



Mrs. Loucks & egg tree

Mrs. Loucks' egg tree

by Martha Fuhrman

Easter egg trees are growing in popularity but the one that stands in the corner of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Loucks, of 232 E. Front St., Marietta, is a first for them. Back in February of this year, Mrs. Loucks started to hand paint, with acrylics, the egg shaped plastic containers of a well known brand of panty hose. The containers were given to her by friends and relatives. For weeks Mrs. Loucks decorated the eggs with chicks, ducklings, bunnies and birds. Some were garnished with gold braid and a bit of lace. Just recently the tree was erected in the corner of the living room. Sprigs of flowers and birds among the limbs add a colorful note to the first Easter egg tree for the Loucks.

Mrs. Loucks, who also works and takes care of household chores, is well known in the area for her paintings. She has captured several prizes in art shows, for both oils and water colors. Her works include still life, landscapes and pet portraits. Although she puts the brush and palette to good use, Mrs. Loucks does not always work on canvas. There are times when wedding invitations command a great deal of her talent. The wedding invitations are usually painted in water colors with a scene that depicts either the season or the setting of the wedding. The invitation is then framed and given by the person who ordered it, as a lasting gift, to the happy couple.

Stones to most people are just stones, but to Mrs. Loucks they are to be beautified. Often, after a walk, she will return home with many stones. After she cleans them she considers them for shape and size and then with that consideration in mind, she paints, in acrylics, birds, bees, butterflies, pheasants or varied animals. The stones become attractive paperweights. She may also glue several stones together, and after painting them, have a duck or another animal figure.

The holidays are always a busy time for Mrs. Loucks, for beside painting she also crochets. Long before the Christmas holidays she is busy crocheting gifts for friends and relatives.

As a child growing up in Mount Joy, Mrs. Loucks, the former Anna Mary Shire, was always interested in art. After marriage, her biggest concern was her family, and raising five children was a full time job. But after they were grown, Mrs. Loucks de-

cidied to attend classes given by Henry Libhart, noted local artist. She continued taking instruction until mid 1974.

Her talents are much in demand by those who want painted wedding invitations or paperweights. But now A.M. Loucks will be start-



Painting by Mrs. Loucks

Restoration meeting

Richard Smith, vice-president of Armstrong Inc., was guest speaker for the Marietta Restoration Associates on Thursday night in the Community House. "Millbach," a house with a mill attached, and owned by Mr. and Mrs. Smith, was the subject of the discussion. With the aid of slides Mr. Smith showed progress thus far in research being carried out by him and his wife. The house was built in

1752. The mill, constructed in 1784 operated until 1941 and was owned by one family for 113 years.

Michael Abel, president, conducted a discussion of plans for a bus trip to New Castle. Reservations must be made by the April 17th meeting by notifying Miss

Elsie McCloskey.

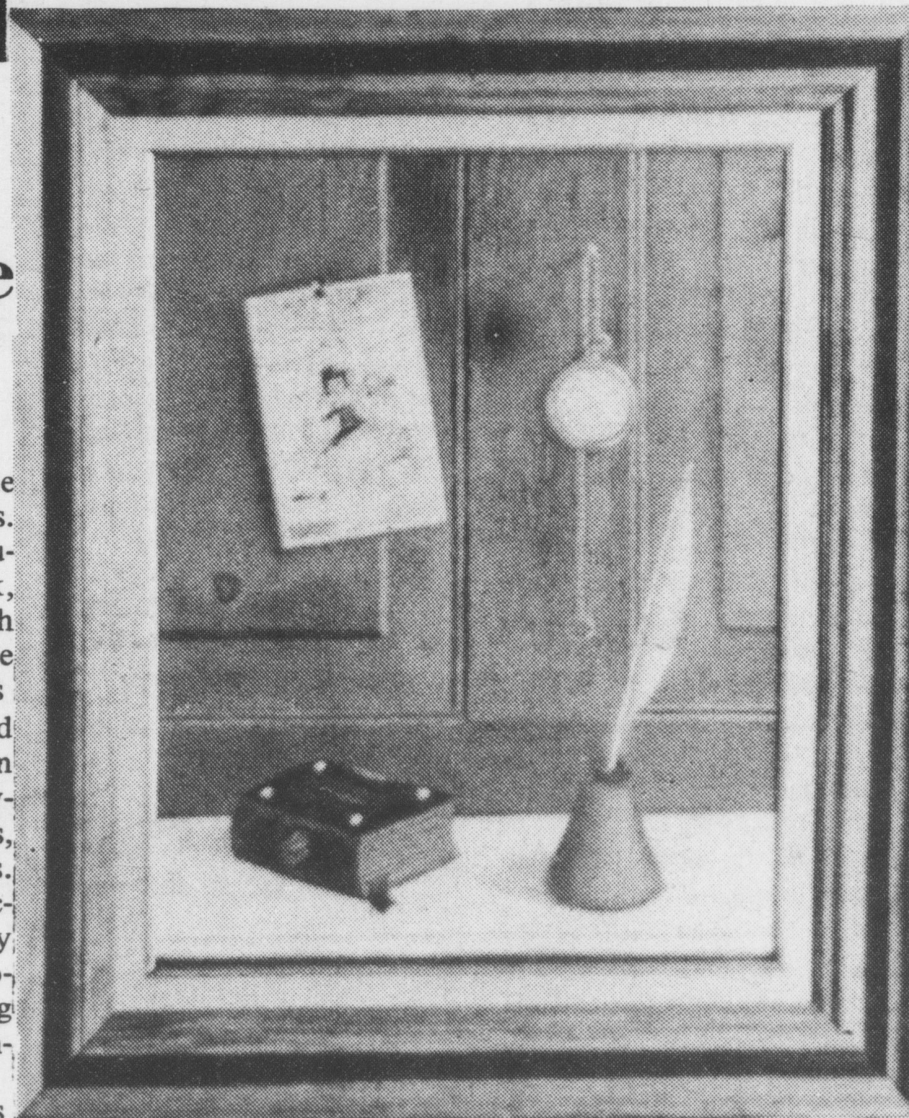
The Associates voted to remove and preserve the chimney found on the Sultzbach property, owned by them, and to surround the lot with a picket fence.

The April meeting will be held on the 17th at 8 p.m. in the Community House.

DID YOU HEAR...

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Spittler, Mount Joy, R.D.1, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on March 28 - which happens also to be Mrs. Spittler's birthday.

Their anniversary notice has appeared every year in the Bulletin. Congratulations! and Happy Birthday!



Painting by Mrs. Loucks

ing on a new canvas. There's an art show coming up in May.

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