Your invited to an open house
Sunday, December 13, 2 P.M. to 5 P.M.
at Barbara Loomis' 1889 Queen Anne style house.
304 - 8th Avenue West

It will be decorated for the holidays and waiting with the scent of hot spiced cider and a cheery fire. Celebrate our family traditions together by bringing a dozen cookies or pieces of candy that are holiday traditions in your family. I'll provide a note card so you can tell us the name of the cookie/candy, your name and the national origin of the recipe, i.e. Norwegian Krumkaka.

The historic Loomis house is a work in progress, but you are welcome to tour most of it (I have to stash stuff someplace!) Meet friends and enjoy the holiday spirit.
PRESIDENT’S LETTER

by

Bob Burke

Arlene André who wrote *Our Foundering Fathers* in 1975 died in November 1998 at the age of 58. Her book was the first comprehensive history of Kirkland. She provided KHS with the gift of the photographic images from it last year. Doris Cooper is writing an article on her contribution to this community and it will be in the January *Blackberry Preserves*.

I invite everyone to attend the Christmas tea at Barbara Loomis’ home on Sunday afternoon, December 13th from 2 to 5 p.m. The idea is to have everyone bring their special holiday cookies and candies and to simply have time to enjoy this wonderful season with our members!!

Charles Morgan has written an article of his involvement in finding members of the Kirk family. A lot of memories fitting of this season!

I testified at the City Council hearing on the budget in November. The annual $2,000 support for KHS and $20,000 for Phase Two of the Historic Property Inventory are in the Manager’s recommended budget. If this passes, we will be able to review another 40 properties which have been identified, complete 4 neighborhood histories and complete individual and district nominations for King County and the National Register.

We can look forward to another busy year in 1999! Thanks to each of you who have helped in all of the activities of the Kirkland Heritage Society in 1998! It has been a wonderfully successful year!

Happy Holidays and All the Best for 1999!!

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

Mimi Sheridan has completed the inventory of 200 properties and is documentation and prioritizing them. She reviewed an initial evaluation with the Steering Committee on November 16th. The technical study will be completed in December and presentations to property owners, Neighborhood Representatives, Planning Commission and City Council will occur in early 1999. It is very exciting to see the final results.

DOWNTOWN MAINSTREET PROGRAM

The Kirkland Heritage Society has been asked to be a member of the newly formed Board for the Downtown Main Street Program: Bob Burke will represent KHS. The Main Street Program has been very successful and was initiated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation with the goal of preserving historic downtowns.

Happy Holidays
The Kirk Family
by Charles O. (Chuck) Morgan

It was September 1975 on a tour Florence and I were escorting to the British Isles that we first met Geoffrey and Esther Kirk. He is the great nephew of Peter Kirk, founder of Kirkland.

Arline Ely had just finished publication of Our Foundering Fathers, the first complete history of Kirkland. The timing of our tour and the book publication fitted together enabling us to deliver several copies of the book to members (descendants) of the Kirk family in England. It was in this manner that we first met and delivered Our Foundering Fathers to Geoffrey and Esther Kirk. He had been of great help for Arline’s research for the book. Another relative and her mother aiding in the family research were Penny Craven and her mother, Florence Dixon. Penny is the great granddaughter of Peter Kirk.

Subsequent trips to England over the years brought us together several times and as house guests in their delightful homes. One trip also took us to Workington, the home of the Kirk family steel factory. Peter being the adventurous of the family came to the United States and to this area to found a proposed steel mill here and eventually to name it Kirkland as his namesake.

Other local town names included an original Indian camp which was referred to as Pleasant Bay (now Yarrow Bay) but was changed both after the Post Office department objected to its length and after Mrs. S.J. Houghton of Boston, gave the church there a bell. It was voted by members of the community to call the settlement, Houghton. Previously, Caroline French, an early settler had suggested naming the area Asheville since the area reminded of a spot in her native Maine. Juanita about this time was referred to as Hubbard after a mailboat operator.

Geoffrey and Esther Kirk visited Kirkland for the Continued on page 6
In celebration of Christmas, this month's article comes from the December 8, 1927 issue of the East Side Journal. It was the banner headline for that date, and it shows the kind of encouragement that the local paper used to give to residents to do their holiday shopping at home. Today, it provides us with a marvelous glimpse of the old local stores and the merchandise they were carrying.

**STORES OVERFLOWING WITH CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

Tour Shows Big Selection for Shoppers; Avoid Jams

With the street decorations in place and holiday trims appearing like magic in the many shop windows of Kirkland's business district, and merchandise coming in daily, it is very evident that one of the exceptional times of the year is here. Christmas season arriving on the tide of bustle and suppressed excitement finds the Kirkland merchants ready to supply the wants of the East Side. The stores are full of wonderful Christmas goods and the business men extend an invitation to East Siders to come in and look them over. A special effort is being made to take care of the Christmas trade at home this year, avoiding the jams and congestion of shopping in the larger centers.

Have you ever made a trip through the business district to see just what Kirkland has to offer? Anyway, we want to take you on a personally conducted tour, just touching the high spots of the various stores. Starting over at Blau Chevrolet, we find an assortment of automobile accessories that would gladden the heart of any auto owner, and if the pocket book is not too deflated a Chevrolet would make a nice present.

At the Puget Sound Power and Light Co., we find all kinds of suggestions for an electrical Christmas. Passing on to the Kirkland Hardware Store, we find Gove and Cogswell lined up with the finest assortment of Christmas presents that they have ever had and that is saying a lot; something here for the whole family. A typical Santa Claus store. Next we come to the Atwater Kent Radio Store, all set to sell us a radio for Christmas. In the bank, we find Clayton Shinstrom in a holiday mood ready to loan us money to buy Christmas presents providing we can show the security.

Around the corner we find Mrs. Williams in the Kirkland Electric all loaded up with Christmas cards, novelties and gifts electrical, and she suggests twin lights for the porch, a red and green combination on a two way socket as something that lends Christmas cheer. Then there is Bill Klenert with those big fat turkeys and if turkey is hard on the pocketbook he has plenty of poultry of all kinds.

At Musicland we find the King Radio along with several other makes which gives the purchaser a wide variety. Art Miles of the Miles Studio says photographs last forever and make the ideal Christmas gift.

Crossing the street to the East Side Market we find Joe Favr and Earl Morris are behind row upon row of turkeys and they are dandies too. Right next to them Ed Williams with a
fine assortment of Christmas goodies, figs, raisins and all that goes to make up a real Christmas Day. And then the Rex Drug Co., what a line of Christmas goods awaited us there, everything in their line for men, women and children, the store is fairly bursting its sides with Santa’s gifts; Ivory sets, smoking sets, perfumes, etc. Right here we might mention the barbers who have caught the spirit and say that no Christmas is complete without a haircut, and perhaps some of the other extras.

There’s Dick Walker and Watts at the Elite Shop, Jim Hadley on the dock, Ed Pratt in the Lustig Bldg., and H. W. Haag in the Gateway Bldg. If it’s cigars you want, the Pasttime has them all done up in Christmas boxes. In the Rose Beauty Shop we find a splendid assortment of Christmas boxes for men, women and children, featuring the Espirit D’Amour toilet goods.

At Clarks’ Dry Goods is a line of presents for the whole family and practical ones too. Claude Elwood awaits you with a line of fancy dates and other Christmas essentials. The East Side Pharmacy is featuring Christmas tree decorations, the East Side Furniture Co., cedar chests and smoking sets. If you are stuck on your Christmas cakes or pasty, the East Side Bakery is all prepared for you, and the Lotus Café, next door, has a fine assortment of Christmas boxes of candy. House slippers in holiday boxes are always suitable gifts and Chas Douglass in the Douglass Boot Shop has an especially fine assortment.

Drew of the Drew Motor Co. says give her a Willys-Knight or a Whippet. Up at the Kirkland Tire and Battery Co., Lawrence Sessions has some auto accessories that make fine Christmas presents, while the Kirkland Wrecking Co suggests a Christmas utility light for the car. Morgan suggests that you save a little of the Christmas money and fix up those broken windows and keep out the frost.

Jimmy McEvoy at the Columbia Lumber tells us to give the car a present and line the garage with Celotex. Dan Larson at the laundry says he has no Christmas presents to sell but says what can be a finer present than to say to your wife, “Quit washing and send your clothes to the laundry this next year”. Berkey-Simpson garage is holding a special Christmas tire sale right now. Marr’s store has a brand new supply of Christmas nuts and candies and says come in and look them over. Cigars and candies in Christmas boxes can be found at Carrs Confectionery. H. H. Baker says there are only two real gifts; one is a Buick and the other a Frigidaire.

Have you ever dropped into J. Wesley Edwards and Son and looked at their line of pictures and novelties? Well you want to do it. Walt Smith at the Kirkland Clothing Co. will greet you and show you a dandy line of Christmas ties and holiday novelty goods. Roscoe Stuart of Stewart’s Department Store is featuring an especially attractive line of Glomer Rayon Underwear, all packed up in Christmas boxes and ready to put her name on it. Bill Huntington in the Elson Hardware Store is featuring “Old Hague Sets” of children’s dishes and tool chests for the boys, as well as a general line of gifts. Roy Hindman of the Hindman Electric Shop has an especially fine assortment of Buss lamps. “You can put them anywhere”.

All Bass, in to taking orders for the new Ford, will have a nice line of auto accessories. Browns Toggery is featuring a most complete line of Holeproof hosiery in Christmas boxes, always an acceptable gift for “her”.

Carey at the Kirkland Dye Works advises that we rejuvenate that old dress and make it look like new for Christmas, while Dunstone the shoemaker says nothing for Christmas, but he’ll soon get us after. Loy’s Jewelry Shop, since the recent consolidation with the Time Shop, has put in a fine line of Christmas jewelry and silverware gifts. At the Smoke House, we find Clemmons featuring cigars in holiday packs. Gotthardt the Tailor says there is nothing like one of his new suits for a practical gift. Then to the Kirkland Bakery, the fruitcake headquarters and they are mighty good, and when done up in holiday wrappings make mighty pleasing presents. Among other Christmas goodies, Skaggs store is especially featuring satin finish hard candies. Down by the Legion Boat we find Jim Etzler with a peach of a new line of auto accessories. Then up on the hill Santa’s headquarters for toys, at Plummer’s, another supply of Christmas poultry at Leibigs, Capitol Hill Market, good things for the table at the Groceryline, Christmas candies at Andrews and new bathroom fixtures at Erwin and Waites.

If we missed some store in our tour it was an accident.
first time about 15 years ago making the trip here from Vancouver, B.C. where they visited their daughter, Elizabeth. They were recognized at a special event at the Creative Arts League (now the Kirkland Art Center) in the building which Peter Kirk had originally built and used for offices and guest housing. Thomas Kirk, Peter’s brother and steel mill partner in England, was Geoffrey’s great uncle. Presently, Geoffrey now 86 years old is in a nursing home in Darlington, England, Esther, his wife died several years ago.

Knowing Geoffrey and Esther’s son, Robert, only by telephone finally led to a call by him last summer from his home in St. Catharines, Ontario. He and his wife, Katie, arrived in June bringing with them a solid mahogany piece of the banister from Bankfield, the palatial Victorian home built by Peter Kirk and his brother-in-law, Charles James Valentine, in Workington, England. The building was used both as the separate homes and offices of Valentine and Kirk for their Moss Bay Hematite Iron and Steel Company. Geoffrey, Robert’s father, had personally gone to Bankfield to cut out the banister piece before the historical site was demolished some 20 years ago.

The Robert Kirk’s were fascinated with Kirkland and spent two days visiting the Kirkland Arts Building where they gave the banister piece to the Kirkland Heritage Society represented by Bob Burke, president, and Barbara Loomis, communications officer, and Mayor Michaele Muse.

By planned coincidence at the same time from New Zealand came Jackie Jones, whose fathers name is Kirk. With Jackie was her daughter, Toni, now working in California, both grandnieces of Peter Kirk. The Jones were on their way for a kayak trip in Alaska.

The Kirks and Jones viewed the Historic Interpretive Marker, among other places, on Waverly Way across the street from Peter Kirk’s original residence, long since torn down.

On August 3 Penny and Michael Craven, for a second time in four years arrived for a two day whirlwind visit. Penny is very proud to be a great granddaughter of Peter Kirk. The Cravens live in Nottinghamshire, England. They also visited familiar Kirk historical sites and Peter’s portrait in the Kirkland City Hall. From Kirkland they journeyed to San Juan Island to look into more family history and visit Peter’s grave next to his wife’s on San Juan Island. Peter died May 4, 1916 at Friday Harbor. He was born February 15, 1840, Penny reminded me. Penny and Michael have promised to return in the near future, and bring more family historical material for the Historical Society.

Our contacts and visits with Penny and Geoffrey both in England and in Kirkland have been most warm and fulfilling. From Geoffrey and Esther, and now their son, Robert and wife, Katie have added another dimension to our life. They too, are likely to return to Kirkland as well as visit their daughter attending college in Victoria.

Each of the Kirk descendents have a deep affection for and satisfaction in Kirkland and for the heritage established by this city’s founder, their ancestor.
December 13  
Holiday Open House  
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
304 - 8th Ave. West  
Join us in a celebration of holiday traditions, bring a dozen goodies that are family traditions to share with fellow KHS members and friends.  
The historic Loomis House will be decorated and open for tours.  
Call Barbara Loomis for more information 827-7194.

1999 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January 26,  
AKCHO  
9:30 a.m.  
ANNUAL MEETING  
Nordic Heritage Museum  
3014 NE 67 St., Seattle  
Best selling author Robert Fulghum will give a talk entitled: "You Couldn't Pay Me To Do This"  
Registration required with $20.00.  
Send to AKCHO, PO Box 3257, Seattle, WA 98114  

January 27  
KHS Board Meeting  
6:00 p.m.  
KHS Program:  
7:00 p.m.  
Program to be announced  

Unless otherwise noted KHS meetings are held the last Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m., Kirkland Congregational Church, 106-5th Ave.
Geoffrey Kirk, great nephew of Peter Kirk, retrieved a Newel Post from Peter Kirks' Mansion in Workington, England. It is being presented here to the Kirkland Heritage Society.

L to R: Mayor Michael Muse, Robert Kirk, grand nephew of Peter Kirk, Bob Burke, President KHS, Barbara Loomis, Communications Officer KHS, Toni Jones and her mother Jackie Jones, grand niece of Peter Kirk.

See story on page 3 by Chuck Morgan. Photo courtesy of Chuck Morgan.