

Summer 2017

Historical Journal



LITITZ HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 65 145 E. Main Street, Lititz, PA 17543

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www.lititzhistoricalfoundation.com

John Carpenter: Soldier and Model Citizen of Lititz

Cory Van Brookhoven

John Carpenter was a veteran and member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Enlisting in 1863 at the age of 16, he was eager to enter and fight in the Civil War. After enlistment and training, John and his fellow comrades were sent to fill the gaps of Colonel Hambright's regiment at Chancellorsville.

Carpenter was along with Sherman's army during the famous march to the sea. He escaped unhurt until March 1865 at Battle of Bentonville. A bullet had passed through his shoulder, but luckily missed the bone. During that same afternoon, one of his fingers was shot off. The loss of blood prevented his escape, and as a result, he was among those sent to Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia.

After the war he returned home. In May of 1918 he erected an American flag on an eighteen-foot pole over two brass cannons which were once at the Lititz square. He stated that the cannons didn't seem right to him because the flag did not fly over them. So he decided to supply one. Yearly, on the anniversary of the Battle of Bentonville, Carpenter would display the flag over these cannons. When not on display, it hung above his bed so he could always sleep under the stars and stripes.

The Bible he is holding in the photo was carried by him during his enlistment in the Union Army, 79th Division, PA Volunteers, and he had also carried it on the famous march with General Sherman. It was also with him during the time he spent in Libby and Andersonville prisons. This Bible, photograph, and other personal items and documents were recently donated to the foundation by a descendant.



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John Carpenter Con't:

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Carpenter's father was also a Civil War soldier. This then made Carpenter a member of three organizations:

Sons of Veterans of the Civil War; Grand Army of the Republic; and the POW Organization. John would also take part in the last G.A.R. Memorial Day encampment in 1920 in the Lititz Springs Park. John Carpenter, American and Lititz hero, would pass away five years later at the age of 78.



Top photo: Carpenter standing at the Square in Lititz.

Lower photo: Members of the final Memorial Day encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in Lititz Springs Park in 1920. Carpenter is sitting front row second from left with his leg crossed.

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HISTORICAL JOURNAL

Our 55th Annual Antiques Show

Lancaster County's oldest show of its kind and always a perennial favorite! This year's show will again be held in the Warwick Middle School (104 Maple Street) in Lititz June 23rd-24th.

Promoted as an "old time country show," a cast of nearly 50 dealers will present a wide range of interesting, reasonably priced country wares and dry goods. Shoppers can expect to find farm items, stoneware, kitchen goods, textiles, early lighting, transfer ware, doll items, coin silver, holiday items, Pennsylvania folk art, and more!

Hungry shoppers will have an opportunity to purchase a delicious variety of freshly prepared food, smoked meats and pulled pork as well as vegetarian choices from a well-known local food truck service set up outdoors adjacent to the show entrance.

This food may be eaten indoors at the cafeteria. And shoppers with a sweet tooth can indulge in fresh, homemade baked goods made by experts from the foundation's bakers group.

Show hours are Friday 10am-5pm; Saturday 9am-2pm Admission: \$9.00 or \$8.00 with card or ad.

Visit www.lititzhistoricalfoundation.com or call for more info. 717-575-4006.

The show card inside this newsletter will save you \$1.00 on admission. We look forward to seeing you there!



2017 Lititz
Antiques Show
55th Annual

Warwick Middle School
401 Maple Street
Lititz, PA 17543

— Dates —
Friday June 23th
Saturday June 24th

— Times —
Friday 10 - 5
Saturday 9 - 2

Over 45 Dealers • Primarily Country



Relive the Memories of the 1956 Lititz Bicentennial Celebration!

As a very special fundraiser, we are selling DVD copies of the 1956 Lititz Bicentennial celebration! Just over an hour long, the full color footage features many activities, streetscapes, people, and places of downtown Lititz filmed over 60 years ago. Copies are available by mail order or in our gift shop. Follow this link to order online: <http://www.lititzhistoricalfoundation.com/events/?p=423>

THANK YOU!



UPCOMING FREE EVENTS

Sunday, August 13th

A World War 2 themed evening featuring King Street Big Band, a 12 piece band from Lancaster, PA. The event will be held 6:30pm-8:00pm and will also feature "America Homefront", Rosie the Riveter, World War 2 reenactors, and more.

The evening is graciously sponsored by Moravian Manor and Luthercare.

Sunday, September 3rd

Ice Cream Social!

Join us for an evening of games, music, and free ice cream.

Music provided by the Celtic-folk band Rizzetta's Tones and runs from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

Sponsored by Woodstream.

*Both events take place in our Mary Oehme Gardens.
Come enjoy free music, food, drinks, and fellowship with us.
Bring your lawn chairs and friends, family, and neighbors!*

In The News

From London to Lititz

We always love to hear from our museum colleagues both locally and from across the world. Recently, an email came into us from the Science Museum in London.

For their upcoming new history of medicine galleries, Assistant Curator of Medicine Jack Davies of the London Science Museum corresponded with our board president Cory Van Brookhoven about a company that had roots right here in Lancaster County.

Van Brookhoven was able to provide Davies with information on a recently acquired Pensupreme "Vitamin D" milk bottle, as well as the full history of the former business.

"These permanent galleries will be of international significance, and will be a global centre for the public understanding of health and medicine. Generous in scope and rich in people stories, this landmark project will speak to the medical challenges of yesterday, today, and tomorrow," Davies said in an email.



Thank You Lititz Cub Scout Pack 44!

We wanted to take this opportunity to salute Cub Scout Pack 44 of Lititz for their recent volunteer work in our gardens.

They were a big help in raking and removing leaves, and also helped beautify our grounds. THANK YOU so much for your service to us and the community!



DID YOU KNOW...?

DID YOU KNOW?....

This arch over the driveway can be easily seen if you drive past, but how many see the house that sits back at the end of the drive?

Lititz's own Charlie Kissinger built most of his family house on North Water Street himself. He constructed it for his parents, even digging the cellar and performing all the carpentry.

He also built the stone wall and arch in front of the house shown here. Begun in March 1927, he finished the home in April, 90 years ago this year.



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