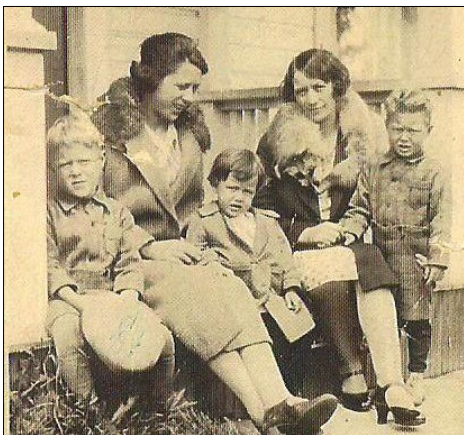




Lillian Anderson Cronkhite, Pioneer of the Year

"I remember the explosion at the Powder Mill in 1930 when I was about five years old," says Lillian Anderson Cronkhite. "We were reading the funny papers and a window fell in—and because the glass hit the paper instead of us, none of us were hurt." This is just one of the experiences Lillian remembers from her childhood in Mukilteo.

Lillian was born in Mukilteo in 1925 in her family's home on Fourth Street (the house is still there) to Axel and Jorgine Anderson. Jorgine had come to the US from Norway in 1914 with her sister Marie. Jorgine married Axel, who had come from Sweden, in Butte, Montana, where Axel was working in a mine.



Lillian is surrounded by her brother Norman, her mother Jorgine Anderson, Jorgine's sister Marie, and brother William.

Axel and Jorgine's first child was Norman, born in Montana in 1921; then William was born in 1924 in

Everett; Axel had been building their house in Mukilteo, and Lillian was born there after the family moved in.



Lillian digging clams at what is now Lighthouse Park.

Lillian attended Rosehill School and graduated from Everett High in 1943. She met her husband, Warren Cronkhite, there; they were married in 1946, when "Cronk" returned from service in WWII. Mixed marriage runs in the family: not only were Lillian's parents a Swedish/Norwegian combination, but she attended WSU in Pullman while Cronk was a UW graduate!

Lillian and Warren have lived in their same house off Mukilteo Boulevard since 1952. They have three daughters, Judy, Janny, and Susie, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Lillian tells the story of a Box Social held at the Royal Neighbors Hall (now the Boys and Girls Club) when the young ladies made lunches. The gentleman who got her lunch was quite disappointed because her brother Bill had put soap in Lillian's sandwiches instead of cheese. There has to be more to this story.

Lillian Anderson Cronkhite, 2015 Pioneer of the Year, will be riding in a convertible in the Lighthouse Festival Parade at 10:30 am on Saturday, Sept. 12, and will be honored at an outdoor reception at the Lighthouse at 3:00 pm that day.



Lillian in a more recent photo, taken at the Treaty Monument at Rosehill.

Join us for the parade and all the other Lighthouse Festival activities, September 11 thru 13. ♦

John Collier

A Message from our President

Forget your dancin' shoes...put on your walkin' boots, instead. Mukilteo is about to get a new attraction: A Walking Tour of Lighthouse Park and the Historic Mukilteo Light Station. The grand opening of the tour will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 22, near the band shell in the park.

In production for more than a year, the tour features a scenic seascape, less than a mile of easy walking, and fourteen pausing points that highlight interesting facts about Mukilteo's human and natural history. There is an emphasis on both continuity and change, especially as immigrants from across the continent moved into the Mukilteo area to join the Native Americans who were already living here.

Unlike other walking tours, this one offers the opportunity to learn in four different ways: brochures, interpretive signs, website text, and website audio. The website is accessible at mukilteowalkingtour.com, or by using a QR code at each stop on the tour. A fun feature of the audio is the "voices from the grave" offered by impersonators of Peter Christiansen, Jacob Fowler, Archibald Menzies, and others. Tour brochures will be available on ferries, their connecting terminals, and at hotels, tourist centers, government offices, and other popular venues.

This has been a joint project of MHS and Jericho Bridge Church, with assistance from the City, including funds from a Lodging Tax grant. Don Saul from Jericho Bridge has provided leadership and technical expertise, assisted by Sally Morrison, Brian and Ellen Judd, and John and Ann Collier.

Please plan to take the tour soon and tell us your reactions. While the interpretive signs are set in stone, so to speak, the website and brochures can be revised later.

And now for something completely different: where were you on January 19, 1966? That happens to be the date of the incorporation of MHS, and that means that we will celebrate fifty years of success in 2016. There have been many highlights and heroes during the past five decades, with the common theme being the dedication of so many talented volunteers.

As we begin to wind down this season—although we still need lots of help with the festival—it is not too soon to think about how you can support the mission of MHS next year. We already know we will need a new Treasurer, so if you have any interest in finance this is your chance to shine. Please talk to me or any other member of the board of MHS.

See you at the Festival, September 11 – 13!

John Collier, President ♦



MHS Calendar

Saturday, August 22, 11:00 am - **Mukilteo Walking Tour Grand Opening** at Lighthouse Park.

Thursday, September 10, 7:15-8:45 pm - **Monthly Membership Meeting**, Rosehill.

Saturday, September 12, 10:30 am - **Lighthouse Festival Parade**.

Saturday, September 12, 3:00 pm - **Reception at Lighthouse Park**.

Sunday, September 27, 6:00-8:00 pm - **Volunteer Appreciation Potluck**, Christiansen Room, Rosehill.

Saturday, October 3, all day - **MHS Outing to Whidbey Island**. ♦



End of Season Volunteer Appreciation Potluck

Be sure to join us on Sunday, September 27 for our annual end-of-season potluck, to thank all our wonderful volunteers.

The potluck will be in the Christiansen Room at Rosehill at 6 pm. Bring your favorite dish to share. ♦

Mukilteo Historical Society Began the Pioneer/Mukilteo/Lighthouse Festival

Did you know that the Mukilteo Historical Society began the Festival that continues today in Mukilteo?

In 1965, Virginia Phipps and a small group of people began organizing the Mukilteo Historical Society. Their first project was to raise money by holding a one-day Pioneer Festival.



Harriet Shelton Dover, from Tulalip, speaking at the 1966 Pioneer Festival, with Virginia Phipps and Pete Almgren looking on.

The first festival, held on Sept. 10, 1966, included many activities: a parade, speeches—including one by Harriet Shelton Dover from Tulalip, Indian dances, dinghy races, a beard-growing contest, and an old-time bathing suit contest. A salmon dinner and street dance ended the evening. David DeSelle was chosen as the oldest pioneer and gave a speech about life in the “olden” days.

Pioneers continued to be honored until 1970, when it was decided to call the person “Man of the Year,” honoring George Losvar and David Burklund. The Mukilteo Historical Society continued to be involved until 1978 in choosing the Man of the Year, with the name of the award changing to Citizen of the Year by 1976.

After 1978, the Festival Committee picked the Citizen of the Year, and in 1982, the Mukilteo Historical Society again began choosing Pioneers of the Year; this tradition continues.

Pioneers of the Year:

1982 George and Maybelle Nairn

1983 Mayme Ross-Haverland

1984 Paul and Iola Rose

1985 Mary Docherty Trafton

1986 Hazel Hurd and Della Olin

1987 Angeline Cole and Barbara Chamberlain

1988 Oscar Olsen

1989 Warren and Evelyn Bryant

1990 Jim and Leona Marie Josh Kaiser

1991 George and Freeda Woods

1992 Florence Schmidt and Alice Pallas Brooks

1993 Frank Nelson

1994 Lotus and Joe Pasternak

1995 Mary Lou Morrow

1996 Dan and Marg Klemp Caley

1997 Ron and Thelma Weers Kane



Tug-of-war near ferry dock at 1966 Pioneer Festival.

1998 Beverly (Bevo) Dudder Ellis

1999 John and Evelyn Moberg

2000 Glee Riches Shaver

2001 Cliff and Lois Hudspeth

2002 Bill and Pat Drew

2003 Art and Connie Fischer Losvar

2004 Bruce and Tude Zahler Richter

2005 William “Bill” Kane

2006 Dorothy M. Kasch

2007 Opal and George McConnell

2008 Mas Odoi

2009 Alice Marie Andersen and Phyllis Sherar Anderson

2010 Jo-An Chandler Cannon

2011 Elaine Scheib Jensen

2012 Marlene “Tudy” Scheller Erickson

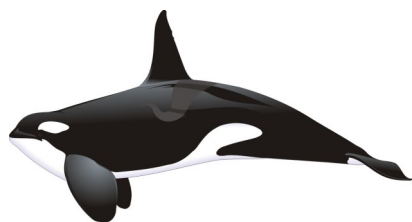
2013 Madeline LaBeau Kuykendall

2014 Celia Cleator Nicholson

2015 Lillian Anderson Cronkhite ♦



The first Pioneer Festival at Lighthouse Park in 1966, with Rosehill School at top left.



Mukilteo's Marine Mammals: Big Brother is Watching You

If you have noticed someone in the lighthouse tower during the week, be not alarmed. It is probably Rick Huey or a colleague of his from the ferry system of the Washington State Department of Transportation.

Their task is to watch for marine mammals in the nearby waters as the old pier is being removed at the former tank farm. The timber piles are being pulled out using a strong vibratory hammer that creates in-water noise. The noise can interfere with communication and foraging.

If Southern Resident whales approach within 1.2 miles, the vibratory action must be suspended, according to the Endangered Species and Marine Mammal acts. Under a "limited harassment clause," work may be continued if other marine mammals enter the area.

MHS is cooperating closely with Rick, and it is hoped that a future meeting will include a report about our aquatic animals in the waters off our northern shore. ♦



Gift Shop Reminder

Don't forget to stop by the Lighthouse Gift Shop for that special Mukilteo Lighthouse memento!

In Memoriam



Jeanne Hartley Anderson

Jeanne Hartley Anderson died recently in Everett at the age of 89. Jeanne, who attended Rosehill School, is the mother of Neil Anderson, an occasional contributor to this newsletter as well as one of MHS's "auger men" for mass plantings at the lighthouse.

Jeanne's husband, Bill Anderson, was raised in Mukilteo; they were married in 1953, and Bill passed away in 2011. Bill's sister and Jeanne's sister-in-law, Lillian Anderson Cronkhite, is Mukilteo's Pioneer of the Year in 2015.

Jeanne's grandfather was Washington State Governor Roland H. Hartley, who is shown in photos of the dedication of the treaty monument at Rosehill.

MHS extends its condolences to Neil and the entire Anderson family.

Elaine Scheib Jensen

Elaine Scheib Jensen was born in Mukilteo in 1926 and died recently in Edmonds. She attended Rosehill School and graduated from Everett High School in 1944.

Elaine's uncle was Chart Pitt, an author, a colorful member of the Washington State Legislature, and one of the assistant lightkeepers at Mukilteo during the early years.

Elaine was Mukilteo's Pioneer of the Year in 2011, at which time she shared with us many stories of old Mukilteo, including going with her mother at 3:00 am to staff one of the town's observation towers during WWII.

MHS extends its sympathy to Elaine's family and friends. ♦

Volunteers Needed...

We have several upcoming opportunities for you to share your knowledge of the Mukilteo Light Station and help out in the gift shop.

Volunteers are needed for regular shifts on Saturday, September 5, and Sunday, September 6.

We also need extra volunteers during the Lighthouse Festival. The lighthouse is open until 7 pm on Saturday, September 12, so we need volunteers to work from 5 to 7 pm that day. Check your calendars and contact Becky Owensby at 425 308-3313 to let her know when you can help out. ♦



MHS Outing to Whidbey Island

Join other MHS friends and family for a special outing on Saturday, October 3, to learn a bit more about Whidbey Island history. Details are still being worked out, but this will likely be a full day trip from about 10 am until 5 pm.

The first stop will be at Admiralty Head Lighthouse at Fort Casey, near Coupeville. After lunch in Langley, we will visit the South Whidbey Historical Society Museum, also in Langley.

Details, such as carpools, etc. are still being determined. For more information, email Lisa Romo-Bremerthon at lmr0522@aol.com. ♦

From the Archives...

Here is a “High School Notes” from a Local Paper...*(we don't know the paper's name or the exact date, but it was in the early 1900s)*

No More Free Mukilteo Boat



Alas, the once happy and useful school boat, that for six years has proudly conveyed the Everett high school pupils living in Mukilteo to and from school, is no more. At least, it exists no more under the supervision of the district, for the county has declared it illegal that any school district should pay fares for another.

This change of affairs makes matters extremely hard for the students who are thus neglected because they are now obliged to pay \$1 in boat fare a week to come to school.

The now neglected throng look back to when this free passage was not history, to when at the prime of day, with their books under their arms, they would gayly mount the decks of the Island Flyer and sail away, and well do they remember how the 20 minutes of time required to make each trip would be happily consumed in studying, singing or story telling, and how after many vain and fruitless attempts the boys were taught the art of tating under the instruction of the young ladies, and often, but not so gleefully, do they look back to the times when, under a rough bay, seasickness would prevail! ♦



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2015

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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 ☐

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