

Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the
Kirkland Heritage Society



1916: Montlake Cut Lowers Lake Washington 9'

**February Meeting: Milred Andrews on Washington's Suffragist
Movement**



Kirkland Heritage Society

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by
Bob Burke

First, I want to thank all of you who filled out and returned the membership survey in January! There is an article which follows, but having a 33% return is fantastic!! Thank you!!

We had a very productive work session with the Board and Committee Chairs on January 21st. A lot of good ideas for monthly programs came out of it and we've been able to line them up through June! We still need help on the Program Committee, so if you'd be willing to help please call me: 828-4095.

We have three new Committee Chairs! **Don Winters** will be working with **Sue Carter** as co-chair of the Archives and Collections Committee. **Lynette Friberg** and **Velda Wilson** have agreed to co-chair the Planning and Historic Sites Committee. We also have committees working on the historic tour brochure and evaluating the potential for temporary and permanent archives. You'll be hearing a lot more about both of these activities during the next few months!

I've been contacted by representatives of three neighborhood associations wanting some information on their area and expressing an interest in working with us to survey and develop programs to preserve historic resources in their neighborhood. This was one of the higher priority items from the survey!

It is really exciting to see so many things begin to come out of our past efforts and to have so many people wanting to work with us on projects of mutual interest. This would not be possible if it wasn't for the volunteer effort of our members! Thanks!!

BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETING

6:00 p.m., February 28, 1996

First Congregational Church

KHS members are welcome to attend!!

FEBRUARY MEETING

**The Suffragist Movement
Washington State and
Eastside Story**

by

Mildred Tanner Andrews

As a prelude to March - Women in History Month - we are honored to have Mildred Andrews as our February 28th speaker. She is an award winning author of WOMAN'S PLACE: A Guide To Seattle and King County History and Washington Women As Pioneers. She has curated exhibits and spoken extensively on Northwest women's history.

**Wednesday, February 28, 1996
7:00 p.m.**

**First Congregational Church
106 - 5th Avenue, Kirkland**

If you need a ride to any of the Kirkland Heritage Society's meetings, please call I. Burke, 828-4095.

Future Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the First Congregational Church.

MARCH 27: Tour and Program on Restored F.W. Winters House and Archives, 2102 Bellevue Way S.E., Bellevue. Hosted by the Bellevue Historical Society.

APRIL 24: How to Research the History of Your Home.

MAY 29: Issaquah's Annual Pioneer Reunion 7:00 p.m. Nancy Horrocks, President and members of the Issaquah Historical Society will discuss their highly successful Pioneer Reunion.

JUNE: Weekend Tour introducing the new Historic Tour Brochure.

JULY 13 & 14: KHS Booth - Kirkland Arts and Crafts Fair.

RESULTS OF MEMBERSHIP SURVEY -- SUPPORTING AND SURPRISING!!

The biggest surprise ?? The Response!! One out of three KHS members returned a completed form! That is a tremendous percentage! Twenty five completed survey forms were returned. If you still have yours and want to send it in, we'll add it to the total.

In the results, KHS is well received: Over 80% indicate we meet their expectations as an organization! The following is a summary of the results by the categories in the survey.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS;

- 50% Ranked them in the highest category -5; 45% ranked them 4; only one poor: The average was 4.4 out of 5!!
- Combinations of Sites for programs was the favorite; The Church and historic buildings tied as the next highest choices.
- The present meeting time and day are convenient to nearly 80% of Members
- The variety of Programs is liked; but more fun, social programs are noted as being needed - help us organize something!!
- Members would like a calendar a few months in advance and earlier notice.

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES;

- 80% of members read the entire issue: and noted it as being our best recruitment tool
- Favorite articles include: Tales of the Eastside Journal, Building Profiles and Photographs
- There is adequate information on KHS, but more is desired on other groups and Preservation activities in the area
- Members would like the subjects and dates on photographs and ad reprints, etc
- It was noted that newspaper reprints are sometimes difficult to read.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES; 1996:

In reviewing this section of the survey the biggest surprise was that no one said this is impossible to deal with!! The following lists the responses in the order of their priority:

- Highest Priority: (A small surprise) Expand and Protect Collection of Historic Photographs and Materials!

The top twelve shown below generally relate to our current ongoing programs, but there are a couple surprises.

- Identify Historic Buildings and Sites
- Update and Publish Historic Walking Tour Brochure (We have a grant for this).
- Complete Survey of Neighborhood Historic Resources
- Complete Newspaper Research at Kirkland Library
- Conduct Taped Interviews of Individuals instrumental in Kirkland's history
- Obtain an accessible Archives for Photographs & Materials (Critical for Highest Priority to expand and protect collections).
- Publish a book on Kirkland's History using photos, interviews, articles, research
- Continue Display at City Hall
- Develop Legislation to protect Historic Buildings and Sites
- Hold Historic Home Tour again
- Continue articles in *City Update* and *Kirkland Courier*
- Continue Booth at Kirkland Arts and Crafts Festival and other Community activities.

We asked if there were other programs or activities in which KHS should be involved and received two very good comments:

There is more than enough to keep us busy and not unless we all quit our jobs! Thank you to everyone who responded!! These items were discussed at the Board and Committee work session on January 21st and will be incorporated into this year's programs and activities.

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HELP ON THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE? We need people to: arrange future programs after June; arrange for refreshments at meetings; be responsible for timely publicity in local newspapers; and arrange rides for those who need them. If you can help, call Bob Burke 827-6550 (o) or 828-4095 (h).

Tales From The East Side Journal by Alan Stein

This month's article is a little different. Usually I try to choose an article that pertains to a particular event or person, but this time I decided to share a selection of vignettes with you.

Back when Kirkland was much smaller, the local newspaper was more than just a way to keep up with current events; it was a way of letting your neighbors know what you were up to. When your town has a population of only a few thousand, you get to know practically everyone. When you break it down by neighborhoods, you're looking at groups of people that number only a few hundred. In a close-knit community, these few hundred people are interested in telling others about the little events that make up their lives, and they enjoy hearing about what their friends and acquaintances are doing.

Over the years, the East Side Journal carried many neighborhood columns containing this type of information. The one reprinted here is from January, 1923. At that time there were columns for Kirkland, Houghton, Rose Hill and Juanita.

On the surface, the 'news' presented seems fairly mundane; Dinner at a friends' house, a sick child, a birthday party, a new baby. But as you look at the column in entirety, you realize that you have an intimate glimpse into the lives of people throughout that one-week period in 1923. That new baby was an important event for those parents. That birthday was newsworthy so that people could stop by and help celebrate. A sick child in 1923 could be the cause of great concern, but publicizing it as 'being on the sick list' alleviated the worries of friends' and neighbors. And the dinner parties

were a good way of sharing pleasant experiences with others.

It's unfortunate, but I was not able to include this type of information in the ESJ database. The database was intended to index 'hard' history, and this type of 'soft' history is too expansive and difficult to categorize. But if you're interested and have the time, look up one of the old papers at the library and read a few of these columns. Immersing yourself into the daily events of a by-gone era is the closest thing to time travel yet.

KIRKLAND LOCALS

<p>Mrs. A. Langer was a luncheon guest of Mrs. L. Johsen Thursday.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Randall motored to Everett Sunday, where they visited with relatives.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Isackson and children were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. Johsen Wednesday evening.</p> <p>Miss Marlon Bell and Milford Bell left Monday for their home at Wenatchee.</p> <p>Mrs. J. B. Reese spent Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Howard Bingham of Seattle.</p> <p>The women of the St. John's Episcopal Guild will meet at the home of Mrs. C. Jentes on Boid street, Friday afternoon, January 26, at 2 o'clock.</p> <p>Leon C. Huff of Seattle, Secretary of the Washington State Sportsmen's Association was a Kirkland visitor Monday.</p> <p>Julius Mazza of Phillipsburg, Montana, has been a Kirkland visitor since Tuesday of last week.</p> <p>The Missionary Prayer Band will meet at the home of Mrs. Roy Bell in North Kirkland, the first Friday of February.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Van Carnop spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Auckland of Seattle.</p> <p>The Scorpions basketball team of the Community Church defeated the Bellevue High School team Wednesday evening.</p> <p>J. E. McFarland accompanied George Spencer on a motor trip Saturday and Sunday through Kelso, Longview, and Olympia, as far south as Long Bell Ferry on the Columbia river.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. David Burr and son, David, Jr., and Harold Wrisley were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Collins at Edmonds, Sunday.</p>	<p>Little Marie Fladlund is on the sick list this week.</p> <p>Mr. R. Bunker and daughter of Seattle, visited Sunday at the George Eldridge home.</p> <p>The Community Church Choir will meet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. White every Thursday evening.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. E. I. Erickson and family were guests at the H. H. Brooks home Friday evening.</p> <p>Miss Maurine Price and Chester Tompkins were guests at the H. H. Brooks home Sunday.</p> <p>Miss Cadelia E. Turner will move to the C. W. Olson home the first of February.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Stockley and baby are visiting at the home of Mrs. Stockley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Taylor.</p> <p>Miss Margaret Sherbrooke is recovering from a three weeks' illness. She expects to return to her work Monday.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Collins and children, and Miss Labova Sitsof of Seattle were guests at the V. J. Kaufman home Sunday.</p> <p>Newton Temple who is formerly of Kirkland, and is a Senior at the State College at Pullman, was chosen to be a charter member of the Tau Beta Pi, because of high scholarship.</p> <p>The Ladies of the Maccabees have completed their plans for the dance which they are giving at the Kirkland Hall, Saturday evening. Parks Orchestra will play.</p> <p>Miss Gladys Rhodes entertained with an informal party at her home Saturday evening. Thirty of her friends were present. The evening was spent with dancing, and at midnight a delicious luncheon was served.</p>
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Crowds gathered to watch the water and mud flow in 1916 as Lake Washington was connected to Lake Union and Puget Sound.

“Build the Canal, and Build it in ‘93!”

By Matt McCauley

The region's early settlers and industrialists viewed Lake Washington as a convenient highway, of sorts, facilitating transport of manufactured goods and raw materials to markets.

They envisioned a canal connecting Lake Washington to Puget Sound, running through Lake Union. The canal would open vast opportunities for industrializing the Eastside.

Eastside boosters entertained differing visions of their respective post-canal communities.

Newcastle would expand its coal mining industry, Mercer Island wanted the US Naval Base that eventually went to Bremerton (Anyone remember the island's old “Navy Yard

Road”?), and Kirkland, as we well know, was to become a steel manufacturing metropolis, exporting steel rails worldwide.

The canal would also make life easier for those who earned their livings harvesting the Eastside's timber crop.

Powerful Seattle-area industrialists formed an association to lobby Congress for funds to construct the canal, an enormous project even by today's standards. Governor McGraw had even used as his campaign slogan: “Build the canal, and build it in ‘93!” (1893) Catchy, huh? OK, well, maybe not.

The entire canal saga is long and convoluted, but, basically, there were several serious efforts beginning in the 1880s. One group went bankrupt after spending \$250,000--an incredible sum then--trying to dig a 16-foot-wide by 12-foot-deep canal.

Work finally commenced in earnest in 1911, with the US Army Corps of Engineers doing the digging and lock construction.

In 1994, then 90 year-old, now late, former Kirkland baseball player O.L. "Deep" Higginbotham said he remembers watching the Montlake excavations as a small boy. He described workers armed with picks and shovels filled wagon after wagon with dirt, which mule teams then hauled away.

The big day came in July 1916. Lake Washington rushed through the new canal after crews completed the cut. Since the lake was nine feet higher then, it drained an inch every 24 hours until it reached its present level.

The lowering left lakefront docks high and dry and Juanita Bay too shallow for steamer traffic. L.L. Forbes, who operated a small store on the Juanita Dock, went out of business and turned, briefly, to muskrat trapping, before opening Juanita Beach on his newly exposed sand beach.

The locks opened formally on July 4, 1917, but the new canal came too late for Peter Kirk and most of the others who had hoped to industrialize the Eastside.

(This article originally appeared in the *Kirkland Courier* on January 19, 1994).

Good Banks
in a
Good Community

The First National Bank
The Kirkland State Bank

KIRKLAND, WASHINGTON

Kirkland Clothing Co.
Dealers in
Men's and Boys' Clothing
New Wester Building Kirkland, Wash.

KIRKLAND ELECTRIC CO.
ALL KINDS OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES,
SUPPLIES, WIRING AND REPAIRING
PHONE MAIN 96
AGENTS FOR DURO WATER SYSTEMS

BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Secretary	Barbara Loomis (h) 827-7194
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Lynette Friberg	(h) 827-2936
Velda Wilson	(h) 641-0528
Program Committee	



From our Barrie Collection. Top view: was taken in the west of Market St. neighborhood, near today's Market St. 7-11. Bottom view: lady waiting for steamboat, she seems to expect rain...some things never change.

Do You Know Someone Interested In Joining KHS?

- Individual \$20
- Family \$25
- Senior/Student \$10
- Sustaining/Supporting \$100
- Life Member \$1,000
- Organization/Government \$100
- Professional/Business \$125
- Corporate \$250
- I would like to make an additional contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Name

Organization/Firm

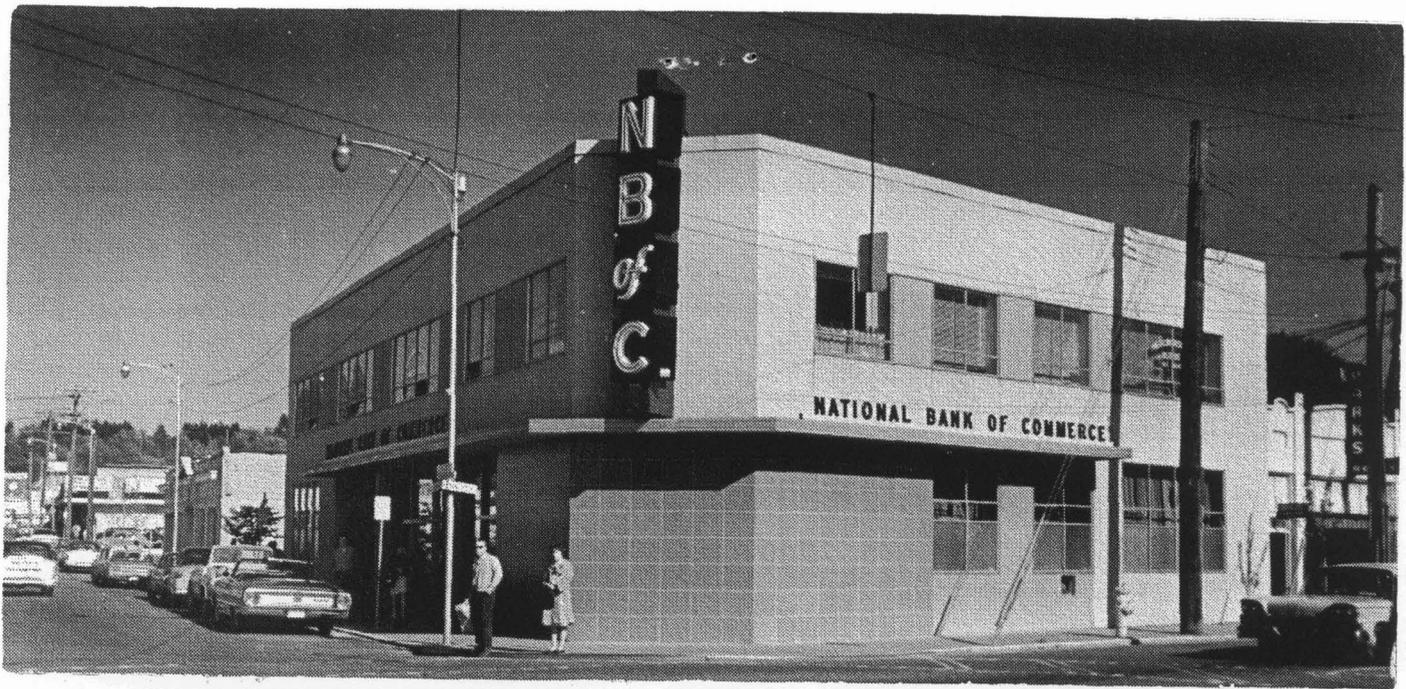
Address

City State Zip

Home # Work #

Checks should be made payable and mailed to Kirkland Heritage Society, 304-8th Ave. W., Kirkland, WA 98033. Phone: 206 / 827-7194

NEXT MONTH: NEW JUANITA PHOTOS! Our own Christina Brugman has conducted an oral history interview with Miss Mickelson, who was born in Juanita during the 1900s. Miss Mickelson graciously allowed us to duplicate some of her family photos and we will reproduce some of them next month.



From the "Time Flies" File: Remember the old NB of C building at Kirkland Ave. And Lake St. South? We don't have a date on this shot, but I'd guess early 1960s, based on the cars.

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. E-mail: mccaule@seattleu.edu

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