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From the Archives...

The Importance of Historical Items

By David Cantrill KHS Archivist

I have been asked a lot lately, "Why would you want my old stuff anyway?" Well for one, historical photos, documents and memorabilia allow any historical organization to piece together lots of information about "Old stuff", I prefer to call them wonderful visions of days past. As I sit in the new climate controlled Archive Room, and work on filing documents, cataloging items, and looking at photos, I dream of what it must have been like those many years ago. What our Founders worked on and who moved into this peaceful little place on the lakeshore. I try to imagine what happened in the Woolen Mill, and in the Shipyard. Who went to which school, and grew up to be



people, places, and things. Secondly, it gives any person looking for answers to history a better view of what it was like in the past. For myself and the Kirkland Heritage Society it opens doors to wonderful adventures.

Your photos, letters, flyers, posters, clothing, pins, buttons, and "stuff" allows us to better understand the past and how it relates to Kirkland. I often wonder what's out there, in drawers, on shelves, in chests, and in garages. "Theirs gold in them there hills," gathering the dust of ages and waiting for you to bring them out and share these treasures with the rest of us. Quite often just one photo will answer many questions. One document can lead us to open doors to help find the end of research. One item can bring back memories of a guieter joyful time in our lives.

On May 15th and 16th we are opening our doors to the public for the first time to the new research center at Heritage Hall. All of the Society Members have been working very hard to get things organized so we can better help you understand our cities history. But, we cannot do this by ourselves. **We need your help!** Won't you please come down and share your family treasures with us? In doing so KHS will be able to share them with all of you in the coming year. Our Centennial Celebration 1905—2005 is going to be spectacular, with many events going on throughout the year.

firemen, or farmers, or city officials. Each piece of paper I look at opens another door and another glimpse of yore. I have the chance to look at the past and put those pieces of the puzzle together. Many times we are missing pieces to finish that puzzle. Could you have that piece? I think many of you out there do, but you just don't know it. "Old stuff" I don't think so.

We are desperately looking for material from 1940— 1970. Any period of Kirkland's history from the late 1880's to the present is needed for our research. The Centennial years in particular are what we are looking for. Do you have anything from the war years, or sporting events, or grand openings etc? What about all those neat items that were given away when you bought an appliance in the 50's? Did you attend Moss Bay Days in the 70's? How about that ferry ride to get to Seattle in the 50's? Were you born in the Kirkland Hospital, or remember the Armory or the town before it grew up? All of these things and hundreds more like it we want to hear about. We do oral histories of long time residents here in Kirkland, and cherish that photo of your grandson born last year. We promise to protect and preserve anything given to us, and long for the chance just to look at that "old stuff."

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

By Alan J. Stein, KHS VP

Did you know that beginning on July 27, 1958, four sets of twins were born at the Kirkland hospital over a period of four days? Or that on December 4, 1961, local schools instituted a Cold War plan that — in addition to its "Duck and Cover" policy — gave students the option of running home to be with their families during a nuclear attack? And did you know that Kirkland's two most infamous unsolved murders both occurred on Halloween?

Next year, fascinating facts such as these will grace the Kirkland Centennial Calendar, due out by the end of this year. For the past five months, Kent Jonson has been diligently gathering tidbits of dated info from various sources, such as the city archives, to mark the days of our lives. Just recently, I've joined in to help scour the East Side Journal years of 1918-1975. What fun it's been going over those old newspapers again, page by page. After spending the last year writing about Bellevue, it's good to be home again.

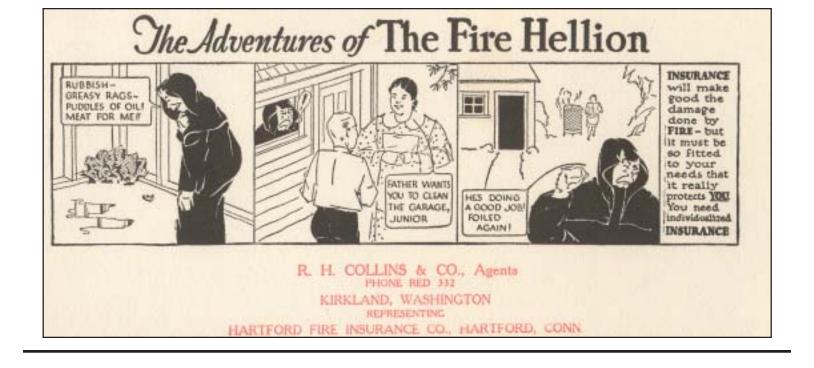
Not only does this research assist in the creation of the calendar, it also lays the groundwork for the proposed *Kirkland Timeline* book, which we hope to have ready by October 12, 2005, the centennial date of Kirkland's incorporation. The Kirkland Centennial Committee is gathering sponsors for this publication, from both individuals and businesses. If you or anyone you know would like to contribute towards this written chronology of Kirkland history that will span the prehistoric era up until next year, please contact KHS for more info.

RESOURCE CENTER COMPUTERS

Dale HawkinsonMember, KHS (KHS Head Teckkie--Ed.)

The computer network has been installed and we are getting ready for the Open House on the weekend of May 15th and 16th.

Extra computer equipment has been setup to handle the Kirkland heritage pictures and documents that we hope will be brought in this weekend. All computers now have access to the Internet and we are in the process of setting up a system to locate any item in our achieve. All have been in storage and it will take some time to organize the wide assortment into one resource. Please stop by and get acquainted with the new facility!



HOLD IT!

LISTEN UP-THIS Gov't Model 1911 says If YOU HAVEBN'T BEEN TO A KHS PROGRAM LATELY OR IF YOU'VE LET YOUR MEMBER SHIP EXPIRE. HEN DON'T MOVE! SLOWLY. arefully Get YOUR RENEWAL IN OR GET YOUR-SELF DOWN TO A PROGRAM: Now! HS IS WHERE THE ACTION WILL BE FOR Kirkland's 100TH AND YOU DON'T WANT TO MAKE ANY



Kirkland Heritage Society's 2004 Programs

KHS meets the last Wednesday of each month at:

Heritage Hall in Kirkland Time: 7:00 pm.

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 give a presentation on 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

New Member/ Renewal Form

Annual Memberships Are From July 1st 2004 to June 30 2005

Checks payable and sent to:

Kirkland Heritage Society, 203 Market St, Kirkland, WA 98033 (425) 827-3446

Name	e Addresss City	
StateZip	Home#	
Wk#	Email	
Organization/ Firm		

Volunteer Opportunities Your membership is the first important step in helping achieve our goals. If you are interested in volunteering to help with some of our projects, please check the appropriate box(es).

Serve on Standing Committee:

Archives and Collections Membership and Funding Oral History and Research Planning and Historic Sites Program and Education

Work on a Specific Activity:

Exhibit at Community Events Home Tours Photography/Update Slides

VISIT KHS ONLINE AT: WWW.PETERKIRK)RG



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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