

Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center and Mennonite Heritage Center announce joint classes:

Introduction to Reading Old German Script

You are invited to participate in an unusual opportunity – learn how to read Old German Script in introductory classes offered in September and October 2008. The classes, sponsored jointly by the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center and the Mennonite Heritage Center, will be taught by Dr. Allen Viehmeyer, Associate Director of Research at the Schwenkfelder Library. Dr. Viehmeyer is Professor Emeritus of Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio and served as Department Chair of Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University from 1984-2004. He is currently working with the Schwenkfelder Library manuscript collection along with conducting research, presenting lectures, teaching and writing.

The course descriptions, fees and schedules are below. The same class held on Thursday evening at the Mennonite Heritage Center will be held on Saturday at the Schwenkfelder Library. You may register with either site – please register with Mennonite Heritage Center if you plan to attend on Thursday evening here at the Mennonite Heritage Center and register with Schwenkfelder Library if you wish to attend the Saturday sessions at their location. Registration is limited for each site and pre-registration is required. To register for the Mennonite Heritage Center classes, fill out the form below. For the Schwenkfelder Library classes you can download the registration form from www.schwenkfelder.com.

Introduction to Old German Print

Do you have old German books, newspapers, and documents printed before 1940 that you would like to read, but struggle with those old Gothic letters? Do you work with old tombstones, printed baptism certificates, and other genealogical materials? Develop a working knowledge of old German type faces to read those letters. You will also learn how German spelling rules have changed over the last two hundred years so that you can look up words in a modern dictionary or on-line. A basic knowledge of German is not necessary, but helpful; materials will NOT be translated. Genealogists, historians, etc. will find this to be a valuable skill. All materials will be provided.

Mennonite Heritage Center: Thursday, September 11, 7 to 9 pm and Thursday, September 18, 7 to 9 pm
Schwenkfelder Library: Saturday, September 13 from 10 am to 3 pm (12 to 1 pm lunch, bring own or eat out)
Class Fee - \$40 for four hours of instruction

(more on back)

Reading Old German Script Registration Form for Classes held at Mennonite Heritage Center, Harleysville, Pa.

September 11 & 18, 7 to 9 pm \$ _____
\$40 for both evenings
Introduction to Old German Print

October 9 & 16, 7 to 9 pm \$ _____
\$40 for both evenings
Introduction to Old German Handwriting

September 25, 7 to 9 pm - \$30 \$ _____
Practice in Reading Old German Print
Prerequisite: *Intro to Old German Print* or equivalent

October 23, 7 to 9 pm - \$30 \$ _____
Practice in Reading Old German Handwriting
Prerequisite: *Intro to Old German Handwriting* or equivalent

October 2, 7 to 9 pm - \$30 \$ _____
Reading Your Old German Print Documents
Prerequisite: *Practice in Reading Old German Print* or equivalent

October 30, 7 to 9 pm - \$30 \$ _____
Reading Your Old German Handwritten Documents
Prerequisite: *Practice in Reading Old German Handwriting* or equivalent

Total: \$ _____

Name(s) _____
Address _____
e-mail _____ Phone (____) _____

Send reservation with check, payable to MHEP, to the Mennonite Heritage Center, PO Box 82, Harleysville, PA 19438-0082. Telephone 215-256-3020; e-mail info@mhep.org. The fee is not refundable, but it is transferable.

Practice in Reading Old German Print

Continue perfecting your skills at reading old German print or refresh the skills you already have. Materials will be provided. A basic knowledge of German is not necessary, but helpful; materials will NOT be translated.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Old German Print or equivalent.

Mennonite Heritage Center: Thursday, September 25, 7 to 9 pm

Schwenkfelder Library: Saturday, September 20, 10 am to 12 noon

Class Fee - \$30 for two hours of instruction

Reading Your Old German Print Documents

Bring your own old German print books, newspapers, etc to read (NOT translate) with assistance from Dr. Viehmeyer. A basic knowledge of German is not necessary, but helpful; materials will NOT be translated.

Prerequisite: Practice in Reading Old German Print or equivalent.

Mennonite Heritage Center: Thursday, October 2, 7 to 9 pm

Schwenkfelder Library: Saturday, September 20, 1 to 3 pm (same day as Practice in Reading Old German Print)

Class Fee - \$30 for two hours of instruction

Introduction to Old German Handwriting

This workshop will introduce you to reading the various old fashioned styles of handwriting used by Germans since 1700. Besides learning to read the written letters, you will learn to imitate the handwriting. This course will be of value to anyone working with Fraktur, genealogical records, wills, bookplates, baptism certificates, etc., You will also learn how German spelling rules have changed since 1700 so that you can look up words in a modern dictionary or on-line. A basic knowledge of German is not necessary, but helpful; materials will NOT be translated. All materials are provided.

Mennonite Heritage Center: Thursday, October 9, 7 to 9 pm and Thursday, October 16 from 7 to 9 pm

Schwenkfelder Library: Saturday, October 11, 10 am to 3 pm (12 to 1 pm lunch, bring own or eat out)

Class Fee - \$40 for four hours of instruction

Practice in Reading Old German Handwriting

Continue perfecting your skills at reading old German handwriting or refresh the skills you already have. A basic knowledge of German is not necessary, but helpful; materials will NOT be translated. All materials provided.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Old German Handwriting or equivalent.

Mennonite Heritage Center: Thursday, October 23, 7 to 9 pm

Schwenkfelder Library: Saturday, October 18, 10 am to 12 noon

Class Fee - \$30 for two hours of instruction

Reading Your Old German Handwritten Documents

Bring your own old handwritten German letter, wills, birth certificates, bookplates etc. to read (NOT translate) with assistance from Dr. Viehmeyer. A basic knowledge of German is not necessary, but helpful; materials will NOT be translated.

Prerequisite: Practice in Reading Old German Handwriting or equivalent.

Mennonite Heritage Center: Thursday, October 30, 7 to 9 pm

Schwenkfelder Library: Saturday, October 18, 1 to 3 pm (same day as Practice in Reading Old German Handwriting)

Class Fee - \$30 for two hours of instruction