

THE CARD - Vol. 17, No. 2 Issue 194 February 2006

Monthly Publication of the Lancaster County Postcard Club, Lancaster, PA.

Next Meeting: Mon., February 20, 2006. Farm & Home Center. Buy, sell, trade from 5:30. Meeting at 7pm.

Yearly membership is \$10 (\$5 for each additional member at the same address.)

Club/editors address: LCPC c/o Bryan Benner 127 E. Clay St. Lancaster, PA 17602

Club website: www.playle.com/clubs/lancaster or Google search: lancaster county postcard club



Blacks on Holiday Postcards

Lincoln's Birthday Series #1 by Nash Postcard Company.

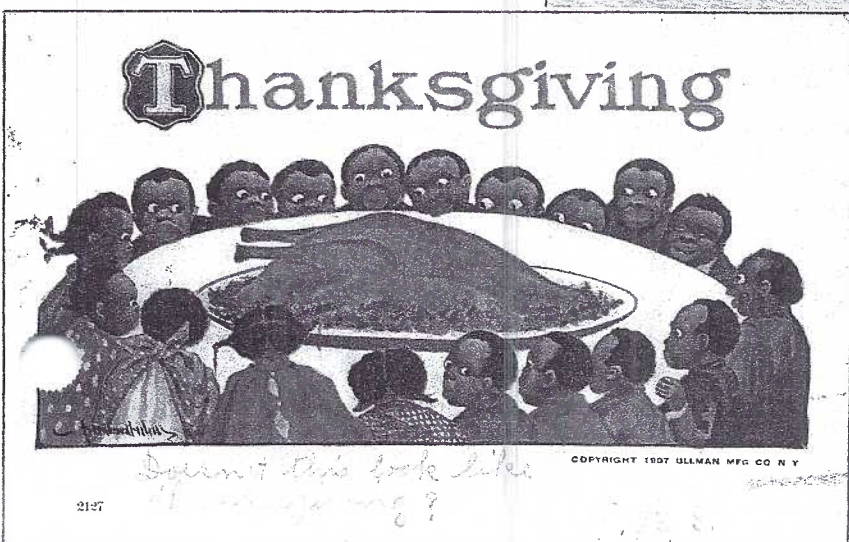
New Year Series #7942 by PFB (Paul Finkenrath, Berlin).

L&E Series #2217 Valentine by artist H. B. Griggs.

Black and white kewpies on a Czech Easter PC.

Ullman's Thanksgiving #85.

Tuck's Christmas Series #1794.



February Program

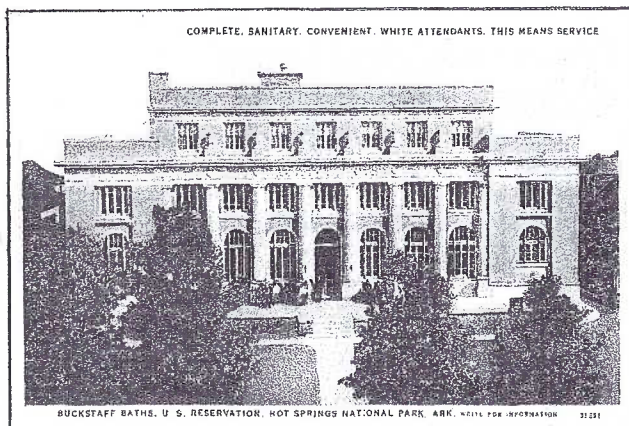
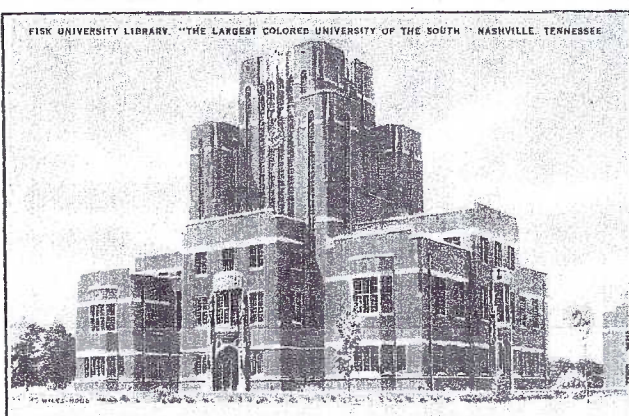
Blacks on Postcards –

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

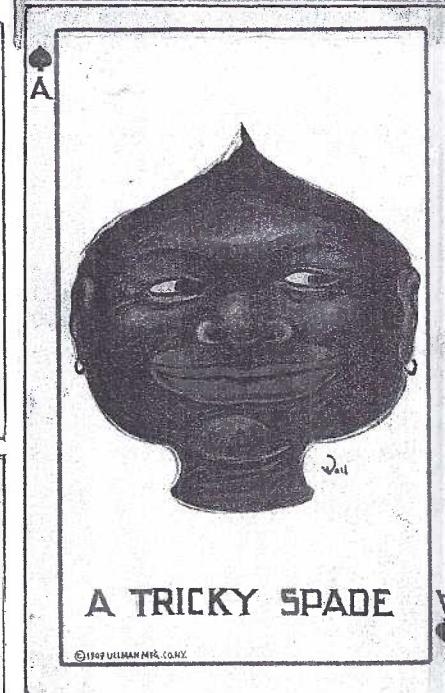
Old postcards included the names shown in the accompanying box (next page) “Origins of Black Related Names” as well as chocolate drop, darkie, golliwog, licorice stick, Mammy, Topsy, shine, spade, Uncle Ben and Uncle Tom among others. In those days saleable postcards featured Blacks as alligator bait, stealing chickens, playing dice, avoiding work, and most often, devouring watermelons. Still, there are many positive views showing Blacks working diligently in cotton fields or driving horse-drawn wagons.

Children, always a popular postcard subject, are prominent on Black cards. Blacks on holiday PCs are found in these percentages - Valentines 46%, Thanksgiving 24%, Patriotics (Lincoln’s birthday, Memorial Day, and July 4th) 17% but on Christmas PCs only 7%, on New Years and Easter only 3% each.

Further insight into Blacks and their history can be gained by checking the website - **Jim Crow Museum, Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI.**



This Hot Springs National Park view by Curt Teich has a blatant insinuation – “White attendants. This mean service.”



Left Column

Unusual “Negro” caption found on a chrome PC. The \$50,000 home belonged to the Parhams, friends of both President Eisenhower and President Nixon.

Colourpicture’s linen “...Largest Colored University.”

Right Column - top

Schlesinger Bros. PC has a 1914 Birmingham cancel.

“Kid Comic” series by Bamforth. Printed in the USA.

Right Column - middle

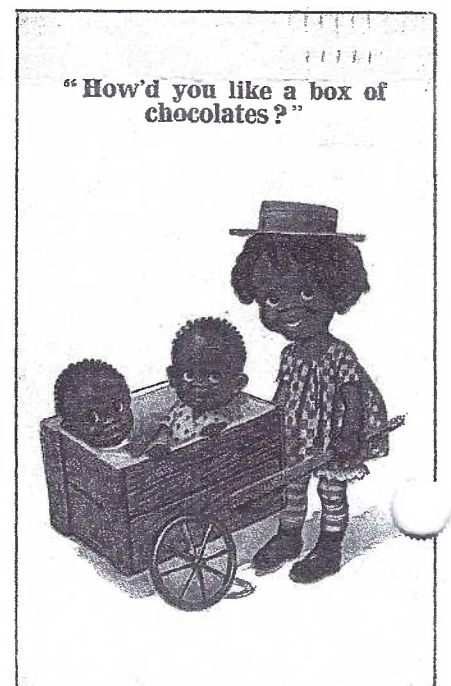
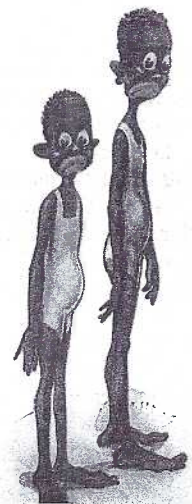
Ullman Mfg. published this art by Wall in 1909.

An early (undivided back) by Paul C. Koeber. It was mailed in Atlantic City in 1906.

Right column - bottom

A Bamforth PC in the *Black Kids* series mailed in Wildwood, NJ in 1930.

I'M SENDING YOU A COUPLE OF STICKS OF LIQUORICE



**More samples from slides
in February Program –
Blacks on Postcards**

Captions on this page –

Curt Teich's 1930s white border
#10535 – "*The Unsolved
Problem*" by P. S. West -
Sitting close by, on a rock, by
the sea;

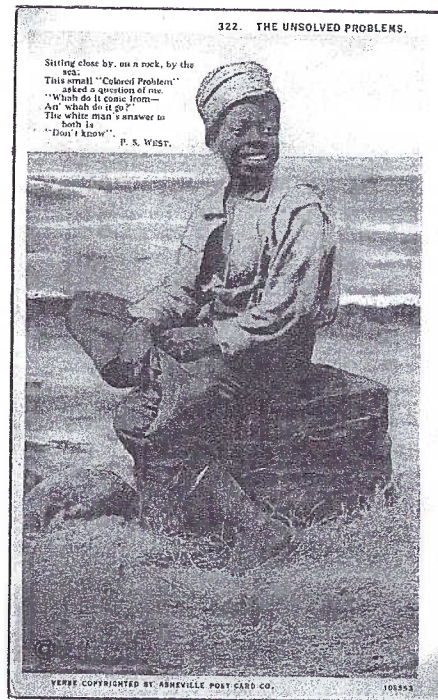
This small "Colored Problem"
asked a question of me.
"Whah do it come from – An'd
whah do it go?"

The white man's answer to both
is "Don't know."

"*Crap at Coonville*" in Raphael
Tuck's Dixie Land series.

Darktown Series #76 by Ullman
features Richard Outcault
(Buster Brown) art.

"*Eight Little Pickaninnies*
Kneeling in a Row" is #6397 in
Detroit Publ. Company's
Phostint series. Mailed from
New Orleans in 1911.



Origins of Black Related Names

Blacks – An all-inclusive term popularized in the early 1970s. It gained wide-spread acceptance by the end of the 1980s when endorsed for political reasons by Jesse Jackson. *Black* is a socio-political statement, not a skin-tone.

colored/coloreds – Dating to just after the Civil War when blacks were making a choice of what they wished to be called; Booker T. Washington and other prominent blacks chose *negro*; founded in 1909, the NAACP called itself the National Negro Conference, then Nat'l. Assoc. of the Advancement of the Negro and finally the Nat'l Assoc. for the Advancement of Colored People. "Colored" was considered offensive since it distinguished "pure" Blacks from mulattoes. "Colored" lost favor as the 20th century progressed. Since the 1960s "Black" has been the acceptable name, "Negro" and "Negress" have fallen out of favor except with United Negro College Fund and baseball's Negro Leagues.

coon – As early as 1834 minstrel shows starred white men with faces blacked but leaving white around their eyes, causing them resemble a raccoon's face. The Portuguese *barracoos* pronounced *barracoon* was a building made to hold slaves for sale.

Negro – Black educational leaders have been successful in having Negro capitalized in dictionaries and newspapers.

nigger – use dates from 1574; both *Negro* and *nigger* derive from the Latin *niger* meaning black. Nigger was a universally used term for anyone of black skin including Mark Twain's use in *Huckleberry Finn* though the term was used now by the vulgar class of people. Black-on-black use is different. Then it is used as almost a normal way of speaking by some people, especially young blacks and in rap music. There the sentiment behind the word is completely different and that makes it less offensive. It is almost the same as saying friend.

pickaninny – slave owners would pick a nincompoop from a lineup or pick a ninny; children who couldn't pick cotton "ain't pick aninny," also breasts are referred to as ninnys and a pickaninny was also a black wet nurse. During his camera experiments in 1893, Thomas Edison photographed some Black children as "interesting side effects." By 1904 he had produced *Ten Pickaninnies*, which showed those "side effects" running and playing. These nameless children were referred to as inky kids, smoky kids, black lambs, snowballs, chubby ebonies, bad chillun, and coons. Pickaninny actually has two meanings. The noun (from the late 18th century) comes from the West Indies and means a Black child, occasionally any Black person. It was adopted from the Spanish word *pequeno* (small) or Portuguese *pequenino* (tiny). The term was seen as neutral, since it was used mainly of all children.

LYNN HALL AND FALLINGWATER

Built by Walter J. Hall

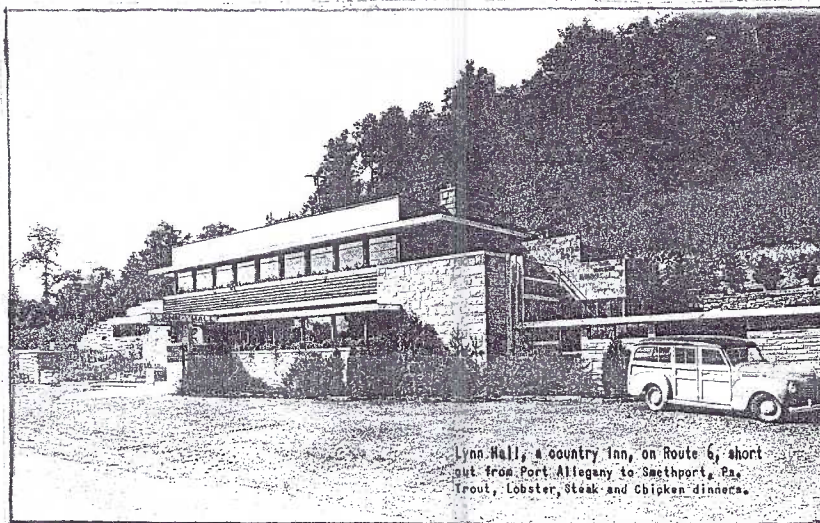
By Bryan Benner

One of the great things about collecting postcards are the stories that lie behind the cards, be it the artist who created an image, a publisher, or most often a story of what is pictured on a card. Vintage cards, often from the place pictured, let us feel we have a small piece of that place and its story.

In this case I came across these three real photo cards for Lynn Hall. I found an interesting story about the building and its builder. Initially I thought it must be a Frank Lloyd Wright designed building with its 'organic' style. I was wrong, but there was a close connection.

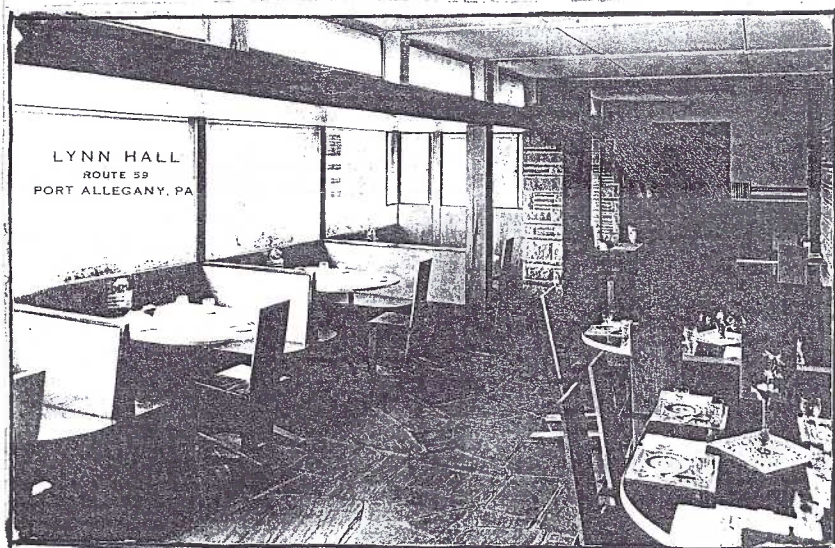
Lynn Hall was designed and built by Walter J. Hall and named after his mother. It is in western Pennsylvania located on the brow of Lewis Hill, 500 feet above the Allegheny River in Port Allegany, PA. Used as an inn and restaurant it is built of stone and sand from the hill on which it sits. Walter's son Raymond helped him complete the structure in 1934.

Hall was a builder who constructed many houses and schools in the Port Allegany area. After the completion of Lynn Hall he ran it as a restaurant for about ten years.



Lynn Hall, a country Inn, on Route 6, short out from Port Allegany to Smithport, Pa. Trout, Lobster, Steak and Chicken dinners.

Lynn Hall is an example of 'Organic' architecture which believed a building should look part of its surrounding topography. I love the 'woody' station wagon in the foreground. From its age one would gather this card was taken not too long after the building was completed in 1934.



Lynn Hall's Dining Room
Besides advertising "Fresh Brook Trout – Lobster – Steak – Chicken" the back of the card also states that the dining room commands a beautiful view for many miles up and down the valley.

In 1936 Edgar J. Kaufmann Jr. was traveling through northwestern Pennsylvania when he saw Lynn Hall in Port Allegany. His father was at the time working with the famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright to build a summer house for their family in the 'organic' style. Edgar J. Kaufmann Sr., owner of Kaufmann's Department Store in Pittsburgh, PA., was in need of a contractor to build Wright's design. Edgar Jr. told his father after seeing Lynn Hall, "We have our contractor!"

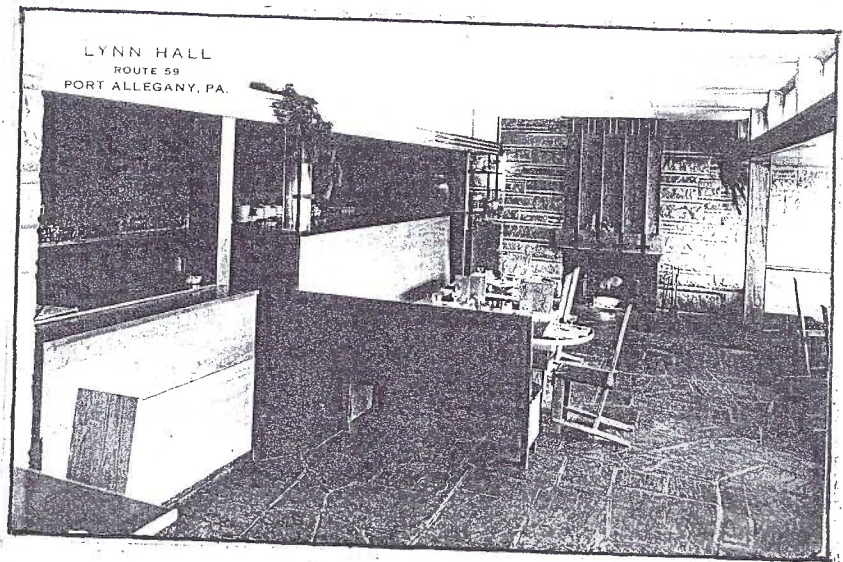
Wright, Kaufmann and Hall met and had very sympathetic views on design and construction. Each man was of strong opinions and tried to have the final say in the building of Fallingwater. The initial cost estimate for the house was \$29,000 which, when all was added and changed, ended up over \$100,000.

Fallingwater is an incredible house built of stone from the site on an outcropping of rock over Bear Run. Its cantilevered design carries through from its impressive 18 foot cantilever over Bear Run to its main staircase and even the book shelves. It was built to reflect the layered and naturally cantilevered rock on the site.

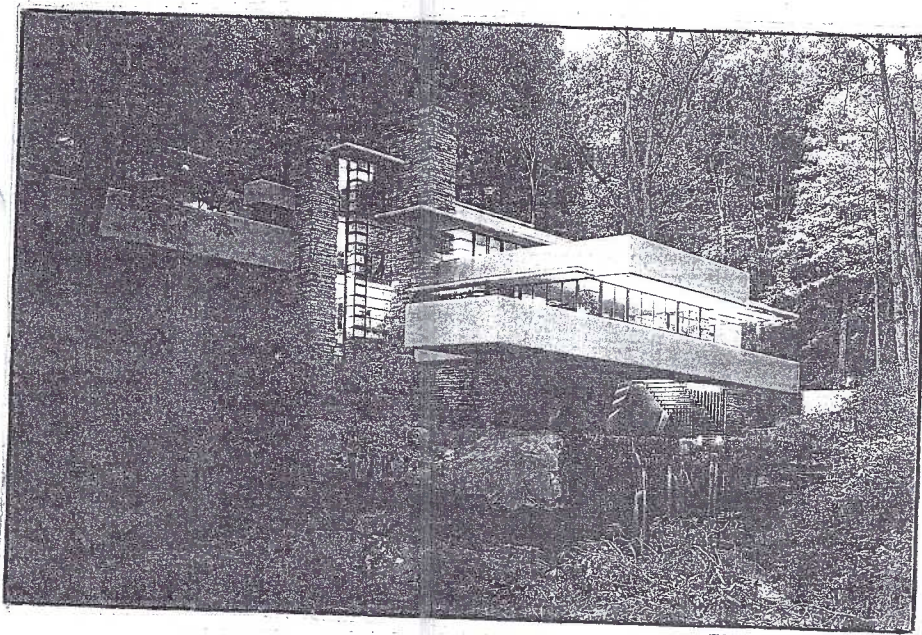
Kaufmann was apparently happy, in spite of the cost overages, with the house. In a letter to Hall he says about a group of his friends who were at the house "I know it would make you feel warm. Most of my friends were architects and designers who had a high appreciation for workmanship. There was no end of praise of what you were able to do with the mountain labor."

Today, Fallingwater is known as a world-famous masterwork of Frank Lloyd Wright and is considered one of the most important buildings of the 20th century. It is open to the public and run by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

Lynn Hall still stands today as well. No longer a restaurant, it is a private home. Surrounded by mature evergreens, it appears quite different from the photo on the card.



Lynn Hall's interiors were done in the same 'organic' style. The chairs have an interesting design.



This modern continental card states: 'Fallingwater Frank Lloyd Wright's world-famous masterwork, designed in 1936 for Liliane S. and Edgar J. Kaufmann. Entrusted in their memory to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.' It was given by their son.

The photo on the above card of Fallingwater shows how the cantilevered design reflects the rock over which the waterfall runs. A cantilever, a means of support in architecture, like a bracket, supports a balcony. In this case, Wright used the weight of the building to support the projecting appendage without pillars underneath. There was some controversy about the building of this main section. Wright and Hall felt that a minimum of reinforcement steel was needed in the concrete deck. Kaufmann felt more was needed. They split the difference, but over the years the cantilever began to sag. Recently, it was reconstructed with more reinforcement steel. Interesting that in this case the home owner knew better than the architect and the builder.

Fallingwater has all its original interiors; most of the furniture was designed by Wright. Besides the house, the complex includes a guest house, a hidden garage and parking area and a swimming pool fed by the stream. One of many interesting features is a staircase that leads from the living room directly into the stream below. If you ever visit, be sure to see Kentuck Knob, another Wright house nearby. Its design theme is the octagon.

CLUB PAGE

by Dick Pendergrast

JANUARY MEETING

This was our 16th anniversary meeting and we are indebted to Sharon Gromis for the nice birthday cake we had for the occasion. Highlight of the evening was a surprise visit from Benjamin Franklin (alias Bart Hannahoe from Wyomissing, Pa.) Bart came dressed in colonial garb to celebrate his 300th birthday as pictured to the right. He answered many questions about his family and his life in early American times. The planned program on the number 6 for the year 2006 was postponed as a result and now is a backup program for later in the year.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Jim Ward will present a projector program on the subject of blacks on postcards in honor of Black History Month. The subject of the monthly competition will be a board on "Presidents" since February includes Presidents Day.

MONTHLY COMPETITION

There were a total of 19 entries in the January competition on the subject "Wintertime". Congratulations to everyone who participated, the showing was great!

Winners were:

- 1) Harold Moyer – "Flexible Flyer"
- 2) Tom Schaum – "Snow Couple Dancing"
- 3) Walter Mowrer – "Fire in Winter, Columbia 1915"

Other cards were submitted by Jim Brodt (2), Dick Pendergrast, Betty Kreider, Sandra Shaub, Carol Giona, Carol Dennis, Ray Dennis, Ruth Moyer, DeDe Schaeffer, Jim Ward, Tom Beck, Karen Schell, Gisela Withers, Mike Middleton and Mary Darrenkamp.

For those who like to plan ahead, here are the competition subjects for the rest of the year:

March	Children – Single Card
April	Umbrellas- Single Card
May	Potpourri – Board
June	Dairy Month – Single Card
July	Letter F – Board
August	Summer Recreation – Single Card
September	Schools – Single Card
October	Animals - Board
November	Harvest – Board
December	Christmas Transportation – Single Card

WELCOME NEW MEMBER AND 50/50

#751 Janet Witman, 25 Field Stone Drive, Cochranville, Pa. 19330, (610) 345-9177. Janet is the wife of member Kevin. She also won the 50/50 game on the first try! That's why these two subjects are included in the same paragraph.

PAY 2006 DUES

Don't forget to pay your 2006 dues to Betty Beck at the meeting or by mail to 11 Cinder Hill Road, Lititz, Pa. 17543. Yearly membership is \$10 (\$5 for each additional member at the same address).

