



# Bull Run Dispatch

Newsletter of the Portland Water Bureau

Randy Leonard, Commissioner • David G. Shaff, Administrator

**The Man Behind**

**Elk Fountain**



Between the two Plaza Blocks, Main Street curves around a huge elk fountain given to the city by former Portland mayor and civic leader, David P. Thompson.

Thompson served in the Oregon State Legislature and was twice elected Mayor of Portland, once in 1879 and again in 1881.

Roland Hinton Perry, whose work adorns the Library of Congress and the dome of the Pennsylvania state capitol, created the bronze statue to commemorate elk that once grazed nearby.

Many have tried to have Thompson's elk removed because it can be considered a traffic obstacle, but the elk statue remains. In 1974, Thompson's elk and the Plaza Blocks were designated as Historic Landmarks.

## 2nd Annual Limerick Contest!

There Once Was an Elk from Nantucket...

That's right folks, it's that time of year again, our second annual Water Bureau Limerick Contest! Last year's assignment was to write a little ditty about our world famous Benson Bubblers. Marion Gaylord in the Revenue Bureau took top prize with:

*There once was a burgher named Benson,  
A generous giver, and then some.  
For quenching one's thirst,  
His "bubblers" rank first,  
With Portlanders, aged and winsome!*

This year will be more of a challenge. "The Elk" fountain right here in downtown Stumptown is the designated topic.

Contest Rules

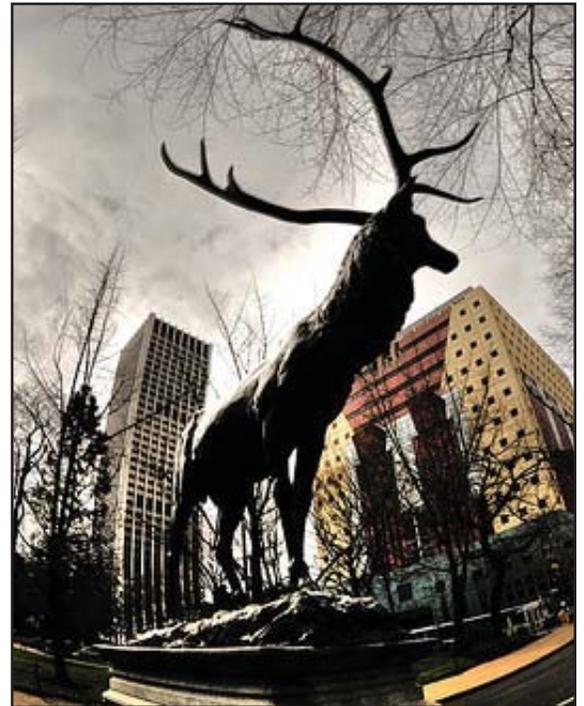
1. Entries must abide by standard limerick form (five lines, AABBA rhyme scheme). I was kind of lax about this last year, but no more Mr. Nice Guy. Follow the form or get your own contest!
2. All submissions should be original (not previously published);
3. Meet the deadline: March 21, 5pm.
4. Contest open to anyone and everyone.
5. One entry per person.

The winner will be announced in the March 27th edition of DISPATCH. All entries will be published in DISPATCH and on the Water Blog. The winner will receive a framed photo of the Elk Fountain and will go down in history as the 2008 Water Bureau Limerick winner!

Last year's contest was a huge hit - both among employees and the public and resulted in our being noticed by The Oregonian. I may even ask them to pick a favorite as well.

Send your contest entries by e-mail to Sarah Bott [sbott@ci.water.portland.or.us](mailto:sbott@ci.water.portland.or.us).

Have fun and enjoy.



Here's what our ignoble Outreach staff has come up with so far. I only hope that you can do better! If you think you can, get out your pen!

*Our noble Elk Fountain, so grand  
And not just sitting there, you know, he was planned  
Between two city squares  
He observes the affairs  
Of our city, on his island of land*

*David G. Shaff*  
Administrator

## Decorative Fountains

The Portland Water Bureau maintains 19 decorative fountains in downtown Portland. The fountains are historic sites as well as places to meet people, watch people, and to cool on hot summer days.

- McCoy Fountain
- Jamison Square Fountain
- Holladay Park Fountain
- Skidmore Fountain
- Elk Fountain
- Salmon Street Springs
- Dreamer
- Ira Keller Fountain
- Lovejoy Fountain
- Chimney Fountain
- Car Wash
- Animals in Pools
- Kelly Fountain
- Bath Tub
- Pioneer Courthouse Square Waterfall
- Shemanski Fountain
- O'Bryant Square Fountain
- Commonwealth Fountain
- Rose Petal Fountain

# QUIZ!

## TEST YOUR FOUNTAIN KNOWLEDGE!

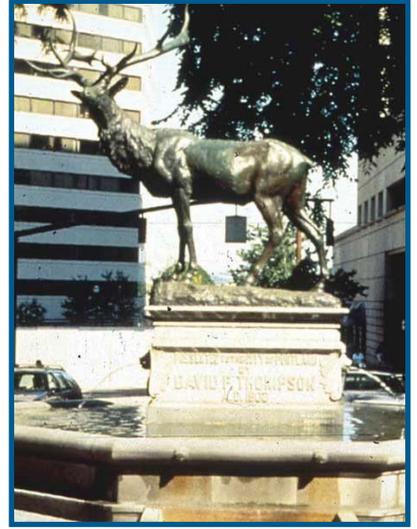
Match the fountains from the *list to the left* with the *photos of the fountains below*. Keep track of how many you guess correctly. No cheating or peeking at the answers!



Holliday Fountain



Jamison Square



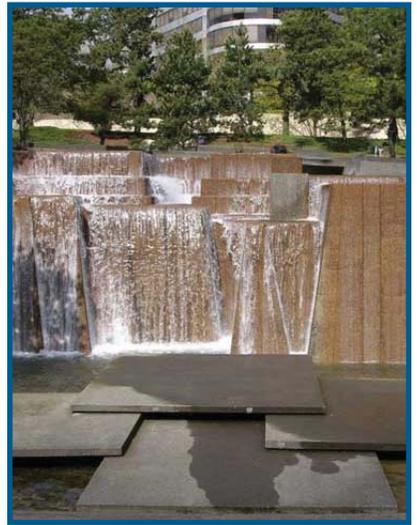
Elk Fountain



Salmon Street Springs



McCoy Fountain



Ira Keller Forecourt Fountain



Lovejoy Fountain



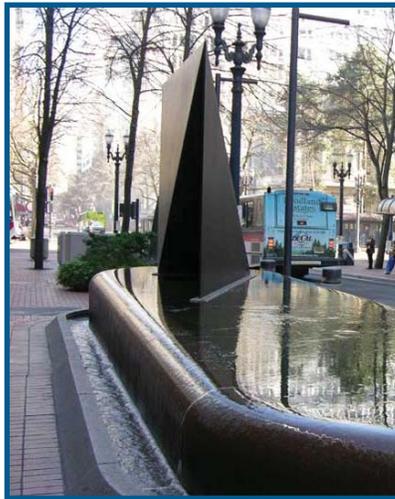
Skidmore Fountain



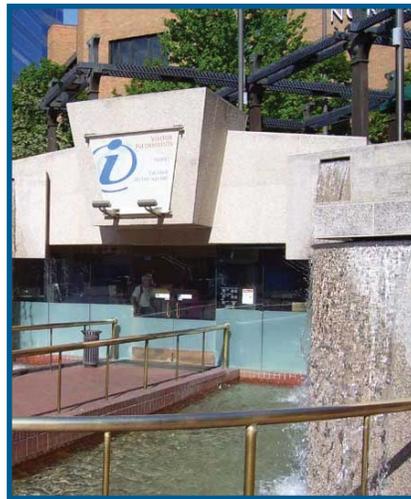
The Dreamer Fountain



Kelly Fountain



Bath Tub



Pioneer Courthouse Square Waterfall

# Fountain Man



Keeping Portland's decorative fountains maintained in good working order is no small task. It's actually a *lot* of tasks.

Operating Engineer **John Bee** is assigned to fountain maintenance and operations. He cleans them. He grabs water samples and takes them to the BES lab to test for coliforms in the water. He empties the fountain pools, refills them, and rechlorinates them whenever needed.

Most decorative fountains operate spring through fall from 6:30 am to 8 pm. The next time you find yourself looking fondly at one of them, thank our very own Fountain Man, John Bee.

Learn all about our fountains on the Water Bureau Web Site, including history of fountains, architectural details, and more!

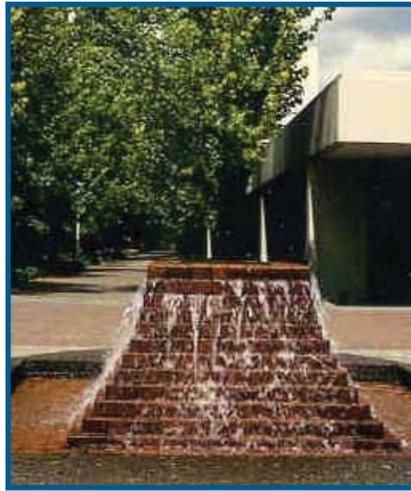
[portlandonline.com/water](http://portlandonline.com/water)



Car Wash Fountain



Animals in Pools



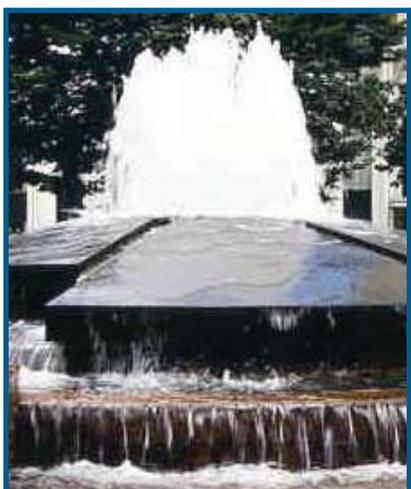
Chimney Fountain



Shemansky Fountain



Commonwealth Fountain



Bryant Square

## Your Score:

**19-15 correct** You are a decorative fountain savant! You should consider going to work as an apprentice for John Bee.

**14-10 correct** That's a pretty good start, but don't rest on your laurels. Make sure to sign up for Field Day this year to take an interactive walking tour of the fountains so you'll score better next time.

**9-5 correct** Go directly to the Water Bureau Web Site and start studying up on fountains if you ever want to amount to anything in this organization.

**4-0 correct** I think we should consider seeing other bureaus.



Rose Petal



## BULL RUN WATER

*From forest to faucet, the  
PORTLAND WATER BUREAU  
delivers the best drinking water  
in the world.*

To commemorate World Water Day, patrons at some Portland restaurants are invited to donate \$1 for the tap water usually served for free. The funds collected will support UNICEF water programs, which provide safe drinking water for children around the world.

The Portland Water Bureau is partnering with UNICEF and Wieden + Kennedy to promote this event, and also to educate Portlanders about the quality of our tap water versus bottled water.

Dine at any of the following restaurants between March 16 - March 22 to participate.

# The Tap Project

## During World Water Week, Portland Tap Water is the House Special!

Blueplate Soda Fountain  
Clarklewis  
Daily Grill, Portland  
Gilt Club  
Half and Half Cafe  
Isabel  
Kenny & Zuke's Delicatessen  
Le Pigeon  
Pazzo  
Red Star  
Saucebox  
Saucebox  
Simpatica Dining Hall  
Veritable Quandary  
Vino Paradiso Wine Bar & Bistro  
Acorn Cafe  
Basta's Trattoria  
Biwa  
Bluehour  
Carlyle  
EAST INDIA CO. GRILL & BAR  
Masu Sushi  
Nostrana  
Paley's Place Bistro & Bar  
Piazza Italia  
Pinocchio bar and restaurant  
Toro Bravo  
andina  
bay 13  
¿Por Qué No?  
23Hoyt Restaurant & Bar  
Acadia Bistro

Besaw's  
Meriwether's Restaurant  
Navarre  
Noble Rot  
Savoy Tavern & Bistro  
Screen Door Restaurant  
Tabla Mediterranean Bistro  
Vindalho  
Wildwood Restaurant and Bar  
broder  
dove vivi  
il piatto  
nuestra cocina  
3 Doors Down Cafe & Lounge  
Apizza Scholls  
Arleta Library Bakery Cafe  
Cava  
Francis Restaurant  
Iron Horse Restaurant  
Lauro Kitchen  
Los Dos Hermanos  
Mill Creek Station & Catering  
Podnah's Pit BBQ  
Pok Pok  
ROUX  
Salty's on the Columbia  
Seven Virtues Coffeehouse  
Steam Heat Coffee House

*For additional information or to check for updates to the list of participating restaurants, visit [www.tapproject.org](http://www.tapproject.org)*

## Water Bureau Addresses

# Climate Change

On February 26th, a group of water utilities from all over the nation, announced the formation of the Water Utility Climate Alliance (WUCA).

The impacts of climate change on the United States, particularly in the West, are likely to be significant. Providing leadership in understanding these impacts, adapting our policies, programs and systems to responsibly meet this challenge, and reducing our green house gas emissions are the main ideas behind the formation of WUCA.

The alliance is supported by the following water providers across the nation:

Seattle Public Utilities  
Portland Water Bureau  
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
San Diego County Water Authority  
Southern Nevada Water Authority  
Denver Water  
New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Read the whole story on this new alliance, written by Water Resources Planning Manager, [Lorna Stickel](#), on the WaterBlog.

## Horse Trough Fountain Up and Running

It's not in our decorative fountain quiz, and it's not the subject of this year's limerick fountain, but Portland's **Horse Trough Fountain**, recently got some special attention--it got an early spring cleaning by the folks in Grounds Maintenance.



The Horse Trough Fountain, on the corner of NW 31st & Thurman, was installed sometime in the early 20th century. The fountain was originally intended as a drinking trough for horses. It also has a

bowl at the base, presumably for dogs, and a drinking spigot for humans.

According to Bill Georgeades, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, the fountain was pressure washed, and the rusty mounting plate for the bowl was replaced. Ageing grout was also removed and replaced.

In 2003, National Geographic did some research on the fountain and found that children had raised money to purchase it, because they felt sorry for the workhorses pulling loads up the hill on Thurman.