



THE WEBFOOTER

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

Volume 41 - Issue Number 9 - September 2007

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

www.thewebfooters.com



The Whole Can Family appeared after the popular Whole Dam Family series of cards appeared in 1904-1905

Next Meeting – September 15, 2007

At Russellville Grange - 12105 NE Prescott Street

10:00 am to 4:00 pm – Card sales to begin at 10:30

See page 4 for a historical sketch of the Oregon State Fair

See the full color version of this newsletter at www.thewebfooters.com



President's Corner

All I can say is wow!!!. What a great response we had to our call for new members to join the Board. I was overwhelmed to know so many of you care about the future of our Club. We had a really great turnout at our August meeting. It was nice to see some of our regulars returning after a busy summer. Thank you to everyone who offered to help.

Several people commented how they enjoyed being able to visit each table around the room. Unlike going to a post card show, where there simply isn't time to visit each dealer. I am also happy to report that someone who usually says "*I've already got that one*" was able to find some really rare cards at our meeting. It was a very delightful and rewarding day.

Even with operating expenses rising, a doubling in our monthly rent, frequent postal increases and increased costs in general due to inflation, the financial health of our Club is very good. We currently have over \$4,000 in our bank accounts. We are trying not to increase the cost of membership as well as table rentals for dealers at our meetings and shows.

With a little more help on things like refreshments, whether we contribute a little more money or bring additional food items, this will help ease a regular burden on our treasury. The Board has suggested we try to sell more advertising space in our monthly newsletters to try to lessen the costs of publishing the Webfooter every month.

Several people heeded our call to join next year's Board. Our slate of candidates will be announced at our September meeting. Additionally, Steve Bieler stepped forward to take over the Membership Chair position. This position requires a bit of skill with computers to maintain our roster accurately and efficiently. Judy Nagle of Lincoln City volunteered to join the Membership Committee to help call our members who are past due on their annual dues and to remind them their presence is missed at our meetings.

Each of us needs to spread the word about the Club with those who we exchange post cards with and to let others know about the fun of post card collecting. A growing and vibrant Club can help us find more cards that we can add to our collections as we can experience the thrill of filling in the missing pieces in our collections.

On another topic, I want to explore a conversation I had with one of our long-time members at the last meeting. The topic was to what extent does condition play a factor in the value of a card or influence our decision about whether we add it to our collection or not? In years past, people used to say "condition is everything". In today's computerized society, we see by sales on eBay where "condition" doesn't necessarily limit the amount of money people are willing to pay for a particular card.

The card in question was a real photo card of the North Head Lighthouse at Long Beach, Washington. A corner had been broken off, but the image itself was fully intact and otherwise the card was in very good condition. Nearly all of us who scan our post cards and store the digital images in our computers will tell you how we have fixed, corrected or erased many minor flaws and many complex imperfections as well with programs such as Paint Brush or Photo Impact. The modern collector may see the value of the image and overlook the condition of the card.

To those of you who missed it, Dale Nix, member number 1630, was featured in the Home and Gardens section of *The Oregonian* on August 2, 2007 for his collection of post cards and ephemera.

It is my sad duty to report the passing of another Webfooter, member 1144, Lillian Rains.



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

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

October 20 and 21, 2007

Kliever Armory
10000 NE 33rd Drive
Portland, OR

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

October 13 and 14, 2007

Kent Commons
525 4th Avenue North
Kent, WA

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

Early Bird Show Hours:

Saturday: 8 - 10 am
Admission: \$20 (Also good Sunday 10-4)

Regular 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
February 23 and 24, 2008**

**Kent Washington
at Kent Commons
January 26 and 27, 2008**

Call or Write:

Terry Weis
10350 N Vancouver Way, PMB 245
Portland, OR 97217
503-679-4755

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



www.postcardshows.com

FREE APPRAISALS

(paid advertisement)

Oregon State Fair Celebrates 143 Years



First organized in Oregon in 1858, the Oregon State Fair has become an Oregon Family tradition. Families come from all over the state to take in great shows, breath-taking rides, a midway with all the hot dogs and cotton candy a kid could want and over 26,000 exhibits including animal and agricultural contests.

Fairs originated with the ancient tribes who would gather to exchange fruits and produce as well as hand-made goods. The places where they gathered were considered holy and the gods would punish anyone caught fighting or cheating. As early as 1000 B.C., Phoenician caravans brought goods to Mecca. Early fairs were held in Egypt, Greece and Ireland which featured religious ceremonies and trading opportunities. During the Middle Ages, great trade fairs in China, France, Russia and England facilitated the exchange of European and Asian goods and the fruits of their labor.



View of the Fair in 1908

The first fair to be held in the U.S. was sponsored by an agricultural society in Massachusetts in 1816. Fairs soon spread across the country and many of them centered around agriculture. The fairs made it possible for the farmers to market the crops they harvested and to exchange goods and information.

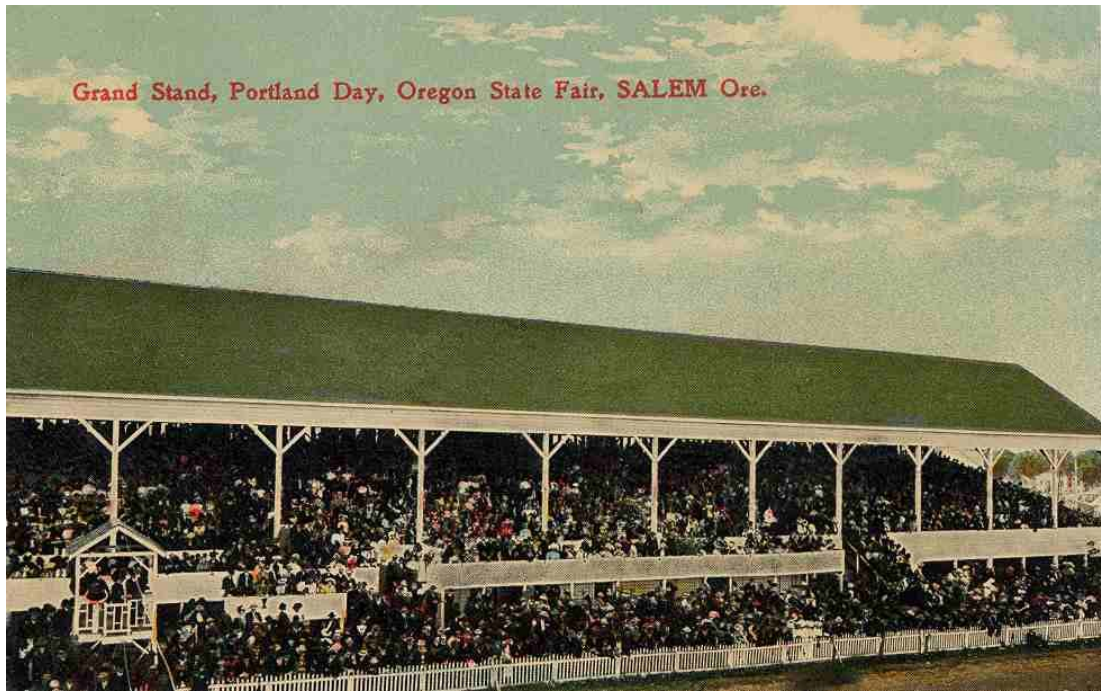
Agriculture was of great importance to settlers in the Oregon Territory. As the region grew and developed in the mid-1800's, residents formed agricultural societies to discuss farming methods and ways to turn their bountiful harvests into a profit-making enterprise. The farmers began organizing local county fairs and Yamhill County hosted the first County Fair in Oregon in 1854.

A newspaper called *The Oregon Farmer* and other agricultural organizations suggested that Oregon should have a State Fair. A group of farmers, who called themselves the *Oregon Fruitgrowers Association*, began organizing a State Fair and they had a gathering in 1858 that is considered the first unofficial *Oregon State Fair*.



In 1860, the fruit growers joined the efforts of the county agricultural societies to become the Oregon State Agricultural Society and they tried to obtain funding for prize money given away to contest winners. Unfortunately, the State Legislature which was comprised of 28 farmers of the 50-member body, denied their request.

After more successful efforts to obtain funding the following year, the State Agricultural Society hosted the first Official State Fair on October 1-3, 1861. The event was held on a four-acre site along the Clackamas River in Gladstone and Oregon City. The Fair, with its magnificent equestrian events and horse racing proved to be a smashing success.



Grand Stand, Portland Day, Oregon State Fair, SALEM Ore.

The fair was so well attended that a larger space became necessary. The State Agricultural Society accepted proposals from the smaller county agricultural societies who wanted to host the State Fair. The Marion County Agricultural Society, which hosted the Marion County Fair, submitted the best proposal and the State Fair was relocated to the 50-acre lot in Salem that was home to the Marion County Fair.

The second State Fair was held in Salem the following year at the same location where it has been held ever since. The Fair expanded with new activities and attractions which complemented the popular displays of livestock, fruits and vegetables. There were quilters, canners and bakers all offering their best for the competitions.



Neck to Neck finish in the 2:23 trot, Oregon State Fair, SALEM, Ore.

Quickly growing in popularity, more land was acquired so the fair could accommodate the increasing number of visitors, participants and animals. A new transportation system connecting Portland and Salem by rail opened in 1866 which came within several hundred feet of the Fairgrounds. Many more fairgoers were able to ride the trains to and from the fair. By 1870, the Fairgrounds was close to its current 185 acres.

In 1877, fairgoers got a first-hand look at the newly invented phonograph and the telephone which were invented by Alexander Graham Bell. Electricity finally came to the fair in 1900 and four years later the fair held its first automobile display.



Fruit Pyramid at the Fair in 1908

Since Portland celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Lewis & Clark Expedition with an Exposition and World's Fair in 1905, organizers of the Oregon State Fair cancelled the fair that year. Visitors to the State Fair in 1910 got an up-close look at Orville & Wilbur Wright's famous flying machine which made that historic flight over Kitty Hawk in 1904. During World War II, no fair was held from 1942 to 1945.

Board Meeting Minutes

The attendees at the August 16, 2007 Webfooters board meeting, held at Elmer's restaurant, were: Mark Moore (President), Arne Soland (Treasurer), Phyllis Palmer (Member-at-Large), David Sell (Membership Chair), and Dave Elston (Secretary). After a call to order at 6:55 PM the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published.

Financial Report— Arne reported that as of August 15, the checking account balance stood at \$2,148.58. He also indicated that the 11-month CD had a balance of \$1,088 and it would be coming due on the 18th of August. The board voted to have him renew the CD at the best rate available at Washington Mutual.

Report of Standing Committees

Membership—David Sell reported that membership is holding steady at 220 active members, with 9 of those members behind in their dues for 3-5 months. The membership is made up of: 100 individual, 86 family, 26 patron, 5 honorary and 2 charter memberships. Mark gave a list of members to David to be dropped from the 'active' list and to follow-up for renewal.

Refreshments—Though the refreshment signup sheet remains full for 2007, it was noted that donations at the Saturday meetings usually only pay for 1/2 or less of the cost to the club for the food and beverages. As there are 'no free lunches,' and with the fact in mind that members dues just cover the monthly newsletter and meeting place rent, it is hoped that partaking members will be a bit more generous in putting more \$ into the highly visible donation can adjacent the foodstuffs. The possibility of returning to the former practice when the Club did not provide food and members brought 'something' to share at the meetings was discussed.

Auction/Show—Mark presented a financial report on the 2007 Auction and Show. There was a profit of \$979.04, which will be available in the show account as expenses for the 2008 auction and sale come up. Imminent expenses include the printing of new show advertising cards and a deposit on rental of the Armory. Ideas for trimming some of the show and auction expenses, including utilizing more targeted advertising methods, were discussed.

Business Arising From Previous Meetings

Membership Cards—Membership cards have been ordered and David Sell indicated that before he leaves office he intends that every member have a personal membership card in hand.

Picnic—The idea of having a picnic has been tabled until such time as more interest is shown by a significant number of members in working towards holding such a festive social gathering.

Ads for Newsletter and Website—Phyllis offered to make up a graph indicating fees to charge for the placement of Ads in the newsletter over various lengths of time. All board members gave input as to what the charges should be for full, half and quarter page ads as well as business card size ads. The latter would contain either classifieds (lines of text) or be a display type ad (reproduction of a business card). The board will finalize the options and fees very soon. Arne will look into the possibility of having links to the Webfooters placed on various other postcard-related websites.

Board Meeting Minutes continued

Nominating Committee—In the absence of a nominating committee, each retiring board member was encouraged to find his own replacement. Please read the President's corner in the August newsletter and contact any board member with your preferences for the office that you or someone you know would be willing to be nominated for.

20-cent Club Cards—The recent expenditure for new 20-cent club cards has resulted in a return of \$120 on the \$300 expenditure, after the one day of availability to attendees of the July meeting. There are plenty of cards to peruse that have not been overly pawed through for many years.

Hospitality/Name Tags—The need to have someone act as greeter at the Club meetings is evident. Such person would make nonmembers as well as members feel welcome at the meetings and see that individuals signed-in and utilized and returned the nametags provided for them at the hospitality table. Here is another opportunity to help the Club.

Grange Rent Increase—The doubling of rent at Russellville Grange has resulted in one major step towards building rehabilitation. Mark reported that new windows have been installed at the Grange.

New Business

Program for November Meeting—After having informative and enjoyable programs at the previous 2 November meetings, ideas for topics are being sought. Please be sure that your ideas and preferences are known.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next board meeting will be held on October 17.

Respectfully submitted, David Elston, Secretary of The Webfooters Post Card Club

Webfooter Advertising Rates

<u>AD Size</u>	<u>1 Month</u>	<u>6 Months</u>	<u>1 Year</u>
Full Page	\$25	\$120	\$180
Half Page	\$15	\$60	\$100
Qtr Page	\$10	\$40	\$70
Bus. Card	\$5	\$20	\$35



Club Officers

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



Calendar

September 15 – Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange
 12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

October 17 – Webfooters Board Meeting at Elmer’s Restaurant (no host)
 10001 NE Sandy Blvd – 6:30 pm (Board Meetings held every other month)

October 20 – Webfooters 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



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PO Box 17240
 Portland OR 97217-0240