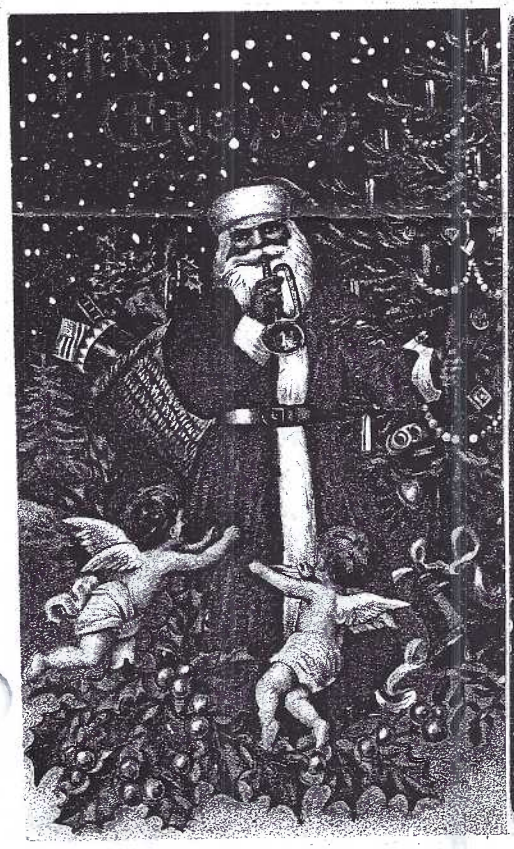
THE CARD – Vol. 18, No. 12 Issue 216 December 2007
Monthly Publication of the Lancaster County Postcard Club, Lancaster, PA.
Next Meeting: Mon. December 17, 2007. Farm & Home Center. Club X-mas Party 6 pm.
Yearly membership is $10 ($5 for each additional member at the same address.)
Membership chair: Richard Pendergrast 950 Willow Valley Lakes Dr., Willow Street, PA 17584
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

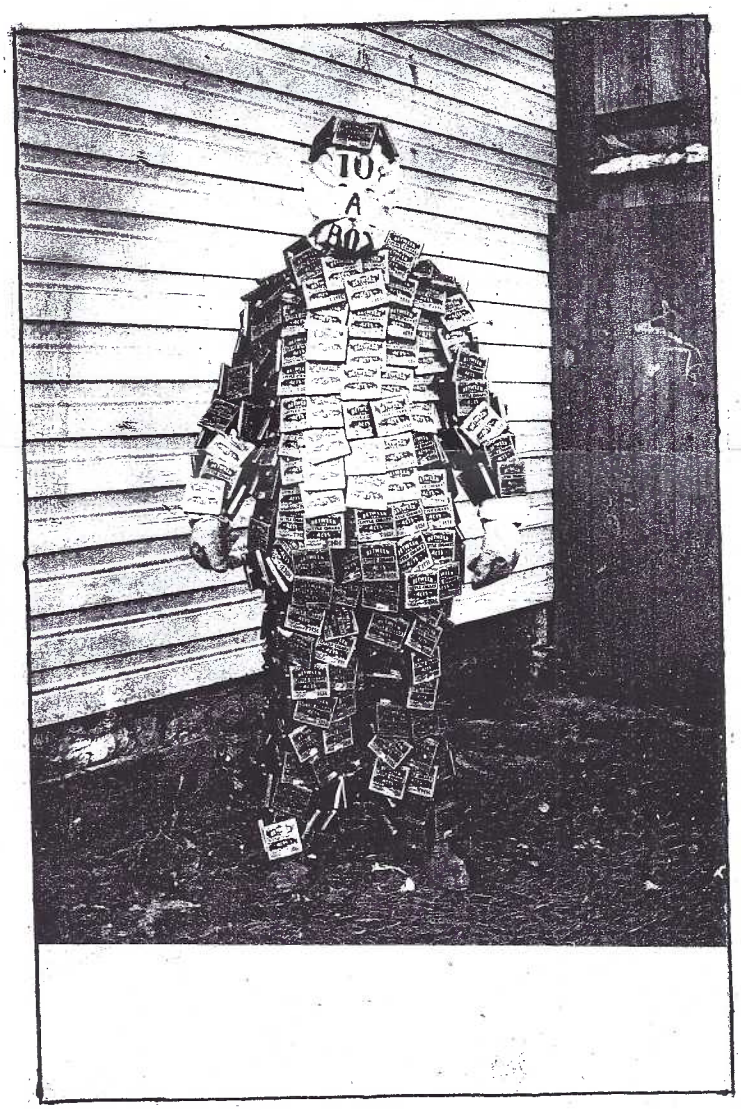


Cigar Man

I don't know who this gentleman is but it is obvious what he was doing the day these postcard photos were taken. Selling 'Between The Acts – Little Cigars.' The tin illustrated is one I just happened to have and is the same as all those on his suit.

The cigars would have been the size of an unfiltered cigarette and they were wrapped in tobacco leaves like a cigar not paper like a cigarette. This brand is still made today it appears from the internet.

The Manheim Postcard book had one of these cards illustrating it, so I guess or Cigar Man is from Manheim? The tin I have says the factory was in Virginia but they probably were made in more than one place? No matter their origin at 10cents a box they sound like a bargain!



The Three Del Rios

This real photo postcard was made by Orcajo Photo Art, Dayton, Ohio. As you can see on the front it was a 1938 souvenir of Hamid's Million Dollar Pier in Atlantic City, N.J.

George Hamid leased the Pier in 1938 for 10 years and the Del Rios midgets were one of many acts he booked for the Pier.

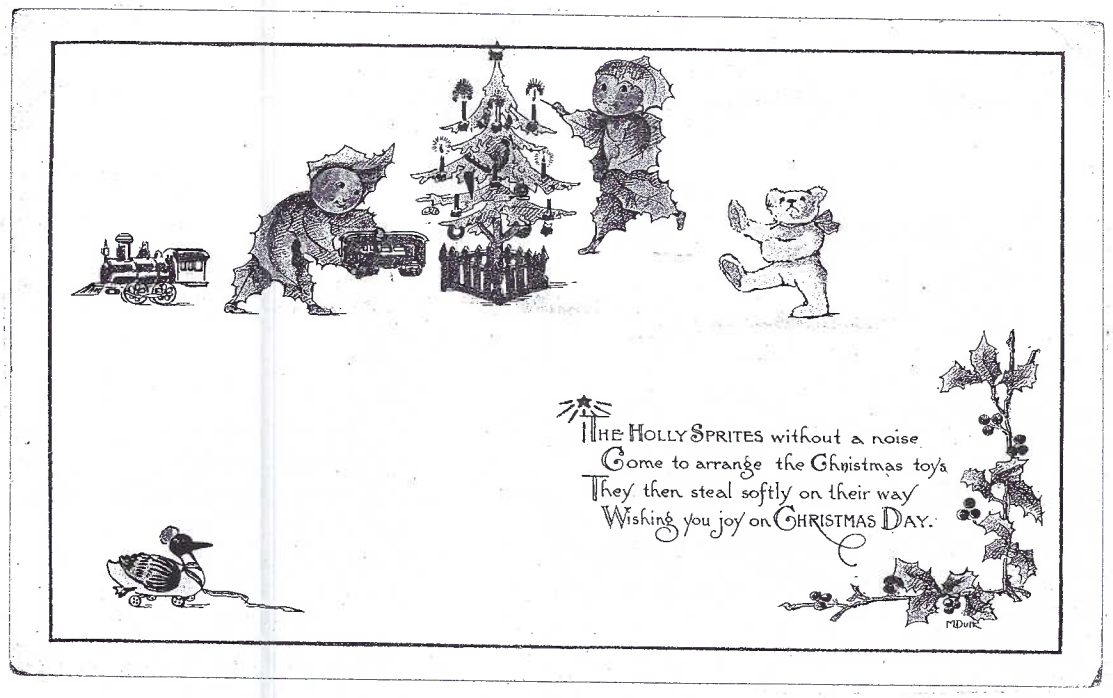
From left to right the Del Rios are Miss Trinidad, 23 years old, 18 lbs., Miss Dolores, 19 years old, 15 llb. and Mr. Paul, 17 years old, 19 inches tall and just over 12 lbs. They were from Madrid, Spain.

The Holly Sprites

There are far more exciting Christmas cards than this but I thought these Holly Sprites were cute. The card is marked 'The Pink of Perfection', The Fairman Co., Cinti. & N.Y. and postmarked 1915. Maybe these sprites were just a Christmas knock off of Palmer Cox's Brownies? I thought it was also interesting that a little Teddy Bear was marching around under the tree. The card is signed by M. Duir, who is an unknown artist to me.

Holly was used for holiday decoration long before it became associated with Christmas. Ancient Celts used berried holly to ward off evil spirits. Druids brought it into homes to give refuge to wood sprites and fairies after autumn foliage fell. The Romans used holly and other evergreens to decorate for Saturnalia which is where Christmas probably copied the custom since it is at the same time of the year.

No matter where they came from Holly Sprites are cute and have you seen others on postcards?

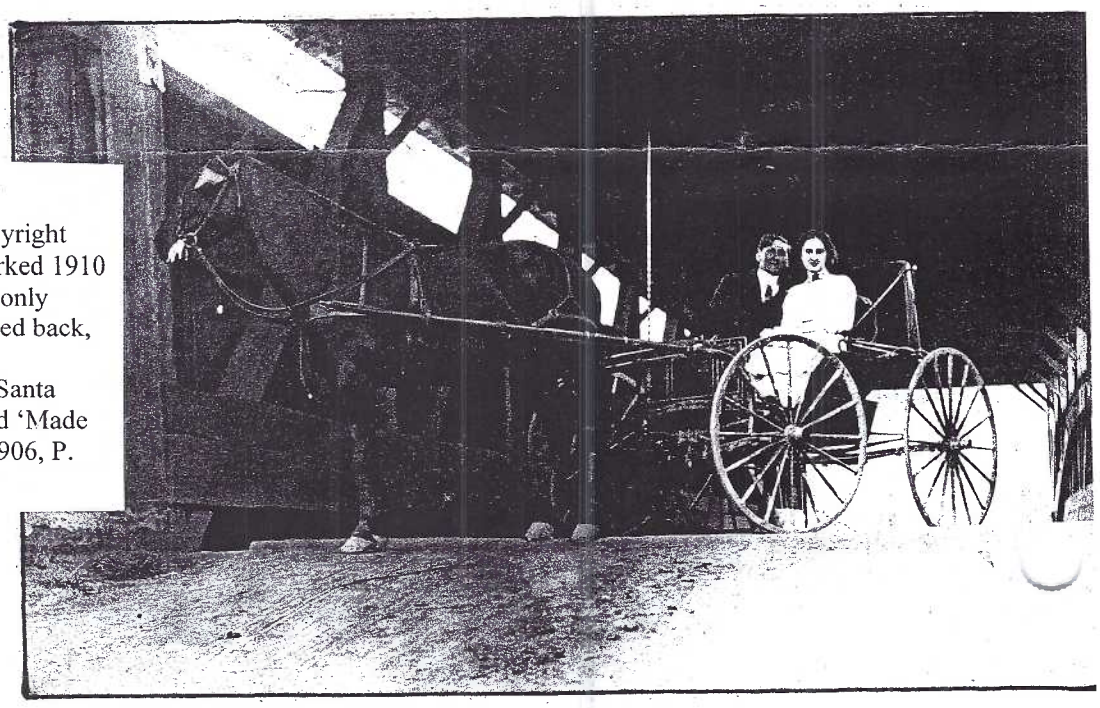


Lancaster County Views?

Postcards are a great way to see your local history and culture. Both of the real photo cards illustrating this article are divided back cards that were never used and are unmarked as to their location. So we can't be certain they are specifically in Lancaster but probably local considering their classic Lancaster themes!

The top card showing a young couple posing in their carriage in a covered bridge might have been a courting shot taken in one of the local bridges. Anyone recognize which one?

The bottom card showing a crew spearing tobacco onto lath in front of a huge tobacco shed (in Manor Township?) could be seen today in Amish Country and elsewhere if the horse were switched for a tractor.



Cover cards:
Top row left to right: 1) Div. back, Copyright 1908, by H.I. Robbins, Boston, postmarked 1910 2) Div. back, St. Nicholas Series No. 3 only markings, postmarked 1910 3) Undivided back, not postally used.
Bottom row left to right: 1) Div. back, Santa with a silk material suit applied, marked 'Made in Germany' 2) Div. back, Copyright 1906, P. Sander N.Y., postmarked 1907.

* Auction Find!
If you didn't get to the clubs Auction you missed some great postcards like this one! See you At the next Auction!

Christmas Candles

These three cards are undivided back German cards. They are not marked as to publisher or printer but have 'Postcard' written in I believe fifteen different languages. Some are in Cyrillic.

The use of candles on Christmas trees was a common practice in the days when these postcards were printed. In Germany,even today, many people will light the candles on their Christmas trees on Christmas eve.

I can't help but think these funny candle people are responding to the ginger cookies hanging near them. One is demurely looking at the gingerbread man , another is contemplating love, a heart cookies nearby, and the last is singing obviously inspired by the Christmas star nearby.

I love finding funny figures like these on old cards. The fun and creativity are great to see on postcards.

Club Page

by Al Schaub

November meeting

Excitement filled the air at our November meeting as Jessica Shaub treated us to a fast-paced auction of over 150 lots of postcards and related collectibles that had been gathered and set out on tables by auction manager Jere Greider. In addition to benefiting consignors and bidders, a portion of the proceeds will further enrich our Club treasury. Much appreciation is extended to Jessica and Jere for a job well done!

The competition category was titled: "Most Interesting Dressed Animal(s)." The winners were:

1st place	Shirley Summers	Bathing Beauties
2nd place	Charlie Heim	Dog and Pipe
3rd place	Sandra Shaub	Tuck Bear

Honorable mention went to: Harold Moyer, Jim Ward, Brian Frankhouser, Joe Myers, Gisela Withers, Dede Schaeffer, Betty Beck, Mary Herr, and Jim Tamis.

The door prizes were won by: Marie Schurz (NPW postcards), Ray Dennis ($1.00), Harry Bitler ($1.00), and Betty Sowers ($3.00). The 50/50 prize of $35.00 was won by Bill Kennedy.

December meeting:

Our December meeting on 12/17/07 will be the annual Christmas party. Please take note that it will begin at 6:00 P.M., not 7:00 P.M. as is done for our regular meetings. It is imperative that if attending you pre-register so that we know how many tables to setup. If you did not pre-register, please do so by calling Sharon Gromis at (717) 892-6864. Non-member guests are welcome.

Everyone attending is asked to bring a covered dish (meat, salad, vegetable, or desert). Also, it is important that you bring a serving utensil for your covered dish.

There will be no gift exchange. However, to be greatly appreciated will be gift wrapped items for use as door prizes.

The single card competition for the December meeting will be "Child with Toy." The program, by Gisela Withers, will be on the topic of Christmas postcards.

We are counting on good weather on our party night, but should Mother Nature be mean and throw some nasty slippery stuff our way, you may call the following members for a go/no go decision:

Al Schaub	(717) 560-6278
Jere Greider	(717) 413-6882
Gisela Withers	(610) 582-2131

With this being my final Club Page before leaving office, I want to say it has been a great pleasure serving as Club president. I also want to thank the other officers, directors, and committee members for their time and well-directed efforts. As is obvious, the leadership of our wonderful Club is truly a team effort.

Al