



# EDWARD HAND MEDICAL MUSEUM

## Fall 2019 e-newsletter

Check out our [website](http://www.edwardhandmedicalmuseum.org).  
([www.edwardhandmedicalmuseum.org](http://www.edwardhandmedicalmuseum.org))

Our website lists 15 subsections of Lancaster medical history, including 228 items ranging from original articles and lectures to newsletters and oral histories. You can read about Gen. Edward Hand, Lancaster Medical Legacies and Lineages, or enjoy histories of Medical Specialties and Infectious Disease.

A recent addition is a section of oral histories on various topics. Included are interviews with Drs. Argires, May, Ratcliffe, Ripple, Weber, Wentz and Zervanos. Thanks to Dr. Larry Bonchek from *The Journal of LGH* for his help with this area.

An example of the information on the website can be seen in the abstracts of the research by the summer interns highlighted in this newsletter.

If you know of an area of interest or article that might be added, please contact Alan Peterson, MD, at [aspeters@lghealth.org](mailto:aspeters@lghealth.org)

### *From the Executive Director: Hannah Lerew*

As mentioned in our Summer e-newsletter, you should expect to see some big changes in 2020, the biggest being our upcoming move to 410 N. Lime street!

This move will allow our collection to grow and become a real asset to the Lancaster community. The added exhibit space will give us the opportunity to share more of our collection and the designated archives and library will give us a space to allow researchers and historians to access our records.

The newest additions to our collection include several LGH nursing uniforms from the 1930s and 1950s, as well as, a pair of Civil War-era crutches. We hope to cycle these items through the new displays. Our website now has an artifact donation form and our collections policy if you are interested in donating an item to our growing collection.

With bigger space comes bigger expenses so we are upping our fundraising game during this year's ExtraOrdinary Give on November 22, 2019.

This 24-hour day of online giving highlights the philanthropic nature of the Lancaster community and gives Lancaster citizens a chance to interact with their local nonprofits. In an effort to connect with more people, we are partnering with over a dozen nonprofits to hold an event at the Holiday Inn Lancaster. This free event will take place from 10am–6pm and will include Broadway karaoke, a free coffee station, discounted food at the Imperial, and much more!

Visit [Extraordinary Give](http://www.extragive.org/organizations/edward-hand-medical-museum) for more information.  
([www.extragive.org/organizations/edward-hand-medical-museum](http://www.extragive.org/organizations/edward-hand-medical-museum))



*From the Incoming President: Dr. Barton L. Halperin*



*Dr. Halperin*

I am looking forward to serving as the next president of the Edward Hand Medical Heritage Foundation beginning January 2020.

We will be continuing the vision set by our founders in 1982 to preserve and make accessible the rich heritage of the healing arts in Lancaster County. This goal has been made possible only by the dedication of countless volunteers, those who have donated medical artifacts, and those who have given their time and money towards this goal.

In addition, we have received generous financial support from LGHealth Penn Medicine, other area hospitals, hospital medical staffs, and individuals in our community.

Our past accomplishments include collecting, cataloging and preserving over 11,000 medical artifacts, developing a student internship program, putting a virtual museum online, updating our website ([www.edward-handmedicalmuseum.org](http://www.edward-handmedicalmuseum.org)), and hiring our first full time staff, Executive Director Hannah Lerew.

I am enormously grateful for the contributions of all past members: Susan Eckert, our most recent president, Dr. Nik Zervanos, who personally recruited every member of our organization, Dr. John Bowman, who introduced me to the organization and has spent countless hours cataloguing the lions share of our artifacts, and Dr. Paul Ripple, who was instrumental in founding our organization. I am delighted that our officers going forward will include Dr. Larry Carrol as Vice President and head of education, and Dr. Gerald Rothacker as our Treasurer. We also will be guided by Dr. Nik Zervanos as director of student interns, Dr. Alan Peterson as head of publications, Dr. Joseph Lahr as editor of our newsletter, Carl Manelius as head of the collection committee and many others who have been essential to the ongoing success of our museum.

Going forward, we face many new challenges. We plan to move to a new location around June of 2020, completing the latter part of our mission statement and dream "...to make accessible the rich heritage of the healing arts in Lancaster County." We also will confront the challenges of many museums today, which is to remain relevant in our digital age, to educate people in the importance of understanding our medical past as a guide to our future and securing our financial stability

Barton L Halperin, MD. FACS  
President, Edward Hand Medical  
Heritage Foundation



*LEND A HAND, HEAD, AND  
HEART*

*VOLUNTEER NOW*



**EDWARD HAND**  
MEDICAL MUSEUM

## Summer Intern Reports

### Alexandra Hickey: Transcription of Dr. John Light Atlee's Journal from July 1906



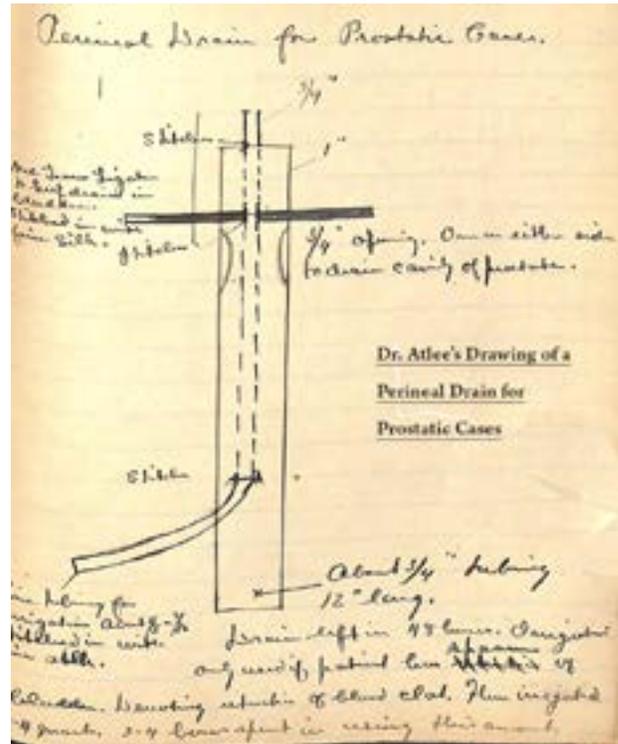
Dr. Atlee (1875-1950)

Dr. John Light Atlee was a beloved, prominent Lancaster surgeon. Atlee graduated from F&M College in 1896 and the University of Pennsylvania (MD) in 1900.

At the turn of the 20th century, it was common for a practicing physician to visit major hospitals to watch staff surgeons operate or otherwise treat patients. In July 1906 Dr. Atlee traveled to Rochester, Minnesota, home of what is now the Mayo Clinic, and Chicago, Illinois. In Chicago, he visited Presbyterian Hospital, Augustana Hospital, and Mercy Hospital.

Throughout his travels, he maintained a 32-page journal currently held at EHMM. The journal details his observations of surgeries performed by Drs. Charles Horace Mayo and William James Mayo in Rochester and by Drs. Albert John Ochsner, John Clarence Webster, and John Benjamin Murphy in Chicago. It includes details of the operative procedures, and sketches of surgical techniques.

Intern Alexandra Hickey transcribed the journal for EHMM in her role as summer intern. F&M College Summer Scholar Program funded the project. Dr. Louise Stevenson and Dr. Marianne Kelly were the advisors.



### Jocelyn M. Dialectos: The History of Diabetes Mellitus: Diagnosis and Treatment in Lancaster County

Diabetes Mellitus is a disease known from the time of the ancient Greeks. It was easily recognized by excessive urination, weight loss and wasting, and a sweet taste of the urine. Over the centuries, treatment has evolved from various diets, multiple herbal remedies, folk cures, and to more modern medications and insulin therapy. From the colonial period to the present, Lancaster County has experienced this evolution.

The author traces the very early science, the search for a cause and underlying physiology, and the application of this knowledge to the clinical treatment of the disease. Local folk treatments, and early pharmaceuticals are also explored. Finally, there is the story of noted local artist, Charles Demuth, who was an early recipient of insulin.



Charles Demuth (1883-1935)  
Self-portrait

Demuth suffered from diabetes from about 1920. He was treated with a starvation diet until referred to the Morristown (NJ) clinic where he became the institution's second patient to be treated with insulin therapy.