

THE CARD – Vol. 30, No. 12, Issue 345, December 2019

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

Enjoying postcards through education and entertainment.

Next Meeting: December 16, 2019. **Park City Diner**

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

NOVEMBER MEETING

President Susan Glass opened the meeting by having everyone pledge allegiance to the flag. There were 34 people in attendance. Cindy Whitmore, a former member, and Carol Hollandsworth were guests for the evening.

The secretary's minutes were approved as read. The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$8,333.83.

The competition subject for the evening was "Food." There will be no competition in December as we are enjoying an holiday meal at the Park City Diner.

Under new business, President Glass announced that we would be having our Christmas dinner at the Park City Diner on December 16 at 6 p.m. Each member may bring one guest. There is a sign-up sheet at the Club Table.

The 50-50 of \$21 was won by Bud Heim. And the door prizes were won by Maria Schurz and Bill Seigford.

This evening's program by Ken McClain covered "Walt Disney Christmas Cards." In 1930, Walt Disney began sending these cards to key players in the motion picture industry and Disney staff members and, therefore, have rarely been seen by the general public. The cards featured characters from his animated feature films, starting with Snow White.

The meeting was adjourned after the program.

FUTURE SHOWS

Feb 15: Hagerstown Postcard & Stamp Show, Ramada Plaza Hotel, Hagerstown, MD, Sat: 9:30 AM-3:30 PM.

Mar 14: Harrisburg Postcard Show, Linglestown Fire Co., Harrisburg, PA, Sat: 9 AM-4 PM. \$2.00

Mar27-28: Morlatton Postcard Show, Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA, Fri: 10 AM-6 PM, Sat: 10 AM-4 PM, Admission \$2.50

**INCLEMENT WEATHER

If the Lancaster City Schools are closed on the day of our LCPC meeting – **the club will not meet.** For those of you, who use FACEBOOK; go to LCPClub page for a cancelation posting. If the weather prediction is questionable please contact President Susan Glass 717-872-0810.



DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY

This year we will again gather at the Park City Diner in Lancaster, PA for our annual Christmas party. The festivities will begin at 6 PM. Each member is invited to bring one guest. Please call Susan Glass at (717) 872-0810 to reserve your spot. We will be meeting in a separate room and the reservation is in Dede's name.

Park City Diner
884 Plaza Blvd
Lancaster, PA

This is located 1.5 miles from the
Farm & Home Center @ Park City.



NOVEMBER POSTCARD COMPETITION

Eleven members participated in the single card competition on the subject "Food."

First: Bob Kramer "Coney Island Clambake"

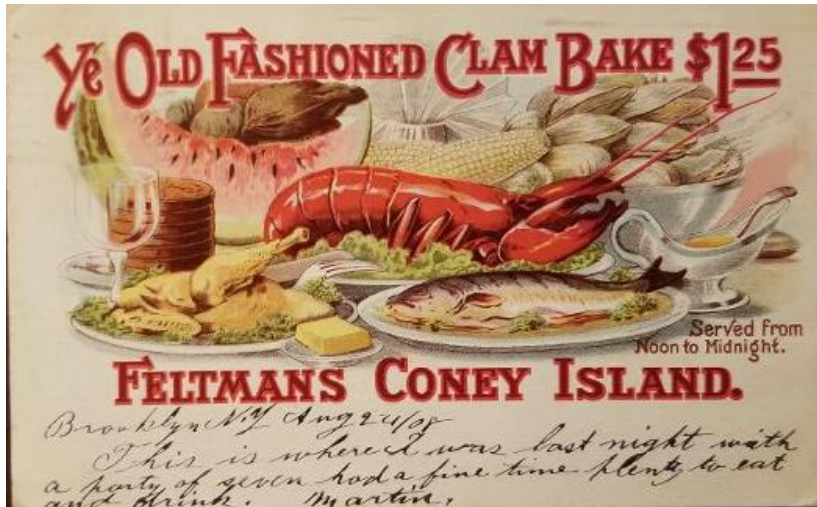
Second: Leighton Stover "Cheese Mousetrap"

Third: Win Schurz "Thanksgiving Foods"

Honorable mention:

Maria Schurz "Thanksgiving Menu"; Dede Schaeffer "Swedish Elves Fattening the Pig"; Betty Beck "Sturgis Pretzel Bakery"; Don Tribit "Farmers Market, Hollywood, CA"; Dick Pendergrast "Stockholm Smorgasbord"; Donna Bashaw "Bavarian Food"; Annetta Buettner "Hershey's Chocolate"; Gisela Withers "Sweet Dreams."

NOVEMBER POSTCARD COMPETITION

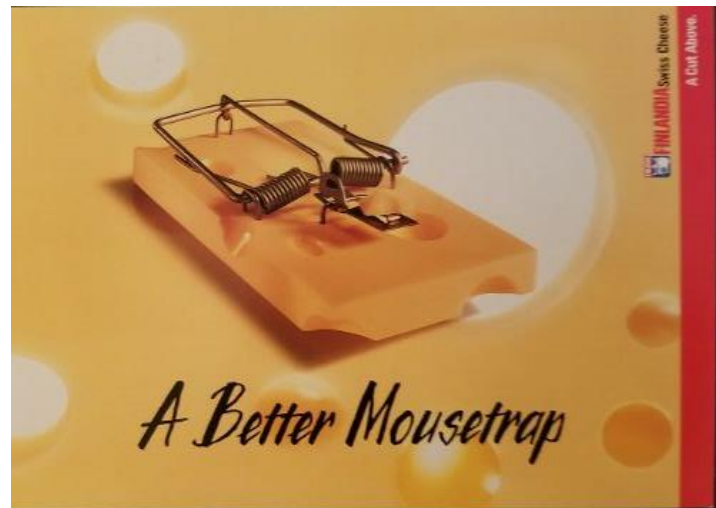


Bob Kramer

Happy Holidays!



Leighton Stover



Win Schurz



2020 POSTCARD COMPETITION SUBJECTS

January – The #20 or 20 items on the card

February - Ethnic

March – Postcard Folders

April – National Parks

May – Continental Cards

June - Baseball

July – Homemade Cards

August - Expo

September – Large Letter

October – Horse Drawn Vehicles

November – Political

CHRISTMAS ROBINS AND KIN

Before telegrams arrive, the front door bell chimes and the phone rings off its stand, let me remind you that most of the ROBINS you see on these Christmas PCs are the European bird (*Erithacus rubecula*) which is plump, small-billed and merely 5½" long and lacks a full breast of red like the American robin (*Turdus migratorius*) which is 10" long - a thrush of another color.

Since 95% of Golden Age cards were manufactured in Germany and designed by European artists we can readily understand why the un-American robins are most often seen on postcards.

An acceptable fact is most holiday cards adorned primarily with birds are near the bottom of the popularity pack, far below other animals, children, snowmen and Santas. Perhaps after this little article you may be more inclined to look for Christmas Robins among your own collection and before they migrate to dealers' higher priced boxes.

Victorians' deep religious convictions no doubt played an important role in the appearance of robins on Christmas cards. According to the legend, a small fire was the Christ Child's only source of heat in the cold and damp stable. As the flame threatened to flicker and die, a robin flew to it and fanned the dimming light with its wings, persevering all night, keeping the Child warm. The little bird was rewarded with a blush of orange-red in its face (the European species) and on its breast as a reminder to all of its valiant effort.



Only an umbrella shields these two robins from a bitter cold day on the S. Langsdorf & Co. card above. The Illustrated Postal Card Co., NY and Germany, produced the card, left, showing an animated robin carrying a chocolate covered Christmas cookie and wearing a yellow peaked hat. Bell and robin are highlighted in gold trim.



Red-cloaked British postmen were nick-named "robins" because they reminded the populace of the red birds as they tramped along their snowy delivery routes. If you look extra hard you'll find Christmas postcard robins in turn imitating postmen as the artists depict them carrying letters in their bills or under their wings! Have fun - SAVE ROBINS!! ED.NOTE: Bird experts are reminded that PC artists weren't J.J. Audobons or Roger Tory Petersons. Expect flaws. Thanks to Jim Rudisill for a British Heritage article on the subject.



Above. Two early robins have caught the same worm on u/b Bavarian card #479 by popular publisher, E. Nister. Rt. corner, top. P.F. Collier & Son's d/b has a branchful of robins and imps; artist-signed by Alys Goss and cancelled Dec. 23, 1910 in Providence, R.I. Just below it is an unnumbered Stecher card with a pair of robins in a nighttime art deco scene.



Lower Left. Our pair of Christmas robins from the previous page have resorted to play since the frigid storm has passed. Unidentified German publisher.

Lower right. Three plump robins nearly crowd the little girls from the branch. An International Art Publ. card that appears to be hand-painted. PM is 12/23/12.



Bertha Blodgett's (B) little girls, above, seem quite friendly to the robins. On 1881 versions by L. Prang & Co., Dede Schaeffer informs us the girls have taken the offensive and do their best to claim the branch for their own. Blodgett is noted for her children in "great, full dresses, gigantic hats with flowers, ribbons and feathers..." according to Barbara Andrews.