

YMCA Heritage Collection... a Continuing Project by the Central Atlantic Chapter of YMCA Alumni

Len Wilson intends to present his personal collection of YMCA historical and educational books and other materials to the Greater Philadelphia YMCA to initiate a library for staff



members and others to learn more about the YMCA's work and accomplishments over its long history in the United States and around the world.

The presentation will occur at our chapter outing scheduled May 8 at White Horse Village. Details and information about that gathering are included in this edition of Clippings.

Len will donate extensive international work by John R. Mott, arguably the YMCA's greatest statesman, and autobiographies of George Williams, Paul Limbert, and John Wanamaker. YMCA Association Press published many leadership and YMCA management manuals.

Paul Limbert completed his autobiography at age 100, recounting decades of service and accomplishments within the YMCA. Philadelphians recently witnessed the shuttering of John Wanamaker's vast mercantile establishment, but few realize he was the first YMCA professional staff (Secretary) to earn a salary.

Hopefully, current and future Y staff, members, and guests will be afforded an opportunity to realize the breadth and scope of YMCA history.

Members of our Central Atlantic Chapter are encouraged to scan their libraries and select some older books or materials on the Y they have collected. They may not have a family member or place that will appreciate their historical significance. The YMCA Archives at the University of Minnesota has an extensive collection of hard-cover publications, all scanned and available online.

Consider bringing some books or materials with you to the luncheon and making them part of the Philadelphia YMCA Heritage Collection.

Len suggests that duplicate books or materials can be traded or shared with other chapter members attending the luncheon.