THE CARD – Vol. 37, No. 6, Issue 425, October 2026

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

Enjoying postcards through education and entertainment.

Next Meeting: October 19, 2026 Farm & Home Center, Buy, Sell & Trade from 12:30 PM, Meeting – 2:00 PM

Like us on Facebook – www.facebook.com/LCPClub.

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

NEW TIME AND ROOM

Buy, Sell & Trade from 12:30 PM, Meeting – 2:00 PM. Meeting will be in the "All Purpose Room" which is the smaller room with the door facing the front door of the Center.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Lancaster County Postcard Club was held on September 21, 2026 with 17 members and 3 guests attending. The president, Pam Tronsor, led this meeting and noted that it is the last day of summer and that we will be returning to standard time at the next meeting.

A report was made for the Treasurer indicating a balance of $2800.

The postcard competition was for cards relating to sports. See page three for the results. Door prizes were awarded to Leighton Stover and Gordon Smith. Susan Glass was awarded the 50/50 prize of $9.

Gisela Withers entertained us with "More Things I've Learned from Post Cards" with interesting stories from a variety of post cards.

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Schopf, Secretary

PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Now that we are officially in the Fall season and daylight hours are shrinking, we will be starting our meetings earlier in the day. New hours are posted at the top of the newsletter. And since our membership has sadly also been shrinking, we will be holding our meetings in a smaller space: the All Purpose Room. The doors to this room face the front doors of the Farm and Home Center, so just walk straight ahead to our new meeting space. (Happily, our rental fee also will be shrinking!)

October is, among other things, National New Friends Month. Please bring a friend along with you to introduce them to postcard collecting and join our meeting and community.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you later this month!
Pam

OCTOBER PROGRAM

The program, "Selected Real Photo views of Berks County", will be presented by club member Kerry Mohn. His program includes views that he has collected over a very long time. This view is of the 1770 Berks County prison which was used for other uses before it was removed. Come to the meeting to find out who was imprisoned there before being hanged.

2026 PROGRAMS

November: Pam Tronsor – "Propaganda Postcards of WW1."
December – Holiday Party

FUTURE SHOWS

November 13-14: 48th Annual ODPCC Postcard, Paper & Stamp Show, Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum, 880 W. Roslyn Rd., Colonial Heights, VA 23834, Fri. 10 am-6 pm, Sat. 10 am-5 pm, Adm. $8.00
November 20-21: York International Photo & Postcard Expo, York Fairgrounds 334 Carlisle Avenue, York, PA, 17404, Fri 9 am – 6 pm, Sat. 9 am – 4 pm, Cost - $5.00(good for both days)

NOTE: The Fall Lancaster Show has been CANCELED.

Harvest Home

By Brian Frankhouser

Most likely, the Harvest Home festivities grew out of English traditions practiced hundreds of years ago. In early American history, the practice of Harvest Home and Thanksgiving sometimes applied to the same celebration. The July 7, 1809 edition of the Lancaster Journal reported a proclamation by the Presbyterian Church that a "day of thanksgiving" will be held "the fourth Thursday in August". Since Abraham Lincoln declared the national holiday of Thanksgiving the last Thursday in November, starting in 1863, there has been no "overlap" of the two holidays, because Harvest Home is always scheduled between July and the middle of October. In fact, the Pennsylvania Dutch resisted the "new" Thanksgiving declared by Lincoln because it followed New England tradition instead of what they were used to… why wait until the brink of winter to give thanks?

Harvest Home church services were instituted in the 18th century by the German Reformed and Lutheran congregations, but by the middle of the 19th century the practice evolved into something more elaborate. Cornstalks, sheaves of grain, plants, flowers, and a bounty of food that was fresh from the harvest would decorate the chancel. After the service, the food would be donated to the underpaid minister and his family. The unenviable task of preserving all the fresh food fell on the minister's wife! Some conservative churches continue to celebrate Harvest Home, but some traditions have changed. The fresh food has been replaced by canned goods, and they are now donated to homes for the elderly, orphanages, and food banks.

Most (but not all) Harvest Home postcards come from Pennsylvania because the day was observed mainly by churches with German roots, including the Reformed, Lutheran, and Anabaptists.

During the end of the first decade of the 20th century, almost every single special event in Strasburg was photographed and sold as a postcard in Henry Andrew's store. This condition changed significantly in 1913 when his daughter, Fannie, got married to Martin Andreas and moved to Sterling, Illinois. Fannie Andrews was the first female Mennonite professional photographer in America. Four of her RPPC's are shown. There are at least six different Harvest Home postcard views of Strasburg from the 1906-1912 era.

Photo #1:
Postcard inscription reads:
"HARVEST-HOME SERVICES SEP. 27, 08.
M. E. CHURCH. STRASBURG, PENNA."

Photo #2:
Postcard inscription reads:
"Harvest Service – 1907,
Lutheran Church, Strasburg, Pa."

Photo #3:
Postcard inscription reads:
"Harvest Service – 1908,
Lutheran Church, Strasburg, Pa."

Photo #4:
Postcard inscription reads:
"Lutheran Church
Strasburg Pa. 1909"

SEPTEMBER POSTCARD COMPETITION
"Sports "

First: Susan Glass 'Hurdles'

Second: Gwen Fulmer "Baseball"

TIE

Second: Anthony Iezzi 'Philadelphia Bike Race'

2026 POSTCARD COMPETITION SUBJECTS

October: General Stores
November: Musicians at Work

Honorable Mentions:
Leighton Stover "Lancaster Flower Show"
Pam Tronsor "Skiing in the Adirondack Mountains"