

# Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the  
**Kirkland Heritage Society**

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Volume II., Issue 7

October, 1994



## President's Message

By  
**Corey Kahler**

Congratulations to **Matt McCauley**. *Blackberry Preserves* and his weekly *Kirkland Courier* newspaper column, "A Look to the Past," won the Kirkland Heritage Society the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation's yearly award for media presentations. Matt's contributions to this organization over the past few years have helped change the face and direction of KHS. Thank you Matt for everything!

Unfortunately, Matt tore some ligaments in his ankle the day of the awards ceremony--Oct. 15--so he wasn't able to drive over to Ellensburg to accept the award. (**Ashley**, Matt's wife, was especially disappointed since he never takes her out to dinner anymore). Luckily, our own **Barbara Loomis** and **Bob Burke** were attending the historic preservation conference and were able to accept the award at the ceremony.

Keep an eye out for your *Kirkland Update*, the City of Kirkland's newsletter. Our first article appeared in this issue. This is a great opportunity for us to build awareness of Kirkland's unique history and to reach a much larger audience than we have with other efforts. The article is packed with pictures and information.

Thank you to **Lorraine McConaghy** for conducting the oral history workshop, earlier this month. Unfortunately, there were several media snafu's that drastically limited getting the

word out about the event, but if you are interested in becoming involved in this ongoing project call Lorraine at 827-2927.

## The Years in Your Ears

By  
**Alan "News" Stein**

Honey, June just pulled. Should I wave her inside?

No, that's all right. I'm running late enough as it is. Donny! Get downstairs right now or you're gonna miss Stan Boreson! OK, now Tom. I've got salami in the fridge along with some hard-boiled eggs, and there's some fresh bread in the pantry. Donny, tuck your shirt in. Don't you "Oh Mom" me young man, I don't have time for that right now. Anyway, I should be home before ten, and if you're gonna eat in front of the teevee, use a plate and don't get crumbs all over the chair. Now let's see, I've got my purse. Is my hat on straight? Donny, take this bag and hold it level. My dish is inside it. OK Tom, don't leave any messes. Now give me a kiss and I'll see you in a few hours.

Bye Honey. Have fun.

Bye-Bye. Oh! I also got some of that beer you like, too. It's out on the back porch.

Rainier? All Reet!

\* \*

\* \* \*

Whew! Hi June, I almost thought I wouldn't make it. Well hello there, Billy. You've gotten a lot bigger since I've seen you last. Ask your cousin Donny to tell you about the Sunday drive we took up to Bellingham last weekend

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to see the Fall colors. My Sis, that's a pretty dress. Is it new?

That long ago. Goodness, it has been a while since I've seen you. I've gotten so used to talking to you on the phone I feel like I see you all the time. It's nice not having to go through the operators anymore. Mama doesn't like the new dial phones though. Have you seen here make a call through the operator? She gets them on the line and before they even ask for the number, she's going on about her operations, or her dahlias, or whatever else.

Oh look, there's Juanita Beach. Did I tell you that it's being sold? Tom and I met there. I sure hope that whoever buys it keeps it the same. I've got a lot of memories tied up there. And see up that hill there? There building about a hundred new homes there. There's a lot that's changed since we moved here eight years ago.

OK, turn here and keep following the road. The school's less than a mile up. I really want to thank you for driving tonight. Tom just brought our car to the shop today. We might get a new car next year. Tom wanted one sooner, but I told him, "No way buster. You're getting me a new washer and dryer first". The washer we have now has the front taken off because Tom has to continually tinker with it to get it to work. The other day, the cat was rubbing up against while it was running, and his tail got caught up in the machinery.

No, he's all right, but he's a little embarrassed now that the tip of his tail doesn't have any fur. I almost has a heart attack when it happened though. I though a banshee was loose in the house. Once we got the cat home from the vet, I told Tom "That's it!". We have to use

some of the money we've been saving up for the car to buy a new setup. It's gonna cost us about \$400, but it's worth it.

OK, pull in right here. Oh look. There's a parking spot right up front. Donny hand me my dish, but be careful with it. No, you may not have any of them. We're selling them for the PTA and besides, they're for grownups, not children.

Oh, they're rumballs, Sis. I made them from a recipe given to me by a woman in my gardening club. I swear, though, I'm never going to make them when Tom's around. He kept hovering over me in the kitchen like a sparrow hawk, and when I told him that he couldn't have any, he pouted and sulked like a little boy. Do men ever grow up? Donny, get the front door for your aunt and me.

Oooh, look at all this. They really did a nice job with the circus motif. Oh my, aren't these clown decoration adorable? Look Donny, aren't these cute? Well, I can see that you're anxious to get over to the game room, so why don't you and Billy meet up with us later. And don't spend your allowance money on sweets. They're having a nice spaghetti dinner here, and afterwards you can watch Mr. Boreson. Now run along.

Come on, Sis. I think the cookie and cake sale is down the hall.

\* \*

\* \* \*

Bye June. Bye Billy. OK Donny, run upstairs and get ready for bed, and in a bit, I'll come up and tuck you in. Tom, where are you at?

Back here!

Oh. Don't forget to flush! I'll be in the kitchen. Oh my God! He even washed the dishes.

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Hi Honey! How was the PTA carnival. You're home early.

Oh boy. Well, the spaghetti dinner was very nice. It could have used a bit more oregano, but it was still very good. Mr. Boreson's first show was a hoot, and the kids just ate it up. He's a very nice man. He was having coffee in the lunchroom between shows, and a bunch of the kids found him there. He actually took the time to talk to them and answer questions. Donny even got his autograph.

Well, he started his second show around 7:30. He must have been warmed up, because this show was even better than the first. He was about halfway through it when all of a sudden - BAM - the lights went out. It turns out that one of those thingies on the light pole outside the school blew up.

The transformer?

I think that's what the lineman called it. Anyway, they hustled up some flashlights and tried continuing with the carnival, but the kids were starting to get rambunctious, and people started leaving. They were able to raffle off the turkeys and that was it.

What's in the bag? Did you win something?

No, but you'll probably like this better. You see, with the lights out they couldn't sell any desserts or canned goods, so I had to bring this back home. TA-DA!

Rumballs? All Reet!

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### Next Meeting:

**October 26**

Don't forget, we meet at 7 p.m., on the last Wednesday of every month, at the Kirkland Congregational Church.

**Alan Stein** has unearthed some fascinating information that he will

present. Also, we will hear all about the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation's 1994 Governor's Conference on Historic Preservation from **Bob Burke** and **Barbara Loomis**.

Our November 30th meeting will be at the historic Loomis house, a Queen Anne Victorian built by the Kirkland Land & Improvement Company in 1889. Barbara will give a tour so be sure and mark your calendars now. We will not have a meeting in December but we will start out the new year with a "pot luck" at Lorraine McConaghy's house on January 25, 1995 at 6:PM.

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### KHS Books a Brick

We just received conformation from the Friends of the Library for the inscribed brick--"The Kirkland Heritage Society"--that we ordered last summer. These bricks are being sold to raise funds for the new library and allow the purchasers to become a part, literally, of the new Kirkland Library. If you have not bought one yet, you still have a little bit of time. order form are available at the library. This is a great way to help the new library and show future generations that you were here...way back in 1994!

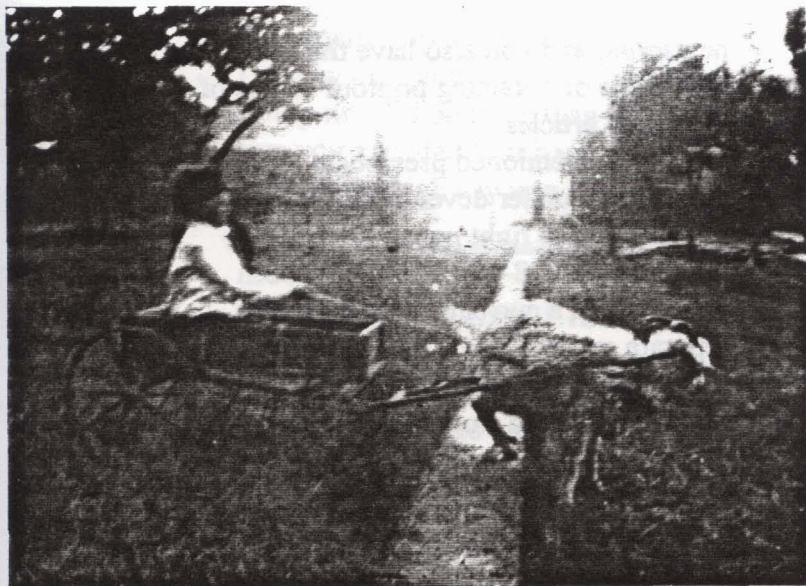
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### MEMBERSHIPS

We wish to thank the following members for their renewals:

Rick & Lisa Altig  
Dorris Forbes Beecher  
Bob Burke  
Sue Carter  
Evie Florian  
Bill & Judy Gehring  
Kirkland Woman's Club  
Matt & Ashley McCauley  
Dr. Ernest McKibben  
Michael & Anne Radcliff  
Alan Stein  
Sants & Sue Conteras-New Members

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Goat Power, in the west  
of Market Street  
neighborhood, C. 1910.

Kids make their own fun.  
They always have and, probably,  
always will. Hooking a small cart  
to a farm animal could bring  
hours of delight to turn of the  
century Kirkland children.

*(Note to animal rights  
activists: The goat was fine. It  
was a pet that had been raised  
from a lamb. It lived a long,  
natural life.)*

## ***Eastside Journal*** **Newspaper Research:** **At Your Fingertips!**

By  
**Alan Stein**

Are you interested in finding out about events in Kirkland's past, but you don't know where to start? Usually you have a rough idea of when the event occurred, but who has time to sift through issue after issue of old newspapers looking for pertinent articles? If you're like me, once you start paging through old newspapers you get sidetracked reading other stories that happen to catch your eye.

Maybe you just bought a house that was built back in 1924. You know that the house was built for a family named Nelson. Some of your neighbors' vague second-hand memories are about the people who spent their lives where you are now spending yours. You know that Mr. Nelson had some mild influence in the community at the time, but would you be willing to spend hours looking

through old newspapers for every instance of the name Nelson?

Maybe when you were a kid, your Uncle Bob told you about a two-headed calf that was born out in Redmond sometime in the 30's. Did it really happen, or was he just pulling your leg.

Maybe one of your relatives worked in the old woolen mill. You'd like to find articles about the mill to see if he was mentioned.

In any case, researching these and other events in Kirkland's past is becoming quite a bit easier through the use of a computerized newspaper index that is currently being developed at the Kirkland library.

The East Side Journal was Kirkland's longest published newspaper. It came out once a week from the years 1918 through 1975. This works out to about approximately 3,000 issues. As mentioned above, finding information would require hours if not days of painstaking research. Through the use of

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the index, finding information now takes mere minutes.

The index is set up by category. Examples of these categories include Education, Woolen Mill, City Government, Buildings, Lake Transportation, Weddings and Obituaries. There are over 100 categories currently being used. Every noteworthy newspaper article is filed under these categories using the following criteria: Headline, Date of Paper, and Page Number. Some articles may be placed under multiple categories. (e.g. "City Dads Accepting Bids For New Firehall" would go under City Government, Fire Protection and Governmental Buildings.) Also, if a headline is vague, more pertinent information is supplied.

Through this arrangement you can now easily find the articles you want to read. Want to know about the history of the cannery? Search on the category, "Cannery". Want to find your parents wedding article? Search under "Weddings" for either name. Want to find out more about the Nelson family? Search all the headlines for "Nelson". (Note: you will find all instances of a popular name like Nelson, but the search takes about three minutes, and you can narrow down the listing on your printout based on any information you might already have. All told, you could probably find the articles you want in less than 30 minutes.)

Once you have a printed out a list of your articles, you can then find the issues containing them. The library has most issues of the Journal on microfilm. You can find the issue you need very quickly on the microfilm reader. This beats slowly paging through old brittle

newsprint, and you also have the added advantage of obtaining printout copies of the actual articles.

As mentioned previously, the index is still under development, but it is of valuable use right now. All available issues from 1918-1961 have now been entered with a current total of 30,000 separate entries. Most issues were entered from microfilm, and those not on film were entered from bound volumes of the original newspapers also contained at the library. Unfortunately there are some issues that are missing altogether. Some single issues from the 20's and 30's are neither on film or in the bound volumes. Also, most of 1940-41 and many issues during the war no longer exist, most likely from wartime paper drives.

There are some limitations to the index database. You will not find every article from each issue. Because of the enormity of information on hand, only noteworthy articles are entered. The earlier papers contain mini-articles about such things as who went over for dinner at their aunt's house, or who sprained their ankle, or who's cow got loose out of the pasture. Even without entering these articles, it's taken close to two years to get the tens of thousands of headlines currently entered.

Another limitation is the software being used. There are much faster and more user-friendly database programs on the market. Right now, we can't even spell-check entries to eliminate typos. Efforts are being made to obtain a better computer and software. I will keep you posted in upcoming articles.

If you would like to use the index, contact Sally Polk at the Kirkland library. Better yet, you can contact me at 821-0164 or ask for me at the library.

I'm usually down there on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evenings after 6:30 p.m.. I'd be more than happy to give you a guided tour back down the information highway into Kirkland's past.

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### From the Law Library...

Regular BP readers probably saw this coming. What does your law student/KHS newsletter editor do in the law library when he's taking a break from Torts, Contracts, Property, CivPro, and CrimLaw? Easy: he researches Washington's old statutes, the rules by which Kirkland's settlers lived. Some are funny, others are odd, but many of them seem quite sensible, at least to me. You might be surprised.

Here are a few, let me know if you like this information and, if you do, I'll run more in future issues. *Ed.*

- In 1877, the fine for animal cruelty would be around \$30, 000, in 1994 dollars. This was much stricter than in recent times, up until the Pasedo Law was passed.

- Women were allowed to vote here, until Washington became a state in 1889. Federal, not state, law stripped that right.

- Wives' money and property, owned before a marriage, was independent of their husbands'. Proceeds from investment of that money or sale of the land stayed hers. If the couple declared bankruptcy, her holdings were off limits to creditors, but all of his assets could be attached.

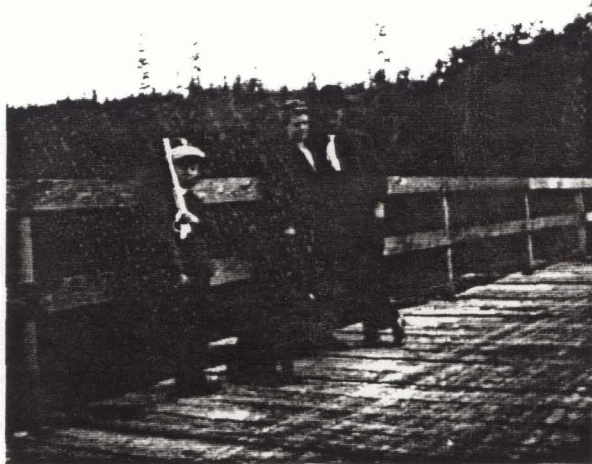
- If a person tried to get--the 1800s version of--welfare, which was administered by the county, their relatives were forced to pay for it. This somehow resulted in a quick return to the workforce.

- Alcoholics who refused treatment were required to register with the police as "habitual drunkards."

- By statute, school districts were required to include instruction on the dangers of "alcohol, tobacco, narcotics and other stimulants," to elementary school students.

- Commercial fishing on a Sunday was a criminal offense.

- Selling liquor to or gambling with Indians was a criminal offense. The offender was also partially culpable for any criminal acts that the Indian performed while intoxicated.



Here's a look at what a family walk across Juanita Bridge was like back around 1916. This photo, which faces south, came from our Barrie Collection, donated for duplication by Mrs. Mabel Barrie. The little boy is her late husband, Donald, with his parents, Robert and Lucy.

# Deciding Whether or not to go Swimming, C. 1910!

Viewing Northwest, with Juanita Point on the Right



Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 10635 NE 120th, Kirkland, WA 98034, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. Matthew W. McCauley, Editor. For more information call: 823-6838 or 823-6232.

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