear Arms Race," the manifesto of the 1980s nuclear weapons freeze campaign; and David Cortright, President of the Fourth Freedom Forum and former Executive Director of SANE.

This page is a part of the urgentcall.org website.
Russell “Beyond the Fringe”
Peter Stone

On March 27, 2002, British comedian Dudley Moore passed away. Moore is remembered for, among other roles, his part in the British Comedy series “Beyond the Fringe.” As a tribute to Moore, the BRSQ offers the following short article concerning Russell and “Beyond the Fringe.”

In the 1960s, the British TV comedy series “Beyond the Fringe” (a precursor to “Monty Python’s Flying Circus”) once ran a skit about Bertrand Russell. The skit has floated around an appeared at various times, most recently on a January 14, 2001 broadcast of “The Spirit of Things,” which runs on Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s network Radio Nation. That episode of “The Spirit of Things” was entitled “The Unexamined Life Is Not Worth Living.” Its transcript, including the Russell skit, is at http://www.abc.net.au/rn/religion/spirit/stories/s233447.htm. The brief but charming skit runs as follows:

We have in the studio Bertrand Russell, who talked to us in the series ‘Sense, Perception and Nonsense: Number 7. Is this a dagger I see before me?’ Bertrand Russell.

Bertrand Russell: One of the advantages of living in Great Court, Trinity I seem to recall, was the fact that one could pop across at any time of the day or night and trap the then young G.E. Moore into a logical falsehood by means of a cunning semantic subterfuge. I recall one occasion with particular vividness. I had popped across and had knocked upon his door. ‘Come in’, he said. I decided to wait awhile in order to test the validity of his proposition. ‘Come in’, he said once again. ‘Very well’, I replied, ‘if that is in fact truly what you wish’.

I opened the door accordingly and went in, and there was Moore seated by the fire with a basket upon his knees. ‘Moore’, I said, ‘do you have any apples in that basket?’ ‘No’, he replied, and smiled seraphically, as was his wont. I decided to try a different logical tack. ‘Moore’, I said, ‘do you then have some apples in that basket?’ ‘No’, he replied, leaving me in a logical cleft stick from which I had but one way out. ‘Moore’, I said, ‘do you then have apples in that basket?’ ‘Yes’, he replied. And from that day forth, we remained the very closest of friends.

Library’s William Ready Division of Archives and Research Collections Division Receives AAO Award
Carl Spadoni

The article below was posted June 25, 2002 on the “Daily News” page at McMaster University’s website. It may still be available online at http://dailynews.mcmaster.ca/story.php?id=1489. Given the central importance of McMaster’s Archives to Russell studies, the BRSQ is happy to reproduce it here. We also offer our congratulations to Carl Spadoni and the Archives for receiving this honor.

The Archives Association of Ontario (AAO) has presented its Institutional Award for 2002 to the Library’s William Ready Division of Archives and Research Collections.

The award is for outstanding service to the community and providing an exemplary model for other archival programs.

Carl Spadoni, research collections librarian, accepted the award on behalf of McMaster University Library at AAO’s annual conference on June 20.

The citation for the award praised the William Ready Division of Archives and Research Collections for:

• acquiring major archives and building collections for research purposes;
• fostering the Bertrand Russell archives as an international resource base for Russell scholarship;
• making fonds [sic—ed.] and collection descriptions and finding aids available electronically;
• providing quality reference service to the public;
• the work of the conservators and McMaster’s co-op conservation program for other institutions;
• scholarly commitment of the division’s staff to academic life at McMaster;
• and the staff’s participation in archival organizations.
Road Tripping with the GRRS
Peter Stone

GRRS members Phil Ebersole, Tim Madigan, Peter Stone, and David White traveled in May to the quarterly meeting of the Conference for the Study of Political Thought's Upstate New York Chapter, held at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. (In addition to editing the BRSG, Peter also coordinates meetings for this chapter.) David, Peter, and Phil decided to take the scenic route and visit a number of used bookstores along the way.

The trip turned up a number of Russell-related references. One store had a copy of The American Revolution, by George Otto Trevelyan (Abbreviated edition of 6-volume work. Ed. by Richard B. Morris. New York: David MacKay, 1964). George Otto Trevelyan was nephew by marriage to Thomas Babington Macaulay, one of Britain's most famous historians, and father of George Macaulay Trevelyan, another historian and good friend of Bertie. Another store had a copy of Sex in Civilization, ed. by V.F. Calverton and S.D. Schmalhausen (Garden City, NY: Garden City Publishing Company, 1929). This thick tome, a collection of liberal essays on sex, is dedicated to these women who have led in the struggle for sex emancipation and a freer civilization.

Mary Wollstonecraft
George Sand
Ellen Key
Oliver Schreiner
Lilli Braun
Isadora Duncan
Aletta Jacobs
Alexandra Kollantai
Mary Stopes
Dora Russell

The most notable Russell references, however, appeared in Freedom, Not License, by education reformer A.S. Neill (New York: Hart, 1966). This book contains a series of responses by Neill to letters written to him by the general public. In the course of it, Neill refers to Russell three times. First, when answering a question about the need for children to show respect, Neill emphasizes that respect must be earned, by parents like anyone else.

He writes, "I respect Bertrand Russell because of his philosophy, his humanitarianism, but that respect has no fear or envy in it. If you want to be respected by your child, act in a manner that the respect comes naturally—which means deservedly—and not because your child fears reprisal" (p. 36).

Second, Neill later writes that

According to the believers, Bertrand Russell will roast forever in hell, while Billy Graham will sit at the right hand of God. Punishment without let up is to be the doom of a man who has enriched mankind with his creative mathematics. Such is the unfeeling God the young are supposed to believe in—a God who is cruel and unremittingly tortures a good man who never harmed anyone but who just didn't pronounce the proper mumbo-jumbo (p. 84).

Neill does, however, part company with Russell in his third reference. In the course of explaining that "Freedom Does Not Make Rebels," he writes that "Free children are not propagandizing rebels; they often wear anti-nuclear badges, but none was arrested for sitting down with Bertrand Russell in Trafalgar Square" (p. 92).

And of course, several books by Russell (notably Conquest of Happiness, subject of the GRRS's May meeting) could be found during the trip, although nothing the GRRS had not seen before.

Solution to May 2002 Russell-Crypt

This quote comes from a September 28, 1932 column by Russell, entitled "On Astrologers," written for the Hearst newspapers. The entire essay is at
http://www.santafe.edu/~shalkiz/Russell/Hearst_Essays/On_Astrologers.html

In schools and universities information of all sorts is ladled out, but no one is taught to reason, or to consider what is evidence for what.
The Russell "Clan"

The BRSQ reprints with permission the following short article on the Russell family name. The article appears at "Rampant Scotland," a website devoted to "everything about Scotland." The site features an entire section devoted to helping people trace their Scottish ancestry. The website is at http://www.rampantscotland.com/clans/bl/clanrussell.htm. The BRSQ thanks Alan Scott ("Scottie") for permission to reprint this article.

Clan/Family Histories - Russell/Russel

This name is probably derived from "rous" meaning red and early bearers of the name no doubt had red hair—and were probably of Norman or French extraction. While the name is by no means confined to Scotland, it is within the top 50 most frequently found names in the country.

The name is one of the earliest surnames recorded in Scotland, the first being a Walter Russell who witnessed a charter in Paisley Abbey some time between 1164 and 1177. John, son of Robert Russet of Duncanlaw granted land to found a Hospital between 1180 and 1220. Robert Russell of Berwickshire was a big enough landowner to be required to sign the Ragman Roll and pay homage to Edward I in 1296.

Russells can be found in Aberdeenshire where Rozel, an English baron who had fought at the siege of Berwick and the Battle of Halidon Hill in 1333, obtained an estate at Aden. The family was described as "Russel of that Ilk" implying that they were substantial landowners. As such, Russel is one of the clans and families of Scotland with a coat of arms recognised by the Lord Lyon.

Not all Russells were recorded for their good works. Jerome Russell, a monk, was burned at the stake in the High Street, Glasgow, for heresy in 1539.

There was a significant family of Russels in Selkirkshire in the Scottish Borders and many entered military service in India in the 18th and 19th centuries.

In England, a family which began with a Rufus (another form of Russell) rose to become the Dukes of Bedford. The 3rd son of the 6th Duke of Bedford studied at Edinburgh University where he was greatly influenced by the independent and democratic philosophy taught there. He became a great Reformer and was an architect of extending the franchise for the Westminster parliament. His grandson, the 3rd Earl Russell, was also an independent thinker, better known as the philosopher Bertrand Russell.

Russell was the 47th most frequent surname at the General Register Office in 1995.

Russell-Related Book Sought for Archives

Peter Stone

Bernard Quaritch Ltd., a noted antiquarian bookseller (with a website at http://www.quaritch.com) is currently offering a copy of James Harkness and Frank Morley's Introduction to the Theory of Analytic Functions (London: Macmillan, 1898) in its summer 2002 catalog. The copy was once owned by Bertrand Russell, and contains his extensive marginalia. Apparently, Russell gave or loaned it to the mathematician G.H. Hardy, and it was by way of Oxford University (who received Hardy's papers after his death) that the book has found its way to market.

The Bertrand Russell Archives at McMaster University is anxious to obtain the book. It provides the first known evidence of Russell's discovery of Weierstrass, whose work was to contribute much to Russell's own mathematical work. (Russell's debt to Weierstrass is discussed in, among other works, Nick Griffin's Russell's Idealist Apprenticeship (Clarendon, 1995).) Unhappily, the Archives are in no position to handle the £8,500 price tag attached to the book. Any BRS-ers with advice on acquiring the book should contact Carl Spadoni at spadoni@mcmaster.ca.

A Conversation with Neil Abercrombie—Update

Many readers enjoyed Chad Trainer's interview with longtime BRS member Rep. Neil Abercrombie (D-HI) when it appeared in the November 2001 issue of the BRSQ. Unfortunately, Abercrombie was not one of them, at least not at the time. Chad subsequently ran into the congressman at a legislative conference and asked him what he thought of the issue containing the interview. Abercrombie informed him that he had not received it; because of the anthrax scare that plagued Capitol Hill at about that time, it never reached him. Chad therefore personally handed Abercrombie a copy the next time the two men met, at the National Democratic Club on May 7. Fortunately, after all the storm and fury raised by the delivery process the congressman liked what he saw.
Regular Features:

Russell-Related Odds and Ends


*Source: Ken Blackwell*

- In several issues in April and May 2002, the *Nation* ran an ad for its digital archive, access to which is available for purchase by individuals and public libraries. The ad featured a variety of covers from past issues of the *Nation*—including a cover featuring the following headline: “Soviet Russia—1920, by Bertrand Russell. ‘I went to Russia believing myself a Communist, but—’” This cover story, according to the *Bibliography of Bertrand Russell*, ran in the July 31, 1920 issue of the *Nation*, the first of a two-part article.

*Source: Peter Stone*

- The April 14, 2002 issue of the *New York Times* contained an interesting article on library collections in its “Education Life” section. The article, written by Lev Grossman, was entitled “Catalog This: Dante’s Dust, Poe’s Hair, Taft’s Underwear. Oh, my. What’s a Librarian to Do?” It detailed some of the odd items that get donated to libraries through bequests of books and papers. Among the topics discussed is the fact that “Carl Sandoni [sic] of the Bertrand Russell Archives at McMaster University in Ontario is the uneasy curator of two Vietnam-era cluster bombs, deactivated but perfectly genuine.” Carl Spadoni is presumably grateful for the attention given to McMaster’s most important collection, though no doubt he wishes they’d gotten his name right.

*Source: Tim Madigan*

- William H. Pritchard has reviewed Carole Seymour-Jones’ *The Life of Vivienne Eliot* (London: Constable Robinson, 2001; New York: Doubleday, 2002). His review, which appears in the April 21, 2002 issue of the *New York Times Book Review*, takes exception to the voluminous detail Seymour-Jones provides about the Eliots and the people in their lives. “Admittedly,” he writes, “one needs to know about the affair Vivienne had with Bertrand Russell not long after she married Eliot—an account that does Russell no credit. But do we need to hear about all Russell’s relations with Constance Malleson, another of his mistresses?” Oddly, there appear to be people out there who do in fact tire of hearing about Russell’s many liaisons.

Pritchard’s review is largely negative. A more favorable review by Robert Craft appeared in the *New York Review of Books* on May 23, 2002. The review also discusses Vivienne’s affair with Bertie, and mentions his conclusion about the Eliots that “their troubles were what they most enjoyed.” The most memorable line from the review comes from Virginia Woolf, who wrote the following about Eliot’s conversion to Anglicanism: “There is something obscene about a living person sitting by the fireside and believing in God.”

*Sources: Phil Ebersole, Tim Madigan, & Peter Stone*

- Tariq Ali, Russell’s former comrade-at-arms in the movement against the Vietnam War, recently engaged in a highly-publicized debate with Christopher Hitchens over the question of U.S. intervention in Afghanistan. A report of the debate appeared in the May 3, 2002 issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. The report itself, by Penn State English Professor Michael Bérubé, is rather snotty, and should be taken with a grain of salt.

*Source: Peter Stone*

- The June 7, 2002 issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* contains an article entitled “The Life and the Mind.” The article, by Danny Postel, discusses the recent upsurge in philosophical biographies over the last twenty years. “Since 1982,” Postel writes, “more than 30 biographies of philosophers have appeared. Of those, 20 have been published in the past decade, a dozen just since 1999. And more are in the works.” The article then debates the relevance of biography to an understanding and appreciation of philosophical work.

Russell, of course, received prominent mention. The article begins with the famous image (taken from the *Autobiography of Bertrand Russell*) of Russell’s mystical experience upon seeing Evelyn Whitehead in intense pain. The article also provides a list of key philosophical biographies written since 1980. The list includes of


Source: Phil Ebersole & Tim Madigan

- The *Times Literary Supplement* recently ran a review of Ludwig Wittgenstein’s *Nachlass*, a new electronic version of “all the manuscripts, typescripts and dictations of philosophical work that Wittgenstein bequeathed to his rather bemused heirs.” (“Nachlass” apparently means “literary remains.”) The review appears in the June 14, 2002 issue, and is by Wittgenstein biographer Brian McGuinness. Russell is mentioned only in passing for his help in preparing (with G.E. Moore) some of Wittgenstein’s pre-*Tractatus* notes on logic.

Source: Ken Blackwell & Dan Kervick

- *Appointment Denied: The Inquisition of Bertrand Russell* (Prometheus, 2000) has received several customer reviews at Amazon.com’s website. Among the reviewers of this book is Warren Allen Smith, who asks, “If the Vatican can apologize for Galileo, why wonder when will the Episcopalians apologize for their egregiously narrow-minded bishop?” Smith, like *Appointment Denied* author Thom Weidlich, is a BRS Board member who lives in New York City. Members may wish to read the review at http://www.amazon.com (just search for “Appointment Denied”) and indicate how useful they found the review.

Source: David White

- Michael Albert, Founding Co-Editor of Z Magazine, has co-written an essay entitled “Conspiracies or Institutions: 9-11 and Beyond” with Stephen R. Shalom. The essay, available at Z Magazine’s companion website at http://www.znet.org, argues against the significance of conspiracy theories for leftist political analysis. (A shorter version of the article appears in the July/August 2002 issue of Z.) The essay makes extended use of a story attributed to Russell as follows:

> There is an apocryphal story about Bertrand Russell giving a public talk and afterward an elderly woman walks up and says, “You got a lot right, but about the universe, you missed the point. Everything we see is on the back of a giant turtle.” And Russell pondered a moment and says, “Well, okay, what’s holding up the turtle?” And she replies, “another larger turtle.” And Russell asks what supports that one. And she replies: “It is turtles all the way down.”

“Conspiracy theorizing,” Albert and Shalom conclude, “is often quite like that. If at first one conjured claim doesn’t work, no matter, manufacture another.”

Albert and Shalom take issue not only with contemporary conspiracy theories concerning September 11, but also with more “established” conspiracy theories, such as those surrounding JFK’s assassination. Here their views complement those of BRS Honorary Member Noam Chomsky, who wrote a book downplaying the political significance of the JFK assassination entitled *Rethinking Camelot: JFK, the Vietnam War, and American Culture* (South End Press, 1993). (They also diverge from Russell’s own perspective on the assassination as a member of the Who Killed Kennedy Committee.) This should not be surprising, given that Albert and Chomsky are longtime friends and collaborators.

Incidentally, the apocryphal “turtles all the way down” appears in Stephen Hawking’s *A Brief History of Time* (Bantam Doubleday, 1998), as well as numerous places online (many of whom cite Hawking as their source). While a less colorful version of the story appears in Russell’s famous “Why I Am Not a Christian,” the original source for the “turtles all the way down” quote remains a mystery. Any Russellian who tracks down the source should inform the BRSQ.

Source: Peter Stone
The Buddhiwadi Foundation, a humanist organization in India (see “News from the Humanist World,” BRSO #112, November 2001), has taken an interest in the BRSO. After receiving a complimentary copy of the BRSO, the foundation expressed the desire to receive future issues, and offered in exchange copies of their own English-language publications. It also translated part of a letter from the BRSO editor into Hindi and published it in their publication Buddhiwadi. A number of its members will be receiving complimentary copies of the BRSO, and the BRSO has received a copy of the foundation’s latest publication, Dr. Ramendra’s book M.N. Roy’s New Humanism and Materialism. A review of this book will hopefully appear in a forthcoming BRSO. The Foundation next plans to publish Dr. Kowaljee’s book Total Revolution and Humanism. For more information on the Buddhiwadi Foundation, check out its website at http://www.buddhiwadi.org.

Rationalist International’s campaign to save the life of Zafran Bi Bi (see the May 2002 BRSO) has succeeded. Zafran Bi Bi is a rape victim in Pakistan who was sentenced to death by stoning. In response to tremendous public pressure, the Federal Shariat Court in Islamabad cleared her off all charges on June 8, 2002. General Musharraf, president of Pakistan, reportedly received over 3,000 e-mails in opposition to the death sentence. Moreover, the Council of Islamic Ideology, Pakistan’s highest authority on matters of religious faith, has agreed to review the adultery law under which the conviction occurred and see if it is truly “in accordance with the Koran.” The campaign to abolish Pakistan’s barbaric adultery laws. (Zafran Bi Bi claimed she was raped by her brother-in-law, but Pakistan’s religious laws governing adultery do not distinguish between consensual and non-consensual sex) continue.

Also continuing is the International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU)’s campaign to save the life of Dr. Younis Shaikh, a Pakistani academic sentenced to death on August 18, 2001 for blasphemy. A report on the case can be found at the IHEU’s website at http://iheu.org/Shaikh/. The IHEU asks opponents of religious fanaticism to protest the sentence to Pakistani President Musharraf and request Dr. Shaikh’s release. President Musharraf can be reached via e-mail at ce@pak.gov.pk or via any Embassy of Pakistan. Please send copies of any letters sent to the IHEU at campaign@iheu.org.

American Atheists has called for a “Godless Americans March on Washington,” to take place on November 2, 2002. The march has been endorsed by the Council for Secular Humanism, among other humanist organizations. For more information, contact D.J. Grothe at (716) 636-7571 ext. 314 or dgrothe@centerforinquiry.net.

Updates on Awards and Honorary Members

On May 20, 2002, the BRSG lost one of its esteemed award recipients, Stephen Jay Gould, esteemed paleontologist and 2002 BRSG Award recipient, died of lung cancer. He will be sorely missed. Obituaries and tributes devoted to Gould appeared in the following publications, among others: the New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Seattle Times, St. Petersburg Times, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Toronto Star, USA Today, Washington Post, and Newsday (May 21); the Independent, Guardian and Boston Globe (May 21 and 22); the Times, Scotsman, Hartford Courant (a must-read), and Daily Telegraph (May 22); the Plain Dealer (May 25); the Washington Post (May 26); Newsday (May 28); and the Nation (June 17).

Fortunately, Gould was able to finish his magnum opus before his death. Harvard University Press has just published Gould’s The Structure of Evolutionary Theory. This book, 1,464 pages in all, presents a mature statement of the changes Gould believed have become necessary in Darwinian theory since the Modern Synthesis took place over half a century ago.

An article on Gould and his new book appeared in the March 15, 2002 issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education. The article contains a brief interview with Gould, in which he declared, “I never write a second draft. I almost never shift a paragraph. I add something if something new comes up. But I’m a believer in the old-fashioned technique of outlining—that is, you don’t sit down and write until you pretty much know how it goes, what the logical structure is.” Gould apparently shared his method of writing, in addition to his devotion to science and humanism, with Russell.

Another review of the book appeared in the June 10, 2002 issue of the Nation. This rather odd review, by David Hawkes, suggests that Gould was fundamentally anti-Darwinian, which is somehow good because of Darwin’s intellectual debt to Adam Smith.
Also published shortly before Gould's death was *I Have Landed: The End of a Beginning in Natural History* (Harmony Books, 2002), the tenth and final collection of Gould's columns from *Natural History* magazine. Reviews discussing both *I Have Landed and The Structure of Evolutionary Theory* have appeared in May 12 issue of the *San Diego Union Tribune* and the May 25 issue of the *Guardian*.

- **Studs Terkel**, recipient of the 2002 BRS Award, was recently honored when the city of Chicago declared May 16 to be Studs Terkel Day. The honor, which was conferred by mayoral proclamation, was bestowed to mark Studs Terkel's 90th birthday. (Note that Terkel's birthday falls two days before Russell's.) Fortunately, the event took place before the BRS Annual Meeting; otherwise, it would have doubtlessly seemed rather anticlimactic. (Once you've received the BRS Award, what higher honor is there left to achieve?) An announcement of the award appeared in the June 10, 2002 issue of the *Nation*.

Terkel, however, does not rest on his laurels any more than Russell did. He recently wrote an article promoting Rep. Dennis Kucinich D-OH as a possible presidential candidate in 2004. The article, which appeared in May 6, 2002 issue of the *Nation*, features excerpts from an interview Terkel conducted with Kucinich in 1978, when the latter was mayor of Cleveland. The article has provoked some controversy within the pages of the *Nation* due to Kucinich's opposition to abortion rights, a position with which Terkel himself disagrees.

Those interested in learning more about Terkel may wish to check out the interview with him at http://www.grandtimes.com/studs2.html. The title of the interview, "Studs Terkel: An Interview with the Man Who Interviews America," brings to mind Terkel's famous description of Russell as "the man who shook the hand of the man who shook the hand of Napoleon." The interview, slightly dated now but still accurate, was conducted by Kira Albin for *Grand Times*, a "unique weekly Internet magazine for seniors." The BRS thanks BRS Librarian Tom Stanley for locating this interview.

- Terkel also put in an appearance in the May/June 2002 issue of the *Ulute Reader*. Terkel's picture appears there, along with a quote from an article on him in the March/April 2002 issue of *Sojourners* magazine. The quote, which runs as follows, demonstrates well why Terkel received the 2002 Award:

> I'm interested in bottom-up history. The stories of the people you don't hear about in other books. There's a poem by Bertolt Brecht that says "Who built Thebes of the seven gates?" In it he asks, who hauled the rocks up there? When they were building the pyramids, what did the workers eat for lunch? In 1588, when the Spanish Armada sank and the Queen of Spain cried, who cried the other tears? That's what I'm interested in, the other tears.

- **BRS Vice President for Outreach Peter Friedman** found a highly obscure appearance by Studs Terkel in a 1953 short film by Encyclopedia Britannica entitled "Beginning to Date." The film, just under 11 ½ minutes long, features Terkel as a swimming coach trying to inspire one of his students with the confidence to ask a girl out on a date for the first time. Those with a high toleration level for saccharine can find the film online at http://www.archive.org/movies/bytitle.html.

- **BRS Honorary Member Taslima Nasrin** visited India in April 2002, receiving extensive coverage in the *Times of India*. On April 4, the *Times* announced that she would be visiting for personal reasons, but that her friends were reluctant to provide further information or even confirm that the visit was taking place (a sensible precaution, given the death sentence hanging over her head). The April 20 issue reported on Nasrin's attacks on efforts to rewrite history in her home country of Bangladesh. The next day, an article by Nasrin appeared in which she expressed sorrow at her inability to return to her own country. (Bangladesh has refused to let Nasrin return, even to visit her own...
mother on her deathbed; Nasrin had to sneak into the country in order
to bid her mother farewell.) Nasrin also expressed a desire to settle in
India, citing the gracious hospitality shown to her. The Times
discussed this desire in an article dated April 28; it indicated that
Nasrin would raise the matter in a meeting with the chief minister of
West Bengal. The articles are at http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com.

- Life Extension Magazine, a magazine that promotes alternatives to
  traditional medicines, features an article entitled “Vindication for
  Linus Pauling” in its May 2002 issue. The article, written by William
  Faloon, deals with Pauling’s work on the dangers of radioactive fallout
  and on the benefits of Vitamin C. It asks how Americans can “stop
  persecuting today’s Linus Paulings” because of their controversial
  claims. The award notes Linus Pauling’s status as the only person to
  win two undivided Nobel prizes—but fails to note his honorary
  membership in the BRS.

- BRS Honorary Member Noam Chomsky will be at McMaster
  University on November 11-14. He will be visiting under the aegis of
  the Centre for Peace Studies, the Labour Studies Programme—and of
course, the Bertrand Russell Research Centre. Chomsky’s schedule
has not yet been worked out, but it should include both large public
lectures and smaller seminars. For more information, contact Nick
Griffin at the Bertrand Russell Research Centre, McMaster University,
1280 Main St West, Hamilton, ON, L8S 4M2, Canada,
ngriffin@mcmaster.ca.

- Noam Chomsky will also speak at the 2002 Annual Meeting of the
American Political Science Association (APSA), to be held in Boston
over Labor Day weekend. Chomsky has been invited to the meeting by
the Caucus for a New Political Science—an organized section of the
APSA that promotes radical approaches to the study of politics—in
conjunction with two other sections, Human Rights and
Transformational & Ecological Politics. Chomsky’s talk will take
place at 8 PM on Saturday, August 31. For further information, contact
John Martin, APSA Program Coordinator for the Caucus, at the
Division of Social Sciences, Dowling College, Oakdale, NY 11769,
martinj@dowling.edu.

BRS Member Reports

- Shortly before his trip to Geneva (see “Road Tripping with the GRRS”
in this issue), David White read his poem “Whereof We Cannot
Speak” (BR/SQ #110, May 2001) at an open mike night at St. John
Fisher College. David admittedly had to explain to the crowd
befehand who Bertrand Russell was, but at least one member of the
audience enjoyed the spectacle. “Hysterical,” she told David, “I didn’t
know Bertrand Russell had a sex life.” News apparently takes a while
to reach St. John Fisher College...

- The May 2002 issue of Splash!, newsletter of the St. Petersburg Largo
Area Secular Humanists (SPASH), announced a SPLASH speaker
session on May 18, Bertie’s birthday. The meeting featured Diane
Wilkinson, a philosophy graduate student at the University of South
Florida, speaking on Russell’s “Why I Am Not a Christian.” SPLASH!
is edited by former BRS Vice President Jan Loeb Eisler, and
subscriptions can be obtained by sending $40 ($20 for students and
low-income persons) to SPLASH treasurer, P.O. Box 8099, Madeira
Beach, FL 33738-8099 USA.

Rustlings

Gerry Wildenberg

“Rustlings” is the new name of my column, “Russell-Crypt,” in which I
present 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
HFFRYY,
O = B, R=E, et cetera. The quote below uses a different code.

After you’ve solved it, see if you can identify the source.

UFMBGUFMWTJ UFO PG AGLWRTGA FJ MBG JKPXGTM EBGVG
EG RGGOV DRHE EBFM EG FVG MFZDWRKY FPHKM, RHV
EBGBGVG EBFM EG FVG JFOFWRY WJ MVKG.

The solution will appear in the next issue of the BR/SQ.
The Hunt for Red Hackle

Undeterred by the underwhelming societal response to his recent call for a global Red Hackle search, BRSQ Editor Peter Stone has reached out to others outside the BRS in hope of assistance at obtaining the devilishly rare Scotch whisky brand so near and dear to Bertie’s heart. He mentioned, for example, the hunt for Red Hackle in a recent exchange with Alan Scott (“Scottie”), proprietor of the “Rampant Scotland” website. (See “The Russell ‘Clan’” in this issue.) Scott did a little searching, and pointed the editor to http://www.scotchwhisky.com/latest/philipsauctionlist.html. This webpage offers information on a Scotch whisky auction held by Philips Auction House in August 2000. This auction featured, among others, the following lot for bids:

Lot 603 Four Old De Luxe Blends Highland Queen ‘Grand 15’; 26 2/3 fl.oz @ 70· proof; a de luxe expression of this once-famous blend bottled in the 1960’s. Red Hackle reserve, 12 Years Old; 26 2/3 fl.oz @ 70· proof; a de luxe expression of what was once Glasgow’s favourite blend, bottled in the 1960’s. Mackinlay’s Legacy, 12 Years Old; 75cl @ 75; an early 1970s bottling. Bell’s Royal Reserve 20 Years Old; 26 1/3 fl.oz @ 70· proof. (4)
£70-100

It’s good to hear that Russell’s favorite Scotch was also once “Glasgow’s favourite,” and while this particular auction may be over, others might offer future purchasing opportunities. (Interested parties may wish to get on scotchwhisky.com’s e-mail list by visiting the site.)

The BRS is still willing to reimburse members who can obtain bottles of Red Hackle for the Society at a reasonable price. (The Society will pay up to $40 a bottle, 4 bottles maximum, for the premium blend of the scotch.) Any member who secures Red Hackle for the BRS will also receive a FREE BRS t-shirt. (See “The BRS T-Shirt Saga Continues” in this issue.) And the BRSQ continues its call for volunteers to join in this epic quest.

BRSQ Associate Editor Tim Madigan poses with the famed bust of Bertie at Red Lion Square, London. Madigan took this photo during a September 1999 visit to the British Isles. The BRSQ would like to see the entire world pose with Bertie, so if you’re in London, have your picture taken with Bertie, and send us a copy! (Tim assures us that there are usually many people at Red Lion Square who would be willing to take a picture of you if you have a camera handy. Some of them will even give you your camera back.)
### BRS Business and Chapter News:

**Bertrand Russell Society, Inc.**  
2nd Quarter Treasurer's Report  
Cash Flow, 4/1/02 Through 6/30/02

Compiled 7/9/02 by Dennis J. Darland,  
BRS Treasurer (djdarland@qconline.com)

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* The Expense & Income for the Annual meeting are mostly not included. They will be included in the 3rd Quarter Treasurer's Report.

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### Greater Rochester Russell Set

Celebrating Five Years of Monthly Russell Meetings Open to the Public

**GRRS Gets Recognition**


**Program, Fall 2002**

- Aug. 8  "Russell the Anti-Communist"  
  **Guest Speaker:** Andrew Bone

- Sept. 12 "The City College Case"  
  **Guest Speaker:** Thom Weidlich

- Oct. 10  Celebrities in Hell  
  **Guest Speaker:** Warren Allen Smith

- Nov. 14 "Russell on Pythagoras"  
- Dec. 12 The ABC of Armageddon  
- Jan. 9  Yours Faithfully, Bertrand Russell

Note: All dates and topics are subject to change.

**New Meeting Location!!!**

Daily Perks Coffee House  
389 Gregory Street, Rochester, NY

For information, contact Tim Madigan at 585-424-3184 or tmadigan@rochester.rr.com. Or visit http://sun1.sjfc.edu/~dwhite/grrs.