

THE CARD – Vol. 26, No. 1, Issue 291, January 2015

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

Enjoying postcards through education and entertainment.

Next Meeting – Jan. 19, 2015. Farm & Home Center. Buy, Sell & Trade from 4:30. Meeting - 7 PM

Yearly membership is \$15 (\$5 for each additional member at the same address.)

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

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

DECEMBER MEETING

The annual Christmas meeting was held on December 15, 2014. Twenty-four members and guests attended. Activities began at 6:00 PM with a covered dish dinner. Following dinner the slate of officers for 2014 was unanimously voted in: President – Tom Beck, Vice President – Susan Glass, Treasurer – Barabra Mowrer, Secretary – Betty Beck.

Door prizes included the poinsettias which decorated the tables and other donated items. There was no 50/50 drawing.

The program for the evening was one of member participation. Members brought in a favorite Christmas postcards to share with the group.

2015 OFFICERS, BOARD, COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President – Tom Beck

Vice President – Susan Glass

Secretary – Betty Beck

Treasurer – Barabra Mowrer

Board Members – Doug Milliken, Don Tribit, Bob Zink, Al Schaub

Membership – Dick Pendergast

Hospitality – Sharon Gromis

Postcard Competition – Bob Zink

Publicity – Tom Beck

EXPO – Jere Greider

Newsletter – Susan Glass

Collector of Table Rents – Walter Mowrer



INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event the weather prediction is questionable or if the weather is downright awful outside, contact one of these members to find out if we will have a meeting: President Tom Beck – (717) 627-7732, Walt & Barb Mowrer – (717) 684-5331, Susan Glass – (717) 872-0810.

LOST & FOUND

Found – a pink jacket after the October meeting. Barabra Mowrer will bring it to the January meeting.

JANUARY PROGRAM

Bring your favorite New Year's postcard to the meeting and be prepared to tell us about it.

2015 PROGRAMS

January – Favorite New Year Postcard – member participation

February – Bud Heim

March – Members Market

April – Dick Pendergrast

May – Construction of the McCall's Ferry (Holtwood) Hydroelectric Dam in The Early 1900s

June – Large Derrieres, Tom Beck

July – Picnic,

August – Expo

September – Mountville, Bob Zink

October – Jere Greider

November – Carl Hellmann

December –

Happy Birthday



25 Years!!

DECEMBER POSTCARD COMPETITION

Four members participated in the evening's board competition on the subject "Santa".

First: Walter Mowrer Santa & the Children

Second: Barabra Mowrer Santa & the Angels

Third: Maria Schurz

Honorable Mention: Susan Glass Ho Ho Ho

2015 POSTCARD COMPETITION SUBJECTS

January: The number "15" – single card

February: Presidents - single card

March: Amusement Park – single card

April: Decorated Eggs - board

May: Dams – single card

June: Games - single card

July: Favorite Vacation Spot – single card

August: Expo – consider entering a board at the show

September: Favorite Real Photo - single card

October: Trolley Cars – single card

November: A Favorite Linen Postcard - single card

December: Just for Laughs - board

FUTURE SHOWS

January 18 – JSPC Winter Postcard Fair, Fire House Ocean #1, Pleasant Beach, NJ, Sun. 10-4

January 25 – 27th Annual Paper Americana Show, Singerly Fire Co., Elkton, MD, Sat. 10-4, Admission - \$3.00

The FORTUNES of CYNICUS

Victorian Cartoonist & Postcard Designer

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a Cynic as "one who attributes actions to selfish motives." Martin Anderson (1854-1932) applied that thought and chose CYNICUS as his pseudonym. Much of his art, especially in postcards was cynical.

Anderson lived from 1854 to 1932. The Cynicus (Art) Publishing Co., in Tayport, Fife, Scotland, thrived from 1902 to 1916.

The Postcard Craze preceded us by a few years. For instance, in 1904 four hundred and twenty million PCs were mailed. The PC peak in the US was 1907-08. Folks literally mailed bundles of cards to each other, and received as many back. The colorful PC collection was the most wonderful thing in their black and white life.

Anderson's motifs covered the gamut with special interest in middle-aged folks, picnics, tea, gossip and the beach. Postcard magazines found fault with his sense of humor (sea sickness was too unpleasant a subject) as were overly thin men and overweight women. But there was no problem with the buying public! The Cynicus cards flew out the door.

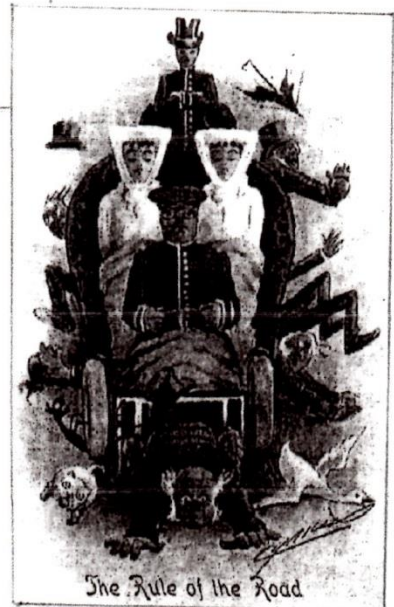
The fledgling company was innovative in another way. The same PC was reissued with the names of particular holiday resorts added. It became the standard practice of other publishers.



Drawing and Postcards from Reid & Davidson's "Fortunes of Cynicus."

"CYNICUS." (By himself.)

New auto drivers spared neither man nor beast.



Cynicus's impression – Law and Justice are "strangers Yet."

In its first two years the company paid 8% dividend on sales. Relatives and employees including staff artists by purchasing shares.

The Cynicus Publishing Co. took advantage of the 1904 Leap Year (there had been none in 1900). "An Old-stile Courtship", "You and I, Bye and Bye" and "Consider My Sighs" (fat lady) were a few titles.

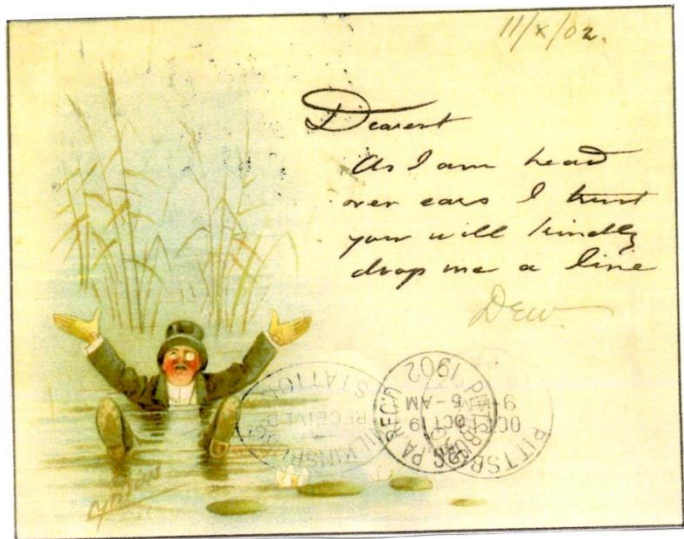
Hand-coloring, tinsel and even "jewels" were popular; novelty Add-ons including a scrap of linoleum were commonplace, but the Company remained somewhat sophisticated by employing well-known artists: Jas. Douglas, Wilkie Kilgour, "Jotter", and C.G.L. Phillips painted cityscapes as well as landscapes in the Lake District. Its staff numbered over 100.

The General Election of 1906 was not overlooked and since Philosophy and Religion were not too far afield, they suffered as well, as did the on-coming adventure into Motoring.

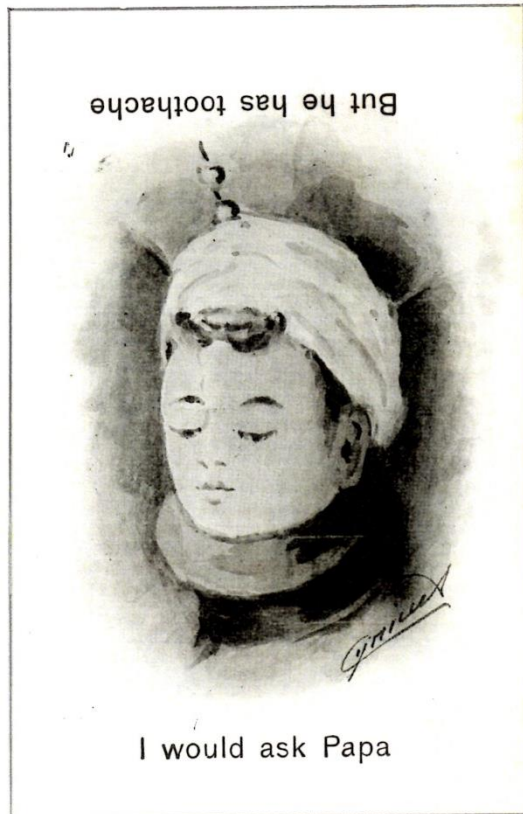
A look into the mind of Martin: "Brevity is the soul of wit, and to be successful as a cartoonist it is necessary to be to the point." "The people I am catering for with the penny card do not want high art." He called his dog Askit and when anyone asked him its name he replied, "Ask it."

Once again, a huge Thanks to Alan LeMay, Saranac Lake, NY who has renewed his membership in LCPC. This time, Alan's source was the R&D book rather than the internet.

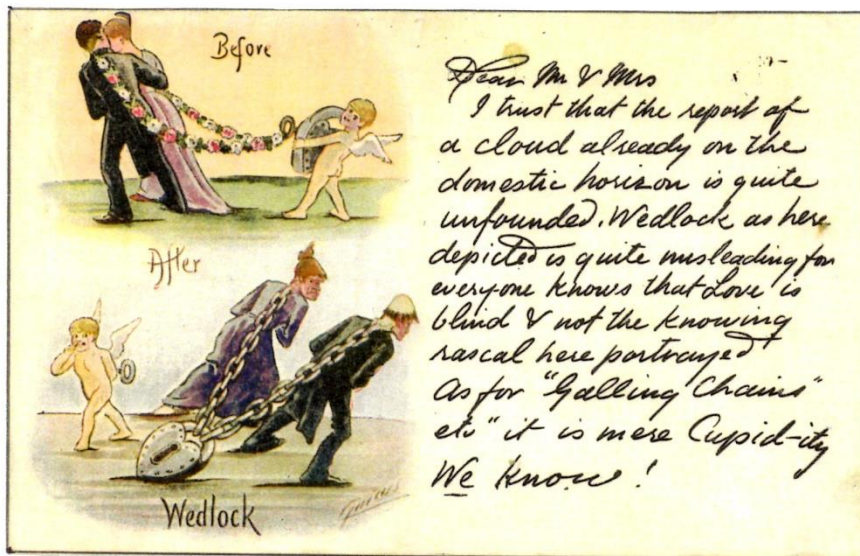
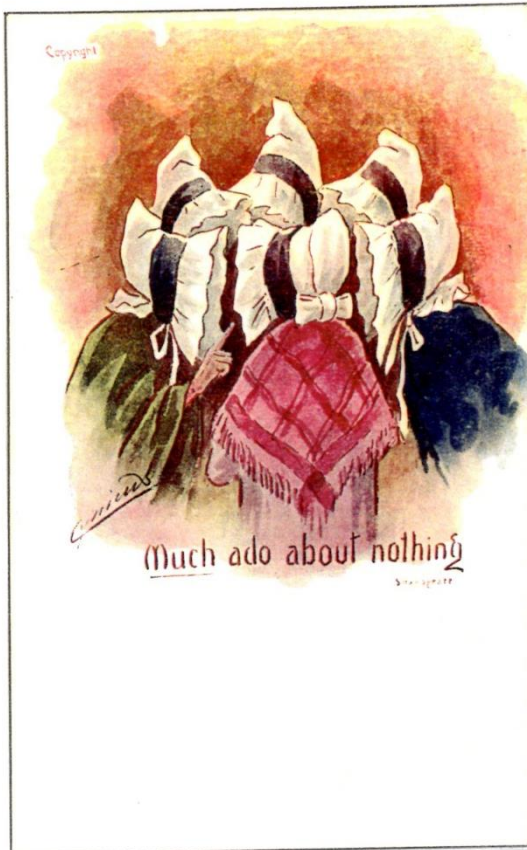
Jim Ward



The early Court Card reminds us of the early entry of Cynicus Art Publishing Co. into the postcard world. It was mailed from Manchester, October 11, 1902 to Wilkinsburg, PA. The write-away reads – "As I am head over ears I trust you will kindly drop me a line.." Below: A Cynicus novelty.



Cynicus was fair with his portrayal of both sexes.



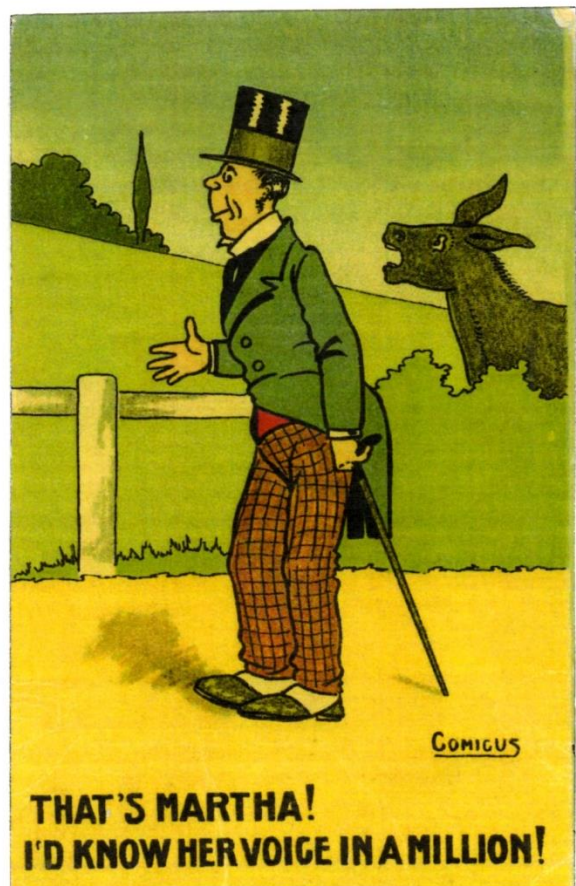
Mailed from Allerton to Halifax, July 1905, the message fails to mention Wedlock or Cupid-ity.

IMITATORS, not DUPLICATORS – of CYNICUS

by Jim Ward

As popular as Cynicus (Martin Anderson's) postcards had become in Great Britain, imitations were bound to appear. Enter Comicus, Karaktus, and Sylukuss.

Henry "Harry" Parlett (1881-1971) had a father and two sons Reg and George. All tried their hands in the comic strip world. Harry created more than 25 characters, most lasting less than a year. We have but a few PCs to his credit. We exhibit the "masterpieces" here. His strip comics ran in local papers as well as Mickey Mouse Weekly. He died in 1971.



An internet site seeks information about Karaktus Crown Publ. LTD of St. Albans, England. We have two examples of his work and a single sample of Sylukuss. As we first said = Duplications, but not Imitators

