

Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the Kirkland
Heritage Society



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Kirkland Heritage Society

President's Message by Corey Kahler

As we head toward the summer months there are going to be many exciting activities that KHS members have to look forward to. The season will start with the Kirkland Chamber Auction and the Lakeview Elementary walk. Some of the other activities we may participate in this summer include the Kirkland Festival of the Arts and the Day at the Lake Celebration. If you have any other ideas about activities in which KHS should involve itself please let us know.

KHS is well on its way to broadening our focus and building on the foundation established by our past boards. Some current projects include:

- *Working towards becoming a more complete repository for historical data; a resource for the city, schools and the community-at-large.

- *Updating and creating new, entertaining and informative programs for use by groups interested in learning about Kirkland's past. We hope to include both a slide show and a video.

- *An ongoing search for new historical data, which has unearthed several interesting finds, some of which were shown at our last meeting with more to come at our next meeting.

- *Bob Burke has put in many hours of work addressing the new Growth Management Program with the city of Kirkland, specifically addressing preservation of our historic sites.

It has been an exciting year so far and we have only just begun! We can use all of the ideas and assistance that you can offer, so we hope to see you at our next meeting.

Next Meeting: April 27

As usual, we will meet at the Kirkland Congregational Church, at 7:00. We will discuss board changes and this year's goals. The evening's program will be our slide show of historical photographs with narrative and input from members.

Wooden Toy Trucks

KHS is providing some support to the upcoming Kirkland Chamber of Commerce auction, thanks to KHS member **Myron Lewis** who has built several wooden toy trucks, patterned after 1920s Kirkland Moving and Transfer Company trucks seen in KHS photographs, to be auctioned at the Kirkland Chamber of Commerce auction and cruise, on May 20th. Myron also patterned other historical vehicles for the auction including an ambulance and school bus. More information on the auction is available by calling the Chamber.

Lakeview Walk

KHS will have a display along the Lakeview Elementary School walk, to be held on May 8. Walk organizers have planned their route through Houghton and KHS will also provide historical information about sites of interest along the course. If you're interested in either helping with prep or by staffing the booth, call Corey Kahler at 823-6232.

The Years in Your Ears

By

Alan Stein

(Alan gives us fictional dialogue that could have occurred in Kirkland's past.)

May, 1933

Dear Uncle Roy,

Thank you for the Mickey Mouse watch that you sent me for my birthday. it's really swell! My buddy Pete got one just like it for Christmas, and I've been wanting one ever since I saw his. As soon as I got it I ran over to his house and showed him. Now whenever we go out and play we know exactly what time to meet each other.

Guess what? Daddy is going to take me to a big Indian pow-wow at Juanita this weekend. A whole lot of Indian tribes and chiefs are going to be there. Every week when I deliver the newspaper there have been lots of stories about it. Today it took me an extra half-hour to finish because Pete came with me and we kept reading the story over and over that listed all the events.

There's going to be a tippy canoe race, a hurdle race and paddle races. The big race is going to be with eleven-paddle war canoes. There's also going to be an Indian village there, so we can see Indian relics and eat food just like the Indians. They're even going to show us some Indian games.

The governor is going to be there to re-enact the treaty signing. The newspapers said that this is the first time signing has been re-enacted since the chiefs told their tribes to lay down their guns and bows and arrows back before Washington was even a state. Daddy even bought a camera so he could take pictures. He told me that he might even teach me how to use it.

I've got good news for you. Next time you and Aunt Martha come out to visit I can play cribbage with you. That's right, Daddy taught me how to play last week when Mom and Eileen went to the mother-daughter banquet at the church. He told me that Grandpa taught him and you to play when you were my age. I'm still having trouble with the scoring, though. All those fifteen-two's fifteen-fours. Boy oh boy.

Well, I have to stop writing now. I still have some homework to do, and it's half past seven. I just looked at my watch to tell you that. Thanks again for sending me such a swell present.

Love, Davey

P.S. I forgot to tell you. It looks like there might be a real, live elephant coming to live in Kirkland. Pete's dad has a friend who bought "Tusko the Magnificent" from an amusement company in Oregon. He wants to rent the old Todd Feed building and keep him there. I guess he's going to take him to the Century of Progress exhibition in Chicago. Right now he's at the zoo at Woodland Park. Pete and I sure hope he comes here, because Pete's Dad might get us in there to feed him or something. Gosh, I really have to go now. It's almost quarter to eight. I looked at my watch again to tell you that.

REMEMBER THE "CHINC"?

Frank Murphy wants to talk to anyone who built or served on the Chincoteague (AVP-24), a seaplane tender constructed at the Lake Washington Shipyards and launched on April 15, 1942. Murphy is researching both a book and a documentary film about the ship. He is also organizing a reunion of crewmen, to be held in September. Murphy says he thinks some former Chincoteague sailors live in Kirkland, since several

~~of the crew~~ married local girls while stationed here waiting for the ship's completion. He wants recollections about the ship from the beginning, so former LWS personnel who constructed the Chincoteague are also encouraged to write or call. Murphy can be reached at: (206) 892-7234, 5101 NE 121st #80, Vancouver, WA 98682.

A Car Tour of Kirkland's Past With Dr. E.C. McKibben

Alan Stein and Matt McCauley got a real treat a few weeks ago. Dr. McKibben spent several hours driving us around Kirkland, along the old Lake Washington Blvd. route as far south as Mercer Slough, and over the "old blacktop" route into Redmond. Dr. McKibben, Jr., whose father--also a well-remembered physician--served as Kirkland's mayor, has lived in Kirkland for most of his life and has a wealth of fascinating recollections about the area. This oral history on the road was a great experience and the entire trip was videotaped for KHS archives and possible use in a future video documentary project about Kirkland's past. More on that as it develops.

An Incredible Garage Sale

Although my wife, Ashley, is a garage sale addict, I rarely go to them. But a few weeks ago I made an exception, when Corey Kahler, Alan Stein and I made a trip out to the Novelty Hill area to the garage sale of the century--literally.

Bill Trippett and his family held the sale at the home that has been in their family for over a century. The Trippetts are descended from Redmond area settlers and they wanted to clear out a 100-year accumulation of stuff. Basically, the sale was a treasure trove of artifacts of the Eastside's history.

I got the World War One steel helmet and government-issue canvas wallet Trippett's father carried in the trenches of France. My real find was a photo album, dating from about 1910, with a great shot of the lake steamer *Cyrene* and a view from above Leschi Park, showing the old steam plant and steamers dropping passengers. There are also rare interior shots of Eastside businesses, including a meat market, dry goods store and shingle mill. The album was quite a find. For those of you who regularly attend garage sales--Sue Carter-- remember to always keep your eyes open for things like old Eastside photos, even if they are

pictures taken outside Kirkland. I'm still kicking myself for just missing an 1887 map which didn't list Kirkland on the Eastside, only "Hubbard," and "Houghton" on "Lake Duwamish" and "Squak"(Issaquah) on "Lake Squak." Unfortunately, someone--an experienced garage sale shopper--just beat me to it. It was a bit frustrating, since the majority of the people buying things had no idea of the local historical significance of their purchases. Keep your eyes open!

Barbara Loomis' APA/PAW Presentation

The American Planning Association/Planning Association of Washington is sponsoring a conference in Yakima, on May 18-20, "How do we achieve our individual missions." Barbara will present, "Historic Preservation: Planning and Sustaining Washington's Quality of Life." Anyone can attend so if you would like more information call Barbara at: 827-7194.

The Cover: A.T. Churchill Family out for a drive

The Churchill family owned the second automobile in Kirkland, this one-cylinder, 12 horsepower 1907 Cadillac. Churchill also owned an Oldsmobile, Kirkland's first car. In this shot, the family is driving to Snoqualmie Falls. note the .22 rifle in the front seat.

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