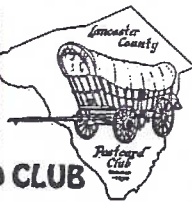


The Card

MONTHLY PUBLICATION of
THE LANCASTER COUNTY POSTCARD CLUB
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA



Meetings: 3rd Monday
Faith United
Church of Christ
1204 Wabank St.
Lancaster, Pa.

Dec. 1997 Vol. 8, No. 12 - 96*

(*errors in numbering of July - Nov.)

Christmas Party - Dec. 21.

Doors open 5 pm

Covered Dish Dinner 6 pm

Please bring a cold or hot covered dish. Utensils, place settings, barbecue and beverages are provided by LCPC. There is not dealer set-up and a very short business mtg.

PROGRAM

It's little wonder Jim Morrison doesn't think CHRISTMAS 365 days of the year. Each morning he looks in the mirror there's that brushy Santa beard. But even if that hides a frown, distress or anxiety, there's the omnipresent twinkle in his eye. And the day turns out just fine!

The current issue of Traditional Home mag (Holiday 1997) contains a 3-page interview with Jim. A gaggle of cameras and note pads converged on Jim at his Sunday stand in Renninger's Antique Market...one of the few times you can predict this busy man's presence. The fine article is typically Jim Morrison: a man driven to share his love of this last holiday in our Christian year.

In mid summer you'll find him with hundreds more as they descend on Reading, Pa. as the Golden Glow Convention. His Vintage View of Christmas Past (Shuman-Heritage Press, \$29.95) and future Christmas Museum in Paradise, Lancaster County illustrate Jim's fascination with the holiday. Be sure to attend our Christmas Party and enjoy a second of his many slide programs of Christmas postcards.

NEW MEMBERS

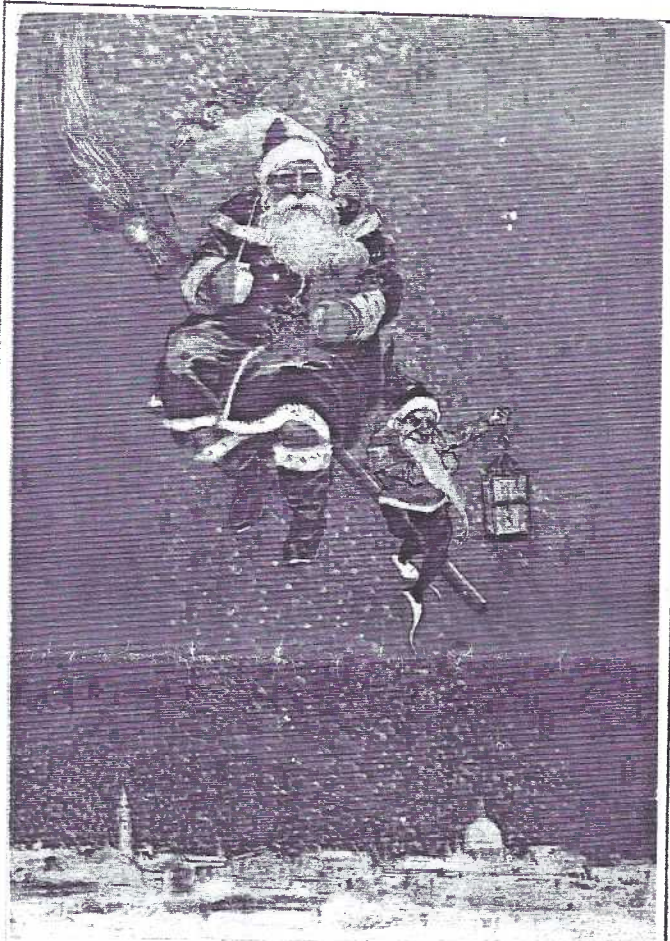
#481 WILLIAM MIDDLETON 394 Valley View Dr., New Holland, PA., 17557. Ph. 354-9414. Likes birds, fishing and Halloween.

#482 ERIC MYLIN 31 Stafford Dr., Palmyra, Pa., 17078. Ph. 838-1181. Eric is eight years old and collects trains, ships, dog sleds and space.

#483 LINDA MYLIN Same address and phone as Eric but Linda likes old pictures, Lancaster, Neffsville and religion on postcards.

WELCOME to these new members who, coincidentally, all happen to be relatives - Bill is Mike Middleton's dad, Eric and Linda are the grandson and daughter of Gwyn Fulmer. Who is our other 3-generation family?

Our paid membership stands at 293. A friendly money-saving note: your dues for 1998 are NOT DUE until March 31, 1998. Your 1997 membership has been extended for three months FREE FROM LCPC...you're welcome.



Jack Frost bringing Father Xmas to town.

From Granny

R.T.O. 87

A clue to this PC's country of origin is in St. Nick's reference as Father Christmas. It's Great Britain. The card was sent to Miss Mary Maddern in Pontypridd, a village north of Cardiff, in South Wales. Imagine little Mary's delight to see Father Christmas flying overhead on a broom with crafty Jack Frost lighting the way. Valentine's Series 595.



BAD WEATHER CONNECTION

If in doubt about our monthly meeting you may call the following persons. Then, kindly pass the formation on to other members.

CITY 397-0556
EAST 354-5112
WEST 684-5331
NORTH 721-9223

Mary Darrenkamp, Lancaster
The Zimmermans, New Holland
The Mowlers, Columbia
Jim Ward, Middle Creek

\$5 Savings Ends Dec. 31

SEE PAGE 8

GEORGE ROSS

Lancaster's Patriot

Nine members of the Continental Congress from Pennsylvania signed the Declaration of Independence: Benjamin Franklin, Benjamin Rush, John Morton, James Smith, James Wilson, George Taylor, George Clymer, Robert Morris and George Ross, the latter being the only signer from Lancaster County.

Lineage

George Ross traced his ancestry to the Scots of the 12th century. Reverend George Ross received the degree of A.M. at Edinburgh in 1700 and emigrated to America five years later to become Rector of the Episcopal parish in Newcastle, Delaware. Son George was born May 10, 1730. His mother was Catherine Van Gezel of Delaware. Her lineage included notables in Amsterdam as well as the Governor's house in Delaware. Young Ross had eight brothers and sisters and a half-brother all of whom either distinguished themselves or married men of character.

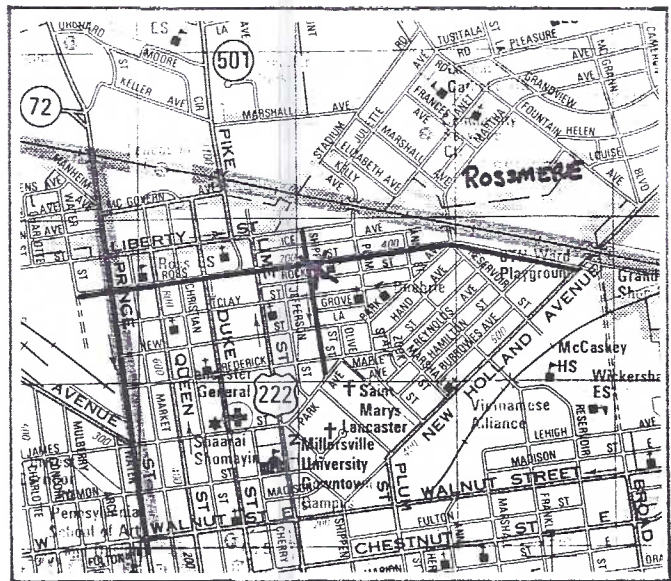


Career

Lawyer George Ross began his professional career in Lancaster, Pa. in 1751, soon after admission to the bar. His city residence was on East King Street at Duke, now the site of the County Court House and near his and other lawyers' offices. For the next 25 years he built a reputation for fairness and perseverance both on behalf of red men who lived in the County as well as his white constituents. He eventually found himself at Carpenters Hall Philadelphia, in the company of Samuel Adams, John Jay, Patrick Henry and others meeting as the First Continental Congress.

George Ross served (often simultaneously) as a member of Congress and state assemblyman as well as a battalion colonel and president of numerous national committees. It was on one of the lesser committees - to devise a national flag - that you find him depicted along with committee members George Washington and Robert Morris as they inspect sewing done by his niece, Betsy.

Upon retiring, he was elevated to the Bench of the Admiralty of Pennsylvania on March 1, 1779. He died July 14 of the same year in Philadelphia and is buried in the Christ Church cemetery.

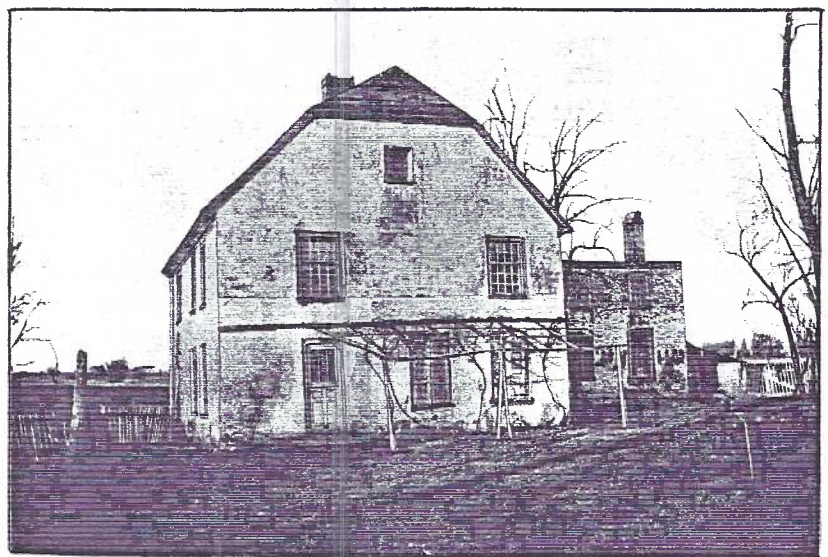


X = Site of Ross Memorial and former country home of George Ross. East Ross and North Shippen Streets have been highlighted.

Country Home and Farmhouse

The Samuel Langsdorf postcard of the Ross monument "...marks the site of residence of Geo. Ross..." but it actually refers to his country home. And now to the central purpose of this article.

Ross's country residence was nearly a mile from the center of Lancaster City. Today it envelopes much of the 6th Ward and a goodly portion of Manheim Township, formerly known as Rossmere (that area lying north of Liberty Street and south of the Grandview neighborhood). "Mere" is Scottish for pond or pool (see below).



The Ross country home site was specifically near the corner of North Shippen and East Ross Sts., facing west with a lane leading to the south, towards center city, his urban home and office.

A large spring gushed forth in the cellar (a prime reason for the home's location) and became a stream and finally a pond as it flowed north. In our illustration, c.1880's, we see the south side. Note the gambrel roof and 8 over 12 glass panes in the windows. The old mansion was erected long before the Revolution but by whom and when is a mystery.



Mansion Pedigree

We do know that on Feb.4,1717,Wm.Penn sold John Funck 200 acres covering the Ross estate. It passed to Michael Meyer then James Hamilton and on June 19, 1761 was acquired by lawyer Ross.In all probability the master of the manor frequently walked the short 20 minutes from his office to the country home through the considerable woodland,reserving a carriage or sleigh for inclement weather.

Dedication

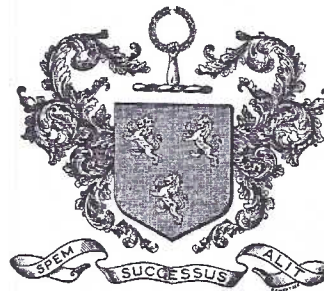
By 1897 the Ross homestead had fallen into ruin and much of that northeastern section of Lancaster was purchased by John W.Hiemenz,John A.Coyle and Dr. M. L. Herr for purposes of developing into residential neighborhoods.These gentlemen,finding little more than a few panes of glass,a couple of doors,a window sash, rafters and a pile of foundation stone financed marking the site. A committee from the Lancaster County Historical Society was instrumental in choosing the brick and stone pillar and in a festive service dedicated the memorial on Jun 4,1897 replete with high school chorus,a 23-verse poem by Blanche Nevin,speeches,souvenir program and ribbons. Fortunately,this one postcard followed nearly 20 years later.

In addition,the first thoroughfare would be called Ross Street,the aforesaid suburban area,Rossmere,and subsequently the George Ross School are reminders of Lancaster's patriot.

Editor's note: When a 2-page article with only one postcard shows up in our hobby's periodicals, I'm a very vocal critic. I believe postcards (illustrations) can speak more eloquently than words. I've kept this in mind for the passed nine years as I write for THE CARD.

With the Ross Monument card I've broken my own rule. Why? 1) Very little has ever appeared in print about the memorial. 2) I rediscovered a souvenir program and the Lancaster County Historical Society's account of the ceremony. 3) This was my old neighborhood - I delivered newspapers and rode my bike past the monument on the way to the Ross Street playground.

Forgive my indulgence. JW.



Ross Coat-of-Arms

The Ross Arms are taken from a silver tankard owned by George Ross and came to him from his father. The arms were created Feb. 28,1672 and show three silver lions rampant on a field of red. The crest shows a hand holding a garland of laurel. The motto translates: Hope,Succeed,Nourish.

The Portrait

It's common knowledge that the famous portrait of Signers of the Declaration of Independence in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington,DC contains portraits of some men who adopted the Declaration but did not sign it,some who did both and two who did neither.

The artist,John Trumbull,went to great lengths to determine who should appear, the confusion lay in the fact that the Declaration was adopted on July 4 but not signed until August 2,1776 and some signers voluntarily ceased membership and were replaced in the interim. Asking Adams and Jefferson,Trumbull was told to use the signatures as a general guide.George Ross was within this guideline but a portrait was not available.

Trumbull,however,adopted a very liberal test resulting in confusion and the three possibilities noted above. We know that Benjamin West had visited Lancaster and painted not only Mr.Ross, but several of his children as well as his beautiful wife.However,when needed,the portrait of George Ross was unknown to Trumbull and so the Lancaster signer was omitted. The artist had been commissioned to do four rotunda paintings in 1817 (long after Ross's death).

Ross Memorial

June 4, 1897

Silk souvenir ribbon from dedication.

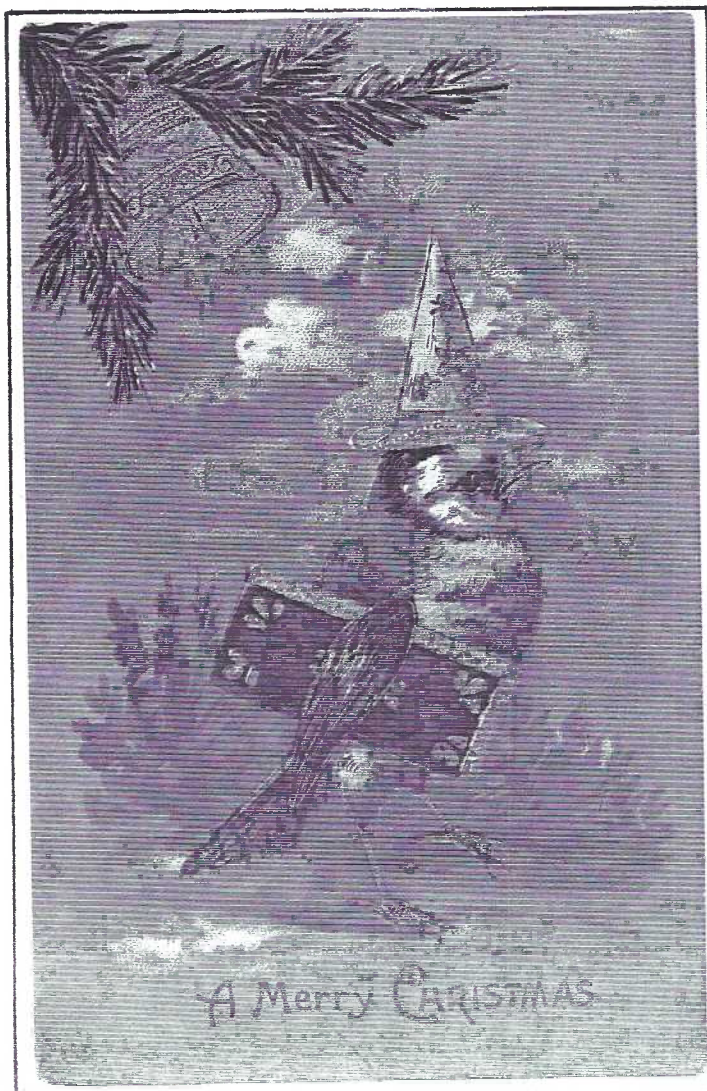
CHRISTMAS ROBINS AND KIN

Before telegrams arrive, the front door bell chimes and the phone rings off its stand, let me remind you that most of the ROBINS you see on these Christmas PCs are the European bird (*Erithacus rubecula*) which is plump, small-billed and merely 5½" long and lacks a full breast of red like the American robin (*Turdus migratorius*) which is 10" long - a thrush of another color.

Since 95% of Golden Age cards were manufactured in Germany and designed by European artists we can readily understand why the un-American robins are most often seen on postcards.

An acceptable fact is most holiday cards adorned primarily with birds are near the bottom of the popularity pack, far below other animals, children, snowmen and Santas. Perhaps after this little article you may be more inclined to look for Christmas Robins among your own collection and before they migrate to dealers' higher priced boxes.

Victorians' deep religious convictions no doubt played an important role in the appearance of robins on Christmas cards. According to the legend, a small fire was the Christ Child's only source of heat in the cold and damp stable. As the flame threatened to flicker and die, a robin flew to it and fanned the dimming light with its wings, persevering all night, keeping the Child warm. The little bird was rewarded with a blush of orange-red in its face (the European species) and on its breast as a reminder to all of its valiant effort.



Only an umbrella shields these two robins from a bitter cold day on the S. Langsdorf & Co. card above. The Illustrated Postal Card Co., NY and Germany, produced the card, left, showing an animated robin carrying a chocolate covered Christmas cookie and wearing a yellow peaked hat. Bell and robin are highlighted in gold trim.

Red-cloaked British postmen were nick-named "robins" because they reminded the populace of the red birds as they tramped along their snowy delivery routes. If you look extra hard you'll find Christmas postcard robins in turn imitating postmen as the artists depict them carrying letters in their bills or under their wings! Have fun - SAVE ROBINS!! ED. NOTE: Bird experts are reminded that PC artists weren't J.J. Audobons or Roger Tory Petersons. Expect flaws. Thanks to Jim Rudisill for a British Heritage article on the subject.



Above. Two early robins have caught the same worm on u/b Bavarian card #479 by popular publisher, E. Nister. Rt. corner, top. P.F. Collier & Son's d/b has a branchful of robins and imps; artist-signed by Alys Goss and cancelled Dec. 23, 1910 in Providence, R.I. Just below it is an unnumbered Stecher card with a pair of robins in a nighttime art deco scene.

Lower Left. Our pair of Christmas robins from the previous page have resorted to play since the frigid storm has passed. Unidentified German publisher.

Lower right. Three plump robins nearly crowd the little girls from the branch. An International Art Publ. card that appears to be hand-painted. PM is 12/23/12.



My Greeting



Here's A Cheery Christmas To You

Bertha Blodgett's (B) little girls, above, seem quite friendly to the robins. On 1881 versions by L. Prang & Co., Dede Schaeffer informs us the girls have taken the offensive and do their best to claim the branch for their own. Blodgett is noted for her children in "great, full dresses, gigantic hats with flowers, ribbons and feathers..." according to Barbara Andrews.

MONTHLY EXHIBITS

58 members and two guests were inspired by boards on the subject SOMETHING FOR WHICH I'M THANKFUL.

Participants were:

EARL CARVER	FIRST	I Am Thankful For
BARABRA MOWRER	SECOND	Bring Home/Turkey
JIM WARD	THIRD	Thankful for Postcards

HONORABLE MENTIONS

HAROLD MOYER	Thanks for the Food
WALTER MOWRER	The Perfect Bird
ANNE STEINBERG	I'm Thankful
NORMAN ZIMMERMAN	Christ

And Thank You for the boards and your efforts.

December's boards will be CHRISTMAS. January's boards - POTPOURRI, a medley of cards on any single subject. For February the boards will be CUPIDS.



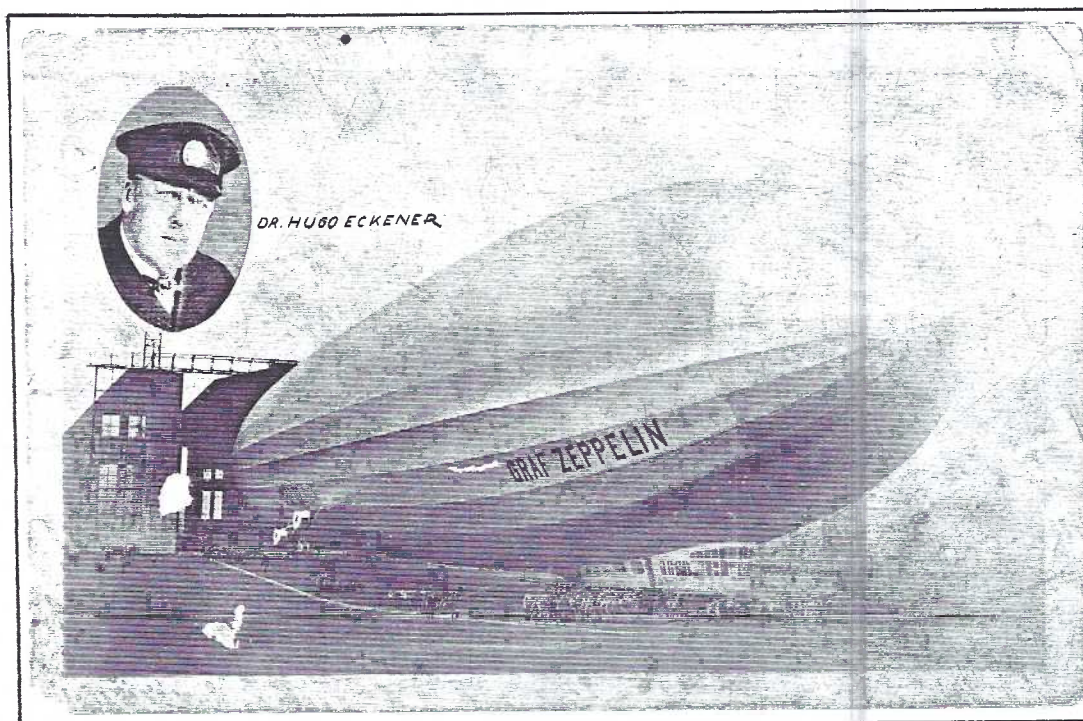
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from THE CARD staff.



LCPA AUCTION RECAP

In the interest of saving space this issue, for the first time we will merely recap an auction - #26 of Oct. 1997. The lots grossed \$414 with \$41.40 (10%) for LCPC plus \$47 for the five duplicate books sold from our library for a total of \$88.40 for the club and \$372.60 to 10 members who sold postcards.

Our THANKS once again to auctioneer Darvin Rogers and Chairman Norman Zimmerman and his clerks and runners: Ruth Moyer, Harold Moyer, Walter Mowrer and Bob Kramer. In 1998 we may have just two auctions, times to be determined by next year's Directors.



Zeppelin Postcard ...with a bit of history

Collectors of zeppelin postcards pride themselves not so much in numbers of cards they have (they're not common) but in any bit of history their cards reveal. The real photo card shown has seen better days - a cracked lower left corner and a few pieces missing including a hole near the hanger - but when it was offered to me the message took my eye.

Its cancellation at Lakehurst, NJ on October 26, 1928 helped set the scene. It's addressed to Mr. John Wea-

land in Middletown, PA. from Dave who was evidently a workman at the Lakehurst docking grounds.

It reads: "Dear Cousin, Well, finally I did find time to scribble a few lines to you. This picture was taken in Germany leaving the hanger before starting on her LZ trip. She is nice to look at but when you have to get up at 12 or 4 in the morning and carry her out of the hanger and moor her its another story. Tonight she leaves on her western tour if the weather is favorable. The Los Angeles goes out Friday night for Navy Day. She will fly across all naval bases on the coast. Monday we go back to N.Y."

Send Check for View Books Today
Dec.31 is Last Chance to Save \$5
No exceptions!

SEE PAGE 8

Following a call to aid him in liquidating his collection, Jim Ward invited Jack Brubaker to sell his surplus postcards at Jim's table in October. Known to readers of the Lancaster New Era for 19 years, Jack, a.k.a. The Scribbler, has often mentioned his interest in PCs in his semi-weekly column. In fact, he's been generous in aiding LCPC in the past when the club was in need of local publicity.

So Jim saw it fitting to return past thanks to Jack. Many members went home with treasures as The Scribbler sold out two of his eight boxes of cards at bargain prices.

Jack was also kind enough to mention our local view book (now underway) in a recent column. As a result, we're still receiving calls or letters nearly every day for orders and more information. THANKS, Jack.

ELEVENTH HOUR PLEA

Information Sought Before Deleting Views

Some views were contributed for the 500-card book to be published by the club with very little or no information. Those listed below have stymied the research committee. We are asking for authentic information - just enough to add a sentence or two in the book for each card. Please send such data to Jim Ward, 1795 Kleinfeltersville Rd., Stevens, Pa., 17578 in the next 2 weeks or the card will be dropped in preference to one for which we do have information. Thanks.

Lancaster - Community Used Car Lot, 1005 E. King St.

Gap - Shaw Cabins and Restaurant

Scott-Robinson Trailer Sales

Paradise - Milley's Service Station

Bausman - Carriage maker

Columbia - Railroad station, old and new high schools,

Texaco station near bridge, Levan & Sons flour mill,

Fishing Creek - general store, railroad station

Highville - church (not identified)

Mountville - school, reservoir

Peach Bottom - hunting party

Pequea - York Furnace dance pavilion, Erb's Tucquan Inn

Rawlinsville - Kauffman's store

Safe Harbor - Groff's store

Washington Boro - ice jam, train wreck

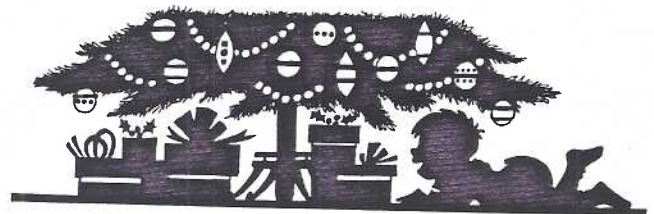
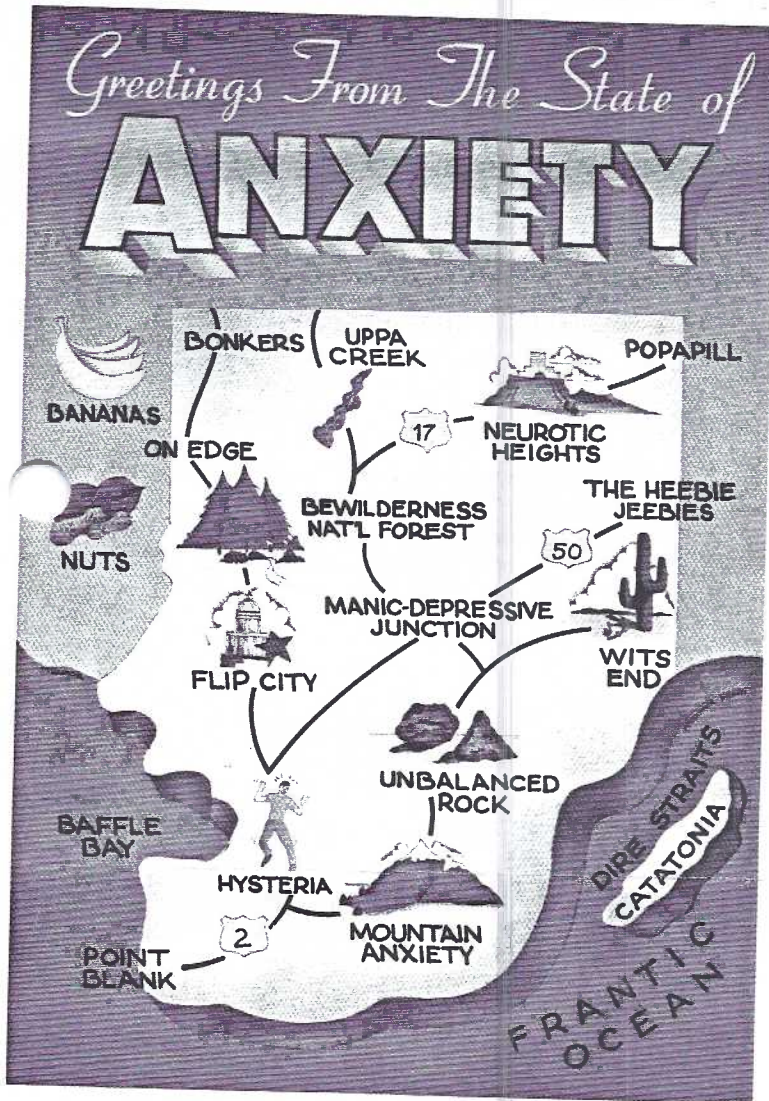
Elizabethtown - grade school

Marietta - Holloware and Enameling Co.

Mount Hope - furnace

Shock's Mill - railroad

Reamstown - Cedar Crest Motel



On the back of a post-1907 Christmas card -
 "For days before Christmas each friend you are meeting
 Is blithely repeating the time hallowed greeting.
 By postcard and phone do they wish you a very
 Glad Christmas Day, happy and toothsome and merry.
 But the day after Christmas if you're not forgetful
 You'll know to design to make anyone fretful.
 It's a day of tired hearts as is widely conceded
 So I'm saving my wish for you 'til its needed.

Every rose has a thorn, there's a tear beneath laughter
 And still for each Christmas there comes a day after.
 A day when the candy has lost its alluring
 And Christmas toys broken and Christmas books boring
 Have added their gloom to the sleepy dull feeling
 That spite of your will o'er your senses is stealing.
 Let then shouts Merry Christmas shake ceiling and rafter
 But I'm wishing you joy on the luckless day after."

Your editor received this postcard a few days after the Nov. meeting. "Hi Jim! Here's a map card I'll bet you don't have in your collection. Thanks to your expert advice and careful attention to this amateur's PC collection, any anxiety I had about breaking up my conglomeration was eased quickly.

I enjoyed the meeting as well as meeting you and other collectors. What a friendly group! I'll be back. Thanks again. The Scribbler.

SEE PAGE 8

Last Chance For Everyone!

The Postcard Album

Issue 11 out now!

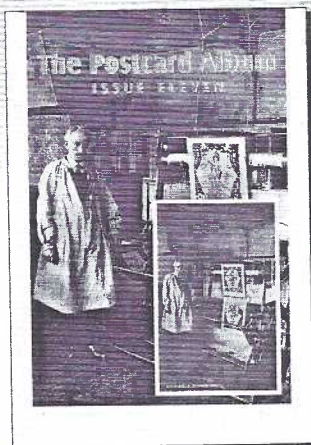
64 packed pages!

250+ cards illustrated!

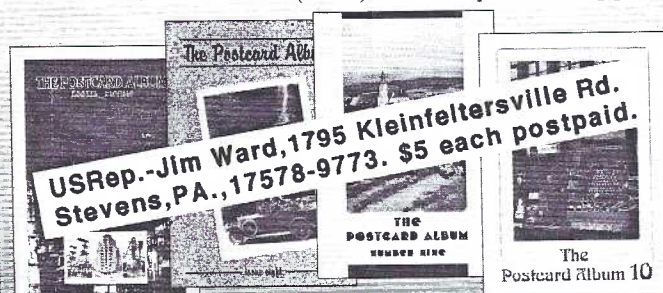
Various topics:

Railway, Shipping,
WW1, serious PPC
Printer & Publisher
Research etc. . .

FREE 50 word advert!



Available back-issues (7-10) US \$5/equiv. each ppd.



USRep.-Jim Ward, 1795 Kleinfeltersville Rd.
Stevens, PA., 17578-9773. \$5 each postpaid.

MOVING DAY

Our last meeting at Faith United Church of Christ will be December 1997 for our Christmas Party. (See story.) Beginning in January, specifically the 19th, we will meet at the Farm & Home Center where we have our August Expos. This new location will afford much better acoustics and lighting as well as air conditioning. There are NO steps. A kitchen is available. It also provides a more central location for more members as well as easier access for out-for-town members and guests.

Be certain to locate the F&H Center by describing it as being on Route 72 near the Route #30 By-pass. You enter between Conestoga Marine and Jones Honda. (Don't mention the Arcadia Rd. address. This doesn't connect to Rte. #72 and only causes confusion.) Remember: enter between the marine and car businesses and proceed to the end of the road/parking lot.

EXPO DATE CONFIRMED

Our Annual Expo will be at the Farm & Home Center on Saturday, August 15, 1998. The exact hours will appear soon in Barr's Postcard News and The Postcard Collector. More details in a future issue of THE CARD.

Local View Book Distribution

This will be the time for distribution of our new book on local postcard views and hundreds of non-members who have ordered the books will be picking them up at the Expo.

Consider this: why not have the books on a club table near the exhibit area. Then the subscribers will get to see what a postcard show looks like and perhaps stay for a while? And why not offer **free admission** to everyone this year? Let's discuss this in January.

The Public and You must all meet the Dec.31 deadline to Save \$5 per book

Type or print clearly

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....STATE.....ZIP.....

Number of copies.....x \$25.* =.....

*Includes Pa.Sales Tax

Add \$7 postage for each book

Total

NOTE: LCPC Strongly discourages mailing. Try to have someone pick up your copies at our Annual Postcard Expo at Farm & Home Center or a meeting.

Make checks payable to: **LCPC BOOK FUND**

Mail to: **LCPC BOOK, 136 RIVER BEND PARK, LANCASTER, PA., 17602**

REMEMBER - all orders must be received by December 31, 1997 to be eligible for the discount price of \$25 including Pa. sales tax.