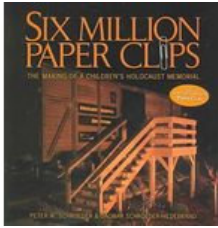


“Six Million Paper Clips: The Making of a Children’s Holocaust Memorial”



The showing of the documentary will be followed by a discussion period. The documentary was filmed on site at Whitwell, Tennessee, an Appalachian town populated by 1,600 residents, mainly white Anglo-Saxon Protestants with four black families and one Hispanic family. No foreigners, Catholics, Jews, or Muslims live there. The book was written in 2004 by Peter and Dagmar Schroeder, both are White House correspondents for a group of German newspapers. The town was the most unlikely place for a Holocaust memorial. But today, a World War II-era German rail car sits in front of the Whitwell Middle School housing millions of paper clips, each one honoring a victim of Nazi hatred, intolerance, and murder. It memorializes not only Jews, but Gypsies, Communists, trade unionists, homosexuals, disabled people, and anyone referred to by the Nazi regime as inferiors and *untermeschen*, or those less than human. The project began with a simple question by a parent of one of the middle school students to Mrs. Hooper, the school’s principal (“What are we teaching about diversity in our schools?”), which initiated planning by the entire community to start the project and bring it forward. To understand the enormity of the Nazi extermination of 6,000,000 Jews, students began collecting paper clips, a symbol used by Norwegians during the Nazi occupation to show solidarity for their Jews. German journalists Dagman and Peter Schroeder became involved. Here, the Schroeders tell how they met with students, worked with them and ultimately found and secured the German rail car, which was used to transport Jewish victims to concentration camps. Their project and delivered a very powerful message to the community.

Presenter: *Milton Wolk*

Milton Wolk has a Master’s in Education and a Manning Certificate in Gerontology. He has taught group dynamics at Massasoit Community College as well as Boston College and Dean College. He also is a graduate of Bentley College and has been a financial consultant and tax preparer for over 40 years. Currently, he works at UMass Boston’s Center for Survey Research. He was a member of the OLLI Board of Directors and served as Treasurer from 1999-2001.

Date & Time: Friday, May 18, 11:30-1:00 pm

Locations: Room 204A, 3rd fl., McCormack Hall, UMass Boston Campus