

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



Kirkland's 2025 4th of July Parade

Mick Sarver is in the passenger seat with **Wayne Jatton** seated behind. Wayne and Mick rode behind the Grand Marshall commemorating Kirkland's rich baseball history.

See page 5

Kirkland Heritage Society

Museum hours:

Monday: 10 to Noon

Wednesday: 2 to 5

203 Market Street

Lower lever of Heritage Hall



LWHS GOLDEN GRADS 2025

(those who graduated 50 years ago or more)

welcomes the Class of 1975!

Join us

September 13th 2025, 1:00 – 4:00_{pm}

to renew old friendships, eat great snacks and remember the "good old days".

Held at Lake Washington High School

12033 NE 80th Street, Kirkland

See you there!!!!

Hosted by the class of '72



Dennyfest 2025

September 6, 2025

Noon to 4:00 p.m.

O.O.Denny Park

12032 Holmes Pt Dr NE

Kirkland, WA 98034



In the Mail

Dear KHS:

Imagine my surprise when I received the May/June 2025 issue of Blackberry Preserves and saw my family's lifetime address in bold on the front page! There it was, 420 10th Avenue West, with an old, blurry photo of a church. Not the wood frame house my maternal grandpa (Jonas Granberg), the carpenter, built for my parents in 1942, but the Presbyterian Church many of my friends attended when it was later located by our grade school, Central Elementary. That article led to the following musings of an octogenarian with fond memories of growing up in Kirkland in the "olden days!"

I have much of the original paperwork involved in my parents' (Bill and Anne Wilson) purchase of the lots (block 24, sections 25 & 26) from a Mr Ulrick Gunderson of Tacoma in 1941. Apparently Mr Ulrick was in arrears for the property taxes from 1936 to 1941, because my parents had to pay a total of \$27.55 for those four years' taxes...for "delinquent state, county, municipal, school and road taxes." Keep in mind, this was a property with a full view of Lake Washington, and then imagine what today's taxes on it might be!

I was born in 1944 and continued to live at this address until I finished college and married, but my parents continued to live there their entire lives. I had an idyllic childhood, not ever knowing we were poor! My home came complete with a white picket fence around the backyard. Plus, early on, a cute cottage-like playhouse Grandpa had built for my Mom when she was a little girl was moved from Seattle to our backyard. My sister Liz and I and lots of neighbor kids played in it, and eventually we had sleepovers out there, too. Later, my daughter played in it, and also my granddaughters! It is still standing, after some repairs by the current residents.

I recall most of our neighbors from those early days in the late 40s and early 50s: Ray and Evelyn Bishop's family across the street, Colleen Miller and her husband and several kids next to the Bishops, old Herman and Dolly Beba next door, a Hayes family in the really old house on the other side (it was bought and improved by Jean Gumm Woodward who had two daughters), and Bob and Judy Bunnell's family also lived next to the Bishops. These families provided several playmates and sources to borrow a cup of sugar, if necessary!

One thing I remember about Kirkland from my childhood was a sign near the Juanita Golf Course stating the population to be 5---, something in the five thousands. I also remember going to visit my Dad's parents on Little Finn Hill, in Juanita above the golf course. They (Gust and Hilda Wilson) built

a house there about in 1915, raised my Dad, his brother (Eino), and sister (Hilda) on a small farm, complete with a Finnish sauna building that was still being utilized when I was young. Grandpa Gust worked with metal, first as a blacksmith, then in the LW Shipyards during WWII, and eventually with a little shop for sharpening lawnmowers and other tools.

He was involved with building our house on 10th west, as well as the contributions of my Dad and Grandpa Jonas. Actually, with only an education in Manual Arts from Kirkland’s Union A High School, Dad drew up the blueprints for our house (I still have them), including electrical and plumbing! It was a frame house with two bedrooms, bath, kitchen, dining and living rooms upstairs, plus a semi-finished basement with a bedroom, toilet and sink, laundry, and garage underneath. It remained the same until the recent owners have made some beautiful renovations in the past decade. I occasionally drive by and smile when I am in Kirkland!

After a few moves, I am currently enjoying life in La Conner. It’s a lovely little town that kind of reminds me of where I grew up, but no matter what, my heart remains in Kirkland!

Eileen Wilson Engelstad
LWHS class of 1962



Your article on the **van Aalst bulb farm** made me think of two of my classmates at Lake Washington Highschool in 1946. Both were named Mary Clark. Dark haired Mary Clark lived across the street from van Aalst bulb farm in Kirkland, and blonde haired

Clark lived in Juanita. Both are pictured sitting together in the 1946 yearbook, sophomore class...
Ray Lincoln, class of 1948



Mary Clark & Mary Clark



Am in the process of reading our latest newsletter (May/June 2025). Martha Schroeder went to KHS and LW and she is 2 years older. She played the cello in junior high. Never knew her dad was my dentist! How cool was this that you and friends saw the Microsoft archives. Rare treat for sure.
Linda Johnson Jatón
Class of 1968



Back Page

Sue Contreras has worked for years to get this utility box wrapped in history. Thanks to Sue and the **Kirkland Community Foundation**, the box on 7th Avenue between 5th & 6th Streets, now has photos and history about Peter Kirk’s steel mill (by what is now Costco).



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 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, Lisa Miller Sheffield, Larry Springer/Penny Sweet, Lois Y. Pawley-Wick and the late James G. Wick, Libbi Wright.

Corporate Member:

Stephen Lamson, Continental Productions.

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*.

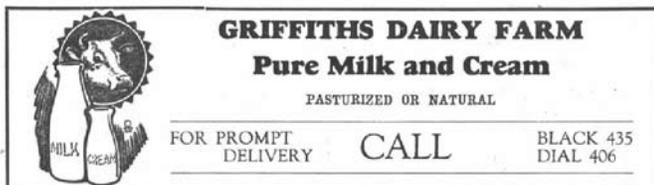


Griffiths Dairy Farm Matchbook

KHS recently acquired a **Griffiths Dairy Farm** matchbook cover.

Matchbook covers provide a wealth of history to small communities. Kirkland businesses seldom gave an address in local ads or in the phone book. The community was so small and familiar that simply providing "State Street" or "Market Street" was enough.

Matchbooks are another story. Because they were given to both local and visiting patrons, most provided a complete address. For those keeping tabs on local history, they are a primary source.



1945 Phone Book ad

Because **Griffiths Dairy Farm** was not a destination business, only the phone number to order milk delivery was provided. Our new matchbook cover would not have provided much historic interest except for the message printed inside.

This matchbook was from the **Lake Washington Shipyard** during the WWII era. Inside is a polite message asking that the milk bottles remain at the shipyard to be picked up by Griffiths. Apparently, some bottles from the shipyard were "going missing".



Programs now on Zoom and online!

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!

Bill Crow



Bill Crow

New York musician and LWHS class of 1945

Bill Crow is a professional musician in New York. Bill is the son of Kirkland musician Lucile Crow and City of Kirkland employee, Harry Crow. Bill has many YouTube videos of his performances plus a personal website that includes his life in Kirkland. In January 2025, Jon Raney, a musician friend of Bill's recorded an oral history of Bill. If you are interested and have roughly 2 hours to spare, it is well worth the time.

Search YouTube: "**Bill Crow Interview**" by **Jon Raney**, January 2025.

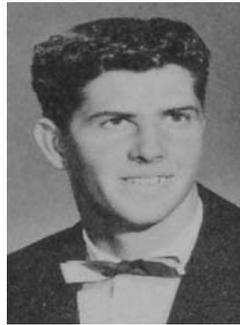
KHS member, **Ray Lincoln**, recently reconnected with Bill after watching the video. Ray is three years younger than Bill and Ray's brother, Bob Lincoln, was three years older. None were classmates but Ray and Bob were both in band with Bill.



July 4, 2025 Parade

Continued from front page

In 1951, Kirkland had the first **Little League** in Washington. Kirkland was awarded a league with four teams after dedicated fathers hand delivered the application and the \$800 application fee to Williamsport, Pennsylvania. **Wayne Jatou and Mick Sarver** both played on 1951 teams.



**Wayne
Jatou
Class of
1957**



**Mick
Sarver
Class of
1958**



KHS again hosted the *Evergreen Chapter of the Model A Club of America*.



The 2025 recipient of the Robert & Christine Neir Memorial Scholarship Essay Contest



Odmara Tumenjargal

We are proud to announce that Odmara Tumenjargal, an accomplished senior from Lake Washington High School, has been awarded the **2025 Robert and Christine Neir Memorial Scholarship**. This \$2,000 scholarship, established to honor the legacy of Robert and Christine Neir, has been given to students who demonstrate writing excellence. This year’s topic was, “The role of teachers in shaping my educational experience”

Odmara has shown remarkable commitment to her education and community. Holding a perfect 4.0 GPA, she has been accepted to the University of Washington, Seattle, where she plans to study Computer Science. Her academic achievements include the AP Scholar with Distinction award and the National Honor Society Service Award, both recognizing her commitment to learning and community service.

Beyond academics, Odmara is actively involved in initiatives that make a difference. As the web developer and outreach officer for “*Letters to My Heritage*,” she helps connect immigrant students with mentors and career opportunities. Her leadership skills

also shine in “*Ignite Robotics*,” where she contributed to web development and supported local competitions. Additionally, her innovative thinking in AP Government class led to a proposal for drug testing kits at nightlife venues, which was supported by Senator Manka Dhingra and became Senate Bill 5330.

The scholarship will be paid directly to the University of Washington to support Odmara’s studies. We are confident that her passion for technology and commitment to community service will continue to grow as she embarks on this new chapter.
Jim Neir



Recent Visitors



Father and son

Elliott Paul Fletcher visited KHS with his middle son, Ken. Ken is a 1977 graduate of Juanita High. Elliott is a 1953 graduate of Lake Washington High.



Lars and Rex

Longtime friends Lars Brinck and Rex Hightower were recent museum visitors. Rex is retired from our local phone company and was able to identify some of the 1963 photos taken by photographer **Ernie Fortescue**.

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
	Kim Hartman	810.599.1754
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

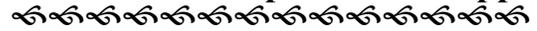
Webmaster: Christopher Neir

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**



It's a Wrap

The latest utility box wrap on 7th Avenue, between 5th & 6th Streets

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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 | DRIVING TAX

