

# BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

## KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



**The Kirkland Cannery was built by the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression. The construction gave Kirkland men work and local business the trade. Its operation provided valuable jobs and helped feed eastside families.**

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[www.kirklandheritage.org](http://www.kirklandheritage.org)



**LETTER TO OUR MEMBERS  
BY LOITA HAWKINSON**

By now many of you know that **Lynette Friberg Weber** has resigned from her position as President of Kirkland Heritage Society after serving most of her two year term. Lynette and Michael will be traveling much of next year. We were all warned about this when we elected Lynette and we appreciate the time and dedication that she has given KHS. Lynette is not leaving and she will continue to serve on committees as her time allows.

And many of you know that **Tom Hitzroth** has resigned as Treasurer after serving for several terms. Tom is still working and on the road much of the time. Plus he stays involved with other historic projects. We thank Tom for his dedication over the past years. He is a Houghton native and a Juanita resident so he will still be involved.

Because we have Vice President **Vic Newhard**, we can get along without a president for a while, but a treasurer is a must. **Stu Clarke**, retired CPA, has agreed to fulfill Tom's term. Stu has a long history of volunteerism and has also been treasurer for other nonprofits. We feel lucky and grateful he stepped forward. Thank you Stu, Lynette and Tom.



**Charles O. Morgan  
1911-2009**



**Chuck talking with reporter Kendall Watson in 2008. This is the Mr. Kirkland KHS will remember. A newspaper man to the end.**

**Chris Neir Scholarship Fund  
By Dick and Sandy Ekins**

Do you know about **Chris Neir**? For forty years her husband, **Bob**, served as a leader in the community as Mayor and Chairman of Metropolitan King County. He also had an eminent career with the Boeing Company. Chris was the supporter that kept him in ironed shirts and directed the growth of their four sons. A wonderful husband-wife community team.

Her life came to an untimely end within the past year and her family and friends have contributed funding to the **Kirkland Heritage Society** for a scholarship for a senior from one of our two local high schools.

Do you want to share in this funding? It's a wonderful opportunity for your dollars to help inspire a budding local high school senior. Call 425-827-3446 for answers to your questions.



**Chuck Morgan over 60 years ago!!!**



**OPEN OPEN OPEN**

**Kirkland Heritage Resource Center** is open Wednesdays from 2 to 5. Volunteers are still needed with modest computer skills and a love for Kirkland.

**Monthly Meeting**  
7:00 p.m. Heritage Hall  
**November 2009**  
**Happy Thanksgiving**  
(No Meeting)

**December 13, 2009**  
**Annual Cookie Exchange**  
Location and time will be mailed to members.  
Unlike our KHS programs which are open to the public, this event is for members only.



**Holiday picture from a Cookie Exchange in the past.**



Russ, Vern, Milt, Marilyn, Ray, Sants and Joanne told no fish tales. Just fun history and nostalgia.



**Tall Tale label from Kirkland Custom Cannery**

**Definition: Computer skills.**

When **Sandy Ekins** volunteered for the **Chris Neir Scholarship**, she was hesitant because this committee requires some basic computer know how.

To help put any of you at ease, “basic computer skills” simply means you: can get and receive email; can play card games on your computer (you can use a mouse); can type your holiday letter and then change the name for each one so it is a bit more personalized; can print that letter; can save that letter to use again; can find the letter you saved, change it a bit and save it again with a new file name (now you have 2 letters to use).

More advanced Computer Skills are needed for manning the Resource Center but they are not over the top. If you can Google for information, (who wrote *Gone with the Wind*, what is the capitol of South Dakota, etc), find your family on any of the free ancestry databases and look up phone numbers online, then you have the basics and could learn how to research on the PastPerfect database.



**Archiving or Storage Tip**

The fabric below has not been neglected. It has been lovingly stored for generations. These stains came from the paper or box the gown was stored in. Washed unbleached muslin will protect fabrics (do not use fabric softener). Also safe is that clear roasting bag so popular during the holidays. Do not use plastic bags or Tupperware style containers. Even acid free tissue will turn acidic again because it is still made from paper. Cotton tissue paper is good but hard to find and very \$\$\$\$ Muslin is inexpensive. And those roasting bags come in twos



## Oral History with Thad Pound by Loita Hawkinson

If Kirkland wants ideas of how to weather economic storms and the whims of the public, they need look no further than the Kirkland Cannery and the **Pound Family**. Three generations of Pound's earned their living at the **Kirkland Custom Cannery**.

The Cannery was built by the **WPA** during the **Great Depression** and was owned and operated by King County. Receipts show that local labor and local suppliers were used in the building of this cannery. When the cannery opened in 1936, it was a free service and was to be used by people below the poverty level. When few families availed themselves of the service, the cannery was opened to all. No money changed hands, but one third of the produce canned was given to institutions with two thirds being returned to the family. People came for miles and the cannery was a huge success.



By 1946, women had entered the work force and no longer had time to grow produce for canning. Having served its depression and wartime purpose, the cannery was sold by the County to the City of Kirkland for \$1. Kirkland then ran an ad to lease the cannery.

**Harvey Pound and Charles Maddox**, classmates and friends from Red Lodge, MT, had been involved in Cannery work when they were young. The Pound/Maddox partnership took over Kirkland Custom Cannery in 1947. After three years, it became apparent that the seasonal work could not support two families. The Pounds bought out the Maddox's in 1950.

For years the Mormon Church used the Kirkland Custom Cannery to custom can tons of beans and strawberry jam. The church people worked right along with the cannery workers. The cannery often ran all night long. The Pounds would then open in the morning for its normal canning operation.

By 1964, fruits and vegetables were completely eliminated and seafood was processed. An 80 lb smoker was added in 1965 and later, a 400 lb capacity smokehouse joined the little 80 lb smoker. In 1976, a 1000 lb smokehouse was added and the 400 lb smokehouse was retired. The small 80 lb unit was moved to a back room and was used by Thad for special projects.....smoked Cornish Game Hens,



Thanksgiving Turkeys, personal salmon, smoked cheeses, plus smoking experiments for personal use by friends and family.

Canned salmon and tuna were very popular as was most anything smoked in a can. Thunderbird brand was the cannery's private label. Tall Tale "brand" was the label for the custom canned fish brought in by local fishermen showing the Pound's humor. Harvey's sister, Vera Countryman, designed the KCC logo. The letters...K C C...stood for Kirkland Custom Cannery and the letters were made to look like a smiling salmon 

Time marched on and the Pound's only child, Thad Pound had spread his wings. In 1975, married and a father, Thad decided to return. He was a pharmacist but missed the business he had grown up with. Until this time, the cannery was seasonal, but now it would need to support two families: the older Harvey and Ruth Pound plus Thad and Gail with their growing family.

Harvey and Ruth Pound had always lived in the cannery. It was Thad's childhood home. To accommodate a growing business, the older Pounds moved out so the living area could be converted to retail. The retail started out as a drop-in business but soon became mail order. Eventually there were catalogues, gift packs, faxed orders, an 800 number, radio spots on KJR and promos by Jim French.

**Continued on page 5**

Christmas was the season that made their year with the Pounds working 7 days a week. Orders were received from Liz Taylor and Milburn Stone (Doc Adams on Gunsmoke). And fish was canned under private labels...ever wonder why Frederick & Nelson's salmon was sooooo good. In 1994 the Pounds lost the Thunderbird label and AlderCove became the new registered trademark. The charming fish logo remained the same.

Then came the one-day May sale in 1979. This was a sale to clear the shelves of all of last year's goods. The stock was gone in a few hours. Eventually the May sale required a special run to be sure locals would not be disappointed. In the end, the spring-cleaning May sale lasted for most of the month with people buying cases of tuna.

In 1989, Thad contracted with a local food broker to begin making a very unique smoked salmon powder. The powder was for the Kraft Food Co. and was the "main" ingredient in their Philadelphia brand cream cheese with smoked salmon product. The cannery continued to make this powder until the cannery closed in 2001.

The Cannery and the Pounds made a market where there had been none. They addressed the needs of the community. When times and the market changed, they changed. They kept up with technology. And they were not afraid of long days and hard work.

Eventually Thad and Gail were empty nesters and wanted to retire. Thad sold the business in November, 2001, to a company located in California. This left Thad and Gail with an empty 11,000 square foot cannery building. In 2005, they converted the retail and office space back into living quarters and once again call it home.



Now, the Pounds would like to move on but first a buyer must be found. Hopefully a buyer will be found that has some of the work ethic and business sense possessed by the Pounds. The Cannery is Kirkland's last WPA building. The ball field was replaced a few years ago. The school is gone. The cannery is a historic building for Kirkland and America. And just as important, it is hard to find a long time resident that doesn't have a warm feeling and memory about Kirkland's cannery and the Pounds



**Brownie Troop 2875** visited the KHS Resource Center in November. The girls were earning a patch about "if Buildings Could Talk". Lynette Weber met them on Market Street and gave them a tour of Kirkland's old business district. They ended up at the hall for a tour of the archives and viewed some artifacts and displays. These girls are amazing. They know about WWII and their own family's contribution. The girls also have a strong sense of Kirkland's past. Pictured are: **Madison, Lauren, Natalie, Sage, Isabel, Sophia, Ann.** Behind the girls is a vintage Brownie vest with Totem Council patches. The troop number is 1905. Kirkland was incorporated in 1905. Its just too perfect not to display.



## Sept/Oct Meeting Participants

Sally Bechtel, Bob Burke, Dave Cantrill, Sue Carter, Stu Clarke, Sants and Sue Contreras, Dorothy Daily, Marlene Daily, Joanne Forbes Deligan, Marjorie Denton, Sandy Ekins, Merwin Erwinie, Sam Freeman, Norm and Kim Garner, Dale and Loita Hawkinson, Jeannine Garner Hilderbrand, Bev Hoerlein, Corrine Hieb, Lane Jacobs, Linda Jatton, Jean Jayne, Marilyn Timmerman Johnson, Pete Kahle, Linda Kueter, Phyllis Keller, Judy Lang, Ray Lincoln, Barb Loomis, Anita Maxwell, Russ McClintick, Dr. McKibben, Larry Miller, Vic Newhard, Gail Nova, Pam Owens, Tom and Margaret Porro, Dave and Betty Roberts, Frank Rosin, Anita Saneguirri, Dee Saunders, Cathy Smith, Clarence and Sandy Stone, Christina Segovia, Milt Sessions, Vern and Alice Stoops, Eric Taylor, Inge Thiesen, Carol Trapp, Deb Twersky, Amy Walen, Eileen Warren, Lynette Weber, Armene Wegener.

## THANK YOU TO:

**Charles and Susan Christianson** came from Bainbridge Island just to deliver the **Dick Everest** collection. Dick Everest married Charles's mother and acquired a ready made fully-grown family. Charles and Susie thought so much of their stepfather and stepfather-in-law that they named their daughter for him. **Sarah Jane Everest** was then entrusted with the photos and history of her namesake. Because they are so full of Kirkland history, Sarah wished to have the scrapbooks and mementos donated to Kirkland Heritage Society so they would return to the home Dick loved. Dick's father, **Bert Everest**, owned a Kirkland business in 1888. Dick Everest was a 1912 KHS graduate, he served in WWI and owned the East Side Journal. When he retired, Mr. Everest was the vice president of the UW. **Everest Field** and **Everest Neighborhood** were named in his honor.

**Linda Jatón and Frank Rosen`** for helping with the KHS table at the 2009 Golden Grads. And an added thanks to Beth Van Cleve Skadan for making sure KHS had tables. Photos of Central, Juanita and Rose Hill Grade Schools were available to sign. No photo of either Collins or Lakeview because the KHS collection does not have them in the collection. Follow-up. Linda Jatón as now donated a photo of Lakeview. We still need a picture of Collins School. So please spread the word.

**Thad Pound** for his family history recorded in September 2009. Thad donated labels and packaging from the cannery. Some can be seen in the "Made in Kirkland" display at Resource Center. Thad was able to identify photos and placed Kirkland Transfer. Kirkland Transfer can be seen in 1932 Aerial views but it helps to know where to look. The City shop buildings are on this site. A summery of the Pound's history is in this newsletter.

**Armene Wegener** for donating the Photo ID from the Lake Washington Shipyards. Armene's mother was a Blue Print reader during WWII. This ID is in like new condition. It is now displayed in the WWII case at Heritage Hall.

**Millie Ferguson Holmes** was visiting from California and brought her Collins School class pictures. They were scanned and returned to her. Millie is going to try to get the class identified.

**Jeannine Gardner Hildebrand** for the loan of a 1920 Central School class photo. Her father is in the photo. Jeannine also had clippings of her grandfather and Miss Laura Miller, a 50 year teacher from Happy Valley, the original Rose Hill Grade School and Central School. These clippings were scanned and returned.

**Book-it Repertory Theatre, 4Culture** and the actors for the over the top performance of **Two Wheels North** performed at the September 30, 2009 KHS meeting. And thanks to the Kirkland Performance Center for the loan of the risers that provided the stage. KPC delivered and picked up the risers. Without their help, this performance would not have been possible. And thanks to **Lynette Weber** for organizing it all.



**The actors peddled their stationary bikes for over an hour while performing 2 Wheels North. Their energy was felt by the entire audience.**

**Dee Saunders** for two 1943 issues of *On The Ways*. These were duplicate issues but still valuable to the collection. At this time there are 11 missing issues. Duplicates might be used to trade with other historic organizations. Dee's issues were in perfect condition.

**Milt Sessions** for the loan of his wedding pictures. **Milt and Coralie** were married in the Holy Family Catholic Church on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Kirkland. We now have inside photos of this church as well and photos of the happy couple.

**Sandy Ekins** has joined the **Chris Neir Scholarship Committee**. Sandy was a dear friend of Chris's and she plans to do press releases to keep the scholarship in the news.

We had a great October meeting with our panel of Kirkland old timers. Thanks to **Russ McClintick, Vern Stoops, Milt Sessions, Marilyn Timmerman Johnson, Ray Lincoln, Sants Contreras, and Joanne Forbes Deligan**. From pioneers through politicians, the stories flowed.

Russ McClintock. for recording an oral history with Dale Hawkinson. Boggles the mind how kids of the depression grew up so fast and were so responsible. Russ was one of KHS seniors who quit high school early and enlisted during WWII. Russ was a 17 year old Marine. After the war, Russ graduated from college and had a long career as principal in Lake Washington Schools. A summary will appear next year.

**Jerry Rutherford** for a photo of 9 ladies, all past presidents of the Eagles. Jerry was one of them.

**Megan Carlisle**, archivist with **Eastside Heritage Center** for the loan of two old newspapers. They are from 1909 and 1915. Dale will photograph each page and then they will be available to view on the KHS website. The papers are in extremely fragile condition and will be returned to EHC for archiving.

## 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

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Scholarship Committee	Jim Neir	206 478-3173

**Support for the Kirkland Heritage Society  
is provided by our members and by:**



## 2009 MEMBERSHIP

### Kirkland Heritage Society

**January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009**

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.

<b>Membership Category</b>	<b>2009</b>
_____ Senior / Student	\$20
_____ Individual	\$25
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Kirkland Heritage Society  
Heritage Hall  
203 Market Street  
Kirkland, WA 98033.

For questions please phone or email Sally Jo at:  
(425) 301-7084 or sallyjo@kirklandheritage.com



**Wilkeson Stone Pavers Available**

**Order Now! See KHS Website for Form**

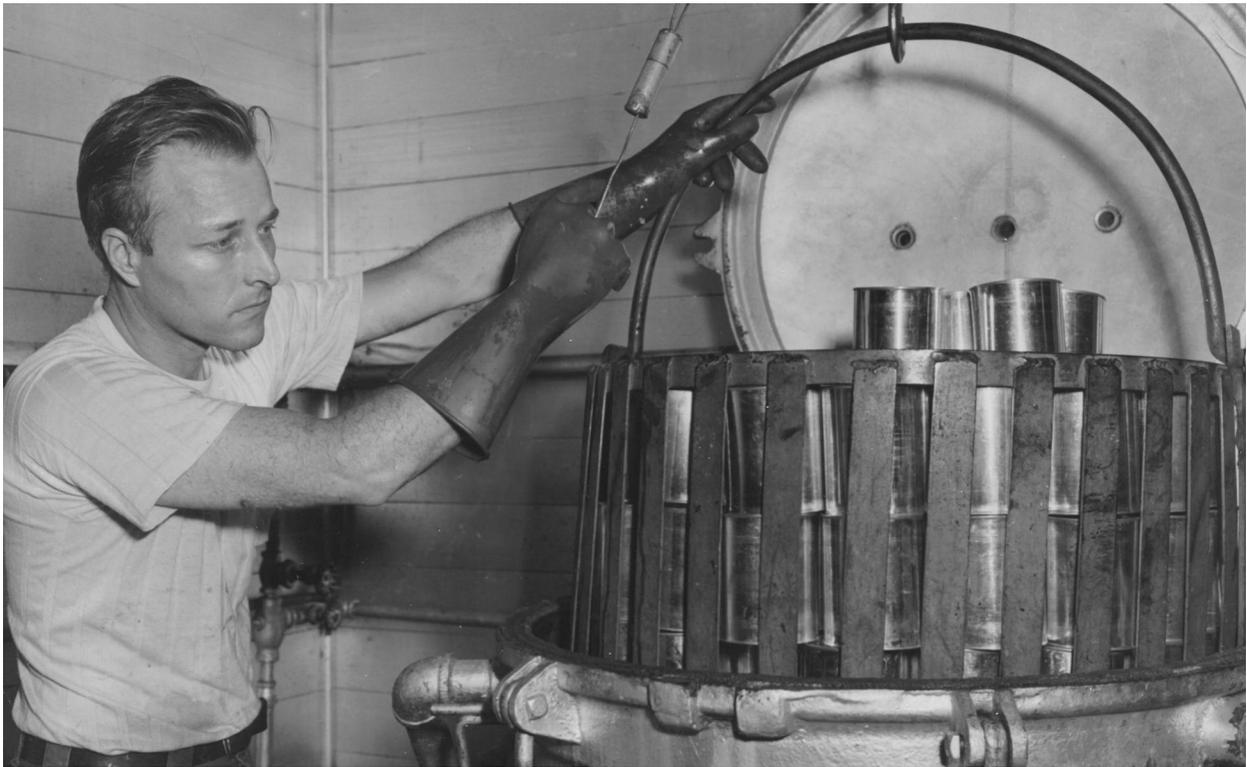
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**TO RENT HERITAGE HALL**

**Call Nicci Osborn at Kirkland Parks**

**425 587-3342**



**Harvey Pound, father of Thad, lowering a basket of cans into the retort for pressure canning.**

**Pound Collection**

**2007.11.02**

**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. To contribute articles please email to [bparticles@verizon.net](mailto:bparticles@verizon.net). For information on KHS - check our website: [www.kirklandheritage.org](http://www.kirklandheritage.org), or call 425 827-3446 to leave a message.



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