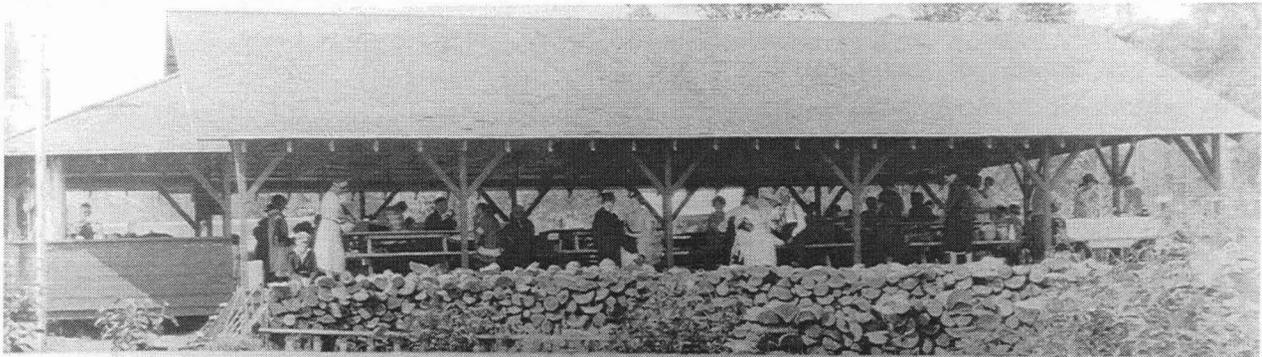


Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the
Kirkland Heritage Society



Juanita Beach

Parking and Picnicking

An intriguing picture of the picnic shed in the upper part of the photo and parking below. I presume that in the distance is the Langdon Store and Langdon Road (116th)



Kirkland Heritage Society

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by
Bob Burke

I commented on Barbara Loomis' house in my letter last month - its coming along - drive by to see - better yet, if its a sunny day, bring a paint brush. Also, Patti Payne featured her "house that wasn't torn down" in her Sunday column. It is wonderful to see this neighbor helping neighbor effort - I can't help wonder if there would have been the same interest in working on a stucco box?

As we move into the Fall and I look at all the things that are happening, I am impressed that KHS's role as an organization is changing. In June I wrote about the need for a permanent KHS home. That need reflects part of the change, but this is much more intrinsic. Since 1992 we have been working to catch up: to tell the history of Kirkland, to document the people who contributed, to collect photographs illustrating our past and to more effectively preserve historic properties.

Each of those efforts is ongoing - we'll never be completely finished - we'll always be challenged to do more! KHS is now recognized as a positive resource and integrated into the decision processes of the Kirkland community. Our role is shown through our work with neighborhoods, community groups, the City and now downtown's Main Street Program! We bring a historical perspective to each of these efforts which increasingly is recognized for its value in framing and contributing to Kirkland's future! Within the preservation community s we are known for our efforts by awards and Alan's representation on AKCHO.

How do we adjust KHS to assume this expanding role and responsibility? I'm not sure, but its something else to consider as we run to catch up!!

STREET SIGNS WITH HISTORIC NAMES

Two exciting things have happened in achieving our goal of displaying the historic street names! **George Harris** who took on this project presented at the last KHS meeting a new design which has the new signs mounted vertically on the pole below the present street signs. They could include neighborhood symbols and historic information. Copies have been given to the City for review.

We have been informed by **Dave Godfrey**, City Engineering Department that \$10,000 has been proposed in the 1999 City budget to install signs incorporating the historic names. If approved, KHS will be working with the City to finalize the design and locations. George, thank you for taking on this project!!



1889



TALES FROM THE EAST SIDE JOURNAL

By Alan J Stein

October can be an odd month for weather. Some of the most beautiful days of the year occur during this Autumn splendor, but some of the cruelest can also strike. This month's historic article is from the October 4, 1962 edition of the East Side Journal, and describes one of the more freakish events to hit the East Side.

Tornado Sweeps Across Finn Hill, Juanita Area

This will be known as the year Bouncing Betty the tornado knocked Finn Hill flat, after bouncing off Denny Park area.

Seattle sent it across Lake Washington toward Holmes Pt. Dr. shortly after 6 p.m. last Saturday.

Mrs. D. O. Smith and her son Ken, 14, watched it coming. They live on the lake.

The water danced up and down without waves, Mrs. Smith relates. Then their trees whipped first one way, then the other and then down. Next they noticed the supports for their porch collapse.

They looked out and the porch roof was gone.

In 1933 in a fall storm they lost their porch roof also. Power was out three days then and trees fell on the porch.

As the porch left, the full blast of the tornado the weather people say won't come this way, hit the house. Sand and debris plastered the brown house white.

A three foot thick madrona tree that leans out over a bank toward the water was whipped back to lean the other way.

A fir 10 feet from the house was splintered and laid on the ground by the wind.

One flying branch broke a window, but the Smith's boat in the water was unharmed.

"We had no idea of what it was. It was over so fast," Mrs. Smith recollects.

Shingles were torn from the Ed Cotter home nearby and a maple toppled. Mrs. Porter Perrin had big firs on either side of her house flopped down pointing away from the house, but it was unharmed.

A boat belonging to the Tom Kilpatrick's, who'd left a half hour before for Harrison Hot Springs, was thrown off their dock.

Buni Lercher, 15, a junior at Lake Washington High School, was baby sitting there at the time.

"Pretty exciting," she said.

Up the hill a way George Watson, 11530 Holmes Pt. Dr. had gone out in the rain to see if a newly poured concrete slab was draining right.

A branch hit him in the chest, apparently the only casualty, but that so slight that he

was unscratched.

There was a "thunderous noise" and three trees near the road flopped first one way and then the other and fell over the road "like a bulldozer" swiped them down.

From there the tornado bounced on up a gully toward Steiner's Corner, squashing trees here, missing them there.

Roger Cross of 12411 84th Ave. NE on Finn Hill discovered some, but not all, of the window frames that had been thrown into the corn patch and shattered.

Mrs. Cross saw the funnel coming. A funnel some 300 feet high was full of debris and maybe a hundred birds being whirled around, she said.

Barney Shreeve at 12414 84th Ave. NE lost the top of a big maple tree.

The twister apparently left the area about at the Norman Searle residence on the Bothell-Juanita highway.

**PETER KIRK
IN THE GUEST BOOK**

By Alan J Stein

Recently, I had a chance to visit the Snoqualmie Valley museum in North Bend while doing research for History Link. I met with museum director Greg Watson, who has a vast knowledge of the history of the valley. The next time you're up in North Bend, don't hesitate to stop in and visit Greg and the museum, which is located a few blocks south of the old Mar-T café.

I was looking into Snoqualmie Valley history, but since I had read that the registration book from the old Hop Ranch Hotel was at the museum, I asked to look through it to find a little piece of Kirkland history.

The Hop Ranch Hotel was a grand structure built in Snoqualmie in 1886. The valley (and especially the falls) was a destination for many Seattleites even then as it is today. Politicians, businessmen, out-of-town visitors and the like all stayed or dined at the hotel near the turn of the century.

I knew that one of those people was Peter Kirk. Kirk's grand plan for a steel mill entailed large amounts of iron ore. Seattle pioneer Arthur Denny had interest in an iron mine near Snoqualmie Pass, and Kirk was look-

ing to capitalize on this. If they went up to visit the site, I figured that they would have stopped at the hotel.

Sure enough, they had.

The register was an old leather-bound book, filled with names and hometowns on every page. Greg let me leaf through it, and within a few pages, there they were: A. Denny, Peter Kirk and a J. Ellis from England. A few pages later the names appeared again. Further in, Kirk showed up one more time with a different party.

Unfortunately, I don't believe that the names were actually signed by his hand. Many of the signatures appeared to be similar, leading Greg and I to assume that the hotel registrar entered them. Still, it was fascinating to know for sure what Peter Kirk had been doing on a particular fall day in 1890 - sipping tea after spending a long day in the mountains looking for some iron.

Paging through the rest of the book, I stumbled on a piece Northwest trivia unrelated to Kirkland, but interesting nonetheless. In the late 1890s, a Toklas family from Seattle visited the hotel for dinner. A young girl in the family was listed as A. B. Toklas. Mr. Watson pointed out to me that this was Alice B. Toklas, later to become a writer and close companion of poet Gertrude Stein.

**AKCHO
MEETING IN KIRKLAND,
November 24,
Aboard the Argosy**

By Alan J Stein
AKCHO trustee

The Association of King County Historical Organizations convenes their monthly meetings at different locations throughout the year. November's meeting will be held on Tuesday the 24th, at 9:30 a.m., aboard the Argosy, which is moored at Marina Park in downtown Kirkland.

All AKCHO meetings are open to the public, and I invite members of the Kirkland Heritage Society to come to this one. The meetings are a good chance to discover what other historical organizations are doing in their communities, and to share stories of the work that we are doing here in our own. A nice showing of KHS members is a good way to show our strength by numbers.

This month's program will be about the history and restoration of the Argosy, which was originally a ferryboat on the Columbia River. If you haven't had a chance to go aboard her yet, this is your chance to do so, free-of-charge. Also, refreshments will be served.



RENOVATION OF THIS OLD HOUSE IS A COMMUNITY EFFORT

by Barbara Loomis

My 1889 Queen Anne house was last painted about 17 years ago. Almost every window downstairs was broken and had inefficient aluminum storm windows which detracted from the Victorian double hung style. The house looked very sad in such a state of disrepair but I couldn't afford to have the work done by professional painters. My new neighbor, **Terri Anderson** suggested that we just have a "Painting Party," invite the neighborhood, friends, relatives, and KHS members, and crank-out the Bar B Q! So that's what we did! We've had about six parties with as many as thirteen people working on the house at one time!

I chose four colors from the Benjamin Moore Historic Color palet. Hunter Green for the windows and doors (this is an original window color,) medium green for the body, light green for the fish-scale shingles and a creamy white trim. In order to maintain the architectural integrity and save a whole lot of money I've been rebuilding windows and replacing glass. There is a lot of wood rot which I am either replacing with new wood or filling with a product from Min Wax which includes a wood hardener and a sandable filler. The newel posts at the bottom of the porch stairs have rotted out so I'm replacing that section with new wood. My wood-working teacher, **John Avery**, at the Voc. Tech. has been a tremendous help.

Terri and most of her clan; husband **Tom Buxton**, (even with a broken foot!) **Carl Anderson**, **Troy Anderson**, **Mike Day**, and **Robert Lee** have been here almost every weekend. Terri has even hosted some of the dinners, with Tom as cook, when my house has been too torn up! KHS member **Michael Radcliff** did yeoman work sanding most of the house with a grinder, and even coming over after work to finish it. KHS members and neighbors **Melissa and Jeff Thirloway** and son **Tyler** are meticulous painters (and Jeff does the high eves), as does my daughter **Stephanie** and her boyfriend **Matt Adams** (mom just doesn't look!) KHS members **Pam Owens** and **Cathy Smith** have done tedious scraping, caulking and painting. My youngest daughter **Sarah** and her friend **Jason Preuett** have also helped with the painting. KHS President **Bob Burke** is replacing trim and skirting that is missing, making repairs to rotted-out sections and lending his architectural advice. His son-in-law, **Todd Moore**, who is visiting from Alaska is painting the finish coat in the upper sections. We couldn't have done it without the expert advice of my next-door neighbor, **Jay Hardin**, commercial painter, who lent us caulking guns, scrappers and ladders. I thank you all for all your hard work, good humor and time to make my house a beautiful "Painted Lady" again.

**K I R K L A N D
HERITAGE SOCIETY**

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Phone: (425) 827-7194

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Shannon Harris 822-2478

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Exhibits:
Vic Newhard (206) 949-6457
Web Site:
Kelli Adam 827-5255

CALENDAR

October 27
AKCHO
9:30 a.m.
Black Heritage Society
Jackson Street After Hours
Mount Zion Baptist Church
Corner of 19th & E. Madison

October 28
KHS Board Meeting
6:00 p.m.
KHS Program:
7:00 p.m.
Linda McCune, *Puget Sound
Maritime History*
Linda will share some of her late
husband's TV programs about
Puget Sound history.

November 5
James Kunstler
7:00
*Geography of Nowhere, and
Home from Nowhere*, author will
be at the Lake Washington High
School Cadle Auditorium. Don't
miss this dynamic speaker who tells
it like he sees it, regarding urban
planning issues!

November 6-7
Livable Communities
Fair
Seattle Center
F r e e !
Join neighbors and community lead-
ers who want to learn practical
positive ways to build healthier com-
munities.

No November Program

December 13
Holiday Open House
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
The historic Loomis House will be
decorated and open.
*Unless otherwise noted KHS
meetings are held the last
Wednesday of the month at 7
p.m., Kirkland Congregational
Church, 106-5th Ave.*

MEMBERSHIP FORM

July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999

KHS now qualifies for tax exemption un-
der 501(c)(3) and your contribution is de-
ductible to the extent allowed by law. We
now qualify for match contributions by
those employers who offer this benefit.

- Individual \$20
- Family \$25
- Senior/Student \$15
- Supporting \$100
- Life Member \$1,000
- Organization/Government \$100
- Professional/Business \$125
- Corporate \$250

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

My Company Matches Contributions
Contact: _____

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Your membership is the first important step in
helping achieve our goals. Interested in helping
on other projects? Please indicate the areas in
which you would be able to volunteer.

Serve on a Standing Committee:

- _____ Archives and Collections
- _____ Education and Research
- _____ Membership and Funding
- _____ Monthly Programs
- _____ Oral History
- _____ Newsletter, Blackberry Preserves
- _____ KHS Web Site

Work on specific activity:

- _____ Exhibit at Community Events
- _____ Home Tour
- _____ Do Photography / Update Slides
- _____ Install Original Street Name Signs
- _____ Video on Kirkland History
- _____ School Education Program

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home# _____ Work # _____
Organization/Firm _____

Checks should be made payable and mailed to:
Kirkland Heritage Society, 235 - 10th Ave. W.,
Kirkland, WA 98033. Phone: (425) 889 - 9120



**Exterior Restoration has begun on
This Old House**

Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 304 - 8th Ave. West, Kirkland, WA 98033, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. To contribute articles or for more information on KHS, please call Barbara Loomis, Publisher, (425) 827-7194 or E-Mail: bloomis@msn.com



Kirkland Heritage Society

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