



Mukilteo Daze

By Neil Anderson

In the 2012 summer edition of the MHS Newsline, I contributed a story describing some childhood fun-filled days at several Mukilteo beaches in the early 1960's. Those were great times and if you happened to read the article, I hope you enjoyed it.

My parents were Mukilteo kids, Rosehill students, the works. Dad was raised in old Town. My mother, Jeanne Hartley, was born in Everett, moved briefly to Seattle in the late 1920's and then to the Mukilteo area in the early 1930's. Her father, Edward Hartley, built a small house on what is now Taylor Drive just east of Powder Mill Gulch. At that time, the house address was Route 3, the Everett city limits were basically still at 41st Street, and Mukilteo had yet to be incorporated. The small house was later replaced by a larger house which still stands today. In the attached photo showing the family house in the late 1930's, the original house (dark cedar shake siding to the left of the new house) is still visible but would soon be demolished.



House on Taylor Drive in 1930's

Dad was a typical Mukilteo youngster back in the 1930's and 40's. Fishing for salmon, skipping school on occasion and spending time with his pals

around town. Mom had her friends, went to school, and we always thought of her as being a straight arrow not capable of doing anything wrong. We heard lots of stories from both mom and dad about growing up in Mukilteo. I'd like to share a few tales as told by my mother. She is now 87 years old with failing eyesight but her memory is still sharp. She reminisces about those days as if it were yesterday.

One day around 1940 my mother, along with her childhood friend Marilyn Anderson Werner, decided to take a ride on the Mukilteo-Columbia Beach (now Clinton) ferry. They would have been about 14 years old at that time. A lazy day and nothing on the agenda so why not hop on the ferry for a ride to Whidbey Island and back? Probably cost a dime to ride the ferry back then. After the ferry returned to Mukilteo, they stayed up in the passenger cabin on the upper deck for another ride to the island. The pranksters were also tossing peanuts from the upper deck down onto the cars and people below. The ferry returned to Mukilteo again and the girls went back to their hiding spot for a third round trip without contributing another dime to the Black Ball Ferry Line.

They thought they were pretty smart about fooling the crew of the boat and pestering the motorists below. But soon the party would be over. On the third trip after leaving the Mukilteo dock, a towering figure came up and stood over them. Mom and Marilyn turned around and there was the captain. Arms crossed and a rather stern looking fellow. The captain told them

to stay put and asked where they had boarded the boat. He returned to the wheelhouse. The girls had time to now think about the trouble they might be in. It was a lonely feeling. Oh boy, their parents were going to be mad when they found out.

Soon, the ferry was headed back to Mukilteo and the captain ordered mom and Marilyn to the wheelhouse. They figured there would be a serious scolding and their parents would be called after the ferry docked. Would the town marshal be called? The captain looked at the scared and shaking girls. He advised them that he had determined their punishment. It was to steer the ferry back to Mukilteo. He instructed my mother to stand up and take a place next to the giant steering wheel, place her hands on the wheel and steer the boat to Mukilteo. He instructed her how to turn the wheel and steer the boat to port or starboard. After traveling a mile or so, it was time for Marilyn to take the wheel and pilot the boat. There was some type of landmark at Mukilteo the girls were supposed to aim for. As the boat approached the dock, the captain took over and safely docked the ferry. The captain escorted the girls back down to the car deck and said good-bye. It was nice to meet them but he gave them a warning that they should not be riding the ferry without paying the proper fare. He turned around and headed back to the wheelhouse. They knew they had dodged a bullet but they knew they had learned a lesson.

I can't help thinking what would have happened if something like this would (cont'd on page 4)

Lisa Romo

Message from our President

Here's to another terrific year!



As we get ready for our holiday season and end of the year events with the Historical Society, I look back on this past year with gratitude.

Gratitude that we as an organization have many dedicated volunteers who help keep the Lighthouse open for visitors from far and near; volunteers who rally together for meeting presentations, gardening, maintenance, membership, training, archiving, writing articles, special notes/cards from our sunshine lady, special tours, weddings, gift shop purchasing and display setups, storytelling at local events, and much, much more!

For over 20 years we have been able to serve our community with our dedication to the Lighthouse and the Historical Society. And we have heard back from many in the community and the public at large just how much they appreciate what we do. I have had a chance as a member and then as your president to work with some pretty terrific people and for that I am grateful.

What we have accomplished this year, like all the years in the past, has not been done by one person, but by a group I am proud to be a part of year after year. As we prepare for the coming year let's ask ourselves what can we do to make a difference? Where can we improve or strengthen our

work in the Historical Society and how can we reach these goals?

I would like to personally thank our outgoing Board Members for their support and tireless hours of work in the name of the Historical Society and to welcome our new Board Members as we start our work together in 2013.

May your Holiday Season be filled with loads of laughter, special moments and celebrations.

Best Wishes

Lisa Romo ♦

MHS Calendar



December 1st, 2-4pm, "Librarians as Information Guides: Tracing Your Family's Roots with Ancestry LE." Call the Mukilteo Library at 425-493-8202 for more information or to register.

December 1st, 8th, and 15th, Noon to 4pm - Mukilteo Light Station Gift Shop open.

December 6th, 7pm - "The Dig at Japanese Gulch", Tom Murphy's presentation to the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission at Everett Music Project Theater, located at the Everett Mall.

December 7th, 5-7pm - MHS Christmas Party at Rosehill Pointe Elliott Room.

December 8th, 1-3pm - Santa Claus at the Lighthouse.

February 27th, 12:30-2pm - Author Jamie Ford will discuss "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" at the Black Box Theater, Mukilteo Hall, Edmonds Community College. Tickets will be available at the theater one hour before the presentation. Please arrive early to reserve your seat. Call 425-640-1448 for more information. ♦

Join Those Going Paperless

This MHS Newsline is uploaded to our website in color each quarter within a few days of its completion and can be viewed and/or printed there.

Website: www.mukilteohistorical.org

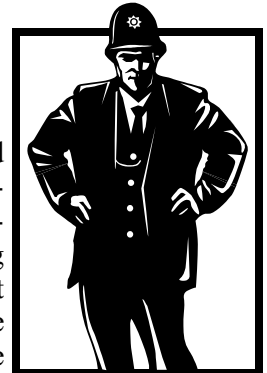
Please email Nancy Joao at njoao@frontier.com to state your preference to access your newsletter on our web site and no longer receive a copy through the US Mail.

The Society will then be on track to saving both printing and mailing costs and you will be viewing this newsletter in all its colorful glory.

Thank you. ♦

Mukilteo Police History Needed

Renee Ripley and Karen Goto, Mukilteo police volunteers, are gathering information to put together the "History of the Mukilteo Police".



Any information, photos, memories, no matter how small, would be most appreciated. Please email Renee at: ripcom@mac.com or phone her at 425-348-3744. Thank you for your help. ♦

Diane Tinsley Reflects on the MHS Storytellers

Mukilteo has a rich history of people from diverse backgrounds and cultures coming together in good relations with each other throughout history. Good examples of these historical events and ongoing relations include Vancouver's visit here in 1792, the Point Elliott Treaty signing here in 1855, the early 1900s good relations among Japanese immigrant families and other settlers, the first Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival in 1966, and now, to the 47th annual Mukilteo Festival in present times.



Laurel Boucher and Johnny Moses of the Tulalip Tribe entertain at the Festival.

Photo courtesy of Scott Casselman

The 2012 Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival benefited from the participation of Pamela Bond Coello and her extended family as they participated with Mukilteo Historical Society volunteers in the Saturday morning Harbour Pointe parade and the Mukilteo Historical Society storytellers' activities at the band shell in Mukilteo Lighthouse Park Saturday afternoon of the festival.

As a Mukilteo resident and current Mukilteo Historical Society storyteller, I am honored to have helped celebrate Mukilteo history and also make these continuing good relations happen during these past several years.

May more Mukilteo Historical Society volunteers, other community leaders, and representatives from diverse back-



Robert Smith as Peter Christiansen and Diane Tinsley as Louisa Fowler Sinclair.

grounds and cultures, continue to make Mukilteo history come alive through collaborative programs and other exchanges in the future.

Diane J Tinsley ♦

Japanese Gulch Probed by Archeology EdCC Class

Japanese Gulch played an important role in the history of Mukilteo, and in 2012 its history once again attracted attention. It began when the City of Mukilteo, in order to complete a Fish Passage Project to return salmon to Japanese Creek, contracted with Edmonds Community College to conduct an archeological dig in the area of the creek. Dr. Tom Murphy, Director of the College's LEAF School (Learn and Serve Environmental Anthropology Field), then organized archeological/environmental courses to include finding, retrieving, cleaning, and analyzing artifacts from Japanese Gulch.

Ann Collier helped coordinate the assistance of MHS for the project, which featured an informative power point presentation last Spring on Japanese Gulch by Christopher Summit for the members of Professor Murphy's class. Also present at the session was Patricia Love, Assistant Director of Community Development in Mukilteo, who coordinated the City's role in the project.

The tour of the Japanese exhibit and artifacts already in the MHS collection in Quarters A provided the ten students in the class with a solid background for their work. In fact, they

practiced their skills in scientific analysis by weighing, measuring, and photographing the MHS artifacts, with the assistance of Emily Scott, an archeological specialist brought into the project from the large consulting firm of AMEC. An attractive poster of the artifacts was later donated to MHS.



Students from Everett and Edmonds Community Colleges participating in the archeological dig at Japanese Gulch.

In July, the students carried out the dig and unearthed several objects, most of which were similar to the artifacts already in the collection of MHS. These have been cleaned and analyzed prior to being transferred to the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian American Experience in Seattle. It is exciting to note that artifacts from Mukilteo will now be seen by many more visitors to the Seattle area. And this new fame for Japanese Gulch is not over. Just recently, Christopher Summit again briefed another EdCC anthropology class on the history of the Japanese in Mukilteo. The class met at Quarters A on November 14 to examine the MHS exhibit and to identify and analyze further objects in the MHS collection.

A special presentation on the Archeological Dig in Japanese Gulch will be given at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 6 at the Everett Music Project Theater, located at the Everett Mall. Dr. Tom Murphy and his students have been invited by the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission to report on their work and their conclusions. The public is invited, so plan now to attend and learn more about the treasure trove of historical evidence in our own back yard! ♦

(Mukilteo Daze cont'd from page 1)

have happened today in this more complicated world. It would probably go down like this. The suspects would have been rounded up by a SWAT team rappelling from a helicopter after all ferries on the Mukilteo-Columbia Beach run went into lockdown mode. Homeland Security personnel would interrogate the suspects as to why they remained on the vessel and to hopefully determine their sinister plan. Were there explosives in the peanuts? Regular television programming would be interrupted with breaking news concerning unknown individuals hiding on a Washington State Ferry. Local news crew satellite trucks would be parked at the Lighthouse parking lot for "you need to know" updates with live eyewitness news coverage at 4pm, 5pm, 6 pm and 11pm. Holy cow.

A few years later, the country had entered World War II and mom was in high school. Things were changing and changing fast. The boys were joining the service, fighter planes were flying over the family house from Paine Field and military type ships were visiting the Everett harbor. One summer day, a ship was anchored offshore in front of the family house. Usually the ships anchored closer to Everett, but this one was anchored closer to Mukilteo and somewhat close to the shoreline. So mom and cousin Janny Hartley decided to take two automobile tire inner tubes and swim out to the ship to see if they could do it. It took some time but they made it. It was eerie. The steel hull towered over them and made the water pitch black. They were not sure what to do next. They were tired, cold and didn't really want to paddle back to the beach. But, as they looked up to the deck of the ship, sailors were now appearing. They were relieved. However, this was not the same reaction mom's father, Edward Hartley, was having as he watched from the bluff with his binoculars. He was worried, concerned and most likely pretty angry at

his daughter who had just floated out to the anchored military ship in her swimsuit. Edward Hartley was once in the service too. As an officer in the U.S. Army in WWI overseas in France, he knew what trouble this could be.



Edward Hartley 1917

The sailors lowered some type of ladder and helped mom and cousin Janny out of the water. By this time, older sister Marcia was standing at the edge of the bluff waving to her sister and cousin to come back to shore. Instead, mom and Janny scrambled up the ladder to the deck of the ship. The crew had some blankets and invited my mom and Janny to the galley for something warm to drink. My grandfather was horrified to watch his daughter and niece disappear into the ship with the crew. Instead, mom and Janny were having a great time being the center of attention of the officers and crew. They were most handsome. I am sure the crew enjoyed seeing two young women in swimsuits suddenly appear on the deck of their ship. The crew was well-mannered, friendly and interested only in the safety of their two guests. The blankets warmed them up and a warm drink, tea, was served by the galley staff. The tea was so very good as mom remembers. As my grandfather paced and watched from the house,

he saw a lifeboat being launched from the deck of the ship. The girls were placed in it and lowered to the water. Several crewmembers transported the high-school girls back to the beach. Edward Hartley ran down the trail to the beach to meet them and thanked the crewmembers for getting his daughter and niece safely back to the shore. There would be a stern lecture later.

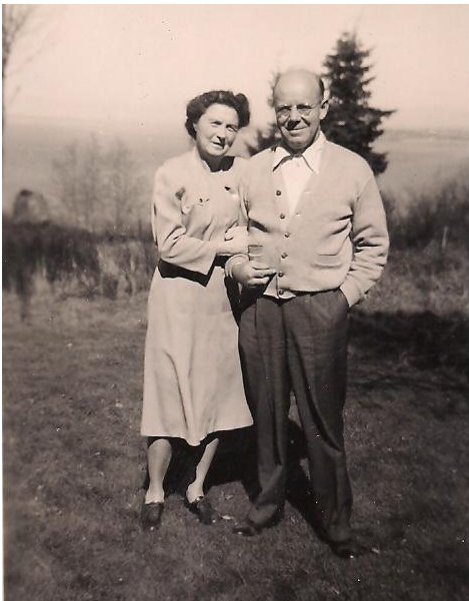


The Hartley girls in the late 1930's,
Marcia, Judy, and Jeanne.

Perhaps my favorite story is the P-38 fighter from Paine Field crash landing on the beach near the family house, the year was 1943 or 1944 most likely. The middle of World War II. Everyone was helping with the war effort. Gas and sugar were rationed. Edward Hartley was an air raid warden. Lights were blacked out. One of mom's older sisters, Judy, attended many USO type socials at Paine Field and befriended several pilots stationed at Paine Field. Judy described the location of her house on the bluff and many of the pilots made it a point to find it and fly over the house. They had great fun making low passes and buzzing the house if Judy, her friends or sisters were out in the yard. The girls could identify many of the pilots and their planes by the colors and numbers. I would guess Edward Hartley again was a little concerned with these US Army (cont'd on page 5)

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Air Force pilots in their Uncle Sam issued P-38 twin engine "Lightnings" checking out the scenery in his yard. Of course, the girls were excited, thrilled and flattered with all the attention from the pilots. One day, two P-38's were buzzing the bluff and house, dipping below the bluff and then climbing to a higher altitude. Mom and her friend, Helen Jones, were standing in the yard watching the planes. Flying low and doing their tricks, one P-38 climbed high into the sky but the second one failed to reappear. They remember hearing some type of "thud" sound down below. Something was wrong so they headed down the bluff trail, built by neighbor Thurston Sager, and to the beach. To the west, sitting in the sand and shallow water, was the missing plane. The pilot was out of the cockpit and standing on the wing. He was visibly upset. Mom and Harriet did not talk to the pilot but ran back up the trail so mom could tell her father what had happened. As Edward Hartley was a military man, he forbade mom and



Jeanne Hartley's parents, Mary and Edward Hartley, taken at the house near Powder Mill Gulch about 1947

friends to head back down to the beach. Things would now be busy with the Paine Field brass working to get their plane off the beach and out of the water. All mom remembers after

that is seeing a barge anchored off the beach with equipment on the deck of the barge.

She never figured out who the pilot was or what happened to him. Being 17 or 18 years old, she did not dwell on it. These were dangerous and yet exciting times and everything was happening so fast. There was homework to do and cousins and friends in the service were leaving for far off places in Europe and the Pacific. There were boys to meet, movies to see and more things to do to help the war effort. Perhaps more importantly, there was also a whole big world to figure out. Although, when you think about it, Mukilteo was a pretty nice place to be. ♦

Your 2013 Officers and Directors

At the November membership meeting the following MHS members were voted in as Officers for 2013:

President - Lisa Romo
1st Vice President - John Collier
2nd Vice President - Brenda Thorsen
Treasurer - Eileen Pridmore
Secretary - Becky Owensby

Carolyn Morrison and Sally Morrison were voted in as Directors. Their three year terms are 2013 through 2015.

Director Christopher Summitt, currently on the board, will complete his three year term in 2014.

Directors Dan Tolfree and Mitch Owensby, also currently on the board, will complete their terms in 2013.

Thank you to all of you for agreeing to serve the historical society in this manner. ♦

2013 Program Schedule

The following programs have already been planned for 2013 at our MHS monthly membership meetings:

January 8th - "The History of Taylor's Landing", Tim Taylor

February 14th - "The Mansion in Mukilteo", Alan Zugel

Meetings start at 7:15pm. ♦



Mukilteo Historical Society Inc.
304 Lincoln Avenue, Suite 101
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2012

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Christopher Summitt
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Return this form with your payment to:

Mukilteo Historical Society - 304 Lincoln Avenue, Suite 101, Mukilteo, WA 98275

Individual - \$15 ☐ Senior (65) - \$10 ☐ Senior Couple - \$20 ☐ Family - \$25 ☐

Corporate - \$50 ☐ Sustaining - \$100 ☐ Benefactor - \$300 ☐ Life - \$500 ☐

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