Guest Book

Studio of

John Taylor Arms
The Guest Book was kept in Arms’s studio beginning in 1932 until his death in 1953. Visitors signed it, wrote down their thoughts, and often sketched as well. It is filled with delightful images by fellow artists including James McBey, F. Luis Mora, David Strang, Samuel Chamberlain, Mahoni Young, Kerr Eby, and Arthur Heintzelman. There were other guests as well like Helen Keller who wrote, “In happy remembrance of an evening at a home luminous with artistic minds and fine sensibilities” (page 35).
Printmaker Louis Rosenberg drew Millstones, Arms’s Fairfield, Connecticut home and studio on page 4.

Robert Lawson, who did the sketch at the top of page 5, was a writer and illustrator of children’s books. The central image by Kerr Eby refers to the time Arms convinced twenty artists to make prints about George Washington’s life although Arms did not do one himself. Unfortunately, most of the results were mediocre. The third drawing was done by architectural etcher Samuel Chamberlain who owned a house in Senlis, France. He is inviting Arms to come and see the Senlisien landscape which he depicts as a row of charming old shops (a tavern, wine store, and café) with a still life of wine bottles, glasses, and a menu in the foreground.
September 19, 1932
Dame Gertrude Stein

"Mill Stones" from "Dreams" November 1932
Richard Maciong
Dame Gertrude Stein

December 18
1932
Robert Huntington, Jr.

December 21
1932
James Allen Hynes
Pendrooke Backer Hynes

December 24
1932
Henry Hynes Ames
John D. Englund, Jr.
Manusamy Ames

December 25
1932
Caroline Spelman
Dorothy Goldman

This studio is a home for all
of art which spiritualizes;
embracing two shores of the same
Any all compromises.

Absence from the shores of things
Which cannot for nothing disposed of;
Surrounded by the obsessed things
Which count a lot; however small.

Jeanie L. Noyes Jan. 11, 1933

Lady B. Stratem Jan 25, 1933

"That way lies madness.

Robert Lington
Jan 26, 1933

What did you let them do to me twenty times
John Taylor Arms?

Near Ely, April 1933

"Paysage Sentimental"
If we fail now, 3 Can't 3 hayne.

Moi non plus! Royal Storm Hayne.

Truly met the Drum always make a very litty day.

Vance E. Lloyd

Harold 3 Lloyd (not the actor)

Betty Dobie Tubbing

Socrates Jenkins

Our wish here is the high point of the year for everyone.

My artistic talent is here set forth.

Smith and of a scrub lady going north.

William T. Maclure

Betty Watson — disturbed by the lady

eating an egg. Call of polka

L.H. Riddle

Geo. 3 Swails

J. F. Miller

Israel J. Breit

George F. Forrest

1. O. U.

That which will fill this space.

Charlotte A. Perry Jan. 6 1939

Richard A. Perry

To John Taylor Lewis

In memory

Mahoning
And may all your grand children etch.

Alice Fine
Aug 22 1935

Buried in dust it lies
The poison of art.
Scrap past the outer layer
To the essential part.
And you will find:

Etch in the copper plates
Colors that punish lack,
Lives and breathing form
Deep in the white and black
(after a visit there — August 1935)

Alice Fine

Arthur C. Hoff
Tommy Russell Hall
July 20 1935

Allis Lamont
October 1st 1935

Physician Bannett
Oct 1 1935

M. E. Rawley
Oct 4 1935

Elizabeth H. Chubbuck
Anna Sheinman
October 7 1936

Percy H. Showalter
H. N. Bryant

Sally Stone
Amelia E. Schuyler

I was reminded of modern painting. Helen Whiting. Oct 18 1936.

A wonderful visit in the happy home.
May 30th 1937
Ellen F. Ritts

Miss Emma Lauer
Susan May Kelly
It was "Mill Stone" that first gave us welcome when we came out of the West, and it is at "Mill Stone" that we still find the best that has come to us here — in friendship, in helpfulness, and in understanding.

Ada H. Chalmers
Wanda Close Morter
August 3, 1937.
J. C. McCloud, August 26th, 1932.

"What a queer kind of dog are,
When he talk he stand, almost,
When he hop he fly, almost,
He ain't got no tail,
And he ain't got no sense, hardly after.
For he sit on what he ain't sit, almost."

J. C. McCloud, Westport, Conn.

Philips R. Hunt, Oct. 10, 1937

Amy F. Amy Hunt, Oct 10th, 1937

W. C. Gyllin, Oct. 10, 1937

The Automatic Etcher — Just one or two minor problems to solve, and you can read & smoke while your thoughts are automatically translated into the photo-electro detector, directly, on to the copper.

W. E. Hays, and May Hays
Fishing was the favorite pastime of Arms and his wife Dorothy. David Strang, who often printed editions of Arms’s plates, made the humorous “record of a great day” on page 17 of the Guest Book on October 9, 1937. Old Silas, at the right edge of the sheet, is a large boulder in Long Island Sound at the entrance to Bluefish Cove, marked on a map on page 16.
Nothing for your
helpful advice - and
with pleasant memories
of the last more spent
in the shade.

R. W.
To dear John, whose work holds the same prayers for the old masters hold when they started to express themselves.

 Dedicated
Floris Moren
August 1st 1534

Mary Moren
Charlotte Van Kirk
Els Van Tich
August 1st 1534
The Mother of John T. Arms' Grandson (no. 1)

Thomas Mason
James Heming
January 10th 1540

Ann 6. January Hunt
May 18th 1940

James McBay
19 October 1940
Marguerite McBay

c. f. away

Ann 6. January Hunt
October 19th 1940
Phylips B. Hunt
Oct. 19 1940

Nov 5th 1940
Dorothy Spelman
Cecily B. Gellman
John H. Ladd
V. Milton Latham
Elisa Ward - December 29, 1940

Mary Kate Ward - December 29, 1940

Robert R. Gundlach - December 29, 1940.

May you go far beyond your 50th birthday.
Greenfield Hill
Fairfield, Connecticut

The purity and love for this precious babe exemplifies everything that our friendship foresees. As this beloved child grows with the years, so shall our companionship draw us ever closer.

Antone W. Kuhn-Feltman

Verso:
New York - Feb. 11, 1942
Feb 25th

Harry D. Hoffman

Had a wonderful time & would like to make
a sketch from the roof some morning.
Kathie Williams thanks for the party & a rain-check please on a sketch.
Syd Bower had a wonderful time. John thanks
a million. There should be more John times in
the world, but alas there couldn't be.

Frank D. Port

Edith F. Edith Hunt

In great appreciation of the delicious report
which I am certain will enable the
quantity to have a perfect "tone" on their
proofs; and the etchings a smooth, even
"liquid" ground.

Franklin Cason

To a great artist and appreciation of a
wonderful evening.

Ralph Moore Williams - Judy's Mummy

Ralph Fabri

Sandra Brown

Alice Haines Crises

Artie Hoffman

Arendt

Ray Bower

Marilyn Brown

Violet McGhee

Lucy M. Bothe

Kelly Gayle Fini

Jessema E. France

Walter K. France

Jose E. A. Marediales

1st Lt. Army P Arm 45M4
"Young Hopeful" - Harry Caroll Fini
To Horatio:
In memory to express his love
Alfred Edith W. Morrison. March 14th, 1942

To Mr. Young
Car de nuit la pluie noire est
une aile qui vient
Pauline Haynes, 1st March 1942

To Mrs. A. Loggie March 14th 42

To Miss Young and others
Theodore Brennan.

To Miss Holland
Paul Landacre

To Mrs. Young and others
Rev. Ely

To Miss A. Alden

Miss Constance

Miss Winston Huntley.

Virginia W. Young

Arthur Edwin Young

Ruby A. Alden

Lucian A. Carr

Mary Ann Edmonds

R. P. Carr

Mrs. J. Edwards.

Still fast!

To our good and understanding friends, Dorothy and John. How closely paralleled are our interests—art, work, family, the woods, waters and fields. And, almost best of all, an arched rod and singing reel.

As you go through life may you always have “tight lines”.

William J. Scheldach
Anne J. Scheldach
Norman Kent
July 16 1943

I'll only write a line or two because I want to thank both you and my Grammy because you gave me

Avon 10th '44

"Young Hopeful"

Capt Henry R. Anna USMC R

Maine II. Pot微笑

May 1946 - a day I

May 1946 - a day I

such a wonderful view and thanks for a grand time.

and fresh trout for breakfast! "A. Hoyt Spelman.

Such a wonderful view and thanks for a grand time.

Such a beautiful view and thanks for a grand time.

and fresh trout for breakfast! "A. Hoyt Spelman.

Dorothy and John Light Almon -

Dorothy and John Light Almon -

The uncomplaining barnyard.

Alexander Crane.
Muriel Harrington Nesby

Richard Bledsoe

Joan Merrill

Margaret Foundy 17 August 1946

Elizabeth Barrage

Frank Webster Loring

Hazel Hudson Armstrong August 16, 1946

Dominick Coody August 19, 1946

Phil Cody 17 August 1946

Anonymous Williams

Ruth Armstrong Williams

Sincerely, Ernest Mead

Gertrude E. Linley Dick M. Smith 15 April 1947

Gwendolyn Sanford Warren 19 July 1947

C. H. Warren 19 July 1947

Elizabeth Stone Goodridge July 13, 1947

I wish I could draw an better picture of friends who have been topside - landlocked.

Equally, July 27, 1947

Mary M. Smith, Paul Smith To a wonderful family whose warmth friendship and hospitality spread out with as genuine and beautiful as the wonderful panorama from their Vermont retreat.

Don E. MacRitchie our tour to be remembered August 11, 1947.

Josephine Schalkof - and Bill (of course) on his 52nd birthday.

February 15 Fish 1948

In memory of a swell evening and a grand snow.

To our good friends Dorothy and John who "study art for eternity" and live prepared to die tomorrow.

Ruth 1927 White Rocks 3a.m. Remember? July 28, 1947

Mary Russell September 8, 1948 The Goodridges. Here's to many reunions in 1949.
In happy remembrance of an evening at a home luminous with artistic minds and fine sensibilities.

Helen Keller

March 24th, 1949.

Polly Thomson.

June 5, 1949

Alfavut (Turkey)

Göz'de nemeden yediğ, göz'de alparslan ezindik. Pa'ideen dawut

N. Wendt

Mille merci pour une magnifique journée dans le plus charmant hameau américain que je n'aurai été donnée de connaître. Wendt.
I, Mary Wheeler, write of a beautiful scene — Jeanie Hayes Wheeler.

Does a day in your home at the head of the Vermont Valley, equal a month or a year of even Greenfield Hill which we all know is lonely? Geo. Mary Wheeler.

Marquise H. Daily.

This pleasant visit to the Vermont home of The Great American Etcher and his lovely, talented wife will always be a "fragrant retrospection".


Stone House has a magnificent view,

but even more magnificent tenants!

[Signature]

John P. Reed
Aug. 25, '49

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‘Il faut en ce bas monde aimer une bonne fée de choses.

Pour savoir après tout ce qu'on aime le mieux.

On ne se soucie pas de rien plus...

Tout après avoir eu la joie de passer une journée au sein de l'air frais ou au milieu d'hotés ou en se promenant dans un pays amoureux.

 Avec l'espoir de vous retrouver à l'ombre de nos cathédrales!

Andréina Pauline Guesdon
le 5-6-49
if I say, "I love you both so much," I wonder if you begin to understand a little of my feeling toward you and your hearty love in the hills. - Susan Carson.

Gaylord M. Clark

Joan Merrill

Dorothy Morell

Josephine Sheldon

Bill Schaldach

C. Frank Roeosn- A Day Supreme in the "Beautiful." - Oct. 27, 49 - His experience could continue pursuant.

Stephanie Roeosn - A precious daily place of the 14th calyx with 100 the imagination of the "Beautiful." Our boys, always.

Demonstration of "The Making of a Seeding" at Fort Smiths - Sunday, January 28, 49.

Nancy Payton

John Carson

James Summier

Mary M. Smith

Francis O. Mathison

Richards

Harman Bech

Nobert McNeil

William Bech

Charles Cole

Ethel Bech

Jesse Bech

James F. Appleman

Ellen Hatch

Dorothy V. Carpenter

Georgia Beathens

Carolyn C. Beathens

Monty V. Beathens - J. Beathens

Bill Beathens

Joseph Beathens

Hans Holmstrom Jr.

Harry Davis, Jr.

Peggy Leonard Clark

Owen Carson - Came back of sudden and presented for all the years he is in New York. The joy of it is being with him.

Armitage.

Rhoda Bledsoe

Mary Ward

Robert Smith

Teresa O. Ward

Elsie Smith (of Taft)

Maryanne Thrall - Joe Gifford

Marshall O. Ward

Norman Bryan Parcen

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton B. Proctor, Jr. - Bill

Pauline Winter

Mrs. Wall Loe.

Jon Johnson
With all my love for 4th of July - Barque

Yours truly,

Jem

To Stone House, Sunday 7/4/53

To friends Parker
Principal Parker
Steve's House, Sunday 7/4/53

Best to the Schachtels
Paul & Co. Smith

To Stone House, Sunday 7/4/53