



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

www.thewebfooters.com

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INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETINGS



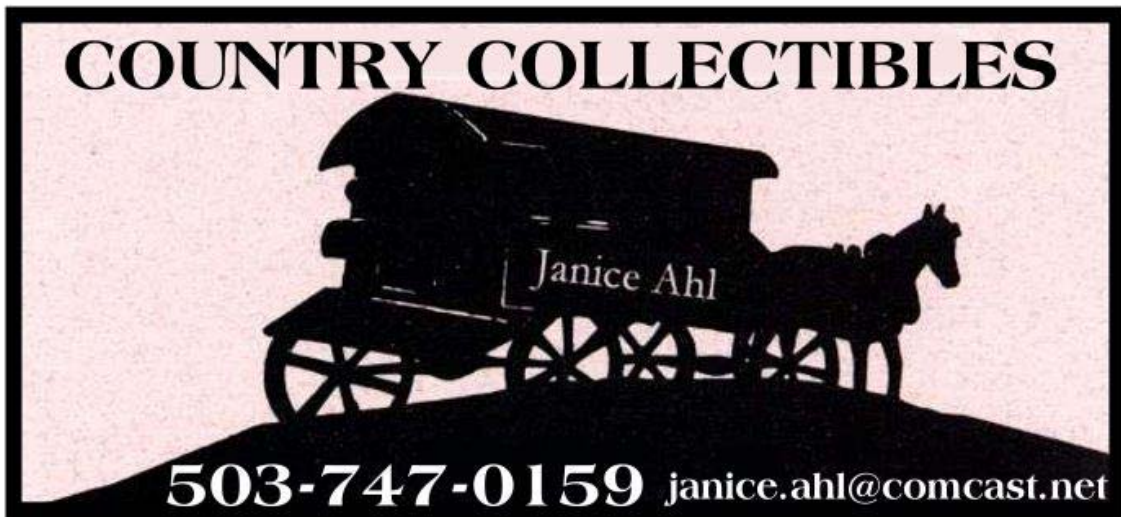
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- ◆ See Remembering Morris Gant by Jocelyn Howells on page 5.
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Next Meeting – June 18, 2011

At Russellville Grange – 12105 NE Prescott Street

10 am to 3:30 pm



Now Located at:

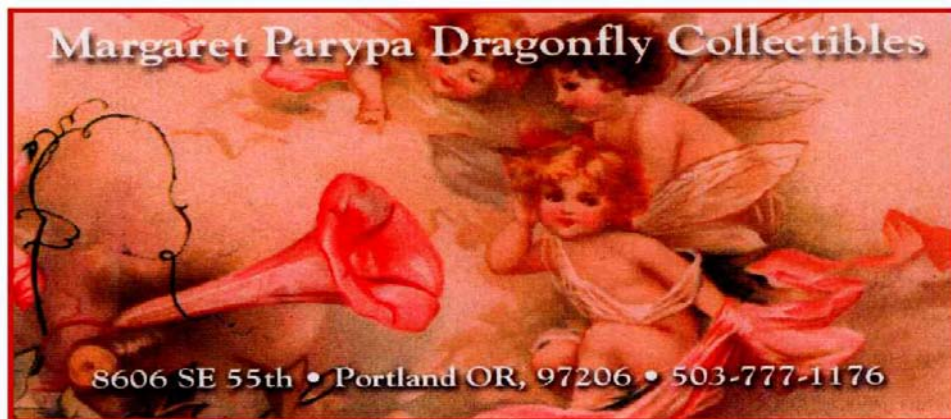
FARMHOUSE ANTIQUES

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Glassware - Depression - Elegant
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See Janice on Tuesdays
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**THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS FOR THEIR
SUPPORT WHICH HELPS OFFSET OUR EXPENSES**

Remembering Morris Gant

Longtime Webfooter no. 309, Morris Gant, was born June 15, 1945 and he passed away on May 8, 2011. He was a big supporter of our events and he will be greatly missed. To learn more about Morris, see Jocelyn Howells' Memories of Morris on page 5.





PATRIOTIC POSTCARDS



Patriotic postcards evoke emotions and feelings that other postcards and ephemera cannot. Patriotic ephemera is known for being very colorful and whimsical. The flag is the rallying call to arms and it can motivate people to take action.





Uncle Sam, flags, firecrackers and cannons were usually found on patriotic postcards.





Two extraordinary Patriotic Postcards created by Ellen Clapsaddle, circa 1910.

Remembering Morris Gant by Jocelyn Howells

Morris was my oldest postcard friend and a friend in the truest sense. Back in the late 1960s I found his name in Deltiology's membership roster. He was then located in Myrtle Creek. On my next trip down that way, I stopped to look him up and found that he was at work teaching. Being a small and friendly town, I was given the school's address, and even the classroom number. I knocked on his door and found that he was in class, so we quickly made an appointment for later that afternoon. We hit it off immediately, had dinner together, and followed by my looking through his cards for sale that evening. That was about 42 years ago.

Since then I came to appreciate his quick wit, sense of humor and intellect. He liked to tease me that he knew Edouard (my late husband) before I did. And that was true. He had visited Edouard's shop in Paris in 1976, while I did not first meet Edouard until 1979 at the Bloomsbury Postcard Fair in London. Morris had been collecting postcards since he was a teenager.

Morris had many meals at our table in Happy Valley. Perhaps the most memorable, though, was the time I invited him to stay for lunch and he decided to check out what was simmering in the big pot on the stove, thinking that was lunch. He was totally shocked and grossed out to find an entire goat's head in there. I had a hard time convincing him to stay for lunch that day. By the way, that was the one and only time I ever cooked a goat, which we bought in its entirety from the producer. Edouard, being French, had a taste for such things and had always wanted to try the goat's head.

Morris was a dealer at the recent Webfooters show. We had some good conversations there when he would wander away from his table, as was his custom. We talked about what he thought was his asthma problem. He had no idea at that time that it was his heart that was in trouble. We had a great parting conversation, and the last thing I said was "I love you, Morris." I had told him that before, but not for a long time. I am so glad I acted on that impulse that day.

I am shocked and saddened to so suddenly lose this friend, who shared a birthday with me. We also shared a love of cats, and Morris entertained me with many funny stories about his cats. Morris' death creates a big void in my life. I will miss him very much.



Mark's Memo



THE MEL BLANC STORY

The Oregon Jewish Museum contacted me recently about helping put together an exhibit honoring Mel Blanc who was the voice of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig, Elmer Fudd, Woody Woodpecker, Road Runner, Barney Rubble and a host of other cartoon characters. But not too many people know that he got his start working in the early days of radio on the air in Portland at KGW and later KEX.

Mel Blank was born in 1911 in San Francisco. In 1915, he moved with his family to Portland, when vaudeville was at its peak. He later changed the spelling of his last name to *Blanc*.



145. PANTAGES THEATRE, PORTLAND, ORE.

Portland's Pantages Theatre as it looked in 1915. Vaudeville acts had been popular in Portland since the 1880s. One of Portland's first theaters, Cordray's Opera House, opened in 1889.

Mel Blanc grew up in Southwest Portland and while attending Lincoln High School, he began working as a musician in the orchestra at the Multnomah Hotel. While there he was invited to join the Hoot Owls program on KGW in 1927.



The nationally famous Hoot Owls, officially known as *"The Order of Hoot Owls Roosting in the Oregonian Tower"* aired from 1923 to 1933 as a 2-1/2 hour variety show that was broadcast to more than one million listeners.

Their slogan soon became "Keep Growing Wiser," whose initial letters represented the KGW call letters. The only other show that rivaled the Hoot Owls in popularity was *Amos & Andy* which first aired in Portland in 1928 on KFEC. Studios were on the fifth floor of Meier & Frank.



KGW Studio in the Oregonian Tower in 1922.

Nicknamed *"The Grand Snicker"* on the Hoot Owls, Blanc became well known for his comedy, as well as his skills as a storyteller, ad-libber, musician, vocalist, and, later, orchestra pit conductor. One of his favorite instruments was the sousaphone.

Mel Blanc left KGW in 1932 and moved to Hollywood where success eluded him. In 1933, Blanc returned to Portland to perform on KGW's sister station KEX in the popular *"Cobwebs and Nuts"* program. In 1935, Blanc moved to Hollywood again to Warner Brothers' station KFVB. Blanc did the voices for his first Warner Brothers cartoon in 1937, "Picador Porky." While working on animated cartoons at Warner Brothers Studios in Southern California, he became known as the most famous voice actor in American cinema.



K G W
HOOT OWL MIDNIGHT ODE

Friends, the midnight hour is at hand, and tomorrow will soon become today. What has gone is done. Each song, or laugh, or jest, far-flung, is on its way to join the ages of the past. Here we stand, the center of a mighty web of golden rays; radiant beams which travel as a thought to countless thousands, to happy homes and cheerful firesides; but as well, to some less fortunately blessed by kindly fate.

And, should any ask us, "Why the Hoot Owls?"

This our answer, "To spread a little sunshine."

And this our earnest prayer:
That to those who laugh, we may send our mirth, to mingle. But to those to whom the past has been most unfair, to those deprived of sunshine, and the joy of living; with each laugh, or song, or jest, we send our blessing. We send our hope that to some pale lips we may have brought a smile, and to others a moment's rest from pain.

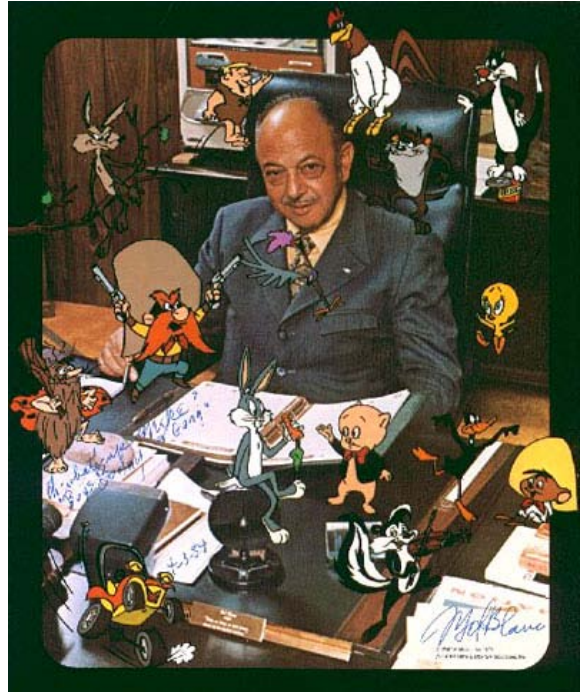
As this day is ending, and another being born, by the symbol of the chimes we voice our hope that tomorrow may be happier than today for friends whose portion has been most hard to bear.

(Chimes).
Today is yesterday, and tomorrow is today.

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During his early years in Portland radio, Blanc laid the foundation for many of his later cartoon voices and comedy routines. While reflecting later in life, Mel Blanc recognized vaudeville as a big influence in those early years. He passed away in 1989.



CROSLEY HEADSET
BETTER - COSTS LESS

The New Crosley 2500 Ohm Headset, embodying all the features of a perfect receiver, was designed to give satisfaction under the most severe operating conditions—that of weak signals. Its sensitivity and matched tonal qualities make it the local Receiver for commercial and amateur use. This headset incorporates beauty, comfort, ruggedness, and lightness, weighing, completely assembled, only 11 or 12 ounces. Bobbins are automatically machine wound, insuring proper number ampere-turns. Balanced windings mean no tone distortion. Several pairs of phones may be connected together without loss of signal strength. These phones are most sensitive on weak signals and free from distortion on loud ones. Permanent magnets are so designed to have correct diaphragm pull in low-loss magnetic field. Headband construction insures comfortable fit. Polished slides not only make a more substantial assembly, but forever cover up unsightly frayed cloth ends. Headband cloth webbing. Shells are of Polished aluminum. All other metal parts heavily nickeled.

CROSLEY HEADSET
BETTER - COSTS LESS

THE CROSLEY RADIO CORPORATION
CINCINNATI OHIO

That's All Folks!!!

You won't want to miss the Mel Blanc exhibit at the Oregon Jewish Museum at 1953 NW Kearney Street in Portland which runs from June 2 through Sept. 11, 2011. (Parking is free in their lot.)

Museum Hours: Tues-Thurs: 10 am – 4 pm
Fri: 10:30 am – 3 pm, Sat & Sun: 12 – 4pm.





Maggie's Minutes



Attending the May 18th, 2011 Webfooters Board Meeting held at Elmer's Restaurant, were: Mark Moore (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 – Treasurer Arne Soland gave a financial report of the accounts. Arne also purchased six months of stamps for The Webfooter from Bridal Veil Post Office. We had a small profit from this year's show and auction and if you would like a complete look at the numbers, let us know.

Report of Standing Committees

Membership – Chair Krissy Durden reported that there are 220 Active Members (100 individual members, 79 Family Members, 34 Patron Members, 6 Honor Members and 1 Charter).

Refreshments – There is a sign-up sheet at the monthly meetings if you can help us. Thank you to Mark Moore for providing bread & beverages and to Terry Weis who contributed 2 chocolate cakes. 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.

New Business

Mark Moore discussed the possibility of a group tour of the Curtis Transportation Collection. Due to expansion of Powell Boulevard, the collection may be disbanded. Several of the items are being pursued by the Smithsonian. It is located at 10177 SE Powell Boulevard. Mark is negotiating for Saturday July 23, 2011 at 4:30 pm. When we receive confirmation, we will let you know. Webfooter Bill White has photographed many of the horse drawn carriages and vehicles.

We were all sad to hear of the death of Morris Gant a long time member and supporter of The Webfooters. He passed away on May 8th following bypass surgery in Eugene. He taught elementary school for 33 years and received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach in England in 1986. He was passionate about history, antiques and gardening. He came up for this year's auction and show and was full of good spirits. He was concerned more about helping others like Adolphe & Donna than he was of himself.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

The next board meeting will be held on July 13th, 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



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

- June 18 – Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange
12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 10:00 am to 3:30 pm
- July 13 – Webfooters Board Meeting at Elmer’s Restaurant (no host)
10001 NE Sandy Blvd – 6:30 pm (Board Meetings held every other month)
- July 16 – 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

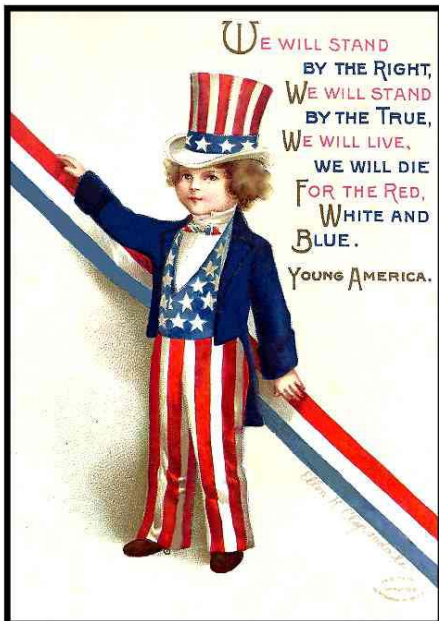
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WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB

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Portland OR 97217-0240

That's All Folks!!!



SEE THE MEL BLANC STORY ON PAGE 6.



SEE PAGE 3 FOR PATRIOTIC POSTCARDS.