

Bio for 2016 Octavofest Talk

Ken Palko is an associate professor at Notre Dame College where he has been teaching in the philosophy department since 1993. Professor Palko is a two time recipient of the college's "Outstanding Teaching Award." In 2004 he was selected by *Ohio Magazine* as one of the "Top 100 College professors" in Ohio. He received the colleges' "Distinguished Faculty Award" in 2010. More recently, he was selected to deliver the 2015 NDC President's Lecture and was a runner up for the 2016 President's Lecture.

Ken has been an avid book collector for over twenty five years. His collection is eclectic and wide ranging, containing everything from 13th century illuminated manuscripts, to first editions of notable authors such as Mark Twain and Charles Dickens, to collectable children's books. Books on art and architecture are strongly represented in the collection as well as what his wife describes as, "lots of pretty books." That is to say fine leather bindings.

Ken developed his passion for and knowledge of collectable books working in antiquarian bookshops. He holds William Chrisant, bookman and proprietor of the former Cleveland Antiquarian Bookshop, as his greatest mentor. For ten years, Ken authored a column in the FABS (Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies) newsletter on books and book collecting. He has also given numerous talks on all aspects of book collecting over the years. The title of today's talk is "Book Collecting in the 21st century." Ken will share his observations and experiences as well as address questions from the audience.