



THE WEBFOOTER

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

Volume 40 - Issue Number 4 - April 2006

www.thewebfooters.com



It's Showtime



The Webfooters Annual Show & Sale April 15th and 16th

At the Jackson Armory – 6255 NE Cornfoot Rd

Saturday: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

\$1 Admission

Join us April 12th at 8:30 am at KATU TV for AM Northwest (see pg. 8)

See Page Five for a story on Post cards from Sweden by David Anderson

Visit our new website at www.thewebfooters.com

Board Meeting Minutes

The attendees at the March 13, 2006 Webfooters board meeting, held at Elmer's Restaurant, were: Mark Moore (President), Al Powers (Treasurer), Dale Nix (Vice President) and his son (Austin), David Sell (Membership Chair), Phyllis Palmer (Member-at-Large) and Dave Elston (Secretary). After a call to order at approximately 6:30 PM, the minutes of the January and February meetings were approved as published.

Report of Standing Committees:

Financial Report—Al Powers presented excerpts from his preliminary financial report, and stated that the finished report would be submitted at the next general meeting.

Membership Committee—David Sell reported that there are currently 200 active members on the roster, with several members dropped and one added during the previous month. There had also been several renewals. He indicated that a roster with up-to-date revisions would be sent out via e-mail by the end of March.

Show Committee—Mark reported that money had been received for 33 (40 at press time) dealer tables for the April Webfooters Show. There will be sign up lists available for those persons wishing to contribute an hour or more as security for the display area or to serve at other functions during the show. Mark reiterated that there would be both competitive displays with prizes to be awarded and non-competitive displays for those wishing to display a part of their post card collections at the show. Phyllis Palmer will coordinate the displays.

The board approved the purchase of two pre-assembled 32-inch x 48-inch A-frame advertising signs to be finished and painted by Dave Elston. Show information has been faxed to all the local television stations. Advertising has been placed with the Postcard Collector magazine, the Old Stuff newspaper and The Oregonian.

Website—The new Webfooters website is up and running as development continues and will be transferred to permanent web hosting within the next month or so.

Business Arising From the Previous Meeting:

Program Committee—Mark indicated that a program on the topic of "Postal History" may be given at the June 17 general meeting, if postal historian Kirk Andrews is available to do so.

Events to Celebrate 40th anniversary—Ideas are always welcome from any member who has an event in mind for celebrating our 40th year as Webfooters.

General Business Meetings—The board had a lengthy discussion on the topic of protocol during the 9-10 am dealer and general setup and during the (Saturday) 10:00 am business meetings of the club. Stated scheduled times for the Saturday meetings are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The member approved bylaws specify that "Members who rent a table or are designated to help in setup may enter the building up to an hour early."

Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

Also, "any business of the Club will be conducted before any cards may be sold or traded by the general members." The meaning of this is that only those members who are selling or who have been assigned to, or who volunteer to, help with setup or cleanup are to be in the building before 10:00 am.

The opportunity to do some buying or trading before the 10:00 am time is offered as a "perk" only **to those members setting up as dealers and to those who actually contribute to the setup, refreshment provision or building cleanup on the specific day of any Saturday club meeting.**

These opportunities to contribute time and effort towards the smooth functioning of the Saturday meetings, or to sell cards at them, are equally available to ALL current members. The matter of disruptions during the 10:00 am business meeting, due to members continuing with card perusal or engaging in idle chatter, was also a concern of the board.

Ideas considered for ensuring that the meetings effectively deal with necessary business include: Having all members adjourn to the dining room area of the clubhouse during the business portion of the meeting, as well as having dealers cover their cards with a sheeting material to eliminate the viewing temptation. The matter is not fully resolved. Input from any member will be welcome.

New Business:

Honorary Members—David Sell provided a listing of charter and honorary members of the club. The board discussed, with bylaw directives in mind, the matter of the dates when various honorary memberships are to be either renewed or ended.

Archives-Library—The board voted to provide Steve and Karen Kuryk with a set of keys so that they can access The Webfooters library and archives, which they have graciously offered to inventory and organize.

Noting that the next scheduled board meeting is at 6:30 pm on Monday, **May 15, 2006** at Elmer's Restaurant located at 10001 NE Sandy Boulevard, Mark adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Elston

Club Officers

President.....Mark Moore
Vice President.....Dale Nix
Secretary.....Dave Elston
Treasurer.....Al Powers
Member-at-Large.....Jane Burton
Member-at-Large.....Phyllis Palmer
Membership Chairman.....David Sell
Editor.....Mark Moore



THE WEBFOOTERS

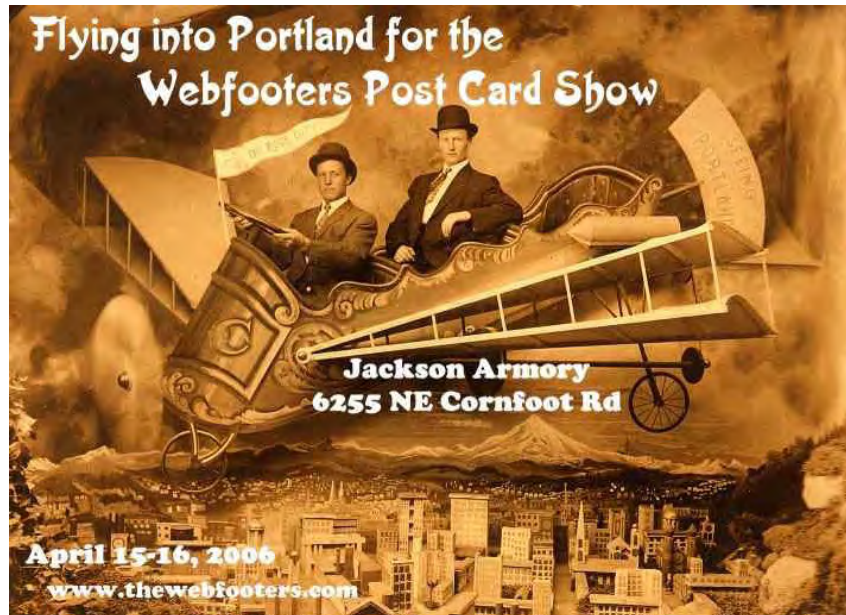
POST CARD CLUB

Presents

Our Annual Show and Sale

APRIL 15-16, 2006

**Jackson Armory
6255 NE Cornfoot Rd
Portland Oregon**



Up to Two Million Post Cards For Sale

Saturday April 15, 2005: 10 am to 5 pm

Sunday April 16, 2005: 10 am to 4 pm

\$1 Admission

For information:

Mark Moore

PO Box 17240

Portland OR 97217-0240

Email: mark@pdxhistory.com

www.thewebfooters.com

POSTCARDS FROM SWEDEN

By David Anderson

Axel Eliassons Konstförlag, Stockholm

Several years ago, after making three trips to Sweden and working on my paternal Swedish genealogy, I started collecting postcards from Sweden. Soon realizing that there were tons of postcards, I decided I would have to start limiting my collection to something less broad than just Swedish postcards. I settled on two categories – which I also found out are quite broad! The first is cards from parishes where my ancestors lived and the second is cards printed by the publisher Axel Eliasson Konstförlag.

In 1891 an edition of the evening newspaper *Aftonbladet*, Stockholm carried an advertisement on the first views that Axel Eliasson was publishing of Gothenburg and Stockholm. It was noted that these first cards were printed in Sweden. Within about a decade however, printing was sent offshore to Germany. Apparently Axel got the idea of printing postcards while studying in Berlin and started his company which still bears his name in 1890. The company stopped publishing postcards in the 1940's.

Axel was the photographer of his early cards. One of the first artists in his employment was Anna Palm, whose cards I find extremely collectible. However, by far the most famous artist who worked for Axel is Jenny Nyström, whose depiction of the *tomtar* is now the definition of the Swedish Santa Claus. Jenny's cards are very popular.

Getting cards for either of my two Swedish collections is not hard, although the first is hardest to do if I limit my horizons to local postcard shows and eBay. In addition to those two mentioned options for obtaining postcards, I somehow found out about the Swedish auction site www.tradera.com. Tradera is the Swedish equivalent to eBay, only in Swedish. There is a link that helps translate the website into English.

Having made several contacts with sellers on tradera.com my collection really started to grow, and my knowledge about the cards expanded as well. I now receive monthly batches of cards from one fellow collector of cards. We frequently exchange by e-mail an updated list of cards which list cards I have in the collection as well as cards which he is holding for me for a future batch. Another contact I made was extremely generous in sharing his knowledge on how to date cards by means of the style of printing on the back of the card as well as postal rates.

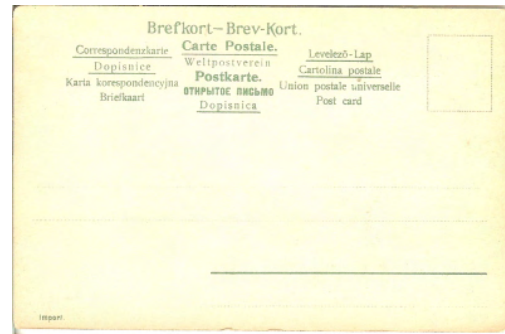
From the simple listing of cards, my cataloging has grown to a spread sheet listing the card number, name and style of back. It is a bit complex maybe, but extremely useful when putting together a rather large collection which includes varieties. The example below shows an abridged version of what I have formulated. The top line is the year in which a specific back design variety is recorded; the second line includes the name on the card (sometimes in English) and a code for the back design; the following lines are the card's number, title and the number of cards in my collection of that design.

My code consists of numeric and alpha codes. The numeric code, e.g. 15x, indicates the number of languages the word Brefkort (Swedish for letter card or Postcard) appears on the back; a capital "X" indicates both words are capitalized. The "(" indicates the French "CARTE POSTALE" is in parenthesis. When German lithographers began printing the cards, they would have the word Import on the back. Early on the "I" looks like a "J" and the word looks like "Jmport"; hence the letter "j" noted on some codes. This is much like the letter "s" in early versions of printing in English that look like an "f". "Imp" indicates the word Import is abbreviated. An "E" indicates the card was printed for the English speaking market and the word "Postcard" is the first word on the back. A "~" indicates that the word for postcard no longer appears on the back. Finally an "Æ" an abbreviation for Axel Eliasson indicates that that symbol appears in a darkened circle on the back.

Portion of Log Sheet

	year		1902	1902	1906	1903	1903	1906	1908	1918	1925
nr.	name	(2X)J	2XJ	2xl	4xE	15xJ	15xl	3xE	~Imp	~I	I Æ
3641	Göta Kanal. Lilla Edet				1		1		1		
3642	Lake Vettern. Sweden				1						
3643	Jönköping									1	
3644	Huskvarna						1				
3645	Karlsborgs Fästning. Kaserngården						1				
3646	Kungelf						1				
3647	Making Hay, Sweden				1		1				
3648	Arnäs Kyrk I ångermland						1				
3649	Hernösand						1				

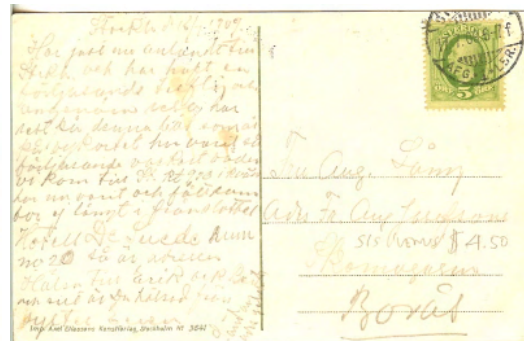
total 12 0 0 3 0 7 0 1 1 0



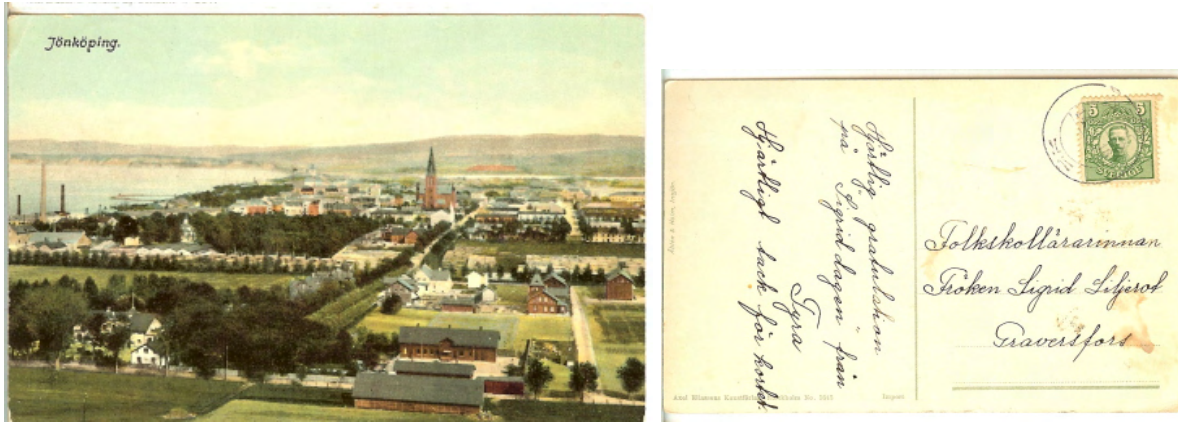
Card 3648, Arnäs Kyrka i Ångermanland. The back design indicates that this card was published about 1903. It has the word for postcard printed in 15 languages, with the Swedish "Brefkort" first, therefore it is for the Swedish market. Cards with divided backs appear in Sweden about 1905, a year before it was permitted in the U.S.



Card 3647, Making Hay, Sweden. Axel Eliasson exported cards to North America for sale to the many Swedish emigrants. These cards are easily identified when the word Postcard takes the primary position on the back, and the name of the card is generally in English. This version of card also has lines on the back for writing the name and address on. These cards are very commonly used in 1906 in the U.S. market.



Card 3641, Göta Kanal. Lilla Edet. After 1905 in Sweden the backs of cards in Sweden become divided. This version appears about 1908, although this card is used in 1909. Import is abbreviated as "Imp." The stamp on this card, Scott cat. 56, was printed between 1891 and 1904 during King Oscar II's reign and it is very common.



Card 3643. Jönköping. Import appears on the back of the card as does the card number in this example. The word for Postcard does not appear in this version which is used in 1916. The stamp, Scott cat. 70 or 77 of King Gustaf V was printed between 1910 and 1919. The area north and east of Jönköping is the area of Sweden where my Grandmother's family originated from. In the city park at Jönköping is a Soldier's Cottage in which my great-great Grandmother lived with her first husband for a few years time.

I would like to thank Hans Björkman for his continuing support of my Axel Eliasson collection. He supplies me with monthly batches of Axel Eliasson cards from Sweden as well as information not readily available in America.

Calling All Webfooters

We need you!!! The Webfooters have been invited to participate in the broadcast of AM Northwest at KATU TV on April 12. We'll need you to be there at 8:30 am and you'll be there till 10:00. Parking is on the street, around the building. Just head in towards the main entrance of the building and you'll see a sign that says "Audience This Way". KATU is located right on the corner of 21st and Sandy Blvd.

If we get 10 people, they will give us a free announcement about our show. If we get 20 or more people, they will interview us and give us some free publicity about the Club. We need you. Let us know if you can be there to show your support. We'll be contacting you to help.

Membership Report

We welcome new members Rick and Paula Slavens of Beaverton, and returning member: Norm Moore of Vancouver.



Member News

Just in case you thought the value of post cards was on the decline, one of our members who is a dealer reported the sale of one post card at the recent paper show in Portland for \$7000. Another member reported having recently sold another card at online auction for \$3800. As a seasoned collector will tell you, post card values go up and down. One week a card can sell at online auction for over \$200 and a month later, the same card may sell for \$2. I know because I was outbid at \$200 for a card and got it about a month later for \$2.

People ask how does a novice dealer price their post cards? My best recommendation is that you base it on the price you paid for it. You may see the same card for sale at four or five different tables or online auctions. The card prices will vary from \$5 to \$85.

Show Board Competition

There will be two main categories for the displays for our show and sale: 1) displays for the competition and 2) displays not entered in the competition. For displays entered in the competition, you must be a member of The Webfooters and each board will be a separate entry. If you have multiple boards, they will be entered individually.

Winners will receive a year of membership in The Webfooters. The first and second prize winners will also receive post card sleeves and supplies. To be entered into the competition, all boards must be at the show by 9:30 am on Saturday April 15th. Voting will begin at 10:00 am and end at 1:00 pm on Sunday April 16th. Prizes will be awarded between 2:00 and 3:00 pm on Sunday.

For the competition, these are the standards that have been agreed upon by the show committee:

- Post cards will be displayed on a sturdy poster board that measures 22" wide by 28" tall (standard pre-cut size). They are available at Wal-mart and craft supply stores.
- All boards must be covered with a clear material such as acetate or thin Plexiglas to protect the board and cards. These are also available at craft supply stores.
- Each entry must have a title - card descriptions, captions and other information are optional
- Each exhibitor will be assigned a number for each board and the name of the exhibitor cannot be visible.



We wish you a Happy Easter



Calendar



April 15-16 – Webfooter’s Post Card Club Annual Show and Sale
Jackson Armory – 6255 NE Cornfoot Rd in Portland
Sat: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm – Sun: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

May 7 – Pacific NW Post Card Club Meeting – Lake City Community Center
12531 - 28th Ave NE in Seattle – 11:30 am to 5pm

May 15 – Webfooter’s Board Meeting at Elmer’s Restaurant (no host)
10001 NE Sandy Blvd – 6:30 pm

May 20 – Webfooter’s Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange
12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm



A list of Dealers who will be selling at our Show is provided on our new website. Also you will find directions to the Show and a map is on the website as well.

For the latest news, visit our website:



www.thewebfooters.com

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c/o Mark Moore
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