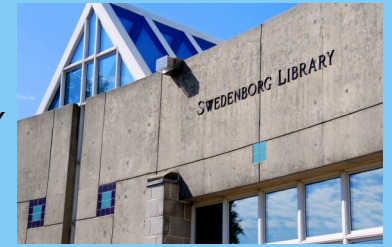


BI-Lines

Notes and News from the SWEDENBORG LIBRARY



SPECIAL SCHEDULES

SRING Term begins March 8

REGULAR HOURS:

Mon - Thu 8am - 9pm
Fri 8am - 5pm
Sat CLOSED
Sun 5pm - 9pm

SPRING BREAK

Feb 25 - Mar 7

By Appointment Only
CLOSED weekends

EASTER WEEKEND

CLOSED

Fri Apr 7 - Mon, Apr 10

EXAM WEEK

May 18 -23

Tue - Thu 8am - 9pm
Fri 8am - 5pm
Sat - Sun CLOSED

MEMORIAL DAY

May 29 CLOSED

SUMMER HOURS

Begin Tue May 30

By Appointment Only
CLOSED weekends

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

Retrospective: 15 Years of BI-Lines

We recently enjoyed a walk down memory lane by browsing the *BI-Lines* newsletters archived and linked on the library website at <https://brynathyn.edu/swedenborg-library/bi-lines-newsletter.html>.

2009 - New Church Digital Collections and Swedenborgiana becomes available online through our library website by grants from the Phoebe W. Haas Charitable Trust and the William Penn Foundation. 2010 - Carol T. and Carroll O. visit the Swedenborg Library branch in Stockholm, Sweden. Carroll also attends a symposium on Swedenborg at the Center for the History of Science at the Royal Academy of

Science in Stockholm.

2013 - We received the donation of a 1900 Swedenborg portrait by Sergius Hruby (1869-1943), mixed media on paper. 2014 - The Lower-Level Archives room expands with a vault containing movable compact shelving, temperature and humidity regulation, and a fire suppression system. It was funded by a grant from the Glencairn Foundation. 2016 - Carroll Odhner retires as Library Director, becoming Director of Swedenborgiana. A special edition of *BI-Lines* celebrates her career. Carol Traveny becomes Library Director. We hold our First Annual Mini-Golf "Welcome to the Library" event.

2018 - 30th anniversary of Queen Sylvia of Sweden's visit to the dedication of our library building in April of 1988. We had a party and viewed video of the visit. The glass-walled seminar rooms are installed on the upper level.

2020 - The campus reopens in August and 'life after COVID' slowly returns to the library.

This will be the last issue of *BI-Lines* in print. Going forward, we will be exploring new ways to share our library news, innovations, activities, and celebrations in other media formats, including the college website. We would love your input and ideas about how best to engage and serve our community. Thank you for sharing our library life over the years!

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2008 Swedenborg Library Staff

Back row from left: Rev. Erik Sandstrom, Michael Hogan, Martha McDonough, Greg Jackson, David Perry, Marvin Clymer.

Front row from left: Carol Traveny, Carroll Odhner, Rosanne Bostock, Elaine Kim. Missing from the picture are Rev. Sung-Won Paek and Audrey Smith.



Queen Silvia with Carroll in the Swedenborgiana vault. Photo courtesy of Svenska Dagbladet (Stockholm, Sweden.) April 13, 1988.

Swedenborgiana Updates

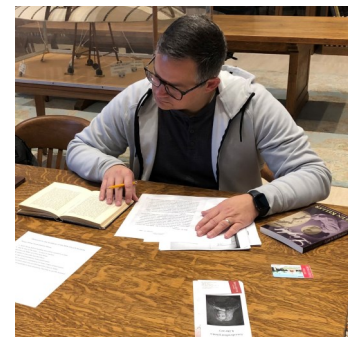
On January 4th we had a visit from Brad McKinnon, a PhD candidate in history at the University of Aberdeen. We were able to pull resources for his research on Helen Keller including original letters she wrote, among them one to her pastor, Rev. Clayton Priestnal, in which she says, "There is no inspiration more precious than what comes to me from the New Church." We also provided him with a copy of Rev. Dr. Ray Silverman's revision of her book, called *Light in My Darkness*. Brad expressed his appreciation for the valuable assistance he received in his research toward his dissertation. He hopes to complete it by mid-2024 and it is titled, "The Epiphanies of Helen Keller: Swedenborgianism, Socialism, and the Representations of Disability in Twentieth Century

America." Brad currently teaches history and directs the field education program at Heritage Christian University in Florence, Alabama. He also serves as adjunct instructor of history at the University of North Alabama. In addition, he is a contributing author for *Reconciliation Reconsidered: Advancing the National Conversation on Race in Churches of Christ* published by Abilene Christian University Press in 2016 and the Digital Encyclopedia of George Washington.

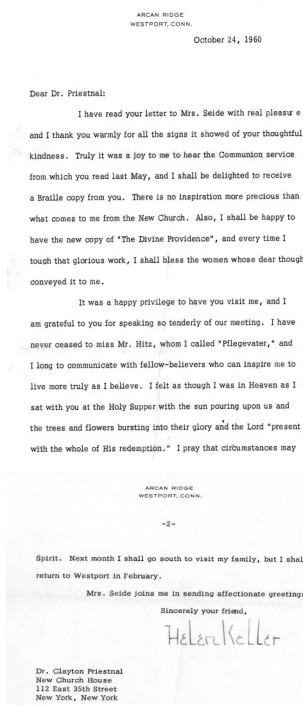
The Swedenborgiana and New Church Collections are invaluable for knowing the history of the New Church, its doctrines and influence, and for illustrating Swedenborg's life and times. Please consider contributing towards the Endowment for Swedenborgiana to be able to

conserve, maintain, and develop these unique collections and provide research support for scholars.

- Carroll C. Odhner
Director of Swedenborgiana
and New Church Research



Photos by Marvin Clymer



Changes to Our Used Book Sale & Donations

The staff and volunteers are currently moving our collection of second-hand New Church books back into the Friends Room to give better access to anyone interested in browsing and acquiring these books. Suggested donation is \$1 for

hardbacks, \$0.50 for paperbacks, but pay what you will. Students, faculty, staff, and community members who are looking for particular volumes are welcome to ask at the front desk for assistance. Times when the room is open for

browsing will be posted on the calendar on the bulletin board next to the Friends Room door and at the front desk.

We appreciate all the work the Friends have done over the years for our used book sale! Sadly, we no longer

have the staff or volunteers needed to manage a large inventory. We can no longer accept donations of 'coffee table' books. Gently used books, only, please!

We continue to welcome donations of New Church books in good condition.

Warm Up America! Project

We had so much fun pulling out our needles and hooks to get back into working on our yarn arts in the “All Hours Café” twice a week during winter term. It’s been a group effort as students, faculty, staff, and community members work together on a “Warm Up America!” project. We’ve been making 7”x 9” knitted or crocheted blocks to be joined into an afghan which will be given to a local Bryn Athyn family.

Instructions, along with donated yarn, hooks, and needles were made available in the library Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. For about an hour, beginners as well as experienced knitters and crocheters got busy creating blocks, edging them, or joining them together. Our finished afghan is a beautiful tapestry of warm wishes and comforting thoughts. We hope to continue next winter.



Librarian Gwynne Bevan

Sadly, we lost our cherished friend and colleague Gwynne Bevan, who passed into the spiritual world on February 12, 2023. Gwynne was a valuable member of our close-knit staff. She started part-time at Swedenborg Library in 2013 and earned her master's in library science degree (MSLS) in 2022. Gwynne was dedicated to the preservation of New Church history, particularly in the collection of society newsletters and journals. She especially loved her work of providing research resources via interlibrary loan, and was a gifted cataloger. Gwynne relished hosting the Long Night Against Procrastination study events in collaboration with the

Academic Success Center, and participating in our annual mini-golf orientation evening. Gwynne’s quick wit, sense of fun and purpose, and strong desire to see our students succeed will all be sorely missed. She will always be a part of the Library. Gifts in her honor can be sent to the college website <https://brynathyn.edu/give/index.html>. Choose “Swedenborg Library Fund” in the drop down list.



Photos by Andi Sibley

Third Annual “Color Our Collections” Contribution

In February we participated in our third annual “Color Our Collections” online event. Museums, libraries, and archives around the world share pages suitable for coloring from their

collections. The New York Academy of Medicine started this project in 2018. This year, the Swedenborg Library is offering illustrations from *Papilio* by Chauncy Giles, 1880, and *Animals and Their*

Correspondences by W. H. Benade, 1851. Everyone is welcome to pick up coloring booklets and colored pencils in the library. Visit <http://library.nyam.org/colorourcollections/> to see and print out three years of our contributions.

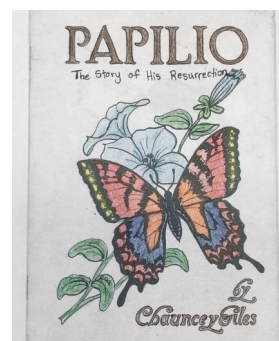


Photo by Andi Sibley

BI-Lines has been published 3 times a year and was made available in print and online by The Swedenborg Library.

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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 | 8 am - 9 pm |
| Friday | 8 am - 5 pm |
| Sunday | 5 pm - 9 pm |

Swedenborg Library
Bryn Athyn College
2925 College Drive
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Bryn Athyn, PA 19009