Book Acquisitions:

Self-Pronouncing S.S. Teachers' Combination Bible (J.R. Jones, copyright 1895), originally in the possession of the Wilson M. Shirk family; neatly-lettered entries record the marriage of Shirk and Nora Ella Kulp in 1899 and the birth of their daughter Eva in 1902. (Donation—Gwen Lehman)

Presentation softcover RSV Bible (Thomas Nelson & Sons, ca. 1960); the front cover is stamped in gold with the name "Baker Royer." There are no additional markings or inscriptions; the Bible appears to be unread. (Donation—Edwin Z. Martin)

Book published for the 100th anniversary of Ephrata Lodge 665, F. & A.M., 2010. Includes a history of the lodge and a roster, with portraits, of its past Worshipful Masters. (Donation—Norman Wangman)


History of the Bernese Anabaptists According to Documentation Presented by Ernst Muller, Minister in Langau. Translated by John A. Gingerich; edited by Joseph Stoll. LaGrange, In.: Pathway Publishers, 2010. (Donation—Amos B. Hoover)


Photograph Acquisitions:

5" x 7" wedding portrait of Charles and Caroline (Treisch) Lesher of Adamstown with their attendants John Lesher and Elizabeth Christian, 1940. (Donation—Brenda Wangman)

Matted photograph of Adamstown Secondary School students grouped outside the school building with their teacher, September 15, 1897. (Donation—Heather Lyba)

8 x 10" photograph of the Ephrata Veterans of Foreign Wars football team, 1946; those team members who are identified are Bud Garner, Donald Sweigart, Bob Johnson, Bill Worrall, Theo Myers, coach Dick Beck, "Red" Sensenig, Mike Busser, Don Rock, Walter Mull, Paul Sensenig, Harold Reich, Miles Witmeyer, Bob Fasnacht, Bill Kiick, Joe Meck, and Bill Hoover. (Donation—Harold Bingeman)
Digital image, created from the loaned original photograph: Peter W. Weidman's home and cigar box factory, 126 South 9th Street, Akron, ca. 1890-1894. A small group of employees is gathered in the street; Weidman is thought to be among them. (Lent by Melvin Sweigart)

Digital image, created from a real-photo postcard: the Hinkletown Hotel (then called the Black Horse Hotel) under the proprietorship of Barton W. Sheaffer, ca. 1905. (Lent for scanning by Gwen Lehman)

Matted portrait of Henry and Lydia (Fichthorn) Binkley and their daughter Mabel, ca. 1924. Mabel, born in 1910, later married Earl Mohler. (Donation—Barbara Fichthorn)

Matted photograph of Franklin Street School (Ephrata) second grade students with teacher Ruth H. Hackman, 1953. The students are unidentified. (2 copies) (Anonymous Donation)

Matted photograph of Franklin Street School third grade students with teacher Mary W. Hess, 1954. The students are unidentified. (Anonymous Donation)

Matted photograph of Washington Avenue (Ephrata) fourth grade students with teacher Dorothy Schmeck, 1955. The students are unidentified. (Anonymous Donation)

19 color 35mm slides, most taken by the late Paul Craley in the 1960's and early 1970's; a few were purchased. The grouping, donated by Lawrence Craley, includes the following:
Zinn's Diner, developed July, 1962.
Zinn's Memorial Park, developed July, 1978 (3).
The Cloister Country Store, Ephrata, developed April, 1972.
Pfautz's produce near Swartzville, developed February, 1963 (2).
Views of the Ephrata Cloister, as follows: 2 commercially-produced; 3 undated; 7 developed April, 1973.

Digital image, created from an original negative, of a Conestoga Transportation Company trolley traveling east up East Main Street, Ephrata, 1945; the Ephrata National Bank can be seen to the rear. (Lent for scanning by Ken McCrea)

Compact disc containing scanned images of ca. 1940's through 1970's slides and photographs, most of which originally belonged to the donor's parents, Rev. and Mrs. John Albright of Reamstown. A large group of original slides also accompany the disc, but the degree of correlation has not been investigated. There may be some slides which are not on the CD, and there may be images on the CD for which no original slides or negatives are present. (Donation—Gladys Horvath)

Slide categories include the following:
Salem Lutheran Men's Sunday School class family picnics, 1959, 1960, 1961; class meeting, 1958.
Salem Lutheran Church, Reamstown.
Lancaster County Amish farms, etc. ca. early 1960's.
Reamstown water pipe excavations, June, 1958.
Reamstown residents visiting relatives in Catawissa, Pa., 1960's and 1973; Sam and Maureen Leisey family visiting Albrights in Catawissa.
Rev. and Mrs. John Albright's 25th wedding anniversary, Salem Lutheran Church, 1961.
Salem Lutheran Church (Reamstown) picnics, late 1960's and 1970's.
Salem Lutheran Church dedication, May 21, 1967.
Dedication of Showalter-Showers Memorial wing, Salem Lutheran Church, May 15, 1980.
Salem U.C.C. Church (formerly Salem Union), mainly following rededication in 1979, with assorted other views.
Salem Lutheran Sunday school class parties, Luther League, etc., late 1950's and early 1960's.
East Cocalico Twp. Lions Club 20th anniversary celebration, February 10, 1964; assorted other E. Cocalico Lions events.
East Cocalico Alumni Association meetings at the Ephrata American Legion Hall, 1959 and 1960.
WGSA (Ephrata) broadcasting station, 1961.
Stone arch bridge at Green Dragon, 1968.
Cloister Country Store views by Mel Horst.
Ephrata Cloister, 1959.
Flood at Green Dragon, 1961; flood at Rettew's Cabins, Rt. 272, 1960.
Assorted Reamstown scenes, people.
Assorted subjects: worker frying potato chips, Zerbe's, Denver; Zinn's Diner, Howard Johnsons with "Amish" statues; ruins of the Evangelical church at Noodle Doosie; laying sewer pipes along East Main Street, Ephrata, 1964; Bucher's Mill covered bridge, E. Cocalico Twp. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fry at the Voganville Store; etc.

Two 5" x 7" photographs of children at the Camp Furnace Hills Girl Scout Camp, 1948; group photo and swimming pool. (Donation—Gladys Horvath)

Black-and-white snapshots, as follows, all donated by Gladys Horvath:
Amish buggies outside Lesher's Store, Main Street, Reamstown, 1954, 2 slightly different views.
Lesher's Store windows as painted by 9th graders, Halloween, 1954.
Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Grant, Reamstown Sunday School picnic, 1951.
Excavating for gas lines, Main Street, Reamstown, 1955, 3 views.
Boose Aluminum, Reamstown, 1954.
East Cocalico-Denver Band joint concert, Reamstown Memorial Park, 1954, 2 views.
East Cocalico-Denver Band joint concert, Denver, May 1953, 3 views.
Swimming pool, Camp Furnace Hills Girl Scout Camp, August 1, 1948.
Gladys Albright (Horvath), Camp Furnace Hills, 1948.
Holly Hall dining room, Camp Furnace Hills, September, 1948.
Salem Lutheran parsonage, Reamstown, April 5, 1951.
Sanctuary, Salem Lutheran Church, Reamstown, March 17, 1951 (1957?)
Front porch, Jose(?) Withers house, Reamstown, Halloween, 1949.
"Churches of Reamstown Welcome You" sign, Rt. 272, 1954.
Harry Frankfort's grocery store, Adamstown, 1952.
Sign outside the Fred Gross property, Adamstown, June 22, 1947.
Construction of education building, St. Paul's Church, Adamstown, 1950; 5 views, including cornerstone laying.
Rear of St. Paul's Church, Adamstown, 1952.

Digital image, created from the loaned original photograph: McKee's Cigar Factory, Stevens, when the factory was located in what later became H. Frank Lutz's farm implement, hardware, and auto business, ca. 1885. A small group of employees stands outside the building, facing the railroad tracks which adjoined it to the west. (Lent by Robert Dickersheid)

Digital image, created from the loaned original real-photo postcard: Original Stevens Fire Hall building, ca. 1915-1920. (Lent by Robert Dickersheid)

The following photographs were lent for scanning by Brian Frankhouser:

Aerial snapshot of the village of Brownstown, June, 1945; the photo was originally mailed to Katie Hartman of Brownstown.
Real-photo postcard of William Hart of Brownstown standing beside his plane, a Fairchild Model 22, ca. 1931 or early 1932. Hart was killed when the plane crashed on October 1, 1932.

Two real-photo postcards of William Hart's Fairchild Model 22, one showing the plane in flight and another on the ground, with Hart in the cockpit.

Real-photo postcard, snowscene, South State Street, Brownstown, looking north, ca. 1910

Two real-photo postcards, views of Conestoga Valley Park.

Real-photo postcard, Snyder's (Wenger's) mill dam off Turtle Hill Road, ca. 1910.

Real photo postcard of a house identified as "Grandpa Raezer home," 212 East Main Street, Brownstown, ca. 1908.

Photograph of Henry and Emma (Hess) Burkholder, their four daughters, and their son John standing in front of the Burkholder home at 90 East Farmersville Road, ca. 1916.

Artifact Acquisitions:

Sliding, expanding three-foot wooden rule with the printed advertising of Shelly's Garage, Lincoln Avenue, Reinholds, ca. 1941-1947. The garage was operated by Earl H. Sholmartin. (Donation—Lowell Haws)

Cotton drawstring bag distributed by or used at the Bollman Carbonizing Company, Adamstown; printed inscription reads "Bollman Carbonizing Co., Inc. / Depainting - Carbonizing / Wools and Noils / Wool Scouring / Adamstown, Pennsylvania. (Donation—Brenda Wangman)

Case of wooden printing furniture used by Harry F. Stauffer, of Farmersville. (Donation—John Stauffer)

Wooden sign from Harry F. Stauffer's print shop, Farmersville . . . (Donation—John Stauffer)

Digitized and Print Acquisitions:

Listing of 75 deeds in the collection of the Muddy Creek Farm Library, all for lots in Adamstown deeded by Richard and William Adams/Addams to the community's earliest lotholders. The deeds date from 1761 (a substantial portion) through 1801. They were purchased at an Adamstown auction in 1949, in two suitcases, for 25 cents, and re-sold to Amos Hoover around 1959 for $80.00. (Donation—Amos B. Hoover)

Tombstone inscriptions for the Messner Cemetery, 1 1/2 miles southwest of Bowmansville; includes photographs. (Donation—Dorothy Messner)

Photocopy of a 56-p. genealogical compilation entitled "Armstrong Family History," published in or around 1968; traces the descendants of Hugh Armstrong, 1779-1867, of the Mt. Nebo area. (Donation—Dorothy Messner)
Compact disc containing the transcribed diaries of Abraham Lutz (1830-1894) of Adamstown, 1856 through 1894. The disc includes some images of the actual diaries and a complete name index. Abraham Lutz was an illegitimate son of Susan Billingfelt; he was a half-brother of Esaias Billingfelt, a surveyor and a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. (Donation—Jeff Adams)

The following biographical information is taken from the notes of the transcriber and donor, Jeff Lutz, which are also on the disc:
"As a young man, Abraham, originally trained in Philadelphia as a cabinet maker, but followed his brother's footsteps becoming a school teacher and surveyor. He attended Millersville Normal Institute (now Millersville University) for 6 weeks in 1855. He taught school in Brecknock Township in 1852, West Earl Township in 1853 and in Adamstown from 1854 through 1864. In 1862, during the Civil War, he was appointed to take the military draft for Adamstown. Later in 1864 he was appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue and collected taxes in an area from Manheim to Adamstown. He established a printing business that he operated for many years and was involved in the Adamstown Press in 1875. He was a justice of the peace, and notary public. He served as postmaster for Adamstown and was also a deputy US Marshall. He was the local agent for the Northern Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Lancaster County."

Copy of the "Saturday Review," Vol. 1, No. 25, May 10, 1879. (Purchase)

Typed transcription of an entry in an early (1906-) minute book of the Lincoln Cemetery Association; contains historical information regarding the establishment and the enlargement of the cemetery in the 1850's and 1860's and finally in 1887 & 1888. (Donation—Fred Buch)

Christmas carol booklet distributed by Lester R. Summers, Inc., Ephrata, ca. late 1950's. (Donation—Mary Bender)

Christmas carol booklets distributed by Eitnier & Hoffman, West Main Street, Ephrata, ca. 1950's. (Donation—Mary Bender)

The following print items were donated by Rosalind Buhman:


Ephrata High School Alumni Association annual meeting program, 1938.

Assorted programs and postings for performances and events held at Adamstown, as follows: carnival, July 12, 1947, featuring Louis Armstrong; carnival, June 25, 1949, featuring Ray Anthony; dramatic comedy "A Midnight Fantasy" ("Old Maid's Club"), undated; dramatic performance "College Inn," Adamstown Fire Hall, March 20 & 21, 1936; fashion show sponsored by The Joy Shoppe, Reading, Adamstown Fire Hall, no year given; moving picture :Behind the Front," Adamstown Fire Hall, March 15, 1927; Silver Bros. Great Southern Shows poster, year not given.

Program for the 90th annual Muddy Creek Church Sunday School picnic, Harting's Grove, Swartzville, August 5, 1950.