Captain Frank Gilbert. Photo was taken inside the wheelhouse of the Ferry Leschi and was published in the April 1946 issue of East Side Magazine. The feature was called Ferry Boat Serenade. Captain Gilbert had been guiding boats and ferries across Lake Washington for 46 years. Frank Gilbert was the son of Kirkland pioneers Elmer and Jennie Gilbert and was the great-uncle of KHS member Anita Maxwell.

City of Kirkland/Charles Morgan Negative Collection
2007.19.432
This is my last President’s Letter! We have our election for Board Members at our May meeting and the new officers officially take office on July 1, 2008. Position statements for each position are included with this Blackberry Preserves.

I want to thank the Board Members, Committee Chairs and everyone who has helped to make KHS the successful organization that it is. KHS has a very active leadership not only in KHS but also in Kirkland and the preservation community.

Since Heritage Hall became our home, the nature of KHS’s activities has changed:
- The successful celebration of Kirkland’s Centennial has led to a significant increase in our collections;
- This led to the need to place that information into a database which is called PastPerfect.
- Our Archive is being reorganized with a grant to obtain expanded new shelving from 4Culture.
- The Centennial Gardens with the recently completed arbor and parking not only has enhanced Heritage Hall, but also appears to increase attendance at our excellent programs.

KHS is fortunate to have a strong membership and good working relationships with the City of Kirkland, King County Landmarks Commission and 4Culture. Through these organizations we have obtained financial support for our programs that have allowed us to maintain our space in Heritage Hall as well as to initiate significant programs such as obtaining PastPerfect.

There are a number of projects that still need to be finished such as the front sidewalk pavers, cabinets in our work space and ongoing funding from grant applications. There are a number of historic properties that need to be saved and that requires diligence on our part.

We recently celebrated the City’s Centennial and we are still learning much about our history; however, I like to think that in another 100 years that the historic resources that have been saved – structures, photographs, documents and artifacts - will be discovered by a student or a family because of our efforts today.

Bob Burke
KHS President

July 30, 2008
Potluck Picnic!
Members Only Please!
Hosted by Helen & Ray Schoen at their lovely waterfront property
11847 Holmes Point Drive NE
5:00 till Sunset
Bring your favorite potluck dish to share & your choice of non-alcoholic beverage.
Car-pooling available at upper Heritage Hall Parking area.

Matches from Judy Lang & Carol Trapp
If we have forgotten to thank someone, please speak up or email. Being human, things get by us. But we want to publicly thank all those who help preserve Kirkland’s history.

Thank You George’s Place!
by Lynette Friberg Weber

Everyone knows of George’s Place Restaurant. If you don’t, you should! It’s one of Kirkland’s best kept secrets. They have been very generous and supportive with the donation of gift certificates for our monthly door prize drawings at KHS.

George Mangouras

George’s has been in business at 108 Kirkland Avenue since 1976. It was recently awarded the Best of City Search 2006/2007 – highly recommended for Best of Breakfast. The owner, George Mangouras, has recently retired although you will still find him in the kitchen cooking up a storm! His son Pete and best pal, Derek MacKenzie, have bought the business from George, making some remarkable changes to the interior, including a full service bar and big screen TV’s. They’ve also made a few changes in the kitchen to be able to get that wonderful comfort food to you in record time! George’s Place is now open for dinners on Tuesday and Saturday nights until 11:00 p.m. The open hours for the remainder of the week are from 6:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. See you there!

Hot Off the Press!
Please welcome Irene Vlitos-Rowe, our newest addition to the Communications Committee. Irene will be writing monthly history articles for KHS in the Kirkland Courier Reporter as well as establishing us on the Community Calendar in the Organizations section. She is a resident of the Houghton neighborhood and was attending a Washington State Archival Class where we all serendipitously met! Irene is an internationally published author, coming to us with great accolades and a passion for history!

Martha Burr Millar
models her father-in-laws work apron.

March & April Meeting Participants

Lynette Friberg Weber

*Guests & First Timers! ** Guest Speakers
Gil Kvam

Retired pharmacist Gil Kvam was born in Bellingham in 1915. Mr. Kvam was a Navy Veteran and married with one child in 1946 when he purchased Greig’s Drug store at 3 Lake Street in Kirkland. This long narrow drug store became Kvam Drugs until the Kvams retired in 1964. After retirement, Gil Kvam worked two days a week in Pay & Save pharmacy. Mr. Kvam saw the tide change from small family owned neighborhood pharmacies to the corporate pharmacy.

When Kvam Drugs was open, the ferry riders provided a steady business, as commuters would pick up razor blades and toothpaste on their way home. They would pick up magazines and newspapers before they caught their ferry. There were three pharmacies in Kirkland at the time and they could all thrive. Times changed when the ferry stopped running and the grocery stores started selling sundry items. But Mr. Kvam was a good businessman. He liked Russell Stover candy so called the company and Kvam Drugs had the first Russell Stover franchise on the east side.

Gil Kvam was a good friend of Maurice Powell. Together with four others, they started Citizens bank in Kirkland. Citizens Bank later became Peoples Bank. Mr. Powell was Kirkland City Attorney and he led the way to clear the beach area behind Lake Street and make a parking lot. This littered area was Mr. Powell’s view from his Lake Street office and he knew the ferry riders could always use more parking. This is now Marina Park and parking lot. This is the first time the Oral History Committee has heard of Maurice Powell. Once again we get to learn a bit about a person who lived in Kirkland, invested in Kirkland and made positive changes in Kirkland but passed away so long ago that they are remembered by very few associates. Former friends are now their voice and we thank Gil Kvam for his memories of Mr. Powell.

Gil Kvam had hoped Kirkland would have even more parks. When the two gas stations closed on the SE corner of Lake and Central, he attempted to get support to build a corner city park complete with trees, park benches and green space. He thought this would be a tremendous asset to have this corner park in the center of town. Other civic leaders did not share his vision and without their support it could not move forward. This corner is currently a parking lot

Gil Kvam set the record straight and reminded us that history is full of little errors. In 1950, the Our Town column about Mr. Kvam said he was a detail man for Eli Lilly Company. Detail Man meant he was a company rep and he thought it would be a dream job. But after one week he was sick of the politics involved in seeing a busy doctor. He called his old boss in Bellingham and asked if he could have his old job back. He could, so Mr. Kvam quit his dream job and went home. He had to admit his wife thought he was nuts. A short time later, he set out to buy a pharmacy and found Kirkland. The Kvams three children grew up in Kirkland.

Prior to this interview, Kirkland Heritage Society had two medicine bottles from Kvam Drugs but no known photos. Mr. Kvam loaned KHS an album so KHS now has 24 images of Kvam Drugs throughout the years. And now that we have photos of a young Gil Kvam, it turns out that the City/Charles Morgan collection does have one photo. And hopefully more will turn up. We thank Gil Kvam for his time and his memories.
Joyce Connors Fowler and Julie Schelp Reid worked at the Gateway in the 1950’s. Joyce was the usher on the 3rd isle and made $15.76 a week. Julie sold tickets, popcorn and ushered. Almost every guy at the March 2008 meeting had a story of how he got into the Gateway Theater free at least once. Some sneaked in. Some were allowed to sneak in. Should have lined them up for a photo too. There were a lot of them!!!

May 28 - Norm Blye, Ferry Tales & Historic Slide Show
Norm Blye will present a slide show and share ferry tales about east side ferry life before there were bridges. Washington native, Mr. Blye was born in 1918. His father worked on the ferries and Captain John Anderson was a friend and neighbor. This promises to be a wonderful evening.

June 25 – Game Night at Heritage Hall
We are going to sit around and play board games. Anyone who has an old board game is encouraged to bring it so we can all play. Might even have an open mike to share memories of how people entertained themselves when there was no TV.

July 30 - Picnic Style Potluck but note time & place change. 5:00 p.m. in Juanita.

KHS now has a microphone to help those with soft voices and fading hearing. The echo in Heritage Hall has been a problem so between the increased parking and the microphone, more people will be able to enjoy the programs.

KHS needs ideas. There is a “new” suggestion box. If you have program ideas, meeting suggestions or Crossword Puzzle clues, please write them down and drop them in the suggestion box.
THANK YOU TO:

Frank Rosin for donating three Sam Spade Radio program CD’s to give as Screeno prizes on Movie Night. Never hurts to remind people that it is Frank who does sound effects for the Jim French radio programs. Programs are taped 4 times a year at the Kirkland Performance Center. Frank also donated newspapers that have been archived.

Anita Maxell has worked tirelessly to research her family history, much of which is in Kirkland. Anita’s great-grandparents, the Gilberts, came to Kirkland in 1889 during the Kirk boom years. Anita has printed and bound the history and donated a copy to KHS. It is shelved flat on the library shelves. The book is large and spiral bound so to keep it nice for future generations, it needs to be shelved flat. Anita’s great uncle, Captain Frank Gilbert is featured on the front cover of this issue.

Carol Trapp donated two plastic bags of matchbook covers from Kirkland and the region. The matches have been removed except when the matches had illustrations. Those fancy matchbooks will be stored in a sealed glass jar. Judy Lang also gave another Flame matchbook cover. Research was done to learn that matches are to be removed for collecting and archiving. The staple will rust and the match tips will eventually bleed and ruin the paper. And then there is the danger of fire. These matchbooks give a glimpse into history by providing the address, phone number and trends such as disco and food. Also donated by Carol was a Midway Tavern bottle opener.

Martha Burr Millar has donated her families’ WWII ration books and a leather wallet that her mother, Gladys Burr, stored them in. There was also a nice supply of Red One Points that were used as change if an entire coupon was not needed for an item. The Saturday after Martha gave the stamps to KHS, Gary Lanksbury emailed that the Seattle Times had noted that on that day in 1943 meat, butter and fats has started to be rationed. Seems that WWII history is on our minds. Martha also donated a cotton work apron from the Eastside Lumber Company. This work apron came from her father-in-law Clyde Millar. If you search this BP, you can probably find her modeling it. The phone number was 81, which makes this apron from the time Eastside Lumber was at the base of Market Street. That building eventually became Kirkland City Hall and Police Station.

Pam Gates Owens, Martha Burr Millar, Gail Gorud, Brett Johnson again for loaning KHS their home movies to duplicate. The original movies are still with the original families. The quality of the pictures is better when not on the large movie screen but they are fun to watch in the larger size. If you think this is a hint for others to loan their home movies, you are very perceptive.

Marilyn Johnson for donating a book of poetry by Mary E. Larson. This book is now shelved on the KHS library shelves. There is a section dedicated to local authors. Thanks to donations and a few aBay purchases, this section is growing.

Pam Owens donated nine Reveille yearbooks dating as early as 1927 and a 1982 yearbook from BEST. This was the first BEST school yearbook to be donated. The Reveilles belonged to Pam’s father, John Gates.

Jackie Weddington of Houghton donated a City of Houghton sign several years ago. The sign warns citizens about the discharge of cannons, pistols, dynamite, etc. Doing so could have resulted in a fine or jail or both. This sign is part of the Houghton themed display at Kirkland City Hall for April and May.

Jerry Marsh has donated the King County tax records for the Marsh Mansion and property. These records date back to 1913 before the Mansion was built. The records will be scanned for future research and the records will be archived.

Henry and Diane Bischofberger for our April 2008 program. Being a third generation violin maker, Henry shared his passion for the craft. It takes 255 hours of skilled labor to make a violin “from scratch” so Henry and Diane keep the business flowing with rentals, repairs, appraisals and sales. They have blended the romance of a time-honored skill with a practical present day business sense. Visit: www.hkbviolins.com or 425-822-0717.
**HOW TO CONTACT KHS**

**Address**
Heritage Hall,  
203 Market Street  
Kirkland, WA  98033

**Phone:** 425 827-3446  
**E-Mail:** help-line@kirklandheritage.com  
**Website:** www.kirklandheritage.org

### Officers and Board

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<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Bob Burke</td>
<td>425 828-4095</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Lynette Weber</td>
<td>425 890-9058</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Loita Hawkinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Tom Hitzroth</td>
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<tr>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>Lisa Capron</td>
<td>425 821-8475</td>
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<tr>
<td>At-Large</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
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### Committee Chairs

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<td>Sue Carter</td>
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<td>Education and Programs</td>
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<td>Planning and Historic Sites</td>
<td>Barbara Loomis, Lynette Weber</td>
<td>425 827-7194, 425 890-9058</td>
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**Wilkeson Stone Pavers Available**

**Order Now! See KHS Website for Form-**

Support for the Kirkland Heritage Society is provided by:

**RENTING HERITAGE HALL**
Call Nicci Osborn at Kirkland Parks 425 587-3342

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**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**Kirkland Heritage Society**

**January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008**

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.

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I would like to make an additional contribution:

TOTAL ENCLOSED: ________________________

If your company matches contributions, please provide the signed Matching Gift Form!

Name ________________________________

Address: _____________________________ State: _____ Zip _______

Phone: ______________________________

E-mail: ______________________________

Checks should be made payable to and mailed to:
Kirkland Heritage Society  
Heritage Hall  
203 Market Street  
Kirkland, WA  98033.

If questions, please phone: (425) 890-9058

Thank You For Your Support!  
Invite a Friend to Join!
Kirkland Heritage Society Members at the March 26, 2008 Kirkland Movie Night. Members had to endure 3D pictures before the second movie so this photo could be taken.

Secord Printing will be printing our the Blackberry Preserves Newsletter. A show of hands at the March 2008 meeting said that many members like the quality of the print. Secord Printing is family run and a Kirkland owned business. Frank Rosin` told us about Secord.

Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 203 Market Street, Kirkland, WA 98033, for KHS members and those interested in Kirland’s past. To contribute articles please email to bparticles@verizon.net. For information on KHS - check our website: www.kirklandheritage.org, or call 425 827-3446 to leave a message.