

Voices from the Vault

Issue 18 July 2013

New Shelving Installed

On May 6, 2013, we were able to return the first box back into the renovated manuscript vault. After four months of renovations the vault was finished. Now the immense task of moving all the boxes from temporary storage in the reading room back into the vault began. By May 22 the last box had been moved and the reading room was once again empty.

In the summer of 2012 the Moravian Archives was awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to install new compact shelving in the main vault. Under the skilled leadership of project manager Jeffrey Long we started to prepare for this enormous project: the entire vault had to be emptied, thousands of boxes had to be moved, the old shelving had to be disassembled and disposed of, the lighting had to be replaced, and the ceiling had to

be painted. We decided against moving the collections offsite; the art collections were to be stored in the gallery and the reading room was prepared to house the manuscript boxes. After Christmas we closed the reading room and announced we could no longer answer any research requests. Special project staff was hired: Zack Biro and Donald Wieand (see page 3) organized the moving schedule and recruited volunteers and workers. It was an unusual sight when on March 6 the entire vault was empty after removal of the old shelving. A firm was selected to install the new shelving and on April 1 they began to install the rails along which the new shelves can be moved. Only a month later, on May 1, the new shelving was up! A special challenge with the installation at the Moravian Archives was the length of the carriages. In

order to maximize the space each carriage has a length of 49 feet. For reasons of durability we decided against any electric drive mechanism. A total of 14 carriages was installed with a combined shelf length of 10,976 linear feet. The new shelving can hold 25,088 archival floptop boxes or, alternately, 9,408 bankers boxes. This doubles the storage capacity of the main vault and will provide us with enough room for at least 35 more years.



Moving History Campaign

In order to match the NEH grant (see above) and to accomplish other long-needed improvements as well, the Moravian Archives launched the Moving History capital campaign. In addition to vault renovations we need to renovate the reading room, expand the office space, upgrade the exhibit space, and install a kitchen. The total goal of the

campaign is \$550,000. Thanks to many generous supporters and foundations \$344,000 has been raised so far! Because of the success of the campaign the vault renovation and the installation of the kitchen have already been completed. However, we need your help to reach our goal!

Kitchen

Did you know there was no kitchen at the Moravian Archives? The only place with a sink was the janitor's closet. Thanks to the Moving History campaign it was possible to install a real kitchen this spring. Preparing refreshments for events and classes has become so much easier. Come have a look next time you visit the Moravian Archives!

Special points of interest:

- installation of new shelving is completed
- Moravian Archives sells Original Moravian Stars
- Moving History Campaign continues
- Renovations will increase security of Archives' collections



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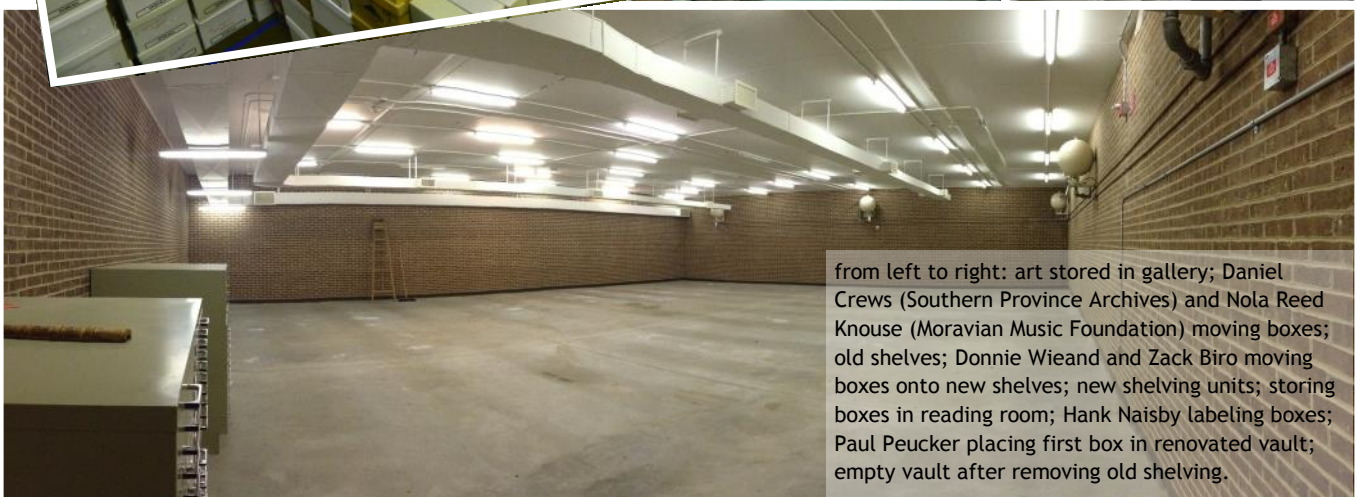
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Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this newsletter, do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Moving History



from left to right: art stored in gallery; Daniel Crews (Southern Province Archives) and Nola Reed Knouse (Moravian Music Foundation) moving boxes; old shelves; Donnie Wieand and Zack Biro moving boxes onto new shelves; new shelving units; storing boxes in reading room; Hank Naisby labeling boxes; Paul Peucker placing first box in renovated vault; empty vault after removing old shelving.

Moving History Project Staff

The vault renovation would not have been possible without the careful planning and hard work of our project staff: Donnie Wieand and Zack Biro. Both are Lehigh Valley natives and graduated in 2011 as history majors. Donnie graduated from the University of Rochester with a specialty in European history and a minor in music. Zack graduated from Lehigh University with a focus on 19th-century American history and a double major in religion. Their love of history drew them to work locally at Historic Bethlehem Partnership where Donnie previously volunteered and Zack currently serves as a site manager for the Moravian Museum. Their experience at HBP prepared them for

their work at the Archives, which began in January.

Donnie was responsible for planning the move of material out of and back into the vault. He masterminded the layout of boxes in temporary storage, including labeling and providing protective storage, and ordered all supplies for the move. This summer he will help researchers when the Archives reopens.

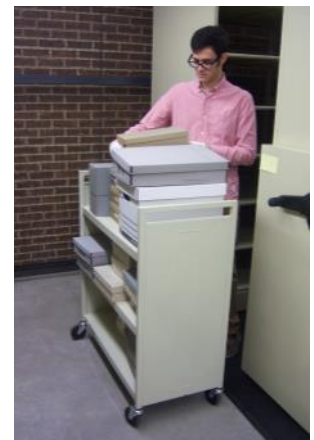
While Donnie coordinated the material for the move, Zack scheduled and managed the volunteers and students necessary to complete the move.

While the new shelves were being installed in the vault this spring, the two worked on alternate projects. Donnie cataloged a portion of the Rau glass plate

photo collection, and Zack cleaned up our database and cataloged drawings and views. This fall Donnie will begin a M.A. program in Museum Studies at the University of Leicester in England. Zack will continue with his M.A. program in Public History at Lehigh. Both are grateful for the work experience gained at the Archives and were thrilled to work with all the “real” history the Archives has to offer. They appreciated the professional, well-run atmosphere and were glad to see the investment of so many people in the project. The Moravian Archives is very grateful for their hard work on this important project and wishes them all the best in their future endeavors.



Zack Biro



Donnie Wieand

A Word from the Archives' President

So much has been accomplished over the recent months at the Archives. Our facility is being prepared for its next 35 years of service and beyond. We have purchased and installed moveable shelving, which expands our archival capacity, enhanced the security of the collection and installed a kitchen facility, which allows us to better prepare for special events and expanded programming in our Archives building.



Peter Wolle at Friends' Day 2009

I must thank everyone who has contributed to our prior and current capital campaigns, the Friends of the Archives, our staff, volunteers and Board Members.

I am especially grateful to the late Peter Wolle, past president of our board. Peter led the effort for our initial capital campaign, which set the path and the goals for past and current efforts. The combination of that first campaign and the endorsement through a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, gave us the momentum to come this far in achieving our goal: preparing the Moravian Archives for its next 35 years of service to the Moravian Church, the Historical Community and our place within it.

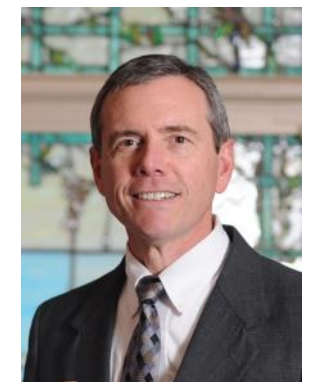
What then is left to be done? Moreover, how can we accomplish what remains to be done? Our remaining needs include lighting improvements to the

gallery, expansion of office space and renewing of the reading room for research, operations and educational and special events.

The Archives' Board of Directors and Paul Peucker, our archivist, are hopeful that we can enjoy continued support in raising funds for the remaining needs of the Archives. I am certain, within a short time, we will be reporting to you of our successful completion of all necessary improvements to the Archives.

Thank you one and all for making these improvements possible. The priceless history of our church and the tangible evidence of the blessing of God shed upon His people will be maintained for generations to come. Those generations will learn, discern and be inspired by what is contained here, within the Moravian Archives.

Michael A. Long, President



Michael Long

Newsletter from the Moravian Archives, Bethlehem PA

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Upcoming Events

“Opening the Vault”: a Summer Soiree
ribbon-cutting of the renovated vault
August 20, 2013, 5:00–7:00 pm at the Moravian Archives

German-English Advent Singstunde
December 3, 2013, 7:00 pm in the Old Chapel on the campus of Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem, Pa.

A Historic Moravian Christmas
authentic Christmas Eve celebration, based on original odes from before the Civil War
December 7, 2013, 5:00 pm at the Whitefield House in Nazareth, Pa.
for more information and reservations, call 610-759-5070

Christmas in Nazareth
December 14, 2013, 1:00–9:00pm
Enjoy a community open house featuring tours, children’s activities, live music, and more.
Tickets benefit the Moravian Historical Society.
for more information and reservations, call 610-759-5070

German Script Course
June 2-13, 2014
for more information: www.moravianchurcharchives.org/germanscript.php

News and Announcements



Now available:

Original Moravian Stars

The original Moravian Stars are now available in the U.S. through the Moravian Archives and the Moravian Historical Society. Each star is individually crafted by hand at the Moravian Star Factory, founded in 1925 in Herrnhut, Germany. Stars are available in a wide variety of sizes and colors for indoor and outdoor use. Choose from plastic or durable heavy-duty paper. Garlands with ten 5-inch stars to decorate your

Christmas tree are also available. Each star comes ready to assemble, with a lightbulb and fixture for hanging included. Purchase your star online today! Stars can also be purchased locally at the Whitefield House in Nazareth, at the Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, or call us at 610-759-5070. www.originalmoravianstars.us

Travel to Moravian Historical Roots

Central Travelers and the Moravian Archives present a trip to Moravian roots in the Czech Republic and Germany (June 30 - July 11, 2014). Traveling with us will be Paul Peucker, Archivist, to provide historical information and insights. Stops and tours in Prague, Kunvald, ‘The Rocks,’ Herrnhut, Berthelsdorf, Zinzendorf’s manor house, Gross Hennersdorf, and then

visit other significant Moravian towns on the way to Dresden. In Dresden we will visit the Zwinger Art Museum on our city tour. In Herrnhut we will share the celebration of Jan Hus Remembrance Day at the Sunday service. We will also be able to share in the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Unity Archives in Herrnhut. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for the trip flyer, please contact: Craig Mosebach, mosebach@ptd.net, 610-625-4576 or the Moravian Archives.

4th Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History & Music

The date has been set for the next Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History & Music: October 2 -5, 2014. The conference theme is “Violence and Shalom: War & Peace and the Moravi-

ans.” We are looking forward to proposals for papers, panels, lecture recitals, films, and reports on current research projects on any topic related to Moravian history and music and especially on the conference theme. The call for papers will be posted on moravianconferences.org later this fall.

Book Donation

In 1962 the Olms publishing house in Hildesheim and New York began to reprint all of Zinzendorf’s published works. Over the years more than 60 volumes were printed but the Moravian Archives was never able to afford these books. Earlier this year Dr. Beverly Smaby of Tacoma, Washington, donated the series to the Archives. We are very grateful to have this important series in our book collection!