May October 2014 Vol. 2, No. 46

## ANNOTATIONS

From Moravian Archives Winston-Salem, N.C.

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# Our Archivist steps into history

#### News from the Archives:

C. Daniel Crews, Archivist of the Moravian Church, Southern Province, has retired effective October 1. His last day on the job was September 30.

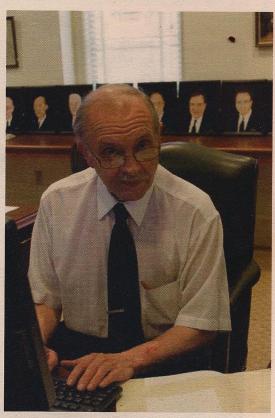
#### Now the commentary:

Dear Daniel,

What a wonderful 22 years it has been, how much has been done:

- some 50 publications, large and small, hard copy and Internet;
- countless talks, presentations, and researches for churches, groups, and individuals;
- taking the Archives from clacky typewriter days to the wide world of the digital age;
- a brand-new Archie K. Davis
   Center to replace our 200 year-old "Archives House";
   and all done with a wry twinkle in your
   eye that had us laughing all the way.

Archives Board wanted a Miss Adelaide Fries to match the work of our long-time first Archivist. What Board got was a Daniel Crews, unique in your own right, who will be held as



Daniel takes a moment's pause in translating.

the standard for future Archivists.
That truly will be a hard act to follow.

See Farewell to Daniel, page 2

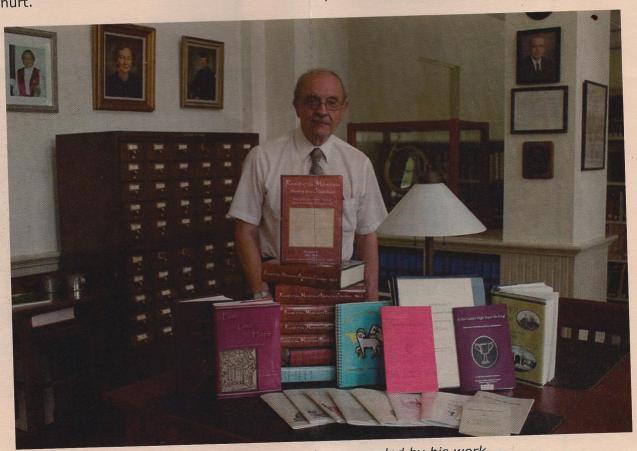
## Farewell to Daniel (But don't go too far)

Continued from page 1
In December 1991, when you first
entered as Archivist, the Moravian Archives
hadn't had a publication in more than two
decades. You fixed that with a little booklet
entitled Moravian Meanings. It was an
instant hit. Can you imagine — for a mere
glossary of historical Moravian terms? Of
course your knack for catchy titles didn't
hurt.

But Moravian Meanings set the pattern for almost all future Archives publications: Good writing plus good press run makes good return. Provincial Treasurer Ron Hendrix doubted: "I haven't seen a revolving book fund yet that made money." To which we replied: "You haven't seen ours!"

A few literary highlights:

 In first surveying Archives activities you peered over Grace Robinson's shoulder and



Archivist Daniel Crews is surrounded by his work.

asked, What are you doing? Typing Bishop Bahnson into the computer, she replied. Carry on, you wisely instructed, and she did.

Grace was already working on volumes 12 and 13 of *Records of the Moravians in North Carolina* for publication by the State of North Carolina's Office of Archives and History. They cover the crucial years of the

Civil War (1856-1866 in volume 12) and Reconstruction (1867-1876 in volume 13), spanning the gap between volume 11 of Records: N.C. and Bishop Edward Rondthaler's Memorabilia of Fifty Years (1877-1927).

• The 250th anniversary of the Southern Province was coming up in just 10 years. How could we convince Archives Board to let us spend our time compiling a history of the Province? You solved it in

a heartbeat. Herbert Weber attends the Board as emeritus, you reasoned; I'll just mention the 250th and let Herbert do the rest. What we need is a history of the Province, Herbert declared right on cue, and unanimously Archives Board asked if we could please write the history which we had already been working on.

The result: With Courage for the Future: The Story of the Moravian Church, Southern Province. It's a hefty volume — we tell people it's better than Gone with the Wind — jam-packed with facts, figures, people,

and places, not to mention great writing. Just about everything you want to look up about the Southern Province is in there including the *Carpathia*, the ship that rescued the *Titanic's* survivors.

As a bonus we got a few hot-selling booklets spun off from *With Courage* including *Storm in the Land* about the Moravian Church in the Civil War and

> Neither Slave nor Free about St. Philips Moravian Church.

> The Aroundthe-World Moravian Unity Cookbook what a great idea to capitalize on another of your remarkable talents, vour culinary skills. From Alaska to South Africa, Nicaragua to Nepal, you covered the worldwide Unity with delicious recipes. Trouble was, your editor failed to take into

failed to take into account how many Women's Fellowships out there were equally eager to promote their own cookbooks. Chalk one up for the Ron Hendrix doubters.

• After 123 years it was high time for a new, updated history of the Ancient Unity. Voila, Faith, Love, Hope appeared. Not only diligently researched with the latest scholarship — it has two sets of footnotes — but it is beautifully presented with historical illustrations and of course your lively writing. Faith, Love, Hope is now a standard history about the early Moravian

## From Daniel's diary

May 30, **1969** Friday

I write this in Winston-Salem, my second full day here.

Roy [Ledbetter] and I rode from Bethlehem with the William Starbucks. It was c. 11:30 by the time we got their daughter Kitty's luggage packed in the car. We had lunch in Harrisburg and then headed for 81 and South.

We had a very enjoyable trip. The Starbucks were very enthused that I am to be archivist. . . .

Church both among scholars and casual readers.

• Find an additional source of revenue, Provincial Treasurer Ted Leinbach advised in the Great Recession. And so you reached out to the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma and the Eastern Band of Cherokees in North Carolina for their major support of the Archives' newest and continuing publication series, Records of the Moravians among

the Cherokees.
As the first missionaries to the Cherokees, the Moravians, as was our custom, wrote in the mission diaries and correspondence about the people and events surrounding them.
The result is

almost a daily account of life in the Cherokee Nation now being brought to life in this unique and absorbing series. With further funding, this series will continue, but it was your reaching out, Daniel, that launched *Records: Cherokees* onto the American historical landscape.

When you first entered as Archivist, it is not true that we were still using quill pens (though you did find a few). We were up to speed with a couple of iron-solid Royal typewriters, one screen projector Brother typewriter, and one brand-new Apple Macintosh computer occupied by Grace Robinson as she typed away on Bishop Bahnson.

This was 1991. Think 1991 technology: 5½-inch floppy discs, miniscule computer memory, dial-up modem connection to

an Internet not yet blessed with a Wikiwhatever, and hardly a reliable research source to be found.

Granted, Daniel, you are more adept with quill pens than with Internet ("I don't know how to send a picture"; and that's a 2014 quote). But it was on your watch that the Archives got connected with the worldwide web. At www.MoravianArchives.org surfers can find:

### A tribute to Daniel

You can make your Friends Fund contribution in honor of Daniel Crews for all he has done for Moravian Archives, the Southern Province, and the Moravian Church as a whole. Just use the special Tribute to Daniel fill-in-the-blank card accompanying this special issue of *Annotations*. Let's show Daniel how much we'll miss him!

- Your translation of the Ancient Unity's Confession of 1535, the first English translation by a Moravian;
- The Ratio
   Disciplinae,
   or constitution,
   of the Ancient
   Unity, published
   in 1660 by

Bishop John Amos Comenius with his commentary, revised from the 1866 translation;

- Comenius's *Unum Necessarium* or *One Thing Needful*, translated for the first time in more than 300 years by Vernon Nelson, the late Archivist of the Moravian Church, Northern Province;
- The entire run of *The Wachovia Moravian*, the Southern Province's monthly newspaper from 1893 to 1970, chock full of church events and histories, births, marriages, deaths, reports from mission fields, etc.

Your contribution to the Moravian Church was not only historical but also theological. When we had doubts, you were there with a comforting word and guiding instruction.

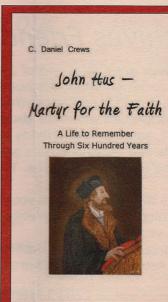
- In Confessing Our Unity in Christ you gave us the long view of the "essentials" and how they have changed over the years;
- Can you imagine taking a 1917 sermon and setting it before the public today? But J. Kenneth Pfohl's *The Moravian Idea: Christ Is All* is right for any era, and it also gave you the topic for the Southern Province's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary sermon you gave in Wait Chapel at Wake Forest University, *What It Was, Was Jesus* (with thanks to actor and almost Moravian Andy Griffith for the title);
- As controversy began to rise over the growing practice of cremation, you put out the fire with the question: What think you of John Hus; isn't he in heaven with his Savior?
- You laid bare your own heart and soul in This We Most Certainly Believe, an intimate account not only of your faith but also the Moravian Church's.

Truly Nola Reed Knouse, Director of the Moravian Music Foundation, was right when she observed that you are living proof that one can be an intellectual <u>and</u> a Christian.



Hard hat Daniel

Your books
and talks, wise
advice and eager
encouragement
have all left their
mark on the
Southern Province
and the Moravian
Church as a whole.
But most likely
your longest lasting
legacy, yours and
Nola's, will be that
edifice in the
graveyard — where



# Coming soon from Daniel

For the 600th anniversary of the martyrdom of John Hus on July 6, 1415, a 56-page booklet reprint from Faith, Love, Hope: A History of the Unitas Fratrum.

Details to be announced in November's

most of our clients are, you quip — the Archie K. Davis Center, the new home of the Moravian Archives and Moravian Music Foundation.

Practically daily you prowled the construction site, scaling the scaffolding heights — well, only once — and plumbing the concrete depths to assure the Davis Center was properly built. And indeed it was, and it should be three-quarters of a century before we have to ask the Province for a little more storage space.

So what's it like to work with you at the Archives? That's the key: the word "with," for always you made work at the Archives as between colleagues. In all you have done you followed the encouraging advice of our beloved Bishop Edward Rondthaler: "Let us do it together."

So for your 22 years at Moravian Archives and a total of 44 years in the ministry, we can only say: "Servant of God, well done!"

Richard W. Starbuck

Richard W. Starbuck Assistant Archivist

## Our Archives Friends do their part

Our Friends of the Archives are a vital part of all we do at the Moravian Archives. From preserving and translating documents that are hundreds of years old to fully supporting www.MoravianArchives.org, our 21<sup>st</sup>-century outreach to the world, your financial contributions help support our work. Even when our churches struggle to meet the simple budget needs of lights, heat, salaries, our Friends of the Archives step in to fill the gap.

Last year 179 individuals and families (some several times) contributed \$23,367.50 to the continuing work of the Moravian Archives. This compares with \$20,390.00 from

180 contributions in 2012.

So a big thank-you goes to our Friends for your tremendous support in 2013, and we look forward to your continuing support as we enter new adventures of Moravian history and heritage in the coming years.

Not a Friend of the Archives? It's easy to become one by adding your support with a check payable to Moravian Archives, 457 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101.

#### --- (2013 Friends) --

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(\$200 or more)

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## New season opens for 'Lunchtime Lectures'

A new season of "Lunchtime Lectures" of the Moravian Archives and Moravian Music Foundation has begun at the Archie K. Davis Center in Salem. C. Daniel Crews offered "A Few Final Words" on September 11 before his retirement as Archivist of the Moravian Church, Southern Province. The lecture can be found on the Internet at http://moravianmusic.org/episode-16september-11-2014/.

"Lunchtime Lectures" are held 12:15-12:45 p.m. the second Thursday of the month. They are free, and you are invited to bring your lunch (it isn't provided). Parking is free in the Salem College Fine Arts Center parking lot off Salem Avenue.

Other presentations in the 2014-2015 "Lunchtime Lectures" series will be:

- October 9: "Salem's Music in the Civil War," with Donna Rothrock:
- November 13: "A New November 13<sup>th</sup> Singstunde," with Nola Reed Knouse;
- December 11: "St. Philips Gets Its Name," with Richard Starbuck:
- January 8: "The 250th Anniversary of Salem, Part 1," with Richard Starbuck;
- February 12: "Cataloging the Music Foundation," with Nola Reed Knouse;
- March 12: "Fun Finds in the Uncataloged," with Bill Osborne & Nola Reed Knouse;
- April 9: "The Day the Yankees Came," with Richard Starbuck;
- May 14: "A Musical Detective Story," with Nola Reed Knouse.

For more information phone 722-1742 or 725-0651.

SNOTTATIONS

From Moravian Archives Winston-Salem, N.C.

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