



SCHWENKFELDER  
♦ LIBRARY AND ♦  
HERITAGE CENTER

# Heritage Headlines

Summer, 2018  
Volume 21, Issue 2

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## CELEBRATING YOUR GENEROSITY

We look back on the past year with heartfelt gratitude for your generosity and support of the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center!

Your gifts far exceeded our budgeted 2017 – 2018 annual fund goal, as more than 521 annual fund donors contributed a total of \$222,752. We also gratefully received \$7,827 in corporate matching gifts for a total of \$230,579 by the end of our fiscal year on March 31, 2018.



Your generosity makes it possible for us to offer important services and programs to more than 9,000 adults and children each year. With your support, we provide 100 on-site educational programs including German and Latin courses, classes on Pennsylvania German and local Native American culture, a variety of children’s programs including the unique Children’s Groundhog Lodge, along with our Brown Bag lectures.



### Highlights of the past year:

- ◆ The 2017 Penn Dry Goods Market attracted 300+ guests along with 24 nationally recognized antique dealers and 11 notable speakers—some of the most eminent textile experts in the country. The event netted \$18,661 for the Heritage Center.
- ◆ Dave Luz and Allen Viehmeyer led 32 travelers on the 2017 Schwenkfelder Heritage Tour to Poland and Germany to discover their roots and renew European friendships.
- ◆ We acquired important additions to the collection including a rare John Krauss piano, an extraordinary example of an early 19th century pianoforte; and a 19th century Conestoga wagon from Valley Forge National Historical Park. “Discovered” in our collection, we conserved a significant 1789 Benjamin Rittenhouse surveyor’s compass we hope to unveil soon.
- ◆ Marking the 500th anniversary of Caspar Schwenckfeld’s spiritual awakening, we offered special lectures and developed a fall 2018 symposium on the topic at the Heritage Center.
- ◆ Celebrating our hundreds of generous donors and dedicated volunteers, we held well-attended annual special events in their honor in April and July 2017.



This past year, a strong partnership between our Board of Directors, leadership volunteers and donors, and staff has enabled us to move boldly forward with a master plan that will expand our ability to preserve and present our growing collection and better interpret the family heritage and rural life of our region for future generations. Stay tuned!

Please enjoy the enclosed Report on Philanthropy and plan to visit us soon.

David W. Luz, Executive Director

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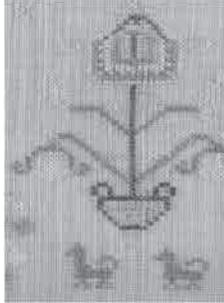


## SUMMER 2018 Exhibits

### Pennsylvania German Samplers

Fraktur Gallery, April 27 – October 5

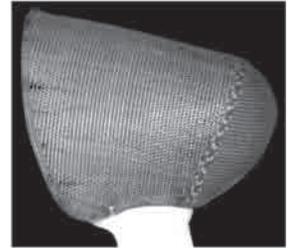
For Penn Dry Goods Market 2018 we offer a special treat—an exhibit of Pennsylvania German samplers from the Schwenkfelder and other collections. This survey of samplers focuses on regional similarities and differences, and a comparison of needlework done by members of religious groups such as the Schwenkfelders and the Mennonites. We present ideas on how motifs were transmitted and carried across generations. Also highlighted are the contrasts between the work done under the auspices of a teacher versus the work done at home and influenced by family and friends. This exhibit provides new insight into this very significant aspect of many young Pennsylvania German women’s lives.



### 19th Century Dresses and Millinery from the Heritage Center Collection

First Floor Gallery, June 8 – November 2

This summer we’ll be revisiting our costume collection and featuring a selection of early to late-19th century dresses, hats and bonnets in the First Floor Gallery. Collections volunteer Charlotte Puff has been working on making the dresses look just right on the mannequins, and we are very pleased to be able to share them with our visitors.



### Memories of China, Part II: Selections from the Flora Heebner Collection

Art Gallery, May 29 – March 31, 2019

Schwenkfelder Missionary Flora Heebner served in China from 1904 to 1942, and during her tenure there, accumulated a large collection of textiles, ceramics, and other objects that illustrated her experiences. The Heritage Center will present part of this collection in the Art Gallery along with photos of the places Flora called home and the many friends and colleagues she made over her nearly forty-year stay.



### Perkiomen Valley Quilts

Meeting Room, June 1 – November 16

The quilt design known locally as “Perkiomen Valley” will be featured in a special exhibit. Perkiomen Valley quilts are technically known as split nine patch for the way the individual patchwork blocks are constructed. The pattern can be dazzling! We will include antique Perkiomen Valley quilts from the Heritage Center collection as well as contemporary versions made by local quilters. Don’t miss this textile tribute to our lovely valley!



**The Spirit's Awakenings: Origins and Growth of Spiritual Movements  
In Honor of the 500th Anniversary  
Of the Spiritual Awakening of Caspar Schwenckfeld von Ossig (1489 – 1561)  
Saturday, November 10, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm**

The year 2018 marks the 500th anniversary of Caspar Schwenckfeld having a spiritual visitation or awakening which inspired him to join the Reformation movement and ultimately become an independent visionary throughout this tumultuous period of church history. In honor of this significant event, we present a symposium to examine and reflect upon various other church leaders inspired by spiritual awakenings. Each speaker will reflect on the awakening itself, how this impacted the individual or movement and the results of the awakening in the remaining life of that individual or movement. Six people or movements from church history across the centuries will be discussed: Caspar Schwenckfeld and Schwenckfeldianism, Martin Luther and Lutheranism, John Wesley and Methodism, The Moravian Awakening of 1727, Conrad Beissel and the Ephrata Cloister, Jemima Wilkinson, Public Universal Friend and her followers.

9:00 am – Greeting and introduction—Allen Viehmeyer, PhD

9:15 am – The Awakening of Caspar Schwenckfeld—Peter C. Erb, PhD

10:00 am – The Awakening of Martin Luther—Philip Krey, PhD

10:45 am – Break

11:00 am – The Awakening of John Wesley—L. Dale Patterson, PhD

11:45 am – The 1727 Awakening of the Moravian Church—Paul Peucker, PhD

12:30 pm – Lunch

1:30 pm – The Awakening of Conrad Beissel—Jeff Bach, PhD

2:15 pm – The Awakening of Jemima Wilkinson—Candace Perry

3:00 pm – Concluding remarks and departure by 3:30 pm

Registration: \$75.00—includes presentations, lunch, arrival and break snacks.

To register or for more information about the speakers or the program, please contact Joanne at the Heritage Center, 215-679-3103 or [info@schwenkfelder.com](mailto:info@schwenkfelder.com).

**THANK YOU, PENN DRY GOODS MARKET SPONSORS!**

**PREMIER SPONSOR:**



**Friday Reception:**

Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center  
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**Café Appliqué:**

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Town and Country Newspaper

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## CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS

Children attending workshops can either be on their own or accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$5 per child. Please register your child by contacting Museum Educator Alyssa McQuirns at 215-679-3103 or alyssa@schwenkfelder.com.

### Honoring Memorial Day

May 22, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

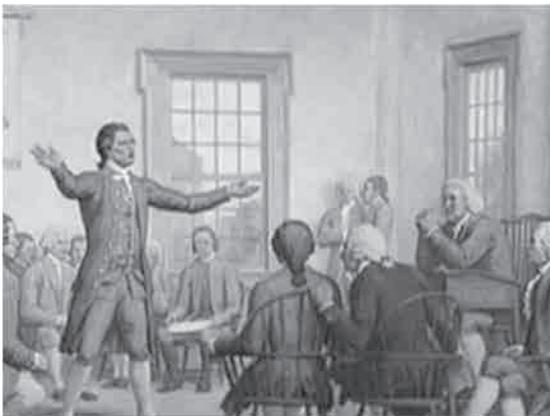
Memorial Day weekend is more than time to have a cookout; it is time to remember those who served our country. We will be discussing how this day came to be and what led up to its creation. Also, we will be making a Memorial Day Remembrance Quilt that will be hung in the room. Snack included.



### Philadelphia: Where it all began!

June 5, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

The city right in our backyard helped to form the country we have today! We will be discussing the role Philadelphia had in the Revolutionary War and its time as the Capital after the war. Snack included.



Please check our Facebook page and/or our website, [www.schwenkfelder.com](http://www.schwenkfelder.com), for last minute date and time changes due to weather or other issues. Pre-registration for all programs is very much appreciated!

## AMERICAN GIRL® TEATIME

Enjoy afternoon teatime with your doll and friends. Each tea will feature a character from the American Girl series and we will learn what life was like for children during her era. We will also discuss a female historical figure from the time period. Boys and girls are welcome to join us for this get-together. Everyone is invited to take a diary home and bring with them to each tea. This event is free, but donations are welcome. Contact Museum Educator Alyssa McQuirns at 215-679-3103 or alyssa@schwenkfelder.com to register for the event.

Tuesday, May 29, 3:45 – 4:45 pm

**Kit Kitteridge** (1934)

Sunday, June 3, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

**Felicity Merriman** (1774)



Thursday, May 24, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Come join us this spring for a chance to have a date night or to run some errands! There will be plenty of crafts, games and activities. The cost will be \$5 per child. Dinner is included.



# SUMMER CAMP 2018

Reserve your spot for our Summer Camp at the Heritage Center! We will be doing lots of hands-on activities and crafts. Please register by contacting Museum Educator Alyssa McQuirns 215-679-3103 or [alyssa@schwenkfelder.com](mailto:alyssa@schwenkfelder.com).



## Week 1: Wild West and the Gold

July 16 - July 18, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

Cost: \$10 per day

(includes lunch and snack)

Did you hear the big news? Gold was discovered out West and we have a chance to be rich! On Monday we will begin our journey out West. Pack up your wagon and get ready for a journey! On Tuesday we are going to see what the Wild West has in store for us. Finally Wednesday we are going to go looking for gold!

### Summer Camp Menu

*This is a tentative menu and is subject to change.*

Monday

Lunch: Hot dogs with carrots and pretzels

Snack: On the Road Trail Mix

Tuesday

Lunch: Cheeseburger Mac and Cheese with a roll and corn

Snack: "Gold Nugget" Caramel Corn

Wednesday

Lunch: Pizza with celery and chips

Snack: Cowboy Pudding Cups

## Week 2: Around the World in 80 days

July 24 - July 27, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Cost: \$5 per day (includes snack)

Each day we will be visiting a new country and learning all about their culture!

Tuesday: Mexico

Wednesday: China

Thursday: Egypt

Friday: Italy

### Summer Camp Menu

*This is a tentative menu and is subject to change.*

Tuesday

Snack: Cheez-Its

Wednesday

Snack: Rice Krispy Sushi

Thursday

Snack: Animal Crackers

Friday

Snack: Nutella Banana S'mores

## Heritage Center Acquires Conestoga Wagon

We've recently obtained our largest artifact to date—a Conestoga wagon, dated 1825. These wagons were the trusty kings of the road that played an essential role in the local economy from the mid-18th to mid-19th century, hauling goods throughout the countryside and into Philadelphia. The major roads that crossed the Upper Perkiomen Valley certainly saw a lot of Conestoga wagon traffic in the 100 years or so that these wagons were used, as teamsters hauled raw materials and other items from the region to city.



Our wagon comes to us from Valley Forge National Historical Park. The park had been storing the wagon for decades, and finally sought a new home for it where it would be exhibited in a gallery. These wagons are a vital piece of the stories we tell at the Heritage Center, so we leapt at the chance to add it to the collection.

The staff is now looking for advice on repairs to the wagon and putting it back together again, as the running gear is presently in pieces. Call Candace Perry or Dave Luz at 215-679-3103 if you can refer us to anyone with wagon expertise.

## Yeakle Sampler Donated to Heritage Center

When you visit the Pennsylvania German Sampler exhibit, be sure to look out for a splendid new addition to the collection—an 1827 sampler by Charlotte Yeakle of Springfield Township, Montgomery County. The sampler comes to us from Barbara Doyle, a descendant of Charlotte's sister Sarah, who was married to Anthony Krauss. Charlotte (1811 – 1854) and her sisters Sarah and Emeline (who married Joel Krauss) and other siblings were the children of Isaac and Regina (Schultz) Yeakle. Her sampler is quite gorgeous, and we hope that research will reveal her influences and inspiration. Interestingly, just last year we received a bamboo-turned birdcage Windsor chair, ca. 1810 – 1820, said to have belonged to Isaac, and a coin silver teaspoon monogrammed “S.Y.” that belonged to Sarah (Yeakle) Krauss from Ruth Seasholtz. Thank you to these lovely and generous donors!



## SPOTLIGHT ON: HUNT SCHENKEL, ARCHIVIST

Finding one specific book in the Schwenkfelder Library would be like looking for that proverbial needle in a haystack, were it not for Hunt Schenkel.

A history enthusiast at an early age, Hunt joined the Navy after high school and worked as a Cryptologic Technician Interpretive (CTI) deciphering Russian communications. Following his service, he earned a B.A. in History from Penn State and an M.A. from Duquesne University focusing on archives and museums. He also studied German in Stuttgart, Germany.



In 2000 he was hired to help take inventory of the museum collection before the Heritage Center addition opened. The books and documents Hunt would eventually oversee had already been boxed up ready for the move from Kriebel Hall at Perkiomen School to the new building.

“I didn’t know what I was getting into until we started to unpack,” said Hunt. “I was amazed to discover the quality and quantity of what we have. It is very significant to find one group’s history so well recorded in one place. It is a perfect microcosm of a Pennsylvania German immigrant story from the time of settlement until now. Such a focused record of one demographic and religious group’s history exists nowhere else in the country!”

Today the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center houses a rare collection of more than 50,000 books, records, and artifacts—all freely open to scholars, researchers and the visiting public. It is internationally recognized and continues to grow.

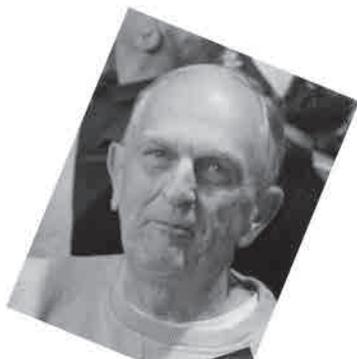
“We add 50 to 100 books to the collection each year,” said Hunt, who is responsible for cataloging all books and archiving all paper documents, including certificates, diplomas, posters, deeds, ledgers, account books, correspondence, and more. “We add about six linear feet of boxed documents every year,” he said. After items are cataloged, they are stored in either open stacks, closed stacks or the vault, which is reserved for significant or rare items that usually date from before 1850.

“The library is 100 percent full,” said Hunt. “Right now, I have to be very creative with how I store things.” A proposed addition to the Heritage Center would allow greater access to these treasures.

“More space will give us better ability to know what we have and create better access onsite and online for historians, scholars and researchers as well as Schwenkfelder and other families tracing their own histories.”

## WE ♥ OUR VOLUNTEERS!

On Saturday, April 28, Heritage Center volunteers gathered for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch. Our volunteers do so much to make the Heritage Center a welcoming place for all our visitors and guests. We have more than 100 volunteers, ranging in age from 14 to the 90s, assisting in all areas of the Heritage Center—from greeting people at our reception desk; to helping to catalog the collections; to assisting with library and archival research—we couldn’t do it without you and we always welcome more! Thank you!



**SUMMER LECTURE SERIES**

As is our custom, we are offering a variety of lectures in various formats. The popular Brown Bag (BB) lectures are held on the second Wednesday of each month at noon. Bring your lunch—beverages provided—and enjoy the lecture while you eat. These programs are free and open to the public.

**Wednesday, June 13, noon**  
**Schwenckfeld and the Stillstand**  
**Presented by Allen Viehmeyer**

In 1526 Caspar Schwenckfeld and his supporters declared that they would not participate in communion until all the reformers had come to an agreement on the interpretation of the Eucharist. How did Schwenckfeld, Catholics, and the other reformers understand the Eucharist? How was the Stillstand observed in Silesia and Pennsylvania by 18th and 19th century Schwenkfelders?



**Wednesday, July 11, noon**  
**Route 100 Through the Goshenhoppen**  
**Region in the Early 1900s**  
**Presented by Aaron Heckler**

The path of the road now known as PA Route 100, as it goes from Boyertown to Shimerville today, differs in many places from what it was 100 years ago. In a thoroughly illustrated power point presentation utilizing photographic picture postcards, mostly dating from 1905 – 1920, attendees will see and learn about the numerous hotels, stores, businesses, churches, and other interesting enterprises and people that imparted life into the villages and towns along this important thoroughfare.



**Wednesday, August 8, noon**  
**The Tragic Story of Bill Howe:**  
**Local Civil War Deserter**  
**Presented by Bob Wood**

In 1863 Bill Howe, a laborer living in Perkiomenville, enlisted in the Union army and rendered heroic service at the Battle of Fredericksburg. Through an unfortunate chain of events, within a year he was hanged by the Federal government and buried in a farm field in Upper Frederick Township.

**SEE US AT THE KUTZTOWN FOLK FESTIVAL!**

The Heritage Center will once again have a booth at the Kutztown Folk Festival! We had such a fabulous experience last year—our first time after some forty years—and this year's festival will be even greater!

The festival dates are June 30 through July 8: 10:00 am – 8:00 pm on June 30, July 1, 6, and 7 and 10:00 am – 6:00 pm on July 2 – 5 and July 8.

We will once again feature information about Fraktur with some amazing reproduced images of the best pieces from our collection. In addition, we'll be providing information on genealogy and a few children's activities.

This is a great place to see familiar faces and make new friends from the many thousands of people walking the festival grounds. Set aside some time now to come to Kutztown for delicious fair foods and a wonderful, fun-filled introduction to Pennsylvania German culture.



## SUMMER 2018 Programs and Events

May 15 – 17 and 20

**Building Closed for Penn Dry Goods Market**

May 18 – 10:00 am

**Penn Dry Goods Market**

May 19 – 10:00 am

**Penn Dry Goods Market**

May 22 – 1:30 pm

**Children’s Workshop: Honoring Memorial Day**

May 24 – 5:30 pm

**Parents’ Night Out**

May 29 – 3:45 pm

**American Girl Tea**

June 3 – 1:30 pm

**American Girl Tea**

June 5 – 1:30 pm

**Children’s Workshop: Philadelphia: Where it all Began!**

June 13 – noon

**BB Lecture: Schwenckfeld and the Stillstand**

July 11 – noon

**BB Lecture: Route 100 Through the Goshenhoppen**

July 16–18 – 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

**Summer Camp: Wild West and the Gold Rush**

July 24–27 – 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

**Summer Camp: Around the World in 80 Days**

August 8 – noon

**BB Lecture: The Tragic Story of Bill Howe: Local Civil War Deserter**

November 10 – 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

**Symposium: The Spirit’s Awakenings**

## SUMMER 2018 Exhibits

April 27 – October 5

**Pennsylvania German Samplers**

Fraktur Gallery

May 29 – March 31, 2019

**Memories of China, Part II: Selections from the Flora Heebner Collection**

Art Gallery

June 1 – November 16

**Perkiomen Valley Quilts**

Meeting Room

June 8 – November 2

**19th Century Dresses and Millinery from the Heritage Center Collection**

First Floor Gallery



Volunteers Charlie and Gene helping with exhibit prep.





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 Fri 9 – 4  
 Sat 10 – 3  
 Sun 1 – 4

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