

Cocalico Valley Historical Society Acquisitions , JANUARY 2011

Book Acquisitions:

Kraybill, Donald B. *Concise Encyclopedia of Amish, Brethren, Hutterites, and Mennonites*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010. (Purchase)

Copy of the soft-cover publication "Historic Ephrata, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania: Bi-Centennial Celebration at Ephrata Cloister, Saturday, September 29, 1928." The booklet includes tipped-in photographs of several of the buildings and scenes illustrated in it, evidently added by owner James K. Helms. (Donation—Daniel M. Dailey)

Vox (Denver High School Yearbook), 1944. (Donation—Martha Stayer Alfano.)

Manuscript Acquisitions:

Doctor's or pharmacist's manuscript remedy book kept by a member of the Fahnstock family, one of the descendants of Ephrata Cloister householders Dietrich and Margaretha Fahnstock. It is likely that the book belonged to Daniel Fahnstock, from whom the last owner descended; it may possibly have belonged to his brother, Samuel, also a physician.

The book, in wallpaper-covered boards, contains remedy formulae in a variety of hands; most are written in German, though some are in English as well. Some are attributed to specific individuals: "Doct. Beadmans Pectoral Drops," for instance. One recipe is attributed to Hans Bucher, one to John Fahnstock and another to S. Fahnstock, the latter tending to reinforce the supposition that the book belonged to Daniel, as opposed to Samuel. In addition to the remedies in the pages of the book or on pages originally in the book are many others on loose, inserted sheets. Most are for human ailments, or appear to be; a few are for livestock; and a few are for household necessities such as matches or shoe blacking. There is one recipe for pound cake. The pages of the book are hand-laid, but no watermark has been discovered. (Purchase)

Handwritten "History of the [Denver High School] Class of 1918"—more accurately, biographical sketches of class members—written for the 20th reunion of the class by Mrs. Stanley Wagner. (Donation—Martha Stayer Alfano)

Photograph Acquisitions:

5 x 7" photograph of Henry E. Blantz in his Navy uniform, ca. 1942-1945; he was a son of Aaron and Mary Blantz of Warwick and Ephrata Townships. (Donation—Larry and Barbara Alexander)

Cut-out figure of Henry E. Blantz in his Navy uniform, on a small wooden base; consists of a full-body hand-tinted photographic portrait mounted on fiberboard and positioned upright on the stand. The assemblage is 7 1/4" high. (Donation—Larry and Barbara Alexander)

Set of 41 color slides of events and activities which took place during Adamstown Borough's Bicentennial celebration, June 10, 1961; 2 color slides taken at Adamstown's Community Days, August 27, 1978. (Donation—Gladys Horvath)

The slides were scanned and placed on a compact disc by Heather Lyba.

Six scanned images created from photos of the construction behind St. Paul's Church of Adamstown in the 1950s, when the congregation's education building was built. (Donation—Gladys Horvath)

Scanned image of the sign on the gate of the Fred Gross farm, June 22, 1947. (Donation—Gladys Horvath)

Scanned image of Frankfort's Market, Adamstown, with proprietor Harry Frankfort, 1952. (Donation—Gladys Horvath)

The following photographs were donated by Martha (Stayer) Alfano:

Real-photo postcard showing a Knights of the Golden Eagle convention parade on Union (Main) Street, Denver, September 21, 1912; the Wolf Building, the Denver National Bank and the Marburger store can be seen to the rear.

Small photo of the Cocalico School, West Cocalico Twp.

Six slightly differing small photos of the Greenville School, East Cocalico Twp.

Two slightly differing small photos of the Vera Cruz School, West Cocalico Twp.

Small photo of the Blainsport School, West Cocalico Twp.

Two slightly differing small photos of the West Stevens School, West Cocalico Twp.

Small photo of the Adamstown School, Adamstown Borough.

Two copies, small photo of the Napierville School, East Cocalico Twp.

Small photo of the White Oak School, East Cocalico Twp.

Two small photos (differing views) of the Schoeneck School, West Cocalico Twp.

Two negatives and two matching small prints, Muddy Creek School, East Cocalico Twp.

Two slightly differing small photos of the Pleasant Retreat School, West Cocalico Twp.

Small copy photo of father and son Harvey and Isaac Miller, proprietors of Miller's Hardware Store in Denver, ca 1910.

8" x 10" copy photograph of the Denver Borough School Board, ca. 1940; members are Raymond Stayer, President; George Martin; Walter Bender, Vice President; Leroy Weinhold, Treasurer; and Warren Althouse, Secretary.

Matted "Bachrach Studio" portrait of the judges of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, ca. 1945; members include Guy Kurtz Bard.

The following photographs were lent for scanning by Barbara Fichthorn:

Harry S. Stoner photo of a group of children posed outside Grace Chapel at Muddy Creek Church, summer, 1934.

Photo of the assembled cast of an unidentified dramatic performance, Adamstown, ca. 1930's; photo of the partial cast of the same performance.

Photo of the leading cast of "Marrying Marion," Adamstown, ca. 1930's.

Photo of the chancel area of Immanuel Evangelical Church, Adamstown, ca. 1915.

Photo of a "Federal Transfer Co." (Ephrata) moving truck piled with household goods; an inscription on the mat reads "Ethel B(ishop) Moves to Adamstown." N.d.; ca. 1916-1918.

Photo of members of the extended Daniel and Sarah (Ruth) Binkley family grouped outside Daniel Binkley's house near Adamstown, ca. 1904.

Photo of Daniel Binkley and his nine grown children, ca. 1910.

Two photos of the interior of Galen Bishop's garage, Adamstown, 1930; subjects are identified.

Photo of the interior of the office of Bishop's Garage, 1930; subjects are identified.

Photo taken outside the doors of Witmer's Garage on N. Reamstown Road, Reamstown, ca. 1920-1924; Mark Witmer and two unidentified men pose in front of the building.

Nighttime photo of gas pumps in front of Bishop's Garage, Adamstown, ca. 1930's.

Photograph of the Adamstown (Mohn's) grist mill, Adamstown Borough, ca. 1890.

Photograph of two "Witman's Meats" delivery vans, Adamstown; one is a 1949 model, one a 1951.

Photograph of a "Witman's Meat" delivery van, ca. 1940; the photo appears to have been taken in Boyertown, where the body was manufactured.

Photo of Roger Witman with an early "Witman's Meats" delivery truck, ca. 1936.

Artifact Acquisitions:

(Artifacts accepted at the February meeting of the Museum Committee will appear in the February report.)

Folk art wooden walking stick made for Reuben R. Bitzer of Ephrata, ca. 1875-1890. The walking stick, of an unidentified close-grained wood, has a carved lion's head grip and is relief-carved along most of its length with a twining trumpet vine within which finely-modeled African animals stand or stride. There are a pair of fox-like animals, an antelope, a creature resembling a wildebeast, an elephant, a lioness, and a rhinoceros. Beneath the lower termination of the vine and above the metal cap are grasses, crosshatching, and the incised caption "Out of the Jungle." Above the upper termination of the vine, beneath the grip, is a band incised with the owner's name: "R.R. Bitzer Ephrata, Pa." There is a dark, mellow finish.

Reuben R. Bitzer was a native of West Earl Township; born in 1831, he married Fianna Fasnacht in 1858 and moved to Ephrata in or around 1873. He operated a coal and lumber business, in partnership with his father-in-law Amos Fasnacht, on South State Street; later, the property was sold to John Stephan. Bitzer was a trustee and deacon of the Bergstrasse Lutheran Church and an organizer of the Ephrata National Bank, and served on the Bank's board of directors until his death in 1911. (Purchase)

Comb-back Windsor writing chair, circa 1925, made by Harry Franklin Stauffer (unsigned) of Farmersville, West Earl Twp. The chair has a "D"-shaped plank seat with pommel and seat

groove. The chair's continuous crested arm rail is supported by a pair of baluster-turned arm posts and a series of sixteen plain round-turned and tapered spindles. Seven of the spindles extend through the arm rail to form the chair's back and are surmounted by a comb-shaped crest rail having simple carved volutes. One end of the chair's continuous arm terminates in a carved knuckle hand grip, while the opposite end supports an oval-shaped writing surface. Under the chair's seat is a small dovetailed drawer having a plain front with a serpentine bottom edge. The seat is supported by four splayed and tapered legs having baluster turnings. The legs are mortised through the chair's seat. The legs are joined by an "H"-stretcher having a boldly turned medial stretcher. Chair of assorted woods, natural finish, continuous arm was split and repaired, good finish. (Bequest—Elizabeth Ann Stauffer Estate)

Paint decorated rod-back butterfly Windsor cheesecutter nursing rocker, circa 1925, made by Harry Franklin Stauffer (unsigned), of Farmersville, West Earl Twp. The rocker has a saddle-shaped seat with pommel and seat groove. The rocker's back is formed by a pair of splayed round-turned vertical posts having bamboo turnings and five plain round-turned and tapered spindles which support a double crest rail fitted with an oval-shaped lozenge or ornament. The seat is supported by four splayed tapered legs having bamboo turnings, the legs are mortised through the seat. The legs are joined by a box stretcher base, and the bottom of the legs are fitted with a pair of broad shaped cheesecutter-shaped rockers. The rocker is painted with orange paint accented with smoked decoration and shellacked. The rocker's bamboo joints are accented with yellow paint. The crest lozenge is ornamented with a small hand painted yellow and green tulip motif surrounded by a simple yellow stripe. Rocker of assorted woods, painted finish shows some wear. (Bequest—Elizabeth Ann Stauffer Estate)

The following artifacts were donated by Harold Bingeman:

Shirt worn by Harold Bingeman as a member of "Dutchmen Pup Tent No. 80, Military Order of the Cootie" (a service arm of the VFW), ca. third quarter, 20th century, and continuing into the 1980's. The white, long-sleeved, "Arrow" button-down shirt is heavily machine-embroidered with the light-hearted symbols of the Order: there is a large red and yellow "cootie" on the back, beneath the embroidered script inscription "Pennsylvania 80"; a sleeve patch embroidered in red and white thread reads "M.O.C."; red and yellow insects adorn the collar and cuffs; a chest patch reads "Military Order of the Cootie U.S.A. / Comradship / Industry"; and a script inscription on the chest reads "Dutchmen / Cootie No. 63." Additional red scrolling and looping embroidery is applied to the collar, chest, cuffs, etc.

Two hats worn by Harold Bingeman as a member of "Dutchmen Pup Tent No. 80, Military Order of the Cootie" (a service arm of the VFW), ca. third quarter, 20th century, and continuing into the 1980's. Both are tasseled red felt, with reinforced lining bands; one is appliquéd with gold felt lettering reading "80 / Dutchmen / Pennsylvania" and "Ephrata"; the other is embroidered with the wording "Penna. / 80 / Past / Seam Squirrel / M.O.C." 23 enameled pin-back buttons and an enameled pin are attached to the past commander's hat; 16 pin-back buttons, 16 whimsical costume jewelry and other pins and a delegate's ribbon, 1955, adorn the second hat.

Two clip-on string ties worn by the donor as a member of Dutchmen Pup Tent 80, Military Order of the Cootie; one is professionally hand-lettered with the inscription "Dutchmen P.T. #80 M.O.C."; the other with the inscription "MBRSHP Award 100% / Plus 1 M.O.C. 1961."

Silk or synthetic fabric necktie worn by the donor; the tie is appliquéd with a circular patch embroidered with the "cootie" symbol of the M.O.C.

Varnished 11 1/8" x 42 3/4" x 3/4" wooden sign removed from the Ephrata Post Office during renovations; the sign, with formerly hung above the window from which packages were mailed, has a slightly recessed interior panel painted with black-edged gold lettering reading "Parcel Post."

Leather rural mail carrier's bag used by the donor during his 39-year term of employment at the Ephrata Post Office, which began in 1948.

"Benny Bishop" (Ephrata) aluminum auto license plate holder.

Miscellaneous Print Acquisitions:

Scrapbook, with faux-leather covers and 21 leaves, filled with newspaper clippings relating to Evelyn Ay Sempier, the 1954 Miss America pageant, and Ay-Sempier's life in later years. (Donation—Doris Z. Martzall)

Adamstown High School Commencement program, April 29, 1911. (Donation—Rosalind Buhman)

"Greater Ephrata Area" map with business advertising; distributed by Daniel's Diner. (Donation—Martha Stayer Alfano)

Photocopied 57-p.compilation entitled "A History of the Zeltenreich Church and a List of the Descendants of Andreas Seltenreich," by Amos L. Seldomridge, New Bloomfield, Pa., 1949. (Donation—Peter Hunsberger)

Issues of the "Reamscheddel News" (newsletter of the Reamstown Historical Society and Museum), Vol. I, Issue 1 (August 2006) through Vol. V, Issue 2 (November 2010). The newsletter is irregularly published. Receipt will be ongoing. (Donation—Reamstown Historical Society)