



## Guest View: Mukilteo Memories

By Richard Forman, Hamilton Square, New Jersey

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Mukilteo Beacon*

I have thoroughly enjoyed my recent discovery of the Mukilteo Beacon on the web. I lived my “wonder years” in Mukilteo (arriving from Pennsylvania in 1953 at 9 years old and moving back to Pennsylvania in 1960 at 16 years old). Mukilteo provided me with basic values and life experiences too valuable to ever forget!

We bought a home built high above the sound in Horizon Heights (a name my father suggested to the builder for our then two house neighborhood).

Summers in Mukilteo were very special. In May, we enrolled in the newly formed little league that played games on the State Park “sand field.” Because we didn’t have an outfield fence yet, and the sand was very hard, I was able to hit many home runs with just hot grounders. It was great fun!

In June, we caught the 6:30 a.m. Sultan Farms berry picking bus with other Speedway kids and made up to \$1.50 a day if we could pick six carriers!

We spent the lazy July days in the woods exploring and playing war until my mother would blow the tin fog horn that was the only thing loud enough to serve as our dinner bell.



Mukilteo-Everett Stage with Losvar’s Boathouse on the left. The driver is John Holtgeerts (ca. 1955)

Saturdays featured hopping on the Mukilteo-Everett Stage at Losvar’s Boathouse and busing into town to

catch a “Tarzan” matinee at the Roxy or Everett Theaters.

We were the first class to go all three grades at Olympic View Junior High. As ninth grade student body president, end on the football team and center on the basketball team, I thought I was quite the student athlete. Then we went off to Everett High and suddenly everything changed. I felt like a very small fish in a very big pond! There were only two of us Mukilteo kids in the accelerated sophomore classes and I thought that was unfair as well as lonely.

After moving back east, I remember describing life in Mukilteo to my Cornell University roommate who grew up in the New York City suburb of Westchester. I told him then that I did not envy his teenage summers in Europe and winters in Connecticut boarding schools, because Mukilteo was much more than “a good camping ground” to me. Even now when I turn on the lights in my study, a lighted replica of you know what light house cheerfully illuminates a corner of the room and also a big corner of my heart. ♦



Mukilteo-Everett Stages bus barn (1957) on Front Street where the Diamond Knot Brewery/Alehouse is presently.



Mukilteo Little League, posed on a Mukilteo Fire truck, in the late 1950s. Team names were Hawks, Jays, Cards and Larks.

*Lisa Romo*

## Message from our President

We completed another successful year in 2012 and welcome 2013 with open arms. The Mukilteo Historical Society finished out our year with a wonderful celebration and potluck in December. The Committee that organized this entire event certainly kicked it up a notch by having all the twinkle lights in Old Town on at the same time as our event. I kid about the lights, but not the celebration. It was a well-attended event where we could all gather and celebrate our accomplishments for the year. THANK YOU to Ellen, Pat, Becky, Mitch, Sally, Carolyn and Kevin.

This year has already started off with a bang: Your Board of Directors and Officers have already met to lay the foundation for the year, Committee Chairs have made their annual reports and budget requests for their groups, we had a fantastic January membership meeting highlighting Taylor's Landing and Christopher's Mukilteo Minute on the "Tall Masts in Mukilteo", and we already have 15 weddings scheduled for the Light Station (so far)! Not bad for our little volunteer organization.

Along with the Annual Committee Reports, each chairperson talks with the Board about upcoming events and possible challenges they may encounter. One of the these challenges almost every committee faces is resources . . . ie: We Need More Active Volunteers. The saying: "Many Hands Make For Light Work" is so true and we have seen this truth in action with our Mass Planting and Cemetery Cleaning Events. Many excited and willing volunteers (from our membership AND the community) came together last year to create what we felt were not only successful but quickly completed endeavors.

Where we see a need this upcoming year is with our Weddings and Special Tours held at the Lighthouse. Imagine

being there on the happiest day of a couple's life – when they take their vows at one of the most beautiful spots in the state (yes – I am biased here...lol). We help to facilitate a seamless gathering of their friends and families by opening up the Lighthouse and Interpretive Center and standing by to take them up to the tower or answer a question or two on the history of this special spot. We may stand in the background, but we play an important role for the weddings at the Light Station.

If you like a bit more action, how about being a part of the Special Tours that occur at our Light Station? Groups from all over schedule visits here and are excited to learn about the history of the Station and the Lighthouse itself from the volunteers who conduct the tours. Whether it is a school group or a group from a senior center (or any of the other groups who arrange a special tour), we know they appreciate our being able to provide this service to their organization on a more personal level than the regular operating hours.

Neither committee takes too much time and Mim & Karen rotate the volunteers at these events, based on who's available. So why not add your name to the list of active volunteers and give either one a call to say 'Count Me In'!!!

As always I thank each and every one of you as our organization is strong (and fun) because of YOU!

Best Regards

Lisa Romo, President ♦

### Something New in Quarters B: Hats Worn in Mukilteo

When President Kennedy chose to walk without a hat at his inauguration, it turned the tide toward bareheaded-

ness, even if Jackie's pillbox hats enabled women to keep their lids on longer. For many people today, there is no knowledge of how important hats once were in the wardrobe of every well-dressed person.



A new addition to the exhibit in Quarters B, "Mukilteo: The Way We Were," is devoted to hats that were once part of the sartorial splendor of Mukilteo's lead-

ing citizens. Hats worn by Hazel Dudder, Clara Kane, and Elise Pallas (who was especially known for her hats) are part of the display. Also included are men's hats: Bill Anderson's WWII Air Force hat and Art Losvar's WWII Army hat, as well as hats worn by Peter Christiansen, the first lighthouse keeper; Paul Losvar, boatbuilder who came to Mukilteo in 1905, and Thaddeus Wilkowski, who used his hat when delivering mail to the post office from the train.

These hats replace the fire helmets and nozzles borrowed from the Fire Department which were on display in 2012. The rest of the exhibit telling the history of Mukilteo's Fire Department is still on view in Quarters B. ♦

### Membership Dues

MHS membership dues are paid on a yearly basis. So if you have not yet sent yours in for 2013, please do so now. See the outside of this newsletter for the amount and mailing address.

Note: if you were a new member in the last quarter of 2012, you are covered for 2013.

Thank you for your continued support of the society. ♦



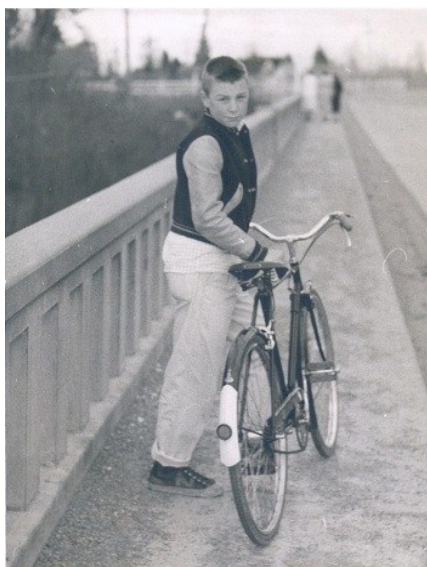
## **New Kid in Class**

By Tom Nielsen

In the fifties the population of Mukilteo was pretty static. Not many folks moving out and only a few new homes being built. So, our class at Rosehill Elementary remained pretty much the same year after year. There was only one class at each grade level, so you got to know your classmates pretty well.

When Dick Forman entered Rosehill in fourth grade it was a real treat for me and my friends. He was from the East coast, a place none of us had ever seen or knew much about. He also lived in a brand new home in Horizon Heights, which was also new to us "Mukilteo oldtimers".

It was enriching for all of us to have this classmate who had a different perspective on life in Mukilteo. He fit in quickly with our class and we became good friends from the start. Dick would often ride his bike to our Edgewater neighborhood where more kids from school lived. We had lots of good times both in and out of school.



Tom Nielsen on the bridge between Mukilteo and Edgewater (now in Everett).

By the time we went to a new junior high school at Olympic View there were more families with kids living in Horizon Heights. In the larger school we still kept up our friendship and I

remember going to his family's home for teen parties in their spacious "rec room". His older brother even taught me how to do the "bop", a popular dance in the fifties, so I could dance with the girls.

When we went off to Everett High, the Forman family moved to a new bluff home in Edgewater. However, they moved back East shortly after that when his father received a promotion at Scott Paper Co.

Dick and I exchanged letters for a while but eventually lost touch.

His editorial appeared in The Mukilteo Beacon a few years ago. I didn't know how to contact Dick until a friend, Stan Hecht, got his email address for me. Since then we have stayed in touch and hope to get together in person some day soon!

*Note: Tom Nielsen was the author of the cover article of the Spring 2012 Newsline and Dick Forman, written about in this article, is the author of the story on the cover of this edition's Newsline. ♦*

## **Looking for a Key Person for 1st Saturdays**



Have you been thinking about getting more involved as a volunteer? If so, please contact Nancy Joao (njoao@frontier.com) or Lisa Romo (lmr0522@aol.com) today! ♦

## **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](http://www.mukilteohistorical.org)

Please email Nancy Joao at [njoao@frontier.com](mailto: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. ♦

## **GIFT SHOP NEWS**

We have many new items this upcoming season.

Wonderful sounding buoy bells, in rich colors, have been ordered from a company named "Made in Maine". We also have an awesome puzzle, made in the USA, of our Christmas decorated lighthouse! These puzzles are made by a young couple in Tacoma. The pieces are mounted on cedar and come in a truly unique cedar box.

But wait - there's more! New jackets, fleece and micro fiber, will be arriving shortly with a new logo look. Lots of jewelry, key rings, educational toys and loads of new books have been ordered too. Coming soon, a hand-painted glass ornament, featuring our lighthouse.

# **BIG SALE**

Attention bargain hunters! Trying to make room for all of our terrific new items, we've had to put a lot of items on our sale racks. Chances are you'll be able to find something you didn't even know you wanted, but had to have – and at a bargain price!

Thank you - the Gift Shop Crew ♦



Trunk Treasures in the Mukilteo Library lobby window

### **“Mukilteo’s Good Ol’ Days” Featured in Library Window**

Be sure to check out the lobby window at the Mukilteo Library during the month of February to see several “trunk treasures” and an historic sled used when Mukilteo used to have real snowfalls.

Trunk Treasures is the name MHS uses for a hands-on collection of artifacts which are placed in a trunk and then loaned to teachers to create more excitement among kids about local history. They are often out in schools already, but we hope the display will increase interest in them, and in the history of Mukilteo.



Thelma Kane's sled

The old sled is on loan from Thelma Weers Kane whose father made it for her when she was just a slip of a girl. The entire sled, including the metal runners, was crafted by William Weers, Mukilteo's blacksmith (yes, we once had one).

The items on display are complemented by interesting historic photos of the blizzards which occurred occasionally in “Mukilteo’s Good Ol’ Days.” ♦

### **In Memory of Marg Klemp Caley**

Marg Klemp Caley, a long-time Mukilteo resident and enthusiastic member of the MHS “A-Team” for many years, died in Portland, Oregon on January 23 at the age of 92.

Marg’s grandparents, William and Enga Klemp, came to Mukilteo in 1902 and built the Klemp Hotel, a landmark on Second Street until it burned in 1926. Marg attended the original Rosehill School for first and second grades, and after it burned down in 1928 she returned and graduated from the second Rosehill building. Marg graduated from Everett High in 1938.

She joined the Mukilteo Presbyterian Church in the 1920s and was, by far, the longest serving member of that congregation. Marg and her husband, Dan (Digger) Caley, were Mukilteo’s Pioneers of the Year in 1996.

Marg’s achievements and contributions to Mukilteo and MHS were many, but those who knew her best

will mainly miss her twinkling eyes, buoyant personality, and delightful sense of humor. ♦

### **MHS Calendar**

March 2nd, 10am  
- Volunteer  
Training

March 16th, 1pm  
- Volunteer  
Training

March 23rd, 9am-3pm - Heritage  
Day and Malstrom Award Luncheon,  
Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center

March 30th, 10am - Annual Cleaning  
of the Light Station

April 6th, 12 Noon - Opening Day  
Flag Ceremony at the Light Station

May 18th, 10am - Pioneer Cemetery  
cleaning.

June 1st - Mass Planting at the Light  
Station ♦

### **Opportunities Available**

It is a new season and members are taking on new responsibilities. Inge Greeninger is now the co-chair of Special Tours with Karen Carpenter. Mary Ollenburg is joining Mim Loree’s wedding crew. Thank you all.

These activities continue to need volunteers. So if either of these is something which may interest you, please contact one of these chairpersons noted above or leave a voicemail at the gift shop.

425-513-9602 ♦







MHS members in Canoe Hall listening to Cecelia, the Hibulb volunteer.

### Trip to Hibulb Cultural Center

A group of MHS members visited the Hibulb Cultural Center, in Marysville, on Saturday, February 16th. They were greeted by Cecelia, a volunteer at the center, who provided a short orientation in Canoe Hall. This hall is lined with collections, of arrow heads, ancient canoes and other historical items.

Cecelia directed the group to the Longhouse. This exhibit allows you to experience a Tulalip Longhouse through a video with a variety of recorded stories told by gifted storytellers. Wooden benches line the sides of the room, where you sit to view the video, all the while enjoying the smell of fresh cut cedar.



Longhouse Interior

The Cultural center is very easy to explore with numerous videos providing oral background on the topics. The exhibits depict all aspects of the Tulalip Tribal life over the years.

In the display rooms, the collections include ancient baskets, utensils, garments, historic photos and extensive military memorabilia. The salmon exhibit is exceptionally well presented. It includes information on various salmon types as well as the tools used for fishing by the Tulalip tribes.



Traditional Puget Sound Salish  
Welcome figures

Everyone agreed we should visit the center again in the fall, so more MHS members can see all the Cultural center has to offer. Plus we know just the place to enjoy lunch afterwards.

◆

### 2013 Program Schedule

The following program has been planned for the March 14th MHS

monthly membership meeting:

*"Fish, Boots and Mud: Environmental Anthropology in Japanese Gulch", Tom Murphy*

Meetings start at 7:15pm. ◆



**Mukilteo Historical Society Inc.**  
304 Lincoln Avenue, Suite 101  
Mukilteo, WA 98275

**2013**

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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

*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 ☐

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Your 2013 Membership dues are due NOW!!!

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