



THE WEBFOOTER

**SINCE 1966 - THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB IN PORTLAND, OREGON**

“Every subject known to man can be found on a post card” – Club Motto

www.thewebfooters.com

Volume 43

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September 2009

Historic Sellwood



Sellwood Transfer Company delivering milk on a snowy day in Sellwood circa 1909.

- ◆ Remembering Historic Sellwood on Page 4.
- ◆ New Members on Page 9.

Next Meeting – September 19, 2009

At Russellville Grange – 12105 NE Prescott Street

10 am to 3:30 pm

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Upcoming Shows:

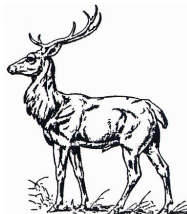
Portland, Oregon
at Kliever Armory
February 27 and 28, 2010

Kent, Washington
at Kent Commons
February 20 and 21, 2010

Call or Write:

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(paid advertisement)



Historic Sellwood

By Mark Moore

In May 1882, a real estate company purchased 321 acres from the Rev. John Sellwood, a pioneer Episcopal minister. He was born in England and later served a ministry in Illinois before moving to Oregon. The town of “Sellwood” was incorporated in 1883 above the east bank of the Willamette River, about five miles south of Portland. To attract potential home buyers, the Sellwood Real Estate Company provided a free passenger ferry from downtown Portland to Umatilla Street.



Sellwood Ferry in 1909.

A post office was established at Sellwood in 1883. Ten years later in 1893, Sellwood was annexed into the City of Portland. The previous year, the nation’s first interurban line ran south from Portland, first to Sellwood and Golf Junction, past Garthwick, then on to Milwaukie and Oregon City.

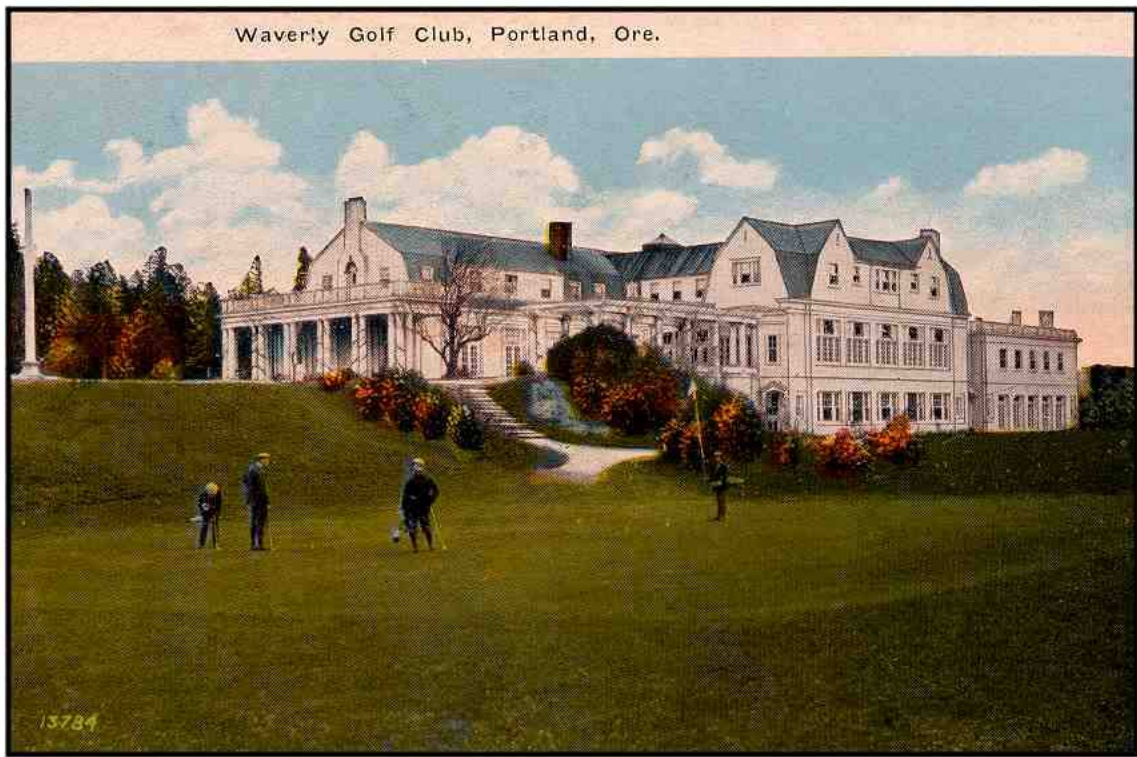


Early view of an interurban car at Golf Junction.

Opposite Golf Junction, the 180-acre Waverly Golf Links, owned by Waverly Golf Club, was one of the largest tracts of land in the country devoted to the sport of golf. Sellwood was home to mill workers and the crews who operated and maintained the streetcars and their families.



Entrance to Waverly Golf Links.



Waverly Country Club and Golf Links.



Early days in Sellwood before 13th Street was paved [Stephen Kenney Collection].

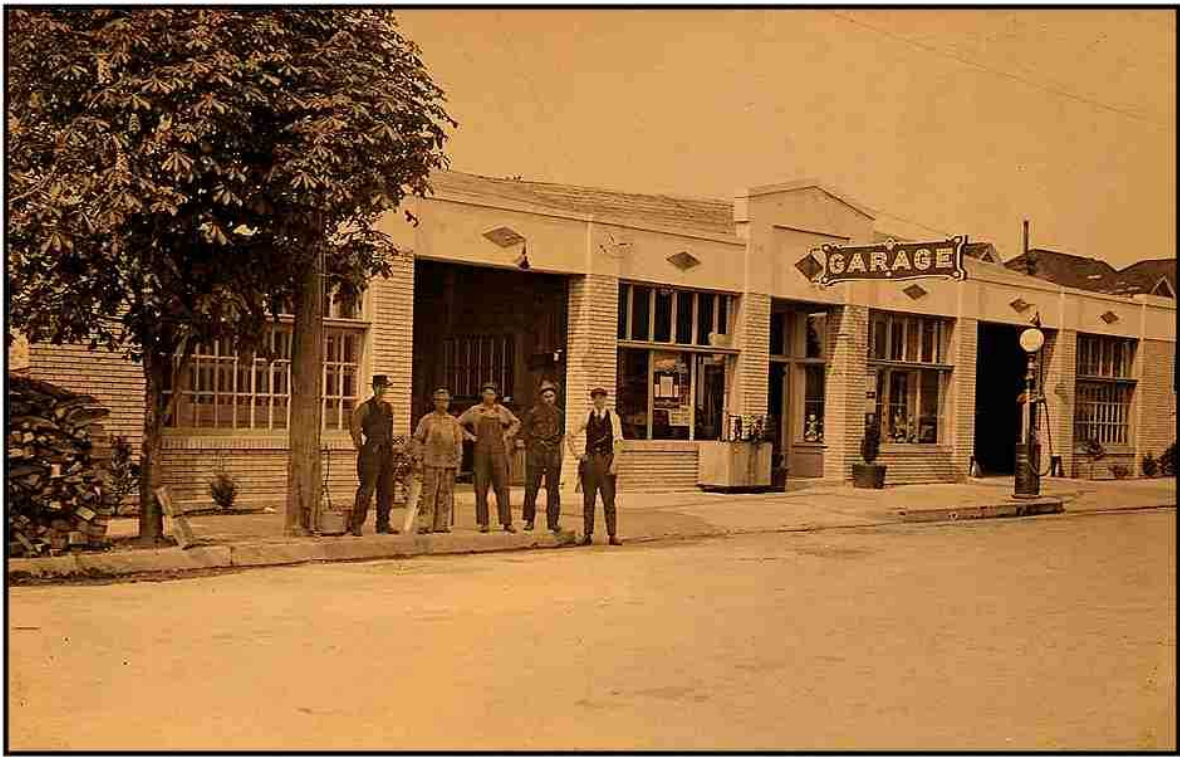
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Getting goods and supplies to and from the rail depots was the job of Sellwood Transfer Company with offices at 531 Umatilla Street [Stephen Kenney Collection].



Early view of the Bank of Sellwood on 13th Street [Stephen Kenney Collection].



The crew at Sellwood Garage on 13th Street [Stephen Kenney Collection].



The Sellwood Car House was the hub of activity in Sellwood.

The Sellwood Car House, which stood until November 2003, was Portland's largest car barn. The line from Portland to Oregon City was the first true electric railroad in the world. It was built to steam railroad standards and it carried both passengers and freight.



Interior view showing the crew at the Sellwood Car House.

The Sellwood Line served the working class families of early Portland and a branch line was added to nearby Eastmoreland, a neighborhood made up of middle-income homes established in 1912 by the Ladd Estate Company. The residents of Sellwood benefitted greatly from the large number of trippers (rush hour add-ons) and regular trains that went to and from Mt. Scott, Hawthorne, Richmond and Woodstock. All of them would start and end at the Sellwood Car House.

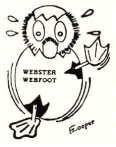
The line ran from Hawthorne Street in Portland to Sellwood's City View Park (a popular horse track near the present-day Sellwood Park) and it transported its first passengers in June of 1892. It remained an interurban line until the newly opened river route took the big cars off the streets in August of 1904.

The Sellwood Line was the only City Line to have been an interurban first (1893-1903), the first line to serve a mausoleum with a spur track for a funeral car and it had the distinction of having been involved in a murder mystery (the Wanas Case of Dec. 31, 1908).



Roster Additions Welcome to our new members!

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|---|
| Holstrom Marilyn | 1767 | Gresham, OR |
| | Collects: | Small city aerials; recipes; airports; college stadiums; National Parks; colleges/universities; legends; facts; die-cuts; cutouts |
| Kissee Sam | 1768 | Chico, CA |
| | Collects: | 1950-60s restaurants and motels |



Club Officers

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



Calendar

September 16 – Webfooters Board Meeting at Elmer’s Restaurant (no host)
10001 NE Sandy Blvd – 6:30 pm (Board Meetings held every other month)

September 19 – Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange
12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 10:00 am to 3:30 pm

October 17 – Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange
12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 10:00 am to 3:30 pm

November 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



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PO Box 17240
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