



Mukilteo's Totem Park

Mukilteo's Totem Park is a triangular park formed in the 1940s when the viaduct over the railway was built to carry the Speedway down to the Ferry terminal. At the beginning, the small triangular parcel of land, bounded by Second and Third Streets, and Lincoln Avenue and the Speedway, was just demarcated by old logs.

In 1951, it was described in a project by the 7A class at Rosehill as an area "full of weeds, rocks, berry vines, and trash dumped from passing cars." Four boys from the class worked to try to clean it up, but found the job too challenging.

Beverly (Bevo) Dudder Ellis talked with her friend, the late Stan Martell, about doing SOMETHING to "beautify" the triangle. Stan, a Mukilteo school teacher and later a Mukilteo City councilman, contacted Bob Woods who volunteered to use his bulldozer to move the logs.



Note the Cub Scout totem pole on the left, at the February 1, 1992 dedication of Dr. Jon Evavold's historical story pole.

Stan and a group of Boy Scouts from Pack 16 helped Bob with the clearing. The Rose Point Garden Club then brought flowers and shrubs to plant, later receiving a State award for their beautification efforts. The Garden Club contin-

ued to maintain the "triangle" until it later became part of the Mukilteo Park Department.

In 1960, a small totem pole was created by Den 1 Cub Scouts, Pack 16, and presented to the city. Trudy and Dennis Tobiason, owners of Waldheim Restaurant (now called Charles at Smuggler's Cove), were Den Mother and Dad. Dennis cut an old cedar tree on the Waldheim grounds into eight portions for the Cub Scouts to work on there at Waldheim.

The boys had studied totem poles and had focused on two figures in particular: the Thunderbird and the Beaver. They debarked the pieces, drew patterns, chiseled, sanded, and painted the carved pieces. The finished totem pole was presented to the city and Mayor Dick Taylor on July 18, 1960. The Cub Scout totem pole stood in place for 32 years, but Northwest elements took their toll and it had to be removed. It was refurbished and is now on display at the Hogland House, 917 Webster Street, Mukilteo.

In early 1991, during the Persian Gulf War, Loretta Jackson organized a group to plant a tree in the triangle park, to which yellow ribbons were tied to show support for the troops.

The historical story pole now seen in the park was carved by Jon Evavold, who was Principal of Columbia Elementary School. The 21-foot pole includes carvings of a bald eagle, the first Rosehill School (with old-fashioned school bus), the old Mukilteo store and Klemp Hotel, the old Presbyterian and Catholic churches, the Mukilteo Lighthouse, a ferry boat, and other local features. The pole was given to the City of Mukilteo by Dr. Jer-

ry and Cheryl Waldbaum in memory of Dr. Waldbaum's parents, and was dedicated on February 1, 1992.

On February 12, 2015, Jon Evavold presented a very well-received program at the MHS meeting, telling about his experience of carving the pole over a 17-month period, often working outside in a tent covering the area he was carving. He did not use a chainsaw at any time. He used a grinder to do some shaping first, and then his chisel and mallet for the intricate carving. The pole was originally an old-growth cedar log, which Jon saved from becoming cedar shingles.



The historical story pole carved by Dr. Jon Evavold is unveiled at Totem Park on February 1, 1992.

A Community Christmas Tree is planted in Totem park, and a lighting ceremony takes place every December to start the Holiday season when the lights are turned on at the park and simultaneously at the lighthouse.

A few years ago, the park was officially named Totem Park, and it includes a bench inviting visitors to sit and enjoy the views of Puget Sound. ♦

John Collier

A Message from our President

The new year has barely begun and we are off to a roaring start. We have two major projects nearing completion: the installation of a new rock and plaque at the light station, and the launching of a walking tour of Mukilteo Lighthouse Park.

MHS has wanted for some time to mount an attractive plaque in a highly visible location to remind visitors of the historic value of the light station. To that end, a rugged, greenish boulder of local basalt has been installed in front of the lighthouse, on the right, as a balancing feature for the “Vancouver plaque” located on the left.

A new plaque will be installed on that boulder in March, noting that the light station is on the National Register of Historic Places, the Washington Heritage Roster, and the Mukilteo Register of Historic Places. Kudos to Ann Collier, Sally Morrison, Jeran Hurst from the City, and several others who worked on this project. The current plan is to include a dedication of the new rock and plaque as part of the Opening Day ceremony at noon on April 4, 2015.

A second major project is the development of a state-of-the-art Walking Tour of Mukilteo Lighthouse Park. Planned for completion in the summer of 2015, the tour features 14 stops, all of which are described in an accompanying brochure, on signs, and on mobile devices via a QR Code. By disseminating brochures on ferries, at local hotels, at county tourist offices, and elsewhere, the expectation is that visits to and appreciation of the park and lighthouse will increase significantly in 2015. This is a joint project between MHS and Jericho Bridge Church, with considerable cooperation from the City.

While not new, the recruitment and training of docents for the lighthouse is absolutely crucial to the success of MHS. Lisa Romo, Becky Owensby, Eileen Pridmore, and the dynamic duo in the gift shop—Nancy Joao and Kim Nguyen—are already hard at work preparing for successful training sessions in March. If you or someone you know is interested in representing MHS and Mukilteo to visiting folks from around the world, this is your chance. Please see the information about docent training elsewhere in this newsletter and in advertisements in the Beacon.

Finally, I am delighted to report that our new MHS board members—Margaret Summitt (Secretary) and Sheila Wright (Treasurer)—have come up to speed quickly and are already making important contributions to MHS.

We are all looking forward to the lighthouse opening day ceremony at noon on April 4. Please come and join the festivities.

John Collier, President ♦

Meet Carmi Parker...

We are delighted to welcome Carmi Parker to MHS. Carmi is excited to be working with MHS, cataloging and computerizing our object collection. Carmi is currently studying special collections as part of her Masters in Library and Information Science, which she is pursuing online through the University of Illinois. From Carmi, “I didn’t imagine I would be as lucky as I am, working at MHS with great people in a beautiful setting on a fascinating collection. We have everything from telephone line insulators to fishnet mending tools to a wedding dress! I hope to feature some of the fun items in upcoming issues of the newsletter.” ♦



MHS Calendar

Saturday, March 7, 10 am - **Training for Light Station docents**, Lighthouse.

Thursday, March 12, 7:15-8:45 pm - **Monthly Membership Meeting**, Rosehill.

Saturday, March 14, noon - **Malstrom Award Luncheon**, Waltz Building, Snohomish.

Saturday, March 21, 10 am - **Keyholder Meeting**, Lighthouse.

Saturday, March 21, 1 pm - **Training for Light Station docents**, Lighthouse.

Saturday, March 21, noon - **Lighthouse Grant Workshop**, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island.

Saturday, March 28, 10 am - **Light Station Cleaning**, Lighthouse.

Saturday, April 4, noon - **Opening Day**, Lighthouse.

Thursday, April 9, 7:15-8:45 pm - **Monthly Membership Meeting**, Rosehill. ♦



Have You Paid Your 2015 Dues Yet?

It’s that time of year—annual dues to support your Mukilteo Historical Society are now due for 2015. Use the application on the back of this newsletter to mail in your dues, or bring your dues to the next MHS meeting. We hope to see you soon. Thanks for supporting your local historical society. ♦

Volunteers Needed!

A recent gift to MHS of fifty Harbour Lights collectible lighthouse replicas needs to be inventoried. Would you and an MHS friend like to make a listing of the models that were donated? It would be helpful to have a computerized spreadsheet of the replicas, but pencil and paper will work too!



More volunteers are needed to help with special events at the Mukilteo lighthouse, both during the week and on weekends:

Would you enjoy helping with weddings? MHS needs more volunteers to help with these special events. Mim Loree is the Wedding chairperson and she has a small group of devoted volunteers, but it would be very helpful to have a larger list of volunteers to call on.



Giving special tours at the lighthouse calls for many volunteers during the week. The tours range from school age children to senior groups; you are welcome to specify which groups you would especially enjoy.

If you are willing to have your name on the list for any of these special volunteer opportunities, please call and leave a message at the Gift Shop: 425-513-9602. ♦

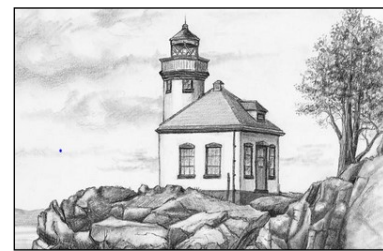
Check Us Out

Check Out These Exhibits

Be sure to visit the Interpretive Center soon to see the display case featuring MHS projects through the years. Remember the Vintage Homes tours? How 'bout the cemetery renovation? Picket fence painting? Look for representations of many MHS special projects in this display created by Ellen Koch, with help from Ann Collier, Mitch Owensby, and others.

The display of model lighthouses and model Fresnel lenses is featured as part of the Lighthouse History exhibit in Qtrs. B. The models, a gift to MHS from Bev Schreiber, are part of a special display created by Ellen Koch last year.

And don't forget to admire the intricate Seashell-decorated frame on display in the "Mukilteo: The Way We Were" exhibit in Qtrs. B. This frame was made by Louisa Fowler Sinclair, born here in 1862, daughter of Mukilteo founder Jacob Fowler. The frame is on loan from the Everett Historical Museum. ♦



Lime Kiln lighthouse, San Juan Island

Lighthouse Grant Workshop

On Saturday, March 21, 2015, a Lighthouse Environmental Project (LEP) Lighthouse Grant workshop will be held in Friday Harbor on San Juan Island. The main workshop begins at noon at the Friday Harbor Fire Station—just a short walk from the ferry. Events are planned so you can walk on the ferry and participate in just afternoon events, if you wish.

The event includes an afternoon tour of the Lime Kiln Lighthouse and possibly the Cattle Point Lighthouse—workshop participants can carpool or ride in a hired car for a small fee.

Other possible events include an informal dinner on Friday night and a boat tour to Burrows Island Lighthouse on Sunday. Several MHS members have expressed interest in attending. For more information, call Ann or John Collier at 425-315-0823 or e-mail at C92176@aol.com. ♦

League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations Malstrom Award Luncheon

On Saturday, March 14, the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations (LOSCHO) will host their annual Malstrom Award Luncheon at noon in the Waltz Building in Snohomish. This is a great opportunity to learn about projects that other historical societies in the county are working on and the challenges they face. It is an enjoyable time to share ideas and network with other heritage-oriented people.

MHS has earned the Malstrom Award in past years, but we did not nominate a display, project, publication, or person for the Malstrom award for 2014. But we can cheer on other heritage organizations and their accomplishments. The speaker at the luncheon will be Chuck Fowler, an expert on "Tall Ships on Puget Sound." Please contact John or Ann Collier if you are interested in attending: 425-315-0823. ♦

In Memoriam

MHS learned of the recent deaths of three members:

Alice Marie Andersen was Pioneer of the Year in 2009, along with her good friend, Phyllis Sherar Anderson. Alice Marie was born in her family's Mukilteo home on Third Street in 1923. She attended Rosehill School, Everett High School, and then college in Bellingham. Alice Marie taught English at North Junior High School in Everett for many years—Sally Morrison fondly remembers having Alice Marie as her teacher.

As Pioneer of the Year, Alice Marie reminisced about taking piano lessons from Hazel Dudder, mother of “Bevo” Dudder Ellis, and talked about being fascinated by the Japanese women in their kimonos who came from Japanese Gulch to learn to play an American piano.

MHS members were saddened to hear of the recent death in California of Mario Garcia, so soon after the death of his wife, Lisa Garcia, in July.

Lisa and Mario were recruited into MHS one day when they were walking near the lighthouse (their son was in the U. S. Coast Guard) and four MHS women were trying to take down the Christmas lights from the lighthouse. Mario was willing to climb a ladder to help, and after that, he and Lisa were very active in MHS for a number of years.



John Moberg and his wife Evelyn were Pioneers of the Year in 1999. John's family came to Mukilteo in 1920 when John was three years old, and he was a Mukilteo resident the rest of his life.

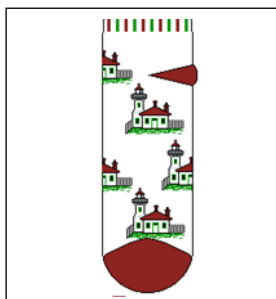
When he was young, his family lived at Nelson's Corner. He was a volunteer fireman, a member of the Town Council, and helped start the Mukilteo Little League in the late 1950s.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 70 years, Evelyn Oakes, who also was raised in Mukilteo; they were married in 1938 and moved into their house on 4th Street in 1942.

MHS expresses its sympathy to the families of Alice Marie Andersen, Mario Garcia, and John Moberg. ♦

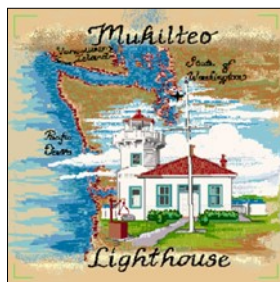
Lighthouse Gift Shop — New Season, New Merchandise

Our focus this year is to carry more items featuring the Mukilteo lighthouse. We have a new tapestry that shows Washington State lighthouses and new socks that feature the Mukilteo lighthouse.



New socks feature the Mukilteo Lighthouse

The Mukilteo lighthouse design will also be on a new woman's cardigan, tote bag, night light, ornament, collectible pin, glass plate and nylon jacket. A custom pillow is also on the way.



New Mukilteo Lighthouse pillow

Two new items that feature Bev Schreiber's Mukilteo lighthouse design include a coaster and decorative tile. We even have new items for children with our logo.

New nautical items are coming too—including light strings of lighthouses and beach floats, picture frames, chalkboards, trivets, wooden puzzles and a pirate named “Jack”.

And for our Seahawk “12s,” we have mugs, coasters, and magnets designed by Jody Bergsma.



With all this new merchandise arriving, we are rearranging the gift shop, so please excuse the mess right now. But come Opening Day, be prepared to find new gifts for friends, family, and yourself!

Thank you from your buyers,

Kim Nguyen and Nancy Joao ♦

Volunteer Training Sessions

Whether you are a new volunteer or a seasoned veteran, you know how important yearly training is prior to each season. We all need to attend, so that everyone is updated with the newest information and to ensure that everyone has a safe, enjoyable visit while on the light station grounds.

The training dates below offer each volunteer a choice for attending. Please check your calendar and schedule one right away. For Key Holders (not just weekend shift key holders, ALL key holders) there will also be a training session for you to attend as well. This is vital for each Key Holder in successfully guiding their individual teams.

Session I
Saturday, March 7th, 10:00 a.m.

Session II
Saturday, March 21st, 1:00 p.m.

Key Holder Training Session
Saturday, March 21st, 10:00 a.m.

We look forward to seeing everyone there. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Romo-Bremerthon (425 374-7968) or Becky Owensby (425 308-3313). ♦

Historic Photos at City Hall

The large historic photos on the walls in the Council Chambers at City Hall were recently named the "Mayor Joe Marine Historic Photo Collection" by Mayor Jennifer Gregerson in her speech on the State of the City on January 24.

Mayor Gregerson put together a brochure of photo captions and stated that "Joe Marine (Mayor 2005-2013) coordinated this display of historic photos with assistance from the Mukilteo Historical Society and Councilmembers Emily Vanderwielen and Ted Wheeler. These photos document life in Mukilteo since the turn of the century, and remind us of our past as we look to the future."

Ann and John Collier provided captions for the photos. The next time you are in City Hall, be sure to look at the photos and get your copy of the brochure that contains the captions. ♦

Keep Washington Shining!



When you purchase a Washington Lighthouse license plate, you help fund restoration projects at 13 non-profit lighthouses. Funds also go toward three Washington State University programs supported by Lighthouse Environmental Programs (LEP): WSU Beach Watchers, WSU Lighthouse Docents, and WSU Waste Wise Volunteers. License plates are just \$40, and \$28 of that fee is tax deductible. For more information and to download a license plate form, go to: www.keepwashington.org. ♦



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2015

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www.mukilteohistorical.org

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 ☐

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

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