

THE CARD – Vol. 34, No. 9, Issue 390, September 2023

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

Enjoying postcards through education and entertainment.

Next Meeting: September 18, 2023, Farm & Home Center, Buy, Sell & Trade from 5:00. Meeting - 7 PM

Like us on Facebook – www.facebook.com/LCPCLub.

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

AUGUST EXPO

Dealers:

Jere Greider
Gordon Smith
Leighton Stover
Dede Shaeffer
Delores Rowe
Michael Krafick
Robert Dissinger
Jim Tigner

Aaron Heckler
Kenneth Leininger
Morgan Hassenmayer
Tom Hassenmayer
Kay Feight
Robert Toal
Joe Kirby
Jim Ward

Tom & Carolyn Gordon
Gary & Peggy Spangler
Dan & Peg Drawbaugh

Thank
You!



SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

During the golden age of postcards, there were no lithographed views published of Blue Ball, PA. However, the town was busy with activity, especially the livestock trade, during this period. There were many real photo postcards sold at the local general store and available elsewhere, and Brian Frankhouser will present and discuss his 50 favorites.



2023 PROGRAMS

October – "Harvard's Glass Flowers Models 1886-1939."

- Betty Beck

November - "Women in WWI" - Pam Tronsor

December – Holiday Party

2023 POSTCARD COMPETITION SUBJECTS

September: Lighthouses

October: Famous Interiors (and the stories behind them)

November: Eating/Drinking

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy September! After two months without a regular meeting we will once again meet at the F&H Center for our meeting on September 18th. Doug Milliken volunteered at the EXPO to fill the vacant spot for this month. I hope everyone had a great summer, it's not over yet, but the last day of summer is September 23rd!

FUTURE SHOWS

September 23 & 24 – 63rd Annual Garden State Post Card Club Show, PAL Center, 33 Baldwin Rd. Parsippany, NJ 07054, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-4

October 7 & 8 – Allentown Fall Paper Show, 1929 Chew St., Allentown Fairgrounds, Allentown, PA, Saturday 9-5, Sunday 9-3, Admission \$10

November 17 & 18 – 2023 York International Postcard Expo, York Expo Center, 334 Carlisle Ave, York, PA, Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-5, Admission \$5.00 Good for both days.

November 24-25 – Lancaster Fall Post Card Show. Farm & Home Center, 1381 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA, Friday 10-5, Saturday 9-5, Admission \$2.50



The Juggling Gems

By Brian Frankhouser

Francine and Rita Rose were born with show business in their blood. Their father, Harry “Tex” Rose, was a multi-talented performer who owned the Rose Brothers Circus until World War II. After his circus days, Harry and his wife, Frances, moved to Lancaster and managed Cooke & Rose Theatrical Enterprises, Inc. Little did they know that by the early 1950’s, the talent agency’s favorite clients would be their own children!

Francine was born in 1940 and Rose was born in 1942. During the summer of 1950, their father introduced them to the Colleano family, who were jugglers with the Hunt Brothers Circus. The girls spent a week with the Colleanos, and learned basic juggling skills. Shortly after, veteran juggler, Lou Meyer, and their father developed an act for the sisters. By the following summer, the “Juggling Jems” were billed at Mt. Gretna Park as “the world’s only juvenile jugglers”.

Francine and Rita’s big break came when their father entered them in a talent competition on “Grand Chance Roundup”, a popular kid’s show broadcast on channel 10 out of Philadelphia. The girls won! They expanded their act and in June of 1952 when the sisters performed in Hellam, they were advertised as the “Juggling Jems – Stars of Television”.

The sisters were very involved with the International Jugglers Association and always looked forward to the IJA conventions. Many of the best-known jugglers of the time took the girls “under their wing” and shared advice. Later, Francine would recall, that it was like one big family. One of the highlights of the Juggling Jems career was hosting the IJA convention in Lancaster in 1955.

The girls were celebrities on weekends and summers when they were entertaining, but otherwise led normal lives. They attended Robert Fulton Grade School and Manheim Township High School, and put a high priority on social events and school activities. Francine went to Penn State after graduation, but dropped out and got married in 1959. After Rita graduated, she took her solo act on the road. A Lancaster New Era article dated March 30, 1961, reviewed her busy career, and summarized her USO tour through Crete, North Africa, Turkey, Greece, and Spain. Rita continued in show business, even after getting married in 1965. She contracted cancer and died in 1990. Francine went back to college and had a long career in education.

Photo #1:



Real photo postcard sent to York and postmarked from Lancaster, PA. on September 25, 1952. Probably sent as an advertisement for an upcoming performance by the entertainers to be broadcast on TV channel 11 from Baltimore. Correspondence typed on back: “WBAL Baltimore, Md. COUNTY CARNIVAL 6:00 P.M. Sunday, Sept. 28”. The girls were featured on more than 20 TV appearances.

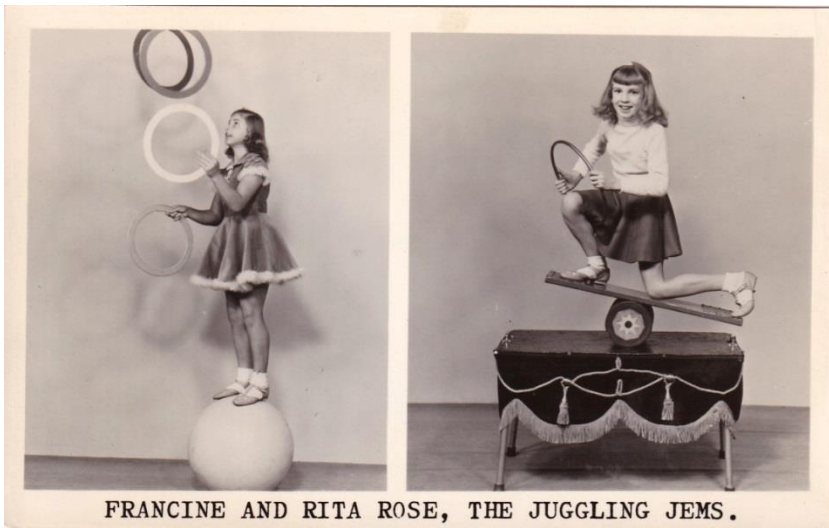


Photo #2:

Postcard published by Mulson Studio, P.O. Box 1941, Bridgeport, Connecticut, shows Francine, on left, juggling rings while standing on a rolling globe. Rita, on right, is balancing on a rola bola.

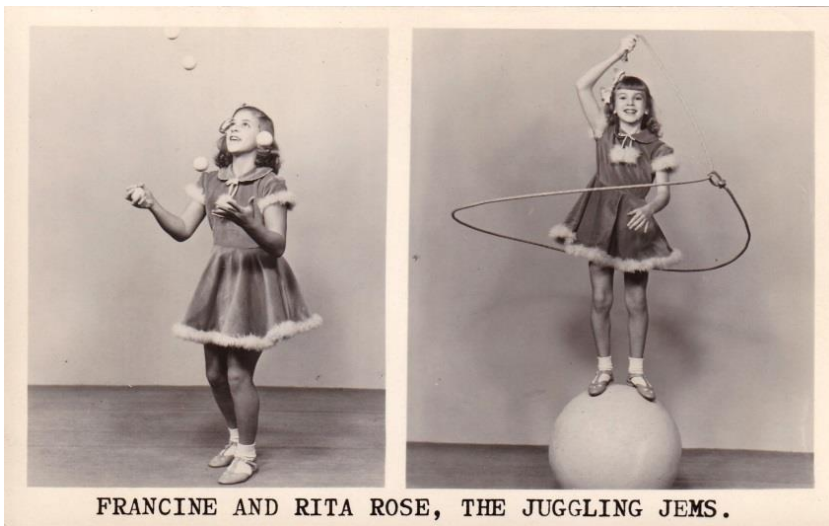


Photo #3:

Another postcard published by Mulson Studio, P.O. Box 1941, Bridgeport, Connecticut, shows Francine juggling five balls and Rita with a lasso on the rolling globe.

Photo #4:

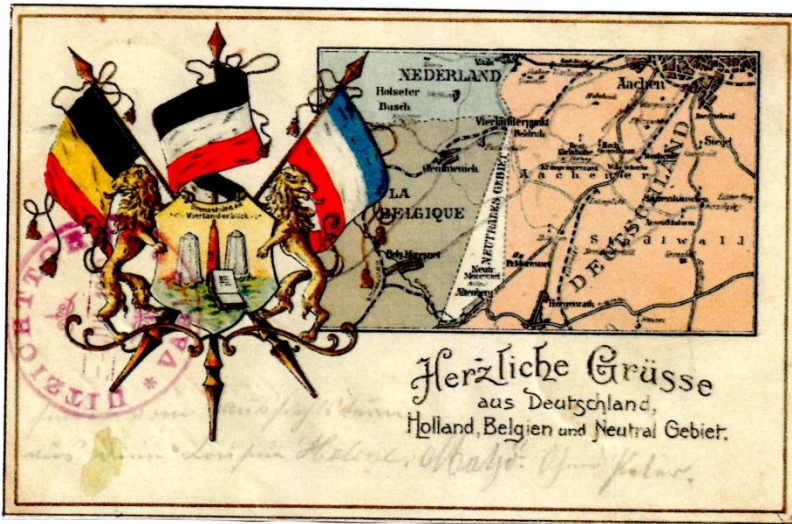
A later postcard of the girls before the team split up in 1959. A set of Harry Lind clubs and Harry Lind rings used by the Juggling Jems are now on display at the Museum of Juggling History in Middletown, OH.



Neutral Moresnet

It's an anomaly – a European country that existed for 104 years (1816-1920) yet was never mentioned in our history class nor appeared in our geography books.

True, it was only a mile wide and three miles long – 900 acres, yet it played a major part in the development of Central Europe, AND it appeared on a postcard (shown) “Herzliche Grusse aus Deutschland, Holland, Belgien und Neutral Gebiet.” Warm Greetings from Germany, Holland, Belgium and Neutral Territory. This cherished postcard is dated May 7, 1906.



Following the Congress of Vienna (1814-15 the bit of land became problematic since it included a valuable zinc spar mine. The Dutch absorbed the village of Moresnet, Prussia, its own village of the same name. Both Armies were prohibited occupying the territory. When Belgium gained its independence in 1830 it assumed control of the Dutch role (though never conceded by the Dutch).

The mining company, Vielle Montagne operated the shops, hospital, bank and residences. When the mine closed in 1885, Dr. Wilhelm Molly, the mine's chief doctor and an avid philatelist, attempted a postal service that was thwarted by Belgium. Later, there was a short-lived gambling casino, but three distilleries did survive. Dr. Molly did propose Neutral Moresnet being the first Esperanto-speaking state. The World Congress of Esperanto meeting in Dresden declared the tiny country to be the language's world capital.

In 1914 Germany invaded Belgium and Moresnet. The Treaty of Versailles awarded Neutral Moresnet to Belgium effective January 1920 and the one mile by three mile area was converted to a municipality of Belgium.

