

Report to Bethlehem Area Moravians, Inc.
from



The Moravian Archives 2017

MORAVIAN ARCHIVES
BETHLEHEM

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

Highlights from 2017

1. The financial support received from Bethlehem Area Moravians was gratefully accepted. BAM contributed \$31,500 in 2017, which is 10% of the Archives' 2017 operating budget (\$314,665). Combined with the financial support from the Northern Province and the Larger Life Foundation, we can say that the Moravian Church as our main constituency covered 26% of our operating budget in 2017. The remaining 74% came from the Friends of the Archives, from endowment income, and from program income.
2. A total of 120 researchers came to research in the reading room during the past year. Many visited several times. In addition, the Archives' staff addressed numerous research requests by email and telephone.
3. More than 30 volunteers helped us with a variety of projects. An important project continues to be cataloging our book collection. There are currently over 18,222 titles in our online catalog. The Moravian Roots project that started in 2016 is making good progress. Volunteers enter the entries from more than 250 church registers into the Moravian Roots database. Currently, there are 30,192 entries in the database (1/30/2018).
4. The Bethlehem 275th Anniversary Committee met several times at the Moravian Archives and coordinated the final events of the anniversary. A separate report is attached.
5. During the past year we received many acquisitions for our collections, including records from the following congregations: Downey, CA; Yorba Linda, CA; First Moravian, York, PA; Litiz, PA; East Hills, Bethlehem, PA; Busy Workers, Central, Bethlehem, PA; and the Board of World Mission.
We were able to purchase many new publications on the Moravians. We received a donation of letters relating to the Moravian Boarding School for Girls/Female Seminary in Bethlehem, and a bequest of paintings and drawings by Moravian artist Gustav Grunewald from one of his descendants in Munich, Germany.
6. Much time was spent on applying for grants to preserve and digitize the records from the East West Indies Province, held at the Moravian Archives. In December we received the news that the Council on Library and Information Resources in Washington, DC, awarded us with a grant to digitize a selection of records from Antigua. The National Endowment for the Humanities will inform us of their decision in March of 2018.
7. Another grant was received from the R.K. Laros Foundation for the purchase of a professional book and manuscript scanner.
8. Issues 17/1 and 17/2 of the *Journal of Moravian History* were published in cooperation with our publisher, Pennsylvania State University Press.

9. The exhibit "Building Bethlehem" will continue through June of 2017. In August the current exhibit "Moravian Connections" opened. This exhibit is curated by Brielle Popolla, student at Moravian College.
10. We offered our annual German Script Course as well as a series of workshops (genealogy, collection care, paste paper making).
11. A highlight was our annual Summer Soiree for Friends of the Archives on August 22.
12. We continued to offer hours on select Saturdays throughout the year to enable people who cannot visit the Archives during the week to come to the Archives.
13. The German Script classes for middle and high schools continued. Over 150 students participated.
14. The traditional German-English Advent *Singstunde* was held in the Old Chapel on December 5 (attendance 110).
15. Assistant archivist Tom McCullough gave several presentations on the history of the Moravian star.
16. The bathrooms were renovated in April. A new server was installed in May.
17. In April archivist Paul Peucker met with the board of the Canadian Moravian Historical Society in Edmonton, Alberta, to discuss the transfer of the records of the Canadian District to the archives in Bethlehem.
18. On September 20 the combined staff of the Archives and the Moravian Historical Society visited the Moravian Museum in Lititz.
19. For the first time, three research scholarships were awarded from the Rev. Vernon H. Nelson Memorial Fund.
20. In December, Christina Giesler was hired as finance manager (contract position) to oversee our financial bookkeeping.
21. We are especially grateful for the significant bequests we received during the past year. Naomi Budelier, George DeSchweinitz, and Richard Spear are the names of those who left us a lasting legacy during 2017. These bequests will enable us to hire additional staff in order to process more collections and to increase accessibility of our holdings, and to expand our programming.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Peucker, Archivist

Board of Directors in 2017:

Thomas Bross, President (PEC appointee)
 Diane Shaw, Vice President (BAM appointee)
 Alice Mosebach, Secretary (PEC appointee)
 Karl Butz, Treasurer (Board appointee)
 Katherine Faull (Board appointee)
 Scott Paul Gordon (Board appointee)
 Kevin Kelleher (BAM appointee)
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 Rose C. Nehring (BAM appointee)
 David S. Parker (Board appointee)
 Marian Shatto (PEC appointee)
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Staff in 2017:

Dr. Paul M. Peucker (archivist)
 Thomas J. McCullough (asst. archivist)
 Kelly F. Givens (office and finance manager)
 Megan van Ravenswaay (director of the
 Moravian Historical Society)