

THE CARD – Vol. 34, No. 5, Issue 386, May 2023

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

Enjoying postcards through education and entertainment.

Next Meeting: May 15, 2023 Farm & Home Center, Buy, Sell & Trade from 5:00. Meeting - 7 PM

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

APRIL MEETING

After the pledge of allegiance to the flag, President Susan Glass opened the meeting attended by 27 people. Corrections were made on the newsletter submitted this month. The secretary's report was then approved as read. The treasurer's reports for March and April showing a balance of \$3,139.57 was approved as read. Dick Pendergrast announced that he is continuing to collect 2023 dues. Gordon Smith continues to receive contracts for the expo. Additional dealers are signing; a full show is anticipated.

Door prizes of tickets to upcoming Barnstormer's games were won by Nathaniel Heckler and Ed Close. The 50-50 prize of \$11 was won by Jeanne Schopf.

There were an overwhelming 12 entries in the postcard competition – "Waterfalls". Some very interesting cards of waterfalls from all over the world were entered.

A very interesting program of 'Early Susquehanna River Views from Columbia to York Haven' was given by Mark W. Arbogast. We learned of the many bridges, mining, mills and inns as well as the canal towpath and the origin of the white cliffs of Conoy. A lot of history in our own back yard.

Next month's program by Aaron Heckler will be on amusement parks. The subject for the postcard competition will be on amusement parks.

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Schopf, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hurrah it's May and I hope the warm weather is here to stay. As I travel around the county I think how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful area. Plants are in bloom, gardens are being planted and they even have local tomatoes for sale in Washington Boro! Mother's Day is almost here so remember that special woman in your life. Later in the month we will pause to remember those military members who have died while serving in the United States armed forces.. I hope to see you at the meeting on May 15th.
Susan

FUTURE SHOWS

April 29-30 – Allentown Spring Paper Show, Allentown Fairgrounds, Allentown, PA, Sat. 9-5, Sun 9-3, Admission \$10

June 3 – Washington Crossing Postcard Show & Sale, Union Fire Hall, Titusville, NJ. Saturday, 9-4, Admission \$3.00

August 5 – Summer Chesapeake Postcard & Civil War Show, Havre de Grace Community Center, 1 Lagaret Lane, Havre de Grace, MD Sat. 9-4, Admission \$3.00

August 19 – 29th Annual Postcard Expo, Lancaster County Postcard Club, Farm & Home Center, 1381 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA, Saturday 9-5, Admission \$2.50(50 cents off with card or ad)

MAY PROGRAM

In the early 1900s, there were many amusement parks of varying sizes in southeastern Pennsylvania. Depending how one defines the regional boundaries, at least 15 were in operation. For the May presentation, I will focus on four parks located in Lehigh or Northampton County, PA. Numerous postcards of various rides, parks scenes and more will be shown, along with information and history about each park. Two of the four parks are still in operation-come and learn which ones and how they have changed over the past century or more.



2023 PROGRAMS

June – Women in the Military WWII – Bob Kramer

July – Picnic

August – Expo

September – "Railway Post Office System (RPO)" – Ed Close

October – "Harvard's Glass Flowers Models 1886-1939." - Betty Beck

November - "Women in WWI" - Pam Tronsor

December – Holiday Party

APRIL POSTCARD COMPETITION

First: Dick Pendergrast- "Niagara in Winter"

Second: Paul Smoker – "Minnehaha Falls" & Susan Glass – "Snoquahamie Falls"

Third: Gordon Smith – "Wildcat Falls"

Honorable Mention: Renata Sachse- "Ricketts Glen", Leighton Stover – "Top of Niagara Falls in Winter", Pam Tronsor – "Niagara Falls Frozen", Don Wert - "Swiss Alps", Annetta Buettner – "Pisgah National Forest", Jeanne Schopf – Yosemite Falls", Anthony Iezzi – "Maid of the Mist", Gisela Withers – "Dry Falls – Washington – Geological Wonder of the World Akaka Falls"

2023 POSTCARD COMPETITION SUBJECTS

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

Memorial Day Parade in Churchtown

By Brian Frankhouser

Boalsburg (near Penn State University) lays claim to be the first town to celebrate Memorial Day when the graves of two fallen heroes were decorated with flowers in 1864. Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, NY, as the “Birthplace of Memorial Day” because of the ceremony they held in 1866. There is some controversy about this, but not nearly as much as when the discussion turns to what town held the first Memorial Day parade.

Congress recognized Ironton, Ohio, as the oldest, most continuous Memorial Day parade in the United States. They first held a parade in 1868 after John A. Logan, Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued General Order Number 11 that stated May 30 should be the date “for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion...”. After this proclamation, Ironton wasn’t the only town to hold a parade. In Pennsylvania, Doylestown also lays claim to holding a parade in 1868. Malvern, in Chester County, lists itself “among the oldest Memorial Commemoration in America”, but admits there was no parade until 1869. Here in Lancaster County, we are represented in this competition by the village of Churchtown. Their first parade was also held in 1868 (some have asserted it could be 1866), and they have continued this tradition to the present.

When Pennsylvania declared a new legal state holiday in 1874, this special day was called Decoration Day. However, it was announced in the May 28, 1892 edition of the New Holland Clarion that Decoration Day would officially be called “Memorial Day” forthwith, but the old name survived for many years, and we still see it on postcards that were published over 20 years later. Earlier, the Clarion report in the June 3, 1876 edition about Churchtown’s celebration, writing “every year since the rebellion the day was observed with appropriate ceremonies...”. During Churchtown’s first 100 years of Memorial Day parades, 1932 was the most spectacular. In celebration of George Washington’s 200th birthday, the parade included National Guard bands, the old Caernarvon Band, antique autos, early fire companies, floats, and almost every participant was dressed in colonial garb. Following is a series of real photo postcards published in 1932 of the events of that day.



The participants in the parade begin to gather. First person on the left is identified as Geneva Shirk.



Lining up at the start of the 1932 parade in Churchtown.



The parade was led by George Washington (impersonated by Smith M. Shirk).



One of the few parade participants that weren't dressed in colonial garb was this group of men portraying a 19th century fire company.



Robert E. Simpson portrayed Uncle Sam. Simpson marched in every Churchtown Memorial Day parade from 1877 until 1959 (in 1960 he rode in a car). He was the town historian and co-wrote Annals of the Conestoga Valley, published in 1942. The first run was 1,000 copies, but the printing plates were unexpectedly destroyed for the war effort, so demand for the book exceeded supply. It still does, and fetches high bids at the local auctions.



Local float with homemakers and musicians.



Local float with early sleighs and a rocking horse.



Although not everyone in Churchtown participated in the parade, many supported the event by dressing in colonial clothing.

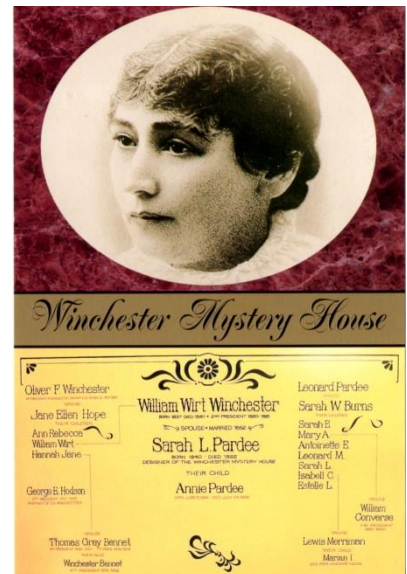


Photo of the spectators on part of Main Street that were more than four rows deep.

THE WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE

By Annetta Buettner

The Winchester House or Winchester Mystery House as it is better known, is a 160 room Victorian Mansion built by Sarah L. Winchester, wife of rifle manufacturer William Wirt Winchester. Sarah & William were married on September 30, 1862, and had one child, Annie Pardee, who died about a month after birth in 1866. William died on March 7th, 1881, after which Sarah, upset at the deaths of her husband and daughter reportedly consulted a spiritualist. She was informed that the victims killed by the Winchester rifles her family manufactured were seeking revenge by taking the lives of her family. Also conveyed to Sarah that the spirits had placed a curse on her, and if she wished to live, she must appease them by moving West and constantly without ceasing, build a house for them night and day. It wasn't until Sarah died at the age of 85 in September 1922 that work on her bizarre multi-gabled house finally stopped. The fantastic East Lake shingle Queen Ann house was built at an estimated cost of 5 million dollars. Construction began in 1884. The abundance of timber close to San Jose allowed Sarah's imagination free reign to try out what was evidently her consuming interest in architectural innovation.



Vintage photo, circa 1890

This unique building includes many outstanding elements of Victorian architecture and fine craftsmanship. There are rooms with gold plated fixtures, exquisite doors and windows of sterling Tiffany glass set in silver designs as well as practical household innovations years ahead of their time period the continual building and remodeling created a 160 room house covering an area of 6 acres. Shortly after Mrs. Winchester's death in 1922 the house was sold and then open to the public as the Winchester mystery house.



During Mrs. Winchester's lifetime, the estate was named Lianada Villa.


The gardens tour also has many points of interest including the greenhouse, tank house, and fruit drying shed.



The 1873 Winchester rifle model was referred to as the "Gun that won the West".



The Daisy was one of Sarah's favorite flowers. She used the design often throughout the mansion.



Did You Know?
WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE
 San Jose, California
FACTS AND FIGURES

California Registered Landmark #868
 Named to National Register of Historic Places in 1974

Construction Starts	1884
Construction Ends	1922
Cost of Construction	\$5,500,000
Length of Construction	38 years
Size of Original Estate	161 acres
Number of Rooms	160
Number of Doors	2,000
Number of Windows	10,000
Number of Stairways	40
Number of Fireplaces	47
Number of Chimneys	17
Number of Bathrooms	13
Number of Kitchens	6
Number of Gallons of Paint Needed for Exterior	20,000



With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember

APRIL POSTCARD COMPETITION



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“Niagara in Winter”



Third: Gordon Smith –
“Wildcat Falls”

Happy
Mother's
Day



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