On Friday morning, April 26th, our first lecturers will explore the nature of Philadelphia’s early ceramic market. They will reveal what British factories were supplying to the Philadelphia market, who were the importers and retailers, and what consumers were buying for domestic use.

**Reconstructing Philadelphia’s Ceramic Supply and Demand**

Dr. Neil Ewins, Professor, Sunderland University, will kick off our spring meeting in Philadelphia with his lecture titled “Reconstructing Philadelphia’s Ceramic Supply and Demand.” In his talk Neil will piece together a sense of who was involved in the ceramic trade in Philadelphia from the early 1800s and then provide a closer examination of what was being imported. The emphasis of this lecture is on transfer printed wares. Neil will reveal how surviving invoices provide important insights into printed pattern names used by a range of Staffordshire manufacturers. A survey of these names has provided some intriguing results suggesting new avenues of research.

**Transferware in Philadelphia, 1770–1830**

Debbie Miller, Curator at Independence National Historical Park, will discuss the archaeology of transferware in Philadelphia. With her lecture titled “Transferware in Philadelphia, 1770–1830,” she will explore what patterns were available to consumers and how they were used in 18th and 19th century urban homes.

**Transferware Raffle**

Friday evening will be the first opportunity attendees will have to view the wonderful items included in the raffle and to purchase tickets. This attractive coffee pot with the “Basket of Flowers” pattern is included in the raffle.

**Be sure to register early and plan your travel. The first 30 members to register will receive this special TCC canvas bag!**

Philadelphia in late April should be lovely.
Going Japanese: W.S. Coleman and Christopher Dresser -

Adapting Japanese Design Motifs for British Transfer-printed Wares

Dr. Anne Anderson FSA, Hon. Associate Professor Exeter University, will first illustrate how Coleman's 'Naturalist' service (1870), for Minton, relied heavily on Felix Bracquemond's 'Rousseau' service (1866) shown at the Centennial Exhibition in 1876. Her lecture will reveal that “What made these wares so distinctive was the random positioning of the motifs: fish, insects, flowers, birds, and animals are scattered across the surface without forming any connections. Coleman and Bracquemond were inspired by print sources, primarily Hokusai's Manga.” She will then discuss how the designer Christopher Dresser, who first encountered Japanese decorative arts at the London International Exhibition of 1862, was influenced by patterns (wagara) found on fabrics, ceramics, and screens as well as print sources. She will also illustrate how Dresser also used Mons, heraldic devices, and a divisional approach, placing motifs within fan, circular or rectangular shapes. For commercial production it was this divisional approach that dominated as seen in the wares produced by Brownhills and Burgess and Leigh.”

Philadelphia Museum of Art

During our visit to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, docents will introduce members to carefully selected exhibits. At 5 p.m. members may choose to enjoy a visit to the museum’s cash bar or walk a short distance to view the historic Fairmont Water Works designed in 1812 by Frederick Graff that appear on historic Staffordshire wares.

Evening Activities

On Friday evening members will have time to purchase tickets for the wonderful raffle items like this special named jug with animal prints.

Be sure to register early and plan your travel. The first 30 members to register will receive this special TCC canvas bag!

Philadelphia in late April should be lovely.
The Transferware Collectors Club Annual Meeting:
Philadelphia April 26th-April 28th, 2024

On Saturday, April 27th, we will be bused to the Winterthur Museum and Gardens. In the morning, we will enjoy two lectures focused on the use of architectural, landscape, and commemorative patterns and sources that feature Philadelphia and its surrounding area as well as related patriotic themes.

A Staffordshire View of Philadelphia

Pat Halfpenny, Curator Emeritus of Ceramics and Glass, Winterthur Museum and Gardens, will kick off the morning with a lecture discussing the scenes of Philadelphia found on printed pottery and the Staffordshire manufacturers who produced them. While the focus will be on the dark blue prints of the 1820s, there will be reference to later Romantic Staffordshire with Philadelphia themes, concluding with a brief look at polychrome printed pieces.

The Nation’s Guest and Our Country’s Glory” Lafayette on Ceramics

Ron Fuchs, Editor of Ceramics in America, will examine ceramics made to commemorate the Marquis de La Fayette’s triumphal return trip to the United States in 1824. A passionate champion of liberty, a friend of George Washington, and one of the last living heroes of the American Revolution, Lafayette received a hero’s welcome. His visit was celebrated in parades, balls, orations, and souvenirs, among which was a wide range of transfer-printed ceramics decorated with his portrait, home, or high points of his thirteen-month stay in America.

Following lunch, attendees will enjoy guided tours of the museum and gardens. We will then return to our hotel for a wine and cheese reception, sponsored by members Marcia and Klaus Zech, followed by dinner.

Transferware Raffle!

This special plate printed with the “Fair Mount near Philadelphia” pattern is among the many items offered at this year’s fundraising raffle event.

Be sure to register early and plan your travel. The first 30 members to register will receive this special TCC canvas bag!

Philadelphia in late April should be lovely.
Advertising Pot Lids for the Philadelphia Trade

With his lecture titled “Pot Lids for the Philadelphia Trade”, David Hoexter, Database Advertising Category Editor and Manager of TCC Internet Communications, will discuss how Philadelphia was one of the leading American manufacturing centers during the mid-19th century, and perhaps the primary producer of consumer products sold in small transfer-printed ceramic containers made in England. Consumer products were produced and sold locally as well as throughout the United States. The lecture will include discussion of history, content and style of this vital commercial genre, as well as the 1876 Centennial.

The Aesthetic Movement Comes to America: Art for Art’s Sake and the House Beautiful Introduced at the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition

The Aesthetic Movement was a cultural phenomenon that originated in Britain in the 1860s and advocated for the pursuit of beauty in all things, most notably in interior design and domestic life. Although not completely unknown in the United States, Aestheticism did not take hold of the American imagination until 1876 during the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition. Reeling from post-Civil War societal upheaval and economic instability, Americans embraced the Art for Art’s Sake ethos as a means of elevating domestic space to elevate the soul and reintroduce morality in society. Using transferware pattern examples from Great Britain’s ceramics exhibitors, among them leading producers of the day, TCC Database Editor Adrienne Boggs will break down the stylistic elements that constitute Aesthetic transferware and discuss how Aestheticism elevated decorative arts and created the House Beautiful movement.

Transferware Raffle!

Attendees will be given time to check out of their rooms and then participate in the annual raffle followed by a boxed lunch.

Transferware Sale!

Our annual event will close on Sunday afternoon with the ever-popular dealer sale of transferware pottery and porcelain.

“Lilies and Vases #01”, Db Pattern #18428

Be sure to register early and plan your travel. The first 30 members to register will receive this special TCC canvas bag! Philadelphia in late April should be lovely.