



SCHWENKFELDER
LIBRARY AND
HERITAGE CENTER

Heritage Headlines

September, 2005
Volume 8, Issue 3

Honoring Heritage. Continuing the Journey.

Christmas at the Schwenkfelder – Something for Everyone!

When making your plans for “don’t miss” activities this upcoming holiday season, make sure you include the Heritage Center on your list. With a splendid array of special exhibits on each floor of the museum, there is certain to be something to inspire and entertain even the “rutchiest” elf!

On our ground floor, visit our Fraktur Gallery for *A Star, A Star* – an exhibit of star motifs in fraktur, folk art and textiles. Then to the first floor where you’ll be treated to a display of mid 20th century toys and games; a very special exhibit by the Lehigh Miniatures Club; and our ever-changing and unparalleled Christmas Putz.

In our meeting room this holiday season we are delighted to present the vibrant and charming watercolors of Carol Noyes. Carol is a local artist who paints landscapes both local and “across the pond” in Great Britain. Her vivid work will be just the thing to brighten a winter afternoon. You can treat

yourself and add one of her works to your own art collection – her paintings will be available for purchase.

If you visit us by December 20, you’ll have a chance to browse and buy in our special Father Christmas Boutique. We will present an array of handcrafted Father Christmases, Belsnickels and Santa Clauses plus wonderful decorative objects adorned with images of the jolly old elf. Don’t miss our special *Christmas Market* on Saturday, December 3rd – we’re teaming up with our good friends at the Mennonite Heritage Center in Harleysville, and the Goschenhoppen Historians in Green Lane to present a day of shopping and holiday cheer at each site.

Christmas at the Schwenkfelder is sponsored by:



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HERITAGE CENTER FALL FUNDRAISER

Join Heritage Center friends and neighbors for a special night of culinary delight, foot stomping music and good company:

OKTOBERFEST 2005

Saturday, October 1
The Inn at Perkiomen Creek

Delectable appetizers will be served and a cash bar will be open beginning at 5:30pm. The festivities continue with specially prepared sauerbraten, wienerschnitzel, smoked pork or a vegetarian served entrée. For dessert, select either strudel or Bavarian cream.

Following the dinner, the band will entertain us with good German music for an hour. Cost for this Heritage Center fundraiser is \$50.00 (with \$25.00 deductible on your taxes). Call the Heritage Center at 215-679-3103 to reserve your seat!

Matching Gift Challenge!

An anonymous donor has challenged us to help raise funds to cover the costs for staff development or seminars they attend throughout the year. This generous and farsighted individual will match, dollar for dollar, all special donations sent to us earmarked for “Staff Development and Seminars” up to \$400.00! This person recognizes the value our institution receives from a well-educated and up-to-date staff—as well as the valuable networks that are developed at these experiences. While the Heritage Center truly wins when the staff hones their skills, these events cost money and this challenge is clearly an investment in a quality future for the Heritage Center!

See Page 5 for details on the upcoming
Pearl S. Buck House Tour, December 1st, 2005

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**Lib Dewey will be missed**

We note the passing of a volunteer from a few years ago, Elizabeth "Lib" Dewey. Lib was a special person to many at the Heritage Center for many years. She died on Saturday, July 23, 2005.

During the 1980s, and even earlier, Lib was a daily volunteer helping faithfully to preserve and organize the Heritage Center collections. She worked under then Director Dennis Moyer, who regularly found projects for Lib's extraordinary energy. She was a daily presence for close to 15 years!

In the 1990s, Lib was invited to join the Board of Directors and her intimate knowledge of the buildings and collections were most helpful. She was most eager to assist in mailings of the Heritage Center. When she was no longer able to assist on a daily basis, she would continue to help with the mailings and the occasional special project.

Lib and her husband Bob eventually moved from their farmhouse in Perkiomenville to Meadowood at Worcester, where they remained active and made many friends.

**Hose, Hook, and Ladder Exhibit
September 25 - November 6, 2005**

The Hose, Hook, and Ladder exhibit, curated by local historian Larry Roeder, returns in 2005 with a tribute to *Fire Chiefs - Leadership from the Volunteers Under the White Helmets*. This exhibit is sponsored by Harleysville National Bank.

The exhibit presents early chiefs of local fire departments through photographs and interpretive text. The visitor will learn about the public-spirited citizens who took on the task of starting a fire department and training the first volunteers. The exhibit includes a look at the Fire Chiefs of today, and how the volunteer position has evolved over the years.

The 2005 exhibit highlights some of the major fire disasters in the region with a special memorial for local firefighters who died in the line of duty.

Also featured is a photo exhibit of the Engine-911 Truck Restoration Project. A special Made-in-the-Valley display shows firefighting items manufactured in the area as well as items made by fire department volunteers to address their departments own special needs.

**Good Bye to Mrs. Allebach!**

Jennifer Allebach has been our Museum Educator for the past four and half years and has done an excellent job in getting our programs started. And while she enjoyed her position, an opportunity came available with the Girl Scouts beginning in late August. We will miss her enthusiasm and energy around the Heritage Center and the children will miss Mrs. Allebach's lessons and hands on experiences. The Heritage Center is currently looking for a new Museum Educator and in the meantime other staff have rallied round to help with tours and other programs. Our educational programs are very important and we will continue to build on the fine work Jennifer established.

Used Book Sale

The Heritage Center will be holding another of our popular used book sales on Saturday, February 18, 2006 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. ***We are currently receiving donations of used books, except encyclopedias or text books.*** You can drop them off at the Heritage Center during normal hours. Mark your calendars now and be sure to help us collect books—then come and browse the tables for a treasure!

**Something Old - Something New**

A special one-day fun and educational event the whole family will enjoy.

On **Sunday October 9th, 2005** the grounds of the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center will turn red with a sea of fire trucks!

As part of the 6-week Hose, Hook, and Ladder exhibit, local firefighters and fire prevention educators will be on hand that day from 1 - 4 pm to give visitors a guided tour of their oldest and newest fire trucks.

Smokey the Bear, courtesy of the Pennsylvania Forestry Service, will also be on hand to greet the youngsters: so bring the whole family! Balloons, comic books, and other surprises will greet you as you spend time among the equipment - old and new!

At 3:30 pm, refreshments will be served and local Fire Chiefs and their companies of volunteers will formally be honored. This program, part of the Hose, Hook and Ladder Exhibit 2005, is made possible by the generous support of Harleysville National Bank.



The Rare Book School

The Rare Book School (RBS) at The University of Virginia is designed to give librarians and others specialized training in the book arts. Courses range from European Decorative Bookbinding to Japanese Printmaking to Rare Book Cataloging. RBS students come from all over the world, as it is the only school of its kind.

I recently completed Introduction to Descriptive Bibliography which is a five-day course designed to teach students formulas for the physical description of books made during the hand-press period (roughly 1500 to 1850). This description includes *format* and *collation* that give the rare book librarian, scholar, dealer or buyer a formula for determining how a book was originally intended to appear as an ideal copy. By studying the physical arrangement of hand-press books it is then possible to better understand the history of the book industry, the relationship of authors to publishing and printing, and how bookmaking evolved before the industrial era.

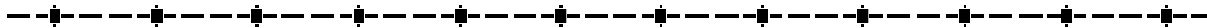
The course is quite intense with a full day of lectures, labs, museums and homework and there is hardly any free time—a quick drive out to Monticello during the week would not have been a good idea! The day was very well-structured and even during lunch and dinner there were scholarly lectures and hands-on demonstrations on book and printing history. One night was devoted to exploring the antiquarian book dealers in Charlottesville.

RBS is also a great opportunity to meet librarians and other book lovers, ask questions from the top people in the profession, and gain a better understanding of all aspects of the world of books. I highly recommend RBS to anyone interested in books and book history.

For more information about the Rare Book School go to the RBS web site at:

<http://www.virginia.edu/oldbooks/>

~ Hunt Schenkel, Archivist



OFF TO GERMANY!

This October, Dr. L. Allen Viehmeyer, Associate Director of Research, and Rev. David W. Luz, Executive Director, will be traveling to Germany to attend two conferences.

The first conference will be held on October 7-8, 2005 in Halle. It is entitled "Medical Theory and Therapeutic Practice in the Social and Religious Context of the 18th Century." This meeting is the second phase of a joint German and American project researching the practices of German and German-American physicians in colonial Pennsylvania. The first meeting was at the College of Physicians, Philadelphia, in June 2004. The major focus of this project is the Schwenkfelder physician Abraham Wagner and George DeBenneville, a Huguenot physician and friend of the Schwenkfelders, who lived in the Oley Valley. In his presentation Dr. Viehmeyer will give background information on both men.

The second conference will be held on October 15-16, 2005 in Berthelsdorf. Many readers will recall that numerous Schwenkfelders, fleeing persecution in Silesia, found refuge in this community. An "Association" was formed recently in Berthelsdorf and received possession of the Schwenkfelder Gemeindehaus (Meetinghouse), built in the 1720s and still standing, although in need of great repair. Last fall Dr. Dietrich Meyer, a leader of the Gemeindehaus Association, toured the Heritage Center and spoke of his intentions for the Gemeindehaus.

Rev. Luz and Dr. Viehmeyer expect to learn more about the plans for its restoration.

Organized by Dr. Meyer, the conference is focused on Schwenkfelders in Germany and America. Among those presenting papers will be Dr. Ute Evers, who visited the Heritage Center two summers ago for research on Schwenkfelder Hymns, and Dr. Horst Weigelt, well known to the Heritage Center, who will speak on Schwenkfelders in Herrnhut and Berthelsdorf. Dr. Viehmeyer's topic is Schwenkfelder physician Abraham Wagner, and Rev. Luz will speak on the Heritage Center and The Schwenkfelder Church in the 21st century. Dr. Paul Eberlein, who visited the Heritage Center in 1997 and met the 1998 Schwenkfelder Homelands tour in Herrnhut, is also expected.

Between conferences, the travelers plan to visit Dresden, Görlitz and Pirna as well as the archives in Halle and Herrnhut. They hope to take a passenger boat down the Elbe River from Pirna to Magdeburg, tracing a portion of the river route our ancestor Schwenkfelders traveled. They are also planning a day trip to Wolfenbüttel, where the offices of the *Corpus Schwenkfeldianorum* were situated for many years.

The trip should not only be an educational experience for the two travelers, but it should strengthen relationships between the Heritage Center and scholars and organizations in Germany interested in Caspar Schwenckfeld and Schwenkfelders.



Meet the Artist - Frank Batson

Sunday, September 11, 2005, 1:00-4:00 PM

"Artistic License" exhibitor, artist Frank Batson, will be in the Meeting Room of the Heritage Center to meet the public and discuss his artwork and exhibit. Don't miss this opportunity to ask the artist your questions and to hear his interpretations of his works!

Free and open to the public, light refreshments will be served.



Fraktur Classes for Adults

With Fraktur Artist Michael S. Kriebel

This beginners class includes an overview of the history of fraktur, penmanship exercises for lettering in cursive, printing and drawing on paper. Guided instruction for executing a fraktur piece with three main elements: design, color (done in inks) and lettering. **Saturday, September 24, 2005, from 10-4** Cost is \$30.00 and includes all materials plus a copy of the artist's Fraktur Manual.

Complete and return the form below by September 15th to reserve your spot!

Butter Valley Art Show and Sale

"Art of the Butter Valley" sponsored by the Lorax Foundation, a local nonprofit conservation organization, will take place on **Saturday, October 15, 2005 from 9 am to 4 pm.**

Paintings, sculpture, photography, pottery, fraktur, paper cutting, wrought iron, and furniture from fine local artists will be featured. Artists include:

Lesta Bertoia, Val Bertoia, Russell Buckingham, Martha Cawley, David Cook, Jeff Dietrich, Allan Eitzen, Betty Ford, Grace Headman, Jules Hull, Amy Kann, Lee Leckey, Naomi Limont, Jenny Nahan-Gidley, Jackie Ney, Patti Rutman, Peter Schnore, Richard Schultz, Nancy Shelly, Debi Short, Midge Stires, Barbara Strawser, and Melissa Strawser. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Lorax Foundation.



**WORKSHOP IS
DESIGNED FOR
ADULTS WHO ARE
BEGINNERS TO
ADVANCED**

FRAKTUR CLASS WITH ARTIST

MICHAEL S. KRIEBEL

**Saturday, Sept. 24, 2005
10 am - 4 pm**

REGISTRATION FORM

Mail to:

Sandra Cooper

SLHC

105 Seminary Street

Pennsburg, PA 18073

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

My Check is enclosed for \$30.00

Charge my Credit Card for \$30.00

VISA or Master Card Number _____

Expires _____

The cost of \$30.00 includes all materials and a copy of the FRAKTUR MANUAL booklet written by the artist. REGISTRATION IS LIMITED to 20 participants and prepaid registration deadline is September 15, 2005.

The class will consist of several parts:

1. An overview of the history of fraktur.
2. Penmanship exercises for lettering in cursive, printing, and drawing on paper.
3. Guided instructions for executing a fraktur piece with three main elements: Design, Color (done w/ inks), & Lettering.

Please bring a bag lunch.



Fall Calendar 2005

SEPTEMBER

Through Sept. 17, 2005

Cotton in PA German Life Exhibit

Documents the transition from home-produced textiles to store-bought machine manufactured in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Through September 30, 2005

Artistic License, the artwork of Frank Batson Exhibit

Showing the depth and breadth of style and topics of this gifted Norristown native. All exhibit artwork is for sale.

Through November 15, 2005

Finding Susanna Heebner Exhibit

The works of Fraktur artist extraordinaire Susanna Heebner working in the early 19th century. Sponsored by Central Schwenkfelder Ladies Aid Society.

September 11, 2005 1:00—4:00 pm

Meet the Artist—Artistic License artist Frank Batson will be here to talk about his work and answer your questions.

September 25 - November 6, 2005

Hose, Hook and Ladder Exhibit Fire Chiefs: Leadership from the Volunteers under the White Helmets

Recognizing the local Fire Companies and their leaders from their beginnings to today. Sponsored by Harleysville National Bank.

September 25—November 15, 2005

Broadsides Exhibit

An exhibit featuring a selection of Pennsylvania Broadsides—from the 18th, 19th & early 20th centuries.

OCTOBER

October 1, 2005 5:30 PM

Oktoberfest Dinner

Fundraiser at The Inn at Perkiomenville

October 9, 2005 1:00—4:00 PM

Fire Prevention Week - Fire Engines and special presentation!

October 14 & 15, 2005

Butter Valley Art Show and Sale

October 23, 2005 2:00 PM meeting, 2:30 pm program

Exile Society Program: **Susanna Heebner, Fraktur Artist**, by Candace Perry

NOVEMBER

November 13, 2005 2:00 PM

Friends Program: **Broadsides**, Alan Keyser

November 29, 2005

Christmas at the Schwenkfelder:

- **Father Christmas Boutique Show and Sale of handcrafted items. Ends December 20, 2005**
- **Christmas Putz, ends January 30, 2006**
- **Carol Noyse, Artist, ends Feb. 28, 2006**
- **Vintage Toys & Games, ends Feb. 28, 2006**
- **Lehigh Miniature Club, ends Feb. 28, 2006**
- **A Star, A Star—images of stars in folk art, ends April 2006** Sponsored by Univest

DECEMBER

December 1, 2005 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Bus trip to **Pearl S. Buck House**, Lunch & Juried Craft Show—call the Heritage Center to sign up today, seating is limited!

December 3, 2005 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Christmas Market
Open House with Mennonite Heritage Center & Goshenhoppen Historians

December 10 & 11, 2005

Trains, trains, trains—special exhibition and fundraiser

Pearl S. Buck House Tour
Thursday, December 1, 2005

\$55.00 per person includes transportation, tour of the residence, a Chinese buffet luncheon and admission to a juried craft show.



SCHWENKFELDER
 ♦ LIBRARY AND ♦
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 permit no. 42
 Pennsburg, PA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Hours

Mon CLOSED
 Tues 9 - 4
 Wed 9 - 4
 Thurs 9 - 8
 Fri 9 - 4
 Sat 10 - 3
 Sun 1 - 4



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Wish List

The Heritage Center has had much success in raising funds for special projects! This quarter, we have a short list focusing on various items from each department. Gift certificates in any amount for the following places would also be greatly appreciated - Staples, Home Depot, Weis Markets and Amazon.com. The staff regularly makes purchases at these stores for exhibits, programming and supplies. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

- Exhibit Track Lights \$160.00 each
 (We really, really need these!)
- Cheese Board and Knife Set (several) \$ 30.00 each
- Bookshelf: 12"wide x 12.5" long \$850.00
- Digital Camera \$300.00
- Portable Presentation Easel \$160.00

Thank you to those who supported the Heritage Center Wish List from last newsletter:

Franklin and Helen Schlegel and an Anonymous Contributor helped us to purchase two air blowers for the closed stacks area of the library; Mary Jane Ellis, Gerald and Merrilyn King—heads for adult mannequins. The Friends of the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center donated the following: a head for an adult mannequin, two Heritage Center flags, a commercial vacuum cleaner, three chair mats for office chairs, a commercial dry-erase board, and an air blower for closed stacks. Wow! Thank you for your wonderful generosity!

The Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center depends on the generosity of its friends. Please help us preserve our Schwenkfelder and local heritage by remembering Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center in your will and estate planning.

Thank you!