



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

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Our Next Meeting – Feb. 15, 2020

Russellville Grange – 12105 NE Prescott Street

9:30 am to 1:30 pm – Antique Paper Sale at Every Meeting

Tillamook County Resort Towns

Lake Lytle -- Twixt Lake and Ocean

by Steve King



Postcard view of the depot at Lake Lytle circa 1913 from the Larry Maddux Collection.



CAROLE'S COLUMN



Webfooters Board Meeting January 15, 2020, at Elmer's Restaurant

P Mark Moore
E Terry Weis

P Ken Reis
P Carole Bess White

P Arne Soland
Guest—Les White

FINANCIAL REPORT \$761.04 in the Checking Account; \$4,248.86 in the Show Account; and \$75.00 in the PayPal Account. Total \$5,084.90. Ken moved and Carole seconded that the financial report be accepted; passed.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP We have 186 members.

REFRESHMENTS Thanks to Philip Austin for providing refreshments for the January meeting. Volunteers needed for most of 2020. Please consider bringing refreshments. We reimburse up to \$40.

SHOW/AUCTION/BANQUET The Show is all set and advertising cards are available for distribution. The Auction is our most important fundraising event of the year and it provides the money that is needed to cover the gap between what the dues cover and increasing expenses for our rent and newsletters. Our members have been very generous over the years in donating items for our auctions. Even though we are getting a later start than normal, now is the time to get your donations of high quality postcards and antique paper items to us. Contact your board members or Dave Elston to get your donations in by the end of March.

Respectfully submitted, Carole Bess White, Secretary

**NEXT BOARD MEETING MARCH 18 AT NOON
AT ELMER'S RESTAURANT, 9660 SE STARK ST, NEAR MALL 205**



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(paid advertising)

Tillamook County Resort Towns

Lake Lytle - Twixt Lake and Ocean

by Steve King



Close-up view of the Pacific Railway & Navigation Company depot and Post Office at Lake Lytle, circa 1913. Photo courtesy of the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum.

Lake Lytle is among the five post offices that were established on Garibaldi Beach (now known as Rockaway Beach). The beach stretches seven miles from Tillamook Bay to Nehalem Bay, and also included the post offices at Twin Rocks, Bar View, Manhattan Beach and Rockaway Beach. With the building of the railroad it became a premier destination for vacationers from Portland and the Willamette Valley. Today the area has many permanent as well as second homes. Lake Lytle is located between Rockaway Beach to the south and Manhattan Beach to the north. The original development was centered around 9th Avenue.

The Lake Lytle townsite was developed from portions of several original homesteads by Elmer Lytle and several partners. A town plat was filed in 1909. A 60-foot wide right-of-way was deeded to the Pacific Railway & Navigation Co. (PR&N).

Elmer and Charles Lytle began construction of the PR&N railroad in 1906 in Hillsboro, the eastern terminus, and in Tillamook, the western terminus. The first through train went from Hillsboro to Tillamook on October 9, 1911. With the completion of the railroad, Garibaldi Beach experienced a wave of migration that resulted in the development of many new communities along the rail line.

To accommodate the surge of visitors expected at Lake Lytle, a small flag-stop depot was erected. The Lake Lytle post office opened in the depot on August 9, 1913 with Clarence A. Austin serving as postmaster.

A large hotel, four stories high with 43 rooms, eight baths and a beautiful dining room was completed in 1912. It was called the Outlook Inn.



✂ ——— ✂ **OUTLOOK INN** ——— ✂

LAKE LYTLE BEACH, OREGON
(P. O. ROCKAWAY, OREGON)
OPEN ALL THE YEAR

We've got a chair we'd
like to spare,
A room, a welcome and
good fare.
We only wait to know
the date,
That we may meet you at
the gate.

Advertising card for the Outlook Inn circa 1913. Photo courtesy of Joe Macdonald.



Postcard showing Elmer & Lizzie Lytle's home across from the depot.

In 1914 Elmer Lytle became the sole owner of the townsite by buying out the other interests. He commissioned an agent to sell the remaining lots. It was expected the community would grow quickly and be a destination for beach vacations. But development beyond the railroad stop and the hotel never occurred.

Aside from the rail stop, there was no good way to get to Lake Lytle. There was no Highway 101, not even street access from Rockaway. Visitors by rail either stopped at Manhattan Beach to the north, or passed through Lake Lytle to get to Rockaway (one mile), Twin Rocks (two and a half miles), or Bar View (four miles). With few visitors, the Outlook Inn soon fell on hard times. Reflecting the lack of customers, the Lake Lytle post office was closed after only nine months of operation, on May 15, 1914.

Elmer Lytle sold his railroad to the Southern Pacific in 1915. He then disposed of his interest in the Lake Lytle development in 1916. But he liked Lake Lytle. Elmer and his wife Lizzie had a home across from the depot, and Elmer lived there until he died May 3, 1941 at age 80.

In 1921 George and Helen Watt purchased the hotel, remodeled it and renamed it the Lake Lytle Hotel.



Postcard view of the Lake Lytle Hotel, circa 1921.

An undated message on the back of the real photo post card above provides a glimpse into one guest's exciting stay at the hotel:

Friend Edna: ... I notice the ocean here is just as close to the shore as elsewhere. It is very peaceful and quiet here so much that it makes me weary just to endure it. I have met several Portlanders that I know.

Yours truly, C.A.B.

In 1935 George and Helen Watts sold the hotel. During World War II the hotel accommodated military personnel doing coastal guard duty. The hotel was later razed.

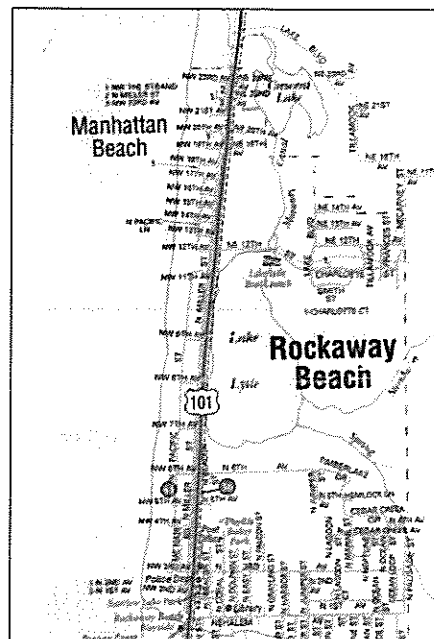
The Lake Lytle townsite was annexed into the city of Rockaway Beach in the 1970s. Now the ridge between the railroad tracks and ocean is fully developed with houses, mostly vacation homes, and a motel. Highway 101 passes through it, and it is hard to discern Lake Lytle as a distinct community.

No genuine postmarks are known to exist from the nine months the Lake Lytle post office operated. But fakes do exist, so be very wary in purchasing a Lake Lytle cancel. Some postal historians question whether the Lake Lytle post office was ever open.



Postcard view of the Lake Lytle Hotel from the south, circa 1923.

This article was adapted from an article written by Steve King for the Winter 2017-2018 issue of *The Oregon Country*, which is published four times a year by the Pacific Northwest Postal History Society. The author wishes to thank the following Webfooters who loaned photos used in this article: Joe Macdonald and Larry Maddux. Thanks also to the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum.



Map of the north part of Rockaway Beach showing the Lake Lytle subdivision.
Courtesy of City of Rockaway Beach.



President/Editor.....Mark Moore
 Vice President.....Terry Weis
 Secretary.....Carole Bess White
 Treasurer.....Arne Soland
 Member-at-Large.....Ken Reis

CALENDAR

Feb. 15 – Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange
 12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

March 18 – Webfooters Board Meeting at Elmer’s Restaurant (no host)
 9660 SE Stark St – 12:00 noon (Board meetings held every other month)

March 21 – Webfooters Post Card Club Meeting at Russellville Grange
 12105 NE Prescott St near 122nd & Sandy Blvd – 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

LUNCH VOLUNTEERS

FEBRUARY NEED A VOLUNTEER	MARCH TOM RANKIN	MAY NEED A VOLUNTEER
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WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB

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Tillamook County Resort Towns – Lake Lytle, Twixt Lake & Ocean – see page 3.
 Carole’s Column – Meeting Minutes – see page 2.

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