



MUKILTEO'S EAGLE BREWERY

David Dilgard, Everett Public Library Historian, has given the MHS permission to print this article.

Unlike most early settlements in Snohomish County, Mukilteo came late to the sawmill trades. When the county was created in January of 1861 and Mukilteo was designated as county seat, founders Morris H. Frost and Jacob D. Fowler began encouraging some remarkably diverse and inventive commercial pursuits which did not rely on the fickle lumber market.

Wild cranberries were shipped to outlying areas. A pioneer salmon packing facility was initiated, leading to the creation of the region's first salmon cannery. There was even traffic in down and feathers from the flocks of brant that crowded the salt marsh near the future site of the lighthouse.

And before Snohomish County's first decade came to an end, one of the earliest breweries in Washington Territory was turning out respectable quantities of beer in the village of Mukilteo.

Few living residents remember that the gully east of Rose Hill School was once known as Brewery Gulch. The stream that flows there was dammed somewhere near the present 3rd Street fill, supplying waterpower for a malting mill and providing ample pure water for high quality lager beer. This process was rigidly seasonal, an early winter activity allowing several months for slow fermentation so the product would be ready for summer delivery.



Location of Mukilteo's first brewery.

The primordial years of brewing in Mukilteo are shrouded in the mists of time, but an early census shows that an Englishman named Jacob Barth was brewer-in-residence in July of 1870. The following year Swiss immigrant Jacob Ripstein was in charge.

In 1875 Joseph Butterfield officially incorporated the Eagle Brewery, and the following July Messrs. Frost and Fowler took over the enterprise. When operating at full stride the brewery was reportedly capable of putting out something like 500 barrels (about 15,000 gallons) annually.

In June of 1882 the brewery was destroyed by fire and the intervening decades have all but erased every trace of Mukilteo's historic lager brewery.

David Dilgard

And more from the Archives of the Mukilteo Historical Society:

In an article titled "Scenes from the Past" in the September 1987 issue of the *Rosehill News*, Opal McConnell added this information: "In the days when J.D. Fowler had his trading post on the waterfront, a creek ran under this bridge shown in the picture. It must have had considerable water as J.D. Fowler wrote about it in his diaries. In his diary on June 8, 1861, he wrote that after a day of plowing in the ravine back of his store, harrowing the ground, sowing oats and packing rails, he "went bathing in his creek."

In November of 1861, there are several articles about building a dam on the creek. A property abstract establishes that the first brewery in the area was located approximately where the bridge in this picture was located..."



This photo from the 1940s shows Eugene Cole and his dog on Third Street on the bridge over Brewery Gulch, with the Presbyterian Church in the background.

John Collier

Message from our President

Summer is just around the corner and all of us are eagerly welcoming the longer, warmer, and sunnier days ahead. The activities of MHS at the Light Station are in full swing, with the mass flower planting in June, the big Fourth of July weekend, and then our busiest month in August, and all of it culminating in the grand Lighthouse Festival in early September.

With thirteen new volunteers on the Light Station team, our expectations for a glorious summer are higher than ever. And we all feel we deserve it after the long and dismal nights of winter.

But I wonder how we often pause to ponder the historical continuities of summers in Mukilteo. I know that some of the young people who will flock to Lighthouse Park this summer may still believe that history began when they were born and that it will end when they die. For them, if for no one else, MHS serves a very important purpose.

If we are happy to see summer arriving, imagine how the ancestors of the Tulalips felt when they could finally emerge from their cold, dank, and smoke-filled long-houses. The wintertime was crucial, of course, for that is when much of the cultural heritage was transmitted, and important decisions were fully discussed.

But it was the summers that were welcomed with great joy, for that is when they could hunt, fish, travel, and come together on Mukilteo's north shore for grand conferences, ceremonies, and feasts. The great quantities of clam shells and fish bones in the middens under the soil of the north shore attest to its popularity for hundreds of summers among native inhabitants.

Some of the older members of MHS fondly recall their own happiness when school was out and baseball, beach fun, clambakes, and other summertime activities got underway. An article in the *Mukilteo Magazine* captures their reflections on Mukilteo's "good ol' summertime."

So as we all enjoy the warmth of the sunshine, the aroma of sizzling barbeque, the music of the children's laughter, and the merriment of convivial friends, let us also pause to remember and pay homage to those who came before us in the age-old tradition of summertime fun in Mukilteo.

John Collier, President ♦

Volunteers Still Needed

We need your help to ensure that visitors have a fun, educational, and safe visit to the Light Station. Spend a few hours, support your community, and meet visitors from around the world.

Contact Becky Owensby for more information at 425-308-3313 or email rowen55@comcast.net. ♦



Gift Shop News

Don't forget to stop by the Gift Shop to pick up a special gift that highlights our community and supports our efforts to preserve the Light Station.



New Lighthouse pin available.

New items include a silver pin in the shape of the Mukilteo Lighthouse. This pin is crafted in Old Town Mukilteo and signed by the artist.

We also have umbrellas with our Lighthouse logo and fun toys for the kids.



New Lighthouse umbrella.

New books include the new *Images of Aviation* series "Paine Field" by Steve Bertrand, as well as many new children's titles.

A few words of encouragement to the gift shop volunteers—sales have been good and every time I stop by, items need to be restocked on the shelves. If you have time, try to restock items as you ring them up. This may take a bit of hunting to find the specific item, but look at it as a treasure hunt. And remember to acknowledge each guest as they enter the building. We don't want anyone tempted to acquire one of our treasures without paying.

Thanks to all for a super start on another season.

Nancy Joao ♦

In Memoriam

Bev Schreiber—A Special Friend



Bev at Owl's Head Lighthouse, Maine,
September 1995.

The Mukilteo Historical Society recently said good-bye to Bev Schreiber, artist and faithful MHS member, who died of cancer on March 9. Bev was known throughout the world for her pen and ink drawings with watercolor washes.

One of her favorite subjects was lighthouses, although she also drew other historic buildings such as old houses, barns, and train stations. Bev's love for lighthouses was reflected in much of her art, particularly products such as bookmarks, stationery, and prints.

She was very active in MHS and was among the first to lead public tours of the Mukilteo lighthouse, beginning in 1992. She was also instrumental in obtaining the bulls-eye Fresnel lens displayed on the floor of the lighthouse and ensuring that the Mukilteo Light Station was properly listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Bev moved to Connecticut in 1997, but was welcomed back to the Northwest in 2006. She served on the MHS Board of Directors and devoted a lot of time, energy, and skill as one of the lighthouse gift shop managers.

Bev contributed some of her collection of miniature lighthouse models and lenses to MHS. They may be seen on display in Quarters B in a special exhibit designed by Ellen Koch and others.



Bev's charming sketch of the
Mukilteo Lighthouse.

Bev became a very dear friend to all who were blessed to know her. She was known to collect cartoons and save them in journals. She brought a few of these journals along on a MHS weekend trip a few years ago. During that weekend, there were many outbursts of laughter as these cartoons were shared.

Bev was also known to like flying kites. Maybe it had to do with soaring above all and being really free. Could that be why Bev put seagulls in most of her drawings, too?

In an article about Bev in *Lighthouse Digest*, Elinor DeWire is quoted, "If there are lighthouses in heaven, then I'm sure Bev is already at work painting them in her whimsical way and making sure we all know how special they are." All those in MHS who knew her would agree: her spirit, talent, and loving nature will be sorely missed. ♦



Flying kites, December, 1985.



Key Holders Recap

Thanks to everyone who attended the Key Holders training, and special thanks to firefighters Chris Clark, Matt Carlson, and Blake Engnes.



Firefighters leading training.

Remember the following fire safety tips:

- KNOW YOUR EXITS.
- CALL 911.
- KNOW HOW TO USE THE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS.



In the event of a fire at the Lighthouse:

1. Location of Extinguishers:

Lighthouse—Three fire extinguishers are available. Use the small one by the base of the stairs first.

Gift Shop—Fire extinguisher is located on the back porch.

Garage—Fire extinguisher is in the box between the two Garage Doors.

2. Remember P-A-S-S:

P—Pull the pin or plastic tab.

A—Aim the nozzle.

S—Squeeze the handle.

S—Sweep the spray on the fire, starting closest to you and then further away.

3. For each pair of volunteers on a shift (2 in the Lighthouse, 2 in the Gift Shop), have 1 person designated to call 9-1-1 and the other designated to guide visitors outside.

4. After everyone is outside the building, close the door upon exiting.

5. When everyone is safely out of the building and away from the structures, be sure to let the Fire Department know upon their arrival that everyone is out of the buildings.



Hands on fire extinguisher training.

Note that there are three fire extinguishers in the Lighthouse:

- The small red one at base of stairs is the primary chemical fire extinguisher—use this one first.
- The one UNDER the stained glass lighthouse replica is a historical item, but IT DOES WORK.
- The silver extinguisher near the windows is a water extinguisher. IT DOES WORK, but do not use it on an electrical fire.

Also, for electrical fires, try to remember to shut off the Main Switch in the electrical panel. ♦

Louisa Fowler's Seashell Art Returns to Mukilteo

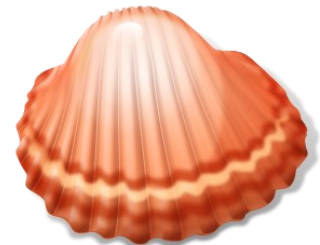
A large and artistic picture frame, created in Mukilteo more than a century ago, is coming home. It will be welcomed at the Lighthouse in a ceremony at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 7.

The frame was made by Louisa Fowler, daughter of Mukilteo co-founder Jacob Fowler and his wife, Mary Warren Fowler, daughter of an important Indian leader who signed the Point Elliott Treaty of 1855. "First Daughter" Louisa decorated the solid wood frame with shells and colored rocks collected long ago from the beaches of Puget Sound.

This relic of Mukilteo's past has been in storage in the Everett Museum of History. Neil Anderson, whose parents attended Rosehill School, has been instrumental in arranging for the loan of Louisa Fowler's artwork to the Mukilteo Historical Society.

Neil, who has written several articles for the MHS Newsline, volunteers with the Everett Museum of History. He was able to locate this object from Mukilteo's past after being shown an article describing it in *The Seattle Sunday Times*, February 23, 1964.

Louisa Fowler's seashell artwork will be displayed in Quarters B in the exhibit, "Mukilteo: The Way We Were." ♦



Archive Additions

MHS has received some great additions to the archival collection this year. Mike Daffron recently donated thirteen books of official Mukilteo postmaster records.

One building that Mike has owned is the Charles Dudder house at the corner of Lincoln and Fifth Street (now the Ambrosia Restaurant). The postmaster records were left there when Mayme Dudder Ross was postmistress in the 1960s. They include books dating back to 1899 when Louisa Sinclair was postmistress, as well as records from 1912 when Helen Hadenfeldt was postmistress.

A piano given to MHS and used for many years in the Mukilteo Community Center finally had to be "excessed" this year when it could no longer hold a tune. We retained the brass plaque, which was on the piano, in our archives. The inscription states: "Mukilteo Historical Society, From Mary Dockery Trafton 1977". Mary Dockery, who taught at Rose Hill School for many years, was a favorite teacher for many of the school's alumni.

Christopher Summitt found some interesting Mukilteo photos on eBay; the pictures include a 1956 photo of 13 men from the Mukilteo chapter of the Snohomish County Sportsmen's Council, finishing their volunteer work on the public boat-launching ramp; and a 1957 aerial photo of the State Park (now Lighthouse Park) that shows the Lighthouse when it still had a dock in front as well as all the buildings that made up the Losvar boat building business.

Recently, an anonymous donor contributed a book published in 1810 in London, *The New Practical Navigator; being a complete Epitome of Navigation* by John Hamilton Moore. Perhaps this gift could become the basis of an exhibit about past methods of navigation, including the use of a sextant which was also recently contributed. This book is definitely the oldest item in the MHS collection.

Chikako Nichols gave MHS two copies of a book for children: *What Happened to Americans of Japanese Ancestry during World War II*. One of the books is included with the Trunk Treasures that goes out to elementary schools for hands-on use in classrooms; the other book is now part of the Japanese Gulch exhibit in Quarters A.

If you have photos or artifacts that help to tell Mukilteo's story, please contact Ann Collier at 425-315-0823 or email at C92176@aol.com. ♦



MHS Calendar

June 7th, 10am - **Mass Flower Planting** at the Light Station (rain date - June 14th)

June 12th, 7:15pm - Monthly Membership meeting - **Speaker, Chad Kaiser from Point No Point Lighthouse**

July 10th, 7:15pm - Monthly Membership meeting - **Speaker, TBD**



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2014

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Return this form with your payment to:

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