



From *Specimens of Insects*, ©2000, by Shinsuke Minegishi

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Richard Hopkins

LIVING IN THE HIGH-SPEED TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, people are often given to observe that “the only constant is change itself.” Undoubtedly however, people since the beginning of time have felt uneasy about how things were constantly changing. Perhaps the only difference between them and us is that we can now truthfully say that things are changing faster than ever before.

The Alcuin Society like everything else is subject to this change. This was brought to mind recently when several key Board members decided to step down at the AGM from their elected offices. We will miss the wise leadership of long-time Chair, Jim Rainer, the creative accounting of our expert money-man, Don Polak, and the perspicacious programming of our energetic Program Chair, Brenda Peterson. Former Board member Anne Yandle is also stepping down as Chair of the Book Design Competition, a job well done for the last two years.

Therefore we are inviting readers of *Amphora* to step forward to offer their much needed and considerable talent to either the Alcuin Board or as a working member of one of our committees: Book Design Awards, Publications, Program, Antiquarian Book Roadshow, and Finance. We particularly need someone with a background in accounting or book-keeping to manage our finances. Anyone who might be interested please contact Jim Rainer at (604) 785-2758 or jrainer@shaw.ca.

Amphora continues to cycle through a process of change as well. Beginning with this issue we will feature living woodcut artists and engravers. We know you will be impressed by the work of rising young Canadian artist Shinsuke Minegishi in this issue.

Another small change is that we have included at least one more reprinted article than we normally include. We try to favour original manuscripts over reprints but things don't always work out as scheduled. This is especially so when the editors are trying to catch up on their production schedule. We have set a relatively blistering pace of turning out three issues of *Amphora* in just five months. Our normal publication schedule will be two issues in six months.