

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY

History Month



Kirkland Telephone Company in 1915.
Minnie Burt Kirtley is at the switchboard
and Edna Wilson is at the desk. Kirkland
used a switchboard until 1950 when Kirkland
finally got dial phones.
Wayne Kirtley Collection



www.kirklandheritage.org

Watch for History Month plaques
in February

From the President

Loita Hawkinson

2020 is off and running in Kirkland. Thank you to all who have renewed your membership. Donations are up this year and for that we are always grateful. Being all volunteer, the money does stretch but the membership only covers the Blackberry Preserves newsletter. Utilities, Insurance, phone, etc. are covered by your donations and grants.

February is History Month so plaques with historic photos will be in the windows around Juanita and Kirkland. This will be the 10th year of displaying Kirkland's history in merchant and business windows. We started out with 15 plaques and can now distribute and display over 150.

The museum displays continue to grow. Funny how "where there is a will, there is space". We are cramped but it is all Kirkland. We have repeat visitors who find new items with each visit. There is just so much to take in. Many of our cabinets have LED lights now. Makes our museum look even more inviting. People often mention that we should move to a larger space but that would mean leaving our climate controlled archive which in reality is the backbone of Kirkland Heritage Society. Much is digitized but the originals must be preserved.

For those who missed our annual Holiday Cookie Exchange, you missed a special afternoon. Don and Rosie Winters have the most delightful 1918 Craftsman Bungalow in South Kirkland. It is warm, cozy and wonderfully maintained. It was a family home for the Winters family and is now an empty nester home for Don and Rosie. It is full of items representing their personal interests and does not look like a museum. It looks like home. We thank the Winters for their generosity.

Memorials for Bob Neir continue to come in. These donations are being deposited in

a separate account with other memorials. It may be years before something special is needed for the KHS Collection so until then, the donations will earn interest.

May 2020 bring you joy. Loita



4Culture is working with the small eastside history groups in the hopes of helping our all-volunteer organizations attract and keep dedicated volunteers. Each organization has its unique opportunities. Those with a museum need docents. All need volunteers with computer skills.

Kirkland Heritage Society had volunteers galore when our building was moved from 1st Street to Heritage Park. We worked hand in hand with the City to give the building a new life. It was a fun time.

Now that Kirkland Heritage Society is a Resource Center and Museum, we have posted hours that must be maintained. People sometimes come from far and wide so we must be open. Finding volunteers who can schedule their lives around a fixed volunteer shift is not easy. And volunteers need to know the Washington State databases as well as PastPerfect. We are hoping **4Culture** can lead the way.

Our first meeting was at KHS. We will be meeting here again in March. So fingers crossed.



Programs

Karen would like suggestions for future programs:

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

Hollis Williams

by Victor Bahma

While browsing at a garage sale, we found an old Sea Scout manual. Curious, we bought it, and looked at who it belonged to. The manual once belonged to Hollis Williams, who sailed on the SSS Adventurer, from Kirkland. Overcome with curiosity, we wanted to learn more about him; we wanted to piece together his life.

We searched many records and, slowly, all the pieces of his biography fell into place. Hollis Williams was someone who spent much of their early life in Kirkland. If we look into his life a little, we can not only see what he did during his life, but we can also see a glimpse of Kirkland's past in his life. At first, we found his name in a Sea Scout Manual, and we wanted to know who he was, where he lived, and other things like that. After doing some research, we found out enough to piece together his entire life.



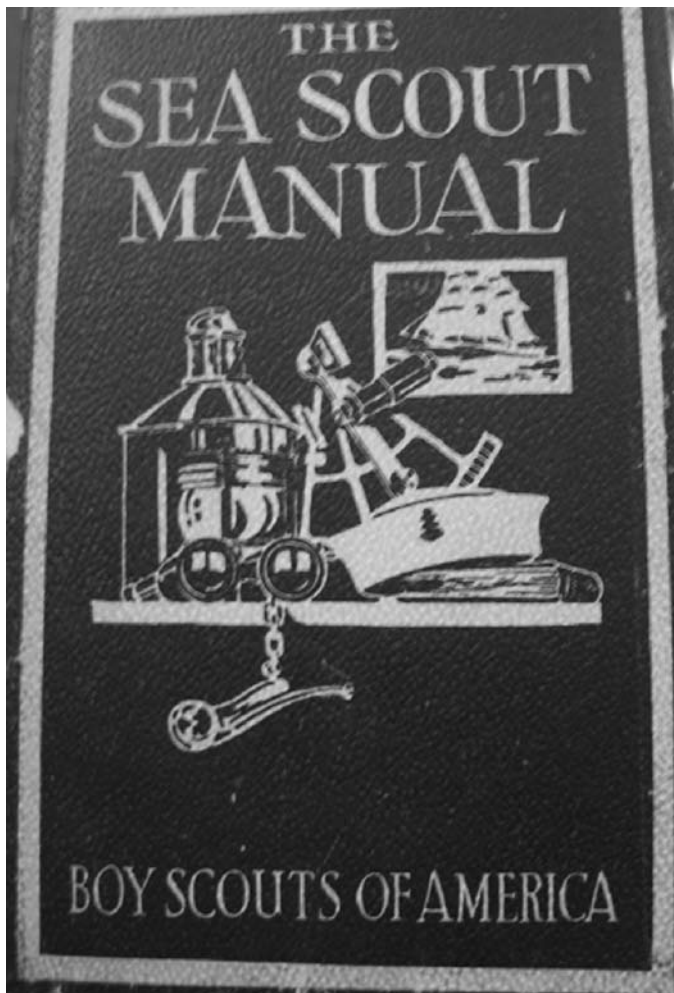
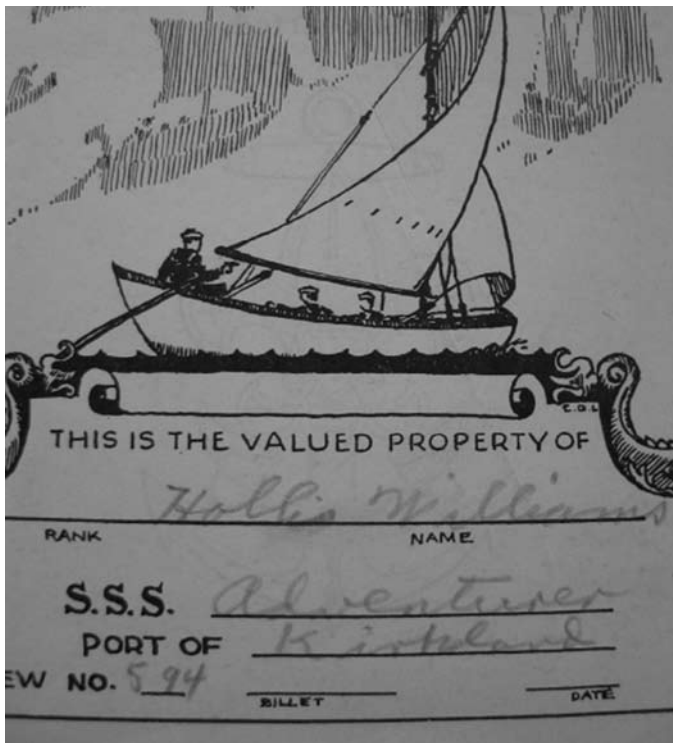
Hollis from the 1949 LWHS *Reveille*

Hollis Williams was born on January 18, 1930. He was born in Hollywood, Washington, which is currently near the Wine District in Woodinville. Between the years 1935 and 1940, he and his family moved to Kirkland. By 1940, he had finished second grade and was in third grade. During his high school years, Hollis Williams attended Lake Washington High School. He was a reporter for the school newspaper there. He graduated and was part of the Class of 1949. Not only was he in high school at that time, though.

Because of the Sea Scout manual that his name came out of, we know he was also a Sea Scout. Sea Scouts were Boy Scouts that learned boating skills and acquired boating knowledge through things like safety and maritime history. The Sea Scout book that his name was found in had a copyright date of 1943. This means that he bought it sometime between 1943 and 1949, because, after that, the book was updated. Later, in the 1950s, he served in the Korean War. After serving in the Korean War, he moved back to Washington, and to Chelan County in his later life, near Leavenworth. He died on December 22, 2006, and is buried at Sunset Hills Memorial Park in Bellevue.

Hollis' mother was Violet Williams, and his father was Walter Williams. Violet worked in the lunchroom of Central Elementary School. Violet and Walter were married in 1929. The name of the priest who married Violet and Walter was Hollis Grubb. It is likely that this is where Hollis Williams' name comes from.

All in all, Hollis Williams was someone who was raised, although not born, in Kirkland. He did many things during his time while in and out of Kirkland. Looking into his life lets us know a little more about Kirkland during the time he was in Kirkland.



Message from the Editor

Our January/February history feature was researched and written by high school student Victor Bahma who is a resident of Finn Hill. Victor is now attending college. Hollis Williams left no historic footprint in Kirkland. But he was a childhood resident and Lake Washington Graduate. Hollis served in the Korean War. Leaving no children to mourn his passing, Hollis did not have an obituary to document his time on earth.

One of Kirkland Heritage Society's missions is to research and make available the history of Kirkland. Victor's research and article will now serve as an obituary for Hollis. He must have had classmates and extended family who have wondered about him. And many of you old-timers will have had lunches prepared and/or served by his mother at Central School. Any simple computer search will lead directly to this issue of Blackberry Preserves. One day, we may know more about Hollis Williams. Thank you Victor for your research.



Janice & Bob Gerrish

Bob is our IT guy and has taken on Membership. Janice is on the KHS board and serves as Secretary.



**Dave Sherbrooke &
Pam Gates Owens**

Their grandparents were family friends.
Their fathers were best friends.



**Wayne Jaton, Linda Johnson Jaton,
Marilyn Timmerman Johnson**

Wayne & Linda have been married for over 50 years. Wayne and Marilyn have been friends for over 60 years.



Secord Printing

Secord prints *Blackberry Preserves*. KHS is proud that we use a local 3rd generation printer. Keri Secord has caught errors and worked late so that our newsletter can be mailed in time. Thank you Keri.



**Pam Gates Owens &
Marilyn Timmerman Johnson**
Marilyn babysat Pam!



Frank Rosin & Andy Kyrala
KHS's money team.
Frank pays the bills, Andy balances the books.



A small but very efficient work crew got the last issue of *Blackberry Preserves* folded, taped, labeled and stamped.

The folding and stuffing of the Membership/Cookie Exchange mailing was next.

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* 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 Jatón* 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

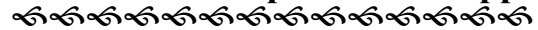
** During WWI, the Hello Girls were ladies who served as telephone operators. For KHS, these sweet ladies call and remind you of the next meeting or event.

Kirkland Heritage Society

www.kirklandheritage.org

425-827-3446

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



2020 MEMBERSHIP

Kirkland Heritage Society

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

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**



Rosie and Don Winters
2019 Annual Cookie Exchange

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

