

I had used this striking Stayton area postcard photo from from an unidentified internet source. The newspaper clipping below was just shown me today. Many of these postcards were probably printed, but thanks to Norman Rauscher this one now has a story. Mrs. Rauscher today told me that the article below contains all that they know about their card. Let me know if you know more. Thanks,
Henry Strobel , August 12, 2014

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Century old postcard sparks intrigue

By Justin Much

Stayton Mail July 16, 2014

Norm Rauscher of Aumsville recently discovered an intriguing postcard of historical note while perusing family photos.

The postmark date on the back is Stayton, Feb. 26, 3 p.m. with the year likely 1913, though possibly 1918. The card's photo is that of a 62.5 pound black bear, and the caption on the front reads "Killed Oct. 17 near Stayton, Ore."

"Thought the attached postcard might provoke an interesting story — like does anybody know anything about the background on where the bear was killed and the people in the picture," Rauscher mused.

The postcard was sent to Rauscher's father, Frank (Henry) Rauscher. Norm Rauscher said about 30 years ago an old-timer blacksmith named Henry Muchler tentatively identified the people (left to right) as: Bud Davie, Tony Laux, Art Elder, Bert Neal, Tom Riggs and John Willing.

"I think the postcard was sent by an Andrew Rauscher, cousin of Henry. It is hard to translate the writing," said Norm Rauscher, who did give the deciphering a go:

".. .For I am in a hurry. Dear Cousin Franky. How are you making it now days. I heard about you was sick ... hard when you are going to work in the saw mill. Dad went to Portland to get a team of jackasses with long ears and short tails. Your ever loving friend Andrew."

Rauscher said his father, Henry, entered World War I in France in 1917 before returning and marrying Clara Dozier. They built a gas station amid the Sublimity business district. Henry Rauscher died in 1937.