

# BI-Lines

Notes and News from the SWEDENBORG LIBRARY



<http://www.brynathyn.edu/academics/swedenborg-library>

## SPECIAL SCHEDULES

### EASTER

Fri—Sun Apr 19-21 CLOSED  
Mon Apr 22  
RESUME REGULAR HOURS

### EXAM WEEK

Sun, May 12 5 pm - 11 pm  
Mon - Thu, May 13 - May 16  
7:30 am - 11 pm  
Fri, May 17 7:30 am - 5 pm  
Sat, May 18 10 am - 2 pm  
Sun, May 19 5 pm - 10 pm  
Mon - Thu, May 20 - 23  
7:30 am 10 pm  
Fri, May 24 7:30 am - 5pm  
Sat-Mon, May 25-27 CLOSED

### SUMMER HOURS

Beginning Tue, May 28  
Tue - Fri 9 am - 1 pm  
Sat, Sun, Mon CLOSED  
*Please note the new weekday closing.*

**The Library will be CLOSED on Monday, July 3 and Monday, June 20.**

**College Grounds Café will be closed for the summer.**

## Grant Received to Digitize Microfilm of Swedenborgiana

One of our major 5-year goals for Swedenborgiana and the New Church Collections was to digitize and add the following to the New Church Digital Collections:

- Swedenborgiana Microfilm Collection: Complete first editions of Emanuel Swedenborg's scientific and theological works (over 50 volumes)
- Rare 18<sup>th</sup> century books on science, philosophy and religion contained in Swedenborg's personal library
- New Church pamphlets, articles and booklets starting in the 1780s
- 4 New Church journals printed in the 1800s

This involves scanning, editing, reformatting and

adding metadata to 305 reels of microfilm. The grant to convert to digital format was approved in January 2019.

On January 17<sup>th</sup>, Marvin Clymer (Digital Collections Supervisor) and I drove to Rockville, Maryland to deliver the microfilm and meet with the staff at our digital vendor PTFS (Progressive Technology Federal Systems). It was great to finally meet face-to-face with the team members that we have been working with for nearly ten years. We were also given an insiders tour of the company by the Director of Digitization, Alfredo Ignacio. We saw all the equipment and learned about the methods used to digitize all kinds of material. PTFS is a leading Enterprise Content Management (ECM) provider to federal, commercial, and academic

institutions and agencies.

A little history about our microfilm: the original items were microfilmed more than forty years ago on the top floor of the old library (Benade Hall) using equipment and students hired by Charlie Cole. The microfilm has been sitting in files in our Swedenborgiana vault since the move to the new library in 1986. We are very grateful that digital images of our microfilm will soon allow access to important historic works in our Swedenborgiana and early Church collections. We are very thankful to the Asplundh Foundation for awarding us the grant to make this conversion possible.

- Carroll Odhner  
Director of Swedenborgiana  
& New Church Research

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*Photos at PTFS by Marvin Clymer: Jon Siebert, Senior Account Executive, Marvin Clymer, Carroll Odhner, Olga Kuklova, Digital Library Support Engineer, Alfredo Ignacio, Director of Digitization, (not in photo: Jennifer Black, Director of Technical Assistant Center and Lynda Wright, Revenue Cycle Accountant)*

## New Church Digital Collections

The Swedenborg Library contains the largest collection of books, documents and images relating to Emanuel Swedenborg and the New Church in the world! In 1997, scanning work was begun to make our special collections more accessible to students, scholars and interested people around the world. The New Church Digital Collections now contain over 138,000 pages of searchable, online, digital material organized into 3 major collections: Swedenborgiana, New Church Literature and Archives.

*Swedenborgiana* includes material about the life of Swedenborg, such as portraits, documents written by him, maps of his travels, mechanical inventions, and his property in Stockholm. The result of over 235 years of careful research, The Academy Collection of Swedenborg Documents can also be found here, representing a chronological index to most of the known

documents, correspondence and records relating to Swedenborg.

*New Church Literature* includes books and periodicals describing the early history of the New Church beginning in 1787. Eighteen early journals are now fully available in this collection. For example, the first successful New Church journal in the world, *The Intellectual Repository*, was published from 1812 – 1881 in London. The first journal to succeed in America, *The New Jerusalem Magazine*, was published from 1827 – 1893 in Boston.

*Archives* contains photographs, booklets, letters and documents pertaining to the history of the New Church, the Academy of the New Church, Bryn Athyn College, and the Bryn Athyn community. Photographs of early ANC classes in Philadelphia and Bryn Athyn can be found with over 90% of the yearbooks and banners

presented by the graduation classes available digitally.

The Special Collections staff support New Church research and fulfill requests from scholars and patrons for custom digitization of material needed for their projects. The staff also promotes New Church outreach by sharing digital expertise and resources with other groups, such as The Swedenborg Foundation, New Christian Bible Study, *New Church Life* magazine, and the Swedenborg Scientific Association.

New Church Digital Collections of the Swedenborg Library provide a powerful means of sharing knowledge of Swedenborg and the New Church with scholars and inquirers, locally and around the world. This project has been made possible by the generous support of the William Penn Foundation, the Wyncote Foundation, Phoebe W. Haas Charitable

Trust, the Carpenter Fellowship Fund, the Glencairn Foundation, the Asplundh Foundation, the estate of Professor Charles S. Cole, and other individual donors.

With continued funding, the Swedenborg Library Digital Collections will be able to expand and better support the growth of the New Church.

New Church Digital Collections can be found online at:

[www.swedenborglibrary.org/digital](http://www.swedenborglibrary.org/digital)

- Marvin B. Clymer,  
Digital Collections Supervisor



Homepage of Digital Collections

## Spring Art Exhibit: Carol Traveny

The Friends of the Swedenborg Library will host a spring art exhibit, featuring the recent photographic work of Carol Traveny. Carol is the Library Director who, in addition to her Masters in Library and Information Sciences from

the University of Pittsburgh, holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Penn State.

The work in this exhibit explores the physical and paradoxical qualities of water and glass, and contemplates perception, meaning, time,

and abstraction.

The opening reception will be held on Sunday, March 10 in the Friends Room of the library, with a talk by the artist beginning at 4 pm. Carol's work will be on view until May 24.



"Time after Time" c.2018

## Faculty and Staff Recommends:

Throughout Black History Month we had a great time displaying books by authors such as Maya Angelou, Alice Walker, Colson Whitehead, Paul Beatty, Zora Neale Hurston, James Baldwin, Angie Thomas and Langston Hughes, among many others. If you have any suggestions for other authors we should include, please let us know!

Here are a few of the faculty and staff Spring reading recommendations:

*The Voyage of the Narwhal* by Andrea Barrett, (Lelia Howard, Chief Information Officer.) "... Arctic exploration through the eyes of a naturalist in a time when the vision adventurers brought back was in the form of hand drawings. It is a gripping adventure, romance and an insightful look at human nature.

Swedenborg is even mentioned!"

*The Dispossessed* by Ursula K. Le Guin, recommended by Andi Sibley, Reference Librarian. "Le Guin creates worlds filled with amazing diversity that reveals the human heart within. Fully developed characters, drama, heartbreak, joy and discovery are wrapped up in this volume, leaving you looking for the next book."

*The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry*, by Gabrielle Zevin, (Janet Carswell Lockard, Circulation Manager.) A.J. Fikry is a lovely, imperfect person. Believable character development, character growth and plot, with lovely detail, it's a feel-good book. But it's more than that: it's a love letter to the power books have in our lives."

## I ♥ Libraries Week Feb 11—15

We had a wonderful time recently, celebrating our love of libraries with students, faculty, staff, volunteers and community. Along with a "Blind Date with a Book" display and Valentine making station, kinetic sand, board games, aromatherapy, coloring stations, and brain teasers gave everyone a chance to clear their minds,

relax their brains, stimulate their senses, and play games with friends for a few moments out of their busy schedules.

Librarian Kelly Liberona took the lead, with assistance from the rest of us. The snacks were greatly appreciated as well!



## Friends of the Swedenborg Library Annual Meeting

On February 10, 2019 The our annual meeting was honored with a presentation by Bryn Athyn College professor and Building Arts Department head, Dr. Stephen Hartley. Dr. Hartley is enthusiastically dedicated to developing the new Building Arts major at Bryn Athyn College. He

celebrated and promoted the opportunities available for training and education in the Bryn Athyn Historical District and described the many benefits this program will provide students, the institution, and the world.

Priory to Dr. Hartley's talk, Library Director, Carol

Traveny gave her annual report. She thanked FOSL for previous gifts which include the café-style study tables on the main floor . Carol's proposal for this year's gift to the Library was for needed improvements to lighting, and in particular the "Art Speaks Volumes Gallery" area . This was

approved by the membership. These generous gifts enhance our ability to serve the community.

The membership re-elected Margaret Gladish for an additional two-year term as Vice President; Alaine York will serve another term as Secretary.

*BI-Lines* is published 3 times a year and is made available in print and online by The Swedenborg Library.

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*Photos by Andi Sibley unless otherwise indicated,*



Chat with a librarian from our library webpage!



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook!

## *Swedenborg Library Mission Statement*

*Our mission is to provide materials, information, and services to support the academic programs of Bryn Athyn College and to acquire, preserve, and promote New Church collections and archives for use throughout the world.*



### REGULAR HOURS

Monday - Thursday	7:30 am - 10 pm
Friday	7:30 am - 5 pm
Saturday	10 am - 2 pm
Sunday	5 pm - 10 pm

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