

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

THE JOURNAL OF THE

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



RECENTLY ACQUIRED POST CARD – LAKE STREET SOUTH IN THE 1920'S
Fort Jackson to the far left, new sidewalk and street trees.

JOIN US FOR ANOTHER GREAT KHS PROGRAM!!

AUGUST 30 – 7:00 PM

Dedication of First phase of Heritage Park – Waverly Arch, Market at Waverly Way
EIGHTH ANNUAL BLACKBERRY SUNDAE SOCIAL – HERITAGE HALL

VOLUME XIII, ISSUE 5

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2006



Kirkland Heritage Society

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Bob Burke

The Annual Blackberry Sundae Social is one of our favorite events and will be even larger this year since we are cooperating with the City in the dedication of the first phase of Heritage Park up at Waverly Arch at 7:00 immediately followed by our Social in Heritage Hall. This is our eighth annual social! It was our first event held in Heritage Hall in 2003!

We are completing negotiations for the settlement of the damage done by the floor being flooded in our space in December. Again, I want to assure everyone that none of our collections were damaged – mainly, it has been a real inconvenience since we have not had full use of the space. Between a payment already received from the City of Kirkland and the agreed upon settlement with the Landscape Architect, we will be fully compensated for our first loss. We are still working with the City on the second event in May and looking to make improvements to the building drainage system that will assure it does not occur again.

I met with Stu VanderHoek, President of the Board, and Heather Trescases, Director, of the Eastside Heritage Center to review what they are doing and how Kirkland and KHS might be involved with them over time. An article by David Cantrill also explains our efforts with their archivist. We are arranging a meeting in September to review the database they use for their collections. Getting all our collections – photographs, historic structures, and documents - placed in a database will be an ongoing effort for KHS over the next couple years, but will allow easier access for everyone doing research.

We received an announcement from the Kirkland Arts Center stating that their Board had voted to not continue doing SummerFest. This has been a major community event supporting the Arts for years. It has also provided a venue for KHS to provide information on the history of Kirkland. Hopefully some other event will develop! We will miss it!

Upcoming KHS Programs

August 30, 7:00 pm

The Dedication of Kirkland's Heritage Park at Waverly Arch

KHS's Eighth Annual Blackberry Sundae Social at Heritage Hall

Come enjoy lip-smacking organic blackberries and good-old fashion vanilla ice cream. Bring an interesting treasure to share and a friend to celebrate our annual summer gathering. This year KHS will have the pleasure in sharing the festivities with the City of Kirkland to dedicate the first phase of Heritage Park. Guarantee to be a pleasant and enjoyable August event!

September 27, 7:00 pm.

WHAT'S COOKING AND ALL THAT ANTIQUE KITCHEN STUFF!

Show and share your old cookbooks, great-grandma's favorite recipes, antique kitchen gadgets, pots, kitchen linens, and all your nifty old gizmos. Surprise us with your most unique antique kitchen gadget!

Upon arrival, don't miss our door-prize drawing – IT IS A COOK'S SURPRISE!

NEED A RIDE TO OUR MEETINGS?

Contact Lynette Friberg Weber at 890-9058 so she can arrange for someone to pick you up.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities will be provided upon request. Please call 425 827-3446 at least four working days in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.

**KIRKLAND CANNERY PUBLIC MEETING
Look for Announcements of Future Meetings on
the Kirkland Cannery this Fall!**

Oral History with Martha Burr Millar by Loita Hawkinson

In July, 2006, Dale and Loita Hawkinson spent many hours in the home of Kirkland born resident Martha Burr Millar. Three and one half hours of oral history were recorded and have now been transcribed.

The Martha Burr Millar story is rich in Kirkland History. We again learn that Kirkland did not grow by accident. There was a flow that followed after the Peter Kirk influence. Martha's parents were David Burr and Gladys Simmons Burr. They met in Kirkland and married in Kirkland. Gladys Simmons' sister had married Jim Collins, R.H. Collins' son, so there was that connection with the Foundering Fathers.



*Telephone Company Office, Dec. 27, 1939
Irving Gates, David Burr, Gladys Burr,
Martha Burr (Millar) working at desk.*

David Burr visited Seattle and was convinced by R.H. Collins to visit Kirkland and was instrumental in David Burr buying the shares of the Kirkland Telephone Company, in which R.H. Collins also had shares. Peter Kirk's son-in-law, James Bell, started the phone company and sold out to David Burr in 1914. So David Burr also had the connection with Foundering Fathers. Martha has a 95 year old cousin that remembers Leigh Hunt very well so yet another connection.

We feel we have just scratched the surface with Martha. One day we hope to revisit her home and have her tell the history of her husband's family. Robert Millar was also born in Kirkland. Martha is also helping identify the home movies shared by Pam Gates Owens. Pam's

grandparents and Martha's parents were the best of friends.

Anyone who is interested in doing an oral history and helping preserve Kirkland's rich history, please call Dale and Loita at 425-827-1950. It is a big commitment

in time to do even one history, but it will enrich your own knowledge and help save these moments of history for future generations.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION VS TEARDOWNS Barbara Loomis

Two recent articles on an issue facing Kirkland – managing growth and preserving historic structures are of interest: and concern! The article in the front page of the Seattle Times, August, 15th was entitled “Cities Wrestle with How to Grow but not Erase History in the Rush”. The article by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy is “Teardowns: Costs, Benefits and Public Policy” We will be placing this article on our website: www.kirklandheritage.org.

Last Chance!

**Lynette Friberg Weber
Membership Chair**

Can you believe we are more than half way through 2005 already? As most of you know, KHS changed the membership fiscal year from January to January versus the old July to July standing. We still have 30 some odd members (did that come out right?) who have not renewed for the year 2006. After September 15, we will not be sending any further communications – such as this wonderful award winning newsletter - if you have not renewed your membership for this year.

So if this is something that has just slipped your mind & you would still like to receive the Blackberry Preserves as well as continue supporting the Kirkland Heritage Society in 2006, please do mail your check with the enclosed form to the following:

Kirkland Heritage Society
203 Market Street
Kirkland, WA. 98033

If you have questions regarding membership, please call Lynette Friberg Weber at 425-890-9058.

DONATE A WILKESON STONE PAVER TO COMPLETE THE FRONT WALKWAY OF HERITAGE HALL IN 2006 !!

NORMALLY, WE NEED TO HAVE SOLD 100 PAVERS BEFORE WE INSTALL THEM; HOWEVER, WE ARE GOING TO DO THEM IN SMALLER INCREMENTS TO HELP KEEP UP THE INTEREST! WE WILL PROCESS ORDERS RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 15TH SO THEY ARE INSTALLED BY CHRISTMAS, 2006.

ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE BOX IN FRONT OF HERITAGE HALL, AT OUR MEETINGS AND ON OUR WEB SITE:

WWW.KIRKLANDHERITAGE.ORG. IF ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 425 828-4095.

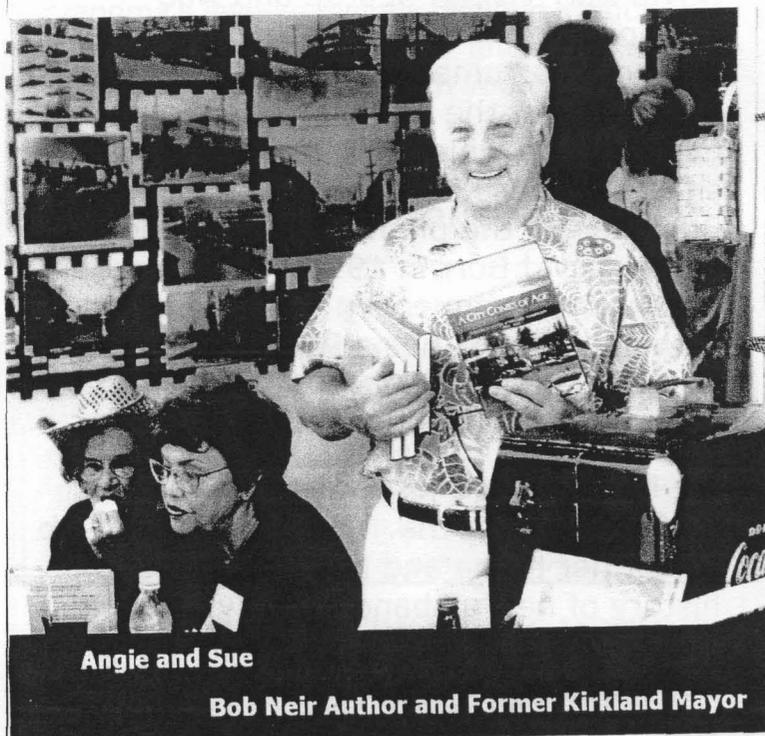
**LEAVE A REMINDER OF YOUR LEGACY
FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS !!**

SUMMERFEST 2006

**Dale Hawkinson
Booth Coordinator**

If this is to be the last Summerfest Festival, it will always be remembered as one of the best for Kirkland Heritage. The booth, the weather, the shade tree, the dogs who loved the rug in our booth, the booth full of people and the volunteers who had lived so much of the history made this a success. Pam Owens had the first shift with assistance from Nancy Stephens. Nancy now lives in Arizona and we like to think that she came all the way from Arizona to work in the booth. Barbara Loomis and Dale Hawkinson closed on Friday night. Saturday was handled by Stan Denton, Pat Eskenazi, Steve Lamson, Sue Carter, Angie Eggers, Lynette Weber-Friberg, Jean Jayne, Joan McBride, Barbara Loomis and Bob Burke. Bob Neir stopped by to sign copies of "A City Comes of Age" and Steve Lamson also signed "Kirkland, the Power of a Dream". Sunday got underway with Christina Brugman, Bev Hoerlein, Martha Burr Millar, Betsy Pringle, and Dale and Loita Hawkinson. Setup and teardown assistance came from Don and Merrily Dicks and grandson Zach. A big thanks for everyone.

Booth pictures are now on the KHS website
<http://www.kirklandheritage.org>



Angie and Sue

Bob Neir Author and Former Kirkland Mayor

Peter Kirk Reunion 2006 by Dave Cantrill Archivist

In June my wife and I attended the second Peter Kirk Reunion on San Juan Island. It was a smaller affair than the one hosted by KHS last summer, around 20 people came. We stayed at Peters home in Friday Harbor the former Panacea now renamed the Kirk House. I asked to stay in Peters bedroom and it was thrilling to watch the sunrise come through the stained glass window the same as Peter would have seen.

We went around the island led by Dan Morrell to the house moved from Kirkland in the 60's, it had the same style as the workmans homes still here in the city. After that we went to the site of "Deer Lodge" the Kirk's home in Roach Harbor. Peter owned over 700 acres on the island. That evening we had a wonderful picnic with Jim Capron cooking salmon over a big grill and had time to talk to everyone.

The families are going to continue to keep up this tradition of having a reunion and KHS will always be invited. Jim & Barbara Capron said they would like to host the next one at their home in Friday Harbor. I look forward to seeing everyone again and sharing in the fun and information about the families. More will be revealed.

DOBBS FAMILY VISIT BY Tom Hitzroth

Many of you know I have researched the murder of Letitia Whitehall from 1997 to 2005. In the course of that research I have had the opportunity to meet with and interview her brother and sister, and Bonnie Taylor, last surviving child of Dr. Chester Dobbs, the man who was accused of the murder.

On August 30, 2005 I received an email from Robert (Bob) Dobbs of Vancouver, B.C. He is a grandson of Dr. Chester Dobbs. He said he had been looking up his grandfather's case on the Internet and was surprised to learn that someone was still actively investigating the crime. This began a correspondence between Bob and I in which he said he and his brothers and their wives would be in Seattle in March 2006 and they wanted to meet with

me. I suggested my home since that is where all the research material was located, that they were welcome to copies of anything I had on their grandfather, and we could spend as much time as they wished.

On March 11, 2006, Bob Dobbs and his wife Nancy, Richard Dobbs and his wife Pam, and Dennis Dobbs and his wife Betty came to the house. I provided each family a copy of their grandfather's testimony at the Coroner's inquest. I reviewed the crime in detail and fielded questions for three hours. Their father Robert Dobbs, Dr. Dobbs' third child was deeply affected by the event and now they all had a better understanding why. Bob told me why Dr. Dobbs had lost his license around 1958 and Dennis confirmed for me the location of Dr. Dobbs' office in town since his father had shown it to him once. Richard spoke of what his grandfather was like in his later years as he remembered him. All said that as children they never knew of what happened, as their father would never talk about it. Even when Dennis was shown where his grandfather's office was his father Robert made no reference to the crime, only that his father once had an office there with Dr. Kells.

It was a wonderful three hours that passed far too quickly. The following week I received a thank you card from them that said "What a fascinating and informative afternoon we had last Saturday. We came away with a much richer understanding of the Whitehall murder and of our grandfather's ordeal as the accused. We were very impressed by the amount of work you have put into this event, by your encyclopedic mind, and by your gift for telling a story. You held us fascinated for three hours. Our visit with you and the information you provided were the hot topics of the family dinner we enjoyed later that evening. We are grateful. Thank you for a memorable afternoon."

October 30, 1926, devastated the lives of the Whitehall and Dobbs families. For them life was never to be the same again. It was something that was never talked about to their children or other family members. In the course of this investigation I have been privileged to meet three of the Whitehall and Dobbs family who were there that day 80 years ago and was told I have helped them reach some closure with this event. That more than anything else has made this investigation worthwhile.

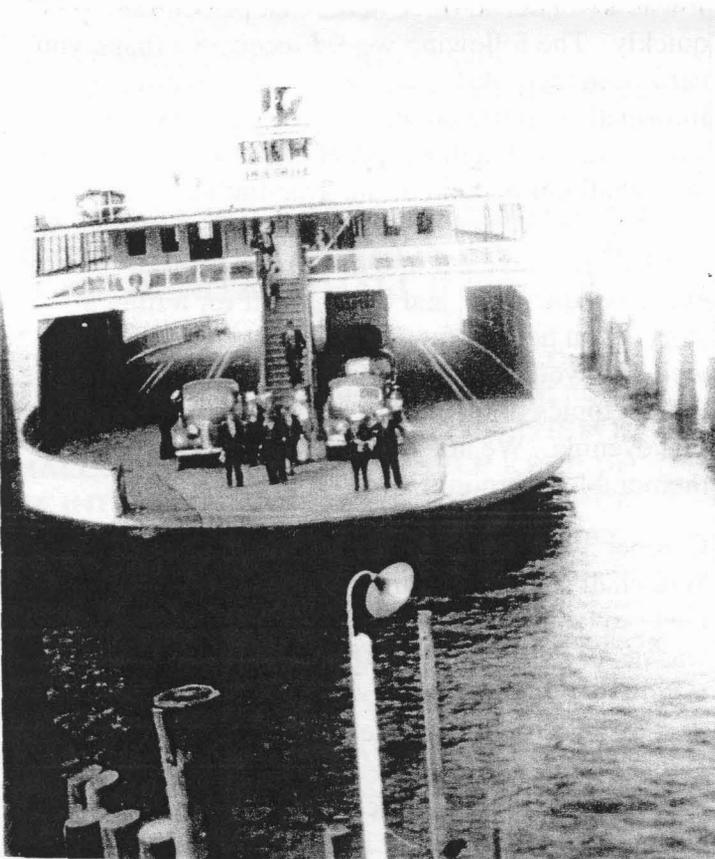
NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Dave Cantrill Archivist

Hi everyone, I have some exciting news from your KHS Archives. In June I met with Megan Carlisle , Archivist, with the Eastside Heritage Center. I was welcomed very warmly and we both went about talking about our respective collections in relation to Kirkland. I had brought along quite a few of our photos for her to look at and I looked through their Kirkland photo collection. We both found photos that we were interested in and arranged a swap of these prints. In mid August exchange the photos occurred. EHC got a few more prints than we did because we already had most of their collection.

We got some pretty interesting photos including before and after shots of the ferry dock and lake when the opening of the ship canal lowered the lake. A few photos of the early boatbuilding facilities and workers were also acquired. The best and most prized shot was an interior photo of the woolen mill, it is fantastic.

We also got copies of an old poster detailing the Tolt-Kirkland Stage Line and a letter from Burke & Farrar with their Letterhead from the 20's. All in all a very rewarding exchange for KHS.



Recently acquired Photograph of the Leschi

STATUE OF CAPTAIN FRANK GILBERT

Bob Burke

Anita Maxwell and I attended the July meeting of the Cultural Council. to present the idea of the City of Kirkland accepting the Captain Frank Gilbert statue and placing it near the dock at the end of Kirkland Avenue. The statue was commissioned in 1982 for the Leschi Café. Anita had prepared an excellent report on Captain Gilbert with photographs and newspaper articles. At the end of discussion the Cultural Council voted to recommend that the City accept the life-size bronze statue and suggested a location near the former ferry dock on Kirkland Ave.

Captain Gilbert provided transportation to eastside dwellers for over 50 years – he was the Captain of the Dawn and the Leschi, among other ferries. He often was referred to as the “Last of the Great Lake Washington Steamer Skippers”.



Statue of Captain Gilbert with Anita Maxwell

The Gilbert family was also important in the early history of Kirkland. Elmer Gilbert, Frank’s father built one of the first hotels in the newly platted town of Kirkland and also operated one of the first blacksmith shops in the community.

We will now continue our effort working with the Parks Board and City in determining the optimal location for the statue which will be available some time later this year. Thanks Anita for your work!

HALF-YEAR MEMBERSHIP – 2006

Kirkland Heritage Society

July 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006

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

<u>Membership Category</u>	<u>2006</u>
— Senior / Student	\$10
— Individual	\$12.50
— Family	\$15
— Supporting	\$50
— Life Member	\$1,000
— Organization/Government	\$50
— Professional Business	\$62.50
— Corporate	\$125

Additional contribution : _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

If your company matches contributions, please provide the signed Matching Gift Form!

Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Home Phone # _____

Work: _____

E-mail: _____

Please note that KHS does not use addresses, phone numbers or e-mail addresses except for purposes directly related to KHS activities.

Checks should be made payable to and mailed to: Kirkland Heritage Society, Heritage Hall, 203 Market Street, Kirkland, WA 98033.

If membership questions, please contact Lynette Friberg Weber, (425) 890-9058.

Interested in volunteering to help in the office at Heritage Hall contact Bob Burke – 425 828-4095.

**Thank You For Your Ongoing Support!
Invite a Friend to Join!**

KHS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

As members know, we are a completely volunteer organization – and an active one when you look at this issue and the things we are working on. One of our major goals is to have our space in Heritage Hall open to the public on a regular, but limited basis – one day a week, half day on Saturday?

After we get the space re-organized, - likely October, we could use volunteers to help do that. If you have filing, data entry or library experience, that would be great! We have some programs pending to work with the schools for student's research needs that should be fun! Contact Bob Burke – 828-4095. Thanks!

HOW TO CONTACT KHS

Address: Heritage Hall, 203 Market Street
Kirkland, WA 98033

Phone: 425 827-3446

E-Mail: help-line@kirklandheritage.com

Website: www.kirklandheritage.org

Officers and Board

President: Bob Burke	425 828-4095
Vice President: Alan Stein	425 821-0164
Secretary: Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Treasurer: Nancy Stephens	425 822-9475
At-Large: David Cantrill	425 821-4021
At-Large: Tom Hitzroth	425 823-2981
Past President: Vic Newhard	425 522-4082

Committee Chairs

Archives: David Cantrill	425 821-4021
Communications:	Need Chairs
Education and Programs:	
Shannon Harris	425 822-2478
Membership:	
Lynette Friberg Weber	425 890-9058
Oral History:	
Dale & Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Planning and Historic Sites	
Barbara Loomis	425 827-7194
Tom Hitzroth	425 823-2981

INFORMATION ON RENTING HERITAGE HALL
Call Nicci Osborn at Parks - 425 – 587-3342

**Support for the Kirkland Heritage Society is provided by
4 Culture, King County Lodging Tax**



KIRKLAND CANNERY - 1940'S OR 1950'S
Anyone Know What Group this Might Have Been. Recognize Anyone?

Watch for Announcements about the next public meeting on the feasibility study now underway!

JOIN US FOR ANOTHER GREAT KHS PROGRAM! !

AUGUST 30 - 7:00 PM

Dedication of First phase of Heritage Park - Waverly Arch, Market at Waverly Way
EIGHTH ANNUAL BLACKBERRY SUNDAE SOCIAL - HERITAGE HALL

Visit KHS online at: www.kirklandheritage.org

Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, Heritage Hall, 203 Market Street, Kirkland, WA 98033 for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. For more information on KHS - e-mail: rgburke@covad.net, check our website: www.kirklandheritage.org or call the Heritage Resource Center at 425 827-3446 to leave a message.



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