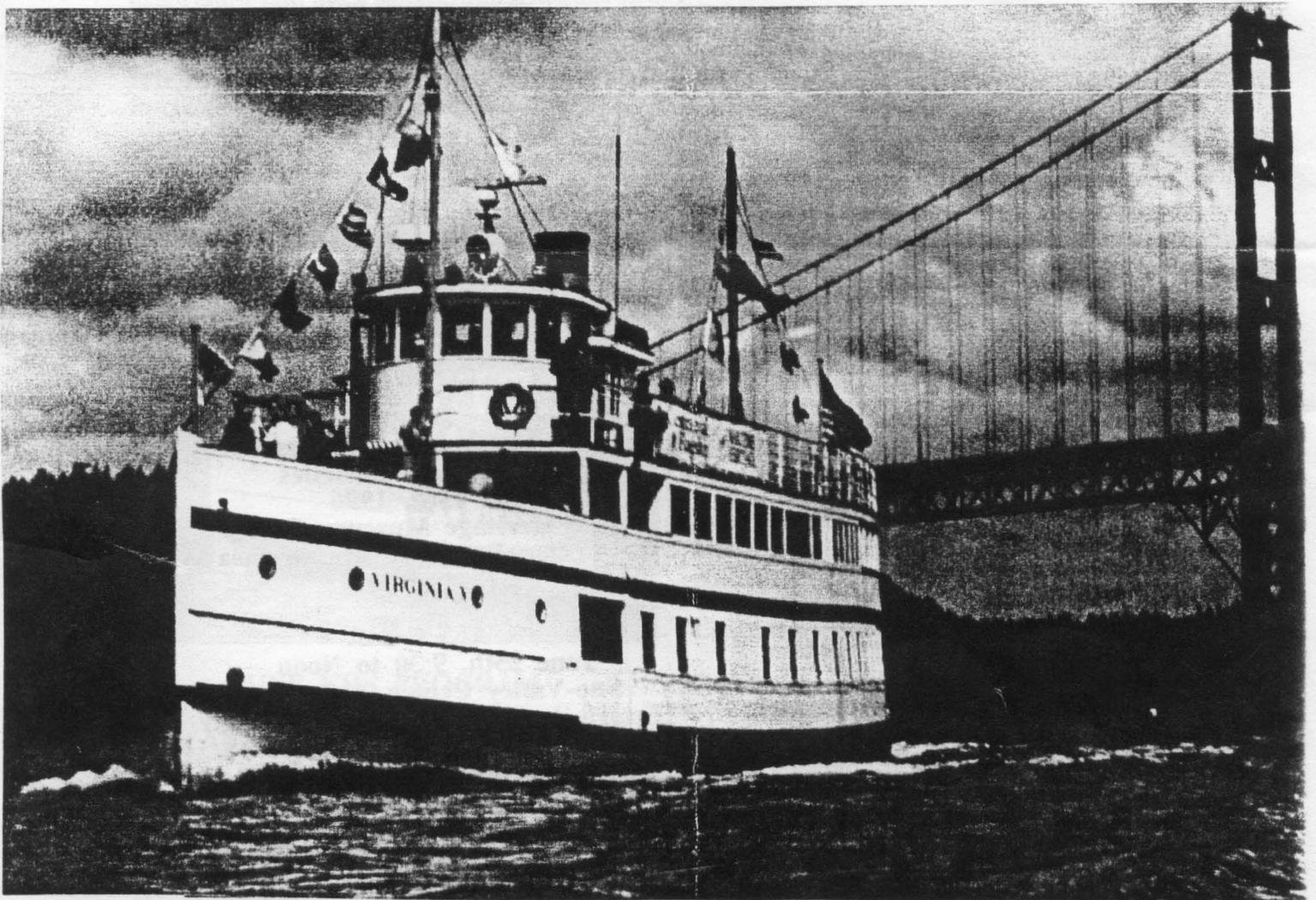


Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the
Kirkland Heritage Society



May Meeting: Issaquah Historical Society and its Pioneer
Reunion



Kirkland Heritage Society

MAY PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by
Bob Burke

May 12th to 18th was Preservation Week!! The theme is **Preserve Community!!** This is very appropriate for KHS considering our efforts over the past few years. The objective is to encourage communities to retain their unique character and to preserve their historic identity for future generations

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Alan Stein carried the KHS banner at the Lakeview Mother's Day Walk. **Paula Riggert** is expanding our publicity effort on meetings and other activities! Thanks!!

Exciting programs coming up!!

May - Issaquah Pioneer Days presentation
June - Meet Saturday the 29th at 5:15 on the Virginia V at the Downtown Marina Park.
July - Arts and Crafts Festival - 13th & 14th
August - Tour of Marsh Mansion on the 4th.

We still need someone to help arrange the monthly programs starting this Fall - The Board will help! Are you willing? Please call me - 827-6550 (o) or 828-4095 (h).

MAY PROGRAM ISSAQUAH'S PIONEER REUNION

May 29, 1997
7:00 p.m.

Kirkland Congregational Church

The Issaquah Historical Society hosts an extremely interesting annual Pioneer Reunion. It received an AKCHO Award two years ago! This fun community event brings people together to learn about Issaquah's history. **Nancy Horrocks**, President of the Society, and other members will present their video, scrapbook and other stories of the event.

Rides to KHS Meetings

If you need rides to our meetings, George Harris has offered to arrange them for members. Please call him at 822-7141.

FUTURE KHS PROGRAMS

JULY 13th and 14th
Kirkland Arts and Crafts Fair
Sign up to help at the Booth!
Call Bob Burke - 827-6550

AUGUST 11
Marsh Mansion Home Tour!!

OTHER HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES

**Archives Management in Museums
and Historical Societies**
June 15th, 1996
Nordic Heritage Museum, Seattle
Call Heritage Resource Center, Olympia
360 - 586-0219

AKCHO
June 25th, 9:30 to Noon
Sno-Valley Center, Carnation
Historic Landscapes in King County

King County Heritage Festival
July 6 and 7th
Marymoor Museum

Great Northern Railway
Historical Convention
July 7-10, Bellingham
Includes an excursion on a steam train!
Write John Thomas, 328 E Roselawn Ave.
Maplewood, MN. 55117



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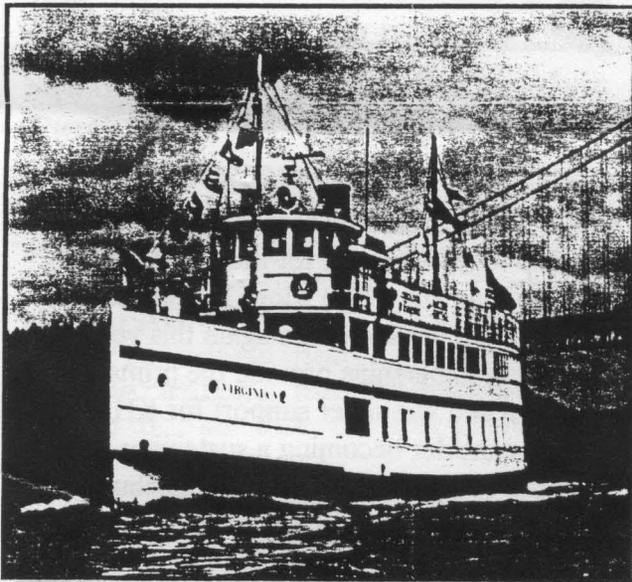
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**HISTORIC VIRGINIA V
VISITS KIRKLAND MARINA PARK
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - FREE!
JUNE 29th and 30th**

The historic wooden steamboat, **Virginia V**, will visit Kirkland the last weekend in June to be open to the public - **FREE!** It will be open Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

This is the only remaining ship of the famous "Mosquito Fleet" which was once the lifeline and lifeblood of Puget Sound. This fleet of ships called at over 215 stops from Olympia to Clallam Bay. The Virginia V Foundation is in the process of raising funds to do the necessary maintenance and repairs which will again allow it to carry passengers! Information on the ship, its rich history and this ambitious restoration effort will be available! **Tell your friends!** Bring the family to see this fascinating vessel on June 29th and 30th!!



**JUNE KHS PROGRAM
ABOARD THE VIRGINIA V
5:15 p.m.
Saturday, June 29th, 1996**

Our June meeting on the Virginia V is on Saturday, not Wednesday! Members will be able to board the ship after it closes to the public for a special presentation and tours by Capt. Don Moss and members of the crew.

Put this event on your calender now!

**THANKS !!
BELLEVUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The meeting at the Winters House in Bellevue was a real treat!! In addition to the presentation by the Society, seeing the restoration of the Winters House and the Archives which they have in it was very inspiring. Their membership commitment to keep the house open 3 days a week is very commendable. I think everyone came away thinking how nice it would be to have a "home" like that for the Kirkland Heritage Society! Again, thanks for the great program!

**KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

As our membership becomes more involved, we thought we would publish periodically a list of the officers and committee chairs so you know who to contact if you have an idea about an event or want to work on a specific project.

Board of Directors

Bob Burke, President 827-6550/828-4095
Alan Stein, Vice President 821-0164
Barbara Loomis, Secretary 827-7194
Laura Westlund, Treasurer 827-6676/8278114
Matt McCauley, Comm. Officer 823-6838
Loita Hawkinson, At-Large 827-1950
Corey Kahler, Past President 823-6232

Committee Chairs

Archives and Collections

Sue Carter, Co-Chair 822-5486
Don Winters, Co-Chair 827-2650

Education and Research

Christina Brugman, Co-Chair 821-3605
Lorraine McConaghy, Co-Chair 827-2927

Membership

Barbara Loomis, Chair 827-7194

Planning and Historic Sites

Lynette Friberg, Co-Chair 827-2936
Velda Wilson, Co-Chair 641-0528

Programs

Bob Burke, Acting Chair 827-6550
George Harris, Rides to Meetings 822-7141
Loita Hawkinson, Refreshments 827-1950
Paula Riggert, Publicity 828-6103

Special Committees

Marsh Mansion Tour - L. Friberg 827-2936
Historic Tour Brochure - Bob Burke 827-6550

Alvin Curtis has had a colorful life. He spent a semester at Stanford University; later attended the University of Oregon and concluded his education at the University of Washington just before the school was moved from Seattle's metropolitan center to the present campus. During most of his 81 years he's been around boats.

Needless to say, the end of boat transportation on the Lake is a nostalgic matter to Alvin Curtis.

But time marches on.

Boy, wouldn't it be interesting to have a look at Mr. Curtis' old scrapbook-diary? Does anyone have any idea what ever happened to it? If you know, call Matt McCauley at 823-6838.

The Cover: *Virginia V*

Since we'll be holding our June meeting aboard this vessel, it is worth taking a look back over her career.

The *Virginia V* was constructed in 1922 by Matthew Anderson at Maplewood near Olalla for the Seattle-Tacoma route of the West Pass Transportation Company. A wooden steamer of 122 tons, her dimensions at construction were 115.9 x 24.1 x 7.1 and she was equipped with a 400 horsepower triple-expansion steam engine. She was one of only two wooden passenger steamers built on Puget Sound after 1920¹.

She operated on this run until 1940, finding new employment when the federalization of the Washington National Guard artillery batteries and later induction of draftees swelled the garrison at the Harbor Defenses of Puget Sound. She was added to the regular government tenders stationed at Port Townsend, plying between Seattle and the forts--Worden, Casey and Flagler--with military personnel and supplies.

In 1942 she was transferred to the Columbia River, operating briefly on the Portland-Astoria route. Later that year she was libeled for debt and sold before the end of the year to the Fremont Boat Co. of Seattle. Although her stint in Oregon, the little steam boat was earned the distinction of being the last scheduled passenger steamboat to operate on both Puget Sound (Seattle-Tacoma route) and the Columbia River (Portland-Astoria route).

In 1944 she was sold again, this time to J.S. Katz and Capt. Howell Parker. For a time she carried war workers between Poulsbo and the Keyport Naval Torpedo

¹ The other was the *Vashona*, whose name was later changed to *Sightseer* and *Columbia Queen*. She moved to perform excursion service on the Columbia River in 1964.



Are You Sure
It's Just
"Growing Pains"?

A child's complaints of recurring aches must not be attributed to "growing pains." When such pains persist, the reasons for them must be determined immediately by the family physician. A parent who fails to take steps to do so may perhaps handicap the child for life. For example, rheumatic fever sometimes shows, as its most striking symptom — pain in the joints. And it is because many other serious illnesses similarly lend themselves to incorrect home diagnosis, that parents must avoid this practice. Consult your doctor, then follow his advice implicitly.

★

Colman's Kirkland Pharmacy

PRESCRIPTION SPECIALISTS PHONE 1101

Station and later that year resumed service on the Seattle-Tacoma route, making two daily round trips via the East Pass. In this service she was commanded by Capt Parker, with his wife, Mary, as purser. The cover photo might have been taken around this time; it shows her with the Tacoma Narrows Bridge in the background.

By 1947 she was operating between Bainbridge Island and the downtown Seattle ferry terminal. Labor troubles in 1948 prompted the Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce to charter her for summer excursion service through the San Juan Islands².

In 1954 the Seattle Maritime Day tugboat races offered a non-towing commercial vessel category, which drew an interesting assortment of vessels including the *Virginia V* and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' stern-wheel steamer *W.T. Preston* and coastal motor steamer *Dispatch*, as well as several others. The smoothly running 400-horsepower triple-expansion engine of the *Virginia V* and the skilled hand of her master--then Capt. Phil Luther who had purchased her that year from the Howells--at her wheel won her the victory in the event.

I'll end things there, since I suspect our June guests will give us a more in-depth explanation of the vessels past thirty or so years.

The thing to remember about the *Virginia V* is that she is the last of a vessel type that was a part of early Puget Sound and Lake Washington residents' everyday lives. Seeing her on the lake allows one to visualize the classic lake excursion boats, like the *Atlanta*, *Fortuna* and *Urania*.

--Matt McCauley

² That same season, Vashon Island Residents secured the 35-car Houghton-built Lake Washington steam ferry *Lincoln* from the King County Commissioners for their cross-Sound route.

Bullet To the Heart

"I woke up," said William Manchester, the eminent historian and biographer, "feeling like a Sherman tank had run over me, driven by General Patton."

Five hours of open heart surgery will do that to you. It was a dismal way to spend Christmas Eve. When the patient came to, he found himself monitored in the quiet of the intensive care unit by computers with eerily twinkling lights. Through the almost unbearable pain came ironic thoughts of "Silent Night."

Mr. Manchester is still recuperating. As a Marine veteran who was seriously wounded on Okinawa, it's not surprising that he used the image of an onrushing tank to illustrate his distress. The wartime metaphor came naturally. In a recent phone conversation (he's in Longboat Key, Fla.) he talked, among other things, about the extent to which most people, and especially young people, are oblivious to the flesh-and-blood reality of World War II.

The most salient images of the war, now more than half a century old, have always come from Hollywood. Combat as entertainment. The New York Post once illustrated a story about General Patton with a headshot of George C. Scott.

"After the war," said Mr. Manchester, "I went with another ex-Marine to see John Wayne in 'The Sands of Iwo Jima.' The manager had to ask us to leave the theater because we couldn't stop laughing. It was so bogus. When someone was shot and killed, it looked as though he went to sleep. He just laid down, intact."

Now even the movies are old. For millions of young Americans World War II is a barely discernible blur, a history lesson that is less real, less colorful and far less compelling than George Lucas's "Star Wars."

And yet, here is Mr. Manchester with a story about a bullet that brings the reality of the war right into the 90's.

On June 5, 1945, Mr. Manchester was a 23-year-old sergeant with a unit on Okinawa that was vulnerable to "screaming meemies," enemy artillery shells that shrieked when they were launched. Three days earlier he had suffered a superficial gunshot wound. Now he stood in a courtyard near his best friend, Rip Thorpe, who was cooking breakfast. They heard the familiar shriek and then the shell landed in the center of the courtyard.

In his memoir of the war, "Good-bye, Darkness," Mr. Manchester wrote: "Rip's body absorbed most of the shock. It disintegrated, and his flesh, blood, brains, and intestines encompassed me. . . . My back and left side were pierced by chunks of shrapnel and fragments of Rick's bones. I also suffered brain injury."

Mr. Manchester was evacuated. Two months later the war was over.

Fast forward nearly 50 years to January 1994. Mr. Manchester, now 72, feels chest pains. He has suffered, in his words, a "small heart attack, which was relieved by angioplasty." As his doctors are studying X-rays of his heart, they discover a foreign object some two centimeters long in the right ventricle.

It is a bullet.

William Manchester apparently had been shot as he lay on the ground, unconscious, after being blown up on Okinawa. Memories may fade and interest may wane, but history doesn't get more real than a bullet in the heart.

"At one time or another during World War II there were 16 million of us in uniform," said Mr. Manchester. He noted that there were a million American casualties, and 400,000 "didn't come back."

"We were a special generation," he said. "After the war we got married and had children and we were America. You get used to that. And then, very, very slowly, over a period of half a century, it eroded."

The men who fought in World War II are "now just the fringe," he said, a tiny percentage of the nation's population, "and that's shrinking every day. In a few years we'll be completely gone."

It was not said sourly, but there was disappointment in his voice. Disappointment that the experiences and, yes, the wisdom of the elders are treated so cavalierly in a society that worships the young.

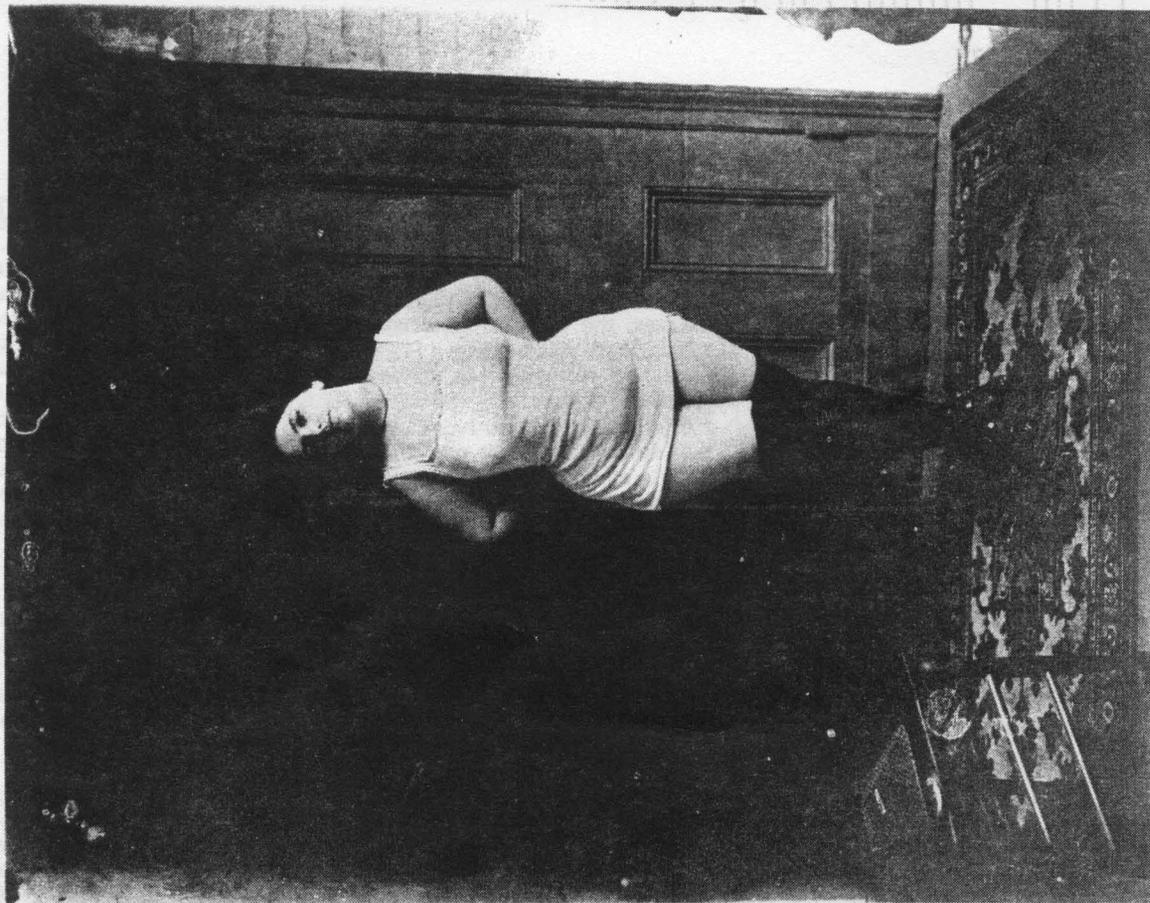
"There are certain experiences that everyone goes through," he said. "And if you're elderly you know some of the pitfalls because you've fallen into them, and this is advice you can pass on."

Mr. Manchester is still in pain, and the bullet is still lodged in his heart, but the doctors say he is healing nicely. He will be 74 on April Fool's Day. □

THE NEW YORK TIMES OP-ED

In America

BOB HERBERT



Ernest J. Bellocq: Untitled (circa 1912)

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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