

Summer 2021

Historical Journal



LITITZ HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

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

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25 Years of Beautiful Gardens at the Lititz Historical Foundation

Charlene Van Brookhoven

Sunday June 9, 1996 was a special day for The Lititz Historical Foundation. On that day the Mary Oehme Gardens was completed and ready for unveiling. After months of planning and many hours of work by dedicated LHF volunteers, the gardens to the rear of The Johannes Mueller House and The Lititz Museum were ready to be shared. With a large donation from William B. Oehme, Mary's husband, profits from LHF Tour of Gardens and private individuals, there was enough capital to complete the project.

The extensive improvements tied the two houses together and would be the perfect setting for private and community functions. Derck and Edson Associates drew up the plans for the landscape architecture and also the management of the project to completion. A limestone retaining wall, fencing, walkways, benches, electricity and water were added as well as handicap accessibility. These amenities have added greatly to the tranquility and warmth to the Foundation property.



The Mary Oehme Gardens would not have been quite as lovely without many hands from dedicated volunteers. Each spring Carl Shuman, a water garden expert, cleaned the century-old fish pond and added water lilies to provide shelter for the resident goldfish. The Lititz Woman's Club tended the herb garden and Lititz Women of Today planted perennials, some of which still appear each spring.

Above. A 1996 view of the then newly-opened Mary Oehme Gardens. Continued on Page 3 inside

We Are Open For The Season!

Cory Van Brookhoven

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After months of planning, we are proud to announce that we are now open for our 2021 season! While last year brought many challenges, we are hoping that this year brings more normalcy to our campus. Please visit today and see what's new!

While you're here, don't forget to visit our gift shop and Mary Oehme Gardens. We also have several events planned for this summer—stay tuned for more details and be sure to check the Events tab on our website to keep up with the most current information.

At this time, I want to personally thank our staff, tour guides, volunteers, and board members that continue to make the Lititz Historical Foundation a great place to visit. We hope to see you soon!

Lititz: Then and Now

Photographed approximately 100 years apart, here's a Then versus Now peek of the intersection of and South Broad and Lemon Streets in Lititz looking north. As you can see, very little has changed across a century!



25 Years of Beautiful Gardens at the Lititz Historical Foundation Con't:

Curtis Zeller gave of his time mowing the lush green grass during the summer months and tidying up the falling leaves in the autumn. Lee Stoltzfus, a designer of period landscapes, compiled a list of plants that would have been growing at the time these two 18th century homes were built. Lee so kindly added these words during the planning stages of the garden.

“I am convinced that you have created the perfect setting for a state of the art showcase of historical Moravian horticulture.”

Please plan to join the 25-year anniversary celebration in the Mary L.Oehme Gardens on the second Friday of June – June 11 – 5-8 p.m. Self-guided tours of the gardens plus light refreshments will be available with free admission. If you have a question on how to rent the gardens for special events, volunteers will be there with answers.

Right: Dedication ceremonies held in June of 1996. Shown here in the center are (left to right): Henry Gibble Sr., Bill Oehme; and Henry Gibble Jr.

*Garden Anniversary Party Slated for June 11*

Our Mary Oehme Gardens turn 25 this summer and we are celebrating!

Join us Friday June 11th from 5-8pm for a garden party to mark the occasion. That evening, we'll have self-guided tours of our gardens, light refreshments, and volunteers will be onsite to answer your questions about the space.

Admission is free. We hope to see you there!



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Our 58th Annual Antiques Show is ON for June 25-26!

New Location! Our 58th Annual show will be held at the Lititz Rec Center June 25-26th, 2021! We are very excited for the show to come back this year, and we can't wait to see you! Admission will be \$10. This traditional country show is always a favorite.

Show hours are as follows: Friday: 10am-5pm; Saturday: 9am-2pm. See you there!



2021 Lititz
Antiques Show
58th Annual

Lititz Rec Center

301 Maple Street
Lititz, PA 17543

— Dates —
Friday June 25th
Saturday June 26th

— Times —
Friday 10am - 5pm
Saturday 9am - 2pm

Primarily Country



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Sept. 10th—An Evening with the Lancaster, PA Ghostbusters!

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Join us Friday, September 10th from 5-8pm for a special evening with the Lancaster PA Ghostbusters!

Members of their team will be onsite with their vehicle, photo ops, a slime lab, and a raffle. They'll also be there to collect donations to purchase food and healthcare for pets in need. Bring your friends and family!

While you're here, be sure to visit the Lititz Museum, gift shop, and stroll our Mary Oehme Gardens. See you there!



World War II Military Encampment September 18

Join us on Saturday, September 18th for a great day of World War II history!

In our Mary Oehme Gardens, we'll be holding a World War 2 encampment featuring:

- America Homefront: A life-sized room to room display of a 1940s era home
- World War 2 reenactors
- World War 2 items which were once owned, used, or worn by the soldiers who served
- Rosie The Riveter
- Authentic World War era/1940s displays and artifacts

****This event is free and open to the public. Hours will be 11am-5pm****

PLUS- Tours of our 1792 Johannes Mueller House will be available all day for a fee. Come learn the fascinating history of Lititz. Your tour guide will take you through an 18th century home, where you will learn all about early Lititz and Moravian life. Admission charged.

While you're there, be sure to visit the Lititz Museum and Gift Shop!



DID YOU KNOW...?



Pictured is an early 1900s image a group of Brunnerville residents enjoying a picnic. The gentleman at the far left, George Irwin, was sadly killed in 1918 while serving as a soldier during World War 1.

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