



# THE WEBFOOTER

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

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



## Bull Run

### The Town That Time Forgot



Early view of Main Street at Bull Run when the streets were paved with wood planks

## Next Meeting – August 19, 2006

At Russellville Grange - 12105 NE Prescott Street  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

See Page 4 for a Historic Sketch and View of Bull Run

See Page 9 for details about The Webfooters 40th Anniversary Picnic at Bull Run

# Board Meeting Minutes

Present at the July 10, 2006 Webfooters board meeting, held at Elmer's Restaurant, were: Mark Moore (President), Al Powers (Treasurer), David Sell (Membership Chair), Phyllis Palmer (Member-at-Large), Jane Burton (Member-at-Large) and Dave Elston (Secretary). After a call to order at 6:45 PM, the minutes of the May meeting were approved as published. The Secretary wishes to express his thanks to Phyllis Palmer and Mark Moore for filling in for him during his absence at the May board meeting.

Al Powers provided a financial report and he noted that the Washington Mutual CD has a value of \$1,030.80. There was unanimous approval to renew the certificate for one year at the best bank rate.

## **Report of Standing Committees:**

**Membership**-David Sell stated that there had been 1 renewal during the past month. Membership stands at approximately 226 members.

**Website**-Mark reported that there are 2 new pages on the Webfooters website: (1) A listing of other postcard clubs in the northwest: (Spokane, Seattle and Vancouver B.C.) and (2) Information from the "Care of Postcards" presentation given by Glenn and Judith Mason at a regular meeting of the club in November 2005.

A discussion by the board concerning creation of a 'link's page' for members having their own websites and/or sale's venues generally resulted in favor of allowing the listing of such basic links, with the stipulation that these 'linked' members would include a link to the Webfooters on their website.

Discussion took place concerning the possibility of having a separate 'sponsor's page' on the Webfooters site. The result was a decision to have those individuals who may want to pay to have such a link to their business' advertisements on the club site to contact the editor. Revenue from these **paid** links to sponsor's advertisements could cover the monthly cost of maintaining the website.

## **Business Arising from Previous Meetings:**

**Scheduling Issues with Local Events**-Due to club meeting space requirements (with dates being contracted for one year in advance) and the fact that Webfooters meeting dates and times are mandated by the club bylaws, it was agreed that the club could not change meeting days to accommodate other events. It is hoped that in the future any subsequent scheduling of respective meeting and event dates will be more favorable to all of those wanting to fully participate in both of these events.

**Club Cards**-The board reviewed several RPPCs, submitted by Steve Kenney and Mark Moore, for consideration as use for the new Webfooters Club Card. There was unanimous agreement to utilize a real photo of Ralph Eddy's Postcard Shop at Wahkeena Falls. The universal appeal of postcard shop images among collectors and the availability of space for club messages on the card face were both major factors in the decision.

**Membership Cards**-Mark showed the board a sample of a business card size 40th Anniversary Webfooters Membership Card. David Sell will follow up on the cost and size/type of stock available to produce an attractive yet affordable card, which could be sent to all members at minimal cost.

**Expiration Date on Address labels:** Al Powers suggested that membership expiration dates appear on the address labels used on the monthly newsletter. It was determined that this would unduly burden the label preparer in having to continuously update the labeling software. As such, the expiration dates may instead be found in future club rosters.

# Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

**Webfooters Pins**-Phyllis Palmer has not yet had the opportunity to follow up on investigating the availability and cost of an official Webfooters Club Pin.

## **New Business:**

**2007 Club Show**-Al Powers will soon be contacting Roy at the Jackson Armory to sign a contract for use of the facility for the club's next annual postcard show.

**Nominating Committee**-There was a general sense that the current board members attending the board meeting would be willing to serve during the 2007 year, assuming that the membership were to elect them. Any and all club members are asked to consider being on the nominating committee and/or to consider themselves or other members for the November ballot.

**Picnic**-There will be signup sheets at the next club meeting(s) for those interested in attending a 'Farewell to Roslyn Lake Park' - Webfooters special event on September 9th.

Announcing that the next board meeting will be at 6:30 PM on September 11th, at Elmer's Restaurant located at 10001 NE Sandy Boulevard, Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.

**Respectfully submitted, Dave Elston (Secretary)**

**A personal note**-The Secretary expresses his thanks to Jane Burton, Barbara Steinberg and David Sell for their help with 'early setup' (8:45 at Russellville Grange) for the July 15th Webfooters meeting. Due to his having a broken leg, resulting in limited mobility possibly well into the later months of the year, any help in setting up and taking down tables, putting out and putting away club cards, setting up the host table and putting out the kitchen items, vacuuming and sweeping, and generally working with the 'regular crew' (by default) toward fulfilling these needs (during any future months) would be appreciated. Please do your part for the club.

## Club Officers

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



Post cards and photos from the collection of Mark Moore - [www.PdxHistory.com](http://www.PdxHistory.com) unless otherwise noted.

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

# Bull Run

## The Town That Time Forgot



Early view of Bull Run before the streets were paved (Steve Kenney Photo)

There is a chapter in the history of Portland that needs to be told, when the town of Bull Run flourished. Located in the western foothills of Mt. Hood, Bull Run was the source for Portland's pure drinking water as well as one of the main sources of electricity for Portland. In the early days, Bull Run boasted a town that had a Hotel, Gas Station, Grocery Store, Blacksmith and many other amenities that a modern town of the turn-of-the-century boasted of.

It is believed that the original settlement, which was christened Unavilla, was near to the present-day location of the Bull Run School. A post office was established there on May 6, 1893. This was about the time the pristine waters of the Bull Run Watershed were harnessed. An elaborate water purification and delivery system was built to transport this water to the residents of Portland and the surrounding area.

Within a couple years, Bull Run outgrew Unavilla and the post office moved about a mile east to Bull Run on November 22, 1895. There are plateaus above the Bull Run River, on the way to Marmot, where wild cattle ran free, hence the name "Bull Run". The bulls had probably escaped from pioneers who came in Wagon Trains from the East on The Oregon Trail.

Part of The Oregon Trail was known as The Barlow Trail, where wagon trains forged through Marmot, Sandy, Jack Knife (Eagle Creek), Barton and the surrounding areas on their way to Oregon City and the Willamette Valley. A favorite campsite was just east of Marmot at Corral Rock. There are two very large rocks that were formed by molten lava from an early eruption on Mt. Hood. These rocks, which are still there today, were used to keep the Pioneers' cattle in a corral for overnight rest.



By 1908, the need for lights and electricity led to the building of the Bull Run Powerhouse and Roslyn Lake. Roslyn Lake is a man-made reservoir that stores water which is used in power generation. Water for Roslyn Lake is diverted to a concrete canal at the Marmot Dam on the Sandy River. The canal follows the river for about a mile and a half, then the water goes through a tunnel under the Devil's Backbone and into the reservoir behind the Little Sandy Dam on the Little Sandy River.



The wooden flume begins at the Little Sandy Dam and it follows the Little Sandy River till it reaches the Bull Run River. From there, the water goes through another tunnel at the west end of the Devils Backbone, where it empties into Roslyn Lake. Rails were laid on top of the flume and a train was built to service it. They are still being used today. Just over the hill below Roslyn Lake, the Bull Run Powerhouse was built, along the Bull Run River. The Flume Service Car sits atop the flume.



**Mt. Hood Railway and Power Co. Steam Train at Pleasant Home (Steve Kenney Photo)**

The Mt. Hood Railway and Power Company opened a 22-mile steam line from Montavilla to Bull Run in 1911 with 30 stations. Nearly all the stations were located at little towns that sprang up around the streetcar line.

The trains would bring food, provisions, lumber and building supplies to the workers as well as homesteaders along the line. Some of the main stations were at Montavilla (originally Mount Tabor Villa), Russellville, Ascot, Rockwood, Powell Valley, Gillis, Pleasant Home, Cottrell and Mayberry, where the tracks turned south and followed the Sandy River to a long high trestle at Bull Run Park (now known as Dodge Park) and on to the town of Bull Run by the Bull Run Powerhouse. Several of these towns had their own Post Office for a while.

The Portland Railway Light and Power Company acquired the Mt. Hood Railway and Power Company's assets and operating equipment in 1912. They added overhead electric wires above the rails in 1913, and began operating electric streetcars on the renamed Mt. Hood Division. Passenger service continued until December 27, 1930, while freight service continued until November 26, 1932 when declining revenues brought on by the Depression forced the abandonment of the line. The tracks were removed and salvaged from East Gresham to Bull Run.



**Store and Post Office opposite the Power Plant at Bull Run (Steve Kenney Photo)**



Cabins at Bull Run

Bull Run was a company town. Most of its inhabitants lived and worked on City of Portland property in Clackamas County. Many of the workers built dams, powerhouses, lakes and water flumes while others laid huge pipes that carried water to the citizens of Portland.



With the powerhouse under construction, you can see the Tent City at Bull Run to the left where many of the workers lived. In the center, you can see the Covered Bridge.



Bull Run's Club House also served as a hotel

Two historic automobile bridges and a bridge for a water pipe cross the Sandy and Bull Run Rivers. The Bridge over the Sandy River was moved to Bull Run Park in 1926 after serving as the eastern-most span of Portland's Burnside Bridge since 1894. A new, larger Burnside Bridge was built in 1926 and the 32-year-old bridge was moved, piece-by-piece, to Bull Run Park (now Dodge Park), on the Sandy River.

The largest of the three spans was placed over the Sandy River, next to a similarly designed bridge with wrought-iron trim, that was built in 1893 to hold a large pipe carrying Portland's drinking water. Dodge Park was a small destination Amusement Resort that flourished in the summers. It was famous for boating, swimming, picnicking, camping and fishing and a small town grew around it. Several of the old buildings are still there, including the old Bathhouse at the Park. The old Bathhouse was built like a Lodge and it is fairly well preserved. Over half of the building is not open for public use.

Another bridge span that was salvaged from the old Burnside Bridge was moved to the Bull Run River, near the Bull Run Powerhouse. It replaced the aging covered bridge that served the residents of the town of Bull Run, which was across the river, and continues to serve area residents today. The remaining bridge span was sold to the city of Aberdeen, Washington.



**Dignitaries and their spouses at Bull Run on a special run of the ornately decorated private car "Portland"**

Eventually, fewer employees were needed to operate the power and water generation facilities and the town was dismantled. On January 7, 1939, the Post Office was moved to nearby Camp Namanu where it remained until it closed in 1953. One of Oregon's finest camping resorts, Camp Namanu was founded in 1924 and it continues under the direction of Camp Fire USA.

Roslyn Lake was where your editor spent many a summer afternoon as a youngster during Church Camp; it was like an Amusement Resort. Everyday, we would swim, rent boats and play softball. It was a little bit of Heaven on Earth. We usually had picnics there as well, what fun!!!

In 2007, Portland General Electric will stop using the Bull Run Powerhouse. It will be closed and eventually dismantled. The Flume will be destroyed, Roslyn Lake will be drained and a new Housing Community will likely rise in its place. Even the Bull Run School has closed. All traces of the town of Bull Run may be lost forever.

Today the ghosts are all that remain as Bull Run became The Town That Time Forgot.



## Picnic at Bull Run

**When:** Saturday, September 9, 2006 - 10:00 am

**What:** Potluck picnic. Bring a salad, casserole, side dish or dessert. Club to provide Fried/Baked Chicken, hotdogs and beverages.

**Where:** Roslyn Lake Park -- Covered Area #5 which has a stove and a sink. Capacity is 150 persons. Concession stand is open and boats may be rented.

**Why:** Roslyn Lake as well as the Bull Run Powerhouse and Dam will be taken offline next year. Roslyn Lake will be drained and condominiums will rise in its place. The dam will be removed and the Water Flume will be demolished. Roslyn Lake Park will close forever.

**How:** By carpooling, we can share rides and save some on gas for the drive. If you have a van or vehicle that will hold several Webfooters, please let us know or signup at the August 19th meeting.

**Invite your friends and family to this once-in-a-lifetime event.**

**Admission:** A \$3 per vehicle general admission fee is charged for automobiles and motorized bikes on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Pedestrians and weekday traffic may enter without charge.

**Directions:** Roslyn Lake Park is located north of the city of Sandy. Travel east on Highway 26 to Sandy, turn north on Ten Eyck Road, proceed 3.5 miles to Thomas Rd and turn left. Park entrance is just past Bull Run School. Maps will be available at our next meeting.



## Members in the News

Linda Kammerman (member number 1573), and her collection of Patriotic Postcards, was recently featured in the Home and Gardens Section of The Oregonian on July 6, 2006. The article shows some fantastic patriotic cards featuring Uncle Sam, the U.S. flag, 4th of July and other patriotic themes. We need to have Linda display them at a meeting and feature them in a future newsletter article.

Articles and info for the Newsletter are solicited and always welcome. Please contact your editor.



# Calendar

Aug 19 – Webfooter’s Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange  
12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sept 3 – Pacific NW Post Card Club Meeting – Lake City Community Center  
12531 - 28th Ave NE in Seattle – 11:30 am to 5pm

Sept 9 – Webfooter’s 40th Anniversary Picnic at Bull Run – Roslyn Lake Park  
From Sandy take Ten Eyck Rd for 3.5 miles, turn left on Thomas Rd  
Entrance is just past Bull Run School – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sept 9-10 – Greater Seattle Postcard & Paper Show at Kent Commons  
545 - 4th Ave N in Kent, WA – For info: Contact Terry Weis at 503-324-0970

Sept 11 – Webfooter’s Board Meeting at Elmer’s Restaurant (no host)  
10001 NE Sandy Blvd – 6:30 pm (Board Meetings held every other month)

Sept 16 – Webfooter’s Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange  
12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

For the latest news, visit our website:



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

## **WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB**

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