

THE WEBFOOTER

ESTABLISHED 1966

"Every subject known to man can be found on a post card" -- Club Motto

The official publication of The Webfooters Post Card Club in Portland, Oregon

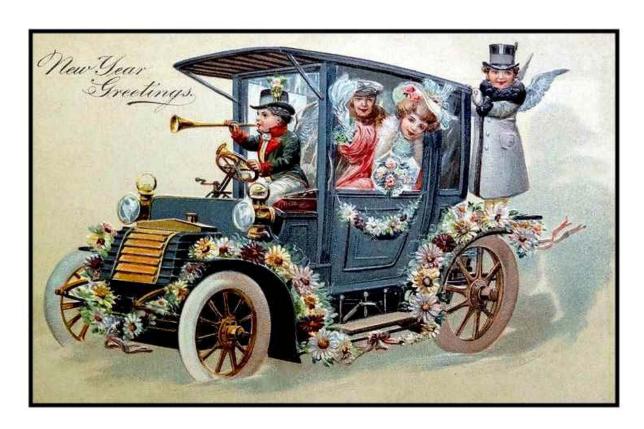
www.thewebfooters.com

Volume 46 **Issue Number 1** January 2012



HAPPY NEW YEAR







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- See Carole's Column and Meeting Minutes on Page 9.
- See New Members on Page 8. Club News can be found on page 6.
- See Genealogical Research with Dr. L.M. White on Page 7.

Next Meeting – January 21, 2012

At Russellville Grange – 12105 NE Prescott Street 9 am to 3:30 pm (Business Meeting at 10)



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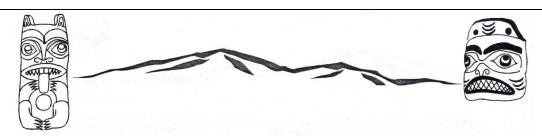
Also in Farmhouse Antiques in Sellwood 8028 SE 13th Avenue



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THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT WHICH HELPS OFFSET OUR EXPENSES

At our November 19, 2011 meeting, Dr. Les M. White, a retired school teacher and administrator, gave an interesting talk on Genealogical Research. His wife Carole, who is our secretary, wrote an article to give more information about this very popular topic. If you couldn't attend the meeting, you will enjoy reading her article on page 7.



Northwest Collectibles Presents The Largest Antique Paper Shows in the Northwest

The Greater Portland Postcard, Stamp & Antique Paper Show February 24 and 25, 2012

Kliever Armory 10000 NE 33rd Drive Portland, OR

Old Postcards, Photographs, Stereo View Cards, Books, Stamps, Valentines, Matchbooks, Magazines, Prints, Maps, Trade Cards, Movie Posters & Much More!

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www.postcardshows.com

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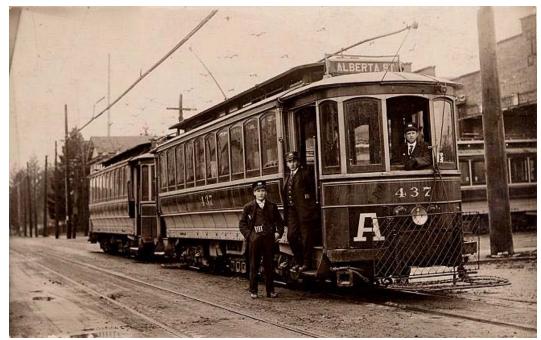
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A PASSION FOR POSTCARDS



By Mark Moore



Portland's Alberta streetcar number 437 is shown leaving the Piedmont Car Barn circa 1910.

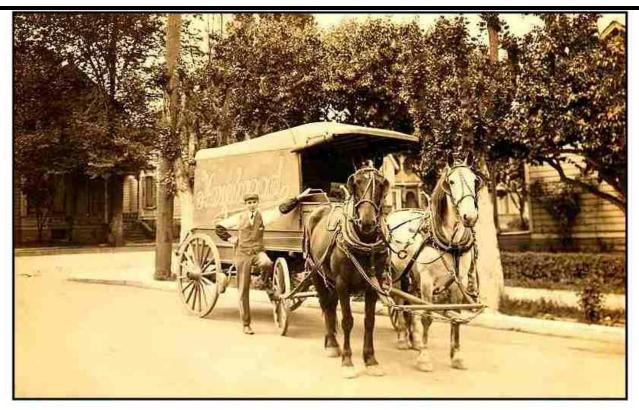
As many of you know, this hobby of ours can become very addicting. How many of us remember finding a particular card that made us say wow? One of those cards that did this for me is shown above and it got me hooked. I have an unquenchable desire to find more cards like it. A vast amount of history can be revealed by studying a postcard.

By enlarging the image or using a good magnifying glass, one can determine the number on the conductor and the operator's hat badges for comparison with a list of employees. What we discovered was that the conductor with his coin changer around his waist is #746 Thomas F. Lovely. The gentleman in the middle is #806, Hudelson, and the motorman is #773 Marcus Follett. If one looks up the names in a Polk's Directory or phone book from that era, you can determine the addresses where they lived. Newspapers on microfilms at the local library are a good source for information if you have a date of events for which to search. Look for ads and articles.

We have known people who lived about 100 years ago when postcards were in their infancy. Many of these people started with nothing. They worked with their hands and their minds to create a world that has become a technological marvel. I just saw a photo of a T-shirt on Facebook that has a television screen woven into the back.

In their day, postcards were on the cutting edge of technology and they became a medium for communication. We need to embrace technology and to highlight the link between postcards and history to help our hobby to survive. Postcards and photos can create an archival record of a moment in time.

As most of you know, I maintain three websites: one for The Webfooters, one for Portland's Rain of Glass and my personal site, PdxHistory.com. Being the webmaster of these sites puts me in a unique position of making contact with hundreds of people in hundreds of places across the world. I receive thousands of emails in a year's time and heaven knows I may not get everyone answered. (I really need an assistant to help with the correspondence.)



Most of you are familiar with a favorite card which I have published several times which shows Charles H. Derrie who delivered milk products for the Hazelwood Cream Company in 1911.

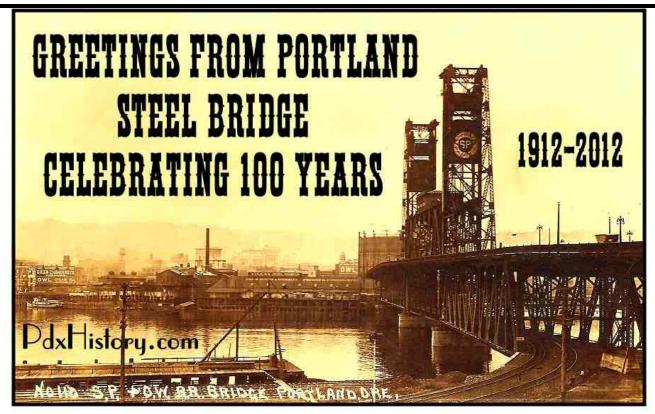
Several weeks ago, I heard from Mike Derrie in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. His great uncle, Charles H. Derrie, is shown on my website in a postcard scan with a Hazelwood Cream Company delivery wagon from 1911 (shown above). His family had never seen the postcard before and had no clue what he had done at that time in his life. Charlie had left Michigan before the turn of the century and headed out west to seek his fortune.

Before the Great Depression, he operated a very successful hardware store; however, the Depression almost wiped him out. Later, Charles Derrie got into real estate where he became very successful. Mike Derrie sent me a photo of his great uncle with a group of businessmen meeting with the Governor of Oregon in the 1950s. Charles and his wife Alma had no children and Mike remembers him as being very generous, especially at Christmas. Now you know the rest of the story.

Just recently, I was contacted by James Smith, a historian from San Francisco who has written about Sutro Heights and Sutro Baths as well as Playland. He inquired about a statement that I had extracted from Wikipedia about a wooden roller coaster in the 1880s in the area where Playland was located. He wanted to know my source. While most of the information on Wikipedia is factual, some of it cannot be authenticated. After four hours of research in the wee hours of the night, I determined that there was no basis other than the statement on Wikipedia to support this claim.

What I did find was that a photo showing a wooden gravity roller coaster that was taken of the area by Sutro Baths and Museum in 1898 does exist. The photo shows "Sutro Pleasure Grounds," also known as Merrie Way which was located adjacent to Sutro Baths. It really doesn't seem possible that a coaster existed in San Francisco in the 1880s. There were a couple of wooden gravity coasters in the east, but not in the west that early.

Another email I received was about Bayocean, the Oregon town that fell into the sea, which was from the great grandchildren of Thomas Irving Potter, son of Bayocean's founder Thomas Benton Potter. They sent photos of both Thomas Potters as well as a couple of views of the yacht "Bayocean."



Portland's Steel Bridge opened in July 1912 to rail traffic and on August 9, 1912 to automobiles.

I also received an inquiry via The Webfooters website from Jim Talbot of Ambler, Pennsylvania who had seen photocopies of some postcards of Portland's Steel Bridge from the collection of member Steve Kenney. Jim is writing an article for *Modern Steel Construction Magazine* on 100 year-old steel bridges. Portland's Steel Bridge will turn 100 years old this year. He wanted to get in contact with Steve.

Over the years, I have received many comments, recollections and suggestions that have made my websites more accurate and more informative. The best-kept secret in the world of the postcard collector is the amazing amount of history that was recorded and documented on postcards. Following the story with relatives and acquaintances of subjects pictured on the postcards is very rewarding.

In other news. . .

We have gotten rave reviews for the fun and fellowship at our last meeting on Dec. 17, 2011. It was really enjoyable to spend a relaxing day with fellow postcard collectors. The food was truly outstanding. I can't remember a better Christmas feast. We had a great balance of food. As always, there were lots of mouthwatering desserts. We got high marks for a very short business meeting. Steve Kuryk stepped down as Librarian and David Sell stepped up to take his place. Steve will work with David during the transition and they will get all unbound copies of The Webfooter bound through 2011.

Also, we had a visit from Ret. Navy Captain Phil Kumler. He is with the *Save the PT Boat* organization. They are planning a museum for it near OMSI. They are having a special meeting on May 12 at the PIPEX Stamp Show and wanted us to participate. We may have the opportunity for a cancellation or a postcard for the occasion. They want to promote youth and getting young people involved in our organization and to give us some free publicity. Apparently we were recommended to them.

I am proposing that we develop a scholarship or grant fund with a focus toward historical research. This could give us a goal and a purpose for fundraising. We have members with beach homes or central Oregon villas. Won't you consider donating a week or weekend stay for our auction? How about a gift certificate to a restaurant or spa? Dealers—how about donating a gift certificate for cards or other paper items at your table?

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH with DR. L.M. WHITE

Before the Internet, genealogical research was difficult, challenging and time-consuming. It took weeks, months and even years and a combination of snail mail, trips to government offices or cemeteries, oral and written family histories, telephone, newspaper archives, word-of-mouth, etc. It took my dad 20 years to put together a book of family history, and my uncle spent 25 years on his.

With the Internet came easier research as well as various online ancestry sites. I use Ancestry.com, and it takes me minutes to find relatives that it would have taken me a lot of time to find before the Internet.

If you are interested in researching your family, first, get as much information as you can from your living relatives before it is too late. The Mormon Church headquarters in Salt Lake City has the largest ancestral database in the world, and it is free. Ancestry.com is also based in Salt Lake City, but I'm not sure what, if any, connection they have.

Predating Ellis Island, Castle Garden a.k.a. Castle Clinton or Fort Clinton, was the entry point for immigrants and has passenger lists, photos and history on their web site, as does Ellis Island's site. However, foreign names were often "Americanized," so tracking back to their international origins can be challenging but worthwhile. There are instructional books on how to do research online—many available in public libraries—and magazines about genealogy, such as *My Heritage*.

Yahoo and Google have powerful search engines, so to get started you don't have to pay to subscribe to Ancestry.com or a similar site. To search on Yahoo or Google, enter a name with quotation marks around it, then a space, then a + sign, then a space and a year, if you have one, with quotation marks around it. Example: "John Jones" + "1860."

I like Ancestry.com because unlike many other sites it is collaborative, so if I have new information I can post it there, and so can others. Ancestry.com costs \$155.40 a year, or \$22.95 a month on a month-to-month basis for U.S. access. Worldwide access is about \$250 a year, or \$34.95 a month on a month-to-month basis. If you buy their book you can get a few months on the site for free.

To start a family tree on Ancestry.com, fill in your name and your parents' names and dates of birth. Up will pop the beginning of your tree, with hints such as public records or documentation from other family members doing research. Plus, it has lots of information under "search records," based on relevancy. They have every U.S. Census through the 1930's except 1890, which was destroyed in a fire, and 1940 will be available in 2012. Bear in mind, however, when early censuses were taken, many people couldn't read and write. So the spelling of family members' names was up to the census taker, and it can be confusing from census to census.

The first time family members were included in the census was 1850, and the 1860 census was the first to record households' relationships—son daughter, wife, etc. But be careful and persistent—when you enter a name, a whole list of folks with the same name may come up, and if it's a common name such as John Adams, the list will be long.

Strange things often come up, such as cousins or others with the same last name marrying, so the list can look like a dead end. But it isn't always. You just have to use your best judgment and put in the information that you think is correct. Ancestry.com searches records 24/7 for relevant documentation, and be assured, others are on the same quest and will be more than happy to expand on what you have discovered or make corrective suggestions. (continued next page)

Families through the early 20th century were large—the larger the family, the more free labor available for the farm or family business. That means more names to search. Often there were arranged marriages, or marriages at a very young age (especially among the peerage in Europe), with the couple living in the house of the husband's parents until childbearing age. You can also enter a person's name in Find-a-Grave and get a photo of their tombstone, or request a photo if one is not available.

Why put in all this effort? We're all curious about where we came from and how we got here, and your family's authentication from an ancestry site will help if you are interested in joining organizations such as Daughters of the American Revolution or The Mayflower Society.

But one of the biggest reasons for Webfooters to do genealogical research is to find post cards and paper ephemera from various locations of family history to collect. The first postcards in the U.S. were made in the 1890's, so we can look for cards from then on showing us exactly what our ancestral cities, towns and sites looked like when our relatives lived there.

Genealogical research is a lot of fun, and it can help you find relatives you didn't even know you had—or help you avoid them!

Written by Carole Bess White



NEW MEMBERS / ROSTER UPDATE

Webster Webfoot welcome to Gayle, John, Norman and Mike!!!

Hemstead Mike 1797 Gresham, OR **Collects:** Gresham to Mt. Hood; fire lookouts

McKnight Norman 1798 San Francisco, CA

www.philoxeniapress.com

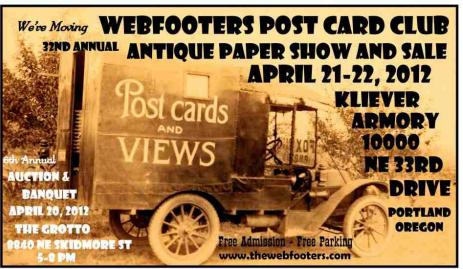
Collects: Central and Eastern Oregon: RPPC to 1955

Ryan Gayle 1556 Milwaukie, OR

Collects: Beautiful women; local RPPCs

Stewart John 1796 Portland, OR

Collects: Oregon real photos; misc paper



CAROLE'S COLUMN

Webfooters Club Meeting Saturday, December 17, 2011, at Russellville Grange

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Arne Soland gave our financial report.

Membership: Membership Chair Krissy Durden reported that we have 216 members in these categories:

Charter—1 Family—82 Individual—94 Patron—31 Honor—8

Refreshments: President Mark Moore made signup sheets for refreshments for the 2012 general meetings. The club will reimburse up to \$40.00 for refreshments at these Saturday meetings.

Show/Auction: Contracts are still available for the April 21-22, 2012, Show & Sale, and 24 tables have been sold so far for the April show. The early bird discount deadline was December 31, so any contracts that come in after that will be at the full price. We have a good supply of show and 45th anniversary postcards and encourage everyone to put them out where they will do the most good.

We are still looking for a few volunteers to help with the April 20 Auction, as well as an auctioneer. We are also hoping for more great donations. Gift certificates for cards, dinners, beach or vacation house stays and other merchandise or services all would be most welcome.

St. Johns books: Don Nelson has his St. Johns books for sale for \$20.00 each. They will be available at our meetings, or you can phone him at 503-645-7744 to order copies.

Club Post Card Sales: Dave Elston volunteered to continue managing the club sale post cards. Most of these were donated to the Club over the years, and new ones are added each month. They are priced very reasonably at 20 cents each. If you haven't glanced through them lately, you should give them a look—there might be a treasure there waiting for you.

Potluck: We enjoyed a great selection of delicious food at our annual potluck. Arne Soland brought the ham, Terry Weis brought an awesome Christmas sheet cake from Costco, Ramona O'Neil brought her fabulous Hillvilla Lemon Chiffon Pie which was featured in the Sept. 2010 edition of The Webfooter, and Mark Moore brought his fountain strawberry lemonade. Thanks to Irene and Dean Adams for helping with food preparation and cleanup. Thanks to all who helped make it a truly delightful Christmas Potluck. It was fabulous. To all of you who helped: we appreciate your help setting up and getting everything cleaned up afterwards.

Respectfully submitted, Carole Bess White, secretary

The next board meeting will be held on January 18th, 2012 at Elmer's Restaurant at 10001 NE Sandy Boulevard at 6:30 PM.

Recipe for Ramona O'Neil's Hillvilla Lemon Chiffon Pie

4 egg whites, beat until frothy
Add ¼ teaspoon cream of tarter
Gradually or slowly add 1 cup sugar, beat until glossy
Spread mixture in well greased 10" pie plate
Bake 275 degrees for 1 hour
Cool Completely

Combine 4 egg yolks beaten with ½ cup sugar Add 3 to 4 Tablespoons Fresh Lemon Juice Add 2 Tablespoons Lemon Zest Cook until thick, stirring constantly Let cool

Whip 1 cup whipping cream Fold into the lemon mixture Pour into shell Cool in refrigerator for 4 hours



| President/Editor | Mark Moore |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Vice President | Maggie Parypa |
| Secretary | Carole Bess White |
| Treasurer | Arne Soland |
| Membership Chair | Krissy Durden |
| Director | Dave Elston |
| Historian | Joe Macdonald |
| Librarian/Director | David Sell |



January 18 – Webfooters Board Meeting at Elmer's Restaurant (no host) 10001 NE Sandy Blvd - 6:30 pm (Board Meetings held every other month)

January 21 - Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange 12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd - 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

February 18 – Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange 12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd - 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

For the latest news, visit our website:



www.thewebfooters.com

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WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB

PO Box 17240 Portland OR 97217-0240





SEE PAGE 4 FOR A PASSION FOR POSTCARDS.