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The Kitsap Historian

July 2009

Old Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration

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Photo by Eric Dahlberg

On Saturday, July 4th, we had our 2nd Annual Old Fashioned Main Street Fourth of July. This year we worked in partnership with the Downtown Bremerton Association and Simply Renewed Antiques and expanded the day and the activities, starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 6:00 p.m. At your request, we repeated the most popular parts of our 2008 event, particularly, the free ice cream! Puget Sound Dairymen's Association and Costco made that possible and the Lions provided the manpower.

Vendors were added, and more food. CJ's Evergreen Market scented the air with the enticing aroma of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. Music drifted down the street from the outdoor stage and the tooting of tractors drifted up the street from three large tractors. Pete Britton, President of the Olympic Antique Tractor and Engine Association, provided the tractors, that delighted

the children (and many parents).

KCHS volunteers, Angela Rice and Lisa Dahlberg, organized games for the children: jump rope, bubble blowing, hop scotch, and bean bag toss. Parents joined in and it was one of the day's favorites.

The Humane Society was on hand with information about licensing our pets and cute kittens to draw oohs and aahs.

Tracyton Library volunteers made sure we could purchase good books at spectacularly low prices.

The Museum itself was not to be overshadowed by the fun happening outside. As people came in to get their ice cream tickets, they took time to enjoy the exhibits, many returning for a more thorough look.

The day ended with many expressions of hope for another Old Fashioned Fourth of July in 2010.

SAVE THE DATES!!

SEPTEMBER 23 - Eat Your Way Brownsville

OCTOBER 22 - Eat Your Way Molly Ward Gardens

DECEMBER 4 - Annual Membership Meeting

DECEMBER 13 - A MILLTOWN CHRISTMAS 2009

We hope you enjoy this Newsletter. Your editors:
Prudence McCabe
And
Eric Dahlberg

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Mark Williamson

The Kitsap County Historical Society remains alive and well with Labor Day already past us. The Old Fashioned Fourth of July program was a big hit! We had over 500 visitors at the Museum and served 24 gallons of ice cream at our booth on Fourth Street. This happy occasion was marred by the tragic accident that claimed the life of Mike McClurkan, husband to our archivist and past President Carolyn McClurkan. I know you all join us with condolences to Carolyn and her family.

Anita Williams' *Eat Your Way* events continues to charm and educate many of our members and guests. Visits on July 23rd to the Seabold Community of Port Madison and August 20th to "The Lost Town" of Colby were well attended and fun for all. There are two remaining events, Brownsville on September 23rd and Molly Ward Gardens on October 22nd.

We were treated to a presentation on the USS MISSOURI (BB 63), by Naval Historian Will Lent, for our August First Friday event. September First Friday featured Red Cross representatives discussing disaster preparedness that included audience participation with "Disaster Bingo".

Our October 2nd First Friday will feature Kitsap-Bremerton Athletic Roundtable (KBAR) with a preview of

a future Athletic Exhibit planned for 2010.

Nina Hallett has been filling in as Curator in her typical skilled and capable fashion. We owe her a round of thanks for her many contributions. This is best illustrated by the efforts at our Pole Barn at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. She, Gary Beanland, and Eric Dahlberg spent hours in readying the exhibits for this year's Fair. We counted almost 3000 visitors during the five days. See more information on the Fair in this Newsletter.

Gary Beanland has been superb as the Museum Committee Chairman. His latest accomplishment has been readying the attic for an additional layer of R30 insulation. Reductions in energy expenses have already been realized from repairs and modifications to the ventilation system. This additional insulation will improve on that and the Museum will now be more comfortable and economical to operate.

Our Nominating Committee is looking for some new talent for our Board of Trustees. If you have any suggestions, contact Carolyn McClurkan or myself. Volunteers have kept us running smoothly. It can only be with more of the same that next year will be a success.



Photos by Gary Beanland

Our Staff	Board of Trustees	
<p>Prudence McCabe <i>Executive Manager</i></p> <p>Joyce Davison <i>Administrative Assistant</i></p>	<p>Mark Williamson <i>President</i></p>	<p>Annetta Butler <i>Historic Sites Chair</i></p>
<p>Advisory Board</p>	<p>Gary Beanland <i>Vice President</i></p>	<p>Virginia McBride <i>Museum Store Manager</i></p>
<p>Suzanne Callison Dicks</p>	<p>Suzanne Frech <i>Treasurer</i></p>	<p>Alyce Eagens</p>
<p>Roger Horne, RADM, USN (Ret.)</p>	<p>Sara Nell Davis <i>Secretary</i></p>	<p>Alan Lowe</p>
<p>Paul Middents, CAPT, USN (Ret.)</p>	<p>Nina Hallett <i>Chair, History Book Project</i></p>	<p>Libby McKnight</p>
<p>Ralph Munro</p>	<p>Carolyn McClurkan <i>Archivist</i></p>	<p>Russell Neyman</p>
<p>Don Serry</p>		<p>Jim Portune</p>
<p>Helen Langer Smith Ambassador Edward Wolfe</p>		<p>Wendy Priest</p>

HISTORICAL POLE BARN AT THE FAIR Nina Hallett

When the 2008 County Fair was over, we printed a request in the Historian for an anvil and a milking stool. What we received was a bit of a surprise!

A gentleman by the name of Ernest Rimple had a blacksmith's shop in Port Orchard. His daughter, Edie McKelvy, is one of our members and she offered us his anvil. Then she casually mentioned that she and her husband had the all blacksmith's equipment in the basement of their house! Gary Beanland, Eric Dahlberg and I went to the McKelvy's house and ended up taking the entire forge back to the Barn. We hope you were able to visit us at the Fair and see the results. It was pretty exciting putting the whole thing together.

So, now we're asking for some more equipment. We have a hay trolley and a hay fork and we'd like to display them as they would have been used. The hay fork hangs from the trolley, which travels the length of the barn on rails under the roof ridge. When working, this combination can lift loose hay up into the hay loft. Our hay trolley is missing some parts and we do not have any rails so we are not able to display these pieces properly. Does anyone out there have, or know someone else who does have, the rails and the trolley? And be willing to donate them to us?



Drag Saw display



Forge Display

Photos by Eric Dahlberg

We'd love to hear from you!

We are gradually making more progress in showing how our artifacts were actually used. The Pole Barn is most definitely a "work-in-progress" and we appreciate your patience, practical information, and help. Gary had the great idea of putting the drag saw on the second half of the Sequoia log and it now looks almost exactly like the photograph of the Grosso brothers and their drag saw. Eric decided we needed a blacksmith for that exhibit, so we now have a model dressed in Eric's jeans and work boots and Gary's shirt and hat. More work was done on labels and we found (to our embarrassment) that one label was completely wrong! The straight planks with spikes in them had been labeled as keeping stock from going through the fences. It was a very old label and we were willing to go along with it. But, as one young lady, her father, and

husband pointed out, if a cow or horse were to bump into those spikes, you'd be spending either a lot of time yourself trying to stitch them up, or spending a lot of money for the local vet to do it! In fact, those planks are very simple harrows. And the same people pointed out that the Russell Grader is not a slip scoop but is known as a "Fresno". Back to the research for next year's Fair! One thing we'd (or I) would like to do next year is develop the area under the Golden Tailors sign. So expect some more changes.

Cleaning the Barn and preparing it for the Fair took much less time this year. Thanks again to Gary and Eric. Also, thanks to Eric and his wife Lisa for creating the chalkboard painted cow which the kids enjoyed coloring. And a final thank you to all the docents for talking to the visitors and answering their questions. Hope to see you all again next year.

FROM THE ARCHIVES Carolyn McClurkan

The archival volunteers have been busy, busy this summer, even though the Archivist has been less than her usual self. For one thing, a very large stash of newspapers, was re-discovered. It seems that during the last days of the old Silverdale building, these newspapers had been stored in a member's outbuilding. Around 2000, they were delivered to the Museum, whereupon they were put into large plastic bags, and placed in the freezer, to make sure that all "beasties" which may have been present were disposed of. And there they stayed until this July when the big black bags were opened and examined, and - Lo! newspapers. And what a great collection! 1950's "Kitsap County News"; 1940's "Bremerton Sun" and "Daily News Searchlight", 1984 "Cross Sound Merchant", 1970's "Kitsap Land", and "Kitsap County Herald"; 1980's "Peninsula Weekly Door to Door", 1960-1980's "Kitsap Journal's" and "Keynotes", 1979-1981 "Enetai", and, best of all, a run of the "Bremerton Searchlight" from 1908-1909. They needed to be

examined in the open air, in case there was mold or mildew, so the archivist's home patio was set up as "processing center". The newspapers were cleaned, interleaved with acid-free paper, and made ready to be placed in archival boxes (when they arrive) and returned to the Museum, to be cataloged and placed in the archives.

What a most interesting treasure-trove of businesses and product advertisements, reflecting lifestyles from many years ago!

The archival volunteers have been busy bees during 2009. In addition to the above 7 cubic feet of newspapers, they have accomplished the processing of 5 cubic feet of the Fred Perry Collection, 12 cubic feet of the Bremerton Community Theatre collection, and transcribing some 12 hours of voice tapes from oral history interviews (and about 12 more hours to be done, if anyone else wants to try their hand at it!). All this while they were also searching for and locating photographs for the reprinting of the big brown Kitsap History Book, and handling research requests.

COMPETITION RESULTS

Our Name That Cow competition at the Fair produced a lot of entrants. You may remember, last year we borrowed a cow from the Mattress Barn for our cow stanchion; this year we made our own cow, painted with chalkboard paint, and she needed a name. See the various iterations of chalk coloring on this page.

There were quite a number of unique and surprising names suggested. In judging the competition we first had to do some elimination. Thirty two entries were disqualified for being over twelve years of age (the prize was more appropriate for the younger fair-goers), giving a female cow a male name, or not including a telephone number. We then disqualified another nineteen entries that were variations of the same name (i.e. Bessy, Bossy, Betsy) or repeats. Of the remaining entries, we chose:

HEFINA

The winner was Javon Hart, age 6, from Bainbridge Island. We called his telephone number and invited him to the First Friday event on September 4th to receive his prize. Not only did we get to meet Javon, but we also met the rest of the family - great grandmother, grandparents, two



Competition Winner, Javon Hart

Photo by Ken Christopherson

uncles and two aunts. As they live in different parts of the County, they'd taken this opportunity to have a reunion. They toured the Museum and assured us they would be back. We enjoyed meeting them all and hope Javon is enjoying his prize.

ARTIFACT DONATION

General museum protocols place several considerations on the acceptance of donations.

There are a lot of procedures and paperwork associated with accepting new accessions.

- Donors need to own the artifact and have the right to donate it to the Museum
- Do we have other examples of the item? If so, is this item in better condition than what we have?
- Do we have space to store it?
- What will be the opportunities to put it on exhibit?
- How is it related to the history of Kitsap County?
- Do we have the expertise and/or resources to maintain its condition?

Potential donors should call the Museum and schedule an appointment with our Registrar, Carolyn LaFountaine. She volunteers Tuesday through Thursday.

Donated items need financial support. Although at our Museum accessioning is done by volunteers, there are still costs associated with the computer systems (hardware, software, maintenance, and backup materials) and storage facilities and environmental control systems.

An important question a donor should ask of themselves is, "Why is it important to you that the Museum preserves this artifact"?

Please do consider donating your pieces of history, but please become supporting members so we can take care of them for you.

The Many Hides of Hefina



Opening Day at the Fair



Start of Day 2



Start of Day 3



Start of Day 4



End of the Fair

Photos by Eric Dabberg

FUNDRAISING Anita Williams

We are always thinking of ways to meet our financial needs in a way that is *FUN* doing, interesting and even educational for all of you who support us. This year our inspired Trustees are having a series of smaller, very original fundraisers, all different, interesting, intriguing and...still going on.

We had an eagle and heron watching brunch in Seabeck, a garden party in Port Orchard featuring dahlias and a

lesson on growing tomatoes, a Marine Drive neighborhood history picnic (see photos pg. 8), an elegant al fresco dinner under the stars in Bremerton, and an Indonesian soup party in Silverdale. The exciting "buzz" of what's coming next has created quite a stir in the quiet halls of the Museum. Thanks to everyone who has hosted, attended, or contributed to this effort. If we missed you, and you would like to be included, please let us know.



Kitsap County Historical Society
&
Puget Sound Genealogical Society

"SAVE THE DATE!"

"History & Heritage 2010"

Antique Show

Sales & Appraisals

Saturday April 17, 2010 10:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday April 18, 2010 10:00am - 4:00pm

President's Hall - Fairgrounds Complex
1200 NW Fairgrounds Rd, Bremerton, WA
Kitsap County's **only** antique and appraisal show!

The 2010 Antique Show is growing well beyond the expanded 2009 Antique Faire. Dealer inquiries are welcomed and encouraged. Contact the Kitsap County Historical Society at 360 479 6226 or the Puget Sound Genealogical Society at 360 874 8813 for details.

MUSEUM STORE

The revenue from our Museum Store sales help support the operation expenses of our Museum facility. It helps fund payroll, pay gas and electric bills and other expenses just like the expenses we all face at home. All of you who shop in our store can pat yourselves on the back. The store is on target to meet its 2009 budgeted amount of \$2000. We have just written a check for \$750 to KCHS. This brings our donations for the year to \$1750.00. With help from our loyal customers, and new ones too, we will meet and exceed that goal.

Here are some new reasons for shopping in the store:

We have beautiful **new postcards** of Bremerton, in living color.

There is a new book, **PATRIOTS PROGRESS, A Living Military History of the People of Kitsap County Washington**, compiled by Dr. Roger Meyer, edited by David Durfee.

These are the stories of some of our local military men as told in their own words. Read the memories of people like Sgt. John Hawk and LTJG Richard McCool, Jr, Medal of Honour recipients, LTC Leland Daly, LtJG David L. Durfee and many more all sharing their memories of their military action. Dr. Meyer has donated these books and the price of \$14.95 that he has set will be retained by KCHS. What a great effort he has put into recording Kitsap History and benefitting local non-profits. Thank you, Dr. Meyer.



Invest in the preservation of your history by contributing to the Annual Fund Drive of The Kitsap County Historical Society Museum

I would like to contribute to the **2009 Annual Fund Drive** of KCHS. Please list my contribution as coming from _____

(please print name of individual or institution)

___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$200 ___ \$500 ___ \$1000 ___ Other

___ My check is enclosed.

___ Please charge my Visa/MasterCard for \$ _____

Credit Card number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____

Thank you so much. Your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law.

****Please note that this is separate from your membership dues.****

MEMBERSHIP

To take advantage of the 10% Membership discount on Museum purchases and Eat Your Way events, just send in this form and become a member

Join or Renew

- | | |
|---|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Senior/ Student | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor | \$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | \$500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$1,000.00 |

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Method of Payment
 Check Visa MasterCard

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. date _____

Signature _____

VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER JOSIE JOHNSON



Photos by Eric Dablberg

Josie has been a tremendous addition to our volunteer staff and we are sorry to say this is both an acknowledgement that she has been chosen as our "Volunteer of the Quarter" and an announcement that this recent Central Kitsap High School graduate is leaving us to attend college at Stanford University.

Josie has assisted us in more ways than we can here enumerate. She began volunteering on April 10, 2008 and has maintained a consistently dependable schedule ever since. We must also thank her parents, Christopher Johnson and Cindy Pekow, for allowing her to spend so much time with us. Their particular donation to our staff was a commitment to Josie that, if she chose to volunteer here at the Museum instead of seeking employment for which she would be paid, they would compensate her for the financial difference.

She has learned to do research in our vast and confusing archives and to enter information into our museum database software, PastPerfect. She has worked with our Research Coordinator, our Registrar, our Archivist, and everyone in Administration. She completes tasks which require skill and intelligence and then cheerfully runs errands. What more can we say? Her assistance is requested by every department, every day.

Josie's personal strength is her ability to do, or learn, any task



Josie at Nina's Pole Barn docent orientation

needed and then to do it extremely well. Add to that, her pleasant personality and ability to get along with anyone and everyone, and you have a volunteer who is consistently in demand and will be sorely missed. We hope we have helped garner her enthusiasm for a career in Museum Studies.

Are there any other high schoolers out there interested in taking her place?

~~~~~  
**Eat Your Way**  
*through*  
**Kitsap County**  
**History**

The last two Courses of the 2009 Eat Your Way program are all that remain. Spaces are still available for both.

10:00 am, Wednesday, September 23rd, the program at the Brownsville United Methodist Church will highlight the history of this area followed by a home cooked lunch.

Thursday, October 22nd at 1:30 pm, you will tour the unique and historic Molly Ward Gardens followed by a dessert buffet.

# KITSAP COUNTY: A HISTORY BOOK UPDATE

Nina Hallett

As we continue to work on recreating the pages (text, photographs, charts and maps) of the third reprinting of the book "*Kitsap County: A History*", we want you to know that we are all working as hard as we can on this project. Editor **Jack Swanson** continues to work on the pages and keep us informed of photographs he still needs. Researcher **Bonnie Chrey**, Registrar **Carolyn LaFontaine**, and Archivist **Carolyn McClurkan** continue to search the files and archives, and make requests of other institutions for the photographs, or appropriate substitutions. Scanner Extraordinaire **Paul Middents** continues to scan what ever items we send to him; and I (**Nina Hallett**) continue to wave the baton and try to orchestrate this effort. There is no projected publication date at this time. Should you feel the urge to vent and express your frustrations, please target me. I grossly underestimated the time this project would consume, and I humbly apologize. My only excuse is that I have never done this before and made a "guesstimate" based on the experiences of others. Obviously I didn't do too good a job and I alone am responsible. Our staff and volunteers are in no way to blame for the delay. Please bear with us and we will eventually overcome the obstacles!

Thank you for your patience and understanding.



## FROM THE RESEARCH CORNER Bonnie Chrey

I typically receive 8 to 10 requests a month, and I am always busy. There is never a dull moment! I have received requests from across the U.S., England, and Canada. A common request is for information about ancestors, or about a newly purchased "old" home. There are also many requests for photos. I receive requests from individuals, authors, students, city or county government offices, businesses, and attorneys. I always reply to an email or phone call, but I do let the requestor know that I am working on numerous requests, and it may take me some time to try to find the answer to their question. We will do 30 minutes of research free, and then if the requestor approves additional time, an hourly fee is involved. I will go offsite, if necessary to find the answers and once did 3 hours of research at the Sylvan Way Library in the microfilm section after the charges were authorized by the requestor.

Sometimes an inquiry will start you on a "project". A business in Silverdale requested photos of the Bucklin Hill area before development. There were not many photos in our archives and this set us off on a hunt for more. I want to thank Marlene Hattrick, whose grandparents were the Nels Nelsons, for contacting people that lived along Bucklin Hill and to get photos

from them. Her parents also lived on the corner of Bucklin Hill and Myhre Rd. She has been a great help in this "project". I am still looking for more photos of this area, so if you have any to donate to the museum, we would be very happy to have them (or copies).

I would also like to thank Russ Warren who has taken on another "project". We sent a photo of a Bremerton High musical group from the 40's to the Sun to publish, and asked readers to please identify the members of the group. The museum received several responses, and Russ volunteered to contact the people. He has almost everyone identified and is planning on interviewing the female vocalist from the photo. We'll resubmit the photo to the Sun, with the story of the band members when it is finished.

Here's a request to all; we would like to have more South Kitsap Yearbooks. We only have 1922, 1926, and 1932 yearbooks, and a few from the 1940's. Please contact us if you have a yearbook to donate.

I would like to remind everyone that we need pictures of Kitsap County from the 50's, 60's, and 70's. Photos of homes, neighborhoods, and businesses are of great interest. The area has experienced much change, and we should try to capture it for future generations.

1. I enclose my check for \_\_\_\_\_, made out to the **Kitsap County Historical Society**, for \_\_\_\_\_ presale copies of the third edition of *Kitsap County: A History* at \$54.30 (\$50 + tax) (add \$5.00 per book for out-of-area mailing).

Please charge my Visa/MasterCard account # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) (Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_) for \_\_\_\_\_ presales copies.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Tel #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ as a donation as a **Sponsor** (2 lines, 25 spaces each) or a **Benefactor** (3 lines) for the reprinting. My personal information is as above. Acknowledgment is as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Kitsap County  
Historical Society  
Museum & Store**

280 Fourth Street

Bremerton, WA 98337

Phone: (360) 479-6226 Fax: (360) 415-9294

E-mail: [khsinfo@kitsaphistory.org](mailto:khsinfo@kitsaphistory.org)

Non-Profit Organization

**U.S. Postage**

**PAID**

Bremerton, WA

Permit #42

See this Newsletter  
and more on the web  
at  
[www.kitsaphistory.org](http://www.kitsaphistory.org)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## SEPTEMBER

September 23rd - Eat Your Way, Fifth Course,  
Brownsville United Methodist Church

September 29th - KCHS Board Meeting, 5:15pm

## OCTOBER

October 2nd - First Friday, Kitsap-Bremerton Athletic Roundtable

October 22nd - Eat Your Way, Sixth Course, Molly Ward Gardens

## NOVEMBER

November 3rd - KCHS Board Meeting, 5:15pm

November 6th - First Friday, Exhibit Opening on the  
Mezzanine, History of Printing: READ ALL  
ABOUT IT

## DECEMBER

December 1st - KCHS Board Meeting, 5:15pm

December 4th - Annual Membership Meeting 6:00 pm

December 13th - Old Fashioned Mill Town Christmas, Seabeck



History Presented and Recorded at the Marine Drive Event

*Photo by Gary Beanland*