



# WEBFOOTER EXTRA

November 2012

 Happy Thanksgiving 



## WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB

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Portland OR 97217-0240



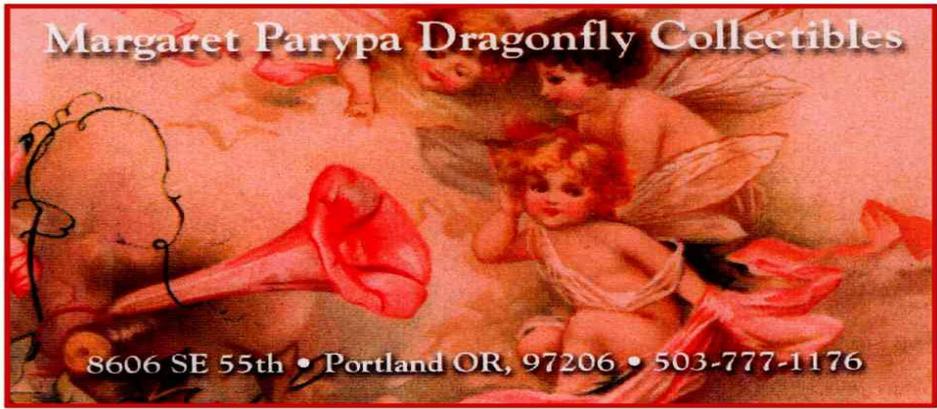
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Located at:

# FARMHOUSE ANTIQUES

*8028 SE 13th Avenue in Historic Sellwood 503-232-6757*

Tuesday thru Sunday: 11 to 5

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*33RD ANNUAL*

## ANTIQUe PAPER SHOW

APRIL 20-21, 2013 KLIEVER ARMORY - 10000 NE 33RD DRIVE - PORTLAND, OR

WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB FREE ADMISSION - FREE PARKING [WWW.THEWEBFOOTERS.COM](http://WWW.THEWEBFOOTERS.COM)

# **SALEM COIN - STAMP & POST CARD SHOW**

**OREGON STATE FAIRGROUNDS**

**COLUMBIA HALL**

**2330 17th Street NE in Salem**

## **DEC. 1 - 2, 2012**

**Hours: 10:00 am to 4:30 pm (both days)**

**Free Admission and Free Parking**

- ◆ Over 70 tables of Post Cards/Currency/Stamps/Ancients/Literature
- ◆ Type and Proof Coins/Gold and Silver/Mint and Proof Sets/Tokens
- ◆ Coin, Stamp and Post Card dealers from around the United States
- ◆ Hourly and End of Show Raffles/Free Grab Bag for Young Collectors

**Appraisals made on Dec. 2nd at 1:00 pm**

Sponsored by: **The Salem Numismatic Society**

For information: Contact Danny B. at: 503-588-8162

Email: [d.bisgaard@comcast.net](mailto:d.bisgaard@comcast.net)

From I-5: take exit 256, the Market Street Exit  
Go west and turn right onto 17th Street  
Go about a mile and watch for the signs to the Fairgrounds on the right

**[www.oregoncoinclubs.org](http://www.oregoncoinclubs.org)**

(paid advertisement)

# THE HISTORY OF THANKSGIVING



**The First Thanksgiving in 1621**

As most schoolchildren know, the history of Thanksgiving began when Pilgrims and Native Americans gathered together to celebrate a successful harvest. The first Thanksgiving was held in the fall of 1621, sometime between September 21 and November 11, and was a three-day feast. The Pilgrims were joined by approximately 90 of the local Wampanoag tribe, including Chief Massasoit, in celebration. They ate fowl and deer for certain and most likely also ate berries, fish, clams, plums, and boiled pumpkin.

Though the current holiday of Thanksgiving was based on the 1621 feast, it did not immediately become an annual celebration or holiday. Sporadic days of Thanksgiving followed, usually declared locally to give thanks for a specific event such as the end of a drought, victory in a specific battle, or after a harvest.

It wasn't until October 1777 that all 13 colonies celebrated a day of Thanksgiving. The very first national day of Thanksgiving was held in 1789, when President George Washington proclaimed Thursday, November 26 to be "a day of public thanksgiving and prayer," to especially give thanks for the opportunity to form a new nation and the establishment of a new constitution.

Yet even after a national day of Thanksgiving was declared in 1789, Thanksgiving was not an annual celebration.



We owe the modern concept of Thanksgiving to a woman named Sarah Josepha Hale. She was the editor of *Godey's Lady's Book* and the author of the famous "Mary Had a Little Lamb" nursery rhyme. Hale spent 40 years advocating for a national, annual Thanksgiving holiday. In the years leading up to the Civil War, she saw the holiday as a way to infuse hope and belief in the nation and the constitution. So, when the United States was torn in half during the Civil War and Lincoln was searching for a way to bring the nation together, he discussed the matter with Hale.

On October 3, 1863, Lincoln issued a Thanksgiving Proclamation that declared the last Thursday in November (based on Washington's date) to be a day of "thanksgiving and praise." For the first time, Thanksgiving became a national, annual holiday with a specific date.

For 75 years after Lincoln issued his Thanksgiving Proclamation, succeeding presidents honored the tradition and annually issued their own Thanksgiving Proclamation, declaring the last Thursday in November as the day of Thanksgiving. However, in 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt did not. In 1939, the last Thursday of November was going to be November 30. Retailers complained to FDR that this only left 24 shopping days to Christmas and begged him to push Thanksgiving just one week earlier. It was determined that most people do their Christmas shopping after Thanksgiving and retailers hoped that with an extra week of shopping, people would buy more.

So when FDR announced his Thanksgiving Proclamation in 1939, he declared the date of Thanksgiving to be Thursday, November 23, the second-to-last Thursday of the month.

President Roosevelt had a lot to think about in 1939. The world had been suffering from the Great Depression for a decade and the Second World War had just erupted in Europe. On top of that, the U.S. economy continued to look bleak. So when U.S. retailers begged him to move Thanksgiving up a week to increase the shopping days before Christmas, he agreed. He probably considered it a small change; however, when FDR issued his Thanksgiving Proclamation with the new date, there was an uproar throughout the country.

The new date for Thanksgiving caused a lot of confusion. Calendars were now incorrect. Many schools had planned dates for vacations and tests now had to be rescheduled. Thanksgiving had been a big day for football games, as it is today, so the game schedule had to be examined.

Political opponents of FDR and many others questioned the president's right to change the holiday and stressed the breaking of precedent and disregard for tradition. Many believed that changing a cherished holiday just to appease businesses was not a sufficient reason for change.

Before 1939, the president annually announced his Thanksgiving Proclamation and then governors followed the president in officially proclaiming the same day as Thanksgiving for their state. In 1939, many governors did not agree with FDR's decision to change the date and refused to follow him. The country became split on which Thanksgiving they should observe.

Twenty-three states followed FDR's change and declared Thanksgiving to be November 23. Twenty-three other states disagreed with FDR and kept the traditional date for Thanksgiving, November 30. Two states, Colorado and Texas, decided to honor both dates.

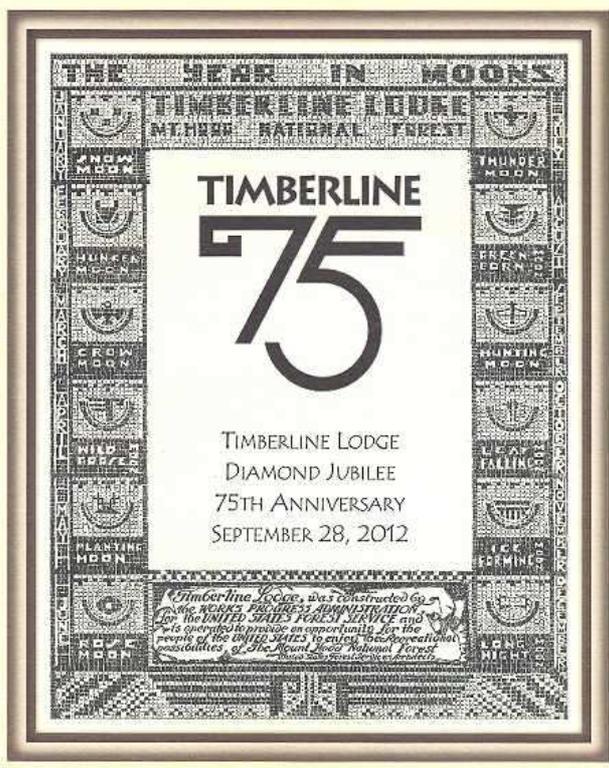
This idea of two Thanksgiving days split some families, because not everyone had the same day off from work. Though the confusion caused many frustrations across the country, the question remained as to whether the extended holiday shopping season caused people to spend more, thus helping the economy. The answer was no. Businesses reported that the spending was approximately the same, but the distribution of the shopping was changed. For those states who celebrated the earlier Thanksgiving date, the shopping was evenly distributed throughout the season. For those states that kept the traditional date, businesses experienced a bulk of shopping in the last week before Christmas.

In 1940, FDR again announced Thanksgiving to be the second-to-last Thursday of the month. This time, 31 states followed him with the earlier date and 17 kept the traditional date. Confusion over two Thanksgivings continued.

Lincoln had established the Thanksgiving holiday to bring the country together, but the confusion over the date change was tearing it apart. On December 26, 1941, Congress passed a law declaring that Thanksgiving would occur every year on the fourth Thursday of November. The matter remains settled and Thanksgiving is always celebrated the second-to-last Thursday of November.



# Souvenirs from Timberline Lodge's 75th Anniversary



ISSUANCE OF COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARK  
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
DIAMOND JUBILEE STATION  
CELEBRATING TIMBERLINE LODGE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

"POSTMARK AMERICA" PICTORIAL POSTMARK  
HONORING  
TIMBERLINE LODGE  
TIMBERLINE LODGE, OREGON SEPTEMBER 28, 2012

**Schedule of Events:**

10:15 a.m.

Opening remarks by -

William White  
Philatelic Historian

Kim Anderson  
District Manager, US Postal Service

Chris Worth  
US Forest Service  
Mt. Hood Forest Supervisor

Jeff Kohnstamm  
President RLK and Company

Mike Gentry  
President Friends of Timberline

Gary Randall  
Postmark Graphic Artist

Kate Rogers McCarthy - served in Dining Room  
10:30-2:00 p.m. First Day of Operation - 1937

Stamp sales and Postmarks open to the public.  
Postmarks serviced by: Postmaster Radonna Price  
Government Camp, Oregon

1:00-2:00 p.m.  
Complimentary Timberline Lodge Birthday Cake and Coffee

\*No host lunch served in the Cascade Dining Room

Timberline Lodge was constructed by the Works Progress Administration for the United States Forest Service and is operated to provide an opportunity for the people of the United States to enjoy the recreational possibilities of the Mt. Hood National Forest.

Timberline Lodge crowns the celebration of its 75th Anniversary with two new United States Postal Service postmarks.

The commemorative 75th anniversary Diamond Jubilee postmark depicts the history and heritage of Timberline Lodge. This commemorative postmark is only valid for mailing on September 28, 2012, and then available for collecting purposes only for the following 30 days. The other postmark is part of the Postmark America program, which began in June 2011. This postmark includes changeable dates and will be available indefinitely at Timberline Lodge to postmark mail originating here showing the actual date of mailing.

Both postmarks were specially designed for Timberline Lodge by Mr. Gary Randall of Brightwood, Oregon.

