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Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society (USPS 882-020)
2215 Millstream Road
Lancaster, PA 17602-1499

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Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society thanks these generous business supporters:
Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society began a search process in September, looking for a new executive director following the resignation of current executive director Rolando L. Santiago. Santiago resigned on July 28 and will continue to serve through December 18, 2017.

The new executive director will be responsible for Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society on Lincoln Highway East in Lancaster, Pa., and the dozens of annual Lancaster Roots events, as well as the Willow Street campus, which includes the 1719 Herr House and the Eastern Woodlands Native American Longhouse, as well as overseeing the operations at Mennonite Information Center, located next door to LMHS on Millstream Road.

On September 13, a search committee met for the first time to begin the search process.

“We’re excited to talk with candidates eager to build on the strengths of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society and take its mission to new audiences,” said Steve Nolt, chair of the search committee and LMHS board member.

More information about the executive-director position is available at www.lmhs.org/about/employment.

Santiago became executive director of LMHS in August 2010. During his tenure, he led numerous events to celebrate the diversity of histories of local and global Anabaptist faith communities such as Native Americans, Latinos, immigrant groups, Old Order and other Plain communities, and those from Latin America, Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America. Revenue-generating streams expanded by adding a Winter Bookfest, increasing the number of book auctions to six per year, adding several profitable ticketed events, and building consistent business support. Santiago prompted LMHS to organize events and create partnerships that stimulated the careers of a new generation of over fifteen young historians interested in Anabaptist topics.

“Performing this leadership role has been the most satisfying, energizing, and rewarding experience in my lifetime. I have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside competent board members, staff, and volunteers. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have served LMHS,” he said.

The LMHS board is grateful for Santiago’s service.

“Throughout his seven years of service as executive director, Rolando has had a passion for the work of LMHS, with a particular commitment to how it can serve the church through preserving the history of congregations and participating in telling the story of God at work within and through the church,” said LMHS board chairman Dan Hess. “It has been a priority for him to have this story reflect the diversity of the Anabaptist community of faith. We appreciate Rolando’s work and contributions to LMHS throughout these seven years.”

“This is an interesting time of expansion and new possibilities for LMHS. The search committee will be working to identify the person who will bring the leadership needed for the next chapter for LMHS, and we are excited to see that unfold.”
Great Book Selection at November Auction

The November 10 book sale includes some fine old German hymnals, including a 1717 Lobwasser Die Psalmen Davids, an 1834 Harfe der Kinder Zions, an 1855 Der Christliche Sänger, and an 1870 Die gemeinschaftliche Lieder-Sammlung.

German devotional books include an autographed Wandelnde Seele and two Christliches Gemüths-Gespräch, one autographed by Isaac Weber in Ontario and a second by David Weaver.

Mennonite church history books include J. C. Wenger's Mennonites in Indiana and Michigan, Grant Stoltzfus's Mennonites of the Ohio and Eastern Conference, Paul Erb's South Central Frontiers, George Sauder's History of Libby's Church, and J. W. Fretz's Waterloo Mennonites. Another church history book in German is Jacob Stauffer's Chronicle of the Mennonite Church. The Earth Is the Lord's by John L. Ruth will be sold.

Genealogists will be interested in two books by Harvey Hostetler on Hochstetler/Hochstedler family history plus histories of Hershey, Kurtz, Weber/Weaver, Sauder, and Witmer families. The sale also includes two copies of Gingerich and Kreider's Amish and Amish Mennonite Genealogies, as well as Section 3 of the Landis Family Book. Also selling is The Groff Book, Vol. 1.

Included in the sale is a German Bible with a Stephen R. Stoltzfus and Lydia F. Petersheim family record, 83 issues of Mennonite Life, 12 picture post cards of old meetinghouses, and a reprint of the 1875 Historical Atlas of Lancaster County.

The entire sale catalog can be accessed at www.lmhs.org. Information can also be obtained by calling (717) 393-9745. Mail-in bids are accepted through 4 pm, Thursday, November 9. No absentee bids under $10 will be accepted.

Pennsylvania German Folk Art (Continued)

committee member. “All of these things have a useful, practical purpose but show a sensitive attention to beauty as well.”

During the opening reception, there will be a chance to peruse the traditionally inspired work and meet the artists. Light refreshments will be served, and freshly baked pies will be available for purchase. There will also be live music.

“Our Folk Art show builds on this tradition of valuing thrift and creativity. The artists represented at our annual Christmas show demonstrate a rootedness to the notion of crafts that serve utilitarian purposes as well as contemporary approaches to the tools and materials we have available today,” says Beidler.

During the opening reception, there will be demonstrations of tape weaving by Susan Weaver of Warp Seed Studios and paper-star folding by Karen Leslie.

There are two new participants this year. Suzanne’s Soaps will bring old fashioned soap, made using traditional methods in cast-iron crocks. Warp Seed Weavers will be selling hand-woven tape and ribbon.

Other artists will sell traditional ceramics, including redware and slipware, as well as various fiber arts, wood work, ornaments, and other handwork. There will also be works of fraktur, the iconic decorative broken lettering distinctive of Pennsylvania German art, as well as Scherenschnitte, intricately cut paperwork.

The evening is free and open to the public. The Pennsylvania German Folk Art Sale continues through December 31 during normal Society operating hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

We are pleased to announce that the Herr House was awarded the 2017 John J. Snyder Grant from the Lancaster County Community Foundation. Money from this grant will go toward improvements and maintenance of the 1719 Herr House. Planned improvements include a “Dutch” front door that is split horizontally into top and bottom halves, installing a mantel above the fireplace, and reconfiguring the raised hearth. Research suggests that these improvements will be more accurate representations of the house when it was constructed. Other repairs and upgrades include reglazing windows, repairing shutters, masonry repointing, and updating electrical work. We are excited about these improvements and grateful for the support of those who made this generous grant possible.
Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society Needs You!

Rolando L. Santiago, director

Please help us reach our Annual Fund goal of $108,000 by December 31st! We have raised $34,770 so far, but we still have a long way to go! Can you help us?

There are several ways you can donate. You can:

• Complete the form in this issue, and send it with a check to Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602.
• Give online anytime by visiting the www.lmhs.org website and click on “Donate” in the home page. There are instructions on giving via credit card.
• Give online during the twenty-four-hour ExtraGive on Friday, November 17.
• Come to this year’s opening reception of the Folk Art Sale on Friday, November 17, 6:30 to 8 pm and donate through the ExtraGive at computer terminals, or leave checks or cash in a designated giving box.
• Give us a call. We accept credit card payment over the phone, Tuesday-Saturday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, at (717) 393-9745.

Your contribution is tax-deductible. You will receive a receipt for your gift.

Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society continues to create impact in the community and beyond! This year we:

• Welcomed a crowd of over five hundred at Annual Music Night on January 28 at Neffsville Mennonite Church.
• Attracted 3,730 book buyers to the annual Bookworm Frolic, August 16-19, an increase of almost one thousand than last year.
• Added over fifty thousand names to our online-accessible genealogical databases, thanks to a partnership with the Schmucker-Smucker-Smucker Family Association. The databases now have over 250,000 names.
• Celebrated another successful Family History Conference on May 18-20 with 198 attendees who heard John Ruth speak on the three hundredth anniversary of the 1717 Mennonite migration to Lancaster County.

Your support helps LMHS continue to promote public history through its museum, library, archives, 1719 Herr House, Native American Longhouse, educational programs, field trips, folk art classes, book sales, and more. Thank you!

Exhibit Focuses on Mellinger Mennonite Congregation Story

Steve Ness, Librarian and Archivist

This year marks the 300th anniversary of the establishment of a few Mennonite congregations in Lancaster County, including Mellinger Mennonite Church. A mini-exhibit focusing on the Mellinger story has been installed in the library, and photographic reproductions have been hung in the stairwell between the library and bookstore.

Highlights include:

• A 1748 German Bible that contains records of three generations of the Johannes (John) Kreider (1747-1825) family, at least two of whom were ministers at Mellinger Mennonite Church.
• A copy of the second American edition (1814) of the Martyrs’ Mirror, given by Deacon Martin Mellinger to his step-granddaughter, Barbara Denlinger.
• The Chinese Order of the Double Dragon—a medal awarded to Dr. Eli B. Landis (1865-1898) by the Chinese emperor in honor of his medical service in Korea. Landis was reared in the Mellinger Mennonite Church, attended medical school at the University of Pennsylvania, and served in Korea with the English Church Mission.
• Photographs from the collection of Mellinger historian Earl B. Groff.

Everyone is welcome to view the objects and photographs at no charge. Simply visit the Historical Society during regular hours (Tuesday-Saturday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm) through the end of the year.