

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

THE JOURNAL OF THE

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY

THIS MONTH:

MARCH MEETING PROGRAM: **MCAULIFFE PARK**

MATT MCCAULEY WILL GIVE US AN INSIDE LOOK TO THE PAST AT KIRKLAND'S EXCITING NEW ACQUISITION!

CENSUS RECORDS FROM *YOUR PC*—LOITA HAWKINSON EXPLAINS HOW TO SAVE TIME ACCESSING THESE INVALUABLE DATA

HERITAGE HALL, ARCHIVES, KIRKLAND CENTENNIAL AND MEMBERSHIP UPDATES...AND MORE!





PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By **Vic Newhard**

We all know history is made from the things that happen in the present. This month our society will make history and have a permanent, spacious home in the lower level of Heritage Hall. The building is, in itself, a part of Kirkland's historic past. I marvel at how close our city came to losing this gem. The main floor has already hosted many civic meetings, had memorials celebrating some of our citizen's lives, and a wedding too. Our community and people visiting our city will have access to this asset for at least the next hundred years. The lower level archives will hold and preserve the records of our history safely. The Kirkland community of all ages will have a place to read, see, touch, and research the past. The financial help of individuals, the city, and county along with thousands of man-hours of volunteer work has brought us to this point. Our mayor, city council members, city manager, and director of planning spent many weekend hours of their own time alongside the Kirkland Heritage Society members digging, spreading gravel dirt and sand, planting, painting, cleaning, moving things, and **Dale Hawkinson** hooking up all the wires so our computers and phones will work. A special treat on many days were the fresh muffins of **Barbara Loomis**. Thanks to all for making it happen. In the next few years our city is going to see some very major changes adding to the history. Some new buildings, the transportation center, and the studies taking place to cover the parking area in Lakeshore Plaza at Marina Park will enhance the livability and

invite tourism to our area. Only if these things are done with our heritage and history in mind, will they fit in and be successful.

I want to welcome back and thank **Matt McCauley**, for taking on the job of Editor of the *Blackberry Preserves* and getting the news out. He did a great job on this publication a few years ago and wants to make it even better.



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PAST PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Bob Burke

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

A membership renewal reminder was sent out the first week in March. We are late in following through this year because of all the other activities related to Heritage Hall and the Resource Center. The notice includes dues for the current year (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004) along with an option to pay now for next year starting in July. Thank you for your continued support! If there are any questions about the status of your membership contact **Bob Burke** - 828-4095. KHS needs someone to chair the Membership Committee: Contact **Vic Newhard** at 820-5151, Extension 333.

NEW KHS ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER

The Kirkland Heritage Society has a new address and phone number effective March 15th. Our official address is now **203 Market Street, Kirkland, WA 98033** and the phone number is **425 827-3446**. We have voice mail so you can leave a message. If you need to contact a Board Member or Committee Chair those phone numbers will be listed in *Blackberry Preserves* or e-mail addresses are on our website: **www.kirklandheritage.org**.

HERITAGE RESOURCE CENTER UPDATE:

We are in the process of getting our Occupancy Permit from the City. The cork floor is in, trim is in, hardware is ordered, lighting fixtures are installed, telephone is installed and computers are hooked up to the DSL line. Most of the furniture and boxes in the temporary archives have been moved into the space. A special thanks to **Frank Rosin** for donating a black and white copier.

Light fixtures in the Entry / Research and workroom / copy areas were built by Loomis Design. **Chuck Loomis** and **Chet Creger** volunteered a Sunday afternoon to install those as well as the 3 in the archives. We are working on getting built-in cabinets, putting up a mailbox, signage and displays for upstairs and downstairs; however, as soon as we have the occupancy permit we can begin operating in the space.

The City has been doing a lot of clean up of the grounds adding a topsoil mixture on all the beds surrounding the building as well as cleaning up and planting the bank adjacent to Lake Avenue West. The daffodil and tulip bulbs are coming up and should be in bloom soon! We will be doing more landscaping as we obtain funds.

Wilkeson Stone Pavers Still Available

We will be installing the next group of Wilkeson Stone Pavers in April. At the present time there are only 3 large pavers at \$350 left and less than 300 of the 6-inch square pavers at \$50 to \$60 each depending on the number of lines. You can obtain an order form from our website: **www.kirklandheritage.org**, pick one up at Heritage Hall or call 828-4095.

PRIVATE RENTALS OF HERITAGE HALL MEETING ROOM

The City of Kirkland is responsible for the scheduling and private rental of the Meeting Room in Heritage Hall. The City contact is **Nicci Osborne at the Parks Department - 425 803-2845**. In addition to Community Meetings - Neighborhood Associations, Kirkland Downtown on the Lake, and Staff Meetings - the room has been used for memorial services, training workshops and weddings. This summer a couple weddings are planned using the Pavilion at Marina Park and Heritage Hall.

KIRKLAND CENTENNIAL - 1905 - 2005

The Kirkland Centennial Committee chaired by **Mayor Mary-Alyce Burleigh** will be submitting a status report and budget to the City Council on March 16th.

One of the first items that needs to be done is the 2005 Calendar with watercolors of Kirkland. The current list includes: Heritage Hall, Triptych of Sears & Peter Kirk Buildings and Masonic Hall, Peter Kirk Park, Kirkland Cannery, Woman's Club, McAuliffe Park with Ostberg Barn, Marina Park/MV Kirkland, Juanita Bay Park, Triple J's, Cemetery, Carillon Point/Shipyards and Shumway Mansion.

Community Heritage Days - May 15 & 16th, 2004

The first activities for the Centennial Celebration will be the opening of displays at the City Hall, Heritage Hall and a month-long show at the Kirkland Arts Center. This means that KHS needs to be preparing now to be ready. In addition, the calendar and the time-line history book will require more photographs, information and oral histories than we now have - particularly from WWII to the present time.

It is presently planned that on Saturday May 15th at 11:00 am we will start our Community Heritage event with a brief ceremony to install the time capsule at Heritage Hall and to "officially" open the Heritage Resource Center. After the ceremony the building will be open for people to go through and have coffee/tea and cookies; however the major emphasis will be on encouraging people to bring items that help tell the history of Kirkland particularly from 1905 to 2005. We anticipate being open both days from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

These types of items that we are looking for include:

- Photographs - we'll copy them on the spot and scan them for future use.
- Movies of Kirkland - we'll get them copies and return the original.
- Documents that help tell Kirkland's story - again, we'll copy them right there unless too long or in color.
- Memorabilia - campaign buttons, posters of festivals, etc.
- Names of People who have contributed to Kirkland that should be interviewed - we tape record them and make a transcription.

FROM THE ARCHIVES...

By *David Cantrill, KHS Archivist*

Finally a working Archive space!

Hi all from your new Archives! It is really great having a place to work from where there is a little room and everything is organized. I have been hard at work the past few weeks moving in materials and placing our collections in order. It is such a joy to be able to have at your fingertips all the materials and photos I need to do this vital work for the Society.

And I thought I was nearing the end of all the hard work putting our photos in order and sorting out all the historical material? It appears that I have just scratched the surface, and now the fun begins. I have really been pleased with all the new material I have worked with in the past couple of weeks. Not only am I doing more work with my old friends **Andre, Marsh, Fortescue & Barrie**, but new collections are popping up. I have just started working on the **Fish family** collection.

We now have the space to store and preserve quite a lot of material and more photos. Along with the two large filing cabinets I have three other filing drawers to house valuable collections. Along with two tall racks that house our bound collection of bound *Eastside Journals*, we have a large clothing locker to house the **Kirk Family** clothing, and memorabilia. All the cabinets lock and the locking main door is fire resistant. We have a state-of-the-art temperature control and humidifier built in to the room. This will keep the climate at a constant value and is monitored every time someone enters. We can now say that the KHS Archives is up to standards set by the Society of American Archivists! I have looked forward to this for many years and hope to improve on them as time goes by.

All in all I am quite pleased by the new facility and with all the people that helped to achieve our goal of having a place the people of Kirkland can be proud of. I would like to thank **Bob Burke** whose vision and drive all these years, has brought this wonderful place to fruition. But, our work is now just beginning. For now that we have this facility, we will be able to handle all of the new material out there that people have been holding on to for all those years. I look forward to seeing what other treasures Kirkland has to offer. More will be revealed!!

Making Sense of the Census

By Loita Hawkinson

Census records from your home PC

If you know how to search for census records using **HeritageQuest**, you will not want to read any further. If you have ever spent valuable time with tedious microfilm readers then you might find this information interesting. At the very least, you need to know this service is available to you. Census reading can be addictive and they contain a wealth of information.

HeritageQuest is a subscribed Database, paid for by **King County Library** and you can access it from home using your library card. Simply type in **King County Library** or www.kcl.org. From the library home page, click on **Databases**. From here click on **Genealogy**. At this time, you will be shown two subscribed databases: **AncestryPlus** and **HeritageQuest**. The **AncestryPlus** is only accessible at the library. Click on **HeritageQuest** and they will ask for your library card number. Enter the entire number without any spaces and hit enter. Now your choices are Publications and Census, two very different sites. Be sure to look at the Publications to see if there is anything for your area of interest. Entire books with many volumes are on this site. The variety is mind-boggling. But I am just addressing the census records.

Every 10 years the government releases the 72-year-old census records for public access. There is a government project that is indexing all older and newly released census records. By indexing, the census record is typed in with all information given on the census. Only the head of household and unrelated persons are transcribed on this index. Many years are entirely indexed. Some years have not been started. 1930 is now partially indexed. All the census pages have been scanned from the microfilm so all the census pages are available for viewing on your home computer...it just takes a lot more time to browse the image but still much better than the microfilm readers and much more convenient from home.

Click on Census. At the top left of the screen, you will see **Search** and **Browse**. **Search** allows you type in the name and you will be given all names that are indexed. **Browse** allows you to select a census year, state, county, township and view every census page. First click on **SEARCH**. Type in the last name of the person and hit enter. Now you can search down the screen for your person, they will be in alphabetical order. When found, click on the record and that will bring up the entire census image. Scan down the page. If you do not find the name, scan to the top of the page, click on the page arrow to give you the second part of the sheet. Scan down until you find the head of household you are looking for, the person will be on one of these two pages. Under that head of household will be the rest of the household...spouse, children, boarders, employees, visitors. If you have found your family, you might want to page forward and back and see other pages. Census takers went from one house or farm to the next so neighbors will surround your family.

If you are searching a common name, you may have too many hits. You must then do a more advanced search and add additional known information. Start with the state and search again. If you still have too many hits, add more information. It is best not to search using a first name because Robert Allen Jones can be listed as Robert, Robt, Bobby, Bob, B, B A, etc. Carl might be Karl. And this can vary for census to census. But if your last name is very common and you are getting too many hits, add the first name and search. Change the first name and search. Use the Initial and search. It is a little tedious but the actual search is quick and in a minute or two, you might find your family. Advanced searches allow you to add county, town, birth country etc. Add this information as needed.

Once I have found my census record, I save it. It will be

saved in a **gif** image and with their file name, which will mean nothing to me so I rename the file before saving it. I type in the last name and other family names, the state, and the year. It looks something like: Smith-Jacob-Ida-children-MN-1870.gif. Now I have it for easy research. I can also print the page from my program. And I can email it to other family.

There are two reasons to use the **Browse** option: First, because you did not find your family using the basic search. And second, not all census records are indexed at this time. Only a small part of the newly released census is indexed and some years have not been started. When they are all done, it will be 2012 and time for the 1940 census to be released and this will be much larger than the 1930.

Click on **BROWSE**: Then enter year of census, the state, the county, the area (might be town or village or school district). Hit enter and you will find yourself on the first page of the census for that town. It will also tell you how many pages are in this record. Scan down, go back to top, page forward, scan down etc until you find the person you are looking for. If the communities are small and close together, you can keep paging forward or back and view surrounding communities.

If you do not find someone, it might be because they were just plain missed. This did not happen a great deal. Census takers were diligent. It might be that the county is wrong. County boundaries changed. And towns often were not named. Kirkland settlers in 1880 are found in the Juanita precinct. The 1890 census for the entire US burned so we have lost that history. In 1900 they are in the Kirkland Precinct. By 1910 we are finally the city of Kirkland...having been incorporated in 1905.

Spelling can be a problem using **HeritageQuest**. Spelling has to be exact. Errors in names were made at the time of the census, typos happened at the time of transcribing. And some writing makes it impossible to read. An "ee" can be confused with a "u", the tail of the "g" or "y" in the above line can cross the "l" and make it appear to be a "t". But with all this, it is amazing how accurate these records are.

With **HeritageQuest**, you can search under a first name only. From there the last names are in alphabetical order and you can just scan down until you find a name that is close. I found my Grandfather Albert this way. His last name was written wrong...close but still wrong. I had to do a page by page **browse** to find my Gr Grandmother when she was a widow. I knew where she was so all it took was my time. I entered 1900, MN, Wright Co, Albion. They had both her first and last names spelled wrong, but she was a widow, her 6 children followed and all of their ages, so I know I found her. Using the **browse** feature can be tedious, especially if you do not pin point the county and town. But it still beats microfilm. You have to know the same information then too.

Once you are on a census image, you are in the actual census...just like you have the paper records in front of you. You can page forward or back, even changing towns. It is informative to see who lived around the family. If you knew this person, you might find the names familiar. You might even find more of your family. Many marriages came from close-knit communities.

And the 1890 census did burn...almost all of it. But what is remaining, was microfilmed and can be viewed on **HeritageQuest**. The pages are burned, some are blank, all are soiled. But they too are history. I have great respect for the historians who chose to preserve these pages.

HeritageQuest is a very reliable database. But if you find that you cannot have access, it is because it is being updated. This census site is a work in progress and they add indexed records as they become available.

If you have found **HeritageQuest** valuable, please call or drop **King County Library** a note of thanks. The larger library systems pay 17 cents per resident. That is a lot of tax \$\$\$\$. Few libraries provide this service. We are very lucky.

If you have questions once you have visited the site and attempted a search, feel free to call me at 425-827-1950.

A LOOK BACK AT MCAULIFFE PARK

I'll be speaking about McAuliffe Park's past at our next meeting. As a child, I lived near the property, so the news that it had been sold to the City of Kirkland for use as a park came as a big relief! Many of us would have hated to see the land developed. It seems few people realize that only two different families have owned this land since 1877, when Roland "Grandpa" Langdon homesteaded there. Langdon first built a log cabin and then a frame house in 1884. In 1903, Langdon sold the house and 25 acres to newlyweds Julius and Anna Ostberg. Julius died of cancer in 1910. Anna remained, however, and raised their two daughters, Alice and Urania, while working as Juanita Elementary custodian. Alice grew up and married Art Johnson, of the Totem Lake area, and the two lived in the house for most of the rest of their lives. The Johnsons had one child, daughter JoAnne, who married Kirklander Jerry McAuliffe, who started a nursery business there in 1957. The McAuliffes retired to Seabeck, WA, after selling this historic land parcel to the City. *-Matt McCauley*



Harry Langdon owned a grocery store at the foot of NE 116th. He is seen here in the 1900's in front of the Ostberg's home with his delivery wagon



Cameron McCauley sits in front of the house **Roland Langdon** built in 1884 and the house son **Harry** built in 1905. The 1884 house is seen prior to remodeling in the 1930's and **JoAnne(Johnson) McAuliffe** stands with Harry and "Aunt Minne" **Langdon Sabo** in the late 1930's



Julius Ostberg built this barn in the 1900s

Anna Ostberg hosted Baseball game and sold chicken dinners to spectators in the 1930s

Kirkland Heritage Society's 2004 Programs

KHS meets at 7 PM on the last Wednesday of each month at Kirkland Heritage Hall

March 31—Matt McCauley-

Resident History—Matt will discuss McAuliffe Park and environs' history.

April 28th Thad Pound—40 Years at the Kirkland Cannery.

Thad will tell stories and share memorabilia of his life at the Kirkland Cannery. If you have a story or a treasure to share, please come and join in the conversation.

May No meeting. TBC-
Centennial Heritage Meeting on May 15th.

June 30th Refinishing Antique Furniture

Norkirk neighborhood businessman, Jan Zoltowski, from Old World Antique Restoration, will discuss restoration, refinishing, and a review of your **SMALL** antique piece.

July No meeting. Kirkland's
Summerfest. Come see us at the booth!

August 25th KHS Annual Blackberry Sundae Social

Taste the berries and delicious vanilla ice cream. Bring in a favorite item to share or be ready to tell your favorite Kirkland story.

September 29th Nancy Stephens—Resident History

Nancy will share her family history from the Rose Hill Neighborhood.

October 27th Kirkland Ghost Stories. Program to be formalized.

November No meeting due to
Thanksgiving

December TBDKHS Annual Holiday Home & Cookie Exchange

Membership Form

Yearly Memberships Are From July 1st 2003 to June 30 2004

Check One: Membership

Type: Amount Individual \$25 Family \$30 Senior/

Student \$20 Supporting \$100 Life

Member \$1,000 Organization/

Government \$100 Professional/

Business \$125 Corporate \$250 **Total Enclosed: \$** My Company

Matches Contributions Contact: _____

Please enclose company form. Checks should be made payable and

mailed to: **Kirkland Heritage Society 203 Market Street,**

Kirkland, WA 98033 (425) 425 827-3446

Name _____

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Revised 09/03/2002

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 Communications Membership and

Funding Oral History and Research Planning and Historic

Sites Program and Education **Work on Specific**

Activity: Exhibit at Community Events Home Tours Do

Photography/Update Slides Original Street Name



Chuck Morgan

February Meeting

Many thanks to Mr. Chuck Morgan for sharing his recollections of living and newspapering in Kirkland during the post-WWII years.

VISIT KHS ONLINE AT: WWW.PETERKIRK.ORG



Anna Ostberg holds daughter **Alice** at their property in the 1900s. This view faces

north and slightly east. The log structure visible on the top right might have been **Roland Langdon's** original homestead dwelling. The trees on the left appear to be much older than 20-30 years in this shot, so it seems that portion of the property was not logged. This seems to support the suggestion that many of these old growth trees remain on the property today.

Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 203 Market Street, Kirkland, WA 98033, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. Matthew W. McCauley, Editor. For more information email: matt@mccauleycoffee.com or call: 425 827-3446.

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