

# LOCAL P. O. HISTORY

Dot Aument Gathers Data and Authors The Post Offices of Southern Lancaster County

Like many retirees, Dorothy Aument, wonders how she ever got anything done when she was postmaster as well as part-time clerk in the store she and her husband owned in Fairfield. One of Dot's projects after her husband passed on was to research the PMs who preceded her. By the way, the post office couldn't be called Fairfield when it was established in 1838. There already was a Fairfield PO near Gettysburg. How it got its name Greene PO is still a mystery.

Her curious nature and an interest in history led Dot to neighboring post office histories and she soon found herself in Washington DC. She searched through microfilm, reading copies of faded pages, compiling data about postmasters and their appointments in nine southern Lancaster County townships.

Dozens of local residents were also interviewed to locate where each post office originated and the numerous moves each had made within its community.

Townships covered in *The Post Offices of Southern Lancaster County* include Drumore, Eden, Bart, East Drumore, Fulton, Little Britain, Providence, Colerain and Martic.

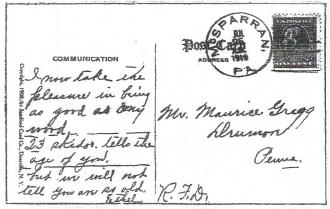
So many POs came and went, it was necessary to use both 1875 and 1899 atlas maps of the townships and sometimes they didn't suffice. A large map of southern Lancaster County gives those of us unfamiliar with the area the gestalt – a much clearer picture of the geography of dozens of POs in relation to each other.

The icing on the cake in her book is Dot's inclusion of more than 50 old envelopes (properly called "covers") and postcards with cancellations of most of the POs. A search for these cancellations is what actually brought Dorothy Aument to our club. By the way, she's still looking for a postmark of Smithville. It shouldn't be so elusive since the post office was in operation from 1840 to 1934. If you have one, she doesn't want to rob your collection, she'd simply like a nice clear *copy* of it.

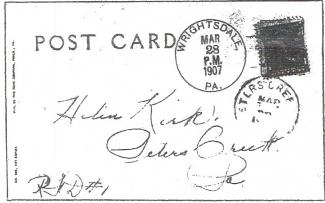
It was Dot's intention to have her hand-written history of more than 100 pages photocopied and given to the Robert Fulton Historical Society and a few relatives. When several members of LCPC heard this, they offered to type work onto just 30 pages but still include the postmarks and maps. The job is not finished. It's bound in a neat little 3-ring folder and, depending on response in the next 30 days, will be printed in a limited quantity.

Call Dorothy Aument at 464-1843 (Willow Street) or Jim Ward at 721-9273 (Ephrata) to reserve your copy. The cost is \$5 picked up at the November or December meetings or \$6 (w/o folder) by USPS.

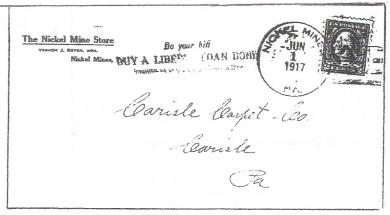




McSparren P.O. was in Cherry Hill (there was an earlier Cherry Hill P.O. elsewhere in the state). The community surrounded the intersection of Peach Bottom and Cherry Hill Roads in Fulton Twp. It operated for 50 years, from 1887 to 1937.



Wrightsdale P.O. was in a store at the corner of Black Barran and Ballance Meeting Roads. Today the building is a residence. Mail was often cancelled at the point of receivership as well as the point of origin.



Nickel Mine P.O. was in Bart Twp. Everybody knows where Nickel Mines is. It has the biggest little auction twice monthly with an Amish auctioneer. If you don't know how the area got its name, you should. Look it up! This 1917 cover sports a patriotic WWI slogan cancellation, "Buy a Liberty Loan Bond."

Clonmell P.O. was near Kirkwood at the corner of Pumping Station Rd. and Bridal Path Lane. It operated from 1834 to 1883 when business was transferred to Kirkwood. Some early postmarks did not include the year. Notice the long journey this letter took.

## **October Cover Cards**

International Art's Popular and Prolific Artist – Ellen Clapsaddle

Clapsaddle capers by colorful kids are captured on the cover of our Halloween Card.

Ellen Clapsaddle may just be the most prolific American artist of postcard children. Born the year the Civil War ended, Ellen grew up in South Columbia, New York and attended country school graduating from the Richfield Springs Seminary in 1882.

She gave private art lessons even before attending the Cooper Institute in NYC. Shortly thereafter she found contract work with the International Art Company (later Wolf Bros.) and designed all sorts of paper items — calendars, die-cut folders, greeting cards (including postcards) and even porcelain.

Many of the verses on her designed cards were hers.

## Work In Europe is Devastating

International Art invested most of her earnings for her. While working for the firm in Germany her earnings were virtually lost at the outbreak of World War I. She suddenly found herself in need of special arrangements to return to the USA. She did continued to design for International Art Co.

She died penniless in 1934, a day before her sixty-ninth birthday.

#### Source of Clapsaddle Info

The above information comes from Dotty Ryan's book, *Picture Postcards in the United States*, 1893-1918, two copies of which are available from our library. The book, in this writer's opinion, is better than any other *five* books ever written on U. S. postcards. You owe it to yourself to read at least some of it.

In case you're unaware, the gifted author was born and raised in Lancaster. Her maternal grandfather, S. Clay Miller, was a downtown merchant. Dottie's name was Ryan. She married George Miller (U. of DE, Eng. Dept.). Husband and wife collaborated on the book at the beginning, George being responsible for most the introductory chapter and the chapter on expositions and minor events. Marital problems ensued and Dotty largely finished the monumental work on her own. So you will find the first printing is attributed to Geo. and Dorothy Miller; the second printing to Dorothy B. Ryan.

Dottie makes an important side note about Ellen Clapsaddle. Her renderings of children were all executed with the intention of appearing in a postcard format, unlike many other PC artists whose works were borrowed from magazine illustrations, etc.



### The Cover Cards

Most, but not all, Clapsaddle cards have the artist's signature spelled out — Ellen H. Clapsaddle. Experienced collectors recognize her art and correctly attribute a card to the artist, so it's quite common to see cards listed as an "unsigned Clapsaddle." Ellen's Halloween children appear in many series. Those chosen for our cover (with series number) include: Left column:

Boy and terrier (1237)
Candle (1393)
Children behind fence and verse (1667)
Middle column:
Girl and boy and Jack-o-lantern (1393)
Little girl witch (978)
Right column:
Cat on fence (1393)
Boy and Jack-o-lantern with pipe (1238)
Boy frightened by cat (1393)

## Halloween Postcard Values

The question is often asked, "Why are Halloween postcards worth so much compared to other holidays?" A logical answer is that most golden age postcards were made in Europe (largely Germany) and New Year, Valentine, Easter and Christmas cards were made for sales in many countries. Halloween cards, on the other hand, were printed primarily for only the American market, and therefore made in smaller quantities.

A logical question follows, "Why, then aren't Thanksgiving postcards just as valuable (expensive) as Halloween cards?" Good question!

## **Proof Postcards Available**

Postcards that were submitted for Windows Two and that were ultimately used were first made into proof copies on photographic quality paper. The club's directors and officers voted to give those members the privilege of purchasing the proofs at 50% for black and whites and \$1 for color proofs. These members who loaned cards have the option to accept any or all of their proofs. Those not accepted will be offered to the membership at large at a date in the near future. There is only one proof for each card used in the book.

Some members were contacted at the Sept. meeting. These members should contact Jim Ward on or before the Nov. meeting if they wish to examine and possibly purchase the proofs of the postcards they submitted and which were used in Windows Two: Blanck, J., Brackin, C., Brown, Dn., Brubaker, J. Bubb.R. Buckwalter,B. Davis, A., Dennis, C., Fry, Dwn., Fulmer, G., Gambler, N., Gates, D., Glass, S., Gregg, B., Groff, C., Harris, E., Heisey, B., Homsher, R., Kirk,M., MacDonald,B., Long, J., Rodkey, J., Rodriguez,J., Rowe,D., Sowers,B., Stover,L. and Weaver,B.

After Nov. 18 the unclaimed photos will be offered to members at large for \$1 ea. b/w and the colored for \$2 ea.

At the Sept. meeting \$258.50 was collected. Proceeds will go into the club's treasury to offset book expenses.

September Meeting

With the suppressive summer weather and many vacation trips behind us, it was a pleasure to see 73 members and guests at September.

Set up and selling by 5:30 were the Bishops, the Moyers, the Steinbergs, Bob Kramer, Jere Greider, Dede Schaeffer, Norman Zimmerman, and Jim Ward. Betty Weaver won 100 PC sleeves as a door prize. Paul Smoker won a PC eraser/pencil as the second door prize. Clarence Swinehart won \$27.50 in the

A guest becomes a new member.

#680 Ronald L. Levering, 17 S. 6th St., Akron, PA 17501. Ph. 717-859-3094. Ronald collects Lancaster County, but especially Akron, of course.

Change of address and phone effective immediately: Dale Shaub, 37A Tenby Way, Lancaster, PA 17601, Ph. 717-295-4542.

Re-stated: John and Sara Fisher, #565 and 566. 508 Gibbons Rd., Bird in Hand, PA 17505. Ph. 656-6275. REMINDER: Clip the form in this issue of The Card and mail it or send info by e-mail to Betty Beck if you have any changes or additions (such as e-mail) since the last roster.

Monthly Exhibit Competition

Potpourri is always a popular theme. As you might expect, there was a huge variety of board subjects. Ruth Moyer, our lady-in-charge, was pleased to see a good response for the monthly competition.

Mount Gretna, PA FIRST Harold Moyer Norman Zimmerman SECOND Prayer THIRD Cats at Play Susan Glass

**Honorable Mentions** 

Legends and Lore in Nature Jim Ward Sailing by Moonlight Doug Milliken Summer Fun **Dede Schaeffer** Before 9-11-01 **Ruth Moyer** A Comedic Hodegpodge Tom Beck My Favorites in the Nation's Capital **Bill Guntow** A Journey thru the Holidays **Mary Ann Guntow** On the Right Track **Don Davis** My Vacations - Coast to Coast Mary Darrenkamp October subject(board) either the letter Q or R or both. November subject (single card) Harvest December subject (board) Fireplaces

Random Halloween postcard images in this issue were published by the Stecher Lithograph Co. of Rochester, NY. They generally are found six cards to a series easily identified groups to collect.

\*SC=single card, B = board of postcards

#### Tentative Schedule for 2003

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<b>Exhibit Board Themes</b>	Month .	Programs for the LCPC	Fire Hall, Main St. (Rte. 299) Nov. 22-23 York PA Martin Postcard
Emergencies (SC)*	January	Individual member cards: "Number 3"	Nov. 29-20 Lancaster, PA Morlatton
Valentines (B)	February	Earl Carver	Cl. Fame Cantor (see enclo
Weather (B)	March	Free-for-all (Members Buy, Sell, Trade)	
Family (SC)	April	Betty Davis Columbian Exposition Posts	
The Color Purple (B)	May	Jim Ward, Local Postcards by D. B. Lar	ıdis
Food (SC)	June	Annual Picnic, Hosted by The Heims	
Vacations (B)	July	Doug Milliken, Detroit Publishing Co. I	
Hot (S)	August	Tom Beck, Stevens Trade and Its Enviro	ons
School (B)	September	Jim Ristine (Guest), The Wildwoods	
Farming (S)	October	Annual Auction, Norm Zimmerman in c	harge
Politics (B)	November	Bea Kreiner, Manheim, Pa.	
The Letter X (SC)	December	Christmas Dinner Party and Dede Schae	effer, The Night Before Christmas

#### You Can Participate in Monthly Fun

The directors and officers thought it appropriate, with so many new members, that we recap the procedure used for LCPC's Monthly Exhibit Competition.

Any member may participate each month. Choose PCs from your collection and mount them with clear corners (available at crafts shops) on a 22" x 28" art board. Although not required, white is suggested. The boards are available at stationery and craft stores in the 35¢ to 50¢ range. Don't use foam or expensive/heavy boards - the clamps on our giant easels won't hold them.

If it's single card night, place your card (continental size is OK) in any numbered sleeve, horizontal or vertical, on the board on the table easel.

That's all there is to it. Ruth Moyer may ask you (when the voting is over) why you picked certain cards or what significance they have to you, if any.

Everyone may vote once, including guests.

Special colored postcards, printed for the monthly competition, are given to all participants the following month. First, Second and Third place winners are also given cash awards of \$5, \$4 and \$3.

## Sales of Windows Two

Ray Dennis reported the sales for Windows Two have been brisk. At the September meeting 115 books were sold bringing at total at this writing to nearly 700 of the 2,000 printed.

Members are reminded that the October meeting was chosen as a deadline for the member discount. Each book you buy on or before October 21, 2002 is \$25, saving you \$5 per book. After that date members are to pay full price of \$30. If you intend to use Windows Two as Christmas presents, October is the time to save money. Should you wish to purchase a number of books, please contact Ray Dennis at 290-7948, so he has a better idea of how many to bring to the meeting. You may also pick them up at his home in Lancaster. Call for directions.

The printer was paid in full a week after we picked up the order. Sales since then will replenish our Book Fund so those members who made loans will receive their money as soon as possible.

## **FUTURE FAIRS**

Oct, 5-6 Allentown, PA Great Eastern Book & Paper,

Oct. 11-2 Timonium, MD Monumental Postcard Club, 20th Annual Show, Days Inn.

Oct. 26 York, PA Book & Paper Show, Fairgrounds.

Nov. 2 Belmar, NJ Jersey Shore PC Show,

John Taylor Pavilion

Nov. 9 NYC, NY Metropolitan PC Club Show,

New Yorker Hotel

Nov. 9 Odessa, DE 1st Americana Paper Show,

York PA Martin Postcard Show, Fairgrounds

Lancaster, PA Morlatton Postcard Club's Fall

n & Home Center (see enclosure)

LCPC ME	MBERSI	HIP INFO for 2003 ROST	red	18.
Please type or print legibly and return changes and additions is November 18. committee. The LCPC Roster will be dinot be mailed except upon request. We may mail this form or an exact copy or y	promptly to This is a tim istributed to r	Betty Beck, 11 Cinder Hill Rd., I e consuming job. Please make the members at our December Christmann at the Mambarship Parket I have better the Mambarship Parket I have better the Mambarship Parket I have been been been better the Mambarship Parket I have been been been been been been been be	Lititz, PA 175 work as easy as as meeting. T	as possible for the
Name/s				
Street or P.O.Box				
City		State	Zip	
Phone ()	e-mail			
*		Print your e-mail address clearly.		
Collecting interests (max. 20 words)				

## This 'n That

2003 edition of LCPC Recipe Book

Betty Beck reminds us that there will be a new LCPC Recipe Book this year. It will be ready for the Christmas Party so if you have a recipe to contribute, get it to her petey pronto! Send it to 11 Cinder Hill Rd., Ltitiz, PA 17543 or e-mail it to bbeck@ptd.net. Please, no recipes over the phone. Mis-interpretations could end with a group poisoning! Christmas Dinner Tickets

Bryan Benner started a sign-up sheet for those attending the Christmas Meeting Dinner. Be sure you sign it in November or send your check to him at 127 E. Clay St., Lancaster, PA 17602.

Here's the deal -

Every LCPC member may buy a dinner ticket for only \$5. Each member may bring a first guest for \$10. More guests would each pay \$15. The difference in the discounted tickets is subsidized by the sale of Windows Two – just another way we get to enjoy the time and effort we applied to the publication.

Food will be catered at the Farm & Home Center (meeting room expanded) by Enck's of Manheim – turkey or ham and all the trimmings.

#### Manheim Postcard Book

Harold Galebach and John Blanck are two LCPC members who are actively working on a post-card picture book to be published by the Manheim Historical Society. The MHS has chosen to use our work sheet method for compiling its information.

#### Selling Windows Two

Members are needed to man the booth at the YWCA on October 15 and 16 at the Town Fair. Four years ago we sold 111 volumes. If you can allow just a few hours, please call Betty Beck (627-7732) and fit yourself into the schedule. It is an indoor event

Some books were sold at the Denver Fair, Strasburg Heritage Day and at Amos Herr Park on Labor Day and on Sept. 22 and the Falmouth Goat Parade and Races on Sept. 28. We expect to be at the Hans Herr House Schnitz Day on Oct. 5. If you know of other local events where we might advertise/sell the book, please contact Tom Beck (627-7732), Ray Dennis (290-7948) or Jim Ward (721-9273).

#### **Entertainment Books**

Dick Bishop has a new supply of 2003 Entertainment Books. You won't find the \$25-\$30 books any cheaper than his price of \$21. Contact Dick at the York and Lancaster meetings or at 717-854-4605 (York).

#### **Nomination Committee**

Should someone approach you from behind – but without a Halloween mask – don't be afraid, even if they tell you they're on the Nominating Committee. The tough spot has been filled – Vice President (it's a secret). The committee is looking for a new secretary and several directors. Volunteer. Have you done your share for LCPC in the last year or two?

## From the Mail Bag

"Thanks for your tremendous labor of love in compiling our club's Volume Two.

It is a joy to leaf through the book and see and read about all the wonderful views throughout Lancaster County. Some are familiar, other are absolutely new. It's easy reading in a marvelous format.

With deep appreciation, Earl Carver\*

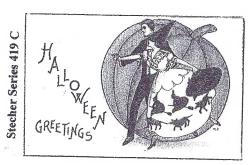
"Congratulations! The second book is even better than the first. You should be proud!"

Jack Brubaker

"I'm reading Volume Two cover to cover. You render a real service. This broadens recorded history; it's the kind the big boys ignore.

Keep up the good work.

\* We see LCPC's second President, Earl Carver, graced the cover of Senior News, August 2002. He continues to promote postcards in his daily travels. Thanks, Earl.



# LCPC AUCTION #32 Monday, Oct. 21,2002

All lots are postcards unless noted. Descriptions are the sellers'. Potential buyers should arrive early and examine lots carefully. Non-members may buy but must register with the clerk before the auction begins. Sellers must wait until the auction is over to collect their receipts less 10% for the club. No checks will be mailed. We have volunteers, so please make their jobs as easy as possible. un=unused Spaces separate sellers' lot groups.

- 1 10 advertising
- 2 15 churches
- 3 10 clocks
- 4 10 colleges
- 5 10 flowers
- 6 10 horse-drawn vehicles
- 7 10 pheasants
- 8 10 restaurants
- 9 15 rocks and mountains
- 10 10 sheep
- 11 10 foreign: mostly Canada
- 12 29 views: DC, MD, NJ, mostly VA
- 13 51 PA views
- 14 70 New York + 1 non-PC
- 15 35 views: TN, OH, KY, MI
- 16 56 views: SC, GA, mostly NC
- 17 65 views: RI, CN, ME, VT, NH, mostly MA
- 18 30 views: West and mid-west
- 19 187 FL views and 1 FL decal
- 20 Set of 8 antique autos + over-sized and mixed misc.

**Stecher Series 408 B** 

- 21 Mountville, PA, new, oversized
- 22 Hires Root Beer puzzle PC, un
- 23 Greetings from Lancaster County, exaggeration, un
- 24 Jacob Shirk, Lancaster advertisement
- 25 2 diff, oldest house in Lanc. County, un
- 26 Maple Grove and Brookside swimming pools
- 27 4 diff. Ephrata
- 28 2 diff. 1960s experimental Oldsmobiles
- 29 D. M. DeHaven, Lancaster, blotter, un
- 30 1951 Coca Cola blotter, un
- 31 Set of 7 Sunbonnet girls -Days of the Week
- 32 Set of 8 Lord's Prayer
- 33 Set of 8 embroidered Spanish dancers
- 34 Set of 6 Tuck farm animals
- 35 24 linen PA Turnpike
- 36 35 chrome Trains
- 37 4 Tuck Halloween
- 38 4 dogs
- 39 4 squirrels
- 40 25 art, sculptures
- 41 42 NJ views
- 42 15 Lincoln and related
- 43 25 military + 1 folder
- 44 50 trains, trolleys and depots
- 45 21 George Washington
- 46 35 diff types boats, ships, ferries, sailboats
- 47 35 real photos: views, buildings, people
- 48 35 animals
- 49 26 advertisements + folder

- 50 I'm Going to be a Boy by JD Cardinell, un
- 51 2 diff. lovely ladies/reverse message in mirror, un
- 52 20 diff. animals
- 53 an old Valentine, metal frame, non-PC back
- 54 Valentine scrapbook
- 55 sm. scrapbook w/some postcards
- 56 50+ old PCs and Valentines in Valentine scrapbook
- 57 1914 Farm Journal map of Lancaster County, 22x28, in a frame
- 58 lg. stock book of used US stamps (32¢ and up)
- 59 500 counter pages for stamps
- 60 28 Tuck Oilettes: The Queen's dolls' house
- 61 10 wildflower series by Margaret Tarrant
- 62 set of 6 Royal Mail showing diff. transportation
- 63 10 Dutch children
- 64 25 old Lancaster views
- 65 25 more old Lancaster views
- 66 20 white border and linen Lancaster views
- 67 50+ local views (chromes, some dups.)
- 68 75 mixed views and greetings
- 69 25 folders: mixed USA views
- 70 5 downtown Lancaster
- 71 23 Skiddoo
- 72 3 Lancaster hotels
- 73 6 Penn Square, Lancaster
- 74 6 downtown Lancaster
- 75 5 Penn Square, Lancaster
- 76 2 St. Mary's church, Lancaster
- 77 9 Stevens Trade and environs, Lancaster
- 78 8 world musicians by Stehli, Switzerland, un
- 79 8 costumes, published in France, 1927, un
- 80 Set of 12 Life of Christ in mosaics w/booklet, un
- 81 Set of 4 Mount Vernon by Ladies' Assoc., un
- 82 22 Useful Birds of America by A& H, non-pc, un 83 11 Lucky Birthstones set (needs January)
- 84 Eastern Star Temple, scarce 1937 set, 12 linen, un
- 85 3 Bamforth hymn sets: Rock of Ages + two more
- 86 Set of 14 Station of the Cross, Canadian publisher
- 87 Set of 48 Randolph Caldecott nursery rhymes, un

Thank you for participating. Don't forget to pay your bill. Enjoy your purchases.

Our auction is generally once each year - in October. Any member may submit lots on the club's form in September for listing in the October *Card*. Members and non-members may make purchases.

# **Postcard Supplies**

A word to the wise - Keep your postcards alive and well. Always keep your cards standing upright, whether in boxes or in albums. Piles of flattened cards attract and retain moisture - a major killer of old paper items including postcards.

Ultra Pro <u>postcard pages</u> fit any standard 3-ring notebook binder and are just \$15 for a box of 100 or 20 for \$4.50. Available in 1-pocket (8 ½ x 11" sheets), 2-pocket (5x7" photos), 3-pocket (approx. 4 x 6" PCs), 4-pocket (regular size postcards). You may mix sizes for these prices.

Ultra Pro postcard sleeves are \$1.50 per 100, 300 for \$4 and 1,000 for \$12, regular size. Continental size is 100 for \$2.50.

See me at the York and Lancaster meetings. Ask to see samples of the quarterly *Journal* and the annual *Postcard Album* 

E-mail to <a href="midcreek@ptd.net">midcreek@ptd.net</a> or phone at 1-717-721-9273. Jim Ward