

# BI-Lines

Notes and News from the SWEDENBORG LIBRARY



Bryn Athyn College / Academy of the New Church

<http://www.brynathyn.edu/Library>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Christmas Holiday Hours

Dec. 19 (Fri) 8 am to 12:30 pm

Dec. 20 (Sat.) - Jan. 4 (Sun.)  
CLOSED

Jan. 5 ( Mon.)

RESUME REGULAR HOURS

• Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Jan. 19 (Mon.) CLOSED

• Spring Break

Feb. 28 (Sat.) - Mar. 1 (Sun.)  
CLOSED

Mar. 2 (Mon.) - Mar. 6 (Fri.)  
9 am to 1 pm

Mar.7 (Sat.) - Mar. 8 (Sun.)  
CLOSED

Mar. 9 (Mon.)  
RESUME REGULAR HOURS

## Introducing ILLiad

Interlibrary Loan is getting easier! The library has begun to install ILLiad, a new electronic interlibrary loan system. This software will allow patrons to make requests directly online, without using paper forms. Patrons will also be able to track the status of their requests themselves. In addition, electronic delivery of journal and magazine articles will resume. This will greatly speed delivery time from other libraries and allow articles to be sent directly to those patrons with email, saving them a trip to the library. We are also exploring the possibility of electronic delivery of articles already held by the library.

Software installation for ILLiad is already well underway. Training will begin after Christmas break, and we hope to have the system fully operational and available to patrons no later than the beginning of the spring term.

Please stay tuned for further announcements and more detailed instructions on how to use this system. Interlibrary borrowing by BAC students and faculty has increased greatly in the past year; we look forward to the new system making the Swedenborg Library even more efficient in responding to your needs!

- David Perry



Photo courtesy OCLC

### Inside this issue:

ILLiad	1
CredoRef a winner	2
Grant awarded	2
Archives	3
Director's Web site tips	3
The "Green Books"	4
FOSL annual meeting	4
New branch library	5
Library transport	5
In memoriam	6

## Holiday Greetings



*At this special time of year, we wish to extend our warmest wishes — a blessed Christmas and a joyous, peaceful New Year — to you and to those you love.*

*from the Staff and Volunteers*

## CredoRef a winner



Credo Reference, an online full text reference library of 100 titles with 1,474,682 entries, was introduced in September as a new reference service from the Swedenborg Library. In a report of the usage to date we found:

- 120 searches conducted
- 321 pages of text were viewed
- 90 titles were accessed

Some Top entries were:

- African American Studies (*World of Sociology*)
- African Americans (*Encyclopedia of the United States in the Nineteenth Century*)
- American Indian Societies (*Encyclopedia of the United States in the Nineteenth Century*)
- African Studies (*World of Sociology*)
- Jinja (*The Macmillan Encyclopedia*)
- Japan, 1542-1793 (*The*

*Encyclopedia of World History*)

- Apache (*The Columbia Encyclopedia*)
- Dance (*Encyclopedia of North American Indians*)
- Pitcher, Molly (1744-1832) (*The Columbia Encyclopedia*)
- Johnny Appleseed, Birthday of (*Holidays, Festivals and Celebrations of the World Dictionary*)
- Propylaeum (*Harris, Dictionary of Architecture and Construction*)
- Keller, Helen, June 27, 1880-June 1, 1968. (*Notable American Women: The Modern Period*)
- V.D. 6. North American from 1492 to the Present (*Cambridge World History of Food*)
- Japan (*The Columbia Encyclopedia*)
- Let's Begin Ikenobo (*The Hutchinson Unabridged*

*Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*)

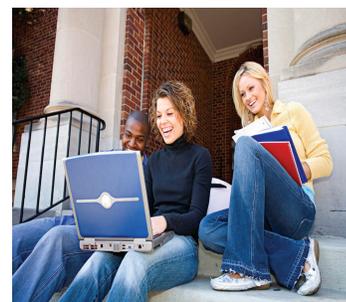
- Cahokia Mounds (*The Columbia Encyclopedia*)

Available anywhere on the campus network, you can access Credo at the Swedenborg Library web site at: [www.brynathyn.edu/academics/library](http://www.brynathyn.edu/academics/library) (this new link will be active in January) or go directly to [www.credoreference.com](http://www.credoreference.com).

For off campus access: contact ANC helpdesk for remote access to the campus network.

- Carroll Odhner

*"Available anywhere on the campus network ... at the Swedenborg Library web site..."*



## TCLC grant awarded

As part of continuing professional development, Technical Services Librarian Carol Traveny was recently awarded a scholarship grant of \$200 from the Tri-State College Library Cooperative. TCLC, a regional consortium of over forty academic libraries, including the Swedenborg Library, makes

this award available yearly through the Continuing Education and Development Council and the Sister Mary Dennis Lynch Memorial Fund .

With the award, Carol will attend an online workshop on Local Holdings Maintenance, which covers proper

procedures and coding for attaching local holdings information to serials records. This saves time and increases access to serials by making it easier for patrons here and at other libraries to locate journal articles.

## Notes from the Archives



Photo by Martha McDonough

The Archive located in the Swedenborg Library is a repository of many interesting things. Among other items, we hold the (in)famous Dining Hall Skull, the bell from one of the engines in the Great Bryn Athyn Train Wreck, and photographs of more things than you can shake a stick at. In addition, we hold many records of the Academy of the New Church and some of its founders. In short, we are the stewards of history for the Academy, the Church and the Community of Bryn Athyn.

Do you have something that belongs or will belong in the Archive? How would you know? In this series, we'll tell you what we do and what we collect. Our job at the archives is to *appraise, arrange, preserve and make available unique items of enduring historical value*. So what does that mean? In the next few issues, we'll take

you through each of these areas.

For now, we'll start with a definition. We collect "unique items of enduring historical value." By unique, we mean material that has not been published somewhere, although there are some exceptions. By "enduring historical value" we mean material evidence of the existence of mankind's activities, relationships, creations and organizations – within the scope of our mission. Items that provide this evidence include, but are not limited to, manuscripts, diaries, personal and business letters, research papers, photographs, official papers, family histories and more. All these things help us understand who we are, what we do and what we consider important.

Next issue we'll begin the process of describing what an archivist does.

- Greg Jackson, Archivist

Greg can be reached at extension 2421 or by email at:

[gregory.jackson@brynathyn.edu](mailto:gregory.jackson@brynathyn.edu)

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*"Our job at the archives is to appraise, arrange, preserve and make available unique items of enduring historical value."*

## Director's web site tips: Open Yale Courses

Want to study Astrophysics or Game Theory? How about taking a course on Financial Markets, which might help make some sense out of our current economic times. Did you ever want to take courses free from one of the premier universities in the world?

*Open Yale Courses* provides free access to undergraduate college courses taught by

leading faculty at Yale. This initiative by Yale University shares video and course materials from 15 courses with 30 additional courses to be added in the next three years. Resources such as handouts and course syllabus are offered along with class sessions, either as a text transcript, audio (MP3 files), or video (in QuickTime).

Closed-captioning for the hearing impaired is currently being added. You can complete the course just as it is offered at Yale, the only difference being no faculty/student interaction.

So all you overachieving students, independent and life-long learners, here's your opportunity to examine this user-friendly site. Meet in the

library and café with some friends and start a discussion group based on one of the courses and broaden your mind!

Go to: <http://open.yale.edu/courses/>

-Carroll Odhner,  
Library Director

## The “Green Books”



The result of careful collecting and painstaking research, the Academy Collection of Swedenborg Documents located in Swedenborg Library includes transcriptions and sources for most of the documents relating to the life of Swedenborg that have been discovered over the past 236 years. Over 3,000 documents amounting to more than 5,500 pages of material have been chronologically assembled in 11 large, folio albums with green covers which are also known as “The Green Books.”

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*“...provid[es] access to sources which can shed new light on Swedenborg and the world he lived in.”*

Though the Collection has been an important resource for the New Church, its usefulness has been limited by the lack of access for researchers who do not live near Bryn Athyn and the difficulty in finding information within the collection. As a result, the scanning of the Collection was begun in 1997 and proceeded for several years with the

support of Charles S. Cole, Jr. and The Carpenter Fellowship Fund. The Collection was briefly available online until a technical problem caused it to be lost in “cyberspace.”

In 2007 work began on a new digital library designed to make material from the library collections available to scholars and individuals around the world. Known as the *Swedenborg Library Digital Collections*, this project has been made possible by grants from the Phoebe W. Haas Charitable Trust and the William Penn Foundation.

Grouped into three categories: *Swedenborgiana*, *New Church Literature* and *Archives*, digital material will be gradually added as the scanning progresses. The highlight of the *Swedenborgiana* section is the Academy Collection of Swedenborg Documents, which is now once again available online through the Swedenborg Library website:

<http://www2.brynathyn.edu/Library> <sup>1</sup>: select *Digital Collections* > *Search the Digital Collections* > *Swedenborgiana*.

In addition to educational use and private inquiry, this important resource will support the future publication of scholarly editions of Swedenborg's works and collateral studies, providing access to sources which can shed new light on Swedenborg and the world he lived in. <sup>2</sup>

- Marvin B. Clymer

1. The library's web address will become [www.brynathyn.edu/academics/swedenborg-library](http://www.brynathyn.edu/academics/swedenborg-library) in January 2009.

2. See the January 2009 issue of *New Church Life* for an article about the history of the Academy Collection of Swedenborg Documents.

## FOSL annual meeting announced

The 2009 Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Swedenborg Library will be held Tuesday, February 3 in the AV room of the Swedenborg Library, beginning at 4:00 pm.

Light refreshments will be served beginning at 3:45, so please come early. After a short business meeting, New

Church author Robert S. Jungé will speak on “Building on our historic doctrinal foundations.” Rev. Jungé's latest book is [What Shall I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?](#) which was published in 2008.

FOSL is an organization dedicated to supporting the work and growth of the

library. Their main activities are the popular used book sales held twice yearly in the fall and spring.

If you are not yet a member, please consider joining FOSL. Contact Audrey Smith at 215-247-2060 for more information.

## Hälsningar från Stockholm (Greetings from Stockholm)



Photos by Eva Björkström

viewable on our online catalog, thereby making them accessible to scholars all over the world.

Organizing and cataloging literally thousands of books, journals and pamphlets is no easy task, particularly for those not familiar with library procedures, who also must deal with issues of distance, technology and (sometimes) language. Luckily, an intrepid team of volunteers, headed by Eva Björkström, Gustav Fornander and Olle Björkström are more than up to the task.

After an intense training session here in October 2007, they returned to Sweden and set to work. With access to our integrated library system (Sirsi-Dynix "Workflows") they are able to add their holdings data to records of items already held by the Swedenborg Library. Title pages of items not in our catalog are scanned and along with additional information, emailed to us,

where we search for, edit or create records which are then imported into the local catalog.

As of November, over 680 items were added to existing records, in addition to 20 new

It has been a wonderful learning experience for everyone on both sides of the Atlantic, and we look forward to more collaboration as the work progresses.

-Carol Traveny



titles. This has been despite great inconvenience, and the sometimes maddening quirks of cyberspace, but with much dedication, patience and good humor on the part of our honorary librarians from Sweden.

*Gustav Fornander (above) in the midst of ordered chaos as the group sorts, catalogs and shelves the library contents.*

Did you know we have a branch library in Sweden?

In April 2007, Interim President Brian Keith officially recognized the Stockholm General Church book collection as a branch of the Swedenborg Library. This means that records of the materials owned the Stockholm Society will be

## Improving access : golf cart service

Our library volunteers won't have to contend with long walks on slippery pavement in order to perform their much needed and appreciated duties. They will be able to travel to and from the library via an electric golf-cart!

With campus construction activities in full swing, the

loss of staff and visitor parking next to the building could have been disastrous to daily library operations, since many of our volunteers have difficulty walking the distance from the parking area at Pendleton Hall. Thanks to the efforts of a number of people, and in particular, Tony Odhner, an enclosed golf cart

will provide door-to-door access for our volunteers, many of whom work in the library on an almost daily basis.

Of course, we will also be happy to ferry patrons who, for similar reasons, are having difficulty getting to the library.

The service is available Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Those who need transportation must first call the Circulation Desk at 267-502-2524. A library staff member will meet you at the Pitcairn Hall parking lot and then return you to your car when you are ready. For more information, please contact us.

**BI-Lines** is published by:  
**SWEDENBORG LIBRARY**

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Bryn Athyn College  
2925 College Drive  
PO Box 740

Phone: 267-502-2524  
Fax: 267-502-2637  
E-mail: [library@brynathyn.edu](mailto:library@brynathyn.edu)



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Carroll Odhner, Editor  
Carol Traveny, Assistant Editor

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*Swedenborg Library Mission Statement*

*The primary purpose of the Swedenborg Library is the acquisition, preservation and promotion of the New Church collections and archives for use throughout the world. These collections include books written by Swedenborg (first editions, subsequent editions and translations), copies of books known to have been owned by Swedenborg, and books and periodicals of the 17th and 18th centuries (particularly in the sciences and religion) either used by Swedenborg or reflecting the thought of his age. A collection of collateral literature covers all aspects of study of Swedenborg and the New Church. The archives are a cultural resource containing a variety of documents, letters and photographs relevant to the New Church, the Academy, and the Bryn Athyn community. The next most important use is to provide materials and information, in various forms, in support of the academic programs of the Academy schools. The library also serves as a resource for members of the local community.*

**Dr. Robert L. Gladish**  
**President of the**  
**Friends of the Swedenborg Library**  
**1998-2008**

We are sad to announce the sudden passing of our dear friend, Bob Gladish, on the evening of December 10. In 1986/7 as Dean of the College, Bob played a key role in the planning of the new Swedenborg Library and he actively participated in the enormous job of moving and re-shelving the collections. After his retirement, he accepted the position of President of the Friends of the Swedenborg Library, replacing Dr. Grant R. Doering. Bob continued to show his love and support for the library through his leadership as President and the energy he put into the book sales and other programs. We will miss him dearly.

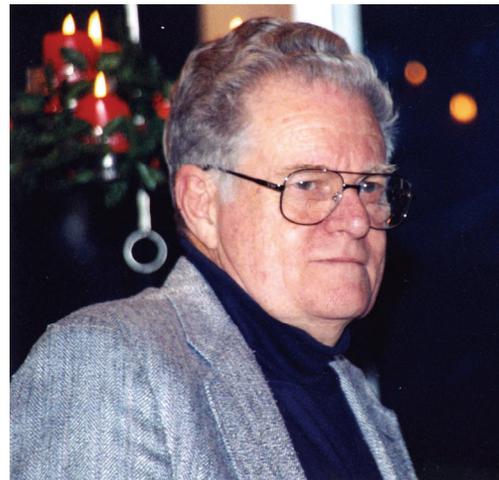


Photo by Peter Bostock