

Spring 2023

# Historical Journal



**LITITZ HISTORICAL FOUNDATION**

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

717-627-4636

[www.lititzhistoricalfoundation.com](http://www.lititzhistoricalfoundation.com)

## *Victorian Hair Jewelry*

*Charlene Van Brookhoven*

Local museums contain collections of antiques, ephemera, family heirlooms, and many items pertaining to a town's history. This includes gifts from generous residents as well as signage and advertising memorabilia from past local businesses. A town museum usually employs an archivist, a person who is knowledgeable in the contents, and can also make a decision as to what is acceptable as a donation or rejection. This is a job of a well trained historian.

In the mid 1960's when Lititz Historical Foundation was being established, the many people involved were anxious to accept donations of all sorts including items that had little to do with the historical background of Lititz.

However, during these early years some very interesting and unusual objects were included in the list of cataloged pieces. Among them are three pieces of Victorian hair art.

The Victorian era is noted between the years 1837 and 1901 which marked the reign of Britain's Queen Victoria. This time frame saw huge changes in the social lives of many British as well as American citizens.

Especially affected were the Victorian ladies. Before this time women were not permitted to shop, walk the streets without a male escort, use public bathrooms (only for men), or make any monetary or family decisions.

The Victorian ladies generally had long hair to adorn the beautiful, full layers of clothing they wore.



*Above: An example of Victorian hair jewelry. Story continued on page 5 inside.*

Spring 2023

HISTORICAL JOURNAL

## Howard S. Young—Musician and Popular Downtown Retailer

Cory Van Brookhoven

### Board of Directors:

Cory Van Brookhoven  
President

Tom Oehme  
Vice President

Tom Wentzel  
Secretary

David Orr  
Treasurer

### Directors:

Lauren Summers

Michael Caldwell

Jerry McDonald

Gail Horrocks

Tom Clouse

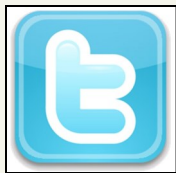
Dan Gwinn

Bill Oehme

Robin Roumeliotis

### Newsletter Editor:

Cory Van Brookhoven



For generations, music has been an important part of the Lititz story. From the Lititz Moravian Trombone Choir to Rock Lititz, our town has always been centered in lovely notes from a variety of sources and artists.

In addition to musicians, there were many beloved members of the community who shared the love of music in several different ways.

Howard S. Young was one of them.

Howard S. Young (1881-1970) was a beloved piano tuner and local musician. Around 1917, he opened a popular music store in Lititz, one which continued well into the 1950s.

This glass sign with gold lettering was displayed in the window of his music shop decades ago. By the 1930s, Young was selling General Electric radios. He was also an active member of the Lititz Moravian Church.

A gifted musician, he also served as the organist for the Masonic Lodge and Knights Templar for 30 years.

The Lititz Historical Foundation is proud to own the sign shown here. It's one of the many precious mementos that serves as a window to our past.



*Above: Howard S. Young's original gold-lettered glass sign from his music house in Lititz.*

*Do you have a Lititz history related item you'd like to donate to the foundation?*

*Please send an email to [info@lititzhistoricalfoundation.com](mailto:info@lititzhistoricalfoundation.com)*

*to begin the conversation.*

## Our 60th Annual Antiques Show is June 23rd and 24th

## Our 60th Year!

Lancaster County's oldest show of its kind and always a perennial favorite, this fundraiser will be staged in the Warwick Middle School (104 Maple Street) in Lititz June 23rd and 24th. Admission is \$10 per person.

Hours are Friday 10am-5pm; and Saturday 9am-2pm.

This two-day event is an “old time country show” a cast of over 50 dealers who 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!



*Scan the QR code below with your smartphone to save \$1 off admission!*

Hungry shoppers will have an opportunity onsite to purchase hot food for lunch or a snack. Admission charged. Cash and credit cards accepted for entry! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year - See you there!



# Popscotch Kicks Off Our Summer Concert Series June 25!



Join us in our Mary Oehme Gardens on Sunday June 25th for Popscotch – an outstanding local band that performs the greatest poppy, rocky & funky dance hits that get the party started & keep it going! The concert will begin at 6:30pm. Bring your dancing shoes, chairs, and blankets, and invite your friends, family, and neighbors.

Refreshments available for a small fee. This concert is generously sponsored by Luther Acres. Thank you! This is a pay what you can event. We will be collecting donations that evening to help preserve our gardens and 18th century structures.



*Spring 2023*

*HISTORICAL JOURNAL*

## **Book Signing and Lecture to Focus on History of Watt & Shand**

Join us for a special lecture and book signing March 25th!

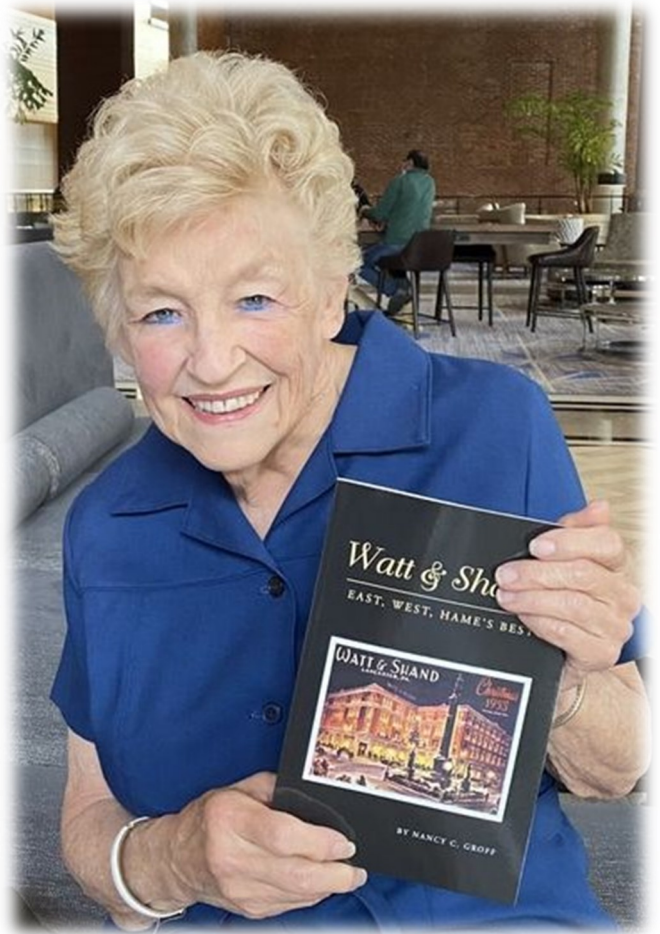
“Watt & Shand: East, West, Hame’s Best” is the history of the Watt & Shand store that opened on March 9, 1878, at 20-22 East King Street in Lancaster, Pa. The store was an immediate success and provided domestic, foreign goods, notions, and dry goods. It became Lancaster’s largest and most enterprising store.

The book begins with life in Orkney, Scotland, where Peter T. Watt grew up on a farm. He emigrated to America to live out the American dream. This is not only a history of the Watt & Shand store, but also the story of Peter Watt and his family. Anniversary celebrations are depicted and stories by former employees and patrons are provided as well.

Nancy Groff, 80, is the great-granddaughter of Watt. She spent much of her childhood at the home of her grandparents and recollects listening to many stories from her grandmother about the Watt & Shand legacy in Lancaster County.

If you appreciate the programs LHF offers feel free to donate. Copies of the book will be available for sale. Please bring cash.

This program will take place at 10:30am and 1:30pm. Reservations begin March 10th at 9am. Call the Lititz Library at 717-626-2255 beginning that day and time to sign up.



## **We Open For the 2023 Season April 28th!**

Beginning April 28th, the Lititz Museum, Gift Shop, and tours of our 1792 Johannes Mueller House will be available. Come see all the new exhibits!

Learn the rich history of Lititz, Pennsylvania! You may explore our museum and gift shop or take a guided tour of our 1792 Johannes Mueller House with one of our costumed docents!

**HOURS OF OPERATION:**  
Monday through Saturday: 11am-5pm.

Walking tours of Main Street are also available! Six days a week Call us to book! 717-627-4636

Bus tours and large groups welcome! To book a group tour, email us at [info@lititzhistoricalfoundation.com](mailto:info@lititzhistoricalfoundation.com).

*Spring 2023**HISTORICAL JOURNAL*

### *Victorian Hair Jewelry Con't:*

Women also began applying color to their cheeks and lips as an almost sensual appearance to attract the most eligible bachelors. Many hours were spent brushing or combing their hair until a sparkling shine would appear. During this activity the women would pull long strands of their hair from a brush or comb. This hair was placed in a hair receiver, a small container made of ceramic, porcelain, or celluloid with a small hole on the top. These receptacles were part of a Victorian ladies dressing table along with a matching bowl and pitcher for personal hygiene. As the receptacle became full, the hair was removed and braided or spun into long strands to make lady's jewelry or flowers for parlor wreaths.

This new trend of hair art became a popular craft among middle-class women of the Victorian years. This was mostly attributed to articles in ladies magazines describing the how to's and patterns to make the unusual, hand made pieces.

As the Victorian era began to wane, so did the popularity of hair art. Today many museums throughout the world include pieces in their Victorian displays of this unusual use of something that would otherwise be discarded.



*Top left and bottom: Several examples of Victorian hair Jewelry. Top right: A porcelain hair receiver.*

*Come see these and other items by taking a tour of our 1792 Johannes Mueller House! Remember, as LHF members in good standing, tours are free.*

## DID YOU KNOW...?



Before the Lititz Post Office was built in 1940, this structure, located at 74 East Main Street, was situated in the same spot prior to construction of the post office.

Lititz Historical Foundation's  
*Historical Journal*  
 P.O. Box 65 145 E. Main Street, Lititz, PA 17543  
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

