

@ the LRC

Edited by Suzanne Waddell

Focus on the Archives

WINTER 2011

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Inside this issue:

Meet the Student Workers	2
PaLA News/Technology Showcase Report	3
Woodworking Projects on Display	2
Book Club News	4
Featured Web Site	4



Serendipity in action

Consider the definition of serendipity - the faculty or phenomenon of finding agreeable or valuable things not sought for—and then read the following story. Ray Murry, the building maintenance foreman at Stevens, was working one day on repairing the heating system in Mellor building. The job required replacement of some pipes that ran through a knick knack cabinet in Don Rhoads’s office. This meant that Ray would have to temporarily remove the cabinet in order to get to the pipes and make the necessary repairs. Imagine Ray’s surprise when he removed the cabinet and found a name he recognized scrawled on the bottom of one of the boards. The inscription on the bottom board of the cabinet read,

“Made by Elwood Brubaker
Nov 9, 1939
Class of ‘41”

Ray got to know Mr. Brubaker in the 1970’s, while working at Brubaker Kitchens, where he learned cabinetmaking. Elwood Brubaker is now deceased but his business is still located on Manheim Pike.

When Ray put the cabinet back, he replaced the board with the inscription and brought it to the library. It is now being housed in the archives along with a picture of the cabinet which Mr. Brubaker built in 1939.

Gauged brickwork defines the highest expression of the craft of a bricklayer in which low-fired, soft textured bricks termed rubbing bricks, or “rubbers,” are worked post-fired to size and shape so precisely they can be accurately laid within lime putty: fine silica sand mortar joints of less than 1/16th inch. Seen in parts of the U.S. from the end of the seventeenth century onward, this class of work raised the craftsmen to the status of masons.

The setting-out, cutting, building and carving of this scaled panel of gauged brickwork, depicting the seal of Thaddeus Stevens College is the work of Master Craftsman, Dr. Gerard Lynch of Buckinghamshire, England. Dr. Lynch, who is the world’s leading authority on the subject, presented the panel to the college to mark the hosting of the International Trades Preservation Workshop (IPTW), held in August 2011. He worked on the panel prior to the event and completed the carving as a demonstration of his art while attending the IPTW. The panel is now on display in the library’s archives.



Photograph of TSCT seal in gauged brickwork taken by David Giliberti

Seth Reinheimer



Seth Reinheimer (no relation to faculty member Glen, whose last name is spelled differently) is currently in the pre-major course of study with plans to enter the plumbing technology program. Born and raised in Sinking Springs outside of Reading, Seth graduated from Wilson High School. Although he lives in the dorm during the week, on Fridays Seth heads home to his other job at the Giant grocery store.

Seth's interest outside of school and work include rollerblading and watching movies. Another past-time Seth enjoys is car repair; he likes to work on his own vehicle and he is slowly making his way through the library's collection of *Petersen's 4 Wheel & Off Road* magazines.

Seth learned about Thaddeus Stevens from his Dad's uncle and a family friend, who both attended Stevens and recommended the school to him.

Ahmad Goodley



Sixto lives on campus in Herrington Hall and he is in his first year of the CAD program. His family is originally from Peru; Sixto was born in Lancaster and graduated from McCaskey High School.

Sixto enjoys reading about Latino culture; he is also president of the Latino Scholars Alliance. Some of his extra-curricular interests include watching TV and playing video games. One video game that he enjoys playing on his PlayStation 3 system is *Borderlands*. On the weekends, there is a good chance that Sixto can be found working out at the Mac building.

Know Your LRC Student Workers

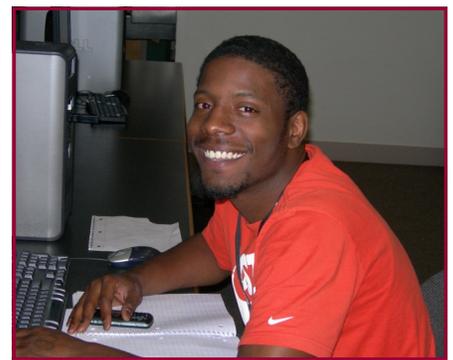
Ahmad is one of the library's computer monitors; he is in the first year of the CNSA program. Ahmad's hometown is Philadelphia and he graduated from Glen Mills High School. Between graduating from high school and entering college, Ahmad did an internship in video production. This experience came in handy when Ahmad volunteered to film the Hall of Fame banquet for the school. He also manned the fishing stand at the street carnival held during Homecoming week-end.

Ahmad is on the school's wrestling team and he likes to play video games on Xbox. His favorite game at the moment is *NBA 2K12*.

Sixto Saavedra



Forrest Wilson



Forrest is in the pre-major course of study; he plans to enter the CNSA program. Forrest graduated from the Youth Build Charter school, a program that is designed to help drop-outs earn their high school diploma. While Forrest was attending Youth Build he had the opportunity both to travel to Guatemala and to meet President Obama and his wife. It was also through a campus visit arranged by Youth Build that he learned about Thaddeus Stevens College.

Anyone who saw the pictures from this year's Homecoming Dance knows that Forrest likes to dance, although he said the photographer was "catching his good side." and that he really can't dance. He also likes to play basketball and he practices with the Stevens basketball team. It seems like Forrest is always in a good mood and he likes to spread that good mood around by making other people laugh and smile, too.

Librarians Head Off-campus for Continuing Educational Opportunities

PA Library Association Conference

During the first week of October, Suzanne Waddell traveled to State College to attend the PA Librarians Association (PaLA) annual conference held at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel. This year, national speakers and local experts presented more than 80 sessions to the 607 paid registrants. After adding in speakers, authors, guests, and exhibitor representatives, the total attendance for the conference was 824 people. As one of those conference goers, Suzanne attended four different sessions:

- Beyond Facebook: Teens & Social Media: Where Are They Now?
- Not Dead Yet: Magazines in the Digital Era
- Demonstrating the Value of Academic Libraries: Three Perspectives
- Beyond the ILS (Integrated Library Systems): Introduction and Future Directions

J. P. Lilley Technology Showcase

On Tuesday, November 1, 2011, Tim Creamer attended the J. P. Lilley Technology Showcase in Harrisburg, where he participated in all six of the offered seminars. These sessions included:

- Designing Digital Systems That Work
- The Basics of Designing and Specifying Audio Systems
- The Evolution of Configurable Control Systems
- Practical Applications for Professional Developmental Webcasting
- Conveying Your Message with Optimal Visuals
- Mounting Systems

Woodworking Projects on Display



This Pennsylvania Frame & Panel Chest made of walnut and curly maple wood was built by Casey Butt.



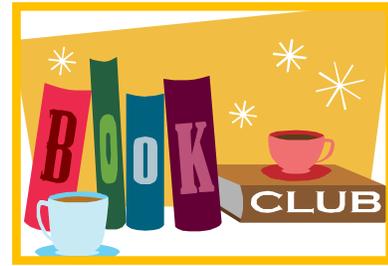
Michael Blankley used walnut wood with walnut burl drawer fronts to make this Chippendale chest.



Happy Holidays

From the Library Staff

*Diane Ambruso - Director
Timothy Creamer - Librarian
Suzanne Waddell - Librarian
Brenda Smith - Library Technician*



The Mezzanine Mavens had an excellent meeting in November, when they met to discuss Erik Larson's book *The Devil in the White City*. The seven members who attended had an animated discussion, while Laurie Grove showed pictures of the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago, which was the setting for Larson's non-fiction work of "murder, magic, and madness." Click on the link below to see these official views of the world's Columbian Exposition of 1893.
<http://www.erbzine.com/mag33/3361.html>

The next meeting will be held on January 18, 2012. The group has decided its next pick will be the latest book by Erik Larson, *In the Garden of Beasts*, a story of "love, terror, and an American family in Hitler's Berlin."

Featured Web Site - Meetup

<http://www.meetup.com>

Feeling a little lonely over the holidays? Then, log onto Meetup.com to find people to hang out with that have similar interests as yours. Meetup is an online social networking tool that makes it easy to find offline clubs already meeting face-to-face in your local community. A recent quick search of the Lancaster area showed that some of the trending meetups nearby included: Wings and Beer (or other drinks) - a meetup of Meet Me in Lancaster, the Lancaster Scrapbooking Meetup Group, and the Lancaster Real Estate Mastermind Group.

If you don't find an existing club that matches a specific interest, then you can become an organizer and start your very own meetup group. You don't need to worry about getting

people to sign up for your group; Meetup will promote your new group automatically. According to the Website, most groups have members within a few days.

It doesn't cost anything to create an account; however the cost associated with joining different meetup groups can vary. Organizers must pay a \$12/month fee to maintain a group on the site and some organizers choose to share this cost with members. Some groups charge a nominal fee only to members who attend their meetings; other groups have yearly dues that members are required to pay in order to join.

The time has come for you to get up off the couch, get out there, and find your people.



*Do something. Learn something.
Share something. Change something.*