

Fall 2009

Historical Journal



LITITZ HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

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

717-627-4636

MUSEUM & SHOP HOURS:

10 AM TO 4 PM

MONDAY -
SATURDAY THRU
OCTOBER 31ST.

10 AM - 4 PM
EVERY FRIDAY &
SATURDAY
IN NOV. & DEC.
THRU DEC. 19TH

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Charles Steifvater - Secretary

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LLOYD MIFFLIN ARTIST & POET

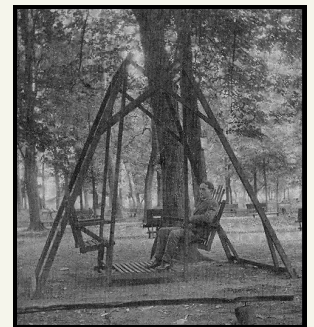
Charlene Van Brookhoven

Lloyd Mifflin "America's Greatest Contemporary Sonneteer" at the turn of the century was born in Columbia in 1846 and died in 1921 at his beloved family home "Norwood" six miles west of Lancaster. His work was much admired throughout the United States, but especially in England where he had a large number of admirers.

A sonnet is a fixed verse consisting of 14 lines; and a Sonneteer is a composer of Sonnets which is written to be read more musically than a poem.

In July 1909, Mr. Mifflin traveled to Lititz to hear and enjoy a sacred cantata performed by Moravian musicians in the Lititz Springs Park. During an intermission in the performance, Mifflin strolled to the town fountain on the square and was inspired by his surroundings in the lovely little town. In the park he had seen a school girl swinging and softly singing to herself with a look of contentment in her smile.

This atmosphere of contentment inspired Lloyd Mifflin to compose one of the loveliest of his sonnets, which can be seen below.



AN EVENING AT LITITZ

*Beneath the trees the old swing's ample seat
Freighted with maids demure, sways to and fro,
One maiden to herself sings soft and low;
While in the shadows here the stifling heat
Lessens, and by the public fountain, meet
Worn men, and tired horses, moving slow,
Yet eager for the cooling streams which flow*

*From yon blue hills beyond the fields of wheat.
While sinks the sun, the bending toilers move
Homeward along the quiet, leafy way;
And now the moon amid the boughs is hung;
It is the evening of the Sacred Play,
And all the people gather in the grove,
Where the old Bible Story will be sung.*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Randy Weit

The Lititz Historical Foundation is having another good year through our fund raising events as well as our community appreciation events and gift shop receipts.

The Annual Meeting of the Lititz Historical Foundation will be held Sunday November 15th at 2pm. I would like to thank all of the volunteers and Foundation board members for making this year a success through volunteering their time and expertise in fund raising events, the gift shop, maintaining the buildings and grounds, community appreciation events, greeters at the museum, and all of the special projects throughout the year.

Anyone interested in volunteering as a greeter at the museum and helping with gift shop sales or helping with fund raising events, please visit the Foundation Museum or call 627-4636.

The past year we started the Winter Lecture Series again. Thanks to Cory Van Brookhoven, we had three excellent topics and speakers with good turnout for these lectures. Look for the 2010 lecture series advertised in the newspaper later this year. Please stop in the Museum to see the Foundations rotating displays and area resident's personal collections of Lititz area antiques and collectibles. We are very happy to have Leslie Maynor as our volunteer museum displays coordinator.

Thank you for another great year!



ACQUISITIONS

The museum has recently acquired the below generous donations and/or historical items. Please take a moment while visiting the library or museum to view these wonderful treasures. If you have a Lititz item that you wish to donate, please contact Randy Weit. Your gift is tax-deductible, and will ensure that your item will be preserved and cherished for generations to come.

- A Notebook containing various local photographs dating from 1970-2000 taken by Marjorie Klenin. Donated by Emily Klenin in memory of Marjorie.
- George Hepp Jeweler's Clock. Donated by William S. Tinney.
- HP C5280 printer/scanner; and ink cartridges and paper. Donated by R.C. Butler.
- Album containing 184 Lititz Express Printing Company postcards. Donated by Charles F. Gross.
- Nanticoke Indian Tomahawk artifact found in Warwick Township by Walter Cammauf. Donated by Walter Cammauf.
- High chest of drawers; corner cupboard; 1818 blanket chest; mortar and pestle; wooden bowl; wooden hay fork; wooden shaver; and wooden dipper. Donated by Edward and Gladys Crowl. Given in memory of Jackson Coe and Benjamin Coe Crowl.
- Sewing basket; cradle quilt; carrying blanket; coffer box; small quilt on trundle bed; tin candle holder; snuff box; covered tin cup; tin sugar shaker; tin quart measure; milk pail; tin molasses jug; tin kettle for milk; earthenware crock; 1885 girl's dress; 1886 baptismal dress; 1850 printed apron; 1860's rag doll; 1842 boy's jacket; plank bottom Joseph Lehn chair; multi-colored quilt; quilt patterns; 1890 boy's dress. Given by Carol Messina in memory of Herma Losensky.

The Foundation is very thankful for the above generous gifts! Additional donations will be printed in future issues of the Historical Journal.

**MUSEUM AND
TOUR GUIDE
NEWS**

Jen Englehart

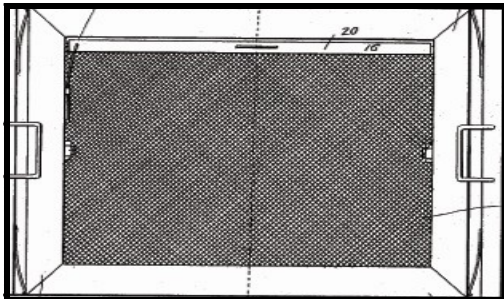
Thank you to all of the volunteers who have made the Historical Foundation one of their many commitments. We have been blessed with a few dedicated workers. However, our volunteer list is extremely short. I am sorry to announce that due to a lack of volunteers, this fall the museum will not be open for normal hours. I need all of you to put your heads together and think of individuals who could spare three hours a month. Also, the museum has a paid guide position available. The individual would be a substitute in the summer months and work three hours a week from the end of August to the end of October. Please contact me, Jennifer Englehart at 627-3507 if you have any ideas on how to solve these dilemmas.

**ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 15TH**

Please join us for our annual meeting on Sunday November 15th at 2pm. The meeting will be held at Steinman Arts Center, which is located directly across from the Foundation at Linden Hall. After the meeting, we are excited to have with us John Long, Sam Nolt, and Curt Tomlinson who together wrote a recent book on Lancaster County bottle collecting. For our program, the gentlemen will discuss collecting antique Lancaster County whiskey bottles and shot glasses. This program is sure to be another hit!

ANNUAL CAROL SING

The annual Carol sing will take place on Thursday, December 17th at 7:00pm at the Moravian Church Square. This event is always a great community event, and an outstanding way to celebrate the season. Hope to see you there!



Pictured at left is an invention by Lititz's own John Zook. It is U.S. Patent #603,717 patented on May 10th, 1898. It is entitled "J.G. Zook Fly Screen". This screen was designed by Zook as an improved and efficient means to catch pesky flies during the hot summer months. In addition to operating the Lititz Record Express, Zook was an outspoken member of the Prohibitionist party.

EXHIBIT NEWS

Leslie Maynor

A huge heart-felt Thank You goes out to Jessica Gohn and the 5-7-9 shop at Park City Mall for loaning us the mannequin forms to display some of our antique dresses. That small act of kindness really made the difference in our exhibit. Randy Miller, can we say Thank You enough? The carnival toys add a wealth of charm and color to the museum. We know that is a lot of work for you and we do appreciate it. We are an ever-changing museum, and we welcome locals to come forward who have local Christmas stories, pictures, etc. as we are on the Home Tour this season, and we would like to make it a community open project. All collections will be shared and then returned. We will start putting together our holiday collections in late October because it will take quite a while to do it. The earlier we get started the better.

RECENT PARTNERSHIP

The Lititz Historical Foundation has partnered with the Lititz Moravian Archives Committee. Both parties feel that this is a great opportunity to “cross promote” events and lectures of local historical significance. The Moravian Archives, located just across the street from our museum, provides guests with many outstanding artifacts and historical items pertaining not just to the Moravian Church, but to Lititz history as well. We look forward to working closely with their board of directors to provide our members and guests a unique and enriching historical experience. This will also enable local researchers to further expand their resources. Special thanks to Robert Sandercox on the Moravian archives committee for helping to make to this important partnership happen.



A PHOTO RETURNS HOME TO LITITZ!

Cory Van Brookhoven

Recently, the Foundation acquired through an antiques dealer near Altoona a turn of the century framed picture of several boys posing with their musical instruments. The picture was taken on the lawn of Audubon Villa. At the far right is a young Herbert Beck. Beck grew up in Lititz, and went on to become the President of the Lancaster County Historical Society for several years, an instructor at F&M College, and also was a noted naturalist. We are very fortunate to bring this photo back home to Lititz. Please stop in to view this photograph on your next trip to the museum.



GIFT SHOP NEWS

Beverly Maddox

The gift shop had a successful day at the Rotary Club's Craft show in August. We thank all our loyal volunteers who worked in shifts from 5:00 AM to 5:00 PM to make it such a profitable day. Now it is time to think about the holidays. We hope you will keep the gift shop in mind when planning your gift purchases. As always, we have a large assortment of stars. This year, there is a new style of the lighted Moravian star kit that is easier to put together. The smaller 12 inch size has an attachment so that the star can be placed on top of the Christmas tree. There is also a large selection of Christmas linens to choose from. We have 2 new CD's from Silver Wood and Ivory along with there Christmas ones. Remember, members receive a 10 percent discount on regular priced merchandise.

NEW NEWSLETTER FORMAT

As you probably have noticed already with this issue, we have started a brand new, more informative newsletter. Going forward, the Historical Journal will contain more information about the Foundation, with many exciting new features, articles, photos, and much, much more. We welcome your feedback!

2010 WINTER LECTURE SERIES

Cory Van Brookhoven

We are excited to announce that in 2010, we will host three winter lecture series slated for January 10th; February 7th; and March 14th. All programs will be held at 2pm on a Sunday afternoon. Due to the size of the turnout at past lectures series, we have moved to a much larger facility. All three lectures will be presented directly across the street at Linden Hall's Steinman Arts Center. This will provide members and guests with a much larger, better enabled facility. Please keep your eye on the Lititz Record Express or visit the Foundation to find out who we will be hosting closer to these dates. Special thanks to Vincent Stumpo and Susan Hixson at Linden Hall for their generosity in offering this facility to host our lectures. Thank You!

2009 WINTER PROGRAMS

This past winter, the Foundation was very lucky in obtaining several wonderful guest speakers for our winter series of lectures. In January, Frank Zeager, a local bottle collector, did an outstanding presentation on local milk bottle collecting. In February, the Foundation hosted Darwin Martin, who has recently written a book on local Native American Cultures. Then in March, the Foundation hosted Rick Fisher, who is an internationally known ghost hunter and researcher. Fisher's program was surely a crowd-pleaser, and the attendance was so high, there had to be two back-to-back presentations that afternoon to accommodate all that attended. We welcome your feedback on these speakers, and we also welcome suggestions for our Winter 2010 speakers. Please contact Programs Coordinator Cory Van Brookhoven at 625-4598 if you have an idea for a speaker for one of our programs in the future.

Darvin Martin



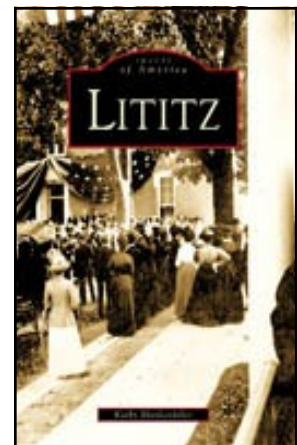
Rick Fisher

LITITZ BY KATHY BLANKENBILLER

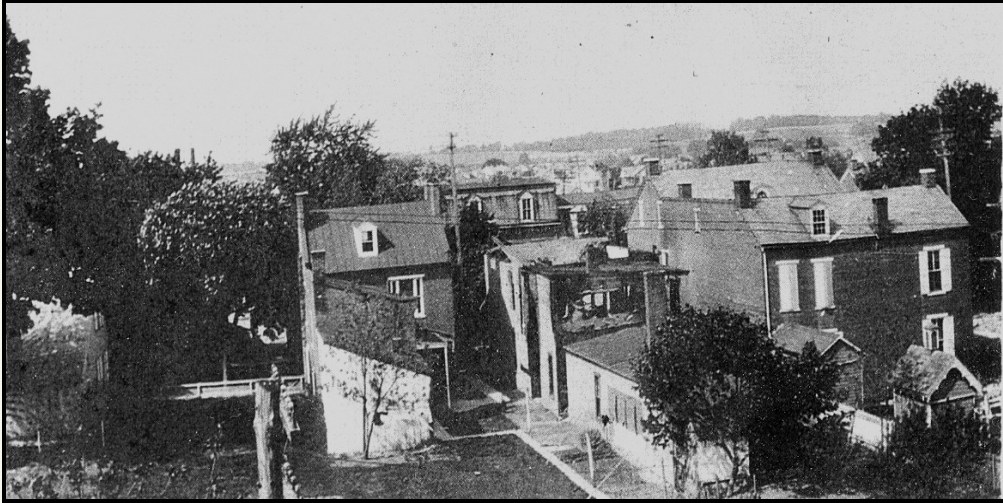
Cory Van Brookhoven

A new book has recently been released by local writer Kathy Blankenbiller. Entitled "Lititz", this outstanding picture book published by Arcadia Publishing contains over 200 black and white photographs. Inside, there are many pictures with captions detailing Lititz throughout the years. From Wilbur Chocolate, to the historic Moravian Church, to up and down Main Street, to the 4th of July Lititz Queen of Candles pageant, this book has it all!

This volume makes a great gift for the Lititz native as well as any traveler visiting our town who would like to take a great piece of Lititz home with them. Available in our gift shop, this book makes an outstanding Christmas gift. Hurry! Supplies are limited!



PICTURE QUIZ



Can you name the location in Lititz where this photograph was taken?
The answer will appear in our next issue!

Answer to last issue's question:

This is a photograph of the house a few doors down from the Foundation, right next to the Pilger Haus.



Lititz Historical Foundation's
Historical Journal
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