



SCHWENKFELDER
LIBRARY AND
HERITAGE CENTER



Heritage Headlines

June, 2008
Volume 11, Issue 2

Honoring Heritage. Continuing the Journey.

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FRED SEIPT DINNER SPONSORS

We express deep appreciation to the following sponsors whose support helped to make the dinner a fundraising success!

- ◆ **Helen Kriebler**
- ◆ **Schwenckfeld Manor**
- ◆ **Kenneth Longacre Family**
- ◆ **Univest National Bank**
- ◆ **Montgomery County Farm, Home and 4H Foundation**
- ◆ **Kim Haas, NEXT Financial Group, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC**
- ◆ **Quakertown Veterinary Clinic**
- ◆ **F. M. Brown's Sons, Inc.**
- ◆ **Freddy Hill Farms**



Honoree Fred Seipt with his wife Joanne

SPECIAL GIFT ANNOUNCED AT FUNDRAISING DINNER

A fundraising dinner honoring Fred Seipt was held on Sunday, April 20, 2008 at the Bay Pony Inn in Lederach, PA with 137 people in attendance. The evening was a smashing success with over \$9,000 being raised.

Central Schwenkfelder Church member Fred Seipt was recognized by Board President George Meschter and David Luz. The PA State Senate presented a special citation of recognition for his many contributions to the community. Fred's son Vernon related stories of growing up with his distinguished father.

Helen Kriebler spoke of Fred's influence on her and her family's lives. She concluded by announcing a family decision to recognize this special event by donating \$100,000 in honor of Fred, to be used by the Heritage Center as he desires. Following this, Fred was presented with an Adolph Pannash painting of a fall harvest scene by the Heritage Center Board and staff.

With deep appreciation and humility Fred thanked all for this recognition and promised to continue to work for community goodwill.

RECORD BREAKING ANNUAL CAMPAIGN COMES TO CLOSE

A record breaking 536 donors showed their support of the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center by donating \$162,000 to the Annual Fund Campaign 2007-2008! In addition to many donations by generous individuals and community groups, corporations and businesses also provided their support. To these people we say a resounding THANK YOU for helping to set a record as our campaign ended on March 31 with a gratifying response to a \$5,000 matching gift challenge successfully met.

The Heritage Center does not receive government funding. We are proud to be a self supporting organization that relies on individual donors to provide the bulk of our operating funds as well as free admission for all. The **REPORT TO THE DONORS** enclosed in this issue of the Heritage Headlines shows the details of the Annual Campaign donations, including a listing of Memorial and Tribute gifts for your interest.

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MUSEUM EDUCATOR NOW FULL TIME

The Heritage Center is pleased to announce that our Museum Educator, Rebecca Lawrence, began full time hours as of April 1. With the expansion of our Family Workshops, German and Latin language classes, and home school participation, her hours have increased. Please welcome Rebecca and watch for more new and innovative programming at the Heritage Center!

BABY LOVE: TAUFSCHEINE AND OBJECTS OF BABYHOOD Through October 14, 2008

Celebrate spring with our exhibit featuring selections from the extensive Geburts und Taufscheine collection of the SLHC and baby garments, quilts, furniture, ceramics and other baby-related objects from our museum collection. These examples of Pennsylvania German babyhood from the Perkiomen region and beyond are wonderful representations of the rebirth that comes to us every year with the spring equinox. Bring your favorite baby, or mom-to-be, and receive 10% off your gift shop purchase! (*with some exceptions*)



BY THE SWEAT OF THEIR BROW: WORK AND WORKERS IN THE PERKIOMEN REGION Through September 15, 2008

The Heritage Center will present *By the Sweat of their Brow*, an exhibition about traditional forms of work and workers in the Perkiomen region. Using H. Winslow Fegley's extraordinary photographic record of rural work as a guide, the exhibit will feature the types of tools and equipment used for work in the home, farm and rural trades that are in the museum collection of the Heritage Center. Many seldom or never-seen obsolete objects of everyday life from the collection will be included in the exhibit.



CALVIN RUTH ART EXHIBIT June 30—August 31, 2008

Calvin Ruth, a watercolor artist and teacher who lived nearly all of his 87 years in neighboring Quakertown, is the featured artist this summer in our meeting room. Over the years, Ruth has painted many watercolors of architecturally significant homes in our area. Often the scenes were repeated in different seasons and years apart. Because of this and his meticulous record keeping, it is possible for historians to note the changes to our area over the last 50 years.



PROFESSIONAL STAFF ACTIVITIES

Heritage Center staff members have been busy providing programs for organizations as well as taking the Heritage Center programs offsite. Here is a sampling of their activities:



March 18—Quilts Talk, Forever Young group St. Maria—**Candace Perry**

March 25—East Stroudsburg Library Tour—**Hunt Schenkel**

March 29—National History Day Judging—**Rebecca Lawrence**

April 1—German Tourists visit—**David Luz and Allen Viehmeyer**

April 5—Museum Exhibits Conference—**Candace Perry**

April 14—Textile talk, Central Schwenkfelder Ladies Aid—**Candace Perry**

April 17—Fraktur talk, Goschenhoppen Historians—**Candace Perry**

April 18—Methacton High School German classes visit the Heritage Center: 80 Students—**Rebecca Lawrence and staff**

April 22—Berks County Conservancy Annual Recognition Dinner—**Candace Perry**

April 23—Model A Club of America—**Staff**

UPPER PERKIOMEN VALLEY BASEBALL MEMORABILIA Through August 31, 2008

Once again, through August 30, we feature the fantastic collection of local baseball memorabilia: photos, uniforms, baseballs, and bats for a special spring exhibition in the hallway between the Local History Gallery and the Library. On view will be some recent additions to the Heritage Center's baseball collection. Check out the roster of local leagues in the early and mid 20th century!



CHRISTOPHER SAUER: COLONIAL PRINTER Through September 15, 2008

Christopher Sauer and his son by the same name were the most influential printers to the German-speaking people of Colonial America. This exhibit introduces father and son and tells the visitor their story. Through copies of rare 18th century imprints from their presses, a glimpse of their lives and their activities is revealed. The Sauer press was a natural place for the Schwenkfelders to turn to when they had printing projects in the 1760s. Get to know these intriguing 18th century men from Germantown in this Art Gallery exhibit.



Summer Calendar 2008



Summer 2008 Exhibits

Through August 30, 2008

Upper Perkiomen Valley Baseball Memorabilia
Library Hallway Cases

Through September 15, 2008

Christopher Sauer: Colonial Printer
Art Gallery

Through September 15, 2008

By the Sweat of their Brow: Work and Workers in the Perkiomen Region
Local History Gallery

Through October 14, 2008

Baby Love: Taufschein and Objects of Babyhood
Fraktur Gallery

June 30 - August 31, 2008

Calvin Ruth, Artist
Meeting Room

SUMMER LECTURE SERIES



Our popular Brown Bag lunches are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at noon. Bring your lunch—beverages provided—and enjoy a lecture while you eat. These lectures are normally repeated the following Sunday, 2:00 pm.

SCHWENKFELDER WOMEN: ROSINA DRESCHER HOFFMAN

Dr. Allen Viehmeyer

Wednesday, June 11, noon and Sunday, June 15, 2:00 pm

Rosina Drescher took over her mother's correspondence and wrote to her aunts and other relatives in Silesia from 1740 to 1794. These letters contain a wealth of information about the families and their situations. Hear the stories about her family in Pennsylvania and what she learned about her relatives through various correspondents.

ALMANAC DIARIES OF DAVID SCHULTZ

Dr. Allen Viehmeyer

Wednesday, July 9, noon and Sunday, July 13, 2:00 pm

In conjunction with the *Christopher Sauer: Colonial Printer* exhibit this lecture will describe the very successful Sauer almanac entitled *Der Hochdeutsche Amerikanische Calendar* (1739-1778) as well as the diary entries David Schultz wrote into his copies of the almanac. Find out how Schultz, the surveyor, used the almanac to keep all kinds of records. Learn what Schultz reveals about his life and times as well as his reactions to his wife's murder.

OLD SCHWENKFELDER PRINT AND SCRIPT

Dr. Allen Viehmeyer

Wednesday, August 13, noon and Sunday, August 17, 2:00 pm

The Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center preserves thousands of books and papers printed in the old-fashioned type faces and written in a handwriting style no longer used today. These letterforms are seldom seen today so reading them can be a challenge. This slide illustrated lecture will show various type and handwriting styles in documents from the collection and give pointers on reading them.

Summer 2008 Programs and Events

June 5—1:30 pm

Family Workshop—Wallpaper Bandboxes

June 11—Noon, June 15—2:00 pm

Brown Bag Lunch/Lecture—Dr. Viehmeyer

June 17—20, 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Summer Camp—PA German Folk Arts and Crafts

June 26—1:30 pm

Family Workshop—Colonial Almanacs

July 3—1:30 pm

Family Workshop—Local Baseball History

July 8—11, 10:00 am—12:00 pm

Summer Enrichment Latin—Dr. Viehmeyer

July 8—11, 1:00 pm—3:00 pm

Summer Enrichment German—Dr. Viehmeyer

July 9—Noon, July 13—2:00 pm

Brown Bag Lunch/Lecture—Dr. Viehmeyer

July 15—18, 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Summer Camp—PA German Food and Folklore

July 24—1:30 pm

Family Workshop—Flowers, Herbs/ PA German Gardens

August 6—8, 10:00 am—3:00 pm

Summer Camp—A Photographic Exploration

August 13—Noon, August 17—2:00 pm

Brown Bag Lunch/Lecture—Dr. Viehmeyer

August 14—1:30 pm

Family Workshop—PA German Folk Music

August 28—1:30 pm

Family Workshop—Watercolor Landscapes

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

The Bossert Family Legend—by Dr. Harry B. Burger & Vivian F. Taylor. Donated by Dr. Harry B. Burger

The Complete Works in Prose and Verse of Francis Quarles—by Alexander B. Grosart. Donated by Dr. Peter C. Erb.

Salem Church of Kissel Hill [records], Warwick Township, Lancaster, Co. & Monroe County Death Records, 1893-1904 & 1852-1855. Donated by Mrs. Arthur O. Waite.

NEW! GERMAN FOR GENEALOGISTS CLASSES THIS FALL

Dr. Allen Viehmeyer, Associate Director of Research, will be offering several classes this Fall designed to help genealogists read old German books, newspapers, documents, tombstones, certificates, fraktur and even script handwriting. Several sessions will focus on specific subjects at different levels of skill, from the beginner to the experienced genealogist. Watch for our next newsletter for a listing of the dates and times the classes will be offered—or email the Heritage Center to be notified of the schedule at info@schwenkfelder.com.



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Hours

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

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EXILE SOCIETY DONATION

The Society of the Descendants of the Schwenkfeldian Exiles (Exile Society) very generously donated a 19 inch Digital Picture Frame recently with a two gigabyte memory card and a memory card reader. The value of this donation was \$583.00.



The Digital Picture Frame is currently being used in the exhibit, *Work and Workers in the Perkiomen Region*, with photos from the H. Winslow Fegley Collection being shown.

The Heritage Center expresses deep thanks to the Exile Society for their generosity and quick response to the request.

WISH LIST

Many thanks for all the support over the years, helping to meet the needs presented in our Wish List requests. These items for everyday use are a big help in accomplishing our mission! This quarter, please consider the following for your much appreciated support:

- ♦ **Toaster oven**—\$ 40 (for small scale baking activities)
- ♦ **Portable GE Single Electric Burner**—\$ 20 (for heating dyes, heating up pots for jellies/preserves)



- ♦ **Historic Interpretation Costume for Museum Educator, Rebecca Lawrence, includes a shortgown, petticoat, apron and kerchief**—\$ 120 (from Jas. Townsend & Son)

IS YOUR NAME ON A BRICK?

A personalized name brick is an excellent way to memorialize a loved one or honor a good friend! Families have been buying several to show their support for the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center. For a donation of \$100/brick, you can have your name on up to two lines of text—18 letters/spaces per line. Call the Heritage Center today for more info: 215-679-3103 or check out www.schwenkfelder.com for the form you need.

