

THE CARD – Vol. 21, No. 4, Issue 242, December 2010

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

Enjoying postcards through education and entertainment.

Next Meeting: Dec. 20, 2010. Farm & Home Center. Christmas Party-Meeting. 6 PM Sharp.

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

Membership chairman: Richard Pendergrast, 950 Willow Valley Lakes Dr., I-506, Willow Street, PA 17584.

LCPC address – Pres. Doug Milliken, P. O. Box 180, Bausman, PA, 17504, E-mail: dmilliken@me.com

Club website: www.playle.com/clubs/lancaster or Google search: Lancaster County Postcard Club.

Don't Forget – on December 20 - Our Club's Annual

Christmas Party

Make your Reservations now. Call Sharon Gromis, 717-892-6864, and leave a message with the number of your family or friends who will attend. Details below.

Christmas Party Details

We meet on the regular third Monday but in the double-size room - with access to plenty of round tables for dining and a huge screen for optional program use. We eat at 6 PM sharp so be there in time to place your potluck dish on the Serving Table. Please contact Sharon Gromis our program chair now and let her know 1) what type food you intend to bring and 2) how many will attend in your group. Guests are welcome, just provide enough food to accommodate them. Sharon reminds us that LCPC will supply the table settings and drinks. All you need to do is bring a serving spoon, pie knife, etc. If you wish to bring an inexpensive wrapped present, place it on the Gift Table. Just those who bring a gift will participate in the Gift Exchange after the meal is completed. The Christmas program will be in two parts. Gisela Withers will offer a short story about Christmas that she recently translated from a German source. Following that Dede Schaeffer will take us on **A Christmas Journey**, a postcard presentation using the Elmo projector. **Sharon should be reached at 717-892-6864. Leave a message if you get her tape.**

2011 Officers and Directors

A small portion of the December party will be set aside to discuss vacancies for 2011 and to accept volunteers for these positions: **Vice-president** (automatically becomes president in 2012); and **three Directors**. Three Directors serve for two years. Continuing their second year in 2011 will be: Steve Mummert, Dede Schaeffer, and Shirley Summers. The Vice-President's main job is to be in charge of programs, most of which are already scheduled for 2011. The Directors meet several times a year, along with the Officers, at the home of the President. They discuss the business of the club and keep details and events on schedule. Our **Secretary**, Gisela Withers is willing to continue her job, though she could use some help during the meeting*. Gisela has offered to step aside should there be an experienced volunteer to take her place. Barbara Mowrer, our **Treasurer**, has also volunteered to continue in that capacity. Our **President** will be Bob Zink who served as VP this year. Tom Beck, Ray Dennis, Walt Mowrer. *Besides taking minutes, Gisela also conducts the Monthly Card Competition. Someone else should take on this easy job. Also, because there's not enough time for Gisela to write honorable mention awards for everyone not winning 1st, 2nd or 3rd Place, only two entries are designated for HM. Will someone please volunteer to write or print these during the meeting? It wouldn't take more than 15 minutes.

November Meeting Recap

It was not a very good evening...and understandably so. With the program (auction or member market?) up in the air, many folks found something better to do than travel to an Unknown, resulting in only 28 in attendance – a new low for LCPC. The room was prepared with 15 8-foot tables for member/dealer set up but only half were occupied by: Kelly Fasnacht, Mike Middleton, Aaron and Lynn Heckler, Walter Mowrer, Bob Kramer, Ruth and Harold Moyer, Jim Ward and Bob Shirk (see Bob's story elsewhere).

We now have a new printing of the club's unique cash cards and these were won by **Mike Middleton (\$1)**, **Bob Zink (\$2)**, and **Bill Buckwalter (\$3)**. The cards are clearly marked "Use in 60 Days." Each winner's name and date is endorsed on the back and the cards are redeemable at any dealer's table the same night or the following month. What's the point of hoarding them? They can only be used at LCPC and will lose their value quite soon. An LCPC Cookbook (containing members' recipes) was the fourth door prize. It was won by Sharon Gromis. The 50/50 of \$10 was won by Tom Beck.

November Single Card Competition

One bright segment of the night was the Card Competition and the subject **Men and Women in Uniform** brought out an array of cards. There were 13 participants, but with a maximum of only 28 members voting, it was sure to result on numerous ties.

First Tom Beck	Popeye
Second Ruth Moyer	USO Club
Second Aaron Heckler	Young Man in Uniform (Real Photo)
Third Don Tribit	Naval Officer on Byrd Expedition
Third Carl Haffly	U. S. Naval Academy
Third Bob Kramer	Great Uncle and Great, Great Grandma
Third Harold Moyer	Gen. Dwight David Eisenhower

Honorable Mentions

Walter Mowrer	Soldier (Real Photo)
Jim Brodt	Fireside Tales
Jim Ward	Fireman (Real Photo)
Gisela Withers	Evzoni (Greek Presidential Guards)
Doug Milliken	Today and Yesterday
Bob Zink	Gen. Armstrong Custer

Missed were explanations or further insight that often follows when each member's entry is addressed.

December's single card subject is **BELLS**. Now there's an easy one that should bring forth a grand holiday crowd.

Akron, PA History

Postcard Views Correct Error

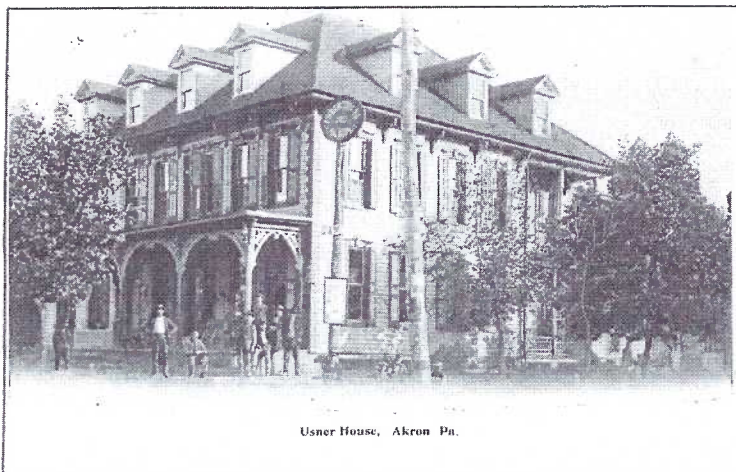
Many of us who like local postcard views also cherish the centennial or bicentennial histories written for the county's towns. Few sources are better qualified to record the local history which is often gleaned through interviews with the "old-timers." But occasionally memories aren't as reliable as they should be and a case in point is the 1996 publication, "Akron, Pennsylvania Centennial, 1895-1995." The 100-page book is loaded with photographs and covers every aspect of the borough. (Many pages are local business ads which help finance the history, but in a generation or two they'll also become a part of history.

In question is the page titled "The Electric Company." It includes the early generator, Electric Avenue, and the 80¢ minimum charge, all of which make for interesting reading. The third paragraph, refers to Howard Bitner and it's here that Akron postcard views disprove the quote. It reads, "He later started the first electric company in Akron around 1911, complete with stockholders, etc."

In his county collection Harold Moyer has several **undivided back** views of Akron published by H. M. Adams of Akron. We all know that the undivided back lasted only until March 1907. It was then that the Post Office allowed *both* the message and address to be on the back with a dividing line down the middle. We here show several of Harold's PC views and they all have the familiar electric poles* lining the streets of Akron. In addition to the undivided/ divided date of March 1907, Harold's views further repudiate the "about 1911" quote with post office cancellations (see captions for each card).

*Telephone installations came later.

We can excuse the local Akron resident who was quoted as saying "about 1911" but couldn't the Centennial Planning Committee's staff have delved into the borough's business accounts, etc. to find a more precise date? Over all, the Akron history is well done and other boroughs and towns might well look to it as an example of community effort.



Usner House, Akron Pa.

The view of the Usner House shows an electric pole on the corner of the property. The card, mailed to Alvin Steely, made its rounds with cancellations on Dec. 21 and Dec. 22, 1906 from Akron to Denver to Stevens and to Schoeneck!



West Main Street "Looking East" Akron, Pa.

West Main St. "Looking East" is in the same group of u/b views by Adams of Akron; however this one was post-marked Aug., 27, 1907 from Akron. There was no law against using u/b cards after the March 1907 date. In fact some enterprising writers then penned their own dividing line down the middle of the back for message and address. Electric poles are in the distance on both sides of the street.



S. NINTH ST., AKRON, PA. "LOOKING NORTH"

This u/b view has a mailed cancel from Akron, 7 AM, Nov. 23, 1906. The received cancel is Ephrata, 7 PM, Nov. 23. Electric poles line both sides of S. Ninth St.

Local Messages

(Lanc., Sept. 30, 1908 to Mrs. Henry Brubaker,
McCalls Ferry, Lanc. Co., Pa.)

Aunt Livie, You will haft to Excuse me for not writing to you sooner for we moved. Grand paps and us moved in the same house. Now we are all to gether so when you come to see us you can come to 620 W. Walnut St. don't Forget to ans.

From Myrtle.

Some Lobster.



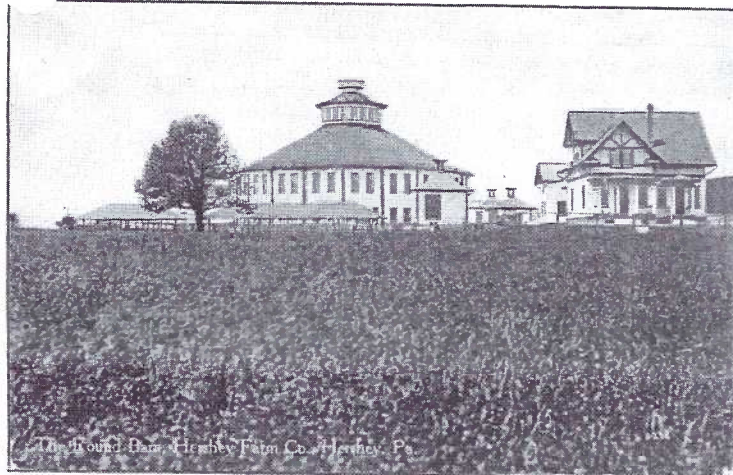
(No postmark or date on the Some Lobster postcard.)

Hello Mary Stoltzfus,

Well had a good good Wedding and good time. you aught too been thair. Well I have not much time to write I thought I will send you cards for fun.

From Cousin Aaron.

(Postmark Uncas, Okla., May 6, 1911. The postal card was sent to Wilson H. Spangler, Jonestown, Lebanon Co., Pa.) May 5, 1911. Dear Father & Mother, I sow I would let you no were I am I was Kanassa City I will stay While please let hear From you I take asdress W. J. Spangler to me uncas State Okla.



(Postmark Hershey, PA, Apr. 24, 1916. The card was sent to Mrs. C. U. Stoltzfus, Elverson Pa, Box 8, Buck Co.)

Dear mother, I will send a card we are at Hershey and have a good time those 6 of us I will try and come home be fore long and tell you what I seen I must stop we are abort read to go home. I was in that barn on this card there are 81 cove in that barn.

Annie Stoltzfus.



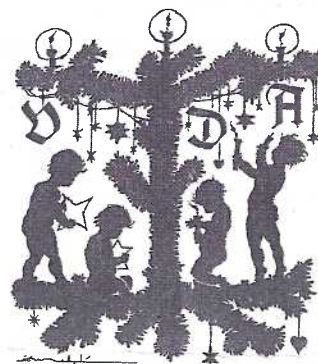
Christmas Silhouettes

from 1933 and 1934



*Herzlichen
Weihnachtsgruß*

This German postcard was mailed on Dec. 23, 1933. Its sentiments were common on thousands of cards - "Herzlichen Weihnachtsgrüsse" "Warm Christmas Greetings." Silhouettes, shown against a woodland church backdrop, are of Saint Nicholas and The Christ kind. The Christ kind (Christ Child) is a sprite-like child, according to the Wikipedia, usually depicted with blond hair and angelic wings. Martin Luther intended it to be a reference to the incarnation of Jesus as an infant. It is presumed by some to be so, but seems to be rooted in the Alsatian-born myth of a child bringing gifts to the baby Jesus. Children never see the Christ kind as parents will always tell them that the Christ kind just disappeared before they came. The silhouettist added gold stars to St. Nicholas' long robe.



*Beste
Weihnachtsgrüße!*

Gibt mit uns die Grüße mit, das sie nicht unmerklich. Liebe Grüße Lilli

"Beste Weihnachtsgrüsse," "Best Christmas Greetings" is the sentiment on this silhouette postcard mailed Dec. 23, 1934. Note that 1934 is a year after the top PC and the second year into the active formation of Hitler's new Reich in Germany, and therein lays the explanation of the enigmatic initials hanging from the Christmas boughs in this silhouette. After some research it turns out that the letters "V, D" and "A" stand for Volksdeutsche im Ausland (ethnic Germans abroad) or the National League for Germans Abroad. Two of Adolph's henchmen, Himmler and Hess, played major roles in such organizations which were responsible for "national work beyond the frontiers." The postal cancellation includes the coat of arms of Nürnberg as well as an inconspicuous swastika.

Bits 'n Pieces

Witchita Winners

Members 209 and 210, **Dolores and Leon Rowe**, attended the Wichita KS show in October and came away with five (5) exhibit awards in the categories of Hawaii*, Holidays, Political, Animals and Advertising. Dolores also garnered the People's Choice prize and Leon the Best of Show. Congratulations to both!

*The show's theme. Dolores was guest speaker.

Mowrer Massing Mainzer Marvels

Several of us collect the popular animated cats* published by Alfred Mainzer. **Walter Mowrer** especially likes the Belgian series, numbered from #4850 to #4999. Ask him which he needs for a complete set. **Susan Glass** likes them, too. The original series began in Zurich, Switzerland in the 1940s and are numbered in the #4600s and 4700s. Then came those from Belgium, then Spain, Turkey and Thailand though most of the latter are reprints and with a chrome rather than a matte finish. There are look-alikes, too. I've several that read on the dividing line in French "Imprimé en Allemagne" Printed in Germany!! The true Mainzer cards were drawn by Eugene Hartung (1897-1973) and have his "signature" in the form of a tiny heart-shaped cat's face with eyes and a loop for the nose. Often the face is partly obliterated by art or cut into when the PC edge is scalloped.

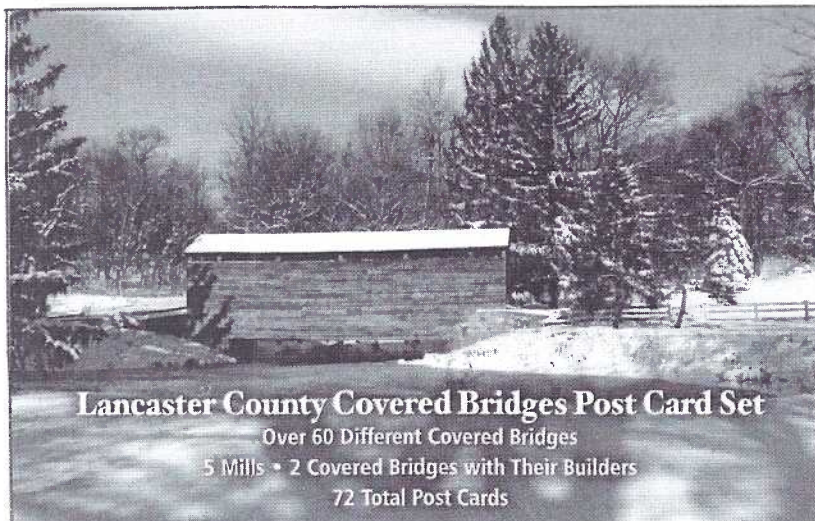
*occasionally the subjects are dogs or rats and not cats.



Two of the few times when Rats, not Cats, were featured on Mainzer postcards. #4882 (hockey) and #4899 (cards).

Speaking of Walter

Were you aware that **Walt and Barb Mowrer** published a colored PC of the Risser Mill Covered Bridge for National Postcard Week in 2003? The two views (on one card) are photos by Kenneth Collins and show the bridge before and after the 2002 arson. A few PCs are still available. See Walter at the meetings.



Lancaster County Covered Bridges Post Card Set

Over 60 Different Covered Bridges
5 Mills • 2 Covered Bridges with Their Builders
72 Total Post Cards

Speaking of Covered Bridges

Your December **CARD** includes a FREE color view of a covered bridge from a set just released by member **Bob Shirk**. Many of you bought Bob's previous two sets (90 views) in the past. The latest set includes 72 postcards of Lancaster County covered bridges as well as seven (7) local mills. This 2010 set includes every single registered covered bridge (two with their builders) and several bridges that are gone. Each numbered PC, #4-1 to #4-72, includes the bridge name and its World Guide Number. To purchase the set of 72 cards, contact Bob Shirk at 58 Ridge View Dr., Leola, PA 17540. The price is only \$20. Save postage by picking them up at the meetings. Bob also published a limited numbered set of 60 views in b/w to sell for \$35.

This is the set's cover and title card - a view of the rescued covered bridge now on Buck Hill Farm below Kissel Hill.

12 Years later

The Value of Windows to Our Past, Volume One

Currently our first postcard book is selling in the \$60 to \$100 range from club members who still have a copy. This seems reasonable considering that on the Internet it's available from Book Haven, Rohrerstown, PA, for \$180, Dog Star Books in Lancaster, PA for \$235, and G W Jackson, Ontario for \$352. You can give a gift this season of Volume Two. Because of *no publicity and little advertising* LCPC still has plenty of *Volume Two* in storage. Members can buy it for \$15 - less than the club's actual cost. Pick several up at the meeting.



A silhouette by Josefine Allmayer, mailed Dec. 23, 1919 in Vienna. "Glory be to God on high and peace on earth..."

Luke 2, 14.

Snowmen Have snowmen become more popular in recent years or is it because the perennial Santa and St. Nicholas postcards are becoming so pricey that collectors are looking elsewhere to satisfy their winter whims? Let's not debate the question – just sit back and enjoy these frosty fellows and their friends.



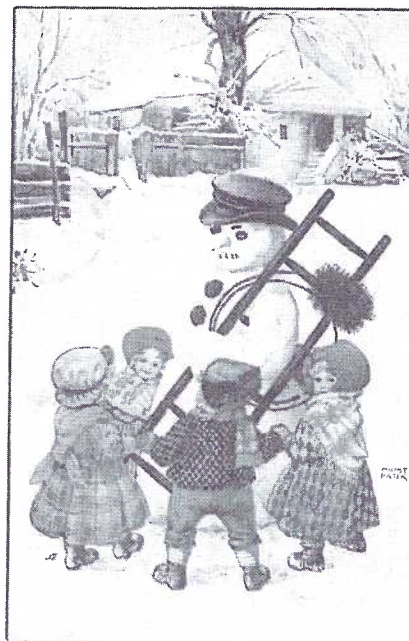
Merry Christmas (in Latvian) finds a pair of gnomes enjoying someone's handiwork. Our snowman has become an organ grinder complete with snow monkey! A family of hedgehogs contemplates what it might run off with – his straw hat, his umbrella, the wooden "organ" or the bottle in his "pocket." The excellent art is by Arthur Thiele. The card was mailed from Riga, Latvia, on Dec. 23, 1944.



Our gigantic snowman eavesdrops on the conference of the three Star Kings. (They made their own paper crowns.) The trio will wend their way through the village singing songs and collecting their rewards. The Czech card was published for "the benefit of children's health reports in Slovakia and in the general interest of the cooperative protection of mothers and children." Mailed in 1927, P. Laichter is the artist.



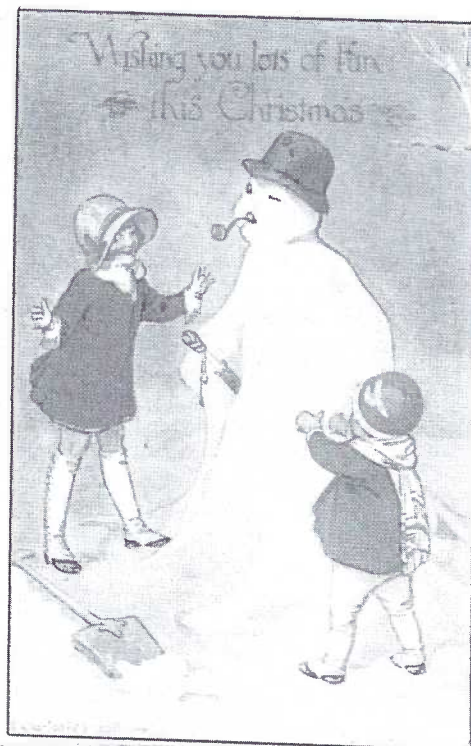
The friendly pair of snow woodsmen have frightened this Christmas angel (note the wings) as he trekked through the forest. The card, mailed Dec. 23, 1935, offers no credit for the excellent art with its predominance of shades of blue.



If you enjoy postcard articles like this, you're invited to subscribe to *The Journal*. You receive 16 picture-packed pages four times a year. (Two pages are in color!) Send check to Jim Ward, 1795 Kleinfeltersville Rd., Stevens, PA 17578.

We often find a chimney sweep helping to build a snowman. In this case the children have made their frosty friend into a chimney sweep. August Patek signed this unused postcard. The publisher is Josef Gerstmayer of Vienna.

Uncle Fred dated his Christmas greeting "Dec. 1928." This substantiates the little girls' winter outfits. Their dapper friend wears a felt Stetson and totes a stylish umbrella. The art is signed "E. Marjorie Ingall" (a new name for us). Publisher is J. Salmon of Sevenoaks, England.



An old crow knows why that little urchin thumbs his nose at the helpless old snowman. Someone has adorned him with only a worn out broom and a chamber pot hat. Had he legs, our frost friend might give that little imp a deservedly swift kick in the rump. There's no date, no artist ID, not even a country of origin for the card.

Local Messages

Work, Work, Work

(Lancaster, Jun. 3, 1919 (To Mrs. Harry Buell, Landisville)
Dear Alice, I did not meet you at the car - helped to pull ten thousand tobacco plants that day. was going to come in. Guy was in. was sorry Ira could not go. he never seen no animals but he did not say anything. I did not get in yet and now Ira must be on the planter and he wants to come along so we will just come whenever we can. but will try and come before long. it is trying to rain. wish it would. I planted some plants this morning. my garden is nice. think I have a good garden. my hands are so sore I can hardly hold a pen. helped my neighbor to put up some pine apples yesterday. come out before long. from C. G.



(Maytown, May 1, 1913

To Miss Annie E. Miller, 852 Fourth St., Lancaster, Pa.)
Dear little Annie, We decided it would be a good plan to take all of your things along to Elizabethtown and then someone will be up to bring you home, it will save extra expense that way and if you are home maybe we can do some house-cleaning while Lizzie is at Uncle Jake's, then we will get through sooner, so that Lizzie can help Alice to clean her house, we want to help her through after we are through here. Then about the first of June Enos' expect to move. Hoping this will be satisfactory all around, and that everybody is well, we are busy cleaning house, we don't expect to keep holiday. With our hearts full of love, We are as ever, Papa and Mama. Leave Alice have this card.

Christmas Goodies

The illustration on the right is Page Two (in color) from the December *Journal of the Postcard History Society*. It's a FREE issue to new subscribers who sign up for 2011. The quarterly has been written and published by LCPC member Jim Ward since he took it over PHS from John McClintock in December 1999. The *Journal* quickly expanded from 10 to 16 pages and added a color page; also, the pages are 3-hole punched for storing in any binder. Recently a second page in color has been added at no extra cost. Every issue includes a variety of postcard subjects with the final page offering most of the cards in the articles for sale. This helps defray the cost since a subscription, including postage, is only \$9. The Dec. issue also includes Christmas elves and pigs, New Year silhouettes, real photos and bios of Little People, Tiny Tads, 100th birthday wish to the Boys Scouts, a Führer cancel, a trip around the world w/postcards, an Added Ads checklist, canaries, kittens and more. Send check made to Jim Ward at 1795 Kleinfeltersville Rd., Stevens, PA. 17578. E-mail midcreek@ptd.net. Phone 717-721-9273. This is a paid advertisement.



Wild Cat Falls, Pa.,
along the Susquehanna R.R.

(Lanc., Jun. 2, 1911

To Mrs. C. A. Whisler, Weehawken, NJ.)

Dear Sister, Tell Mary these 4 weeks went fast. That is what I wanted to know about the flowers. It was Decoration Day and I had no small boxes. They did not work at the mill. Lizzie E. does not work for quite a while. She takes her lessons Sat. AM and they did not like to leave her off. I was at Bird-in-Hand love feast Tues. Stanton Jones took us from the Powe house in his auto and Milt Bushongs in the evening. The Mahlon Myers and Sam Wengers have one [auto]. Last evening we did not sew but we scrubbed the church, sister Yoder, Wonkworthis, Lizzie Shupp and myself. I whitewashed the cellar this week. Ada is going home for two weeks and Mary Myers is coming. Does Dr. think of coming up sometime? Sister Annie Smith was visiting the sewing. She said her eyes are so bad. My glasses are alright. Ada pulled at them once. Pap lost his. Love, Sara.

PHS Journal Dec. 2010 Pg. 2

Christmas Goodies

Vianočka is braided bread available in just about any grocery store in Czechoslovakia; so common in fact, it's seldom bread is baked at home. Contrary to that fact, on this 1909 Christmas PC we have a young mother rolling the dough that she'll then braid into the large loaf eyed anxiously by her children. The slightly sweet bread is also an Easter favorite when bakeries offer it along with colored hard-boiled eggs.



On the subject of large cookies - there's a set of Santa's (6) laden with an armful of gifts and trees, but delicately holding a large rectangular cookie. Backgrounds are found in both white and red. One version used here is also enhanced with gold printing. Thanks to Helmfrid Luers (*The Postcard Album* - TPA) we know the publisher is Otto Schloss. His logo is "OS" on a black.



Austria's "Christstollen" was tasteless (no butter) for 200 years. Then the Church eased up. Butter and dried fruit were allowed in 1641. The elongated shape dusted with powdered sugar resembles the wrapping of the swaddling clothes of the Babe in the manger. Like today's fruit cakes, stollens have great "keeping power." Huge stollens (our Christmas elf holds one) are for grand celebrations. They can be found in German, American, and Canadian catalogues.



This impish little fellow is egged on by his friends as he plows his "auto" through Christmas toys. The car is a vianočka loaf. The vehicle's wheels are ? - well, the closest we can find on the Internet are thumbprint cookies, but none as huge as those we see here and with the little girl and her brother (below). A Google translation of the cards' poems was a disaster!

