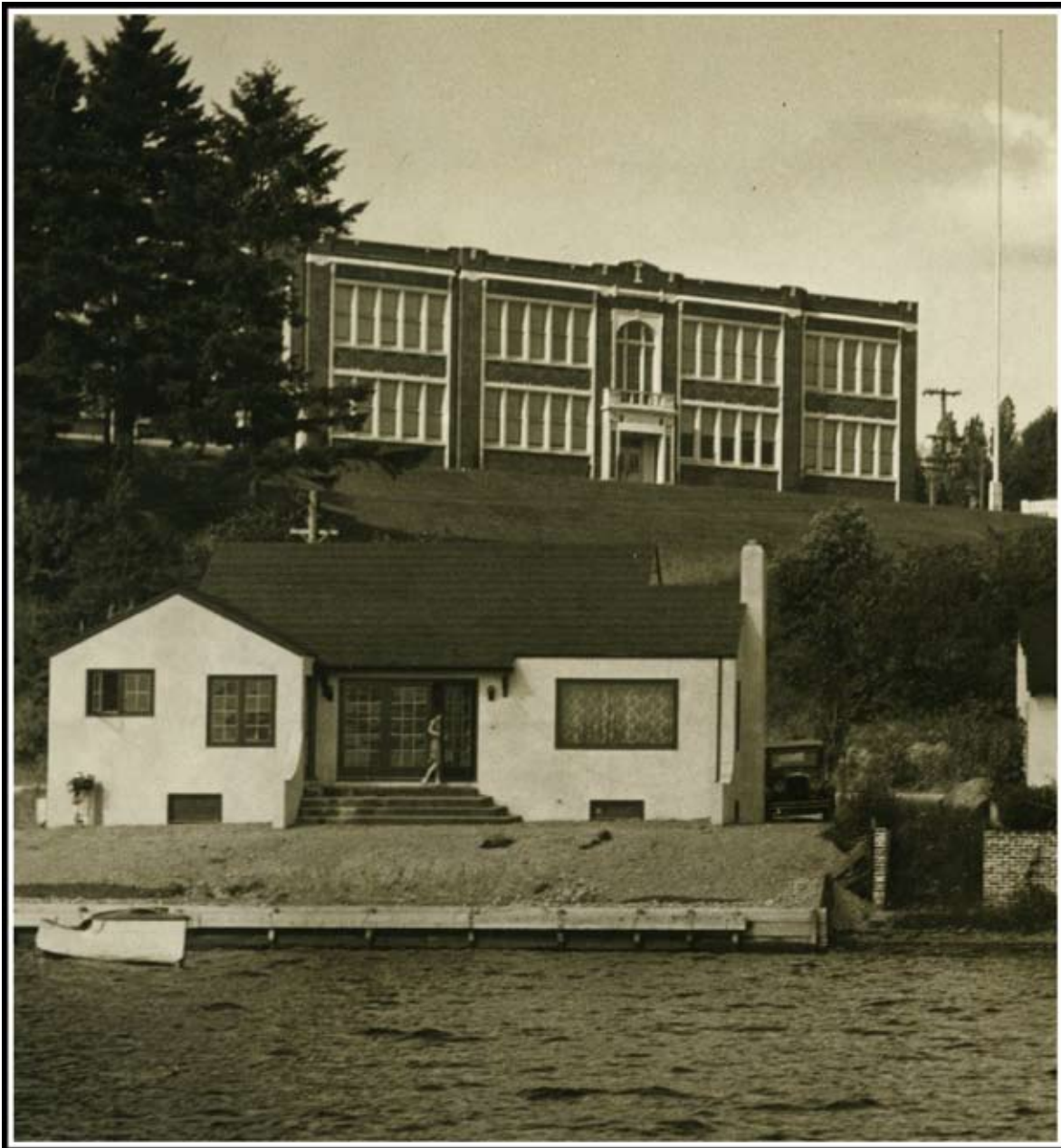


BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



1930

Kirkland High School "Union A" was 8 years old in this picture.
Lake Washington had been lowered just 14 years.



Archivist Colleen Shogan of the National Archives in Washington D.C. with our President, Chris Neir. The National Archives in Seattle houses records for Washington, Oregon, Alaska and Idaho. The Sandpoint facility was up for sale and local records would have been sent to California. President Biden stopped the proceedings in 2021. Now funds have been allotted to repair the old facility and make it secure until a new archive can be built. The location has not been selected but from all reports our local records will remain in King County.



Council Members and Rotarians Toby Nixon, Robert Tjossem, Kelli Curtis, Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold, Dave Aubry on October 6, 2023. KHS provided many of the photos used in the display. The Rotarians provided the funds and labor.



Life Members:

Richard and Lisa Altig, Maureen Baskin, Laura Bradley-Pierucci, Bob and Valerie Burmester, David and Tasha Davis, Steve Lamson, Anne R. Fleming, Sandi Kelly, Ray & Clare Lincoln, Joan McBride/Margaret Meister, Matt McCauley, Larry Miller, Laura May Moseng, Jim & Cathy Neir, Tom & Sally J. Neir, Richard & Kathy Nelson, Timothy & Mary Ord, Michael & Cathy Radcliff, Darlene "Dee" Miller Saunders, Larry Springer/Penny Sweet, Laura Westlund.

Corporate Members:

Hallmark Realty, Madison House.

KHS Monthly Programs

Heritage Hall

203 Market Street

7:00 p.m.



Holiday Cookie Exchange

To be announced in a special mailing with the renewal notice.



Thank you Redmond Historical Society

Redmond hosted an event:

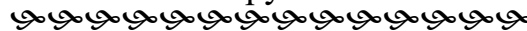
How to Be Your Own Historian: Doing Historical Research

By Lorraine McConaghy, Author and MOHAI Public Historian.

Lorraine got her research feet wet when she wrote her master's thesis on the Lake Washington Shipyard during WWII. She went on to receive her PHD in history.

Lorraine has graciously prepared a PowerPoint giving tips and resources for doing research. The program was 90 minutes with no questions taken. It was a time for listening.

Lorraine's program has been printed and is in a binder on the KHS Library shelves where you will find her WWII Shipyard Thesis too.



Richard Heisler
the night of his informative Civil War presentation in September.



Circumstances have placed the Lake Street South mural on hold until the Spring of 2024.
Stay tuned.

In the Mail

Thank you to everyone at the heritage society for all you do.

A special shout out to Libbi Wright for all she's doing with the photographs.

What a wonderful gift you are giving to all who come after us.

Julia Todd



Libbi Wright – wow

I was so, so pleased (and borderline astonished) to learn of Libbi's work in the Sept/Oct **Blackberry Preserves**. I can't fathom how useful this will be to historians. Fantastic!

Kent Sullivan



Dear Loita,

A few days ago I was catching up on some reading, and when I opened the **Blackberry Preserves** I was very pleasantly surprised to see the picture of my parents along with Mike Saver and Lee Johnson and then the letter I had written to you.

Thank you so much for including the information "In the Mail" section of **Blackberry Preserves**. Should you have any responses, I would appreciate it if you would let me know. By the way, in case anyone notices and asks about it, the man next to Lee in the picture as best I remember is Mike Sarver rather than Bob Sarver.

I've made a copy of the BP from the internet and am sending it to my nephew Peter (the son of my brother Walt). When we lived in Kirkland, my family was made up of my parents and two brothers, all of whom are deceased now, so I'm the only one left who can tell him stories and show him pictures of our delightful time there. He is always eager to learn about his father and grandparents during our years in Kirkland, so I know he will enjoy the article.

Again, thank you for including the article in the BP as well as the time and expertise you devote to the Kirkland Heritage Society.

With best wishes,
Liz Goodrich



These two Gary's graduated in 1966 and have remained friends. Gary Britsch, on the right, loaned his grade school class photos to be copied. Gary provided a typed list of his classmates. This allowed the scanned photos to be entered into the database with names. The names are digitized so that they can be easily searched.



These are the 1948 classmates that could not attend Golden Grads for their Diamond Reunion. Ray Lincoln organized the event.



The 2023 Golden Grads was well attended. Four tables were provided for KHS so we were able to spread out. We bring large posters of the Kirkland schools for former students to sign. There are several photo albums to help bring back memories.

Kirkland School facts and figures

by Loita Hawkinson

During the 2021-2022 School Year, Lake Washington High School recognized the Centennial of the school. *The Switchboard at Kirkland Heritage Society really lit up* as they would say in days past. "Why do they think it is a centennial?" I had warned the school that 2022 was not really a centennial but the wheels were already in motion and the website up so little could be done to prevent giving older students something to fret about.



In the school's defense, I am always happy when the past is being recognized. And more to the point, it is confusing history. Much has been written and published that has errors and misunderstandings. So, this editorial is to give some facts as we know them. For the most part, it is a timeline and rather random. And there may be errors so that will leave room for future debate.

For starters:

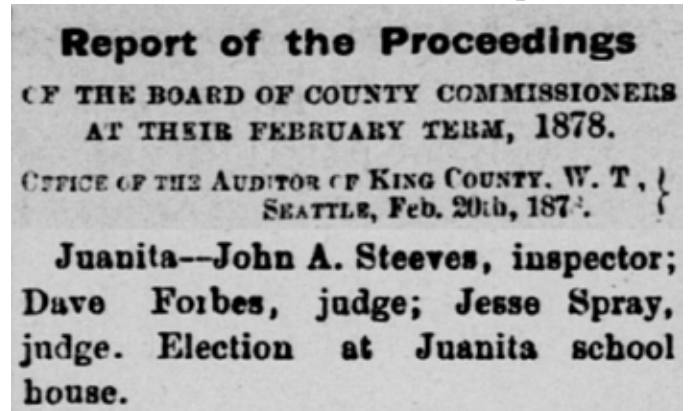
We know that Juanita had a school in the 1870's. It was on NE 116th, then called Langdon Road. At this time, the history of this school is missing other than it was a small log building. It may have been a retired cabin built by the earliest of settlers. Thankfully, KHS has an original oil painting of this school by Miss Laura Miller.



We know for a fact it existed because of this 1878 news clipping. And the map drawn by Ruth Nelson places the school. No one ever doubts Ruth Nelson's map.



From Miss Nelson's map



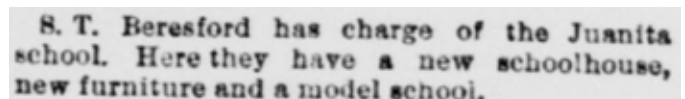
KHS has two original contracts from 1884 for Vannie Hawley who was a first year teacher earning \$30 a month. The first term she had 13 students and the second term she had 8. Because of this contract, it has been assumed that the school started in 1884. But because of the dated newspaper clipping, we know it existed much earlier and Vannie was not the first teacher as has been reported many times. Vannie was new, the school was not. See Mar/Apr 2009 BP for short feature about Julia Hawley, Vannie's amazing mother.

From word of mouth we think George Bartsch was the first student to graduate from Kirkland in 1889. The school was been reported to have been a small frame building near the water at the foot of Market.

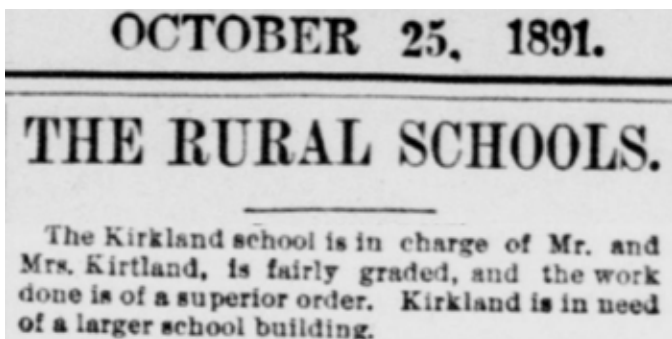
Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Kirtland were in charge of schools in 1890 - 1893. You can imagine the confusion their name has caused in Kirkland over the years. Ellsworth and Annie Kirtland were both experienced teachers. Their first positions were in the new Juanita school and then in the new Kirkland school.

We know the second Juanita School was built in 1891 because a notice for bids went out on July 14, 1891 and we know it was ready for students by October 25, 1891 and that Samuel Taylor Beresford was in charge.

The notice below was in the October 25, 1891 newspaper



In October of 1891 work had begun to build a new Kirkland School because they needed a larger school. (clipping below). This fact tells us that Kirkland already had a school and it was too small by 1891.



An 1892 map shows that this new Kirkland School was on the east side of 1st Street, between 6th and 7th Avenues....then called Cascade and Piccadilly. First Street was called Bold. The 1897 photo below shows this school with students.



Union A High School started in 1899. It is Union A because Kirkland, Houghton and Juanita were the first to combine the older grades of neighboring schools thereby saving resources and offering more classes to all students. Kirkland at that time had the largest school and was midway. The younger grades remained in their communities. 1902 saw the first graduates of Union A. There were two but only Lucy Clark (Patty) had attended the Union A for all three years. The other graduate had attended her senior year only.

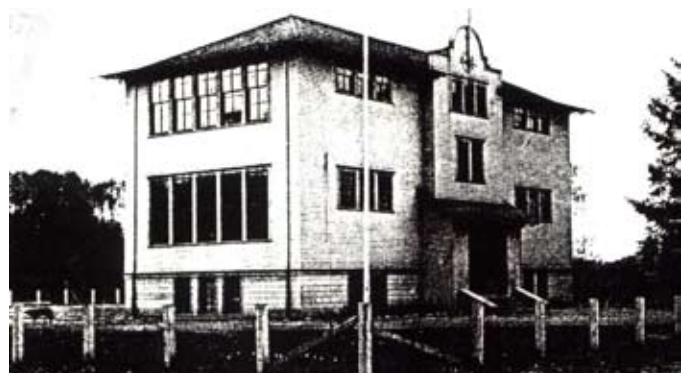


Lucy Clark

1905 saw the construction of Central School which combined the Kirkland Grade School with the Union A High School. Its builder was John G. Bartsch, father of Kirkland's first graduate, George J. Bartsch.

In the 1980 *Collected Memoirs of Central School*, Central School claimed to be the first in the state to hire cadet teachers who were teachers just out of school and had no previous experience. The also claimed to be the first to have a hot lunch program where the meals were prepared right at the school, first to have a Public Address System so that the principal could check in on each class from the office, first to have college classes offered to college students and first to have kindergarten. There was a sign at the Madison Ferry dock: Visit the Central School and become acquainted with the most advanced and well-equipped elementary school in the state. Now whether any or all of this is true, is up to future historians to research. But clearly, Kirkland has always been proud of their school system.

In 1912, there was a Rose Hill School very similar to the first Central School. It was built by the same John G. Bartsch and was built to accommodate the larger school age population that came with the 1910 Burke & Farrar era growth of Kirkland. Prior to this Rose Hill School, many students were taking the ferry to attend classes in Seattle.



***Sparks From Firecrackers
Destroy Schoolhouse***

In 1921, the Rose Hill School burned. It was a total loss but fully insured. Because it was 1921, an odd numbered year, they had to wait for voter approval in 1922 before they could use the insurance money. Students were delighted at the thought of a year off. But the four teachers and the nearby Presbyterian Church worked together and classes were held at the church.

The new high school on Market Street was completed in 1922. The first graduating class was in 1923. Therefore the first Reveille are dated 1923, not 1922. There were no yearbooks prior to 1923. Most class photos we have are from "Remember When" features in the *East Side Journal*. A 1914 fire destroyed the Kirkland Publishing Company making old class photos a real treasure.

Hornets were the Kirkland High School Mascot in 1922. Lots of stories surround the name change but it happened in 1934. The 1934 Reveille features the Hornets. The 1935 Reveille features the Kangaroos. (see BP Issue, Sept/Oct 2016).

Kirkland High School was retired and replaced with Lake Washington High School in 1944, long before the new high school on Rose Hill was built. The two names were used by the residents and the media for many years but the Reveille and diplomas are our primary source. The name Union A retired with the Lake Washington High School name change. Up until that time, Kirkland High School was an official Union A School.



The new Lake Washington High School opened in the fall of 1951. The class of 1952 was the first to graduate after attending one year. The class of 1954 grabs the honors for the first to graduate after attending all 3 years. Is this detail important? Just ask the class of 1954!

The Houghton School district is confusing because they were combined with Northup (not Northrup) until 1899 when Houghton joined the Union A. Houghton was not satisfied and left the Union A, and returning to Northup and Yarrow.

Harry French's daily journal writings, reported that Pleasant Bay had both a school and a Sunday School. They were both held in his cabin which had been his home while the family home was being built. Pleasant Bay became Houghton in 1880. Much of what we know came from Harry's daily entries prior to 1888. When Peter Kirk arrived in 1888, Houghton was no longer a sleepy community and Harry took an active part in the development of Kirkland. Sadly, he stopped writing.

Some things never seem to change. The new large Kirkland High School opened in 1922 and in 1926 bids went out for an addition because the school was overcrowded. When the new Lake Washington High School opened in 2011, it needed portables.



So that is it for now. Not exactly a timeline but a series of points backed up with primary source facts. As always, if any family has history to add...please share.



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*.

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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 email to remind you of the next meeting or event.

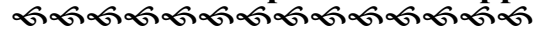
Webmaster: Christopher Neir

Kirkland Heritage Society

www.kirklandheritage.org

425-827-3446

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



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Seven classmates from 1948 attended the 2023 Golden Grads:
Ray Lincoln, Clare Suvan Lincoln, Don Tyler, Charlotte Hahnen Everson,
Eleanor Estes Schneider, Arnold Gunderson, Marjorie Stensland Costello

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.

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