

# BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

## KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



Kirkland Heritage Society

2007.2.53

**Kirkland Hospital opened in 1930 and served the community until 1971.  
The hospital was at 220 Kirkland Avenue, now the Heathman Hotel.  
This is the earliest known hospital photo.**

Volume XVII, Issue 1

January/February 2010

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



Vice President Notes  
By Vic Newhard

Wishing all of you the best, in this brand new year of twenty ten. The time has passed so fast this last decade. It seems like yesterday the world was so concerned that we would melt down when the calendar turned to AD 2000 (Y2K). Thanks to the hard work and donations of many people and organizations, the Kirkland Heritage Society has grown and flourished during this time period.

Our mission has not changed and is more important than ever with the emphasis being put on the climate changes, sustainability, and the thinking of some groups that we must tear down the old and rebuild new, to save the planet. There is a limited amount of space here to print the details. However, the Kirkland Heritage Society has information, for you to read, that explains the concepts and should be read by everyone interested in our fair city, who we are, and where we should be going. History and our heritage is the soul of Kirkland and one reason it is a great place to live, work, and play here.

We will be celebrating Founders Week and Peter Kirk's birthday in mid February. There is going to be the annual St. Valentines Day wedding marathon that is always a busy but fun day for many couples to wed or renew their vows.

We will have a special meeting the first quarter of 2010 to discuss the update of our five year plan, set budgets, look at status of projects in work, and what should be added to future endeavors of our society. Kirkland will be annexing several major areas on our North border so KHS will be involved with an inventory of the historic properties. We will also be working on an update of the last inventory done several years ago. The KHS data base will continue to grow with many thousands of pictures and documents to be added to an already large inventory. Volunteer help is always welcome. What are your interests?

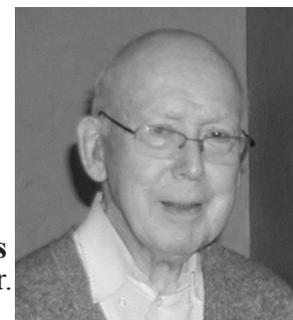


OPEN OPEN OPEN

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

Dr. Ernest C. McKibben, Jr

February 21, 2010  
2:00-4:00 p.m.  
203 Market Street  
Kirkland, WA



Kirkland Heritage Society is hosting a party in honor of Dr. Ernest C. McKibben, Jr.

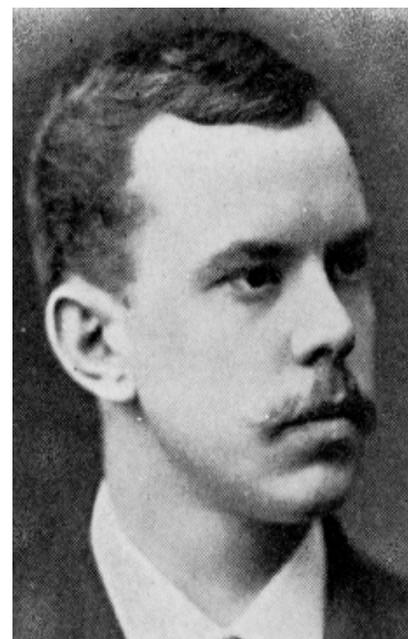
Our Dr. McKibben, Jr. was born in Kirkland over 89 years ago. Between Dr. McKibben, Sr. and Dr. McKibben, Jr., they delivered and patched up most of Kirkland for decades. Anyone who was doctored or has been friends with any of the McKibben family is encouraged to attend. Share your stories and bring any pictures you might have. Group photos will be taken around 3:00. Group photos will be: doctored by McKibben Sr., doctored by McKibben Jr., doctored by both. Coffee and cake will be served. And please, help spread the word. In February, parking is legal in the boat trailer area.



J. Montgomery  
Sears

1854-1905

Kirkland's  
sixth  
Founder



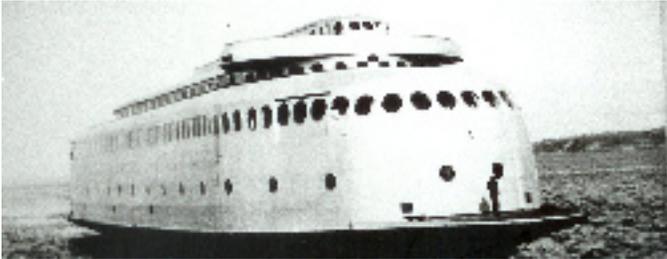
Each February, Kirkland celebrates **Founder's Month**. For 2010, we wish to introduce Kirkland to **Mr. Joshua Montgomery Sears**, Kirkland's wealthiest and largest investor from 1889 through 1910. Mr. Sears built the historic **Sears** building on Market Street, invested in the steel mill and privately owned almost half of Kirkland. When Kirkland incorporated in 1905, Mr. & Mrs. Sears were our heaviest taxpayers. His widow sold most of their holdings to **Burke & Farrar** in 1910. We are still learning about the impact they planned for Kirkland.

Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m. Heritage Hall

Jan 27, 2010

Steve Rodrigues, owner of the Ferry Kalakala will give a PowerPoint presentation about the Kalakala's past and her future. The futuristic Kalakala was launched at the Lake Washington Shipyard in Houghton in 1935. She operated out of Seattle until 1967 when she was retired.



February 24, 2010.

Loita Hawkinson with KHS, will give a PowerPoint presentation on the Moss Bay Iron and Steel Works that was built at Forbes Lake but failed to open. Why did Peter Kirk's dream of Kirkland becoming the Pittsburgh of the West never materialize? Hear why Kirkland had so much influence in 1888. It is a complicated history and should make Kirkland proud.



HERITAGE HALL FRONT WALK PAVERS STILL AVAILABLE ORDER NOW!

We are working on the installation of the next group of pavers in front of Heritage Hall right now. If you want to order a Paver, forms are available at Heritage Hall or on our KHS website: www.kirklandheritage.org. If you order by the first week in February, the order will be installed in this next group!

The pavers are organized in nine sections between the large locator rows – A through J,. We are now working to fill up H to I which means we will only have 134 for the last section out of a total of 1,172! We'd like to be able to complete the entire walkway during 2010. We will be having a work party this summer to clean up the pavers in the walkway! It is quite interesting to see people walking along looking at the various people and events memorialized there!

2010 Membership

It is that time of the year again when Kirkland Heritage Society has our membership drive. Some of you have already paid and some are life members. All mailed newsletters will have a renewal form inserted. If you have paid, please ignore the form. If you pick up a complementary issue around Kirkland, please consider becoming a member.

The dues are the same as in past years. The basic dues cover the printing and mailing of Blackberry Preserves. Grants, book & photo sales, On the Ways CD sales, and the generosity of members give KHS the operating budget. Because we are 100% volunteer, the money stretches. The Bob Neir and Steve Lamson books continue to sell very well. Because of the generosity of Bob and Steve, KHS receives 100% of the selling price. Thank you to all Kirkland Heritage Society supporters. Even in these lean times, Kirkland is rich in history and support.



**The Wrong Formula**

SOME OF the plans being discussed or established in the interests of young men in the armed forces promise to defeat their purpose. An act of the school board at Kirkland, Washington, may belong in this category.

The Kirkland school board has decided that all youths who left high school to enter the armed forces are to be granted diplomas of graduation. Approval for applying the plan to all high schools in the state of Washington is being sought from the state superintendent of education.

The desire of the Washington school board to "show these boys that they are remembered and honored at home" is understandable. On the other hand, the gesture of the school board will discourage, rather than encourage, the former students from re-entering school when they return. Even if colleges would accept high school credits that had been donated rather than earned, it would be no service to the students thus recognized.

As Euclid once told Ptolemy I, "There is no royal road to geometry."

This article was in the Reno, Nevada newspaper on May 31, 1944. History has proven this article wrong. Like the five pictured on the back cover, after the war many Kirkland boys returned to school and graduated from KHS the following year. Others, such as Russ McClintick and Jack Spencer, went straight to college and did very well for themselves and for our community.



## Oral History with Russ McClintick

by Dale Hawkinson

Russell L McClintick's parents came to Kirkland about 1918 from Colorado, traveling over Snoqualmie Pass. Not an easy trip in 1918 getting stuck in the deep mud ruts and having flat tires. His parents bought two and a half acres on 72nd and New Castle (132nd NE). Russell's dad and grandfather opened the Washington Music House in Seattle, which later became Hopper-Kelly Music.

Russ was born at home on Rose Hill in 1926 and was the youngest of 5 children. His father Clarence died of an appendicitis attack when Russ was 5 years old leaving his mother Eleanor to raise the family. Russ called her the Queen Bee during the interview.

Russ went to the Rose Hill School which was across the street from the Presbyterian Church on 90th (close to Costco) and on to the Junior High School in Kirkland on Waverly Way. He remembers the gym built by the WPA where the mothers would come down and help serve lunch.

Russ had many jobs during his school years in Kirkland. He delivered telegrams from the train depot to Kirkland and Juanita. He would take the message down to his friend at the post office to find out the street address for the telegram. For each delivery he was paid 25 cents.

As a freshman he was hired by the Wood Boat factory in south Kirkland because he was so small he could get in to tight places. He worked at Homer Monteith's radio repair shop above MacDougall's Electric Center. Here he replaced filter capacitors. This apprenticeship enabled Russ to finagle a job as a journeyman Marine Electrician in the Lake Washington Shipyard while still going to high school. A teacher demanded to see a pay stub to prove he was working a swing shift. Russ learned then that he was making more money than his teachers.

In 1943 a Navy recruiting commander came to the Kirkland High School. Seventeen-year-old Russ and some of his buddies went to the Federal Building in Seattle and took Naval Air Force exams. They all

passed and could join after graduation. Later Russ and buddies talked to a Marine recruiter and all bought home papers to be signed by parents so they could quit school and join the war effort. Russ's mother was the only one to sign and Russ was on his way to boot camp in San Diego. Mrs. McClintick accepted Russ's diploma during graduation.

Russ had a 22 rifle growing up and in boot camp he qualified as an expert marksman. His commander asked if he would join a special group that would tour the country promoting the Marines. That sounded good to Russ but when he learned they were recruiting for sniper school, Russ went on to radio school. He received advanced Morse code schooling and learned the Japanese alphabet. During his time in the Pacific, Russ copied Japanese Morse code which was sent to Washington DC for analysis.

After the surrender was signed, Russ was one of the first troops to see the atomic destruction in Nagasaki. They used a Geiger counter at ground zero to determine that the soil was not radioactive 10 inches below the surface. The Marines then cleared off the top dirt and made a football field for the troops.

Russ was a disc jockey for WVTO Marine Armed Forces Radio on the island of Kyushu and later for KBRC in Mt Vernon, WA.

After the Marines, Russ taught and was a principal for 30 years. He retired from the Kirkland Volunteer Fire Dept after 35 years, was on the fire board for 20 years, trained as an EMT for the fire department and served on the Evergreen Hospital Board for 17 years...often as president. Russ was married for 46 years and has 3 children.

His mother, the "Queen Bee", did a good job.



**The McClintick Home on Rose Hill**

## KHS FIRST DECADE OF THE NEW CENTURY

Reflections by Bob Burke

There have been a lot of articles in the media describing the major problems our Country has faced in this initial decade of the new century. KHS has been fortunate to have some significant milestones in our development. We have been able to continue our monthly programs, stabilized the production of Blackberry Preserves, and maintain our membership.

In 2000 the City of Kirkland and Kirkland Heritage Society were the first recipients of the King County Executive's JOHN D. SPELLMAN AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY ACHIEVEMENT IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION for the previous decade of partnership.

A major effort resulted in SAVING HERITAGE HALL and establishing a home for the Kirkland Heritage Society. This began with the placement of policies in the City's Comprehensive Plan under Growth Management in the early 1990's; and culminated in the completion of the inventory of historic properties in 1999. In February 1999 the City accepted the donation of the building from the Stabberts and it was moved to this site in May. Because of lawsuits, the building was not placed on a permanent foundation until 2000. In February 2001 the City Council adopted the Heritage Park (Waverly) Master Plan that allowed KHS as a use. On Peter Kirk's Birthday in 2003 the first half of the pavers was unveiled and the upper floor of the building was officially dedicated on September 13th, 2003. The Kirkland Woman's Club donated the flag pole and the time capsule. Students from Peter Kirk Elementary became the keepers of the time capsule committed to open it in 25 years and add to it for future generations. KHS held the first meeting in the "new" building. KHS signed a ten year lease with the City in 2003 and moved into its space in 2004. We immediately launched into the Centennial; then had our "Year of the Floods". This was solved, we hope, through the construction of Centennial Park and the donation of the Arbor by Kirkland Rotary at the North end of the Hall. Our beautiful new icon for Kirkland has really been enhanced by the Centennial Garden and Arbor.

In 2004 we began the planning for the KIRKLAND CENTENNIAL OF INCORPORATION – 1905 -2005. We held a Weekend Heritage Days in 2004 to obtain input and gain new collections. The Centennial started with a 100 Years Exhibit at Heritage Hall in February 2005; The Kirkland Woman's Club helped supply people to keep the exhibit open all

month. The Kirkland Art Center had an exhibit of Kirkland's History interpreted by contemporary artists. KHS also received the donation of books by Bob Neir and Steve Lamson for resale. It should be noted that both of these are still available for sale by KHS or at Parkplace Books. The 4th of July parade was special. In August we sponsored the Kirk Family Reunion -- now an ongoing event by the family. The closing of the Centennial in October included a ceremony at the Kirkland Performance Center, our exhibit at the Senior Center and fireworks in Peter Kirk Park.

Because of now having a secure archival space at Heritage Hall and the emphasis of the Centennial on our Community's history, the collections of KHS were growing significantly. It became obvious that we needed a better way to keep track of them. In late 2005 we purchased the software for the PAST-PERFECT DATABASE. Collections began to be input into the system in 2005. This is estimated to be a 6 or 7 year process to catch up with past collections and to include donations made each year. Through last year over 5,000 items from our collections (estimated at over 12,500 items) have been entered. This database provides the primary source of information for use in our various programs. It has been designed to assure that original items are preserved in the Archive, but the information is readily available to members and Citizens of Kirkland through the database. The shelving in the Archive was nearly tripled through a grant from 4Culture and last year we received a grant to purchase materials for the archive. The KHS space is now open half a day weekly.

This has all been achieved through the dedication of many volunteers from our members and help from ongoing partnerships with the City, other organizations and neighborhoods.



**Irene and Kevin Rowe  
at the 2009 Cookie Exchange**

Irene Vlitos-Rowe is our resident reporter and writes Kirkland's history for the *Kirkland Reporter*. She is originally from the UK so our British Founder's influence is well represented. For the cookie exchange, Irene made genuine Mince Pies.

## THANK YOU TO:

**Betty McClintick Gaudy** mailed in newspapers about the 1897 Alaska Klondike Gold Rush. The papers were printed in July 1947 and were to commemorate the 50 year anniversary. The Gold Rush history is all about Seattle but Kirkland benefited from the Gold Rush as well. The Seattle Woolen Mill produced wool products. The Seattle Woolen Mill was the first woolen mill on the pacific coast and it was right here in Kirkland. The mill later became the Matzen Woolen Mill.

**Sants Contreras** for delivering 2009 campaign literature to the resource center. We should have been collecting this literature all along. In 50 years, it will be historic.

**Milt Sessions** for trusting KHS with a photo album plus photos and negatives. These photos are from the 1920's through WWII. Elmer and Julia Sessions were Milt's grandparents and these are the first known photos of these early settlers in the KHS collection. Once the album, photos and negatives are scanned, they will be returned to Milt.

**Jim Tremain** for the loan of two 1948 aerial views. Both are unique. One shows South Kirkland and the Seattle Door Company (now Google) and the other is downtown Kirkland. They were scanned and photo prints will be made to archive.



**Brownie Troop 2875** for stopping by the Resource Center and caroling. This is the same troop that had the tour last November. They had taken photos while on the tour and made personalized thank you cards for Lynette and Loita. Stu and Vic were at the hall so they got to enjoy hearing the girl's sweet voices.

**Sandy Ekins** has volunteered to keep KHS in the news by submitting notices to the *Kirkland Reporter* and other Kirkland publications. Sandy is also Co-Chairing the **McKibben Day** party on February 21st.

**Clarence Stone** is doing oral histories. Stoney has recorded two histories and is working on another. Watch for an article in the March/April 2010 newsletter.

**Anita Maxwell** and **Vic Newhard** for co-chairing the 2009 Cookie Exchange. They set up and cleaned up afterwards plus did all the running around that is necessary prior to an event. **Lynette Friberg Weber** was responsible for arranging the Cookie Exchange at the Mansion and for borrowing easels from the **Kirkland Art Center**. Thank you **Kirkland Art Center** for the loan.

**Paul Barry**, owner of the **Marsh Mansion** for the tours of the mansion during our annual cookie exchange. Mr. Barry admits he bought the mansion on a whim but has learned the history of the Marsh family and this historic home. Much research has gone into its repair and maintenance.



**Irene Vlitos-Rowe**, KHS's history reporter, takes notes during a mansion tour by **Paul Barry**. *The Kirkland Reporter* ran her feature..



### Tim & Gina Morton

**Tim & Gina Morton** for hosting the December Cookie Exchange in their home, the Marsh Mansion. The Morton's lease the mansion and could not have been more gracious.



### Dr. McKibben, Dianne Marsh, Jerry & Patti Marsh.

Jerry and his daughter Dianne have known the mansion since they were kids. Dr. McKibben made house calls at the mansion

## 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:	Vacant	
Vice President:	Vic Newhard	425 522-4082
Secretary:	Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Treasurer:	Stu Clarke	
At-Large:	Sue Carter	425 822-5486
At-Large:	Barbara Loomis	425 827-7194
Past President:	Robert Burke	425 828-4095

### Committee Chairs

Archives & Collections:	Dale & Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Blackberry Preserves	D & L Hawkinson Marjorie Denton	425 827-1950
Funding	Robert Burke	425 828-4095
Communications:	Sue Carter Irene Vlitos-Rowe	425 822-5486 425 827-3446
Education and Programs:	Anita Maxwell Vic Newhard	425 828-3683 425 522-4082
Membership	Sally Jo Bechtel	425 301-7084
Oral History:	Dale & Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Planning and Historic Sites:	Barbara Loomis Lynette Weber Tom Hitzroth Bob Burke	425 827-7194 425 890-9058 425 823-2981 425 828-4095
Scholarship Committee	Jim Neir Kris Woods Sandy Ekins	206 478-3173

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



## 2010 MEMBERSHIP

### Kirkland Heritage Society

**January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010**

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
_____ Family	\$30
_____ Supporting	\$100
_____ Life Member	\$1,000
_____ Organization/Government	\$100
_____ Professional Business	\$125
_____ Corporate	\$250

I would like to make a contribution: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to and mailed to:

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**

**www.kirklandheritage.org**



**TO RENT HERITAGE HALL**

**Call Nicci Osborn at Kirkland Parks**

**425 587-3342**



City of Kirkland/Morgan Collection

2007.19.270

Kneeling: **Bob Sim**, center and **Pedro Anderson**, halfback. Standing: **Bill Baker**, fullback; **John Gay**, Guard and **Lee Melver**, halfback. Photo was taken in 1946 after WWII. All five had served overseas and returned to finish school.  
See Wrong Formula on page 3.

**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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