Volume 4 — well worth the wait

Newest of Moravians: Cherokees series debuts

The plan here at Moravian Archives was to delay May’s issue of Annotations to announce in June the arrival of volume 4 of Records of the Moravians among the Cherokees. But volume 4 was slower than Christmas, and so the delayed June Annotations turned to July, then August, when on the very last day of the month, to great relief and jubilation, long-awaited volume 4 arrived from the printer-binder in Michigan — just in time for our May September newsletter.

And what a page-turning beauty volume 4 is. The subtitle sets the tone: The Anna Rosina Years, Part 2: Warfare on the Horizon, since volume 4 covers the war years of 1810-1816. Napoleon is rampaging in Europe. America is fighting its War of 1812 with Britain (volume 4 is just in time for that brief war’s bicentennial — “O, say can you see. . . ,” and all that). And the smaller Creek War is only a hundred miles or so from the Moravians’ mission at Springplace in the Cherokee Nation.

Volume 4 opens peacefully in 1810 with missionaries John and Anna Rosina Gambold and Gottlieb and Dorothea Byhan basking in the victory of gaining the Moravian mission’s first Cherokee convert to the Christian faith, Margaret Ann. See A fine, page 3

Records: Cherokees editors Richard Starbuck and Daniel Crews agree: Volume 4, well done! Now on to volume 5 — and changing a light bulb.
Archives web site gets a spiffy makeover

As the "home" web page says, "Welcome to..." our new Internet web site but at our same old address: www.MoravianArchives.org.

We hope you like it and will go exploring to discover all we have on it.

Some are old friends. "This Day in History" is at the bottom of the web page. Each congregation of the Moravian Church, Southern Province has a history page (oh, dear, they're 10 years old; must update). The Wachovia Moravian, 77 years of church monthly newspapers, is under the "History" button. And under "e-Books" is the only English translation of Comenius's Unum Necessarium, The One Thing Necessary (or Needful), along with the Ancient Unity's Confession of 1535 and Ratio Disciplinae or church constitution.

A main reason for the makeover is to switch Internet programs to the more user-friendly WordPress, so we can add more — articles, e-books, pictures — to the web site. So check in every so often to see what's new.

Since July 2000 the Moravian Archives has been available throughout the world by way of the Internet. This tremendous outreach tool is fully funded by our Friends of the Archives, for which we are deeply grateful. In fact, the current makeover was funded almost entirely by one generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous. To that gracious soul we want to say a sincere and heartfelt "thank you!"
A fine addition to Records: Cherokees series

Continued from page 1

Vann, widow of the notoriously wild Chief James Vann.

But soon the peace begins to crumble. The Byhans tire of mission work and beg to be called home to Salem. That leaves the Gambolds alone to shoulder the entire load of teaching and preaching at Springplace.

Meanwhile, earthquakes are felt at Springplace and 350 miles away in Salem. To some Indians they are a signal to rise up against the ever-encroaching whites, though the Gambolds do their best to assure their Cherokee neighbors that “earthquakes are caused by such natural causes as thunder, lightning, etc.,” and are God’s way of waking and discipline.

The Gambolds enjoy another triumph when Charles Hicks, who in a few years will be elected vice principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, becomes just the second Cherokee to join the Moravian Church at Springplace. He is a member of a pacifist church now, “but for the love of my Country,” Br. Hicks writes, he feels duty bound to answer General Andrew Jackson’s summons for the Cherokees to help fight the "Hostille Creeks" at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend.

As America and Britain in 1815 finally conclude the War of 1812, Salem celebrates with a fine “illumination” around the Square. Springplace returns to the routine of farming, preaching, teaching, and now botanizing for the benefit of Eastern naturalists. With the return of peace also whites increasingly flock to the Cherokee land, including other mission societies eager to establish their own stations.

Then late in volume 4 Br. Gambold learns that his name has appeared in a national newspaper stating his opinion on the humanity of Indians. Oh, dear. Such notoriety will

See Volume 4, page 7

A unique series

The series, Records of the Moravians among the Cherokees, tells the epic story of the Moravian Church’s mission to the Cherokee Nation, both in the Cherokees’ homeland in what is now northern Georgia and following removal on the Trail of Tears into the Indian Territory across the Mississippi. The story is told by those who lived it, the missionaries and, vicariously, by the Cherokees who accepted the Moravians into their nation. As such, this series is unique in the annals of American social history literature. Earlier volumes of the series are:

- Volume 1, 1752-1802: Early Contact and the Establishment of the First Mission.

And coming next in the series:

You make a big difference as Archives Friends

Yes, your contributions as a Friend of Moravian Archives are essential to our further outreach. As our supporting Moravian Churches struggle to make ends meet during the economic downturn, more and more we must rely on our Friends for basic budget support.

Even more important are the extra miles our Friends take us with our special projects. For example, our website, www.MoravianArchives.com, is funded entirely by our Friends, and its recent makeover (see page 2) was paid almost entirely by a single anonymous Friend. And transcripter Grace Robinson typed the Kernersville Diary of the 19th century into the computer, which provided unique information for the 125th anniversary of neighboring Oak Grove Moravian Church.

Last year 225 individuals and families (some several times) contributed $20,815.00 to the continuing work of the Moravian Archives. This compares with $28,899.77 from 246 contributions in 2010.

Your generosity does count as a vital part of the work of Moravian Archives. You can add your support with a check payable to Moravian Archives, 457 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101. And when you are in the area — we’re “in the graveyard” in Salem — do drop in to say hello and visit awhile.

---------- (2011 Friends) ----------

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Remember the Moravian Archives in your will. Annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and other gift instruments are also available. For more information, contact the Moravian Ministries Foundation in America, 119 Brookstown Avenue, Suite 305, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101, telephone 888-722-7923, information@mmfa.info.

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Volume 4 makes its grand arrival

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never do for a humble, retiring missionary whose sole aim is to proclaim the Gospel even to the most distant lands. Especially when he hasn’t cleared it with church authorities back in Salem. What will Br. Gambold do? The answer will be in the forthcoming volume 5 of Records of the Moravians among the Cherokees.

Volume 4 of Records: Cherokees is a beautiful hardbound publication with 583 pages of text and including 152 pictures, most of them thumbnail snapshots from the original documents themselves. An accompanying 32-page index serves as an expanded glossary of terms and identifications, serving the purpose of footnotes that otherwise would clutter the text.

With only an occasional exception, the entire Records: Cherokees series consists of documents, English or translations from the original German, held at the Moravian Archives in Winston-Salem concerning the Moravian Church’s mission to the Cherokee Indians. Though written for the most part by the white missionaries, these documents provide practically a daily account of life among the Cherokees — a unique body of work in American history.

Besides, it makes a great and gripping story to read.

We at Moravian Archives are deeply grateful to the Cherokee Nation, headquartered at Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and the Eastern Band of the Cherokees at Cherokee, North Carolina, for their joint major support of the Records: Cherokees project. In addition support is provided by our Friends of the Moravian Archives, the Cherokee Moravian Historical Association, and the Wachovia Historical Society, and of course the many members of the Moravian Church through the Moravian Church, Southern Province and Salem Congregation.

The sale of the volumes, of course, also helps the project, which is where you can make a “contribution” by buying the books and get something tangible in return — a slice of the epic story of the Cherokees and Moravians.

University of Oklahoma Press is marketing the Records: Cherokees series nationally at $50.00 each plus shipping and handling. But for a limited time with a limited supply Moravian Archives is offering all four volumes at $40.00 each plus $5.00 shipping and handling. Cash or check only (no credit card) can be made to Moravian Archives, 457 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101. Please specify which volume(s) you are purchasing.
It’s a new season for Lunchtime Lectures

A new season of the Moravian Music Foundation and Moravian Archives’ Lunchtime Lectures Series opened on Thursday, September 13, at the Archie K. Davis Center in Salem with guest Philip Dunigan speaking on “Moravians and the Musical Life of Europe.”

Other presentations of the Lunchtime Lecture Series will be:
- October 11: “Things We’ve Found on the Way to Something Else” with Br. Richard Starbuck;
- November 8: “German for Moravians” with Br. C. Daniel Crews;
- January 10: “Churches on the Move” with Br. Crews;
- February 14: “The Oochgelogy Mission to the Cherokee” with Br. Crews;
- March 14: “Music of the Van Vleck Sisters” with Sr. Knouse;
- April 11: “Winston-Salem: Centennial of a Merger” with Br. Starbuck;

Lunchtime Lectures are 12:15-12:45 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in the Davis Center in Salem. It’s all free. Parking is available in the Salem College Fine Arts Center parking lot. Bring a lunch to munch if you like (it isn’t provided).