

THE CARD – Vol. 33, No. 12, Issue 381, December 2022

A Publication of the Lancaster County Postcard Club, Lancaster, PA

Enjoying postcards through education and entertainment.

Next Meeting: December 19, 2022 at the Park City Diner 6 PM

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<http://www.lcpc-stamps.org/newsletter-archive/the-card/>

NOVEMBER MEETING

After the 34 club members and guests said the Pledge to Allegiance, President Susan Glass shared some facts about Thanksgiving.

There were seven guests present, David Miron, Ruth Martin, Hannah Miron, Jane Miron, Carol Sands – here to enjoy Don Wert's presentation and David and Janet Alleman, relatives of Annetta Buettner.

The secretary's minutes were approved as read and the treasurer's report showed a balance of \$4,401.47.

At the break, the Board of Directors met.

This month's competition was "Foreign" postcards.

The 50-50 Prize of \$12.50 went to Jere Long and the Door Prizes went to Bud Heim (\$3 voucher) and Gordon Smith (\$2 voucher).

The program tonight was given by Don Wert, entitled "History in the Mail" and included an in-depth look at postcard messages. Don researched the clues in the messages and discovered meaningful connections and histories of both the senders and the receivers.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Beck
Club Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Susan Glass

FUTURE SHOWS

March 4 - Chesapeake Postcard Fair, Havre de Grace Community Center, 1 Lagaret Lane, Havre de Grace, MD Sat. 9-4, Admission \$3.00

March 24-25 – 46th Annual Postcard Show, Morlatton Post Card Club Inc., Farm & Home Center, Lancaster, PA, Fri. – 10-6, Sat. 10-4, Admission \$2.50

April 29-30 – Allentown Spring Paper Show, Allentown Fairgrounds, Allentown, PA, Sat. 9-5, Sun 9-3, Admission \$10
March 12 – DC Antique Photo, Postcard & Civil War Show

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY

This year we will again gather at the Park City Diner in Lancaster, PA for our annual Holiday dinner . The festivities will begin at 6 PM. Each member is invited to bring one guest. Please call Susan Glass (717) 872-0810 or sfg47@comcast.net to reserve your spot if you did not sign up at the November meeting. We will be meeting in a separate room and the reservation is in Dede's name.

2023 PROGRAMS

January – Member participation, My Favorite Holiday

February – Members Market

March – Ed Close

April – Accomac & Wildcat Falls - Mark Arbogast

May – Amusement Parks – Aaron Heckler

June – Women in the Military II – Bob Kramer

July – Picnic

August – Expo

September – Bud Heim

October –

November -

December – Holiday Party

NOVEMBER POSTCARD COMPETITION

First: Gisela Withers "Black Forest Scene"

Second: Dick Pendergrast "Dackel's Birthday"

Third: Jim Ward "Embroidered French Card"

Honorable Mention: Dede Schaeffer "Giant's Causeway"; Gordon Smith "Hungarian Merry Christmas"; Renata Sachse "Vienna, Austria – The Giant Wheel"; Bob Kramer "Germany"; Annetta Buettner "Skating Exhibition"; Anthony Iezzi "Birmingham Motorcycle and Driver – England"; Donna Bashaw "Warsaw."

2023 POSTCARD COMPETITION SUBJECTS

January: My Favorite Holiday

February: Cartoons/Humor

March: Places of Worship

April: Waterfalls

May: Amusement Parks

June: Scenes from American History

July: Children Playing

August: Expo

September: Lighthouses

October: Famous Interiors (and the stories behind them)

November: Eating/Drinking

Happy
Holidays!

Merry Christmas from Your Rural Mail Carrier

By Ed Close

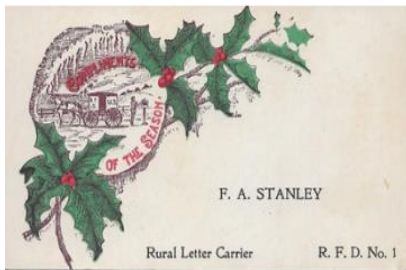
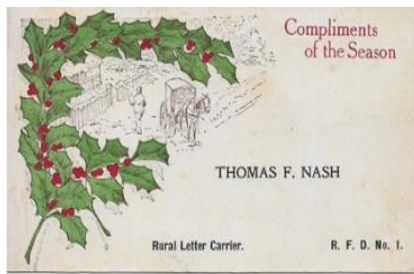
During the first two decades of the 20th century, many rural carriers delivered special greeting cards to the patrons on their routes in the days just before Christmas. Most of the cards were produced by commercial firms and sold to rural carriers, who would then have their name and route number printed on the cards.

The reverse side of the card usually carried a poem promoting the benefits of rural free delivery, expressing the carrier's pleasure and pride in his work, or some such sentiment.

After several years of this practice, postal authorities decided that the custom might be interpreted as a subtle solicitation of gratuities during the holiday season. As a result, the giving of holiday cards was discontinued. Searching the backs of postcards can be as exciting and satisfying as searching for vanished scenes or rare images. During the first decades of the twentieth century, postcards recorded the progress of individual lives in all parts of the country.



The above RPPC shows a rural carrier in front of his horse and buggy. To the left is the message he wrote to his patron. Rural mail carrier post cards of this type are scarce due to the limited quantity produced.



To My Friends.

The seasons round their brief career,
 Again the Christmas-tide is here.
 So with "good will" I gladly send
 A Christmas greeting to my friend.
 How arduous my work would be
 But for kind words from friends to me;
 And, too, how often 'tis I find
 The strong arm of some neighbor kind.
 When long the way or rough the road,
 To help me onward with my load,
 My wealth is more than can be told,
 But 'tis my friends, and not my gold,
 I can't with gold their love off-set —
 Friendship alone must pay the debt —
 And so my prayer—what else God sends,
 He make me worthy of my friends.

The above eight cards are those produced by the commercial printers. The cards are very generic with the carrier adding his name and route number. The photo to the left shows an example of the poem found on the reverse of the cards. There are slight variations to the poem. These cards would be fairly inexpensive for the carrier due to the large quantities produced.

The card to the right was produced only for the 1914 holiday season. It is more colorful and fancier than the generic cards. Again, the carrier would add his name and route number. This card is less common than the generic types and would cost the carrier more.





The above cards are exceptional. They're very beautiful and have the appearance of a Christmas card from that era. I believe the left card is a Christmas card as it is indicative of those produced, having a "to" and "from" and glitter on the front. The carrier has hand-written the addressee and his route number on the front. The card on the right is very cute and intricate with a red ribbon attached. This time the carrier typed his name on the front. These cards were most likely given by carriers having a long route as their pay was based on the number of patrons on the route. The more patrons, the higher the salary. It would be very difficult to determine scarcity for these.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS!



NOVEMBER POSTCARD COMPETITION



First: Gisela Withers



Second: Dick Pendergrast



Third: Jim Ward