

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES
The Journal of the
KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY

History Month



Kirkland in August 1947.

This is the Kirkland many old-timers miss.
Ted's grandparents arrived in Kirkland in 1890 and
established Kirkland's first grocery store.

Ted Tillman Collection



www.kirklandheritage.org

February is History Month
Dozens of Historic Plaques will be displayed by
participating merchants

Volume XXIV, Issue I

Jan/Feb 2017

www.kirklandheritage.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

GLENN LANDGUTH

We have a new person on the Board. Janice Gerrish has volunteered and been appointed to an At-Large position. She comes with extensive experience in the area of historic preservation. Welcome, Janice. We still have one more open At-Large position.

Nancy Bock is the new chairperson of the History Month committee, and is well on her way to preparing and ordering new posters for the upcoming 2017 History Month in February. She is doing an excellent job of choosing pictures and designing 12 new posters. Loita and Frank are also lending assistance.

As in past years, Nancy will be looking for people to help distribute posters to Kirkland businesses by February 1 and pick them up again in early March. Board members always help with this, and others are welcome to join in.

I am still looking for new chairs for the Grants/Funding, and the Paver committees.

The 4Culture sustaining grant has been awarded for the 2017 and 2018. We will soon receive a contract which specifies the criteria for actually receiving the award. The criteria will be based on our grant application. Once we sign the contract we will be on track to receiving the grants. There are other grants available to help meet our needs. The Grants/Funding committee would concentrate in making application for appropriate grants and managing the grants when they are awarded. The grant applications can be submitted online from home.

The current paver order cycle is nearly complete pending the actual installation of new and replacement pavers. I am now putting together the next paver order for pavers ordered through last December.

I again call your attention to the fact that 2017 is an election year for KHS. Board members are elected in May and take

office in July for 2-year terms. At the January Board meeting I will be calling for people to form a nominating committee.

Again, I hope that many people will be thinking about what they would like to do and respond with enthusiasm when approached by a member of the nominating committee. It is also allowed to approach a member of the nominating committee and let them know what you would be interested in.

We are still facing many other challenges that need to be addressed. Here are a just few of those challenges that come to mind.

1. We are in need of certain equipment at the Resource Center so that staff will not need to take documents home for scanning and data entry into the database. A related need is to incorporate a dependable backup procedure for our digital data that uses both onsite and offsite secure data storage.

2. We need to train more people to work with the PastPerfect database, especially to do data entry so that we can reduce our backlog of items.

3. I would also like to extend the hours that the Resource Center is open to the public. I would also like to have more than one person at the Resource Center when we are open to the public.

4. I would like to see us create a structured, self-guided, onsite tour brochure to guide visitors through the displays at the Resource Center.

The opportunities are there. We just need the people to turn our dreams into realities.

To everyone already volunteering for the Kirkland Heritage Society, I would like to extend my continuing thanks for all that you do.

That is all for now.
Glenn



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*.

KHS Monthly Programs

7:00 p.m.

Heritage Hall

203 Market Street

~~~ **January 25, 2017** ~~~

Ron Hutchinson, minister of Kirkland Congregational Church and founding member of Kirkland Interfaith Temporary Housing and Kirkland Interfaith Neighbors (KITH and KAN) will be the guest speaker. Reverend Hutchinson competes with Reverend Newberry for marriages performed and good deeds done.

~~~ **February 22, 2017** ~~~

Movie Night.

Eyes of the Totem

Filmed in Tacoma in 1926 and features Kirkland's Nell Barry Taylor. This is a silent film so even the hard of hearing are in for a treat. This movie last showed in Kirkland in 1927...90 years ago.



Nell Barry Taylor

by Loita Hawkinson

Local actress Nell Barry Taylor died in Kirkland on February 3, 1953. She had lived on Rose Hill for over 41 years so there must be people who remember her. KHS would like to hear from you.

Nell came from an entertainment family and it was her life. She started out on stage at age 12 and was eventually in silent movies.

Nell started her Taylor Acting Studio in Seattle in 1910 and operated it until her retirement in 1930.

Mrs. Taylor moved to Kirkland on a whim. In her words she tells of her place on Rose Hill:

"I bought it one Sunday in 1911. I was walking down the street in Seattle about 9 a.m. and saw a crowd of people gathered at the corner. Naturally, I went over and asked what was going on. One of the ladies asked 'Haven't you heard about the Kirkland Boom? They take you over and bring you back and it doesn't cost anything.'

I didn't have anything particular to do that day, so I decided to make the trip. I got over here, saw the acre of land where my house is now standing and fell in love with it. I didn't have any money with me, so I gave the salesman my diamond ring to hold it for me.

Later a group of my pupils came out and built a cabin on the property for me. I have added to it since but the original cabin is still there."

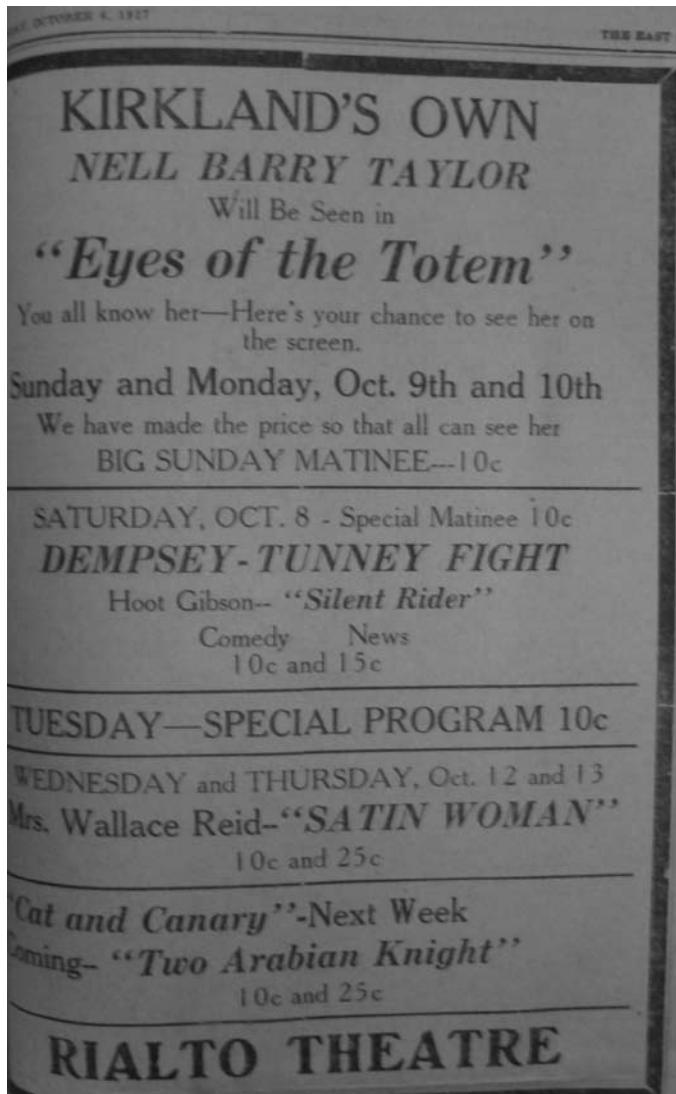
During the Great War (WWI), Nell entertained local service men at the Rose Hill Clubhouse. She was a popular fixture in Kirkland.

In 1924 H.C. Weaver built a movie studio in Tacoma. Three films were produced before the studio closed its doors. The studio was designed for silent movies. Talkies were on the way and it was too expensive to redesign the studio.

Kirkland's Nell Barry Taylor had parts in all three movies produced in Tacoma. The **Continued on page 4**

Continued from page 3

town came out in full force when her movies played at the Rialto Theatre on Central Way. The Rialto later became Elson Hardware and then M.W. Bryant Hardware. Theatre posters continued to hang in the building for many years after the theatre closed



Until 2015, it was thought all the movies had been lost. A mismarked copy of *Eyes of the Totem* was discovered in New York City. The film was in wonderful condition considering its age but still needed restoration. Through a Kick Starter Campaign, *Eyes of the Totem* was purchased and restored. The music score has not been found so new music had to be written by NW musical talent. The music is as important as the film. With no sound, the music supports the drama and humor..

The film will one day be out on DVD but for now, one of the films restoration team, Mick Flaaen of Mariposa Productions, has generously offered to do a screening of the film for Kirkland. Nell Berry Taylor is featured in the first half of the film. She was truly a talented lady. Nell lost her voice due to an accident on Rose Hill in 1930. It is thought she would have been featured in talkies had she been able to speak.

As for this film, *The Eyes of the Totem* does not disappoint. There is humor, crime, violence, revenge, sex. Today it would receive a PG 13 with parents strongly cautioned. There is even a swear word. This word was shocking when Rhett said it to Scarlett in 1939 but it was apparently acceptable in 1926.

Nell Barry Taylor's recipe in the 1936 *Ladies Auxiliary of the Warren Grimm Post American Legion* cookbook. No calories but full of kindness. Shows her inner spirit.

Superior Wedding Cake

5 pounds of Devotion, 3 pounds extract of Faithfulness, 4 quarts of Heart-felt Satisfaction, 1 pound each of Prudence and Good Nature, 2 pounds each of Confidence and Mutual Forbearance, 2 pounds of Matrimonial Fidelity, 3 quarts of Gentleness and Modesty, 3 quarts of Enjoyment, Patience, Industry, Economy in unlimited quantities—cannot be too much—15 ounces of Wisdom and Experience, 1 gallon of Milk of Human Kindness, 5 pints Cream of Excellence, 5 pints Common Sense. Spice will with Sweetness of Disposition. Mix thoroughly with Cheerfulness, pour in to Golden bowl of Domestic Happiness lubricated with oil of Gladness, and bake in the oven of Double Blessedness heated by the fire of TRUE LOVE.

(Author unknown) —Mrs. Nell Barry Taylor



Hornets vs Kangscontinued

From Judith Gain Thommasen:

Just a note. Am wondering about your Hornet/Kang articles. Both my mom, Erma Evetts Gain and Mary Gain Walker were in the class of 1930. Aunt Mary graduated at Kirkland and my Mom did her last semester at Garfield so she could go half days and walk to downtown Seattle and work. But both have told me **many times** that in the fall of 1929 they voted for the new mascot as they hated the Hornet name. So why is the date set in '34? They both were so clear on the 1929 vote. Just curious as to the date. Good to see familiar faces in the December issue. Love, Judy

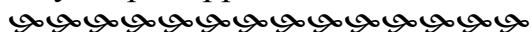
AmazonSmile

Kirkland Heritage is registered with AmazonSmile.

When you purchase from Amazon, .5% of your total purchase can be donated to KHS. Amazon pays this .5%, not the buyer. The link to our AmazonSmile account is on our website @

Kirklandheritage.org

.5% does not amount to much but every penny helps support Kirkland's history.



News from Sandy Middleton

by Loita Hawkinson

Sandy Middleton is a Peter and Mary Kirk descendant by way of their daughter Marie Kirk Bell. The 32 year old Mrs. Bell died in Kirkland in 1904. While the 1892 repeal of the Ship Canal took the steam out of the steel mill venture, the 1904 death of a daughter took the steam out of Peter Kirk.

Sandy is a great historian and researcher. She is determined to piece together Kirk history that has been forgotten or lost.

The first issue in 2016, Blackberry Preserves featured a September 1911 ad showing Theodore Roosevelt promoting Kirkland. The canal was again funded and Kirkland was finally going to grow. As editor I noted that Teddy Roosevelt did not promote other communities including Seattle. Why he cared about Kirkland was a mystery.

Theodore Roosevelt says:

"Buy in KIRKLAND"

KIRKLAND Garden Tracts \$300 up

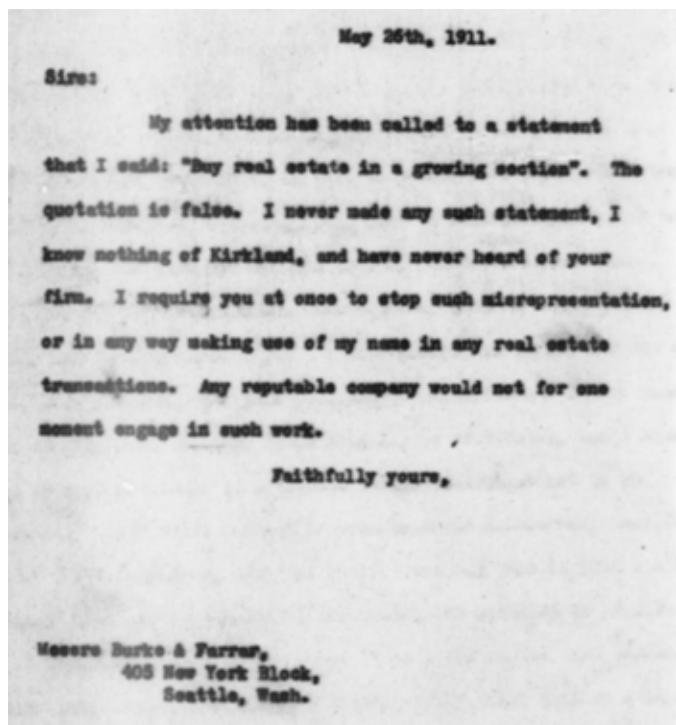
KIRKLAND City Lots \$125 up

KIRKLAND Average \$50 to \$75

BURKE & FARRAR, Inc.
OWNERS
405-409 New York Block
OPEN EVENINGS
Branch Offices - Madison Park and Kirkland Ferry
Lamont, Open Today

P.S.—In an address at Spokane Friday evening Colored Roosevelt said that with the passage of another generation Seattle will be a city of 1,600,000 population—this means that Kirkland will be, at the very least, as large as Oakland.

Over the holidays, Sandy was searching for information about President Benjamin Harrison's visit to Seattle. Sandy is wondering if Peter Kirk was presented to the president. In her search, she found the following:



The letter is the carbon copy record of his letter to Burke & Farrar, therefore it is fuzzy. But it states:

May 26, 1911.

Sirs:

My attention has been called to a statement that I said "Buy real estate in a growing section". The quotation is false. I never made any such statement, I know nothing of Kirkland, and have never heard of your firm. I require you at once to stop such misrepresentations, or in any way making use of my name in any real estate transactions. Any reputable company would not for one moment engage in such work.

Faithfully yours,

Original signed by Roosevelt

Messers Burke & Farrar
405 New York Block
Seattle, Wash.

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

The ad and the letter are primary source materials, both dating back to 1911. With the **Seattle Times** and the **Seattle Post Intelligencer** digitized, we can be fairly confident that Teddy Roosevelt did not visit Seattle. So Burke & Farrar apparently did not have Roosevelt's permission to use his name to promote Kirkland. At this time no Burke & Farrar archives have been found. We do not know if the realitors attempted to contact Teddy Roosevelt. We do know that the ads ran for much of 1911.

How Teddy Roosevelt learned of the ads remains a mystery. But it is confirmation that government and society managed quite well before the internet.



History Month

Nancy Bock has done a great job organizing the new History Month plaques that will be displayed.

Twelve photos have been selected from the collections of: Nancy Landguth Bock, Art Case from Karen Lightfeldt, City/Morgan, Frank Rosin, Jinx King from Ed King, Ted Tillman, Tami Ormbrek Jones, Joanne Keiffer Wright, Gary Gelow, and the National Archives from Tracy White. Many of these photos were donated in 2016. They will represent Juanita, Houghton and Kirkland. Every year we add at least 12 plaques. lh

A sample of the photos used



| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| President: | Glenn Landguth * | 425 821-4172 |
| Vice-president | Karen Schickling * | 425.827-3446 |
| Secretary: | Loita Hawkinson | 425.827-1950 |
| Treasurer: | Frank Rosin * | 425 827-3446 |
| At-Large: | Janice Gerrish | 425 827-3446 |
| At-Large | Vacant | 425 827-3446 |
| At-Large | Nancy Bock * | 425 827-3446 |
| At-Large: | Linda Jaton * | 425 827-3446 |
| At-Large: | Vic Newhard | 425 892-8388 |

Committee Chairs & members

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Archives & Collections: | Loita Hawkinson* | 425 827-1950 |
| | Karen Schickling | 425-827-3446 |
| Controller | Hazel Russell | 425-827-3446 |
| Blackberry Preserves: | Loita Hawkinson
Marjorie Denton | 425 827-1950 |
| Pavers | Glenn Landguth | 825 827-3446 |
| Grants/Funding | Glenn Landguth* | 425 827-3446 |
| Hello Girls** | Linda Jaton*
Cathy Radcliff
Corrine Hieb
Margie Denton
Marilyn Johnson | 425 827-3446 |
| Feature Writers | Loita Hawkinson
Guest Writers | 425 827-1950 |
| Programs: | Linda Jaton*
Karen Schickling | 425 827-3446
425 827-3446 |
| Time Keepers | Marin Harris*
Shannon Harris | 425-827-3446 |
| Membership | Janeen Ryseff* | 425-827-3446 |
| Oral History: | Loita Hawkinson
Clarence Stone | 425 827-1950 |
| Planning and Historic Sites: | Lynette Weber* | 425 890-9058 |
| Scholarship Committee | Jim Neir*
Kris Woods | 206 478-3173
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 Natives or deep roots serving on the KHS Board.

Webmaster: Loita Hawkinson

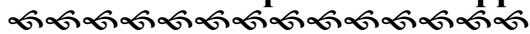
Kirkland Heritage Society

www.kirklandheritage.org

425-827-3446

KHS is 100% volunteer with no paid staff.

Your memberships make it happen.



2017 MEMBERSHIP

Kirkland Heritage Society

January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

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:

If your company matches contributions, please provide the signed Matching Gift Form!

Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Checks should be made payable and mailed to:

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



TO RENT HERITAGE HALL

Call Kevin Ball at Kirkland Parks

425 587-3398



Actress Nell Barry Taylor in her home on Rose Hill

Photo was taken in 1946 for the February 1946 issue of

East Side Magazine

See Page 3

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, or call 425 827-3446 to leave a message.

**First
Class
Stamp
Box**



Kirkland Heritage Society

Kirkland Heritage Society, est 1977
Heritage Hall
203 Market Street, Lower Level
Kirkland, WA 98033

