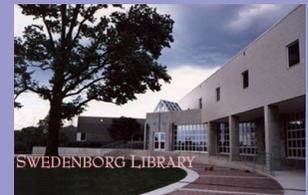


# BI-Lines

Notes and News from the SWEDENBORG LIBRARY



Bryn Athyn College / Academy of the New Church

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

### CHRISTMAS BREAK

Fri, Dec 21 7:30am to 5pm  
 Sat, Dec 22—Sun, Jan 6 CLOSED  
 Mon, Jan 7 REGULAR HOURS  
 Mon, Jan 21 MLK Observance  
 CLOSED

### EXAM WEEK

Fri, Feb 15 7:30am to 5pm  
 AND 7pm to 11pm  
 Sat, Feb 16 9am to 5 pm  
 Sun, Feb 17 2 pm to 6 pm  
 AND 7pm to 11pm  
 Mon, Feb 18—Wed, Feb 20  
 7:30am to 6pm  
 AND 7pm to 11pm  
 Thu, Feb 21 7:30am to 6pm  
 AND 7pm to 11pm  
 Fri, Feb 22 7:30am to 5 pm

### SPRING BREAK

Sat, Feb 23—Sun, Feb 24  
 CLOSED  
 Mon, Feb 25—Fri, Mar 21  
 9am to 1pm  
 Sat, Mar 2—Sun, Mar 3  
 CLOSED  
 Mon, Mar 4 REGULAR HOURS

## Staff picks: seasonal treats for reading and listening

There is nothing like a good book for wintertime relaxing, and there's nothing like beautiful music to enjoy while making holiday preparations. Here are a few suggestions from our staff presented for your pleasure during this festive season. All of these books and CDs are available in the library.

Fans of Garrison Keillor will recognize his wacky imagination and some familiar themes in a distinctly offbeat but ultimately tender story of a very rich man's circuitous road to redemption in *A Christmas Blizzard*.

**(Fic Keill)**

If you enjoy music from the Baroque period, J.S. Bach's Christmas Oratorio is required listening. Written as a series of cantatas meant to be performed during the Christmas season, the soaring voices and complex melodies are truly joyous. Of several versions in our collection, we recommend the 1987 Arkiv recording with John Eliot Gardiner, conductor.

**(Compact Disc #907)**

For beautiful renditions of beloved Christmas carols, try *Songs of Angels* by the Robert Shaw Chamber Singers. The unaccompanied voices capture Christmas perfectly.

**(Compact Disc #457)**



"One Christmas was so much like another, in those years around the sea-town corner now and out of all sound except the distant speaking of the voices I sometimes hear a moment before sleep, that I can never remember whether it snowed for six days and six nights when I was twelve or whether it snowed for twelve days and twelve nights when I was six." (*continued, p. 2*)

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### A holiday reminder...

*"One can never have enough socks," said Dumbledore. "Another Christmas has come and gone and I didn't get a single pair. People will insist on giving me books."*

— J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

*(Books DO make great presents! Support the library by shopping at our FOSL used book sale!)*



## Staff picks: seasonal treats for reading and listening (*continued*)



Giotto di Bondone, dated 1304-1306  
Adoration of the Magi  
Fresco. The Arena Chapel, Padua, Italy

Thus begins Dylan Thomas' lyrical account *A Child's Christmas in Wales*. This classic can be found in the collection *Quite Early One Morning*.

**(PR6039.H52 A6 1994)**

If you want a 'quick read' and enjoy cozy mysteries with a baked-goods theme, you'll like *Christmas Cookie Killer: a Fresh-Baked Mystery*, by Livia J. Washburn. A Christmas cookie contest turns murderous, and retired schoolteacher Phyllis Newsom investigates. Recipes included!

**(Fic Washb 2012 MYSTERY)**

For more contemplative times, theologian and pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer's transcendent *The Mystery of Holy Night* is a collection of his meditations on Christmas. This slim volume includes beautiful reproductions of famous

works by Fra Angelico, Lorenzo di Credi, Giotto, and others.

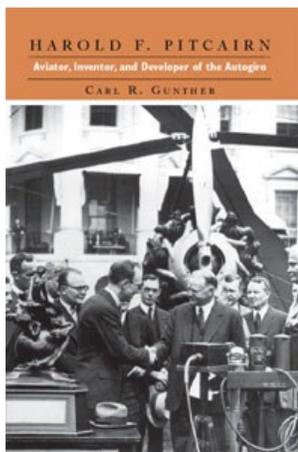
**(BV40 .B66 1996)**

Finally, the rich voices of the all-male choir Chanticleer are the very essence of winter and the Christmas season. Their 1990 recording *Our Heart's Joy: a Chanticleer Christmas* encompasses works that range from Renaissance motets to African-American spirituals and traditional carols. The much-loved *Ave Maria* by Franz Biebl, one of the group's most requested songs, is included on this recording.

**(Compact Disc # 914)**

We hope you have the opportunity to explore these and other offerings here in the library— revisit old favorites, or discover a few gems that start new holiday traditions. Merry Christmas!

*The Staff and Volunteers of the Swedenborg Library wish you a peaceful Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.*



## Friends of the Swedenborg Library Annual Meeting

The next annual meeting of FOSL will be held at 4 pm on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 in the Friends Room of the library.

After the conclusion of regular business, local author Carl R. Gunther will talk about his lifelong interest in aviation and his 2009 book *Harold F.*

*Pitcairn: Aviator, Inventor, and Developer of the Autogiro.*

**(TL540 .P54 G5 2009)**

Gunther is considered to be "one of the foremost experts on early American aviation on the East Coast."

As part of its mission, the Friends of the Swedenborg

Library hopes to encourage the use of the library by the local community by presenting exhibits, speakers and programs for all to enjoy.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

## Talking about global librarianship

You may not know that the Swedenborg Library actually has a branch in Stockholm, Sweden! On November 9, Carroll Odhner and Carol Traveny had an opportunity to talk about the Stockholm library in a presentation given at the Association of College and Research Libraries, Delaware Valley Chapter fall program held at Penn State, Great Valley in Malvern, PA. Called *Globetrotting Librarians:*

*Exploring International Librarianship*, the program featured presenters that ranged from as far away as Saudi Arabia's Zayed University (via Skype), to an ocean going librarian who sailed around the world on a "Semester at Sea" voyage.

Our presentation: *Reinforcing roots: establishing a branch library in Stockholm* discussed the history of our library, its connection to Sweden, and

how the idea of creating a reference library of New Church collateral works and Swedenborg's Writings in Stockholm developed and is being brought into existence through a collaboration between volunteers Eva Björkström and Gustav Fornander of the Stockholm Society of the New Church and Swedenborg Library staff. Attended by both academic and public librarians, the



ACRL program was an exciting chance for us to make our work known to a wider audience of our peers.

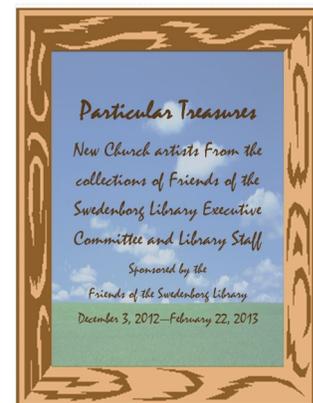
## Current exhibit features New Church artists

The new art exhibit sponsored by The Friends of the Swedenborg Library has an interesting twist: *Particular Treasures* brings together works by New Church artists that are owned by members of the FOSL Executive Committee and the Swedenborg Library staff.

The pieces represent a wide range of media, styles and subjects, and also give some insight into the aesthetic preferences of the collectors.

Some of the featured artists include Frank S. Rose, Phillippe Smit, Sanfrid Odhner, and Asbjørn Boyesen.

The exhibit is on view now and for the remainder of the Winter term.



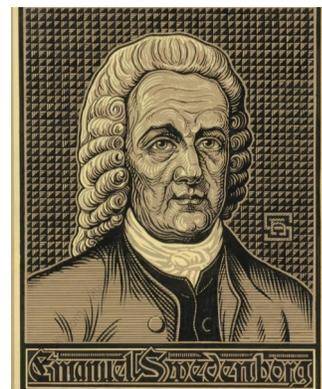
## A new image of Swedenborg

The library recently obtained a portrait of Emanuel Swedenborg from an art auction house in Canada. The portrait was made in 1900 by Austrian painter Sergius Hruby (1869-1943). It is mixed media on paper, 17 inches by 12 inches, and is a classic example of the Wiener

Werstätte (Vienna Workshop) —an association of visual artists and craftspeople committed to making art accessible to all by creating images and everyday household objects that were both affordable and beautiful. Pieces produced by the Werstätte are characterized by

their simple shapes, clean lines and geometric patterning.

This portrait of Swedenborg was unknown to Swedenborgian scholars and is an exciting find for the library's collection of Swedenborg images.



- Carroll Odhner

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

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### ***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.*