A Time of Transition at the Archives

After serving as Assistant Archivist for 28 years and Archivist for 3, our beloved Richard Starbuck retired at the end of May from his position as Archivist. The Archives Commission along with staff from the PEC, Archives, and Moravian Music Foundation, held a reception in Richard’s honor on May 30th. Many expressions of appreciation were given to Richard acknowledging his faithful and humble service over his 31 years of service.

Richard continues on a contractual basis to work on the Records of the Cherokees. Volume 7 has been completed with the expectation that it will be in final published form by the end of August. Richard has already started work on Volume 8. We are grateful for Richard’s continued willingness to work with dedication solely on this huge project.

Nicole Crabbe, who has served as Assistant Archivist for 18 years, will carry out all Archival responsibilities with help from volunteers. We are grateful for Nicole’s willingness to shoulder additional duties in this time and are confident in her abilities to continue the good work of the Archives.

On July 10, Eric Elliott began his position at the Archives as Interim Archivist. Eric has extensive education in history, law, and the German language. He has received a number of academic honors and awards. Eric has published extensively and has researched in depth a variety of topics related to history and the church. He has worked on a wide range of projects including text-writing, exhibits, advertising promotionals, web design and oral history. Eric has lived and worked in Winston-Salem and in Gastonia. During this interim period, Eric will be at the Archives Monday through Thursday, becoming acquainted with what is here and helping to develop a vision for what could be in the future.

The Archives Commission views this transition as an exciting and promising time of moving forward trusting in God’s guidance and blessing. We ask you prayers for the Archives, the Archives Staff, the Friends of the Archives, and the Archives Commission as we carry out the ministries to which our Lord has called us.

Scott Brent, Peggy Carter, Gail Morris, Pat Nelson, Mike Sloan (Chair), Rev. Scott Venable
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The Moravian Archives has begun a new “On This Day in Southern Province History” series on Facebook. Each day we will post a bit of Southern Province history including church consecrations, Sunday school openings, important events in the life of the Southern Province, and even little snippets of day to day life from the diaries.

In addition to the “On This Day” series watch for further updates including events at the Archives and from around the Unity, calendar changes, and posts to help you get to know the staff and Archives Commission. We want to keep you informed about what is happening here at the Archives.