

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



Eliza Ann Waggener Forbes

1849 - 1942

100 year old portrait taken in 1925 when Mrs. Forbes was 76

See pages 4 & 5

Volume XXXII, Issue II

Mar/Apr 2025

www.kirklandheritage.org

Kirkland Heritage Society

Museum hours:

Monday: 10 to Noon

Wednesday: 2 to 5

203 Market Street
Lower lever of Heritage Hall



Programs now online and virtual!

From President Chris Neir

We're excited to announce that KHS programs will now be offered via **Zoom**, making it easier than ever to stay connected with Kirkland's rich history! This change allows us to reach not only our local community but also those who once called Kirkland home and want to stay engaged from afar.

Moving to **Zoom** also makes our programs more accessible during the winter months, so you can enjoy them from the comfort of your home—no need to worry about driving in the dark or bad weather.

How to Get the **Zoom** Link:

- If you're a KHS member and would like to receive the link via email, please ensure we have your current email address.
- The Zoom link can be shared with friends and family, but only KHS members will receive the official email directly from us. All programs will also be advertised on social media, so be sure to follow us for updates!

Have questions or need to provide your email? Contact us at

help@kirklandheritage.org

We look forward to seeing you online and sharing Kirkland's history with you—no matter where you are!



Bonnie and Dave preparing the Jan/Feb 2025 issue of *Blackberry Preserves*

The January/February issue of *Blackberry Preserves* was prepared for mailing by Bonnie McLeod and Dave Sherbrooke. Between the two, they represent over 215 years of Kirkland History.

Bonnie's grandparent's were Jack and Inga Click who many remember from Click's Market and cabins on Market Street. The McLeod family have been active in Kirkland for three generations.

Dave's family is related to the Farrar family of Burke & Farrar that bought out the Kirkland Land Company in 1910. His Grandfather Sherbrooke operated Sherbrooke Gardens on Market Street and was an early day Boy Scout Master. Dave's father was in the original 1921 Kirkland Cub Scout Troop.



Kirkland History Month;

A Collaborative Tribute to Our Past

By Kim Hartman

The Kirkland Heritage Society (KHS) was happy to share the return of Kirkland History Month this February—a time for our community to pause and reflect on the rich tapestry of our past. Throughout the city, local businesses from downtown Kirkland, Juanita, Finn Hill and City Hall displayed plaques in their windows each featuring a historical photo paired with insightful information, inviting passers-by to learn about the evolution of our city.

In a community effort, volunteers from the Kirkland Heritage Society Loita Hawkinson, Linda and Wayne Jaton, Bob Gerrish, Bonnie McLeod and Kim Hartman dedicated their time to place numerous plaques across Kirkland. These displays showcase images of bygone eras with many displayed in the windows of the same buildings highlighting how much has changed and what enduring legacies remain. This creative presentation turned everyday strolls into journeys through history.

Our founder, Peter Kirk, born in England in 1840, has long been a central figure in Kirkland's story. He moved to the area that would become Kirkland in 1888 to build a steel mill with the intention of becoming the "Pittsburgh of the West". Although the mill was not to be, his vision helped lay the foundation of Kirkland which was incorporated in 1905 and has become the thriving community we all enjoy today.

Traditionally, his birthday on February 15 has been a special day for reflection. In 2012, Mayor Joan McBride expanded the celebration by designating the entire month of February as Kirkland History Month.

As celebrated in a February 8, 2021, *Patch* newsletter, this observance "honors the memory of those who helped form the city, encourages us to learn about Kirkland's cultural and historic past, and shares memories, photographs, and stories to keep Kirkland's history alive."

The Kirkland Heritage Society, through a generous grant from *4Culture*, proudly creates and distributes these plaques each February. If your business would like to participate in History Month for 2026, please contact KHS. Your involvement not only supports local history but also enriches the community experience for all who pass by.

Kim



History Month plaques displayed by Kirkland business in February 2025



Misconceptions, Conundrums & Historical errors continue: Kirkland's first councilwoman

Kirkland's first city councilwoman, Alice Colman is being welcomed back to this community. She and her son have taken over operation and purchased Colman's Kirkland Pharmacy, where both have been associated previously. Welcome back, Alice. We hope that you find it as pleasant to be in business here once again as in previous years. Lillian Wescott, newly elected councilwoman, is the second woman to serve the city in this capacity.

May 20, 1965 *East Side Journal*

This notice has historical errors as the first councilwoman in Kirkland was Carrie Shumway in 1910. It has been claimed that Miss Shumway was the first in the US because Washington was among the original five states to give the vote to women, however we are hoping to find a Primary Source to confirm this claim. Alice Colman was the second Kirkland Councilwoman appointed to fill a term in 1947 and later elected for a second full term. This makes Lillian Wescott the third councilwoman.



Eliza Ann Waggener Forbes

1849 - 1942

In observance of **Woman's History Month**, KHS will give a brief account of Juanita Pioneer Eliza Ann Waggener Forbes. This report is also a reminder of Washington Territory's progressive views even before statehood. It also points out that the eastside of Lake Washington has often been a leader.

Prior to statehood, Washington Territory women were given the vote in 1883. This right was repealed in 1887 before statehood and was not regained until 1910 when Washington State gave the vote to women.

In 1885, Eliza Forbes became Justice of the Peace for the Juanita Precinct, a first for the territory. It gets a bit confusing because many reports state that Mrs. Forbes became Justice of the Peace in 1887, the year women lost the vote. The 1885 King County Directory reports that Eliza Forbes was Justice of Juanita...a primary source. Naturally, Mrs. Forbes later became involved in the suffrage movement.

Justices' Precincts of King County.

*Juanita—Eliza A. Forbes, Justice;
Z. Thompson, Constable.*

From the 1885 King County Directory

Much of what we know about Mrs. Forbes comes from her Granddaughter, Dorris Forbes Beecher. These memories by family are not considered a Primary Source but they are often what tell the most about a person. Mrs. Forbes lived to be 93 and did not slow down, living alone until 6 weeks before her death. Mrs. Forbes died in the home of her son—the same home where she had raised her four sons.



Justice of the Peace Forbes

According to Mrs. Beecher, her grandmother frequently attended political meetings in Seattle by taking a local jitney (taxi) to catch the Kirkland Ferry. When family requested that the jitney refuse to give her rides, Mrs. Forbes walked and “thumbed rides”. The late Martha Burr Millar remembered Mrs. Forbes walking down Market with a trademark red flower in the brim of her hat.

One evening Mrs. Forbes reported to her family that she had made her way to the local airport where she took a plane ride to Bremerton and back, becoming the first in the local Forbes family to fly. As always, it would be nice to know more. At this point KHS does not know where this airport was.

The 1905 Forbes home is still standing in Juanita Park, property of the City of Kirkland and is currently the home of **Youth Eastside Services**.

The cover photo was taken in 1925. Prints of this photo were given as Christmas greetings to her family. Thankfully, KHS has an original that had been given to a granddaughter.

A bit of historic irony: Eliza Forbes' son, Les Forbes, was a clerk for the King County Chief Justice from 1918 to 1945. Les was born in 1886 while his mother was the first woman King County Justice of the Peace in Washington Territory



History repeating itself



Fifty-four years ago in January of 1971, Kirkland had a huge wind storm. Here brothers Bill and Dwight Schultz cut up a tree that fell in Rose Hill. Their kids were there to supervise.

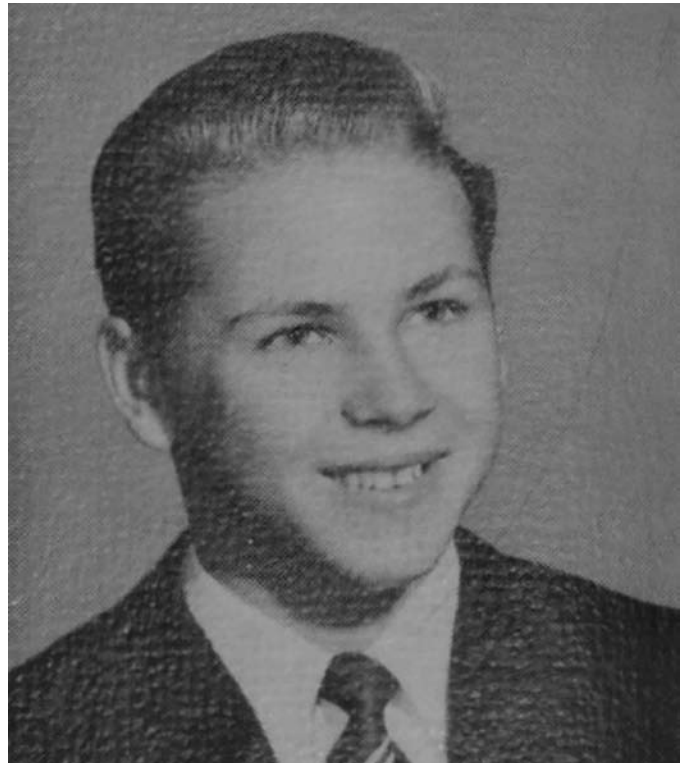


KHS receives 100% commission from the sales of Bob Neir's *A City Comes of Age* and Steve Lamson's *The Power of a Dream*.

Larry E. Miller 1937 - 2024 LWHS class of 1955

A Celebration of the Life of Larry E. Miller will be held at 11:00 a.m., May 15, 2025 at Heritage Hall in Kirkland.

Heritage Hall
203 Market Street
Kirkland, WA 98033



Each February, this business displays a **History Month** plaque with Collins Real Estate (c1912). This is the oldest building on Lake Street.

LWHS 1970 Classmates



Candis Wester & Joan McBride

Candis is the granddaughter of former Kirkland Mayor John Wester. Joan is a former Kirkland Mayor.



Still Friends in 2025

Candis and Joan recently stopped by KHS and Candis donated some rare paper documents and photos from her grandfather's collection. Candis promised there will be more to come. Thank goodness that generation did not "declutter".



Life Members:

Richard and Lisa Altig, Cindy Anderson, Maureen Baskin, Laura Bradley-Pierucci, Bob and Valerie Burmester, David and Tasha Davis, Don Dicks and Merrily Hardenbrook Dicks, Ulrich & Nona Ganz, Dan & Kim Hartman, Loita Hawkinson, Steve Lamson, Anne R. Fleming, Sandi Kelly, Ray & Clare Lincoln, Joan McBride/Margaret Meister, Matt McCauley, Laura May Moseng, Jim & Cathy Neir, Tom & Sally J. Neir, Richard & Kathy Nelson, Timothy & Mary Ord, Richard and Peggy Ostrander, Wayne Peterson, Michael and Cathy Radcliff, Darlene "Dee" Miller Saunders, Linda M. Elliott Scovel, Larry Springer/Penny Sweet, Lois Y. Pawley-Wick and the late James G. Wick, Libbi Wright.

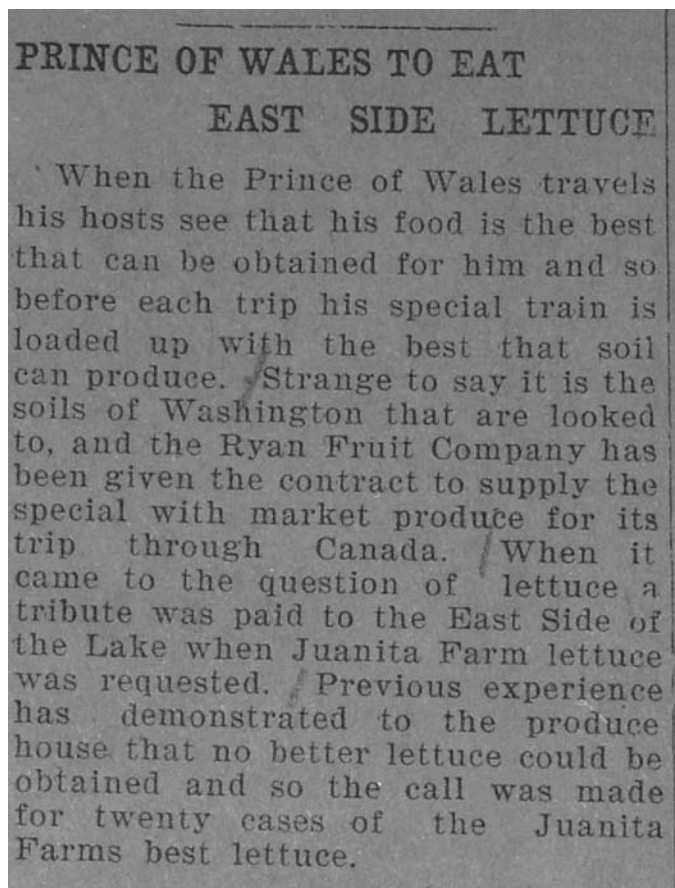
Corporate Member:

Stephen Lamson, Continental Productions.

Edward the VIII



When the Prince of Wales, (Edward the VIII), made a visit to Canada in 1927, 20 cases of lettuce from *Juanita Farms* were ordered for the Prince.



August 25, 1927 *East Side Journal*

Blackberry Preserves

President:	Chris Neir	425.827.3446
Vice-president	Matt McCauley	425.827.3446
Secretary:	Janice Gerrish	425.827.3446
Treasurer:	Loita Hawkinson	425.827.1950
At-Large	Linda Jatton	425.827.3446
At-Large	Dave Sherbrooke	425.827.3446
At-Large	Libbi Wright	425.827.3446
At-Large:	Bonnie McLeod	425.260.0290
At-Large:	Kim Hartman	810.599.1754

Committee Chairs & members

Archives & Collections:	Loita Hawkinson*	425.827.1950
	Libbi Wright	425.827.3446
Bookkeeping	Jim Neir	425.827.3446
Blackberry Preserves:	Loita Hawkinson	425.827.1950
		425.827.3446
Cemetery Tour & Memorial	Matt McCauley*	425.827.3446
	Sue Contreras	
	Loita Hawkinson	
Hello Girls**	Linda Jatton*	425.827.3446
Feature Writers	Loita Hawkinson	425.827.1950
	Guest writers	
Programs:	Karen Schickling	425.827.3446
Time Keepers	Marin Harris*	425.827.3446
	Shannon Harris	
Membership	Bob Gerrish	425.827.3446
Oral History:	Loita Hawkinson	425.827.1950
Planning and Historic Sites:	Christina Lewis	425.827.3446
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, this sweet lady will email to remind you of the next meeting or event.

Volunteer editor: Fred Hawkinson

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.**



2025 MEMBERSHIP

Kirkland Heritage Society

January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

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**



Eliza with her husband Dorr Forbes
Juanita Pioneers

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



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