



# 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](http://www.thewebfooters.com)

Volume 45

Issue Number 4

April 2011

# IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE



Karolyn Grimes (right) played Zuzu Bailey with Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed in *It's a Wonderful Life*.

## 5th Annual Antique Paper Auction – April 15, 2011

- ◆ Preview: 3:30 pm, No-host Dinner: 5:00-6:15 pm, Auction: 6:30 pm
- ◆ The Grotto Conference Center – 8840 NE Skidmore St (85th & Sandy)
- ◆ \$15 Dinner: Specify Chicken or Salmon on rice with salad & dessert
- ◆ April 10th Deadline for Dinner Reservations: E-mail Maggie

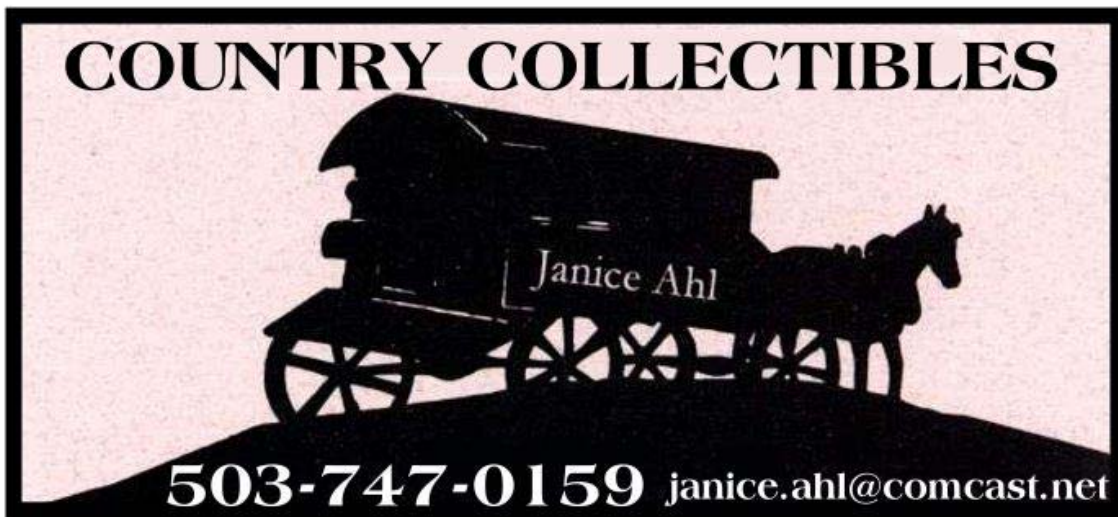


The Webfooters  
Post Card Club Station  
April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
Bridal Veil, OR 97010

## 31st Annual Show and Sale – April 16-17, 2011

Oregon Nat'l Guard Armory – 6255 NE Cornfoot Rd by Portland Airbase

- ❖ Meet Karolyn Grimes, star of *It's a Wonderful Life*, and get her autograph
- ❖ Branch of Bridal Veil, Oregon Post Office will operate at the Show
- ❖ Special Cancellation – Stock up on Stamps – Drop off Mail – Purchase Special Postcards



Now Located at:

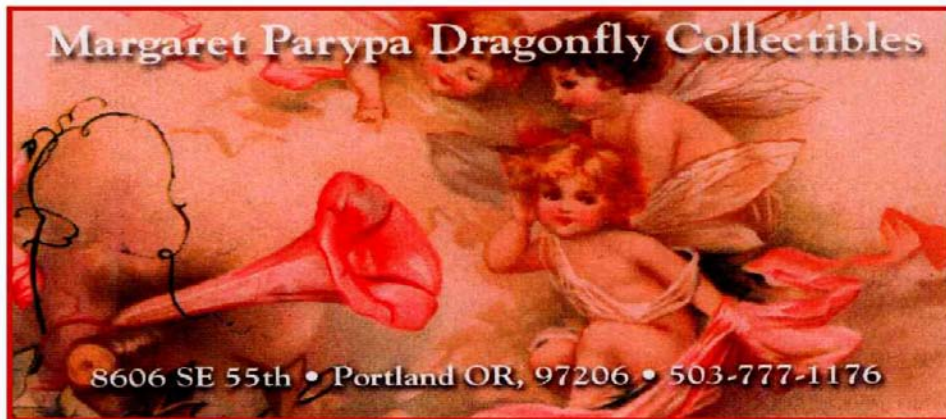
# FARMHOUSE ANTIQUES

*Mini Mall in Old Historic Sellwood with Seven Dealers*

Tuesday thru Sunday: 11 to 5  
 Glassware - Depression - Elegant  
 Postcards - Paper - Sheet Music  
 Jewelry - Furniture

See Janice on Tuesdays  
 8028 SE 13th Avenue  
 Portland OR 97202  
 503-232-6757

**Also in Farmhouse Antiques in Sellwood  
 8028 SE 13th Avenue**



(paid advertisements)

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

## Member News

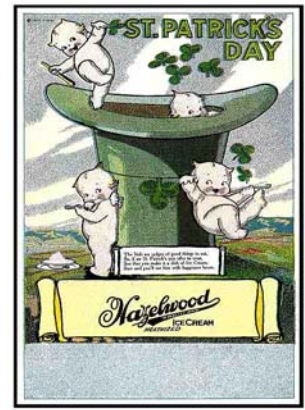
It is with sadness that we report the passing of longtime Webfooter Don Weis, member number 1336. He and his wife Addie, member number 1340, have been postcard dealers for a number of years. Our thoughts and prayers are with Addie and their son Terry Weis, member number 1335.

On page 7 of this newsletter there is an article written by our newest member, Demaris Swint, member 1790 of Alamo, Texas, on how to produce a postcard for National Postcard Week (NPCW) and she shared her card. She also forwarded a list of guidelines (on page 4) from the Tucson Post Card Club for creating a postcard for NPCW.



FIFTH ANNUAL  
**WEBFOOTERS  
 POST CARD CLUB**

**Postcard, Photograph  
 & Antique Paper**



**\* AUCTION \***

Friday, April 15, 2011 \* 6:30 pm

Preview begins at 3:30 pm \* Banquet Dinner at 5

**The Grotto Conference Center**

8840 NE SKIDMORE ST.  
 NEAR 85TH & SANDY BLVD.



**AUCTION LOTS INCLUDE:**

- Post Cards: real photo, holiday, artist signed, lithos, linens & chromes.
- Vintage Photographs: tintypes, stereo views, CDVs, cabinet cards, snapshots & mounted photos of all sizes.
- Antique Paper Ephemera: advertising, trade cards, travel brochures, maps, menus & other early paper items!

\*\*\*\*\*

No-host banquet dinner at The Grotto Conference Center begins at 5:00 pm  
 Make your reservations for dinner by emailing Maggie no later than April 10th



**31st Annual Antique Paper Show and Sale**

**Saturday, April 16 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, April 17 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Early Admission: \$5/Regular Admission \$2**

**Oregon National Guard Armory**

**6255 NE Cornfoot Road – Portland, Oregon**

[www.thewebfooters.com](http://www.thewebfooters.com)

# Mark's Memo

If you are looking to buy postcards and ephemera, you won't want to miss our Fifth Annual Banquet and Antique Paper Auction which is coming up on April 15th. No your taxes are not due that day this year; you can wait to file your taxes on April 18th, the Monday after our show.

You will find some very interesting and unique items at this auction. This year's catalog is different from previous auction catalogs. Glenn Mason, who organized and prepared the lots for our auction, reports we have received more items this time than ever before. There are 110 lots in the Live Auction which begins at 6:30 pm at The Grotto Conference Center. The Silent Auction, which consists of 68 lots, will be held at the show location and will end at 2:00 pm on Sunday, April 17th. Otherwise we have to haul and set them up twice.

Tables are nearly all spoken for at our 31st Annual Antique Paper Show & Sale which is coming up April 16-17, 2011. At our last meeting, we announced that Karolyn Grimes, who starred in the Christmas movie classic *It's A Wonderful Life* as Zuzu Bailey as the daughter of George and Mary Bailey played by Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed, will be selling photos, books and memorabilia as well as signing autographs.

Geri Cansler, Postmaster at the Bridal Veil Post Office, designed a special postmark for items mailed at our show on April 16th. She will also have a limited run of special stamps for sale at the show depicting a watercolor sketch of the Bridal Veil Post Office by Troutdale artist Sarah Lowe. You'll want to stock up on stamps and special postcards at the show which helps to keep the Bridal Veil Post Office open. It has operated since 1887.

We hope to see all of you at our Auction and Show. When you participate in our annual events every April, you support the activities that keep our club in operation.

## **NPCW Guidelines courtesy of the Tucson Post Card Exchange Club**

1. National Post Card Week and the date must be on the postcard, preferably on the front. 2011 is the 28th NPCW.
2. Your name or the club and mailing address should be on the pc, preferably on the front. but can be on the back.
3. Minimum size: 3-1/2x5-1/2 inches - postal regulations
4. Maximum size: 4-1/4x6 inches anything over is first class letter postage.
5. Minimum thickness is 90# card stock unless having printed by a printing company. Most home printers use 110 lb card stock.
6. All postcards printed should be of the same design. You can design more than one.
7. A minimum of 100 copies is recommended to give other traders a chance to receive a copy. 8. To give card an extra worth, numbering them is an excellent idea. /100 on the back is okay.
9. Be sure to sign your name somewhere.
10. All NPCW week postcards should be mailed during NPCW week, especially those that are stamped. But if using an envelope, you can mail early.



## **Roster Additions**

**Welcome to Don and Demaris!!**

**Nelson Don** 489 Portland, OR

Author and Historian

**Collects:** Portland; Washington County

**Swint Demaris** 1790 Alamo, TX

**Collects:** NPCW; UNESCO; people; recipes; linens; Tucks

# IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE



We all know the story, for it has become a Christmas classic—etched into our collective memory. At its core, *It's a Wonderful Life* is a parable of a good, honest man who, after years of struggling to do the right thing, questions his life and the choices he's made. Teetering on the brink of despair, the protagonist, George Bailey, finally concludes that his life has been a failure. Surmising that it might have been better if he had never been born, he contemplates suicide, only to be rescued by an angel determined to get his wings. While *It's a Wonderful Life* is often referred to as a sentimental movie, the issues it presents—questioning what makes a man a failure or a success—are hardly lighthearted.

Perhaps that accounts for the strong reactions it evokes. As the year ends, we tend to take stock of our own lives, questioning our worth and our place in a world that often doesn't behave as we expect. Like George Bailey, things didn't go as expected for *It's a Wonderful Life*, the movie. But its story would have a happy ending too, emerging to become synonymous with Christmas and one of the most popular films of all time.

The original screenplay for *It's a Wonderful Life* grew out of a short story ("The Greatest Gift of All"), that, ironically, no one wanted. After it unsuccessfully made the rounds in publishing circles, author Philip Van Doren Stern distributed the twenty-four page pamphlet as a Christmas card.

Enter director/producer Frank Capra. Having returned to Hollywood after World War II, Capra, like many of his fellow servicemen was looking for work and struggling to find his postwar footing. Looking for a film that would help him express his complicated war-influenced emotions, Capra saw great potential in "The Greatest Gift," with its mixture of comedy and soul searching.

Still, the cathartic story of an angel trying to get his wings by saving a suicidal man would give the director pause. While presenting the story line to Jimmy Stewart he realized how absurd "talking angels and heavenly voices" sounded. But Capra would ultimately get his arms around the film's distilled essence: "It's a movie about a small town guy who thinks he is a failure and wishes he had never been born," said Capra. "He's surprised to learn that he was not a failure, that he did fit into the scheme of life and actually contributed much to the happiness of several people. I think people everywhere will be able to associate themselves with the character and will perhaps feel a bit better for having known him....There's a little George Bailey in all of us."

On September 1, 1945, Frank Capra and his new company Liberty Films bought the rights, original material and three complete versions of the script to "The Greatest Gift of All" for a mere \$10,000. Jeanine Basinger, curator of the Frank Capra archives and Chairman of Film Studies at Wesleyan University notes that the mid-1940s were a pivotal time for the director. "The vision he had about life had changed," she says. "As a result, Capra questioned his own ideas about America—about everything. The film was important because it was a chance to speak in a new voice that still was, nevertheless, his old voice."

The re-written story, now entitled *It's A Wonderful Life*, found its delicate balance of humor and pathos. Jimmy Stewart, also newly returned from the military, and a veteran of Capra films such as *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, and *You Can't Take it With You*, would be George Bailey. The film was assigned a ninety-day shooting schedule and began filming in April 1946 at RKO Encino Ranch—newly transformed into Bedford Falls. Donna Reed was signed to play Mary Bailey, Karolyn Grimes was picked for the part of Zuzu Bailey, Lionel Barrymore would be the crotchety Mr. Potter, and Henry Travers would be Clarence, the angel.

On December 21, 1946, Frank Capra's magnum opus was released, although many questioned if the film and its difficult themes would succeed in postwar America. "A lot was riding on the movie," agrees Basinger, "but it was not a failure." Recalling the famous tag line she insists, "Any movie that has that many friends is not a failure."

While *It's a Wonderful Life* wasn't a commercial disaster, it wasn't exactly a success either. Opening to generally positive, sometimes glowing reviews, the movie did not do as well as either Capra or Hollywood expected, losing money on its initial release. Box office receipts would fall off after the holidays and despite publicity efforts it continued to falter at the box office.

As expected, the film would go on to be nominated for Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Director, Best Sound and Best Film Editing, but failed to bring in a single Oscar. (Capra would win the Golden Globe award as the year's best director.) Adding to the disappointment, *It's A Wonderful Life* opened very poorly in London, where critics rejected the film's sentimentality. By the spring of 1947 *It's a Wonderful Life* appeared to be dead.

Capra quietly accepted the public's response and turned his attention to other movies. Basinger notes, "*Wonderful Life* did not have the huge success that some of his earlier movies did, but he knew that for him it was an important movie at an important time in his life." Little did he know the impact the film would have many years later. However, Capra must have had an indication when he began receiving letters. Lots of letters. Recalls Basinger, "He said once to me, 'I sat down to answer a letter about *Wonderful Life* in 1948 and I was still writing those letters in 1965.' He would continue getting emotional, passionate missives until the day he died."

Capra, as his archives indicates, was an excellent letter writer and answered each query and comment graciously. Says Basinger, "What he did not expect was what television would do for this film and how it would become so much a part of the annual holiday landscape." Ironically, a legal oversight was largely responsible for catapulting *It's a Wonderful Life* to its current stature in film and cultural history.

In 1974, twenty-eight years after its release, the copyright owner (a bankrupt film production company) failed to renew *It's a Wonderful Life's* copyright. Ignored and apparently forgotten, the film quietly slid into the public domain—hardly the desired end for a Capra classic. But from this mistake something truly wonderful happened. Television discovered *It's a Wonderful of Life* anew. Stations all over the country realized they could show the picture whenever they wanted at no cost. And show it they did. It was not uncommon to see the movie go up against itself on many of the country's cable stations. Millions of viewers were introduced and re-introduced to the classic. Video would soon follow and thousands were making the little film that had almost been forgotten a part of their holiday traditions.

After fifty years why do people continue to be drawn to Capra's creation? "People make a direct emotional connection to it," says Basinger. "They reach it and it reaches them. People have the idea that this is an extremely sentimental film. Actually, this is a very dark movie. It's about a guy who's a failure and who feels like a failure." Basinger agrees with Capra that people identify with George Bailey and his crisis of faith. "A lot of people don't get what they want out of life," she notes. "A lot of young people dream of adventure, travel, success, wealth, luxury—and it doesn't happen. They stay in the same little town that they're in and they have smaller lives than that. The movie raises a lot of real questions."

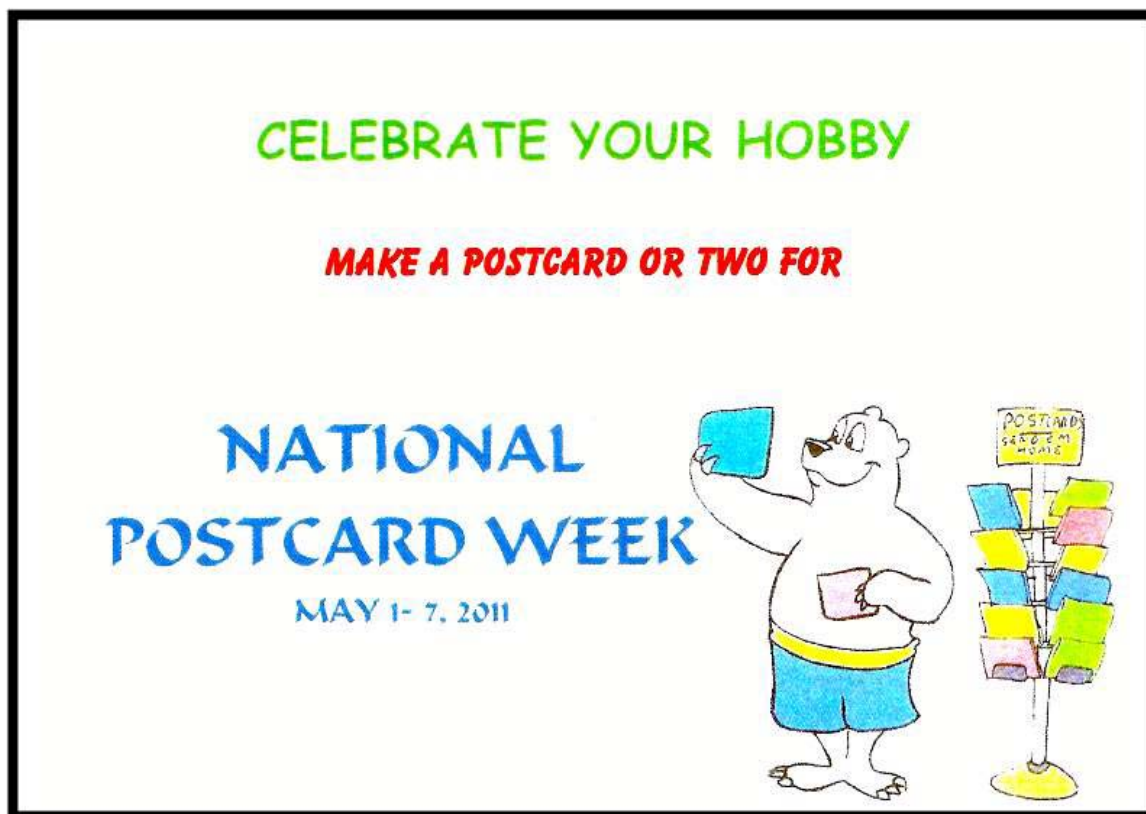
While the film's core values and themes have been debated for years, Basinger believes that each person takes away something personal from the film. "For some people *Wonderful Life* is going to be about friendship," she says. "For some, it's going to be about love and marriage and enduring and helping you through it. For some people it's going to be about failure. For others—and these are the Potters of the world that you have to watch out for—it's about false sentimentality. That's the great thing—the film is about a whole life. Good things happen and bad things happen and a bank run happens and someone nearly drowns. The great thing about *Wonderful Life* is that it's ambivalent. Failure is in the eye of the beholder. It depends on your expectations, your goals, and what your value system is."

The film's eventual status as a cultural icon was satisfying to both Capra and Stewart and up until their deaths they were frequently asked about the film they so passionately believed in. When looking back at his favorite 'child,' Capra summed it up best: "There's more to the picture than I put in it.... There's more to it than we thought we had. It's the picture I waited all my life to make."

# Making a postcard for NATIONAL POSTCARD WEEK

by Demaris Elrod Swint

May 1-7, 2011



Pick a topic. Any topic! It is your postcard. Whatever you put on it is correct. Do you want to inform others of what topics you collect, put them on the postcard. Where are you located? Can you be found online? Want to trade more than NPCW? This is a great way to let people know about you and to celebrate our holiday.

Are you a seller? Have a store? An online shop? Be sure to add that to your design.

Your postcard can be any subject. You can make it yourself either handmade, hand drawn, rubber stamped, with stickers, a photo, printed from a computer or having another artist draw for you. You can even use a store bought postcard, but be sure to add National Postcard Week and the date.

If you are using a computer card program, you can use any image you own or have permission to use. I use my own photos. Computer card programs usually let you make four postcards on a sheet of 8-1/2 x 11 card stock. Some people like to use specialty papers or photo paper. Be sure you can print on both sides.

If you are using a local printer, ask what their requirements are. Some need to have a printing plate made of your design. Many online printing companies will print both sides of a postcard. They usually require your design to be in jpeg form. They will fit your graphic to the size of the postcard.

You can find postcard printers on the internet. Google *postcard* and you will get many possible printers. You could try [vistaprint.com](http://vistaprint.com). They are very reasonable but there are complaints about the size of the cards. [uprinting.com](http://uprinting.com) will send you a sample book of postcards and they will print on glossy stock, but they are not cheap and their minimum order is for 500.

Can't decide? There are many examples to be found at [www.npcw.multiply.com](http://www.npcw.multiply.com) Need more help? Contact me either at [ezrestexas@aol.com](mailto:ezrestexas@aol.com) or 956-787-1717.

Are you interested in trading with others? Please let me know I am gathering names of participants at [ezrestexas@aol.com](mailto:ezrestexas@aol.com) or Demaris Swint, PO Box 746, Alamo, TX 78516.

You should also send your postcard to Lin Collette, 78 Gooding Street, Pawtucket RI 02860-1217 for inclusion in the 2011 Directory.



# Maggie's Minutes



Attending the March 16th, 2011 Webfooters Board Meeting, held at Elmer's Restaurant were: Mark Moore (President), Tony Roberts (Vice President) Maggie Parypa (Secretary), Krissy Durden (Membership) and Arne Soland (Treasurer) After a call to order at approximately 7:00 PM, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published.

**Financial Report** - Arne Soland reported that the club had a total of \$8,140.77. We have \$2,390.75 in Checking # 1. We have \$3,506.08 in the Show account. We have \$1,191.88 in CD 1 and \$1,052.06 in CD2.

## *Report of Standing Committees*

**Membership Chair** Krissy Durden reported that there are 221 Active Members (96 individual members, 90 Family Members, 28 Patron Members, 6 Honor Members and 1 Charter).

**Refreshments** - Reimbursement of up to \$40 is available for those contributing this service. If you are providing refreshments don't forget to save your receipts for Arne. There is a sign-up sheet at the monthly meetings. Thank you to Mark Moore for providing deli meats, bread and vegetable trays. I wonder what else we can ask you to do. Special thanks to Terry Weis as well as Lois and Al Powers for the chocolate cakes!!

April is upon us as we look forward to our annual auction and show. Glenn Mason has organized the items and assigned them to the lots. Krissy Durden photographed several of the lots and she has placed the images on our Facebook page. Thank you both for the tremendous effort!

Al Carder, auctioneer for Portland's Rain of Glass, has volunteered to be our auctioneer this year. If you'd like to make reservations for the Banquet Dinner at the Grotto, send an [email to me](#) or contact me on Facebook. This year we have a choice of chicken or salmon dinners for \$15.00 each.

We are happy that Carolyn "Zuzu" Grimes will be our Special Guest at this year's show on April 16th & 17th. Carolyn starred with Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed in the movie *It's a Wonderful Life*. She was the little girl ringing the angel bell at the end of the movie. She will set up a table to set up some of her treasures and sign autographs. I can't wait to meet her.

Mark Moore said that we have an opportunity to take a group tour of the Curtis Transportation Museum. Webfooter Bill White took photographs of the collection which includes many horse drawn vehicles. The children of the estate are expected to divide and sell the collection. Many of the items are worthy of being at the Smithsonian. Our plan is to go in June or August. The museum is located near Powell & 104th by the old drive-in theater.

Best wishes to Adolphe Colson who continues recovering from illness.

The meeting at Elmer's was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

**The next board meeting will be held on May 18th, 2011 at Elmer's Restaurant at 10001 NE Sandy Boulevard.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Maggie Parypa, Secretary*

Find us on Facebook 

Please join us on Facebook to get reminders about meetings, special collections and to keep in touch. When on Facebook, just do a search for Webfooters PostcardClub.

---

See the full color version of this newsletter at [www.thewebfooters.com](http://www.thewebfooters.com)







**Northwest Collectibles Presents**

**The Largest Antique Paper Shows in the Northwest**

**The Greater Portland  
Postcard, Stamp & Paper  
Collectibles Show**

**The Greater Seattle  
Postcard & Paper  
Collectibles Show**

**May 28 and 29, 2011**

**June 25 and 26, 2011**

**Kliever Armory  
10000 NE 33rd Drive  
Portland, Oregon**

**Kent Commons  
525 4th Avenue N  
Kent, Washington**

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

**Show Hours:**

Saturday: 10 am - 6 pm

Sunday: 10 am - 4 pm

Admission: \$5 (Good for Saturday & Sunday)

**Upcoming Shows:**

Portland Oregon  
at Kliever Armory  
October 22 and 23, 2011

Kent Washington  
at Kent Commons  
February 18 and 19, 2012

**Call or Write:**

Terry Weis  
601 NW 72nd Circle  
Vancouver, WA 98665-8462  
503-679-4755

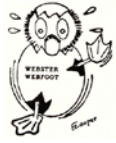
Jeremy LeRoque  
PO Box 217  
Temple City, CA 91780-0217  
626-665-9435



**[www.postcardshows.com](http://www.postcardshows.com)**

**FREE APPRAISALS**

(paid advertisement)



# Club Officers

President/Editor.....	Mark Moore
Vice President.....	Tony Roberts
Secretary.....	Maggie Parypa
Treasurer.....	Arne Soland
Membership Chairman.....	Krissy Durden
Director.....	Irene Adams
Historian.....	Joe Macdonald
Librarian.....	Steve Kuryk



# Calendar

April 15 – Webfooters Auction & Banquet at The Grotto Conference Center  
8840 NE Skidmore near 85th & Sandy – Banquet at 5, Auction at 6:30 pm

April 16-17 – Webfooters Post Card Club Show & Sale at Jackson Armory  
6255 NE Cornfoot Rd – Sat: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Sun: 10 am to 4:00 pm

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

May 21 – Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange  
12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 10:00 am to 3:30 pm

For the latest news, visit our website:



[www.thewebfooters.com](http://www.thewebfooters.com)

Find us on Facebook



## WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB

PO Box 17240  
Portland OR 97217-0240



**MEET KAROLYN “ZUZU” GRIMES AT THE SHOW.**