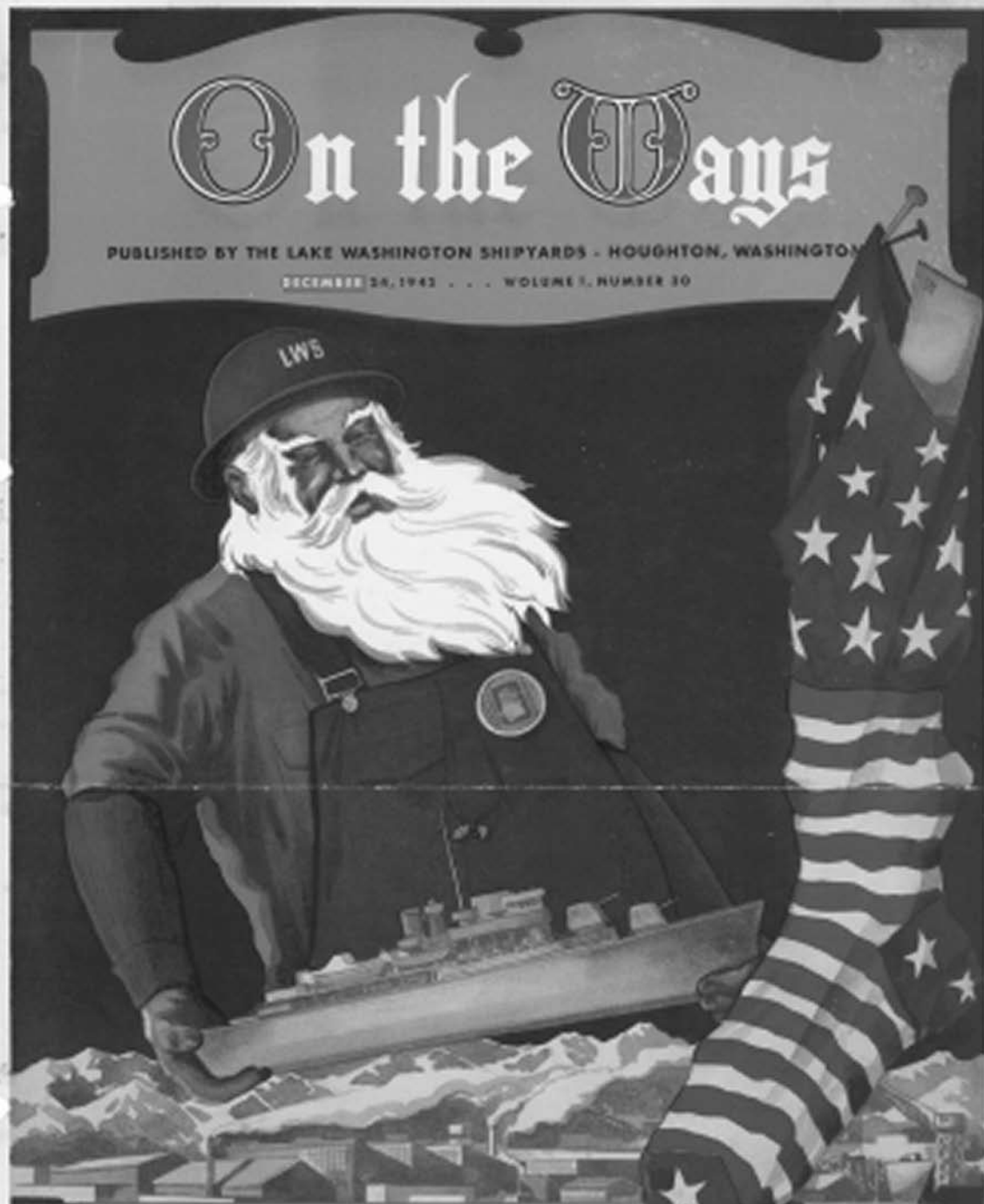


# BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

## KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



Lake Washington Shipyards, December 24, 1943

Volume XVIII, Issue 6

Nov/Dec 2011

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



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

LOITA HAWKINSON

The holidays are upon us and it is time to enjoy our families and friends. As in the past, there will be no program in November. The annual cookie exchange will be in one of Kirkland's historic homes...one that has not been visited before. Please watch for a special mailing because this is for paid members only. The date to set aside is Sunday, December 11 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Last year's cookie exchange was held in the historic 1890 Sears Building. This year, we have made connection with two of the great granddaughters of J. Montgomery and Sarah Choate Sears. The family has kept the Sears archives in their family. They are historians and understand the value of keeping collections together and maintained. The family has had little knowledge of their local history. But when they read the history that was mailed to them, they found a link. In a 1914 scrapbook, there was an unidentified wedge shaped brick building with East Side News on the door. This is "our" Sears building. We always knew the paper was printed there in the past but have never had a photo. Now we do. The Sears family will be looking at their archives with a new interest. When Kirkland incorporated in 1905, Mr. Sears was the largest property owner and had a vested interest in the development of Kirkland. But between the fire in the temporary city hall and the flood of the official city hall, many records have been lost. It is hoped that Kirkland mail will be discovered in the Sears papers. The Sears Archives will remain in the Sears family but Kirkland Heritage will receive scanned images of anything that is of local interest.

Please enjoy the centennial history of the Lee family on pages 4 & 5. We have missed other centennial histories but will try to catch up. Mrs. Newberry started the Camp Fire Girls in 1911. Federal Way and Kirkland were the first in the Northwest. So much history and so little time.

Our Founders Week in February has been promoted to **Kirkland History Month**. KHS received a nice grant from 4Culture and will be buying banners and signs for this February. Juanita, Totem Lake, Houghton and downtown Kirkland will be featured. Hopefully this will encourage families to come forward with photos. All our neighborhoods have such nice history, it will be fun to show them off. Thank you **Mark Amick** for chairing this committee.

Dr. Ernest D. McKibben, Jr.

1920 - 2011



It was his gentle hands or those of his father that guided many of you into this world.

Memorial services will be held on Tuesday, November 22, at 2 pm, at Emerald Heights Retirement Community, 10901 176th Circle NE in Redmond. All are welcome to come and share their memories.



Program Chair needed.

Anita Maxwell has served us well but must now resign as program chair. Starting with January 2012, we need someone to help find programs that are of local interest. Linda Jaton is on the committee: she and Wayne set up the refreshments. Members are very good with suggestions so it is mostly organizing the dates and the reminders. Programs are needed for 8 meetings plus the holiday cookie exchange. This would be a good position to share. Please call the hall at 425-827-3446 if you can help. Thank you Anita. You were terrific.



Support for the Kirkland Heritage Society is provided by our members, 4 Culture & City of Kirkland. Includes logos for 4 Culture (King County Lodging Tax) and City of Kirkland (Washington).

KHS receives 100% commission from the sales of Bob Neir's A City Comes of Age and Steve Lamson's The Power of a Dream. Both are available at Parkplace Books.



Wilkeson Stone Pavers Available Order Now for 2012 www.kirklandheritage.org

### KHS Monthly Meeting

November 2011

No program

Happy Thanksgiving

December 11, 2011

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Annual Cookie Exchange

Watch for mailed notice giving historic home.

Sorry, paid members only.



### Sept. & Oct. Attendance

Anita Maxwell, Betty Fields, Bob Binbe, Clarence Stone, David Sherbrooke, Dee Saunders, Helen Bengston Nash, IngeTh-eisen, Janeen Ryseff, Jean Jayne, Joanne De-ligan, Karen Shickling, Larry Miller, Linda Jaton, Loita Hawkinson, Marilyn Johnson, Marin Harris, Shannon Harris, Mary Lou Zi-uzin, Nancy Bock, Pam Owens, Pam Partin-gon, Ray Lincoln, Russ McClintock, Vic Newhard, Paul Secord, Frank Rosin, Mark Amick.



Kirkland's very own Cold Case Expert, **Tom Hitzroth**, shared his most recent research about the 1886 James M. Colman and Wilbur Patten murders on Mercer Island.



### Safety Alert

Most of us are very good about keeping fresh batteries in our smoke detectors. But did you know that the sensor is sensitive for about ten years? It is recommended that you check the date of your detector and replace it if it is over ten years old. If it is not dated.... replace it because it is much older than ten years. I was wondering why my burned toast did not set off any detectors anymore. Now I know why. Alarms and a KHS membership would make a great holiday gift.

### Little stories

I hope you are reading and enjoying the Little Stories that have been featured this year and will continue. These Little Stories were written by Burke & Farrar in 1915 as they were promoting Kirkland in all its glory. There were 30 stories in all over a 10 week period. They give us history of the town when it was fresh in the minds of who lived here. If there are errors, they are primary source errors... told by those that knew Kirkland in 1915. So far, I have found none. Loita



### Golden Grads



Wayne & Linda Jaton at the 2011 Golden Grads. There was a nice turnout as grads inspected the new school.



The Brennan Sisters look pleased with the new school. (Eileen Warren/Dorothy Daily)



Kirkland High School Alumni



Brothers, Sterling & Milt Sessions

## LEE FAMILY OF ROSE HILL

### Introduction by Janeen Ryseff, daughter of Dorothea Lee

Henry Lee came to Seattle about 1909 followed by his son Lewis Lee. In April of 1911 he married Elizabeth Reuter in Estelline, SD and settled in a house on Rose Hill. Their first child Dorothea was born in February 1912. Lewis was building their house on acreage 4 blocks east. Lewis and Henry built a house next door for Henry and his wife Ellen. Lewis and Elizabeth had a son Alting, born in April 1913 followed by Ida Mae in November 1914. They were active members of the Rose Hill Church and the children attended Rose Hill grade school and Union A High School. Lewis was a bugler in the Spanish American War of 1898. Lewis was a painter and paper hanger and Elizabeth worked in the woolen mills and laundry on Lake Street. 1952 their house was purchased by the state for highway 405. Lewis passed away in his way home December 1952. Elizabeth moved to a new house on NE 87th next to her 2 sisters. Elizabeth entered a nursing home and passed away May 1963.

### Memories of My Life by Dorothea Lee 1912-2004

I was born Dorothea Ellen Elsie Lee February 10, 1912 on Rose Hill. I have been told it was a snowy and cold day. Dr. George Davis of Kirkland delivered me at my parents' home. In those years very few people owned cars. Dr. Davis had a car, but that day his car refused to start so he walked with his black bag to deliver me. When I was about six months old we moved to our permanent home on Michigan Avenue, which is now N.E. 90th street. It was an acre of solid trees. My father worked hard clearing the land and building us a home. I had a brother Alting and a sister Ida Mae. All three of us were delivered by Dr. Davis.

Father worked on the Kirkland ferry and my mother was busy sewing for us, canning fruit and vegetables. My first memory of my father was of him clearing the land. Mother put me in an apple box on the table so I could see Mr. Easter pull the stumps out with his horse. It was quite memorable watching the horse pulling the stumps so my dad and Mr. Easter could clear the land.



Father and son,  
Henry and Lewis  
Lee, working on the  
last stump in 1916.

We really enjoyed our grandparents. Grandma and Grandpa were really wonderful people and how lucky we were to have them next door to us! Grandma used to come over in the morning to braid my hair and help us get ready for school, as our mother now worked on the big looms weaving wool cloth at the woolen mill. She was quite a seamstress when it came to making stuffed dolls and animals. She made the most beautiful elephants with the most colorful beaded saddles. She was Grandma Lee to everyone in the neighborhood and she also served as mid-wife.

I remember going over to Grandpa's. He tried to help me with my arithmetic. He had been a school teacher in his younger days. They were very poor, Grandpa used to go down to Lake Kirkland – a small lake about 6 blocks away from where there had been a sawmill years ago. He would dig large pieces of old bark left by the mill, then he would take the bark home in a wheel barrow to burn in the stove for heat. He liked flowers and took pride in his yard. I can still remember the night he died. Everyone had been sitting up with him – even the neighbors took turn to help out.

Every May Day grandma would make baskets and fill them with flowers and we would go and hang them on people's doors. We lived on Rose Hill and at that time, and in the 1918's and on, it was beautiful, covered with a lot of trees. We, along with our friends, would go out into the woods and pick flowers like Johnny Jump Ups (little yellow flowers like violets), Easter Lilies (Trilliums) and many more.

The "hog ranch" was quite a place in its day. Around 1920 the garbage trucks would come from Wings Cafeteria in Seattle and other restaurants to feed the hogs. A lot of silverware was thrown out with the food. My brother Alting and the Boy Scouts would go to the ranch and pick up silverware that had been dumped with the garbage. Many people in the Rose Hill area had silverware on their tables from restaurants by way of the hog ranch

The Lee family of  
Rose Hill in 1914  
with one of the many  
old growth stumps  
that had to be cleared  
from their land. The  
tree had been cut by  
the Moss Bay Iron  
and Steel Works in  
1890.



When our dad called us home, from outside for dinner and to listen to Amos & Andy on the radio, he always called us with his bugle. It was the one he had from his time in the Spanish American War. Everyone in the neighborhood knew Mr. Lee was calling his kids home when the bugle sounded. So many of our friends came to our house to listen to Amos & Andy, very few had radios.

I can remember at Christmas grandma could never keep a secret. She would ask us if we would like to have Santa Claus bring us a set of dishes, slippers or whatever she had for us. At Christmas we always had the most delicious mince meat pies that grandma would bake from her homemade mincemeat. What a big day it was when we went with our dad to get the Christmas tree. There were a lot of woods to pick our tree.

Daddy was busy one year making small cupboards for the dishes we got that year. One each for Ida Mae and me. Daddy had them covered so we couldn't see them, but our curiosity got the best of us and we had to look. Of course, we didn't tell him. It was a Christmas to remember.

When it snowed we all had a great time. Some of the bigger boys had toboggan sleds that would hold about four people. Arnie and Helen Jacobson, Donald Windall, Alting and Ida Mae, we all had turns coasting down in the snow. We would slide down the hill from Belt's store, at the top of the hill, and past the church and sometimes to the Jacobson's house. Our friends, Gaylord and Gordon, both had sleds.

On Saturdays Daddy only worked a half day. He would take one of us to work, and we played around till noon when he took us to Wings Cafeteria. We could choose anything on the menu. After lunch we went to the Public Market. After shopping we would walk down First Avenue where the Indian women would sit on the sidewalk selling their handmade wares. The moccasins were beautiful, all beaded and pretty.

Dorothea passed away May 29th 2004. She lived at Kirkland Lodge the last 5 1/2 years.



**Hazel Dell**

The Lee family home on Rose Hill

SEATTLE'S  
MOST

KIRKLAND

IMPORTANT  
SUBURB

When Peter Kirk got back to Seattle, he found the capital subscribed, but only \$750,-000 paid in. Courage is the dominant characteristic of the pioneer—so in the spring of 1890 a start was made anyhow; the present townsite of Kirkland cleared, buildings for the steel plant erected, machinery ordered. Two shiploads of fire brick were brought from Scotland for the furnaces, the machinery was finally assembled and heavy engines installed. For three years everything went fine, as will be told Thursday.

Every day in the classified section of The Times you can find some property in Kirkland described.

**BURKE & FARRAR, INC.,**  
Owners of Kirkland Townsite  
CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$1,000,000.  
2d Floor N. Y. Block, Over Dexter  
Horton National Bank.

LITTLE STORIES OF KIRKLAND  
NO. 6.

**Seattle Times-- August 10, 1915**



**THANK YOU TO:**

**Mary Wegner Yates** is the granddaughter of William Klenert who had Klenert's Meat Market on Lake Street back in the 1920's. The Klenert Ranch was the former Cort farm on 108th Avenue NE...then called Cort Road. Mary was able to provide a photo of her grandfather sitting on the lawn at his home. A rare photo for KHS and it is so appreciated.

**Kriss Higginbotham**, daughter of Irving Higginbotham loaned three original photos from her grandmothers collection. Kriss has boxes of photos. The Higginbothams were early settlers in Juanita. One of the photos is the 5th grade 1936 Juanita class. If you were in that class, please let us know so we can get the teacher and all those students identified.

**Lori Tucker**, daughter of Patty Tucker and the late David Tucker has donated a Kirkland Taste wall hanging. The Taste was a fun event in Kirkland.



**Vince Armfield**, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Kirkland, donated this much remembered sign to Kirkland Heritage. Believe it or not, we have it displayed but we sure do need a museum.



This is the 1914 Sears photo that is now in our Sarah Choate Sears collection. When she took this photo, Mrs. Sears still owned the building and half of Kirkland.



**Little Dorothea Lee with the steel mill**



The three Lee Children on a steamer that ran between Madison Park and Kirkland. A common sight in the early days but a very rare photo.



**Janeen Ryseff**, granddaughter of the Lee's is responsible for preserving this Rose Hill history. Her mother was Dorothea. Thank you for being so organized and generous.



Thanks to my son, **Fred**, who has been rebuilding my computer which crashed. Thanks to his time, patience and backups, most has been restored and I will now be able to work on the donations that have come in this summer and fall. I know you all understand how it now is at the Hawkinson home but I still appreciate your understanding as I relearn to live my life. Loita.



**Time to renew**

Be watching for a renewal notice. Membership chair, Janeen Ryseff, is working on the mailing. Your membership covers the cost of this newsletter and little else. Most of our projects are paid for with grants. Our operating expenses are covered with book and photos sales and donations. For a little organization, we do okay. Thank you all.

# Blackberry Preserves

President:	Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Vice President:	Lynette Weber	425 890-9058
Secretary:	Corrine Hieb	425 827-3446
Treasurer:	Mark Amick	425 827-3446
At-Large:	Clarence Stone	425 827-3446
At-Large	Vic Newhard	425 522-4082
At-Large	Anita Maxwell	425 827-3446
At-Large:	Linda Jatton	425 827-3446
Past President:	Robert Burke	425 828-4095

## Committee Chairs & members

Archives & Collections:	Dale & Loita Hawkinson*	425 827-1950
Controller	Stuart Clarke	425-827-3446
Blackberry Preserves	Loita Hawkinson Marjorie Denton	425 827-1950
Funding	Robert Burke*	425 828-4095
Hello Girls**	Linda Jatton* Cathy Radcliff Corrine Hieb Margie Denton Marilyn Johnson	425 827-3446
Feature Writers	Irene Vlitos-Rowe	425 827-3446
Programs:	Anita Maxwell* Linda Jatton Vic Newhard	425 828-3683 425 827-3446 425 522-4082
Time Keepers	Marin Harris* Shannon Harris	425-827-3446
Membership	Janeen Ryseff*	425-827-3446
Oral History:	D&L Hawkinson Clarence Stone	425 827-1950
Planning and Historic Sites:	Lynette Weber* Tom Hitzroth Robert Burke	425 890-9058 425 823-2981 425 828-4095
Scholarship Committee	Jim Neir* Kris Woods Sandy Ekins	206 478-3173 425 827-3446 425 827-3446

\* Chair or Co-chairs

\*\* During WWI, the Hello Girls were ladies who served as telephone operators. For KHS, these sweet ladies call and remind you of the next meeting or event.

## Kirkland Heritage Society

[www.kirklandheritage.org](http://www.kirklandheritage.org)  
425-827-3446

**KHS is 100% volunteer with no paid staff.  
Your memberships make it happen.**



### 2010 MEMBERSHIP

Kirkland Heritage Society

**January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011**

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.

#### Membership Category

_____ 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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Name

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Checks should be made payable to and mailed to:

Kirkland Heritage Society  
Heritage Hall, Lower Level  
203 Market Street  
Kirkland, WA 98033.



## TO RENT HERITAGE HALL

**Call Nicci Osborn at Kirkland Parks  
425 587-3342**



**The Lee home when they moved to Kirkland in 1911. This was an old home near the Steel Works on Rose Hill. Dorothea Lee was born here. See story pages 4 & 5.**

**Blackberry Preserves** is produced by the **Kirkland Heritage Society**, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. **Loita Hawkinson, Editor.** For information on KHS - visit our website: [www.kirklandheritage.org](http://www.kirklandheritage.org), or call 425 827-3446 to leave a message.

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Kirkland Heritage Society

Kirkland Heritage Society, est 1977  
Heritage Hall  
203 Market Street, Lower Level  
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