

Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the
Kirkland Heritage Society



BURKE & FARRAR

OWNERS OF

KIRKLAND TOWNSITE

Madison Office, next to the Ferry Dock in Seattle

Photo, Pemco Webster & Stevens Collection, Museum of History & Industry



Kirkland Heritage Society

PRESIDENT'S LETTER
by
Bob Burke

Last month the big news was the City Council voted to save the historic former Christian Science Church building and to move it permanently to the lower portion of the Waverly site. A group of adjacent residents opposed that site, but supported saving the building. On March 16th the City Council, after hearing arguments from those who oppose the Waverly Site and representatives of KHS and the neighborhoods, voted to proceed with the move to the lower Waverly site. Thanks to everyone who wrote letters and came to the meeting in support!

The City and KHS were praised by the *Eastside Journal* for the idea of placing the historic names on the street signs in areas such as the Market and Norkirk neighborhoods. (Hopefully, this won't be as controversial as the Church building has become.)

We were notified by King County that \$3,000 of our request for funding for equipment for a temporary archives was approved. We intend to buy fireproof files to store negatives and historic pictures, a metal flat file and storage shelves for the East Side Journals.

The Chaffee Corporation who purchased the Collins (BEST) School in Houghton has agreed to pay for a historic interpretive marker to be placed on the site.

Cathy Smith has agreed to layout the historic tour brochure so we can get it printed this spring. **Chris MacPherson** has volunteered to chair the Oral History Project. Thanks for your help!! There is a list of activities which were discussed at the Board / Committee Retreat where we need help! Some people have expressed interest and we will be calling you! As you can see - there is a lot to do!

MARCH 31ST PROGRAM

GENEALOGY

Peter Robertson,
President of the Eastside Genealogical
Society,
7:00pm
Kirkland Congregational Church

Peter Robertson will explain to us what genealogy is and is not. As a native of Keene, New Hampshire, with paternal forebears living in the area since the 1760's as well as other genealogical lines going back to the Pilgrims and Puritans, his interests have just naturally gravitated towards history. With a history degree from Yale and a strong feeling for "roots", Mr. Robertson will give us his twist on GENEALOGY.

APRIL 28TH
PROGRAM



WHAT CONSTITUTES
AN
HISTORICAL TREE?

Do you know of a tree in Kirkland with potential historical significance? Bring a photograph and Robert Van Pelt, Forest Ecologist, author, and a researcher at the University of Washington will be our guest speaker at our April 28th meeting. 7:00 p.m., Kirkland Congregational Church, 106 - 5th Avenue

BOARD / COMMITTEE MEETING

The KHS Board and Committee Chairs will meet at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting on March 31 at the Church. Please plan to attend! Thanks!

WILL YOU PLEASE HELP ? - LOTS TO DO !

**There is a lot going on and we need assistance!!
Please call the contact listed for information.**

Oral History: People to do oral history interviews and transcribe the tapes. Training and equipment are available.

Contact: Chris MacPherson 206-546-8710

Photo Collection: Organize work parties to copy photographs, develop data base by collection and place originals and negatives in archival envelopes.

Contact: Bob Burke, 827-6550 or 828-4095

Outreach / Hospitality: Programs for other groups to tell about KHS and our purpose as well as to assist in greeting newcomers/members at meetings.

Contact: Melissa Thirloway, 828-0943

Interpretive Marker Program: Assume responsibility for program and coordinating the preparation of text and photographs with City, Sponsor, graphics firm and KHS.

Contact: Bob Burke, 827-7194 or 828-4095

KHS Website: Get current information on local web site, keep it up to date and promote it.

Contact: Barbara Loomis, 827-7194

Funding: Pursue and develop ideas for additional funding such as: T-shirts, mugs, postcards, sale of photographs, note cards, etc. Sell at Booth? Other?

Contact: Melissa Thirloway, 828-0943

Building Plaques: Follow through with owners of historic buildings to encourage them to install plaques noting the property's historic significance.

Contact: Vic Newhard, 820-5151

Research Neighborhood Histories: As part of the inventory of historic properties we need to develop histories of each neighborhood to provide context.

Contact: Bob Burke, 828-4095 or 287-6550

Communications: Assist in getting out *Blackberry Preserves* and coordinating articles for the *Kirkland Courier* and *City Update*.

Contact: Barbara Loomis, 827-7194

City Hall, School and Other Displays: Assist in updating the City Hall display and coordinate use of display materials at schools and other locations.

Contact: Alan Stein, 821-0164

**MOVE OF CHURCH BUILDING
CONFIRMED BY CITY COUNCIL**

The City held an informational meeting on March 4th and invited residents from the immediate vicinity as well as representatives from Kirkland MainStreet, Market and Norkirk Neighborhood Associations and KHS to discuss siting and potential uses of the building. The neighbors from Lake Avenue West, Market Street and Waverly were upset with the process used by the City in making the decision and are opposed to placing the building on the lower part of the Waverly site. Council member Larry Springer urged the group to attend the next City Council meeting to express their concerns.

On March 16th, the City Council met to accept the bids to move the building. The Kirkland Parks Board sent a letter to City Council with concerns about locating the building on the site until a full master plan had been completed. The citizens opposed to the move and those of us in favor of the move - **Bob Burke** for KHS, **Julie Bebee** for Norkirk Neighborhood Association, and **Patrick Harris** former Park Board member, spoke in the public information portion of the meeting.

The City Manager reviewed the history of the purchase and bond issues on the site and recommended moving the building to the lower portion of the Waverly site and placing it on temporary supports while the official public hearing process before the Hearing Examiner is completed and site planning for the lower part of Waverly is completed.

**STREET SIGNS WITH HISTORIC NAMES
PRAISED BY EASTSIDE JOURNAL**

The Saturday, March 6, 1999 Eastside Journal *Opinion* article gave the City of Kirkland and the Kirkland Heritage Society a "thumbs up" for the plan to add historic street names to the signs in the historic areas such as Market and Norkirk. An article earlier in the week had talked about once again being able to stroll down Piccadilly Street (now 7th Avenue).

George Harris really pushed the idea and developed one design. The City has placed money in the Public Works budget for this year. A major concern is to design them so they do not create confusion. A committee will be working with the City on ideas - possibly some mock-ups will be mounted around town for public reaction.

**HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY
IDENTIFIES 63 BUILDINGS
AND 34 SITES
FOR RECOGNITION BY CITY**

Mimi Sheridan presented the preliminary findings of her inventory of historic properties. The final recommendation includes an additional 63 buildings, 2 objects (i.e. Houghton Bell) and 31 sites. All of the previous Harvey properties were reevaluated and we now have a consolidated inventory.

Bob Burke presented a draft of the historic properties in downtown Kirkland at the retreat of the newly formed Kirkland MainStreet program last month. He also presented a brief history of Kirkland and the results of the building inventory at the annual retreat of the Kirkland Planning Department.

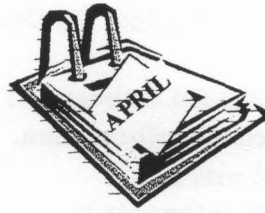
It is anticipated that the interlocal with King County will be going to City Council in April. The inventory results and recommendations on regulations and incentives for historic properties will be discussed with the Planning Commission in May.

**NEW EXHIBIT AT MARYMOOR TO FOCUS ON
EASTSIDE PARKS**

Did you know that Waverly Beach Park used to be an auto camp in the 1920's, and that the local newspaper printed the names of returning visitors so locals could go down and greet them? Did you know that Everest Park was originally used to house Lake Washington Shipyard workers during WWII? Did you know that until the early part of this century, Marina Park used to be under 9 feet of water?

The Marymoor Museum of Eastside History will be opening a new exhibit on April 29 entitled *The Legacy of Eastside Parks and Gardens*. The exhibit, which will be on display until the year 2000, will explore how Eastside parks illustrate a legacy of past land use and have contributed to a sense of civic identity in our region. In six roughly chronological sections, a wide range of individual public parks and gardens in Kirkland, Bellevue and Redmond will be highlighted based on a significant aspect of their origin or history.

The guest curator of the exhibit will be our own KHS vice-president, Alan Stein. You are all invited to the opening on Thursday, April 29 to be the first folks to see the new exhibit, and to meet people who have played an active part in the development of our local parks.



**Mark Your
Calendars!
Come one, come
all!**

On April 27 at 9:30 am, AKCHO will be holding their monthly meeting here in **Kirkland**, and you are all invited. The meeting will be held at the Kirkland Performance Center (where the old library used to be), so if you haven't been through this new building, now's your chance. Not only that, but KHS will be hosting the meeting, and it would be great to have as many of our members there as possible to show how involved we all are in our community. A short presentation will be made about the status of the Christian Science church. And if that weren't enough reasons to come, the main speaker will be Walt Crowley (assisted by KHS vice-president Alan Stein). They will be giving a presentation of the work currently being performed on HistoryLink, the online history resource for Seattle and King County. www.historylink.org

This is a good chance to let other historical societies know about us and our city. Come along and bring a friend!

EDUCATION GRANT WITH KAC

Three dates have been set for sessions with the 5th graders at Ben Franklin Elementary School: March 19, April 23, and May 7. Those who are participating are: **Christina Brugman, Alan Stein, and Bob Burke.**

Lara Holman is the coordinator at the Kirkland Arts Center. Video work will be done by **Vince McAninch, OurRight Media.** We should end up with a short video on oral histories and another on the history, development and architectural styles of Kirkland. We hope to use it in our booth and for presentations at other groups.



Tales From The East Side Journal

By Alan J Stein

Newspapers are one of the most excellent ways to research family history. Unfortunately, poring over weeks of old newspapers can be very time-consuming. If you have any family member who lived in Kirkland, though, you have a tool at your fingertips that can ease your search greatly.

Many of the people who visit the online index of the East Side Journal (<http://www.bcc.ctc.edu/cpsaha/esj>) are genealogists. Occasionally I receive e-mail from people who have found information about their families that they might not have discovered otherwise. Some of these messages come from across the country. These folks were able to search the index and then contact the library for copies of the articles. I can't tell you how thrilled some of these family historians are when they find a little trove of new material about distant relations. You know what it's like.

Many of these researchers are looking for obituaries. Obituaries often contain a wealth of information, not only about the person in question, but of the family itself.

This month's "Tales From The East Side Journal" showcases two obituaries from the past. The first one is from the January 20, 1966 edition of the paper, and the second is from the March 12, 1925 edition.

GUY FARRAR DIES HERE IN CITY HE DEVELOPED

Guy H. Farrar, 75, an early day real estate developer of Kirkland, died Jan. 13 in Kirkland Hospital after a long illness.

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m., Saturday at Green's Colonial Chapel. Burial was in Kirkland Cemetery.

Born in Bothell, Mr. Farrar was reared in Kirkland. About 1908, the Burke and Farrar real estate firm purchased about 10,000 acres of land, much of which is now the City of Kirkland. For many years he was manager of the real estate firm in Kirkland.

He resided at Lakeshore Apartment, 119 Lake Ave. W., which he owned and operated.

In his younger years he was in the logging business on the Hood Canal. He and his brother, the late Bert Farrar, took horses and logging equipment to Skagway, Alaska, and supplied the pilings for the piers there. Later they were in gold mining in Alaska.

In addition to developing sub-divisions in Kirkland, Mr. Farrar developed the Greenwood District shopping area in Seattle. He also developed the Juanita Heights residential area.

Until the Juanita golf course was sold recently, it was owned and operated by the Farrar family from the time it was opened in 1931.

He was a charter member of the Inglewood and Overlake Golf clubs, a member of the Washington Athletic Club, the Everett and Meydenbauer Bay Yachts clubs, the Kirkland-Bellevue Elks and the American Bridge League.

Surviving are his wife, Neva; a son, Conn Farrar, and a sister Mrs. Irma Schrader, all of Kirkland.

The family suggests remembrances be made to a favorite charity.

GRANDMA BARTCH DIES FRIDAY

Mrs. Elizabeth Bartch, known to all the older residents of Kirkland as "Grandma" Bartch, died Friday morning, March 6. Mrs. Bartch was a landmark of the East Side having been one of the original pioneers. She made Kirkland her home 36 years ago and has lived here continuously ever since. Up until a few years ago, when her health began to fail she was an active member in the Congregational Church and took a keen interest in community affairs of all kinds. Mr. Bartch, her husband who passed a few years ago, was Kirkland's first building contractor and has left many East Side structures as monuments to the families real value to the community, such as the Shumway home, Falls City schoolhouse, Kirkland Grade school, Kirkland Motor Co. garage, etc.

Mrs. Bartch leaves eight children, seven girls and one boy all of whom have taken their place in the history of the East Side. She also leaves twenty-seven grandchildren, many of whom are, at present, East Side businessmen. Six of the grandchildren acted as pallbearers. They were: Ralph Sample, E. A. Blau, Oscar Blau, Chester Tompkins, Kenneth Tompkins and Claude Elwood.

Funeral services were held Sunday, March 8 from Sessions Mortuary. Rev. C. E. Newberry delivered the funeral sermon.

"Grandma" Bartch was 87 years of age. She was born June 3, 1838 in Seewiss, Switzerland and came to America, locating in Wisconsin 59 years ago, living there 13 years, moving from there to Downs, Kansas, where she lived for 10 years until coming to Kirkland in 1889.

We received a lovely letter from the Kirkland Woman's Club that I thought I would share with you. (Ed.)

March 10, 1999

Kirkland Heritage Society,

We acknowledge with deepest appreciation your very generous donation of \$500 to the Kirkland Woman's Club Cemetery Fountain Fund as well as the equally generous pledge of another \$500 to be paid next January, 2000.

As you probably know, this is a big project for us albeit an exciting and challenging one. The Kirkland Heritage Society's contribution was one of the earliest we received, so it was certainly a wonderful boost for a positive beginning.

We truly value your support - from the early mentoring, the encouragement and endorsements, along with the financial assistance. And are also pleased about your Vice President Alan Stein's offer to lead tours of the cemetery.

It is community-spirited people like you, in organizations like yours who love this city, who donate, and who help to promote our Fountain Fund, that will make it possible to achieve our goal.

Sincerely,

Kirkland Woman's Club

Corrine Hieb

Fountain Fund Coordinator

For information or to
make a donation to the
Kirkland Woman's Club
Cemetery Fountain Fund
Call: Corrine Hieb
425-822-5710 or send
a check to: P.O. Box
2502, Kirkland, 98083



**MEMBERSHIP
Welcome!
New Members**

**Steve & Susan Bailey
Julie Bebee
Fred & Courtney Romano**

**K I R K L A N D
HERITAGE SOCIETY**

DIRECTORY

OFFICIAL ADDRESS:
304 - 8th Avenue West
Kirkland, WA 98033
Phone: (425) 827-7194

OFFICERS AND BOARD

President: Bob Burke
827-6550 (o) 828-4095(h)
Vice President: Alan Stein
821-0164
Secretary: Loita Hawkinson
827-1950
Treasurer: Laura Westlund
827-6676
Communications:
Barbara Loomis 827-7194
At Large Member:
Melissa Thirloway 889-9120
At Large Member:
Vic Newhard 206-949-6457

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archives
Sue Carter 822-5486
Don Winters 827-2650
Oral History
Chris MacPherson 206-546-8710
Nancy Stevens 822-94275
**Historic Buildings
and Planning**
Vic Newhard (206) 949-6457
Velda Wilson 641-0528
Membership and Funding
Melissa Thirloway 889-9120
Programs
Shannon Harris 822-2478

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Exhibits:
Vic Newhard (206) 949-6457
Web Site:
Stephanie Loomis 827-7194

CALENDAR

March 30
AKCHO
9:30 a.m.

White River Valley Museum,
918 H St. SE, Auburn
Long term planning for
historical societies.

March 31
**KHS Board/Com
mittee Chairs**
6:00 p.m.
KHS Program:
7:00 p.m.

GENEALOGY, What it is and
is not by Peter Robertson,
President of the Eastside Ge-
nealogical Society

April 27
AKCHO
9:00 a.m.

KHS will be hosting the
AKCHO meeting and the
Kirkland Performance Center.
Come tour the Center and meet
and greet fellow preservation-
ists and historians from around
the county.

April 28
KHS Program
7:00 p.m.

Bring a picture of a potentially
historic tree in Kirkland and
Robert Van Pelt, Forest Ecolog-
ist at the UW analyze it for
you.

*Unless otherwise noted KHS
meetings are held the last
Wednesday of the month at 7
p.m., Kirkland Congregational
Church, 106-5th Ave.*

MEMBERSHIP FORM

July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999

KHS now qualifies for tax exemption un-
der 501(c)(3) and your contribution is de-
ductible to the extent allowed by law. We
now qualify for match contributions by
those employers who offer this benefit.

- Individual \$20
- Family \$25
- Senior/Student \$15
- Supporting \$100
- Life Member \$1,000
- Organization/Government \$100
- Professional/Business \$125
- Corporate \$250

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

My Company Matches Contributions
Conact: _____

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Your membership is the first important step in
helping achieve our goals. Interested in helping
on other projects? Please indicate the areas in
which you would be able to volunteer.

Serve on a Standing Committee:

- _____ Archives and Collections
- _____ Education and Research
- _____ Membership and Funding
- _____ Monthly Programs
- _____ Oral History
- _____ Newsletter, Blackberry Preserves
- _____ KHS Web Site

Work on specific activity:

- _____ Exhibit at Community Events
- _____ Home Tour
- _____ Do Photography / Update Slides
- _____ Install Original Street Name Signs
- _____ Video on Kirkland History
- _____ School Education Program

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home# _____ Work # _____
Organization/Firm _____

Checks should be made payable and mailed to:
Kirkland Heritage Society, 235 - 10th Ave. W.,
Kirkland, WA 98033. Phone: (425) 889 - 9120



They got you coming and going!!

(See photo on the front cover)

**Burke and Farrar, Real Estate, Kirkland Office (left)
the approach to the Madison Park Ferry on Kirkland Ave.**

Blackberry Preserves is produced by the **Kirkland Heritage Society**, 304 - 8th Ave. West, Kirkland, WA 98033, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. To contribute articles or for more information on KHS, please call Barbara Loomis, Publisher, (425) 827-7194 or E-Mail: bloomis@msn.com



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Kirkland, WA 98033**