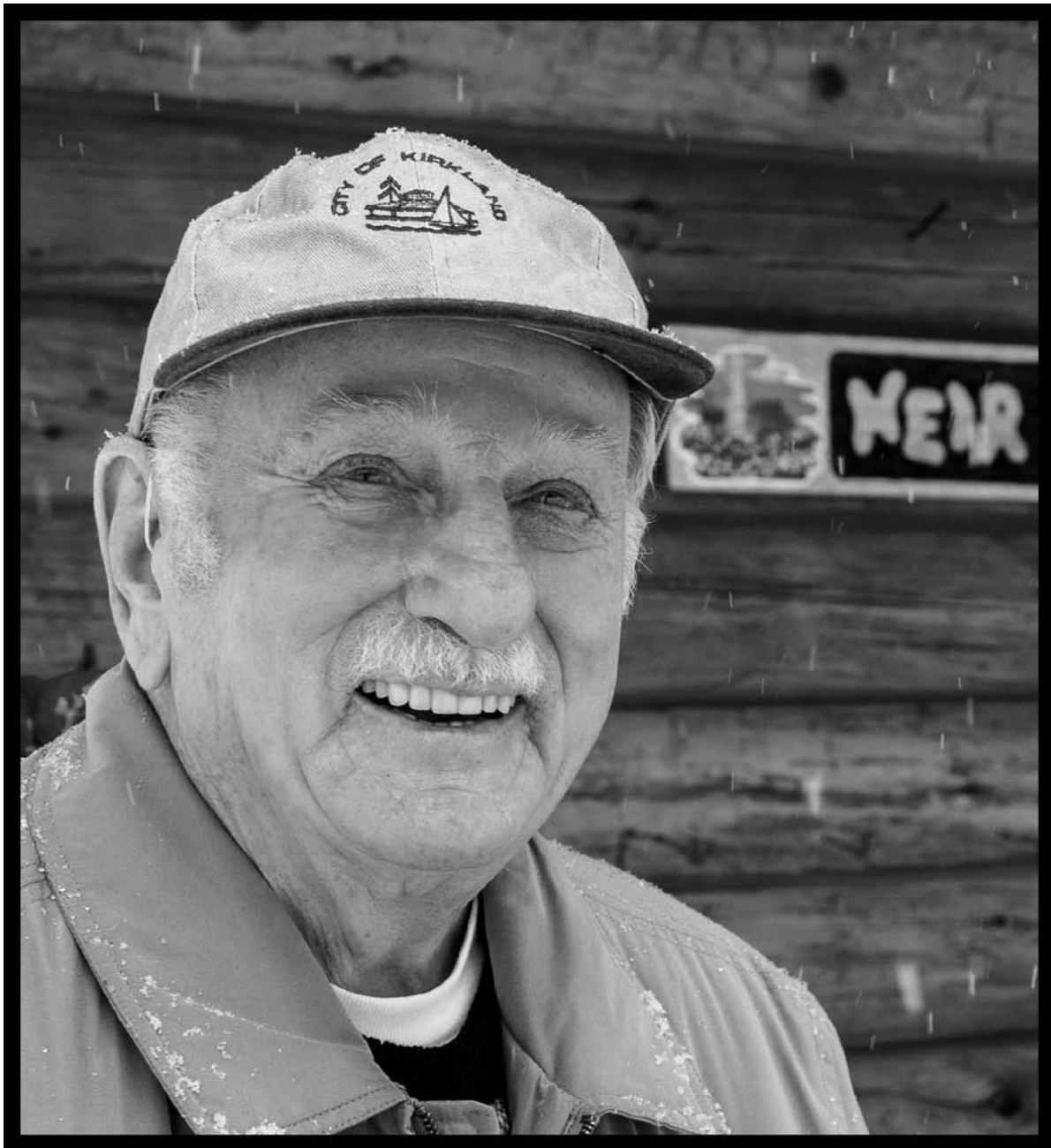


BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



Bob Neir
1929 - 2019

Neir family photo.

Volume XXVI, Issue VI

Nov/Dec 2019

www.kirklandheritage.org

From the President

Loita Hawkinson

Dear Members and community.

You will notice that this issue of **Blackberry Preserves** has been dedicated to Bob Neir who passed away on October 24th. Bob and Chris Neir became valuable supporters of Kirkland Heritage Society after we opened our offices in the lower level of Heritage Hall. When Chris died in 2008, Bob and his sons established the Christine Neir Scholarship which is awarded each spring by Kirkland Heritage Society.

When Bob wrote his book, **A City Comes of Age**, he gave the proceeds of the book to Kirkland Heritage Society. It is the funding from these book sales that saw KHS through some tough times as we found our historic footing. KHS suffered three floods before the City was able to correct the problem. Bob's funding allowed KHS to go on with repairs while the City worked with the insurance companies. Nothing historic has ever been lost. But hundreds of hours of labor by dedicated volunteers had to put things right. Bob's funding covered the deductibles and has allowed KHS to put in displays.

And we have a nest egg should the movies **Ski Man** and **My Country** ever be found. **Ski Man** is a 1915 film made in Kirkland at Kirkland's Movie Studio, called the Washington Film Company located in the Norkirk Neighborhood. **My Country** was filmed by Burke & Farrar in 1923. They were promoting Kirkland and this short film played across the country. W.P. Perrigo traveled with this silent film. Both movies featured local residents and **My Country** was about Kirkland. If either film is found, KHS must find a way to obtain a copy. If this happens, it will be with Bob's help.

When Bob sent in a check, there was always a personal note on a post-it: "Loita, have fun." Bob never hovered over our spending. He trusted KHS.

When Christine died in 2008, shortly after her photo in this issue, the family requested that memorials in Chris's name be sent to KHS. Again, the family has suggested that any memorials in Bob Neir's name be sent to KHS. We thank the family for their continued trust.

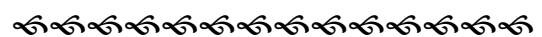
At our last board meeting, the board again voted to keep the annual membership dues the same. Your dues cover the cost of this Newsletter and little else. But because of your added donations, we can carry on without an increase in dues.

I am sure all PC users know that Windows 7 is being retired by Microsoft and will no longer be supported as of January. KHS uses Windows 7 so we are updating to Windows 10. Bob Gerrish has stepped forward and will install Windows 10 on our computers once they are properly backed up. This will be an ongoing project that Bob will do as he has time. We thank Bob for taking on this responsibility.

Membership Chair, Ann Tagland, finds that she needs to resign from the Membership Committee. We thank Ann for coming in Mondays and working on the membership. And we again thank Bob Gerrish for offering to take over the chore for the time being.

The Winter Holidays are upon us. I hope each and every one of you has a great holiday season. Stay safe and cozy.

Loita



Programs

Karen would like suggestions for future programs:

Karen Schickling @ 425-273-6299 or
kschic1965@gmail.com.

KHS Monthly Programs

7:00 p.m.

Heritage Hall

203 Market Street

❧❧ November, 2019 ❧❧

No membership meeting.
Happy Fall and Thanksgiving.

❧❧ December, 2019 ❧❧

Holiday Cookie Exchange

Mark your calendars for December
7, 2019 from 1 to 4.

Watch for your invitation with
details in your renewal letter.

❧❧ January, 2020 ❧❧

No membership meeting.
Stay warm and safe.

❧❧ February, 2020 ❧❧

No membership meeting.
Stay warm, dry and safe.

❧❧ March 26, 2020 ❧❧

Randy Morelli

Part II of his memories of his
Morelli family life.

❧❧ April 30, 2020 ❧❧

Carl Waluconis

From *Wally's Book and Comic
Exchange* will share his memories.
This will be a fun evening for his
former patrons and KHS.



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



Life Members:

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



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.

Words from one of Bob and Chris Neir's four sons:

"He lived a wonderful life and gave more than he took. He was ready to go..we were less ready to see him go. " -
Tom Neir

Loving words from a Grandson:

"Everyone has someone they look up to. To me, that someone is my Grandfather. He was the first in our family to graduate from college. He served in the Army, worked at Boeing for 38 years, spent 17 years on King County Metro Transit, and served his community on the Kirkland City Council for 22 years. He never sought fame, only success in what he set out to accomplish with every endeavor.

Above all else, he was a family man. Always a plethora of funny stories of yesteryear, playing pinochle with family, and keeping up with the family tradition of Sunday Dinners, in the house he built and lived in for over 55 years. I will forever cherish my time with him, and the wisdom he bestowed upon me."
- Chris Neir

Words of wisdom from Bob. Taken from his book, *A City Comes of Age:*

"To be an effective politician, people, especially your peers, must trust you. Trust is paramount. When you give your word, you must keep it; make no promise you do not intend to keep; when you say you will do something, do it: avoid back-biting, do not be the source of rumors nor carry them. An effective politician will radiate integrity, fairness and moderation. To connect with the public, you must be a good listener (people need to believe you are really listening), be fair in your rulings, exploit your sense of humor, and be perceived as rational in problem solving.

You will find the most unpleasant situations are the most appropriate settings for humor, a wonderful device when all else is failing. A successful politician possesses charisma, ambition and intelligence tempered by a self-deprecating wit. People feel comfortable when you can laugh at yourself.

To such a person, the political system offers untold opportunities to accomplish things; the trick is in working the system. With the trust of your peers and public, you can do lots of good things along the way - they will carry you.

I believe there to be a widespread public hunger for authenticity and candor in political leaders. People do appreciate "straight talk;" although, forthrightness is sometime hard to take and can backfire if it crosses citizens strongly held beliefs. It can get a politician "un-elected" and for that reason that quality is rare in a practicing politician.

Political longevity can be credited to several factors, including never arguing with the media, and never taking criticism personally, especially, when accosted by a constituent wanting to give you an earful. At that moment, his is the most important problem in the world.

By now you must realize this description does not fit you. As a matter of fact, it doesn't fit anyone I know. Don't be discouraged if you are not perfect, none of your peers are either. Just do your best".



The Neir family at the City's dedication to Bob for his service to Kirkland.



Chris Neir in 2008

Chris is helping identify photos in the City Collection. The Christine Neir Scholarship is awarded annually in her memory..



PLACE OF BIRTH		WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH		Record No.
City of	King	BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS		236
City of	Kirkland	CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH		File No. 4701
FULL NAME OF CHILD		Ruba Luella Knauf		Registered No. 1
Sex of Child	Female	Twins	1 and 2	Ward:
Full Name	Carl Knauf	Full Name	Margaret Knauf	
Residence	Kirkland	Residence	Kirkland	
Color	White	Color	White	
Birthplace (State or Country)	Kud City, Mich	Birthplace (State or Country)	Levin's Pennsylvania	
Occupation	Blacksmith	Occupation	Honey do	
Number of child of this mother	2	Number of children, this mother now living	2	
I hereby certify that I attended the birth of this child, and that it occurred on <u>3-15</u> , 19 <u>15</u> . Signature: <u>B.D. Trueblood</u> (M.D.) Signature: <u>Dr. Davis</u> Filed <u>4-1</u> , 19 <u>15</u>				

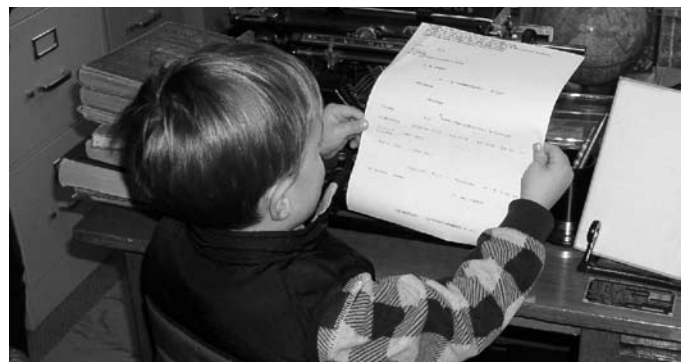
Anita Maxwell found her mother's 1915 birth registration in a trunk. Signed by both Dr. Trueblood and Dr. Davis.

KHS is open most Monday holidays. Connor is a repeat visitor with his grandpa on these holidays.

He went to bed excited Sunday night because he was going to visit his museum on Monday, Veteran's Day. Connor likes the hands-on displays and the M&Ms that Frank always provides.



Connor with the Western Union Key from the Kirkland Depot.



Connor has typed his name with a K.H.S. classroom typewriter.



Connor & the candlestick telephone from the Kirkland Phone Company.

Blackberry Social Photo Identifying Night Our September 2019 meeting.



Linda served the ice cream in our old parfait dishes. The dishes have now been donated by Loita.



Slowly but surely, the photos in the City/*East Side Journal* Collection are being identified.

These are the photos that were used in the newspaper. If the article is found, it is being added to the database with the photo. The more history we record, the richer we will be...historically.

October 2019 Matt McCauley and Kent Sullivan treated us to Part II on Railroad History in Kirkland.



In September 1947, the Northern Pacific took students to the Puyallup Fair. Matt and Kent showed the *East Side Journal* news story about the trip. Both Marilyn Timmerman Johnson and Frank Rosin were on that train that left from the Kirkland Depot. Frank kept his ticket and has donated it to KHS.

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 Jatton *	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* Libbi Wright	425 827-1950 425-827-3446
Bookkeeping	Hazel Russell Andrea Kyrala	425-827-3446 425-827-3446
Blackberry Preserves:	Loita Hawkinson Marjorie Denton	425 827-1950
Cemetery Tour & Memorial	Matt McCauley* Sue Contreras Frank Rosin Loita Hawkinson	425.827.3446
Hello Girls**	Linda Jatton* Cathy Radcliff Margie Denton Marilyn Johnson	425 827-3446
Feature Writers	Loita Hawkinson Frank Rosin Guest writer	425 827-1950
Programs:	Karen Schickling	425 827-3446
Time Keepers	Marin Harris* Shannon Harris	425-827-3446
Membership	Bob Gerrish	425-827-3446
Oral History:	Loita Hawkinson	425 827-1950
Planning and Historic Sites:	Kim Hartman* Lynette Weber	810.599.1754 425 890-9058
Scholarship Committee	Jim Neir*	206 478-3173 425 827-3446

* Chair or Co-chairs

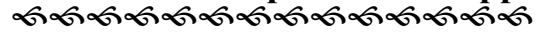
** During WWI, the Hello Girls were ladies who served as telephone operators. For KHS, these sweet ladies call and remind you of the next meeting or event.

Kirkland 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**



This is the Bob I knew the best and will miss the most.
Full of fun. Loita

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

