

THE CARD – Vol. 17, No. 7 Issue 199 July 2006

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

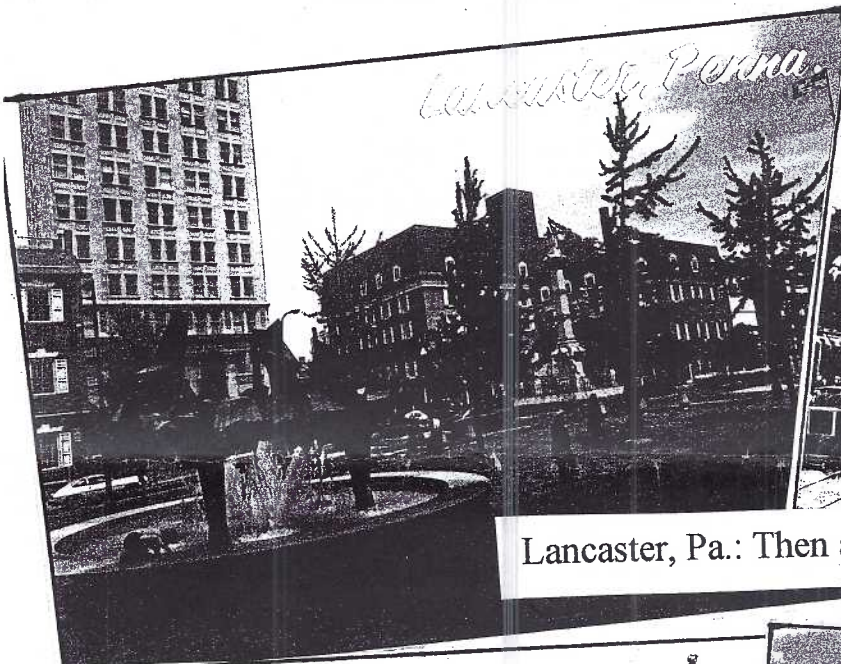
Next Meeting: Mon., July 17, 2006. Farm & Home Center. Buy, sell, trade from 5:30. Meeting at 7pm.

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

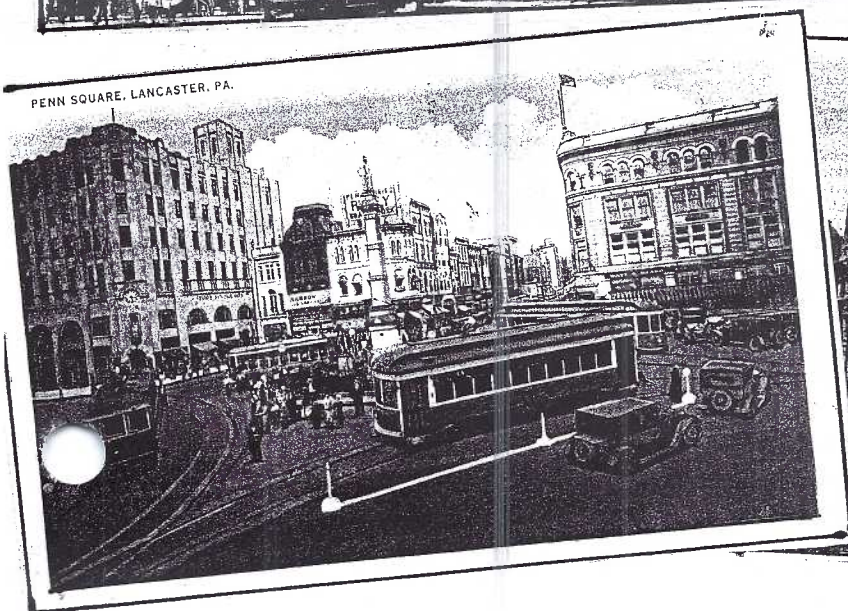
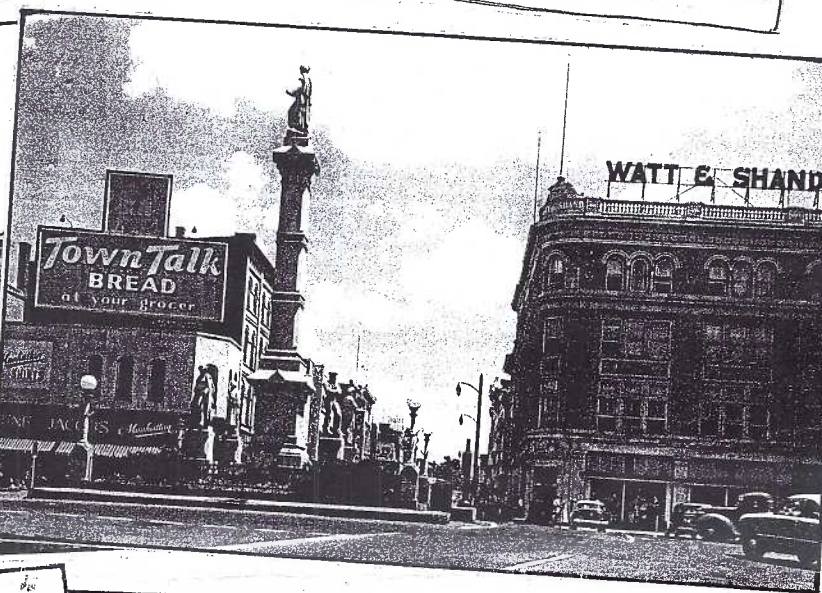
Membership chair: Betty Beck 11 Cinder Hill Rd. Lititz, PA 17543

Club/editors address: LCPC c/o Bryan Benner 127 E. Clay St. Lancaster, PA 17602

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



Lancaster, Pa.: Then and Now

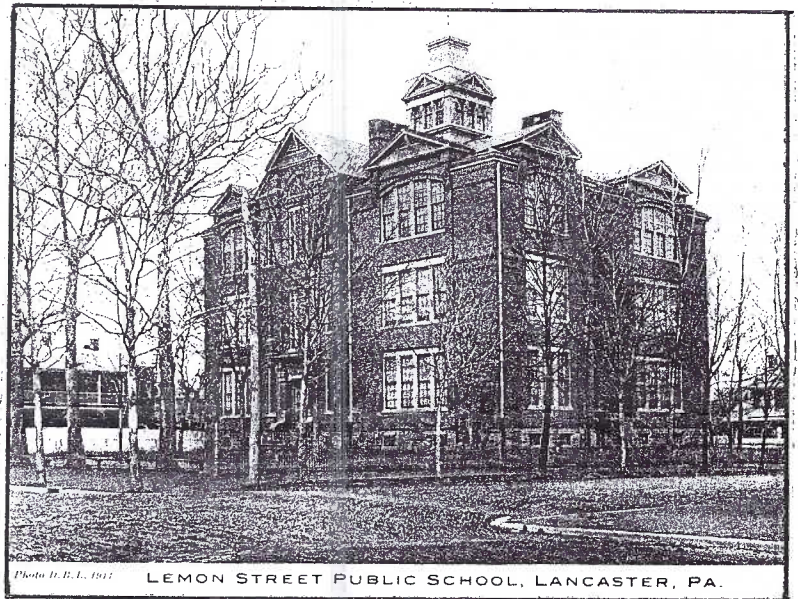


Lancaster, Pa.: Then and Now

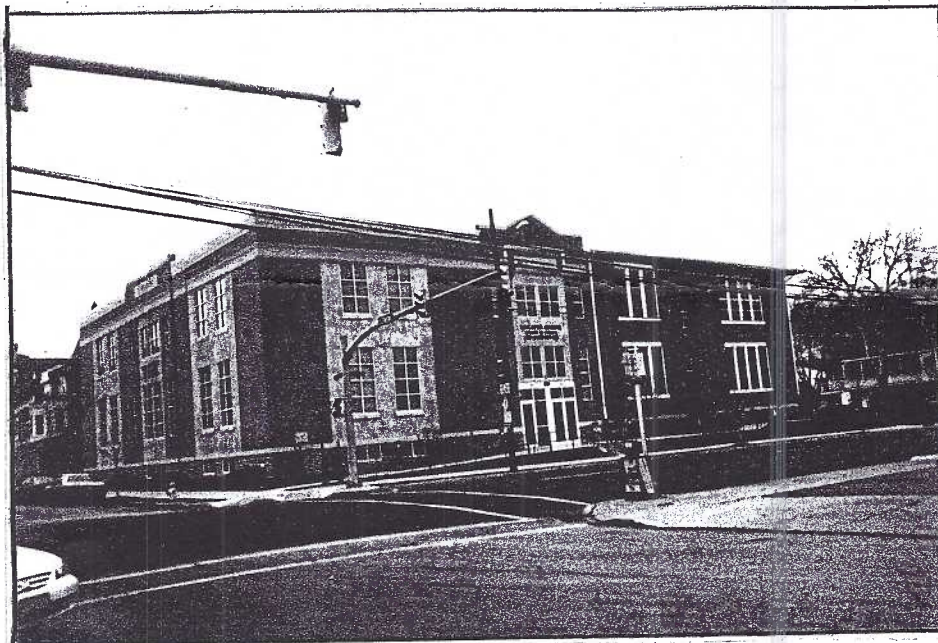
By Bryan Benner

Postcards are often one of the few recorded views that exist of many street scenes, buildings or people from the early 20th century. One of the most fascinating aspects about collecting local views is that one can readily compare how a street or building and most obviously clothing has changed in nearly a century. It is often just a matter of walking out your front door with a few cards in your hand and you can contrast then and now.

Recently I've noticed that books with just this theme are available at the book store. Images (sometimes from postcards) are contrasted from times past to a current photograph. I saw one of Philadelphia recently and also of Rome, so it isn't just a local phenomenon. You might remember that Jim Ward did a series contrasting images a few years ago in *The Card*.



Lemon Street Public School, this is a 1911 David B. Landis card. This building is on the corner of Lemon Street and Lime Street and was a grade school for many years. The third floor and fourth floor tower were removed at some date. (Was it for fire safety reasons in a school?)



Little remains to identify the building today as the one on the above postcard. If you look carefully at this photograph of Lancaster General's Elsa Flory School of Nursing building you'll see the back right portion of the building is the first and second floors of the old school. The sycamore tree on the back right appears to be one of those pictured at the back on the old postcard. There were a number of these old sycamores at the front but they were cut down when the new section of the building was constructed a few years ago. Note the old wrought iron fencing was put back up after the new construction.



One of my main card collecting interests is Lancaster city and so I've taken a few photographs of views I have on cards. I plan on going to take a few more of other local towns that I collect as well. I thought if there are readers who would like to take their own then and now postcard views that you can contact me and I'll work them into *The Card* as space and time permit. (All I need is a good quality photocopy of your photograph and the postcard and information on the view)

What makes this interesting is how some views are almost the same a century later with only trees and other details changing. While other views are almost unrecognizable and take some detective work to figure out where it is today.

Photograph taken in the winter of 2006. The house changed very little in 94 years. The carriage house isn't very visible on this photo but is still standing behind the house. It appears as if none of the trees in the old view are still standing today.



Real photo card, postmarked Jan. 20, 1912. This was sent as a birthday card to Louis Leader on East New Street from Fred Sener. This house is known as the Stauffer Mansion today and is on the Lititz Pike just past the Stock Yards. It is the showcase of the Manheim Township Park it sits in and is used for various events. (The club met here in the carriage house a number of years ago) This Italianate style Victorian is shown from the south side.

About the cover cards:

Then and now can be done just comparing different era postcards of the same street scene. All six of these cards are of the north east corner of Lancaster, Pa.'s Penn Square.

Top left: 1980's view with current Fulton Bank building.

Top right: Pre 1908 undivided back card showing various retail buildings.

Middle left: 1916 postmarked view showing the Woolworth building in the background.

Middle right: 1950's card showing corner before the Fulton Bank expanded.

Bottom left: Late 1930's card showing the old Fulton Bank building.

Bottom right: June 7, 1909 postmark. This view is a bit of a different angle taken from below the horizon looking up at the corner.

Library Highlight

TROLLEYS AND STREET CARS ON AMERICAN PICTURE POSTCARDS

by Ray D. Applegate

At the turn of the 20th century, trolley-car lines were springing up in hundreds of towns and cities across the country. They provided transportation in downtowns; connected city centers with suburbs; and even competed with railroads on many interurban runs. Proud of their new trolleys and progress, many cities seized upon another recent development – the picture postcard – to depict themselves and their vaunted new transportation networks. Postcards with pictures of trolley cars soon became very popular.

This collection comprises 191 views of trolleys and streetcars on American picture postcards. Spanning 162 different localities in all 50 states except Alaska, plus the District of Columbia and San Juan, it pictures a wide range of cars and lines.

Until the automobile rose to dominance in the 1920's, trolley lines provided an extensive network of public transportation with an efficiency that may have been taken for granted then, but envied today. Postcard collectors, trolley enthusiasts, and urban-transportation buffs will get the true flavor of the postcard and trolley era. And, since the photographs often give an interesting glimpse of Main Street USA, this book will appeal to anyone who enjoys seeing small-town and urban America as they really were.

If you are interested in borrowing this book, please call Carol Giona.

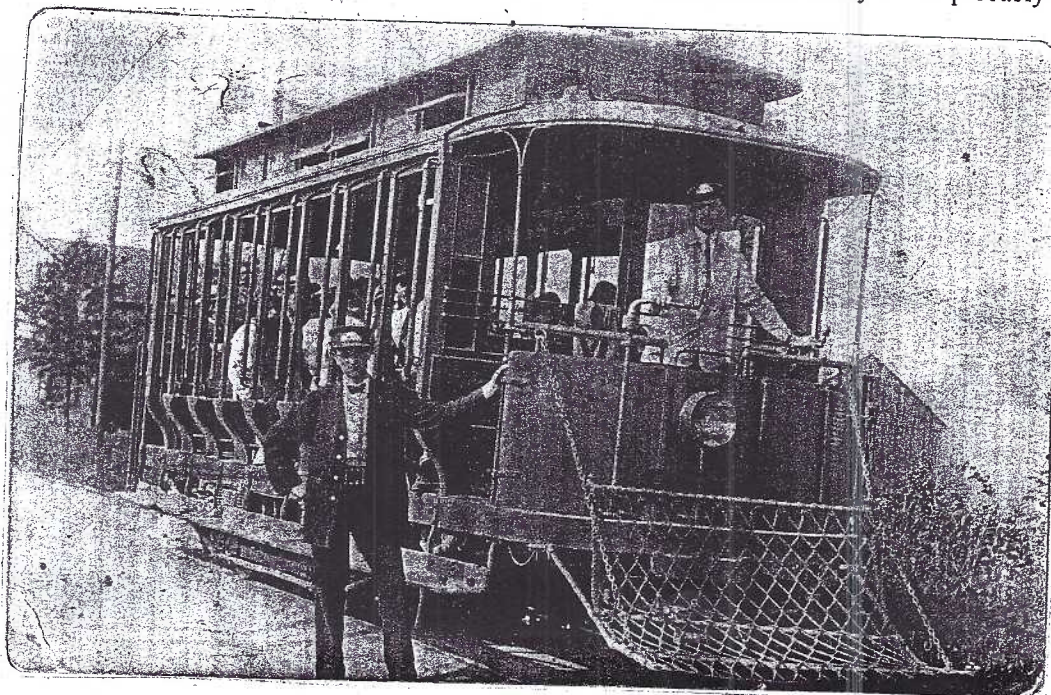


"St. Charles Street and St. Charles Hotel. New Orleans, La."
Copyright 1900, Detroit Photographic Co. Undivided back.

Harry Ellsworth Ream: Motorman

The below card isn't in the book reviewed on the left, though it is the exact type of card the book is about! My grandfather Harry Ellsworth Ream (1888-1968) was a motorman as he called himself and worked on the trolley line that ran from the Quakertown, Pa. vicinity to the Allentown, Pa. vicinity. The real photo card below pictures him at the controls of an open summer car which has a very substantial 'cow catcher'. My best estimate is that the card is from the early teens? Or a bit earlier? My mother was born in 1921 and she remembers that he drove trolley before she was born. As a postcard collector I feel very fortunate to have a number of golden age real photo cards of my family.

Another book about Trolleys that is quite fascinating if you can find one is called 'Garden Spot Trolleys, An Illustrated History of the Electric Street Railway in Lancaster County, Pa.' by Luther P. Cummings and Benson W. Rohrbeck, 1977. The book is just filled with photos of local streets with trolleys. It contains a history of the system as well. This is not a book in our club library but the library or historical society would probably have copies.



WHO WAS PETER FECHTER?

Dick Pendergrast

At the end of World War II Germany was occupied by the Allied Powers – the United States, France, Great Britain and the USSR. The Potsdam Agreement, which was supposed to manage Germany, fell apart due to the Cold War and the country was divided into democratic West Germany and communist East Germany. The former capital of Berlin, well within the borders of East Germany, also was divided into sectors. Each sector was administered by one of the four powers.

Life in Berlin in the early years after the war was hard but especially in the communist Eastern sector. It did not take the eastern residents long to realize that they would be better off in the west and many just left their homes and crossed over to the other side. In 1961 East Germany constructed a wall between the sectors to stop the flow of refugees to the West. It was manned by guards with instructions to shoot to kill anyone fleeing to the West.

After the wall was built Peter Fechter wanted to be one of these refugees. He was an 18 year old bricklayer from East Berlin. With a friend Helmut Kulbeik he planned to hide in a carpenter's workshop near the wall and to jump from a window into the death strip and climb over the wall into West Berlin.

Shots were fired when they were on the wall. Kulbeik escaped into West Berlin but Fechter was shot in the pelvis and fell back into the death strip where he bled to death in view of hundreds of people on both sides of the wall. Both sides were afraid to go to his aid for fear of being shot themselves.

Peter Fechter was not the only casualty of the Berlin Wall but he was the most famous. A memorial to his memory was built near Checkpoint Charlie where he fell. Author Cornelius Ryan dedicated a book to him. Two East German Guards were tried and convicted in the shooting after the reunification but were placed on probation. The wall was torn down in 1989.

Post Card photos of the Wall at Brandenburg Gate and Potsdamer Platz and memorials to Fechter near Checkpoint Charlie



Portrait photograph of Peter Fechter



Bibl: Wikipedia Internet Encyclopedia



CLUB PAGE

By Dick Pendergrast

JUNE MEETING

DeDe Schaeffer gave a talk on the English publisher E. F. Nister. The output of this publisher was varied and of high quality. There were some outstanding European views as well as cards of children and dogs and cats doing people things. Many of these cards are difficult to find nowadays. Thanks to DeDe for a wonderful program.

The competition was a single card for "Dairy Month".

Winners were: 1st Tom Beck – "Four Different Flavors", 2nd Harold Moyer – "Hershey Dairy", and 3rd Jim Ward – "Seven Babies Feeding from One Cow"

Thanks also to the other exhibitors Ruth Moyer, Doug Milliken, Mary Herr, Dick Pendergrast, Maria Schurz and Betty Weaver.

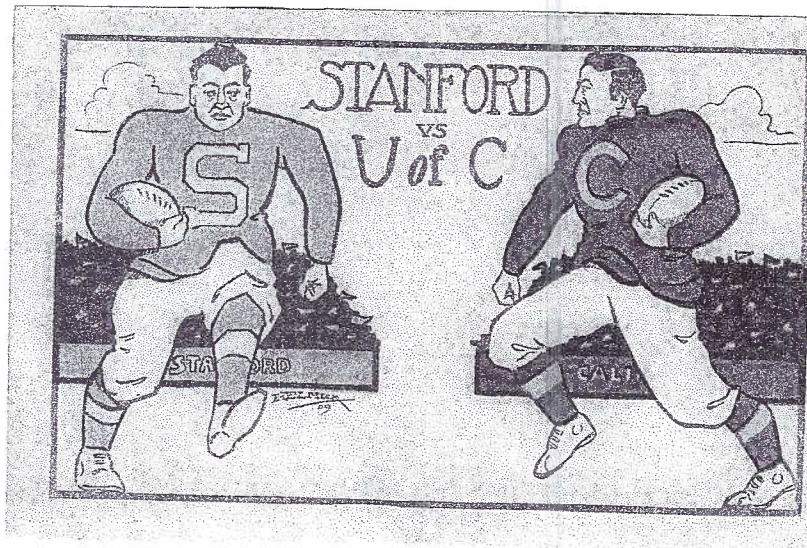
Door prizes were won by Sharon Gromis, Dick Bishop and Gisela Withers. The 50-50 was won by Al Schaub.

JULY MEETING

July is our "Free For All Night"
There is no charge to be a dealer at the meeting. So bring enough cards for a table or even to share one.

The competition will be a board with the subject of the "Letter F"
It can be most anything you can think of. There will also be a short business meeting.

(At the right "Letter F Is For Football" – a handcolored card for the 1909 Stanford Vs U of C game)



WELCOME A NEW MEMBER

#760 KEN WILSON, PO Box 902, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620, Tel 512-894-3609, texasgray@aol.com

ILLUSTRATED HISTORICAL ATLAS OF LANCASTER COUNTY

The pre publication discount period for ordering this book has been extended until September 25, 2006. If you are interested this cost is \$49.95 less \$5.00 plus applicable sales tax and shipping cost. The publisher will donate \$5.00 to the club for each order by members.

LANCASTER CLUB SHOW AUGUST 19, 2006

Don't forget to sign up to help at the show.

Also sign up to participate in the show competition. Mail or give exhibit information to Ruth Moyer no later than August 12, 2006.

The exhibit categories are:

1. WHO (children, people),
2. TRAINS & TROLLEYS,
3. WHERE (places) and
4. LINENS

AUGUST 20 CLUB PICNIC AT JIM WARD'S – Save the date!