



# NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 25, 2013**

**Pennypacker Mills Presents “Samuel Pennypacker, Book Collector”  
A Special Presentation by Dr. Iren Snavelly**

**Schwenksville, PA (March 25, 2013)** – In celebration of Pennsylvania Governor Samuel Pennypacker’s 170<sup>th</sup> birthday, Pennypacker Mills is offering a special presentation by Dr. Iren Snavelly, Rare Books Librarian for the State Library of Pennsylvania, discussing the Governor as a book collector. Join Dr. Snavelly on Saturday, April 6, 2013 at 1:00pm in the Classroom Building at Pennypacker Mills for this special presentation.

Samuel Pennypacker was an avid collector with a particular love of books. He amassed one of the largest private libraries of his time, possessing over 10,000 volumes. His library included early works of Benjamin Franklin, early religious groups, Ephrata Cloister materials, maps, broadsides, surveys, deeds, and Bibles. “In the main, they were books relating to Pennsylvania and early imprints of the province of the state. It was the most complete collection of material of that kind which any individual had ever possessed, and in some respects was unequaled by any public library,” according to Pennypacker in the “Autobiography of a Pennsylvanian.” Dr. Snavelly’s presentation will focus on Pennypacker’s special studies of the Pennsylvania Germans and how his book collecting, historical scholarship, and genealogical interests contributed to his philosophy of history and his commitment to Pennsylvania’s exceptionalism.

In addition to his current position as the Rare Books Librarian for the State Library of Pennsylvania, Dr. Snavelly has also worked at the American Philosophical Society as a Project Archivist, and at Temple University as a member of the library staff and as an adjunct professor. A published author and researcher, Dr. Snavelly’s research of Samuel Pennypacker for the State Library has afforded him a unique perspective on this “bookman.” This is a free program, with a suggested donation of \$2 per person. Refreshments will be served. Please call 610-287-9349 for more information and directions.

Pennypacker Mills Historic Site is operated by the Montgomery County Department of Assets and Infrastructure, Division of Parks and Heritage Services. Located at 5 Haldeman Road in Schwenksville, Montgomery County, PA, Pennypacker Mills offers guided tours, changing exhibits, seasonal events, and educational programs. For more information, call 610-287-9349 or visit the Pennypacker Mills page at <http://historicsites.montcopa.org/>.

Images courtesy of Pennypacker Mills:



Dr. Iren Snavelly, Rare Books Librarian for the State Library of Pennsylvania, will be the guest speaker at Pennypacker Mills.