

Christmas Card Etiquette Reviewed by Association

There's more to sending Christmas cards than just dropping them in a mailbox. For those in doubt, the Greeting Card Association has prepared a "refresher course" in Christmas card etiquette.

Of the trend today is toward a pleasant, warm-hearted informality. Signatures may be printed or penned in ink, which seems most appropriate. Last names can be omitted on cards for close friends and relatives. Consequently, titles such as "Mr." and "Mrs." or "Mr. and Mrs." will not be used either—except when addressing the envelope. Of course, if the Christmas card is sent to a business or formal acquaintance, both the last name and title may be considered a proper part of the signature.

Married couples frequently wonder whose name ought to come first. Usually it's the wife who signs the card; so she puts her name last—just to be polite. Husbands in turn will do the same. Both are perfectly correct. Only when the signature is imprinted or engraved does the wife's name necessarily precede the husband's. However, any time there are children's names in the signature, Dad rates first place. Family signatures may be strangled in almost any order. That is, as long as the proper relationship is indicated: "John and Mary, Tommy and Lucy" or "The Comstocks—All Four." The more lift and imagination a Christmas card signature reveals, the better. A bit of whimsy, for example, may be added by including the name of your family pet.

It's important to always write "The Reverend" instead of simply "Reverend" when sending Christmas cards to a minister or priest. Why? Because "the" is an adjective of courtesy politely extended to those in God's service. However, the correct form for Protestant ministers with a doctor of divinity degree is "The Reverend Dr." or "The Reverend —, D.D." Initials of a special order or rank should be added to the names of Catholic priests, who are also addressed as "The Reverend —."

Personal News
Personal News is probably the most important addition you can make to a Christmas card. There's no reason to leave that empty space empty. So write a friendly, little note on your cards. Any message that will help keep a friendship in "good repair" is entirely proper and always welcome. Just remember that the post office requires a three cent stamp for all Christmas cards bearing written messages. In fact, Christmas cards should always be sent by sealed, first-class mail because, after all, "first class" friends deserve first-class mail.
Post office protocol, in fact, is more closely related to Christmas

card etiquette than you may realize. Return addresses on your card envelopes, for example, are socially correct and are needed by mail carriers when people move or can't be located. And they help bring address books up-to-date, which most of us like to do during the Christmas card season. Then, too, correctly addressed envelopes—neatly written—insure prompt delivery, and also make a good first impression on arrival.

Don't abbreviate anything except titles, such as "Mr. and Mrs." If you want your Christmas card envelopes to be well-groomed, write out the recipient's full name, street and number, town, zone, and state. Then re-check for accuracy. Perplexed postal employees may mistake the Mr. you abbreviate for Missouri for the Me. of Maine, or the Md. of Maryland. While a slip of the pen can send a Christmas card intended for 2711 Main Street to 2171—which could be an open lot.

Take pride in the Christmas cards that pass through your hands. Their appearance, and the sentiments they express, should be in perfect harmony with the joyous holiday spirit. So let yourself go! Write those cheery little notes in colored ink. Add a friendly invitation to that "open house" party you've been planning. And be sure to display the Christmas Cards that you receive where visitors may admire them. It's a wonderful way to add a cheery touch to your living room.

Rebekahs Announce Plans for Party

Plans were made for the annual Christmas party December 17 at the last meeting of Olive Rebekah lodge. A gift exchange will be held at the party, and Mrs. Lee Garrett is in charge of the entertainment.

Mrs. J. D. Brummond, noble grand, will have for her project this year a scholarship for a Theta Rho girl who is a senior in high school. Qualifications will be announced at a later date.

When In Rome... Leftover broccoli can be used to give soup an Italian accent. Add 1 cup of cooked, diced broccoli to tomato soup, bouillon, and 1 cup of cooked elbow macaroni. Heat and serve, topped with grated parmesan cheese.

Chapter AA

Chapter AA of the P.E.O. sisterhood, will have a luncheon meeting Wednesday, December 12 at the home of Mrs. O. J. Frohnmayer, 1656 Spring street. Assisting hostesses are Mrs. Robert Sleeter and Mrs. C. E. Hedberg.

Christmas party is planned with Mrs. John Collins and Mrs. S. J. Lacy in charge of the program.

Egg Sandwich Treat

New York — U.P. — Egg salad filling for sandwiches becomes a sophisticated treat with the addition of sliced green olives to the mix. Two to three olives to 1 egg is about the correct proportion.

Gift Wrap Elegant This Year

By MARGARET RICHARDS
United Press Staff Correspondent

Kansas City, Mo. — U.P. — Golden pine cones against a black background, elegant ornaments in soft pink and rich gold and embossed festoons of popcorn and cranberries are among the many striking designs in which America will wrap its gifts this Christmas.

Such elegance and a host of new "idea" gift wraps are the most distinguishing features of the 1956 array of yuletide gift wraps, according to stylist Kaye King.

Created especially for gifts that are to be mailed is a new "across-the-miles" paper, depicting a parade of jolly postmen and bulging letterboxes. To

mark that very first visit from Santa Claus, there is an appropriate design entitled "baby's first Christmas."

Reflect Personality

The handyman will appreciate a gift paper called, "do-it-yourself," with an inspiring pattern of hammers, saws and other tools.

"These and many similar gift wraps are especially designed to reflect the personality of the recipient or the nature of the occasion," Miss King said.

New this year are a series of gift papers with religious motifs, symbolic of the first Christmas gifts. One, entitled "Angelic Overture," shows robed and haloed angels playing harps, lutes and other instruments.

Another features a reproduction of a stained glass cathedral window, with silver glitter outlining the brightly colored triangular segments. The music of "Silent Night," "O Come All Ye Faithful" and other carols form the design of still another.

Continuous Rolls

To facilitate covering larger boxes, and for economy's sake, many of the gift wraps are available in continuous rolls packaged in convenient "cutter" boxes. The paper is merely pulled against a serrated metal edge to cut in lengths.

A new ribbon will make it easy for even an inexperienced person to create handsome bows. The ribbon sticks to itself when moistened and pressed together, thus making old-fashioned bows that must be knotted

Chain Cooking Saves Time, Fuel, Money

East Lansing, Mich. — U.P. — Chain cooking can save time, work, fuel and money, Michigan State university home economists say.

Chain cooking is the process of cooking too much food on purpose. There are two types, the MSU specialists pointed out. The first involves cooking large quantities of a recipe for five or 10 meals ahead and then freezing the extra portions in

to make bows.

When creased, the ribbon splits into narrower widths, permitting the home gift-wraper to maintain a smaller ribbon "inventory" and still have ribbon of the proper size.

meal-size packages for reheating at the time of use.

The second method is to create ready-cooked ingredients called for in other recipes. This gives the homemaker more freedom in planning since she has so many ingredients always on hand.

Brides

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