

MHC Quarterly

Mennonite Heritage Center

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"Columbian Rock Rooster; Pa. Farm Show" photograph by Nick Bowen. Mr. Bowen's photography will be on display in the *Guests on the Land* exhibit, May 3 - November 2, 2016.
Photo Credit: Nick Bowen.

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Hope to see you soon

Greetings from the Mennonite Heritage Center. The increasing daylight and warmer temperatures of March are welcome after the cold and snow of January and February. I feel like getting out and doing things instead of hibernating indoors. Mennonite Heritage Center staff and volunteers have been planning diverse and interesting activities for the upcoming months and I hope you will join us often.

Throughout this issue, you will find information on the events, but I would like to highlight the **April 22nd Heritage Fundraiser Dinner at Deep Run Mennonite Church East**.

This annual event is a good time to enjoy a delicious meal, connect with other MHC members and hear an interesting program. I am looking forward to meeting this year's speaker, Mark Loudon. Dr. Loudon received his undergraduate and graduate training in Germanic linguistics at Cornell University. He is a professor of German at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and co-director of the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies at the university. He is also an affiliate faculty member in the UW Religious Studies Program and the Mosse-Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies. In addition to his academic research on Pennsylvania Dutch, he is active in a number of public outreach activities related to the language, faith, and culture of its speakers, the Old Order Amish and Old Order Mennonites. He also serves as an interpreter and cultural mediator for Pennsylvania Dutch speakers in the legal and health care systems. Married, with one daughter, he is a member of Milwaukee Mennonite Church. **Visit www.mhep.org or call 215-256-3020 to purchase your tickets for the event. The cost is \$50 per person.**



Weaving a bread basket during a recent workshop. Check our Calendar of Events on pg. 9 for more great workshops.

Photo credit: Karen Wychock



The start of play at the 2015 Nonprofit Invitational.

Sign up your team for 2016!

Photo credit: Jack Dyson

And, of course, if spring is in the air, croquet is on our minds. If you haven't played in the **Whack & Roll Croquet Tournament**, either in the Friday Senior Event or the Saturday Nonprofit Invitational, check out the information on page 10 and sign up to participate. And if you decide you don't want to venture onto the croquet courts, do join in the Saturday Lunch Bash on Saturday, June 4 and then watch the final rounds of competition.

While we are working on events, we are not ignoring our traditional museum activities. The MHC is featuring the work of professional photographer, Nick Bowen, in two of 5h3 exhibit areas beginning in May and continuing until early November. The exhibit, titled *Guests on the Land*, reflects his interest in interpreting the natural world and human impact and participation in it. Please stop by and view his beautiful photography while it is on display.

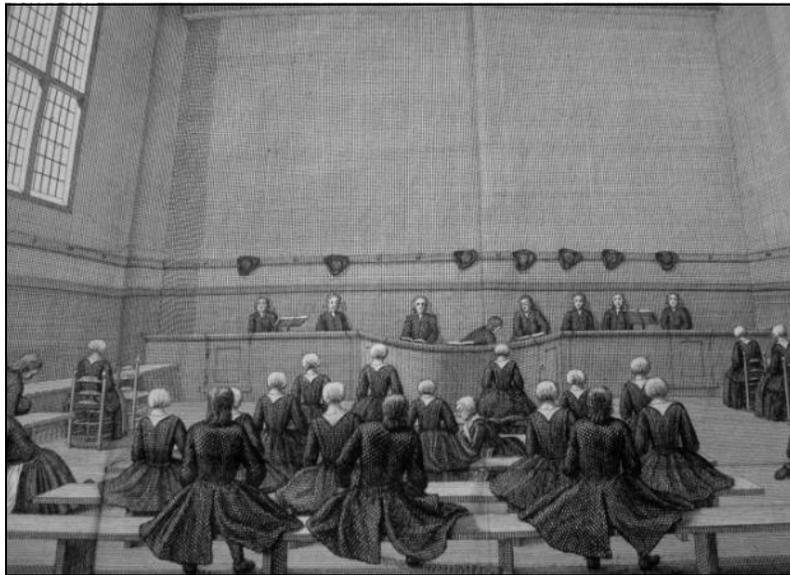
Our feature article grew out of the Writing Your Memoirs" class last fall. Four of the participants chose to write about their experiences with foot washing without knowing their fellow writers had also chosen the topic. I appreciate their willingness to share their stories in this issue.

Sarah Heffner
Director

Footwashing Memories

Editor's note: The following memories written by Beverly Benner Miller, Dawn Ruth Nelson, Marcia Parker, and Barbara Esch Shisler reflect the intensely personal and spiritual observation of foot washing. The practice, based on the example of Jesus washing the disciples' feet at the last supper (John 13:1-17), has been observed from early Christianity at varying times and with differing interpretations. Among Anabaptists-Mennonites, foot washing has also been practiced but not universally. Several early Anabaptist writings mention footwashing, notably Dirk Philips (1504-68) and Menno Simons (1496-1561) who discusses the practice in his writings as a hospitable practice but not as a church sacrament. ¹

The same variability occurred among early southeastern Pennsylvania Mennonites, with leaders advocating footwashing while others opposed the practice. Church of the Brethren congregations observed footwashing as a standard observance during their Love Feast and continue today. Amish congregations have always included footwashing as part of communion. Today, some Franconia and Eastern District Conference congregations practice footwashing while others do not. The most common observance is to practice footwashing immediately following the communion service that was held twice a year. As the following stories indicate, men and women separate, and gather in pairs to wash each others feet with a basin of water and towels.



Footwashing observance in a Mennonite church, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1661.

Image Credit: John Ruth

My First Footwashing Experience

By Marcia Parker

At age 35 in Elkhart, Indiana, I was a newly-rebaptized Mennonite in 1975. A former East Coast life-long Episcopalian, I had never heard of congregational members washing each others' feet in a Communion service!

I was invited to "wash feet", not by my loving friend and mentor at Prairie Street Church, but by a woman I didn't know! (I have always thought my friend had intentionally slipped away from me so I would not think that we could be selective in this sacred activity. Service was for anyone a Christian met who had needs.)

As we sat facing each other in the hushed screened-off section of the Fellowship Hall, this woman gently took the white plush towel from the back of the folding chair. She knelt and received one imperfect foot into her cupped hand under the warm water. She slowly splashed the comforting water from the stainless steel basin over my foot, looking up into my eyes meaningfully. Then she patted dry the spaces between my toes, the tops and bottom of my feet, and my ankle. She repeated this with my other foot. Then I repeated this with her feet, realizing the bond that existed between us in this interaction and, no doubt, afterward, in our life together as sisters in this church.

After we put on our hosiery and shoes, we hugged, and using soft voices, prayed for each other--prayers of petition and praise. Jesus' love for his disciples was never so real to me! The joy and mutual humility of this ordinance filled my soul and left a permanent impression in my mind and heart.

Footwashing as a Child

By Beverly Benner Miller

When I see a water-filled basin and an accompanying white towel, I can recall a time when I was very young and walked away from my mother at our Mennonite church in Souderton. I must have sat quietly by her side as she took her shoes off, dipped her feet in the tepid water and her partner gently splashed water over them. It was a symbolic gesture, steeped in tradition with very little dirt and very little actual washing. It was a symbol of service to others that I learned at an early age.

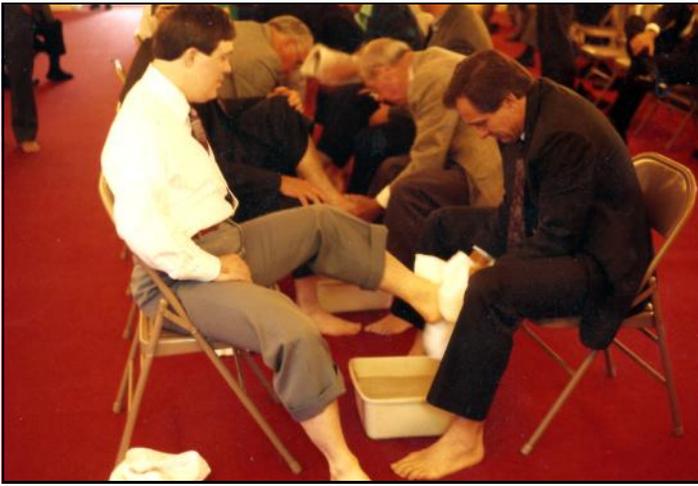
But after watching and most likely being included in the final hug and kiss of the two women, I walked out of the sanctuary, looking for my father. He was in the library washing feet with the men folk. But the ante room was crowded and I couldn't find him. Then suddenly I saw the pastor and my father kiss on the lips. My dad looked uneasy but our pastor seemed exuberant with spiritual fervor. I couldn't take my eyes off of them, yet I felt so repelled by this kiss. Who is this strange person that looks like my dad? And as my dad laughed, red-faced and slightly askew, I called to him. He didn't hear me and I twisted and turned through the huge immovable bodies around me, "Daddy, Daddy!" I finally found him and soon we, along with my mother and brother, left the big white church where we gathered every week.

Romans 16:16 says, "Greet one another with a holy kiss," but the only time I remember it done in my church was during communion, two times a year. I appreciate how the Mennonites carried on this tradition late into the 20th century that even I can remember it. Today, the holy kiss seems to have died out and even feet washing is less common. But I still hold tight to the memories of Mom instructing me how to wash feet. "Just sprinkle the water on her feet and then gently dry her feet with the towel." The smell of Clorox-tinged water makes all the memories come flooding back. Where else than at my mother's feet could I learn how to truly serve others?



November 1, 1970 Sunday morning communion service, King of Prussia Mennonite Fellowship, which met at the home of John and Roma Ruth from 1962-1971. Overseer Elmer Kolb is washing the feet of member Homer Kolb.

Photo Credit: John Ruth



Foot washing at Salford Mennonite Church, ca 1993. Allen Gehman and Vernon Martin.
Photo Credit: John Ruth

A Nine-Year-Old Washes Feet

By Barbara Esch Shisler

I thought it was a strange, even funny thing to do in church...take off your shoes and stockings and wash someone's feet. But I was nine and newly baptized in my Conservative Amish Mennonite Church in Michigan farm country. Getting "saved" as children by a traveling evangelist was routine and I had fallen in line. I put on my new covering and cape dress and was ready for whatever came next.

I had watched my mother and other women perform this ritual so I knew how to do it. The men were out of sight at the front of the building and I was glad I did not need to look at their feet. But first I would have to find a partner. I hoped for someone my age, surely not my mother who, nearly forty, was too old, or worse, one of the grandmothers from the Amen corner.

A girl I knew gave me a look that said, "Can we do it together?" She was new to it too; I didn't really like her, but beggars can't be choosers, and the friend I wanted was already chosen. So I nodded.

Marian and I got in line for the ante room where the tubs were set up in front of chairs with snow white towels folded neatly on them. I tried to think ahead for how best to undo my stockings from my garter belt without showing too much leg, deciding if I sort of hunched over my dress in front would cover enough. By that time it was our turn.

Shoes and stockings off. Sit down on the chairs. Look at each other to decide who goes first. I go first and, kneeling, slosh some water on her feet and dry with the towel trying to keep the towel from hanging in the water. I had worried about the kiss. I was a touch-me-not child, not one to cuddle even with my mother. The only kissing I wanted to do was with my dog. But the women all kissed each other when they finished washing feet so I knew I had to. I leaned in to Marian for a dry peck on the cheek when she landed a big wet smooch right on my mouth. Yuck! I almost shuddered. But it was over. Feet washed. Kiss done. Shoes and stockings back on. And back to the bench with my mother who gave me a sweet smile.

Now, in my old age, when my progressive congregation offers handwashing as an alternate to the traditional sign of servanthood, I choose feet. I enjoy feeling my sister's foot in my hand, whichever sister happens to be near. I notice the warm water in the old metal tub, the worn white towel. I'm ready for a close hug and words of blessing whispered to each other. I care about her, I really do, and want to show her that I am willing to serve in more practical ways than the symbolic washing of her already spotless feet. I want to take this symbol of servanthood that Jesus taught seriously enough to be willing to lay aside my self-centered preferences in the call to follow Jesus and be part of a community of faith that makes that call compelling.

A child's experience may appear foolish and shallow, but it can be the beginning of a journey into becoming a part of what the church can be and do for a lifetime.

Conshohocken Mission Church 1950s

by Dawn Ruth Nelson

On the wall there was a picture of Jesus knocking, at the little mission church in Conshohocken where my father was pastor. It had a white-robed figure with smooth brown hair, a closed door and muted browns, greens and yellows. The figure seemed kind and I knew it symbolized Jesus at the door of your heart.

On another wall was a rectangular wooden board with slots for numbers. Numbers of the hymns we would sing from the hymnbooks that settled afterward into their racks on the back of the bench in front of us with a satisfying 'thunk.' Numbers for attendance last week. Numbers for the offering last week.

The preacher spoke from a wooden lectern with a sloping top for his Bible. Underneath was a shelf that held new pencils. On our birthdays we were presented with a pencil and then the whole congregation would sing a religious "Happy Birthday" song in lovely 4-part harmony. "A happy, happy birthday, all beautiful with love. And bright with many a blessing, from God our Friend above."

In this little storefront church I grew up watching people wash each others' feet, once or twice a year. The men were downstairs and the black-clad women went upstairs. I was allowed to watch but not participate since it was only for baptized members. Upstairs the women started unhooking dark stockings from hidden garter belts under their modest dresses and actually rolled down the stockings and took them off, revealing pale flesh. Naked legs and feet. It was shocking and mysteriously out-of-kilter for grown women to partially undress at church! But they didn't laugh. It was a serious business.

I only ever watched this process since I didn't get baptized and join a church till I was 20. I never actually participated. I was at college by then and feet-washing was always in the spring and fall when I was away.

So as it turned out, the first time I actually took part in feet-washing myself was in a Catholic setting in Ireland. Dennis, Sheila and Matthew Linn were speaking at a huge conference at an arena in Dublin. I was living there with my husband and some others as a peace worker and missionary. I was pregnant - I think it was my second time - and far from home. I was in the middle of some intense personal growth and as part of that, I'd been reading and appreciating the Linns' books on healing of memories. Their talks were a blessing and afterward we were encouraged to wash feet with our neighbors in the seats. I did it and remembered thinking how ironic it was that a Mennonite should first wash feet in a Catholic setting. I was also touched when someone reached out and laid their hand on me and gave a verbal blessing to my baby still inside, since I was visibly pregnant. That probably would never have happened in a Mennonite church! I will never forget this first feet-washing in which I actually participated - as a stranger living in another country, coming from a non-Catholic religious tradition, but getting my feet washed for the first time and being fully welcomed and even blessed.



May 12, 2013 Feet washing preparation at Salford Mennonite Church.

Photo Credit: John Ruth

End Notes

1. Bender, Harold S. and William Klassen. "Feetwashing." *Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online*. 1989. Web. 5 Mar 2016. <http://gameo.org/index>.

Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 9, 9 am to 3 pm. Italic Calligraphy Workshop led by Lori Yatron



Artist Lori Yatron of Living Word Calligraphy will teach this calligraphy workshop with a focus on learning two variations of the Italic hand. Students will work on two variations on the classic Italic style: Chancery Cursive, which is a simplified “handwriting style” of Italic; and Pointed Italic, which is a combination of the Gothic and Italic hands. Since we’ll be working on two complete hands (upper and lower case), we’ll be moving at a faster pace; so it’s not imperative to know the Classic Italic hand, but students should have some experience with calligraphy. We will also be looking at some historical and modern examples of these hands, as time allows.

Preregistration is necessary as the workshop size is limited. The workshop fee is \$55 (\$50 member) plus a materials fee of \$19 which will cover the following supplies needed for the workshop: C-2 nib, pen holder, calligraphy ink, Sakura Pigma 3mm marker, Borden and Riley Layout Bond paper. If students already have these supplies, they may bring their own materials and not include the materials fee in their workshop registration. For questions about the workshop supplies, contact Sarah Heffner at heffners@mhep.org or 215-256-3020, ext.112. All students should also bring paper towels or rag, small wide mouth water container, pencil, and ruler. Check the Mennonite Heritage Center website: www.mhep.org for registration information or call 215-256-3020. No refunds are given unless a workshop is canceled for insufficient enrollment.

Saturday, April 16, 9 am to 3 pm. Paper Cutting Workshop led by Pam Hulst

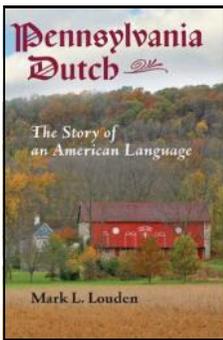


Popular paper cutting artist Pam Hulst will teach the workshop that will feature spring paper cutting designs. The class will include several patterns to choose from that include the seasonal designs and traditional paper cutting designs. Students will take home a finished piece along with a finished grain painted frame provided by the instructor.

Workshop fee is \$55 (\$50 for members) plus a materials fee of \$25 that includes the designs and frame. Participants should bring along a cutting surface, exacto knife or small scissors and small paint brushes. All other materials for the workshop will be supplied.

Preregistration is required as the class size is limited. Check the Mennonite Heritage Center website: www.mhep.org for registration information or call 215-256-3020. No refunds are given unless a workshop is canceled for insufficient enrollment.

YOU ARE INVITED! Friday, April 22, at 6 pm. Annual Heritage Fundraiser Dinner, Deep Run Mennonite Church East, 350 Kellers Church Road, Perkasie, PA 18944



The evening will feature a delicious catered meal served buffet style, along with speaker Mark Loudon presenting a program on: “**Faith and Language: Pennsylvania Dutch, Past and Present**”. Tickets are \$50 and must be purchased in advance from the Museum Store at the Mennonite Heritage Center, or online via Paypal. Visit the website at www.mhep.org.

In addition to his academic research, Dr. Loudon is involved in a number of public outreach activities related to the language, faith, and culture of its main speakers today—the Old Order Amish and Old Order Mennonites. He also serves as an interpreter and cultural mediator for Pennsylvania Dutch speakers in the legal and health care systems.

Plan to attend this very interesting program and support the Mennonite Heritage Center.

Saturday, April 23 from 9 am to 3 pm. Felt making Workshop led by Rose Kramer.



Come take a journey into the wonderful world of felt making and learn about the rich history of this ancient textile that dates back to 6000 BC and is still going strong today. You will go from making a seamless pouch using the ancient method of felt making, to the modern day method of sculpting with wool, called needle felting. You will leave with a little seamless pouch that can be finished at home into an accessory bag or whatever you want, and a little needle felted sheep.

Instructor Rose Kramer is an accomplished felt maker and owner of Sheep's in the Meadow designs. She has taught, lectured and created felt for over 15 years and has studied under world renowned felt artists. All of the items created in the class will be made using the wool from her own Finn sheep. Each person should bring 2 bath size towels and a plastic bag to put the damp felted pouch into. Preregistration is necessary as the workshop size is limited. The workshop fee is \$55 (\$50 member) plus a \$10 materials fee. Check the Mennonite Heritage Center website: www.mhep.org for registration information or call 215-256-3020. No refunds are given unless a workshop is canceled for insufficient enrollment.

Sunday, April 24, 2-4 pm. Perkiomen Valley Art Center Exhibit Reception. No reservations required.

Saturday, April 30, 9 am to 3 pm. Sgraffito Pottery Workshop led by Denise Wilz.

Sgraffito means to “scratch” and workshop participants will draw a design of their choosing in a damp clay coating on a redware plate. You can choose a traditional Pennsylvania German design or create your own design for a special occasion gift.

The class will be led by redware potter Denise Wilz, a professional potter who researches and draws her inspiration from traditional potters. She will provide molded redware plates coated with the clay slip and the sgraffito tools. After the class, the plates will be glazed and fired at her pottery and returned to the Heritage Center for participants to pick up. Class fee is \$55 (\$50 members) plus a materials fee of \$23 for each 7” redware plate and \$30.00 for each 10” plate. Class participants can choose to sgraffito up to 3 plates. Check the Mennonite Heritage Center website: www.mhep.org for registration information or call 215-256-3020. No refunds are given unless a workshop is canceled for insufficient enrollment.

Sunday, May 1, 4 to 6 pm. Hymn Sing at Frick’s Meetinghouse. No reservations required.

Tuesday, May 3, 3:30-5:00 pm. Penn View Intergenerational Art Show Reception. No reservations required.

Saturday, May 7, 10 am to 3 pm. Pa German Tufted Wool Embroidery Workshop led by Shirley Sacks.



Led by needlework artist Shirley Sacks, participants will create a colorful pincushion while learning this unique Pennsylvania German embroidery technique. In the late 19th century, thrifty homemakers would use salvaged yarn from knitted garments and scraps of wool to create multicolored stars or flowerlike designs. The wool was stitched around a tin template to create a pincushion or decorative pillow.

The instructor will provide the star template, wool backing, two needles and needlepoint tapestry yarn along with the history and instruction for the pincushion. The materials fee for the workshop is \$12 along with the class fee of \$55 (\$50 members). Participants are asked to bring a 6 inch hoop, a sharp pair of embroidery scissors and paper to trace template designs.

Check the Mennonite Heritage Center website: www.mhep.org for registration information or call 215-256-3020. No refunds are given unless a workshop is canceled for insufficient enrollment.

Saturday, May 14, 9 am to 3 pm. Weave a Market Basket led by Karen Wychock.

Working over a wooden mold in the manner of the Shakers, basket weaver Karen Wychock will lead participants in weaving a market basket. You may choose to weave a small, medium or large market basket. It will be made of a combination of reed, ash and oak. You may choose to add color to your basket or keep it natural. There will be a variety of dyed reeds available for embellishment.



There are three sizes that you may choose from when registering for the workshop. If you are a novice weaver, the instructor recommends weaving the small or medium market basket.

Small Market Basket (Materials Fee \$35) – dimensions are 6 1/2” W x 12” L x 6” H

Medium Market Basket (Materials Fee \$40) – dimensions are 8” W x 14” L x 6 1/2” H

Large Market Basket (Materials Fee \$45) – dimensions are 10” W x 17” L x 7” H

The workshop fee is \$55 (\$50 member) plus a materials fee for your choice of basket.

is canceled for insufficient enrollment. Check the Mennonite Heritage Center website: www.mhep.org for registration information or call 215-256-3020. No refunds are given unless a workshop is canceled for insufficient enrollment.

Spring Bus Tour April 27

Enjoy a one day tour exploring Berks County on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. We will focus on the Pennsylvania Dutch heritage and the natural beauty of the county.

Our coach bus will depart from Hagey Bus Terminal at 8:45 am with our first stop the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles. The museum, founded in 1965, houses dozens of automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles that were manufactured in Pennsylvania while the industry was still in its infancy. Prior to that time, the region produced multitudes of horse-drawn vehicles, of which many examples can be found at the



Museum. Other popular museum artifacts are two examples of roadside architecture: the original 1938 Fegely’s Reading Diner and a 1921 Sunoco gas station. Their current exhibit is *Lightweights: Cycle and Light Cars*. Popular for a short period of time in the 1910s, cyclecars were something of a midway point between cars and motorcycles.

Leaving Boyertown, we will travel to the Kutztown/Lenhartsville area for a driving tour of Pennsylvania Dutch bank barns painted with hex signs. These beautiful nineteenth century post and beam structures are iconic symbols of Berks County farmsteads. The history/purpose of the hex signs are debated but they are colorful additions to the barn facades.

Following our drive by barn tour, we will go to Janelle Hall, Mertztown, for another favorite part of the Pennsylvania Dutch heritage – great cooking! Our lunch buffet menu will include chicken pot pie, boova shenkel (filled noodles), schnitz n’ knepp (ham with dried apple and dumplings), potato filling with gravy, baked corn, green beans, rolls and homemade pie.



After our hearty lunch, we will travel to Hawk Mountain, Kempton. Hawk Mountain is a raptor sanctuary and a leader in raptor conservation science and education. Our group will have a half hour “Raptors Over the Ridge” introduction with a live bird presentation by one of their educators and then we will have free time to take the short walk to the South Lookout and see the Visitor’s Center.

Our final stop for the day will be Dietrich’s Meat, purveyor of specialty Pa Dutch meats where you can stock up on smoked sausage and other delicacies.

Wear comfortable shoes, walking will not be difficult. Tour cost of \$87 (\$82 member) includes all admission fees, gratuities, and lunch. The tour will be led by Sarah Heffner. To register for the tour, go to www.mhep.org or call 215-256-3020. The registration deadline is April 15.

Join the fun of the Whack & Roll Croquet Tournament



Friday, June 3:

Senior Amateur Division Croquet Tournament: on Friday morning, seniors 60 and older are invited to compete for a Senior Traveling Trophy that will be on display throughout the next year at the retirement community or senior community center of the winner's choice. Entry Fee \$25 per team and includes lunch. -**Wicket Croquet Clinics** for teams will be held Sunday afternoons May 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 2:00-4:00 pm on the MHC lawn.

Peaceful Living Croquet tournament: on Friday afternoon, clients of Peaceful Living's Creative Gifts day program will join in the fun with a tournament of Golf Croquet.

Survivor Croquet Tournament for Senior High Youth Groups: On Friday evening, 5 to 9 pm, local senior high youth groups are invited to compete for prize money toward their upcoming service/mission trips. Survivor Croquet is a fast-paced croquet game played in 20 minute rounds. Entry fee is \$25 per team of 6 players. Survivor Croquet Clinics for teams will be held Sunday afternoons May 3, 10, 17 and 24 from 4:00-5:00 pm on the MHC lawn.

Saturday, June 4:

Nonprofit Invitational Croquet Tournament: Nonprofit organizations are registered to send two teams of two persons to play in the Nonprofit Invitational Croquet Tournament. In addition, independent teams of two persons also may register to play for one of the participating nonprofit organizations. 9-Wicket Croquet Clinics for teams will be held Sunday afternoons May 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 2:00-4:00 pm on the MHC lawn. Preliminary rounds Saturday morning; quarter-final, semi-final and championship rounds Saturday afternoon

Saturday, June 4 Lunch Bash

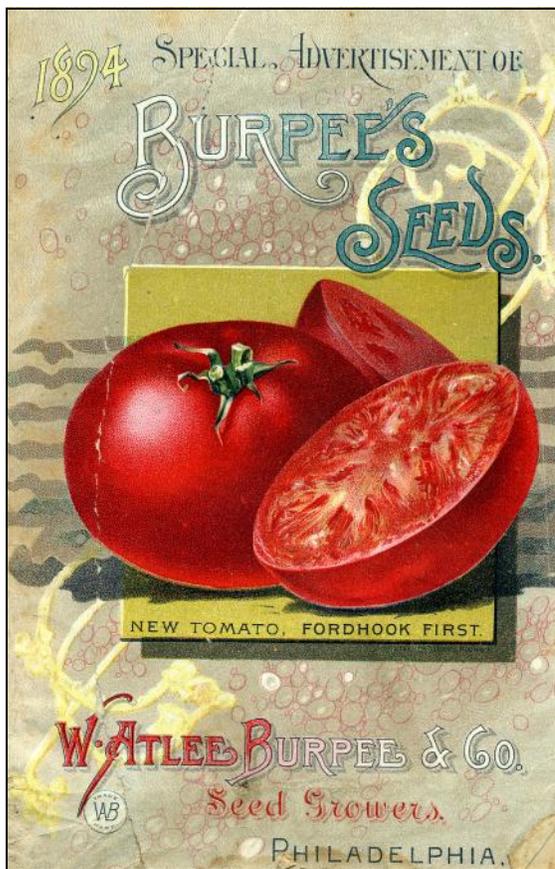
**Enjoy Pork Barbecue, Hot Wings,
Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad , Tossed Salad
Strawberries & Ice Cream
Cost: \$10 for spectators**

Spectators welcome for all croquet tournaments – bring your lawn chairs
Saturday light breakfast also available for players and spectators to purchase

Nonprofit Community Partner



For questions about participating in WHACK & ROLL, contact Steve Diehl, Director of Advancement at diehls@mhep.org; 215-256-3020, ext. 115



Heirloom Vegetables Seeds available in the Museum Store

Gardening season is right around the corner and this year the museum store is featuring a selection of heirloom vegetable seeds from the Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Established in the mid 1980s, the Heirloom Seed Project's focus is on seed preservation, seeds from heirloom varieties of vegetable herbs and ornamentals that have historical significance for Pennsylvania Germans from 1750 to 1940.

Heirloom varieties are open pollinated varieties that have been saved for generations and whose seeds will breed "true to type" as long as they are grown separately from other varieties. Hybrids are recent crosses whose seed will have a wide variety of characteristics if planted the next season. Because they breed true, the seeds of heirloom varieties can be saved by gardeners each year.

Among the vegetable varieties available at the museum store are popular heirloom tomatoes: Amish Paste, Howard German, Oxheart and Pink Brandywine. You can also try the Huberschmidt husk tomato, Pa Dutch Red lima bean, Amish Deertongue lettuce, Deacon Dan beet, and Pa Dutch butter popcorn.

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Museum & Library Hours

Tuesday - Friday
10 am to 5 pm
Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm

The mission of the Mennonite Historians of Eastern Pennsylvania is to collect, preserve, and interpret the Anabaptist-Mennonite heritage in order to educate, inspire, and witness to the church and broader community.



MHC Quarterly
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2016 Exhibits

Calligraphy and Bookbinding: Twentieth Century Artists:

Fritz and Trudi Eberhardt

November 28, 2015 – April 16, 2016

Perkiomen Art Center Members Exhibit

April 5 - April 24, 2016

Penn View Christian School Intergenerational Art Show

May 3 - May 20, 2016

Guests on the Land: the Photography of Nick Bowen

May 3 - November 2, 2016