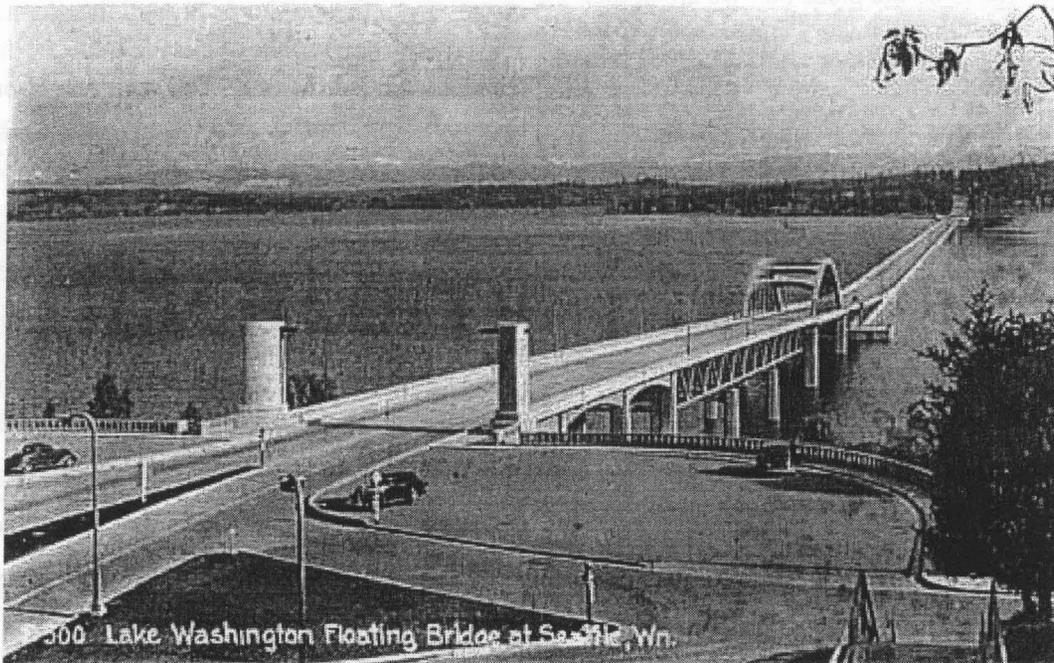


Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the
Kirkland Heritage Society



500 Lake Washington Floating Bridge at Seattle, Wn.

LIGHT TRAFFIC ON THE LAKE WASHINGTON FLOATING BRIDGE IN THE 1940'S

See *Alan J. Stein*, page 4



Kirkland Heritage Society

JUNE 2001 PRESIDENT LETTER Bob Burke

Embodied in our KHS Mission Statement are a number of goals to identify, preserve, interpret and exhibit Kirkland's history and heritage. **Why do we do this?** We do it for the future — for those who will come to our community in 10 or 50 or 100 years from now, so they will know how we got to be the place that we are at that time. This is photographs, oral history tapes, records, markers and historic sites.

I see that one of the unique aspects of Kirkland is our strong history! The homesteads and the people who first came here; Peter Kirk and his dream; the ferries connecting across the Lake; Burke and Farrar and their numerous plats and bungalows; lowering the lake and downtown development; the depression in the 30's; the shipyards; World War II — each of these is still represented in some physical aspect of our community! Each of these still contributes to the quality and character of Kirkland! Our job is to see that future generations have an even better understanding and appreciation of our heritage!

If I had to name one accomplishment over the past six years that stands out, it is our receiving, with the City of Kirkland, the **John D. Spellman Award for Exemplary Achievement in Historic Preservation** from King County. This was given to us because of the "partnership" we have developed: it started with strengthened polices in the City's comprehensive plan, the inventory of historic properties; and culminated in saving the former Christian Science Church building and designating it as a community meeting hall and historic resource center.

We need to continue to build on our successes and our partnerships with the City and other groups to accomplish our Mission! KHS is a vital recognized organization in our City and I am proud to have had the chance to work with all our members as its President for the past six years! There is much, much more to be done, but we are up to it — remembering our history and looking to the future!

SUMMERFEST IS COMING

Vic Newhard

The Kirkland Heritage Society will be visible at Summerfest on the weekend of July 14 and 15, 2001. We will have our booth set up and running with some displays of our history and heritage in archive pictures, progress on the church project, information handouts, and our getting-to-be famous, ice cold, Sarsaparilla to quench the thirst.

The most important job we will have is promoting the beautiful Wilkeson sandstone pavers to the public. This is primary in getting funds for the church renovation to which we are committed. We will have samples on display. The Heritage Society needs to raise enough money from these sales to buy all the pavers as a batch. The pavers then will be available to be engraved for installation later this year. Tell your neighbors and friends to stop by the booth as they enjoy the day at Marina Park and the Kirkland Art Center's Summerfest 2001.

Our booth requires quite a number of volunteers to make it the success it has been each year. If you are able to help by spending a few hours at the booth during the day, please call and leave a message for me at (425) 820-5151 extension 233. We will be calling in the next week for help and to set up the time schedule.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

If you have not already done so,
please send in your membership renewal!

Thanks!

It saves us from sending out a second notice!

Buy your Wilkeson stone paver now
to support the renovation of the
historic church!

Blackberry Preserves

**KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR JULY, 2000 – JUNE, 2001**

KHS BOARD/COMMITTEE NEWS

At the May 28th meeting the membership unanimously elected **Vic Newhard** as President; **Loita Hawkinson** as Secretary, and **Shannon Harris** to an At-Large position. **Bob Burke** remains on the board as the Past President. **Alan Stein, Nancy Stephens and David Cantrill** continue to serve.

The board held a "transition" meeting on June 9th to make sure the various activities of KHS were properly assigned and, as usual, we generated a couple great new ideas!

- Create a "Peter Kirk Day" possibly simply starting with a proclamation and evolving into an event; and
- Establishing a relationship with Workington, England where Peter Kirk is from. Many of our natural features such as Moss Bay and original street names are from there. Workington is near the English - Scottish border.

Other items discussed:

- Maintain official address at 1032 4th Street until we are able to use the Church;
- Devote some time at our meetings to Committee activities;
- **Alan Stein** and **Shannon Harris** will complete the new display for City Hall in early July;
- Transition representation on Chamber of Commerce and Kirkland Downtown on the Lake;
- Establish programs with schools and scout troops on Kirkland's history;
- Fill Committee chairs with co-chairs whenever possible;
- **David Cantrill** will follow the Eastside Heritage Center.

Erika Kahler has resigned as co-chair of the Oral History Committee. Thank you for your work! Anyone who is interested in co-chairing that committee should call Vic Newhard.

**BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
6:00 p.m. Prior to Regular Meeting
June 27, 2001**

KHS Members are welcome to Attend!

Receipts:

	KHS General Fund	KHS Church Fund	KHS Totals
Membership Renewals	\$4,320	\$0	\$4,320
Paver Sales	0	8,160	8,160
Grant Income	2,000	5,000	7,000
Book and Booth Sales	1,491	0	1,491
Church Contributions	0	8,708	8,708
Interest Income	538	180	718
Donations	30	0	30
Total Receipts	<u>8,379</u>	<u>22,048</u>	<u>30,427</u>

Expenses:

Printing Costs	1,826	688	2,514
Dues and Education	1,012	0	1,012
Oral History Supplies	189	0	189
Contributions	250	0	250
Rent	965	0	965
Operating Supplies and Expenses	1,549	0	1,549
Archive Materials	1,632	0	1,632
Total Expenses	<u>7,423</u>	<u>688</u>	<u>8,111</u>

Excess of Receipts Over Expenses \$956 \$21,360 \$22,316

Thank you to everyone for your contributions and efforts on behalf of the Kirkland Heritage Society and the Kirkland Community.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Stephens, Treasurer

JUNE 27TH PROGRAM

7:00 P.M.

Kirkland Congregational Church
106 - 5th Avenue, Kirkland, WA

STAN KRAHN Shipyard Stories

Come hear Stan's entertaining and informative stories from his
Lake Washington Shipyard days during World War II.
He may have a story about someone you know!

We will also have an update by Keith Maehlum, West Water Real Estate, on the proposed design for the historic, now vacant, former "hotel" site at the corner of Market Street and 7th Avenue West.

Blackberry Preserves

Tales from the East Side Journal

By Alan J. Stein

Over fifty years ago, on July 4, 1949, tolls came off of Lake Washington's first floating bridge, opening up the East Side to free and easy access. A few days before the big event, the *East Side Journal* printed an article by Sylvia Tacker, which told of the transportation travails that faced East Side pioneers more than fifty years earlier. That article, from the June 30, 1949 edition of the newspaper is reproduced here.

Toll Celebration is Reminiscent of Days When "Elfin" Plied the Lake

The toll-free trip across the floating bridge in a matter of minutes to the heart of Seattle is a far cry from a trip by rowboat which was one of the modes of transportation across Lake Washington more than fifty years ago.

Mrs. H. D. French, pioneer resident of Houghton, recalls that this was the way that she reached this side of the lake fifty-five years ago. Her father-in-law, Foster French, came to this area in 1872, when wagon roads were little more than cow trails from Kirkland to what is now Bellevue.

More than 60 years ago Walter and Al Curtis ran the steamer "Elfin" from Juanita to Houghton and then around the lake to Madison Park, stopping at all the little inlets and islands wherever there was a flag up indicating there might be a passenger or an important letter. From Madison, the old cable car went on in to Seattle.

When Mrs. Bessie Kirtley's mother and father, John and Abigail Fish, came from Maine to Houghton, then called Pleasant Bay, 62 year ago, they came by train and steamer across, or rather around, the lake. Mrs. Kirtley's husband operated a logging camp about fifty years ago where the Midway Tavern is now located on the D. Mott Dock.

Mrs. Earl Kirtley recalls that nearly 40 years ago there was a dirt road to Kirkland from Houghton and a wooden sidewalk with a railing on it to prevent the pedestrians from falling into lake underneath.

It was a day's undertaking to go to Redmond in those early days. A train left North Bend for Seattle and back twice a day, stopping in Bothell, or going by Kirkland through Renton to Seattle, Postmaster Leo Reed remembers.

However, when William "Bill" Brown came to Redmond he crossed Lake Washington in a boat and then walked from the steamer dock in Houghton to Redmond to settle. Furniture came up the Sammamish River in a flat-bottomed boat through the slough to Redmond.

The first surfaced road to Redmond was begun in about 1908 or 1909. It was finished as far as Redmond by 1911, and in 1912 reached the Cadman gravel pit and in 1913 the brick road from Cadman Gravel was finished to Happy Valley.

The three Brown brothers – Charley, Fred, and William – were among the first stage drivers who took passengers from Redmond to Kirkland. In 1908 they drove a stage that was no more reliable than the weather and the roads. "You might stand on the corner and never get to town some days, because the tires were worse," related Mr. Brown. But in 1911 they increased their fleet to 11 cars and at one time had nine drivers.

In 1923 Leo Reed took over the stage route and in 1926 took in the present mayor, Lewis Green, his brother-in-law, as a partner. Reed bought out Green in 1930 and it was finally sold to the present Trailways company.

Thus the passing years have brought about changing times to these pioneers who spent a day going by boat, train, or shanks mare, through mud more often than not, to the present day when the same trip is made by the same people many times in a day across a miraculous bridge of floating concrete.

Alan Stein's New Book

KHS Vice-President Alan Stein has just published a new book of maritime history entitled *Safe Passage: The Birth of Washington State Ferries*. The book, which can be purchased for \$12.95 at <http://www.ferryboatshop.com>, was written in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Washington State Ferries, the largest ferry system in the United States.

Although the book details the history of ferries on Puget Sound, a small amount of Kirkland history is scattered through-

out. The world famous *Kalakala* was built in Houghton, as well as some other well-known ferry boats. Also, Kirkland's own *Leschi* ferry later went on to become a member of the WSF fleet, and Alan made sure to get a marvelous shot of it on the back cover, as a nod to all of his Kirkland friends.

If you buy a copy of the book, either off of the WSF website or at a WSF gift shop, be sure to bring it to a KHS member's meeting, and Alan will gladly sign it for you.

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE AND FIREWORKS

Kirkland will again celebrate the 4th of July with a parade and fireworks. The Kirkland Heritage Society made a contribution to support the celebration because the Board feels this is the type of event that reinforces our small town character and our sense of community. **Frank Rosin** has again offered his Model A so KHS again can participate in the parade. We also plan to have some bunting on the front of the Church.



Frank Rosin, Loita Hawkinson and Barbara Loomis in the 2000 Fourth of July Parade

EASTSIDE HERITAGE NEWS

The Bellevue Historic Society and Marymoor Museum of Eastside History have become one organization to promote an Eastside Heritage Center (EHC). In their June 2001 newsletter an article by Greg Watson featured the Kirkland Woolen Mill: the article is continued to their next issue. KHS supports the concept of an Eastside Heritage Center that would serve all of our communities.

AKCHO HERITAGE EDUCATION AWARD

The Association of King County Heritage Organizations (AKCHO) presented a 2001 Heritage Education Award to Barb Williams, EHC Education Coordinator, and Lynette Benaltabe, Michelle Lindstrom and Cathy Nishimura, teachers in the Lake Washington School District. Congratulations! KHS provided information on Kirkland's history and the previous curriculum we did with the **Kirkland Arts Center**.

CHURCH RENOVATION UPDATE

The efforts on the renovation of the Church are continuing on a number of fronts. The company somehow lost the order for the windows and we are trying to get that back on track. We had really hoped to have them installed before the 4th of July. We were not successful in our grant application to the State — they only had \$125,000 statewide for historic preservation. We're exploring some other grant programs.

Don Winters has organized two work parties on the Church. If you are interested in helping, call him at 827-2650. Thanks, Don, for taking over this effort!

Page & Beard, Architects, are working on the plans for the Church building and will have some new drawings for our booth at Summerfest. A meeting is scheduled with the City on June 28th to coordinate our activities.

Paver sales are continuing and we will be making a big push to sell business/corporate pavers through a direct mailing the next couple weeks as well as individual pavers at our Summerfest booth. If you need a form please call **Bob Burke**, 828-4095 or pick one up at our meeting on June 27th. If you have not purchased your paver yet, please do so now! We need to sell enough to purchase the stone.

PRESIDENT ELECT'S LETTER

Vic Newhard

I wish to thank the membership of our wonderful Kirkland Heritage Society for electing me to be the incoming President. Congratulations to elected Shannon Harris, our new Board member, and Loita Hawkinson, re-elected as Board Secretary. Following in the footsteps of our Past President, Bob Burke, and his leadership to where we now are, is a great challenge. It is a relief to know that he will remain active along with the other Board members, Alan Stein, Nancy Stephens, and David Cantrill. Their work on the ongoing and future projects of the Kirkland Heritage Society is vital to keep us on track and growing.

Our membership is the key to our volunteer organization to fulfill the tasks associated with each project directed toward preservation and history of Kirkland. I am asking the membership, both past and present, to support your Society by renewing your membership dues, bringing in new members, and the most important thing — volunteering some time on one or more of the committees. Many hands make the jobs easier. Your participation and ideas are very valuable toward our continuing growth and success within the community.

On behalf of the Kirkland Heritage Society I thank Alan Stein for the generous gift of a signed copy of his recently published book "Safe Passage, The Birth of Washington State Ferries." With a WARP and two WOOFs it will dock in the Kirkland Heritage Society collection.

KHS PERSONAL VIRTUAL SECRETARY

Lillían E. Reed, owner, Just My Type now provides secretarial and desktop publishing services to KHS. The Board felt that having this service would assist us in obtaining volunteers for the newsletter and other committee responsibilities. This issue of *Blackberry Preserves* is the first one she has done for us. Welcome, and thanks for your help!!

ARCHIVES AND COLLECTIONS

David Cantrill

Work in the Archives this year has been very exciting, and the rewards of this vital work have just started to materialize. Your Archive Committee has been hard at work on various projects during the course of the year. We finished the Arline Andre Collection, and put out a working copy so others could give us input to this great collection of photos of our pioneers and early Kirkland.

We met with Mr. Gary Lanksbury who donated many fine pieces of memorabilia and photos from his childhood in Kirkland. This included newspapers from the shipyard and magazines of the East Side. I brought the Marsh Collection up to date and put the photos in order and generated data sheets for our records. The Toman and Eagon Collections were finally categorized and put in order. With help from Bob B. we were able to weed through the bulk of material, photos, and negatives in the KHS Collection, and put it into some sort of order.

We are now in the middle of the Walter Williams Collection 1989-1929. Walter's granddaughter, Mary Bell, has graciously allowed us to go through their first photo album and make copies of these wonderful images of early life on the East shore of Lake Washington. Walter had a summer place on Juanita Bay and the album is filled with shots of a growing family at play and vividly portrays one family's life in Kirkland. Many side views show the building of the Smith Tower and Husky Stadium in Seattle. I made a working copy of all 336 pages, some 5000 photos in all, to show the continuity throughout the album. All the photos we picked, around 145 in all, have been processed. Now begins the long job of generating data sheets for all of them.

Once this is done the Williams-Bell family will loan us the next album which is from 1930 through the 1940's. These two endeavors will keep us busy for a long time. Meanwhile, we are still receiving photo collections from other people in the area. Maybe some of you out there have photos or memorabilia that KHS might need for its growing collection of our city's history? Please contact us and let us help you to share your photos with Kirkland. Until then I remain in service, David Cantrill Chairman of Archives and Collections for KHS.

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY DIRECTORY

OFFICIAL ADDRESS:
1032 4th Street
Kirkland, WA 98033
Phone: (425) 828-4095
www.historylink.org/khs

OFFICERS AND BOARD

President: Vic Newhard	820-5151 x223
Vice President: Alan Stein	821-0164
Secretary: Loita Hawkinson	827-1950
Treasurer: Nancy Stephens	822-9475
At Large Members:	
David Cantrill	821-4021
Shannon Harris	822-2478
Past President: Bob Burke	828-4095

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archives	
David Cantrill	821-4021
Melissa Thirloway	889-9120

Communications

To be filled

Oral History

To be filled

Historic Sites and Planning

Vic Newhard	820-5151 x233
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Membership and Funding

Bob Burke	828-4095
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Programs and Education

Shannon Harris	822-2478
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SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Exhibits

Vic Newhard	820-5151 x233
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Web Site

Dale Hawkinson	827-1950
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Church Renovation

Bob Burke	828-4095
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*Unless otherwise noted
KHS meetings are held
the last Wednesday
of the month at 7 p.m.,
Kirkland Congregational
Church, 106 5th Avenue.*

CALENDAR

KHS PROGRAMS - I have been putting together programs for KHS for the past four years. If there is a program you'd like to have on our calendar for next year, please let me know. I still have several new program ideas, but I want you all to have an opportunity to share your thoughts. All ideas, comments, and suggestions are welcomed. Call me at 822-2478.
Thanks! Shannon Harris

June

27 Stan Krahn - Shipyard Stories. Come hear Stan's entertaining and informative stories from his Lake Washington Shipyard days during WWII. He may have a story about someone you know.

July

Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks.

14 & 15 Summerfest. Think cold sarsaparilla. If you were born in the Kirkland Hospital stop by and sign our baby book at our booth.

August

29 Annual Blackberry Ice Cream Social. Taste those blackberries! Bring a friend for stories and sharing.

September

8 Norkirk Neighborhood Picnic. Crestwoods Park 12-4pm. For more info or volunteer opportunities contact Virginia Woods 828-3180.

15 & 16 Taste! Kirkland - Visit the KHS Exhibit Booth.

26 Jerry Rutherford - 57 Years of Juanita Stories. Resident and former Juanita business owner, and an active church member of the Kirkland Congregational Church.

October

24 Education Program - To be announced. (Meeting one week early due to Halloween)

November No meeting. Happy Thanksgiving!

December Holiday open house. Date, time and place to be announced.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

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

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organization/Government | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional/Business | \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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 are interested.

Serve on Standing Committee:

- Archives and Collections
- Communications Blackberry Preserves
- Oral History
- Historic Sites and Planning
- Membership and Funding
- Programs and Education

Work on Specific Activity:

- Christian Science Church Renovation
 - Funding: Pledge Drives, etc.
 - Volunteers: Carpentry, Painting
- Community Events/Exhibits
- Home Tour
- Photography/Update Slides
- Video on Kirkland History

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home# _____ Work# _____

Organization/Firm _____

Checks should be made payable and mailed to:
Kirkland Heritage Society
1032 4th Street Kirkland, WA 98033
Phone: (425) 828-4095

**DOWNTOWN
KIRKLAND'S WEDNESDAY
MARKET OPENS**

On June 6th the **Kirkland Wednesday Market** opened in downtown Kirkland. This photograph shows two of KHS's most distinguished members officially cutting the ribbon: Mayor Larry Springer, City Manager Dave Ramsay - Mike Nelson, President of Kirkland Downtown on the Lake (KDL) is on the far right. The Market is located on Park Lane between Main Street and Third Street and contains 40 to 50 booths with fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as juried crafts.



*Mayor Larry Springer, City Manager Dave Ramsay,
Mike Nelson, KDL President*

The Market will be open from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday until October. The Market is sponsored by KDL with financial support from the City and a team from the Leadership Institute appropriately titled the "Red Tomatoes Team".

Thanks to everyone for their hard work in putting the Kirkland Wednesday Market together! Be sure to take advantage of this new experience in Downtown Kirkland!

Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 1032 4th Street, Kirkland, WA 98033, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. To contribute articles or for more information on KHS, please call Bob Burke, Editor, 425-828-4095.



Kirkland Heritage Society

Kirkland Heritage Society
1032 4th Street
Kirkland, WA 98033