

Golfing Santas & Snowmen

WHIMSICAL PAINTINGS OF SAINT NICK, HIS ELVES AND FROSTY AT CHRISTMASTIME



(16 "Americana" Paintings of Imaginary Holiday Golfing Scenes Listed Alphabetically and Created Annually to Honor my Husband's Passion for the "Greatest Game")

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE GOLF COURSE!

CANDY CANE LINKS COLLECTION - 7 PAINTINGS

Candy Cane Links ~ 9.2009

This card celebrates golf aficionados who LOVE golfing year-round. Sun, rain or snow - this breed of player just can't get enough of the game! With few exceptions, my sweetheart husband Dougie would fall into that category! The artwork here pictures a snowman welcoming "duffers" to a snow-covered course with holes identified with red flags on whimsical candy cane flag staffs. This artwork was the first in a series of "Candy Cane Links" images I created for our annual Christmas cards in honor of Doug's passion for what has often been called "The Greatest Game."

The Candy Cane Links Clubhouse ~ 11.2013

This artwork is the third painting in my "Candy Cane Links" collection. I began creating Christmas art golf cards for my passionate golfer husband when we first met in 1997 at Christmastime. This Christmas Golfing Collection (Candy Cane Links is only a part of it) has been a well-deserved nod to the sport Doug loves so much and has a God-given flair for. The collection featured Santa Claus in knickers (sometimes with Mrs. Claus), elves, snowmen, trains, golf carts and more. It also portrayed a number of actual settings like Saint Andrew's 18th fairway and the Simpson Golf Shop at Carnoustie - a "must paint" setting for me with my last name. This painting portrayed a gingerbread candy-trimmed clubhouse with Santa Claus lining up his putt on the 18th hole in the background. A friendly snowman was nearby to point golfers in the right direction to the first tee. **Highlight** - I pictured Doug and me in the clubhouse enjoy hot buttered rums - the perfect after-golf festive beverage.

Carting Kris Kringle to the Candy Cane Links Clubhouse ~ 11.2018

Kris Kringle has delivered zillions of packages and enjoyed his "long winter's nap." It's Boxing Day, December 26th, and he has just finished a relaxing round of 18 holes with some of his golf-loving elves. There is a celebratory late Holiday Season Open House at the North Pole's Candy Cane Links Clubhouse and Mr. Claus has hitched a ride on the back of Doug and my golf cart. When I painted this Christmas-themed piece, I was still in my protective boot from the ankle I broke at my niece Kelly's September 2018 wedding - which is why Doug and I are pictured motoring around in a golf cart - something we rarely do!

Carting the Tree to the Candy Cane Links Clubhouse ~ 11.2010

Santa's in charge of the Christmas tree detail at the clubhouse at Candy Cane Links, his own private course at the North Pole. What better way than to load the giant evergreen on top of his golf cart? Oops . . . he's losing his load of holiday lights out the back! This artwork was inspired by one of my husband's dear friends, Ric Metzger, who snagged an evergreen branch on his golf cart one day in December - and finished his round with it on top, looking like a freshly cut Christmas tree! **Highlight** - Ric was part of our wedding party in 2000. We lost him way too soon.

Festive Firesome at Candy Cane Links ~ 11.2017

This was a portrait that I completed to honor Bothell's beautiful Inglewood Golf & Country Club clubhouse. The Senior PGA Tour was hosted by this course several times in decades past, giving fans great opportunities to enjoy unforgettable moments with beloved players like Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and many other famous golfing legends. This handsome stucco clubhouse structure was blessed with beautiful architectural detailing both - inside and out - making it the social centerpiece for its members. Preparing for 18 holes that day were my brother Bill Simpson, his wife Jorja, me, Dick Chaffee (my most frequent golfing buddy at the time) and with his wife Susan Chetwin. **Highlight** - I was part of Arnold Palmer's "Armie's Army" at one of the Senior PGA events here in the mid 1990s..



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MORE CANDY CANE LINKS IMAGES

Plum Pudding Contest at Candy Cane Links ~ 12.2015

Even Saint Nicholas deserves to have a little fun after his holiday night-long duties. It's Christmas Day - and geese are roasting in ovens all over the North Pole while Santa's elves compete for dessert for their holiday dinners. Candy Cane Links was hosting a putting contest over lightening fast groomed ice. The elves were lined up to give each other a run for the money to win the coveted prizes. Third was a spicy gingerbread cake, second, a tangy mincemeat pie; and the grand prize was a traditional steaming English plum pudding with a sprig of holly in its heart. What could be better!?!? This is the fifth painting I created to add to the Candy Cane Links collection.

Saint Nick's Stop on the 19th Hole ~ 12.2014

Even busy, busy Santa Claus needs a break after ALL the long hours spent in his workshop with his elves making toys for the good girls and boys around the world. He's just played a relaxing 18 holes and is about to join his crew for some well-deserved R & R. This is my fourth addition to the Candy Cane Links Collection.

OTHER WHIMSICAL HOLIDAY ARTWORK

Christmas Up to Par ~ 10.2001

It's a beautiful starlit winter night. Cardinals, Christmas trees and a cheery snowman dressed in a festive plaid vest, matching cap and cozy socks shares "Merry Christmas" greetings with everyone in this sparkling winter wonderland.

Holiday Hole in One ~ 10.1999

Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus were having a little fun competition on the rooftop of this house on Christmas Eve as Santa practiced his pitching prowess with a holiday gift. This fun piece was painted as Christmas card art for 1999 holiday cards when my husband Doug and I were courting - the beginning of a several decades tradition!

Saint Nick on #9 ~ 11.2008

Ah . . . it's the holiday season again - and St. Nick has earned some well-deserved R&R after a long Christmas Eve of spreading cheer and delivering gifts to good little girls and boys of all ages. What better way than 18 holes of golf with his snow buddy, "Frosty, the Golfer"?!!? Dressed in "plus fours," Santa is setting up the putt that will guarantee his nearly perfect post-holiday getaway.

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A R T I S T

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Santa's Holiday Hazard ~ 9.2002

Oops! Santa's golf ball flew into the "drink" - and he through the ice with it! Our feckless Saint Nicholas, finished at last with his annual Christmas toy delivery, was enjoying a much deserved game of golf when this happened! And he's embarrassed - as it's not a private moment! Santa Claus found himself surrounded by a gallery of inquisitive forest creatures (a brown bear, three squirrels, a fawn, a pair of "thumpers" and a flock of crimson cardinals) who are just a little surprised to find him in their middle of their ice skating pond - also known on this golf course as the "water hazard." Better luck next time, Santa Claus. Don't you know, like all the rest of us golfers do, that it's best to keep the ball on the fairway? **Highlight** - The Santa Claus here was patterned on one of my husband Doug's oldest dearest friends, fantastic golfer Ric Metzger who had just passed away the summer before this artwork was painted.



Santa Takes a Holiday ~ 12.2005

Yes, it's true - Santa and his helpers work all Christmas Eve delivering presents to good girls and boys of all ages! But - when the sun comes up, he gets his second wind, grabs Mrs. Santa (and the Kitty Caddies) - and heads out to the links. Why? Because we're home opening those presents - and they have the golf course all to themselves! Who more than St. Nick deserves a little time off to tee it up?



Santa's Tee Box ~ 11.2012

This is a portrait of one of Spokane, Washington's oldest and most beloved golf courses, Indian Canyon. Historic and picturesque, this course is located just west of Spokane's Downtown District off the Sunset Highway near the Finch Arboretum. It hosts several major regional tournaments each year. Such as the Rosauers Open. Winding up and down through a hilly tract of land, the course's terrain has always provided golfers of all abilities with a true run for their money. Pictured in front of the Craftsman-style vintage wood and stone clubhouse are family members (L-R): sister Peggy and Jeff Barton, brother Bob and Jan Simpson, my mother Sally and me. The cloudy, misty day couldn't keep us away from another 18 holes!

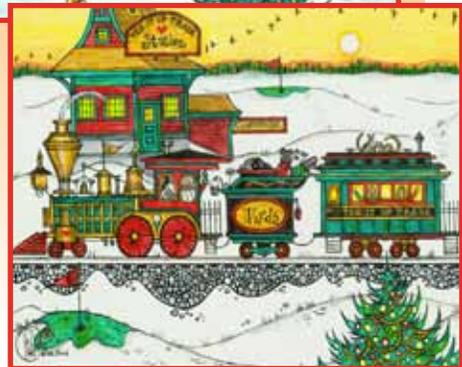


Sink It Santa ~ 10.2001

Painted as Christmas card art for holiday cards, this fun scene pictures old St. Nick and his lovely wife, Mrs. "C" out for a quick 18 on Christmas Eve. They're all decked out in colorful, festive tartans - from their "Plus-Fours" to their Christmas ribbon festooned golf bags - enjoying their round in the snow.

Tee It Up Train ~ 10.2006

The timing here for this festive holiday scene was undeniably the day after Christmas - as Santa Claus was at the helm of this whimsical steam engine chugging by the little Victorian railway station along the tracks on the way to the golf course. A flock of Canadian geese were watching over us from above in this sunny winter scene. I pictured my husband Doug and me waving "Best Holiday Wishes" from the passenger car. Next to us in the coal car were our while our favorite two kittiewinks Andy and Sophie who had stowed away that morning to keep us company. **Highlight** - when this piece was painted, these two little furry friends had just joined our family - being our constant companions (Andy for Doug and Sophie for me) for the rest of their "nine lives."

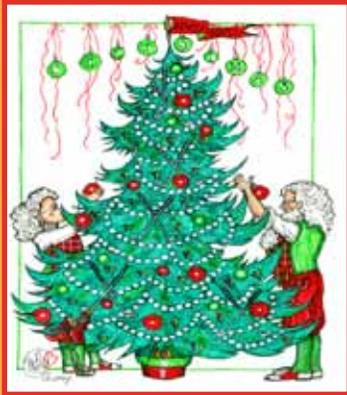


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Tee It Up Tree ~ 12.2007

This artwork celebrates Mr. and Mrs. "C" dressed in their "plus fours" after a day on the links. With a little help from one of the elves, they are decorating their evergreen with golf tees, clubs and a garland of golf balls!

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