

# Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the  
Kirkland Heritage Society

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*Mrs. Mary Ann Kirk (Peter's wife)*

**President's Message**

by  
**Corey Kahler**

First of all, THANK YOU **Jeanne Bartels** for opening your home to us and hosting our February meeting.

In my last message I reviewed the accomplishments of the Kirkland Heritage Society over the past year. Now I'd like to look at how KHS has become more valuable to our community as we've worked to fulfill our mission statement.

By building on our previously laid foundation and expanding our focus and perspective, our value to the community and mission have also expanded. We have grown from an organization focused mainly on old home preservation to a historical resource for the entire community, addressing the need for an archive repository, writers, researchers, and have become an active part of the Eastside's historical makeup.

This broadening is a path that I feel we must continue to pursue in order to fulfill our mission and the needs of our community.

We can also thank our members' talents for our success and expansion.

Why is KHS valuable to our city and the Eastside community?

- We are caretakers of Kirkland's past.
- We meet a critical regional and city-wide need considering our important and unique history.
- KHS has been entrusted with important archives.
- KHS is looked to as a resource and for leadership.
- We are commissioned to educate, provide resources and to access them.

- To identify historical resources and to support their owners.
- Work toward preservation of historical sites.

As our membership increases and our pool of talent expands, so will our benefit and value to the community. We are on the right path; making huge gains over the past few years; and this course must be maintained, always remembering that our success is based upon a team effort.

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**Found! A Rare Glimpse of  
Bucolic Kirkland!**

by  
**Alan Stein**

Much is known about the history of Kirkland during the Peter Kirk days. Between the 1890's and the first publication of the East Side Journal in 1918, very little recorded history has been found. While doing some historic research at the Suzzallo library at the University of Washington, I unearthed this little gem. It was published in the Seattle Mail and Herald on September 16, 1905.

**In The Country**

I was out enjoying a walk in the suburbs of the city of Kirkland the other day. The city of steel industries and other enterprises of great promise in days gone by. The brick blocks are now most of them empty, all but one, in fact, and the sidewalks and planked streets have moldered and decayed until it is much easier and safer to walk on the natural soil that still maintains its integrity in the yet vacant lots.

Out, away out of town, a mile or more, the peaceful farmer is pursuing the even tenor of his way, trying to coax

a living for himself and his family out of the earth. The only impediments to his doing this with a considerable degree of success, are the stumps and town-lot stakes that once marked the enterprise of the hopeful real estate man and still stand because they were made of Washington fir lumber, and therefore are so durable that the rains of many winters have failed to bring them to decay. And so they remain to mark the boundary lines of lots and blocks that may, in the dim and misty future be needed for city residence lots.

I said that these stakes and stumps were the only impediments in the way of the farmer. I was mistaken. The ancient real estate boom that once drove its tent stakes within that territory has left one other thing that more than stakes and stumps is an hindrance to the use of the lands there round about; that is the fictitious values that still clings to those lots and blocks and acres. A man living out something more than a mile distant from those empty brick buildings where several thousand of good dollars lie buried, "tho lost to sight, to memory dear," in his expanding agricultural needs, desired to buy an adjoining acre. The owner thereof, resides in same far country, like New York or Boston, and when he received the inquiry for the price of the land recalled the many large, able-bodied plunks that he had planted there and replied that he wanted sic hundred dollars an acre for the land. Poor man! If he lives to see the time when his land so situated will sell for that price, he will have broken the record of the ancient Methuselah, for a long-liver. But meanwhile the land is covered over by second growth firs, old stumps, logs, alder trees, and so on, that it will cost more to remove than the

proper use of the land would pay back in ten years. And so it goes. It takes a man a long time to forget his money even though he has buried it out in the wild and woolly West, in the culture of exaggerated real estate prices.

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### **Tales From The East Side Journal** by Alan Stein

*Lake Washington has always played an important part in the history of Kirkland, as the articles included this month will show. The first article appeared in the June 19, 1930 edition of the East Side Journal. For genealogists and boating historians, it provides a wonderful account of the crew of the Ferry Lincoln at that time.*

Interview With Crew of Lake Ferry Reveals Many Interesting Facts  
Fifteen years ago, March 25th, 1915, the Ferry Lincoln, owned and operated by Captain J. L. Anderson, went on the Kirkland run. Since that time, just traveling back and forth between Seattle and Kirkland, the Lincoln has covered a mileage distance of 25.7 times the distance around the world. About June 1st the crew blossomed out in neat blue uniforms with brass buttons and braid and white caps. This has added considerable prestige to the appearance of the crew, many of whom have worked for Captain Anderson for many years.

About forty years ago, Captain Anderson started the operation of boats on Lake Washington. Lake Transportation has spelled "Captain Anderson". Always an Eastside booster and ready to do more than his share to meet the desire of the Eastside, Captain Anderson has made it a rule to employ

## Blackberry Preserves

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Eastside men on the Ferry Lincoln in so far as it was possible.

The Ferry Lincoln Crew with bits of their individual history follows:----

Captain W. K. Curtis is a pioneer shipmaster of Lake Washington and Puget Sound vessels, having followed these waters since 1890. Except for a period of three years during the war when serving as master of Seattle Port Commission's ferries, he has been in Captain J. L. Anderson's service continuously since 1908. He has filled his present position as captain on the Lincoln since 1921. Captain Harry Cade is also a veteran shipmaster to the Eastside. For twenty-two years he has been in command of vessels under Captain Anderson on Lake Washington. Previous to taking command of the Lincoln, he worked out of Leschi Park. The Captain has made his home in Kirkland during that entire period of time. Charles Wiggins came to Kirkland about a year ago and at that time received employment on the Lincoln. H. H. Brooks, engineer, has lived on the Eastside since 1895. He was fireman on the first Lake Washington ferry and has been on the Lincoln ever since she came from the shipyards. For sixteen years he has been employed by Captain Anderson.

Ben Leeds is also a pioneer of the East Side having lived in Kirkland for 38 years. His capacity on the Lincoln is that of purser and he has worked for Anderson for eighteen years. Earl Rodgers has lived in Kirkland for thirty-two years, he has been under Captain Anderson for twenty-five years and on the Lincoln for fifteen years. G. A. Griffith, chief engineer, has lived on this side for fourteen years, twelve years of which he has spent on the Lincoln.

He has been on the water for thirty-five years and previous to his lake duty was on ocean-going vessels. He was at one time on the famous old Dora. For twenty-seven years, R. G. Campbell has lived on the Eastside. Seventeen years of this time has been spent on the water and ten of it for Captain Anderson. He acts in the capacity of purser and during the summer does special excursion work.

Charlie Herzog started working for Captain Anderson at the shipyards during the war. Following the war he became employed on the water and has remained in that capacity ever since. Jack Fish has lived on the Eastside forty-two years and has been on the Lincoln for a little over a year. Six years of the nine that Chester Conner has lived in Kirkland he has spent in the employ of Captain Anderson on the Lincoln. Charles Mulligan is the young member of the crew. He has lived on this side eight years of his life and has worked on the Lincoln for about nine months. Joe Cartwright has lived in Kirkland all his life and has been on the Lincoln about a year. Raphael Potter came to Northup in 1888. He has been on the Lincoln for seven years. Eight years of the twenty-two that Earl Etzler has lived in Kirkland have been under the employ of Captain Anderson on the Lincoln. Although unable to obtain the exact data, it is known that Al Curtis has lived on this side many years and that he has served under Captain Anderson for years. Captain Wells Green came to the Eastside in 1882. He has been on the lake since 1884 and went to work for Capt. Anderson when that gentleman took over the boats on the lake. S. F. Ward has the greatest number of service years for Captain Anderson of any of the

crew, having been under him for thirty years. Mr. Ward, although not an Eastside resident, has lived in Seattle all these years, and is well known to the people of Kirkland.

*Now that we've been introduced to the crew, here's an article from Jan 18, 1923 describing one of the wacky escapades that the crew of the Lincoln had to deal with.*

**Sea-Going Goat Crosses Lake –  
Stowaway Outwits Crew of Ferry**

A sea-going goat, probably the pet of some Kirkland small boy, was a stowaway on the first trip of the Ferry Lincoln Wednesday morning, despite the watchfulness of the vessel's crew.

Billy, who appeared mild and inoffensive but apparently filled with a deep curiosity, made his appearance at the gangway as soon as the gates were thrown open for the first passengers.

"Hey, this is no livestock boat!" yelled the ticket-taker, blocking the goat's path. "Back you go!"

Somewhat aggrieved, though with dignity still unruffled, Billy shook his whiskers with an independent air and started back down the stairs leading to the runway where automobiles are driven aboard. Here he tried to rush the gate, but was met with rebuffs.

However, he was crafty. Slipping around the gate and climbing over timbers in the dock in the sure-footed fashion that only a goat knows, he managed to get aboard. But only for a minute. He promptly found himself ignominiously shoed of the boat once more.

In desperation, the crew decided to lock him in the coal-bunker on the wharf. Closing the door, they congratulated themselves on their generalship and began casting off the

Lincoln's moorings. However, they had failed to notice a window in the coal bunker, about four feet from the floor. It was no trouble for the goat to go through the window and he did it very neatly.

Just as the vessel was leaving, Billy breathlessly rushed aboard.

"You win!" said the crew.

He made the round trip to Madison Park, and then calmly allowed himself to be led off the craft, his curiosity satisfied.

*Whew! That article almost plays like an episode of the Keystone Kops. One can almost picture Chester Conklin as Captain Anderson, casting bewildered looks at Charlie Chaplin, playing a flustered crew member.*

*Our last Tale from the East Side Journal this month is a story of the lake being traversed in a different way. It's from February 5, 1931.*

**What Is It All About?**

"It's all Greek to me", was the verdict of both Dick Nyquist and Fred Mason, when questioned regarding the following article, which appeared in one of the Seattle papers Tuesday evening:

"Kirkland homeowners were up in arms Tuesday and appealed to Seattle police authorities to aid in capturing the person believed responsible for the numerous obscene letters found in blue bottle washed upon the shores of Lake Washington, near Kirkland and vicinity.

Hundreds of these letters, always found on the beach in blue bottles, and all written in the same handwriting, have been discovered recently, the residents of Kirkland said.

All efforts of the local constable have so far failed to reveal any trace of the author of the daring epistles and so Seattle police cooperation was asked.

Local authorities promise that a thorough investigation would be made".

**Proposed Bylaws Update**

by

**Barbara Loomis**

A draft of the proposed new bylaws was distributed at the February meeting. If you missed the meeting and would like a copy of the draft please call me at 827-7194.

The present Kirkland Heritage Society bylaws were prepared for the Kirkland Historic Commission in 1976 and were last amended in 1980. Their provisions do not reflect the current structure and operation. The proposed draft is patterned after the bylaws of The Association of King County Historical Organizations and incorporates ideas from other similar non-profit organizations.

In summary, these proposed bylaws have been structured to keep the membership involved and informed and includes:

- Definition of memberships including an Honorary membership as well as a life membership.
- A seven member Board of Directors elected for staggered two year terms, comprised of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Two At-large Positions, and the Past President.
- Six Standing Committees are provided for: Communications, Planning and Legislative, Education and Local history, Membership and Funding, Program, and Archives and Collections. The chairs of these committees would serve as advisors to the board in conducting the overall program and activities of the Society.
- Vacancies on the Board of Directors would be filled by a membership vote.

- A three person Nominating Committee is proposed.

- The fiscal year and terms of office would be July 1 to June 30 with the annual meeting and election in May.

- The KHS newsletter would be the official notice for elections, bylaws changes, meetings and quarterly reports on the finances and actions of the board.

Since the current bylaws are so out of date it is proposed that they be replaced and an election consistent with them occur concurrently over the next five months as follows:

- Draft bylaws presented to membership for adoption in April.

- The Nominating Committee to be established at the March meeting.

- The positions for which nominations would be sought this year are:

President--two years

Secretary--two years (new position)

At Large--two years (new position)

At Large--one Year (new position)

If anyone in an existing position is elected to another board position an election at the monthly membership meeting would fill that position.

- The nominations with positions and qualifications statements would be published in the May newsletter.

- The election and establishing of membership dues would occur at the annual meeting in May.

- Officers would take over effective July 1, 1995.

- The Bylaws also provide for the selection of Committee Chairs by the July meeting and presentation of the

## Blackberry Preserves

work program and annual budget for approval of the membership no later than the September meeting.

### Membership/Funding Update By Bob Burke

Over the past year we've added 20 new members! We are continuing our efforts by mailing to people who have expressed interest in KHS and whose homes have been identified on various surveys as potentially having historic significance. Laura Westlund has been providing names from assessor's records based on the address in the surveys. Thanks for your help!

In March, we will begin an effort to get organization, professional, business and corporate memberships. These memberships will cost \$100-\$250 per year. They will provide support to maintain the growing collection of historic photographs, support monthly programs, planning and legislative activities, a future home tour and a planned recognition program.

We will also be initiating a **Kirkland Heritage Sponsor** program to obtain funding support for four priority projects:

- Printing Historic Tour Brochures to distribute at the Chamber of Commerce, City Hall and other locations;
- Continue local history interviews;
- Install interpretive markers at historic sites; and
- Continue historic building inventory efforts.

Varying levels of financial contribution will be available ranging from \$125 to \$1000. Sponsors will be recognized in the *Blackberry Preserves*, our award winning newsletter; on the product or report produced by the funding; and at our planned recognition

banquet this fall or next spring. Look for future information on the Kirkland Heritage Sponsor program!

### Invite a Friend or Neighbor!! To Join Kirkland Heritage Society

Membership through June 1996

_____ Individual	\$25
_____ Family	\$30
_____ Senior/Student	\$15
_____ Sustaining	\$125

Checks should be made payable to:

Kirkland Heritage Society  
304 8th Ave. W  
Kirkland, WA 98033  
Any questions? Call 827-7194

### Growth Management Update

Bob Burke, representing the KHS, testified at the hearing before the Growth Management Commission on March 2, 1995 in support of the goals and policies on Historic Preservation contained in the draft Comprehensive Plan. He encouraged the inclusion of additional language on preservation in the Plan's Vision Statement and Framework Goals. The recommended Plan will be finalized in March and submitted to the Kirkland City Council for action. If anyone has any questions for Bob, he's at 827-6550 (Office) or 828-4095 (Home).

**KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY**  
***MARCH - APRIL - MAY***  
**PROGRAM UPDATES**

***MARCH - WOMAN'S HISTORY MONTH***

March is Woman's History month and the Kirkland Woman's Club is celebrating its 75 Anniversary. In recognition of both events representatives - Lilly May Anderson, Bea Richardson, and Nordice Nicholson - from the Woman's Club will join us and talk about the founding of the club, the ladies who have contributed so much to the Kirkland community, and the start of the Kirkland Library. Matt McCauley and Alan Stein will have photographs and articles on women in the history of Kirkland.

March 29, 7:00 pm  
First Congregational Church of Kirkland  
106 - 5th Avenue

***APRIL - LEARN ABOUT BUNGALOWS  
AND CRAFTSMAN HOMES***

April 26 at 7:00 pm we will have a presentation and slide show by Lawrence Kreisman, an architectural historian, lecturer and author on Craftsman and Bungalow houses. Come learn what details distinguish these two building styles and what to consider if your thinking about renovation. This meeting will also be held at the First Congregational Church of Kirkland.

***MAY - MUSEUM/HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH***

May is Museum/Historic Preservation Month and we will celebrate with a trip to Kirkland's first museum, the new Kirkland Fire Department Museum at the new Fire Station #26; 9930 - 124th Ave. N.E. May 31, 7:00 pm.

***PUT THESE PROGRAMS ON YOUR CALENDAR!***

If you have ideas for future programs contact Jeanne Bartels 827-0689, or Hazel Kelly 822-7515, co-chairs of the Program Committee.

**Post World War II view of Kirkland from the air**  
**Another rare shot courtesy of Alan Stein's post card collection**



**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 827-7194.**

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