

Report to Bethlehem Area Moravians, Inc.
from

The Moravian Archives
2012

The Moravian Archives is grateful for the financial support of the Bethlehem Area Moravians. This support enables us to continue our programming, to preserve the history of the Moravian Church and to share this history with the public.

On January 1, 2012, the affiliation between the Moravian Archives and the Moravian Historical Society in Nazareth officially began. According to the agreement between both organizations, the Archives will provide staff assistance to the Historical Society. Megan van Ravenswaay was hired as site director at the Whitefield House. The Archives and the Historical Society have cooperated on many levels during the past year. A highlight was the Christmas Eve service, based on original early nineteenth-century odes, that was held in the Saal of the Whitefield House in December.

When former archivist, Rev. Vernon Nelson, passed away in 2010, the Archives received the unfinished manuscript of his study on Moravian painter, Valentine Haidt. During 2012 the Archives was able to finish the manuscript, especially thanks to the help of two volunteers, copyeditor June Schlueter in Easton and Darlene Schneck in Staunton, Virginia. The book, including more than 100 color images, was presented to the public on November 27. Copies are available at the Archives and at the Whitefield House.

In July of 2012 we received message from the National Endowment for the Humanities that a grant was awarded to the Archives for the installation of movable shelving in the main vault. By installing movable shelving, we can almost double the storage capacity of our main vault. During 2013 all collections will be moved out in order to install the new shelving. During this time, the Archives will be closed to the public. In combination with the renovation of the main vault, we hope to renovate the public areas of the Archives' facility as well. The Board of Directors launched a capital campaign, Moving History, to raise the required funds. When everything is finished, the Archives will be better equipped to serve the Moravian Church and the public.

Other Highlights from 2012

1. During 2012 there were 361 research visits; and over 500 research requests by mail, telephone, or email.
2. A group of over 34 volunteers gave us a total of 2,206.25 hours. There were also two students from Moravian Academy who volunteered to help during their summer break.
3. The Archives hosted A German-English Singstunde, together with Central Moravian Church and the Moravian Music Foundation in December.
4. Lanie Graf, assistant archivist, continued to present our educational outreach program on German script at middle and high schools throughout the Lehigh Valley. Since beginning the program in 2006, Lanie has presented to more than 2500 students throughout the Lehigh Valley.

5. The exhibit, "Lehigh Valley Landscapes," attracted 372 visitors. The exhibit was connected with an art contest. Three winners were announced in August.
6. In March we celebrated that 10,000 books from the Archives' library were cataloged. Volunteers Phil Metzger and June Griffiths were thanked for their work at an appreciation event at the Archives. The book catalog is accessible on our website as well as through the international WorldCat system.
7. The lectures and other programs at the Archives are well attended by church members, students and faculty of Moravian College as well as by members of the public.
8. Our electronic newsletter, *This Month in Moravian History*, reaches an international audience of more than 1000 subscribers every month.
9. Issues 12/1 and 12/2 of the *Journal of Moravian History* were published in cooperation with our new publisher, Pennsylvania University Press.
10. Translation work on volume 3 of the Bethlehem diary continued during 2012.
11. Assistant archivist, Lanie Yaswinski, gave birth to a daughter, Anna Simone, in October.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Peucker, archivist

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