

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



Mary Larson at Lake Washington Shipyard in 1944
McCauley Collection

Volume XXVI, Issue III

May/June 2019

www.kirklandheritage.org

From the President

Loita Hawkinson

The year is whizzing by. Elections will be easy this year with a simple voice vote at the May 19th meeting. This will be my last two year term and then the bylaws require that I take a break from being president. It is my view that this position should be shared with other members.

The 4th of July will kick off summer. We will be participating in Summerfest again this year by opening the museum during Summerfest hours. This was such a good event for KHS last year. Less work and we got to show off our space. If you are available July 26, 27 or 28th, please give us a call. We need at least 3 people in the museum at all times. So think about involving a neighbor, old friend, family member. Or just bring a good book. We are doing longer shifts because our space does provide all the necessary creature comforts. And it is climate controlled. The phone to call during office hours is 425-827-3446.



The Annual Cemetery Tour guided by Kirkland historian Matt McCauley will be May 25, 2019 from 10:00 to noon

There will be no new graves markers this year but the fund is growing so more graves will be marked soon. Most unmarked graves are from the Great Depression Era.

Matt's tours are always free but donations are appreciated and used to mark graves.

Elections

Kirkland Heritage Society elections will be held at our annual meeting on May 29, 2019. The current board members are willing to serve for another two year term.

They are:

- Loita Hawkinson for President
- Karen Schickling for Vice President
- Janice Gerrish for Secretary
- Frank Rosin for Treasurer
- Linda Jatton for At Large
- Shannon Harris for At Large
- Dave Sherbrooke for At Large
- Lynette Weber for At Large
- Vic Newhard for At Large

A postcard was sent to all paid members giving members an opportunity to challenge any position. None have been received. This makes our election quite easy. There will be a simple voice vote at the May 29th meeting prior to our program. The new term starts July 1, 2019.



Life Members:

- Maureen Baskin, Laura Bradley-Pierucci, Bob and Valerie Burmester, David and Tasha Davis, Steve Lamson, Matt McCauley, Robert Neir, Richard and Kathy Nelson, Michael and Cathy Radcliff, Larry Springer/Penny Sweet, Sandi Stone.

KHS Monthly Programs

7:00 p.m.
Heritage Hall
203 Market Street

🌀🌀 **May 29, 2019** 🌀🌀
Annual meeting

Board of Directors Election
Must be present to vote.
No nominations from the floor.

🌀🌀 **May 29, 2019** 🌀🌀
Don Schmitz is retired from the
King County Marine Patrol. He
has many stories about diving in
Lake Washington.

🌀🌀 **June, 2019** 🌀🌀
No membership meeting.

🌀🌀 **July 4, 2019** 🌀🌀
No membership meeting in July.
See you at the 4th of July Kirkland
Parade. Watch for the Model A's
from the Evergreen Chapter of the
Model A Club.

🌀🌀 **July 26-28, 2019** 🌀🌀
We will have the Kirkland Heritage
Society Resource Center and
Museum open during Summerfest.
Sarsaparilla will be sold for that
touch of nostalgia.



KHS receives 100% commission from the sales of
Bob Neir's *A City Comes of Age* and Steve Lam-
son's *The Power of a Dream*.

Kirkland Heritage Society office
and museum are open:
Monday from 10 to noon
Wednesday from 2 to 5



Programs

Karen would like a partner to
help with future programs:
Linda promises to continue to
bring her wonderful treats and door
prizes but needs to retire from the
planning. If interested, call or
email Karen Schickling @
425-273-6299 or
kschic1965@gmail.com.



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.

Mary Larson

by Loita Hawkinson

During May we observe both Mother's Day and Memorial Day so it seemed appropriate to remember Mary E. Seaton Larson. Mary Larson lived at 333 11th Avenue West. Mary was the youngest of 11 children and she was the mother of 11 children. Her late husband was Martin C. Larson.

There are two Martin Larson families and both lived in the Market Neighborhood. Their history can be a challenge to sort especially because both families were active in olde Kirkland.

Mary is often remembered for her service during WWII. At age 66, the widow's 11 children were serving...either in the armed services or in occupations directly connected with the war effort. Mary applied at the Lake Washington Shipyard and was hired as a joiner...making it an even dozen Larson's working for peace. She worked at the shipyard for 5 years before finally retiring.

Mary was featured frequently in *On The Ways*, the weekly paper published for the Lake Washington Shipyard during the war years. Her story was told in the Seattle Times with our cover photo featured. This original photo was purchased by Matt McCauley when it was offered on eBay. It is sad that we sometimes have to purchase our lost history but thank you Matt for adding it to your collection held by Kirkland Heritage Society.

In the photo, it looks as though Mary had been hired for janitorial services. But she is actually cleaning up her work area... she was a joiner and the joiner is also in the photo. The headscarf was for safety.

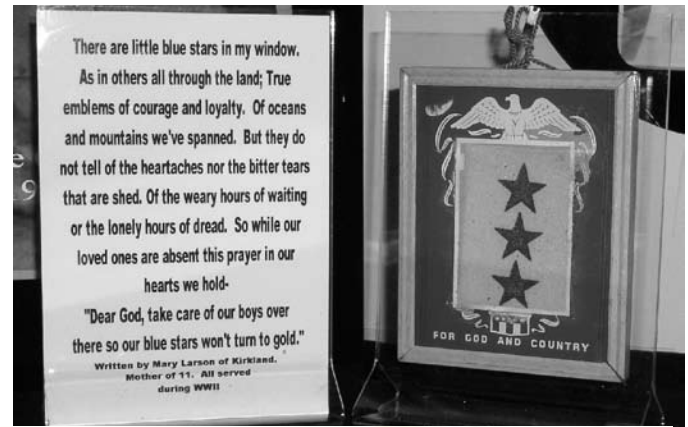


Mary was also remembered for her poetry and for her *Our Town* features that ran

for 11 years in the *East Side Journal*.

Mary's father published a small newspaper and this must have rubbed off on his youngest child. Mary's *Our Town* articles featured most everyone: founders, pioneers, business people, politicians, homemakers. She wrote of people often overlooked for their contributions. Mary's features are a treasure trove of Kirkland's past.

Mary printed a book of poems that was dedicated to her sons and daughters. The heart rendering poem on the back page was written for her son Ellis and was also published in *On The Ways*. The poem is displayed at our KHS Museum with a plaque featuring 3 stars for Howard, Bob and Dick Carr. Thankfully the Carr's stars and the Larson stars never turned to gold. The Carr plaque was given to their mother, Bertha Carr, by the Morgan Furniture Company on Commercial Avenue (now Park Lane).



... PERSONALS ...

MARY E. LARSON, LWS scaler, was thrilled to hear the voice of her son, Ellis A. Larson, a Chief Petty Officer in the SeaBees, last week. Ellis called his mother from "somewhere in the South Pacific" as a Mother's Day greeting. He has been away for over 18 months and this was the first time it was possible for him to call home. He told his mother that they had one of the LWS tenders down there and all the fellows agreed it was a fine craft and perfect all through.

From *On The Ways* in 1944



In the April 2019 issue of *Kirkland Lifestyle* magazine, Matt McCauley wrote about the cleanup of Lake Washington. One of the photos used was when Juanita Beach was closed in June of 1953. Joanne Forbes Deligan and Marilyn Timmerman Johnson are in that photo along with the late JoAnn Johnson McAuliffe.



From the *East Side Journal* City/Morgan Collection

Christine Neir Scholarship

Ten applications were received this year. The \$2000 Neir Scholarship will be awarded to one of these applicants and will be announced in the next newsletter.



March 27, Kent Sullivan and Matt McCauley shared just a bit of what they know about railroad history.



April 24, Randy Morelli talked about his family...he will be back to share more.

Our little museum continues to grow



This wool bathing suit is very rare. For being almost 100 years old, it is in wonderful condition. The suits were unisex. The brass tag had a number that matched the bin number that held the swimmers clothing.



Joanne Deligan Forbes has donated a very rare wool bathing suit from Juanita Beach. Her mother gathered her young children in the family car about 1920 and drove to San Francisco to buy the suits.



Joanne mended moth holes before giving KHS the suit. But it needed two black buttons. As I was going through my button box I came across the black Navy uniform buttons that were on Dale's uniform. (Dale is my late husband). They are not authentic to the swimsuit but they are the right color and size and they have that nostalgic anchor. And it made me happy to share the buttons in Dale's memory. Margie Denton is sewing the buttons on as well as doing a bit more mending.

Blackberry Preserves

President:	Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Vice-president	Karen Schickling *	425.827-3446
Secretary:	Janice Gerrish	425.827-3446
Treasurer:	Frank Rosin *	425 827-3446
At-Large	Linda Jatón *	425 827-3446
At-Large	Vic Newhard	425 892-8388
At-Large	Lynette Weber	425 890-9058
At-Large:	Dave Sherbrooke	425 827-3446
At-Large:	Shannon Harris	425-827-3446

Committee Chairs & members

Archives & Collections:	Loita Hawkinson*	425 827-1950
	Libbi Wright	425-827-3446
Bookkeeping	Hazel Russell	425-827-3446
	Andrea Kyrala	425-827-3446
Blackberry Preserves:	Loita Hawkinson Marjorie Denton	425 827-1950
Pavers	Loita Hawkinson	825 827-1950
Cemetery Tour & Memorial	Matt McCauley*	425.827.3446
	Sue Contreras	
	Frank Rosin	
	Loita Hawkinson	
Hello Girls**	Linda Jatón*	425 827-3446
	Cathy Radcliff	
	Margie Denton	
	Marilyn Johnson	
Feature Writers	Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
	Frank Rosin	
	Guest writer	
Programs:	Linda Jatón*	425 827-3446
	Karen Schickling	425 827-3446
Time Keepers	Marin Harris*	425-827-3446
	Shannon Harris	
Membership	Ann Tagland	425-827-3446
Oral History:	Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Planning and Historic Sites:	Lynette Weber*	425 890-9058
	Shannon Harris	
Scholarship Committee	Jim Neir*	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 KHS.

Kirkland Heritage Society

www.kirklandheritage.org

425-827-3446

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



2019 MEMBERSHIP

Kirkland Heritage Society

January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

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 the City of Kirkland's
Customer Service Division at:
425-587-3300**

There are little blue stars in my window,
As in others all through the land;
True emblems of courage and loyalty,
Of oceans and mountains we've spanned.
But they do not tell of the heartaches
Nor the bitter tears that are shed,
Of the weary hours of waiting
Or the lonely hours of dread.
So while our loved ones are absent
This prayer in our hearts we hold—
"Dear God, take care of our boys over there
So our blue stars won't turn to gold."



Original poem by Kirkland's Mary Larson
Published in an 1945 *On The Ways*

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



CULTURE
KING COUNTY LODGING TAX

