THE CARD - Vol. 17, No. 3 Issue 195 March 2006

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

Next Meeting: Mon., March 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











morning to you!



From the Ould

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March Cover Cards

By Jim Ward

Our cover cards this month are a quiz. But first, a preface.

Ellen Clapsaddle is considered by many (but certainly not all of us) these days to be the best artist of children on postcards. Ellen had a large following when her work first appeared. She worked for several companies including Raphael Tuck, International Art Publishing Co. and the Wolf Publishing Co. There was a period when her popularity waned but in recent years (read "E-bay") a huge revival has taken place for this artist's postcard children.

I've seen people, not the least bit interested in PCs, or children, or artists, ask for – no, demand – signed Ellen Clapsaddle cards, regardless of holiday. Finding none, they walk away. These people seem obsessed. I've heard them talking about the tremendous prices the Clapsaddle cards are bringing on E-bay and they're Hell-bent on finding cheap cards to put on the auction site. It seems these know-nothing buyers have been lured into a fantasy world, how and by whom we may never know. The E-bay prices are outlandish and we know the buyers are new to PCs because they won't buy unsigned cards.

What is important to you is that you must decide if Clapsaddle is the artist for you and if you like her work so much, look at many cards and learn her work and appreciate it even if it's not signed. An experienced dealer can show you unsigned Clapsaddles. You'll soon learn to know her work — and appreciate them, signed or unsigned.

Shown on our March cover are six Clapsaddle children celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Numbers 2, 4 and 6 are by International Art Co. and 1, 3 and 5 by Wolf Publ. Co. I have devilishly used large number blocks and placed them where the Clapsaddle name is or might be, or perhaps, never was. Can you identify which are signed and which are unsigned Clapsaddles? And if you can't, do you see the lunacy in needing signed PCs when the artwork speaks for itself?

Quiz answer elsewhere in this issue.



Snowmen and Nose-thumbers.

By Jim Ward

When you reach a certain age cold weather with its inevitable ice and snow loses its appeal and sky-rocketing costs to heat your home further that lack of appeal.

The almanac predicted that south-central PA's 2005-2006 winter would have a harsh beginning and harsh ending. With that thought in mind (and expecting a harsh March ending to winter) I chose to show a few child-ren thumbing their noses at snowmen (not that I can make a

logical connection to anything!)

Nose-thumbing in the good old days of these PCs didn't carry the extremely rude meaning we give it today. It was simply a mild insult.

Snow people are popular PC topics; nose-thumbers are not so popular (and more difficult to find). Here we see on PFB series #11144, a snow boy insulting his Ma, then on an unidentified European card, a big fat raven witnesses a pot-hatted snowman insulted by a chubby youngster and finally, on a French PHR studio photo card a child insults our third snowman.





Clapsaddle cards - Number one and five are unsigned.

March Program by Local Author

Dr. Victor J. W. Christie of Ephrata Discusses Art of Bessie Pease Gutmann

A program you're sure to enjoy in March will be the outstanding art of Bessie Pease Gutmann. In 1990 Dr. Victor J. W. Christie of Ephrata published Bessie Pease Gutmann, Her Life and Works. It is the definitive biography of the artist. We are privileged to have Dr. Christie talk to us about Bessie and her art. He will offer a slide presentation showing some of the 70+ images that appeared on postcards. A limited number of 2002 catalogues will be offered to those attending the program.

Before her marriage to Helmuth Gutmann in 1906, the artist's works were signed Bessie Collins Pease as seen on *Falling Out* and *Making Up*. Her PCs are most sought after as they were all published in a short span of four years, from 1907 to 1910.

We'll learn that many images were pirated by foreign publishers and this makes it difficult to compile a list of the treasured cards.

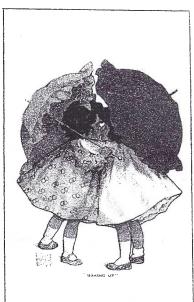
Don't miss the March program. You're sure to enjoy the delightful art by Bessie Gutmann and hear what her biographer has to say about the artist.

Right: In 1907 our country was in the throes of "Rooseveltism." Bessie caught her niece asleep, hugging her new Teddy and neglecting an old favorite in *The New Love*.

Below: This 1907 PC has no caption. In other issues of the same image it is called *The Happy Hunter* and *De-lighted*.



Though none of the artist's postcards are easily located, Falling Out and Making Up are two you're more likely to find. Painted before she was married, the pair is signed Bessie Collins Pease.







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SENTENA A PERSON, PURS., P. V.

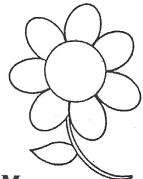
A 1909 postcard features Cupid in *Verdict – Love for Life*. The two Teddy postcards and Cupid were kindly loaned by Dede Schaeffer. The two little girls are from Jim Ward.

MORLATTON POST CARD CLUB INC.



31st Spring Postcard Show

Farm and Home Center 1383 Arcadia Road Lancaster, PA 17603 (off Manheim Pike Rte. 72)



Friday, March 24, 2006 - 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. Saturday, March 25, 2006 - 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

No Pre-Show Buying

Admission \$2.00 (50 cents off with ad)

For more information call Kay Feight, (717) 263-1638 Leon Rowe, (610) 444-0641

LANCASTER COUNTY POSTCARD CLUB

Library Highlight

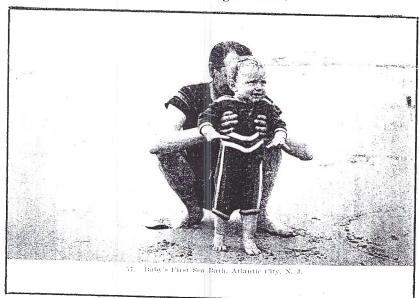
PICTURE POSTCARDS OF THE GOLDEN AGE A Collector's Guide By Tonic and Valmai Holt

This guide is designed to help the picture postcard collector at every level. It aims to give practical help to the novice and provide new information for the more experienced collector. It also provides an attempt at a valuation of cards that are still readily available and others that are worth looking for; clear-to-follow appendices list the better-known publishers of cards, their trademarks, processes, and some of the sets they produced.

There are two interests that bring a large proportion of enthusiasts into the ranks of card collectors. One is an interest in one's locality. Many students of local history discover that a view card of their favorite town can give them a more accurate picture of what life was like there 60-70 years ago than any number of history books. The student of social history in its many forms is another common postcard enthusiast. For example, costume experts search for details of hats, bathing costumes, and parasols.

It is hoped this book will give the casual reader some sort of answer to the question we are always being asked: 'But why collect postcards?' The reasons for starting a collection are almost as varied as the types of cards available.

Please call Carol Giona on 464-1410 if you are interested in borrowing this book.



GOLDEN AGE Postcard, divided back, postmarked Atlantic City, N.J. 1909, card shows bathing costumes of nearly 100 years ago.

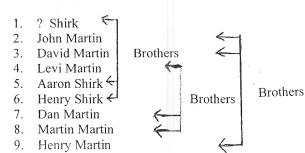


Churchtown, a village in eastern Lancaster County, may not be your area for postcard collecting but you've got to admit this is a 'cute' card. Norman Rockwell couldn't have set up a better view of rural childhood in Lancaster County in the early 1930's. This card is in 'Windows to Our Past' Vol. 2, pg. 106, the club's book of Lancaster County views.

It wasn't until Henry Martin saw a copy of the club's book that he knew he was portrayed on a postcard. He remembers a neighbor lady asking them to pose for this picture. He and his brothers later received a copy (larger than postcard size) that he still has today, though he never knew it was made into a postcard.

The boys on this card are from three families; Henry (far right on post at gate) and two of his brothers, three cousins (his father's brother's boys) and three brothers from the Shirk family. Henry has identified the line up of boys as follows.

From Left to Right



ATTENTION

THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE

If you have not paid your dues for 2006. Deadline is March 31.

Pay Dues at Meeting or By Mail:

Betty Beck –LCPC Membership 11 Cinder Hill Road Lititz, PA 17543

Yearly Membership is \$10 (\$5 for each additional member at same address) Know another postcard enthusiast? A membership makes a great gift!

MICHAEL MIDDLETON POSTCARDS

Special offer to club members only, 20% off coupon (one time offer) at Heritage Antiques in Adamstown. Just see Mike at the March meeting for your coupon.

CLUB PAGE

by Dick Pendergrast

FEBRUARY MEETING

Close to 60 members were present for this winter meeting. Jim Ward gave a slide presentation on blacks on postcards. He showed more than 125 examples of the various types of black cards that were published prior to World War II. Some of these have gotten quite valuable in recent years.

The monthly competition was a board on the subject of <u>Presidents</u>. Winners were:

First Place - Harold Moyer - Our First Sixteen Presidents

Second Place - Jim Ward - Silhouettes of LCPC Presidents

Third Place - Ruth Moyer - George Washington

Honorable Mention – Kevin Witman

MARCH MEETING

Dr. Victor Christie will present the program on artist Bessie Pease Gutman whose illustrations often were used on postcards.

The monthly competition will be a single card, the subject will be <u>Children</u>

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

#752 Jean Weglarz, 515 E. King St., Lancaster, Pa. 17602, (717)392-3375. Collects east side of Lancaster city.

TRICK'S AY

- #753 **Dorothy Haffly,** 110 Oak Leaf Drive, Windsor, Pa. 17366, (717)244-3047. E Mail: roadrunnera63@wmconnect.com. Collects trains, trolleys, & lighthouses
- #754 Carl Haffly, 110 Oak Leaf Drive, Windsor, Pa. 17366, (717)244-3047. Collects everything
- #755 Karen Schell, 1501 Twisted Oak Drive, Reston, Va. 20154-1540

CHANGES TO OUR MONTHLY COMPETITION PROCEDURES

In an effort to streamline the competition, we plan to change our procedure effective with the March meeting. The new procedure will be as follows:

- 1. Persons with an exhibit, please check in with Ruth Moyer when you arrive so she can record your name and exhibit title or description. Then put exhibit on display.
- 2. All members and guests may vote once and will receive a voting slip at the door when they sign in.
- 3. Everyone should vote for one exhibit before the meeting intermission. A voting box will be placed by the exhibits. The committee will count the votes at intermission.
- 4. Committee will announce the winners or else request a tie-breaking vote.
- 5. Finally, Ruth Moyer will introduce the other exhibits.