

# Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the  
Kirkland Heritage Society

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Volume II., Issue 5

August, 1994



Kirkland Heritage Society

## President's Message

By  
Corey Kahler

I hope you are all having a great summer!

Thank you to everyone who helped with our booth at the Kirkland Festival of the Arts. It was a great success, and we had just enough Sarsaparilla.

Even though we had our summer break last month there has been a lot going on. We know have a column in Kirkland City Hall's newsletter, *Kirkland Update*, so keep an eye out for that. It should be out in September. We also have a new member, Colleen Granger. She is hosting our next meeting at her home--her driveway is directly accross from the enterance to Juanita High School--and I urge you all to come. She is a fascinating woman with all kinds of Eastside history, and you will all love her stories and beautiful historic home, which she has done a great job of keeping original.

Matt McCauley and Alan Stein will also report on their meeting with the Museum of History and Industry's research staff. The found several interesting photos of Kirkland and say they have many more out there to go through.

I hope to see you all at the meeting.

## The Years in Your Ears

By  
Alan Stein

*(As usual, our ace Eastside Journal researcher, Alan, gives us a fictional conversation that might have occured in Kirkland's past.)*  
September, 1937

Well, hello there Frank! What are you doing out and around? I'd expect you'd be packin' for your trip down to Portland. Oh, I see. Don't want to get in her way, eh? Well, if she's anything like my Ellie, you'll be hauling enough clothes and belongings to furnish a small army. Ha! Are you walkin' back to town? Why don't you walk along with me?

Me? Oh, I was down visiting Harry French. Oh, he's doin' well for a man his age. Do you realize he's going to be 88 next month? That's a lot of water under the bridge from when we used to work on his farm when we were kids.

Anyways, I was down to see him because my kid ... Gosh, would you look at this! I just can't get over those cannons being gone. I drove past them for years and after a while, I hardly noticed them. But now that they aren't here anymore, I notice the emptiness. Life's funny that way, huh?

Listen to me, I sound like some sorta poet. So, what was I saying. Oh yeah, my boy, he likes reading the newspaper. Well he caught that history of Kirkland that was printed a few weeks ago, and you know how inquisitive boys are at that age. Well, anyways, he starts asking me question after question after question. What was it like back when you were a kid? What did you do for

fun? What was it like without radios?  
On and on and on!

Well, it got to where I got tired of flappin' my lips to all those questions, when suddenly it dawned on me! I told him that the person he should really talk to was Mr French. You shoulda seen his eyes light up at that.

So, that's where I was today. I wanted to make sure that Harry was well enough to see him, and you know Harry! The good Lord has seen fit to give him a heart of gold. He said that there's nothing he'd enjoy more than talking to an interested little boy,

Wow, would you look at that crowd downtown. Hey, have you heard that rumor about them getting new ferryboats from San Francisco? We're gonna need bigger boats with crowds like that. Yeah, the story I heard was that the ferry system is pretty much kaput down there now that the Golden Gate was built, and they're trying to sell some of their luxury boats.

Oh, that reminds me. I've got a great story about that. It seems that Ellie's cousin Ned knows a guy whose brother was working on the bridge when it was being built. Well, I guess that one day this guy was up on the scaffolds when all of a sudden ... WHOOPS! ... He slips and falls down towards the water!

Not to worry, though. They had nets rigged up under the construction just in case something like this happened. So everyone rushes down there thinking the worst. As they cross over the net to get to this guy's body, it turns out that he's fine. Just fainted. So when he comes to, what are the first words out of his mouth?

"I QUIT! I'D RATHER  
STARVE THEN WORK HERE!"

Ha! So, remember that next time you complain to me about how overworked you are down at the yard. And how!

Hey, before you head up your street here, let me go check on all this hubbub. That crowd looks strange for some reason. Hold on, wait here.

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Oh my gosh, Frank. The police just shot someone up on Rose Hill.

To Be Continued

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Next Meeting  
August 31, 7:00

As Corey mentioned, our next meeting is going to be at Colleen Granger's house, in Juanita (10616 NE 132nd St.). This will be quite a meeting.

Colleen's house was built by the Hartig family in 1912. She and her family bought the home from the first owners daughter in 1969 and were amazed to discover, when they moved in, that the house was loaded with original turn of the century items. From the three 1900s telephones to 1907 calanders on the wall, antique furniture to stereo viewers, the house is just like a time capsule from 1912.

It is really worth taking a look at and hearing the fascinating story behind the house. We will also spend a few minutes getting caught up on pending KHS business and find out what various members have been working on.

If you can only come to one KHS meeting a year, this is the one to go to.



Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 10635 NE 120th, Kirkland, WA 98034, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. Matthew W. McCauley, Editor. For more information call: 823-6838 or 823-6232.

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