



## 2016 Pioneers of the Year: Mary Lou Hogland Holtgeerts and Kay Hogland Scheller

Sisters just 13 months apart, Mary Lou Hogland Holtgeerts and Kay Hogland Scheller are this year's Pioneers of the Year. Born in Everett, they moved to Mukilteo when their family bought the McNab house in 1942, a large house built in 1906 on Webster Street near Mukilteo's Pioneer Cemetery.



*Sisters Kay and Mary Lou Hogland.*

Both sisters attended Rosehill school and later graduated in 1954 and 1955 from Everett High School.

Mary Lou and Kay remember that when their parents bought the big house in Mukilteo, it was being used as a WWII Army hospital run by the Ursuline Sisters. They remember cots all over, pots filled with sand, and surgical instruments. They remember seeing two well-stocked fish ponds on the property, but these were soon filled in: "Mother was afraid that we'd fall in."

Their parents, Valeria and Everett Hogland, lived in their Mukilteo home until they died, Everett in 1959

and Valeria in 1987. Kay bought the family home and turned it into a bed and breakfast in 1993.

Their mother, Valeria Scott, was born in Minden Mines, Missouri. She came to this area on the train with her mother and siblings, joining her father who had come to Washington to work in the lumber industry.

Mary Lou and Kay's father, Everett Albert Hogland, was born in Skagway, Alaska in 1900 during the peak of the Yukon Gold Rush. His father was an immigrant from Sweden. Everett lived with his dad in lumber camps and was working on the Seattle docks by sixth grade.

He started the Hogland Transfer Company in 1933, buying his first trucks off poker winnings that he hid behind a loose brick in a building in the Georgetown area of Seattle. He and Valeria married in 1935 and had three children: Mary Lou, Kay, and Al, who is ten years younger.



*Kay, Valeria, and Mary Lou Hoglund.*



*Mary Lou riding a horse at Hogland House with Kay and their brother, Al.*

After high school, Mary Lou attended Everett Junior College, and then married Kenneth Henry Holtgeerts in 1956. They had three children: Steve, Kristi, and Jeff. Ken was born in 1932 in Anacortes; his family moved to Mukilteo when he was ten years old. He attended Rosehill and Everett High, graduating in 1951.

Ken was in the army during the Korean War. He worked at various jobs and then at the Hogland Transfer Company, where he retired as president. They lived on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Mukilteo when Steve was born, and later moved to 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

Ken served on the Mukilteo City Council in the 1970s—his father, Luke Holtgeerts, had served on the Mukilteo City Councils, 1947-1953.

Luke and his partner Russell Edger-

## A Message from our President

*“Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love.”*  
Saint Thérèse de Lisieux

I was searching for a quote to start my letter, and I came across this... ah, exactly what I was looking for. Our remarkable organization embodies the heart of Saint Thérèse when she wrote these words.

Think about it for a minute. The last time you were down in the lighthouse, or in the gift shop, or just working alongside our MHS friends on a project or event, I just bet your time with our members and volunteers involved a smiling look or a kindly word. That’s just who we are!

We enjoy bringing the history of our light station to life, so others can catch the character and personality of our city when it was in its early days. That’s why Christopher and Margaret and our other storytellers don their outfits and stroll among the public at various events. That’s why our docents and Quarters B volunteers brush up on their facts. That’s why our Special Tours troupe spends time with various school groups. I could go on and on about the numerous ways we serve.

We do it for love—love of history, love of community, love of our resources, and love of seeing others connect with history. That love is shared by those who work behind the scenes. We have a throng of volunteers who support our outward-facing activities. They write grants; supply plants for the gardens; set up tables, canopies, and chairs; organize, recruit, and train crews; chronicle our activities and decisions; maintain our financial records; keep an updated membership list; send cards and letters; and stock the gift shop with new merchandise.

I could go on and on listing all of our behind-the-scenes activities. But the point is that we all volunteer for the love of our history. And I want to thank each one of you for your contributions to the Society. Reading thank-you notes from Kindergartners or talking with visitors from California reinforced my appreciation of your efforts, seen and unseen, that keep us strong and loved by so many around the country and world.

In closing, here are some additional news and needs:

- Congratulate Chris Goad as our new Board member!
- Celebrate the light station’s 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary by marching with us in the Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival parade on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Support the Washington Lighthouse license plates – the LEP grant we were recently awarded provided financial support for window replacement.
- Consider becoming a Board member or Officer next year. We can always use enthusiastic volunteers to help promote/publicize/fund efforts of MHS and the lighthouse, and we will have several openings due to terms that are ending.
- Contribute to our historical archives by donating objects, photos, or letters. Or consider helping to catalog these artifacts in our system.

We’re halfway through a very busy season, but everything is running smoothly, thanks to the efforts of each one of you.

Don Saul, President ♦



### MHS Calendar

Thursday, August 11, 7:15-8:45 pm,  
**Monthly Membership Meeting**,  
“Pioneers of the Year,” Rosehill.

Thursday, September 8, 7:15-8:45 pm,  
**Monthly Membership Meeting**,  
“Swiftsure Lightship,” Rosehill.

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

Saturday, September 10, 3:00 pm,  
**Reception at Lighthouse**. ♦

### Thank You!

Thanks to vehicle owners who purchased Washington lighthouse license plates, MHS is the proud recipient of a 2016 Lighthouse Environmental Programs (LEP) grant in the amount of \$4,867.28 to replace numerous broken windows at the Light Station.



Thank you for supporting Washington lighthouses! This support is greatly appreciated and allows maintenance dollars to go even further.

For more information, go to <http://washingtonlighthouses.org/lighthouse-license-plates>. ♦

*Continued from page 1...*

ton built and ran the bus line from Mukilteo to Everett. They built the bus barn in the 1940s—the building that is now Diamond Knot Brewery.

Mary Lou was a Cub Scout leader, Camp Fire Girls leader, Assistant Treasurer at Mukilteo Presbyterian Church, and worked on fundraising for the Assistance League and Boys and Girls Club. Mary Lou now lives in Anacortes.

Kay married Jack Scheller. They had four children: Nancy, Earl, Greg, and Byron. The family lived on the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Loveland for many years while bringing up the children. They later divorced.

Kay worked at the City of Mukilteo and the Mukilteo Water Department. She was a Sunday School superintendent and teacher at Glad Tidings Chapel. She helped organize many dance fundraisers and New Year's dances at Royal Neighbors Hall (now the Boys and Girls Club on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street). Kay was active with the Seattle Swing Dance Club and on the Board of the U.S. Dance Championships.

Be sure to come to the Mukilteo Historical Society meeting on Thursday, August 11, at 7:15 pm at Rosehill Community Center to hear more of Mary Lou and Kay's memories of growing up in Mukilteo.

Mary Lou and Kay will be riding in the Lighthouse Festival Parade on Saturday, September 10, at 10:30 am, accompanied by a contingent from the Mukilteo Historical Society. They will be honored at a reception at the lighthouse at 3:00 pm that day along with Mukilteo's Citizen of the Year, Debra Borden (daughter of Lois and Bruce Brown). ♦

## Mukilteo Lighthouse Gift Shop News

We would like to once again thank all our gift shop volunteers. Your continued support is what makes our society and the gift shop successful.

With the season two-thirds over, we have a few bare shelves in the gift shop. One may look at this as a missed sales opportunity—your buyers look at this as confirmation that we purchased desirable items!

Not to miss a potential sales opportunity, be sure to assist our customers and suggest another apparel item if we are out of stock in a particular size.

And even though we are out of two of the popular new coffee mugs, be sure to show our guests the outstanding variety that we do have in stock, rather than mention items no longer available.

A suggested replacement for the stuffed animals that sold well this year may be a Tub Toy.



We are not sure if the stuffed animals sold better this year due to the lower price point or if it was because of the adorable animals selected. We wanted to restock these items, but we did not have access to the monthly sales figures in time to place a restocking order. With our short season, these decisions must be made in early June.

To avoid running out of items, you may wonder why we don't buy larger quantities. Many factors go into these decisions. We are a small gift

shop with a short season. We want to have a wide assortment of items to interest our visitors and enough of each item to satisfy demand.

When purchasing a new item, we have no certainty how well it may sell. If an item does sell out and we wish to reorder, it is not always possible. The minimum purchase requirement may be too high to merit making the purchase, or the supplier may not be able to ensure that the item will arrive in time to support our short season. Or the supplier may be out of stock on the item!

Our goal is to sell out of what we purchase each year so that we have money for new and exciting items the following year. Only items that are custom-made for our gift shop, (which may require a large purchase commitment) are intended to carry over from year to year.

One unusual purchase this year was the entire inventory of t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, and baseball caps from a local artist who no longer wanted to participate in local festivals. He offered us about 150 items, with Mukilteo-related designs, at a considerable cost reduction. We priced the items low, but with a fair markup.

We are already looking at new items for next year. Please continue to share your thoughts and suggestions. Some of our hottest new items were suggested by our guests and volunteers. We are always looking for ways to improve the gift shop and we cannot do it without your help.

Thank you from your buyers,

Kim Nguyen and Nancy Joao ♦

## Edgewater/Shingle Mill Beach: the More it Changes, the More it Looks the Same!

By Beverly Ellis, as shared with Ann and John Collier

Do you remember where you were when you were two or three years old? Beverly (Bevo) Dudder Ellis, now 96, remembers her visits to Shingle Mill Beach in Mukilteo (now called Edgewater Beach) when she was a toddler.

But why write a thousand words, when a picture says it all? Look at the photo of Bevo on a log at the beach in 1922 and then again at the beach a few months ago in 2016. Bevo the toddler appears to be holding a scoop with something in it. But what was she thinking 94 years ago?



Bevo admits that she has no idea of her thoughts as a small child, mainly because she has so many more memories of going to the same beach as a youth and when she was even older. She shared one powerful memory in an article written some years ago for the *MHS Newslines*:

*“In the early 1930s the Everett Sound View Pulp Mill changed its method of debarking the logs as they were pulled into the mill before being cut up for pulp. Hydraulic water pressure shredded the bark into slivers which permeated the bay and was then deposited on the beaches from Everett to Mukilteo and all around the area. The Shingle Mill Beach sand was completely covered with fine bark slivers....Swimming was no fun, the slivers got into our wool swimming suits and itched and made a rash and the slivers got into our feet—diving down into the water the bottom was not visible...The beaches cleared up after a couple of years when Shoreline Management or someone made the mill change their debarking method.”*

Environmental issues are not new, nor are they easily resolved, then and now. But they do become more real when personalized within the memories of kids trying to use the neighborhood beach.

Similarly, most of us have a “textbook” understanding of the Great Depression and its impact on Americans in the 1930s. Bevo was born in 1920, well before the Depression and the 1930 closing of the dominant industry in Mukilteo, the Crown Lumber Company. She came into this world in a log house that her parents, Walter and Hazel Dudder, had built on Third Street, just above the Japanese settlement. As Bevo recently observed, *“no lights or water or inside plumbing. Lights came to Mukilteo in 1925. Primitive!”* Her birth was attended by a trained physician, Doctor Claude Chandler, who was the town doctor and the official medical officer of the Crown Lumber Company.

Walter Dudder was Mukilteo’s baker, a trade he learned in North Dakota. Bevo recalls how hard he worked and the wonderful aroma of baking bread that he started at 3:00 in the morning. Few in Mukilteo had much money, so the bread was often exchanged for food and other items within the small and struggling town.

What she also remembers vividly is the appearance of fresh bread in Mukilteo’s store from a large bakery called Langendorf (later bought by Franz). She recalls how it nearly broke her father’s heart when he realized the

*Continued on page 5...*

*Continued from page 4...*

corporate bread sold for less than it cost him to make his own homemade product. What appears in history books as “economies of scale” or “industrialization” is remembered by Bevo as a deeply personal and emotional blow to her family. She tells her story in greater detail as a recorded narrative on stop #13 of the Mukilteo Walking Tour (accessible at [mukilteowalkingtour.com](http://mukilteowalkingtour.com)).

Bevo recently shared this account of the changes she has witnessed in the Edgewater Beach area:

*“The first lumber mill was started on the North shore before I was born. Crown Lumber Company bought the mill, which became the largest on the West coast until the crash and depression in Sept. 1930, when it closed. It was dismantled, and it burned in 1938. In the 1940s a huge dock, with 2 railroad tracks down the middle, was built out into the deep water of the Bay to load four ships at a time with ammunition. In the 1950s ten fuel tanks were built on the site for the planes at Paine Field. In the 1960s the Boeing railroad spur was built up Japanese Gulch to the Boeing plant.”*

Look again at the recent picture of Bevo sitting on the log at Edgewater Beach, reminiscing about her lifetime of memories in the area. And yet she is not mired in the past. Bevo continues to remain an active volunteer in the Historical Society as well as an optimist regarding the future:

*“...having seen all the changes in the waterfront over nearly 100 years, I’m hoping to see the Ferry Dock and car garage completed...the changes are many and drastic. Hope I will live long enough to see this.”* ♦

### ***In Memoriam***

MHS mourns the death of Charles (Charlie) Koch, who passed away on June 14, 2016. Charlie was known for his many practical contributions to MHS, always done in collaboration with his wife, Ellen, who served as MHS president and in many other leadership positions.

Charlie enjoyed doing hands-on work, such as installing the beam in the ceiling of the interpretive center which made the MHS renovation of that building pass inspection. Charlie created the model of the observation towers built in Mukilteo during WWII and the model showing the method of construction of the lighthouse, which is also on display in the interpretive center. He built the stand that holds a binder in the lighthouse exhibit in Quarters B, railings for special exhibits, floats for the Lighthouse parade, and many other projects that called for his special talents.

All these contributions, and many more, were deeply appreciated by MHS members, even if it was hard to thank Charlie because he avoided the lime-light or any public recognition of his work. He did have a wonderful, dry sense of humor, which will be missed, along with all his fix-it abilities. ♦



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

### **2016**

#### **Directors**

Mary Dulin  
 Chris Goad  
 Becky Owensby  
 Lynette Stefansson-Goad  
 Candy Sterling

#### **Officers**

##### **President**

Don Saul

##### **1st Vice President**

Sally Morrison

##### **2nd Vice President**

Joanne Mulloy

##### **Secretary**

Margaret Summitt

##### **Treasurer**

Daniel Valerio

##### **Gift Shop**

Voice mail (425) 513-9602

##### **Weddings**

Mim Loree

##### **Special Tours**

Kris Hoffman

Marianne Anderson

##### **Membership**

Cindy Francis

##### **Newsletter**

Mary Dulin – Editor

##### **MHS Website**

[www.mukilteohistorical.org](http://www.mukilteohistorical.org)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Return this form with payment to:

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

Type of Membership:

- ☐ Individual - \$15    ☐ Senior (65+) - \$10    ☐ Senior Couple - \$20    ☐ Family - \$25  
☐ Corporate - \$50    ☐ Sustaining - \$100    ☐ Benefactor - \$300    ☐ Life - \$500  
☐ Donation Only—(Please provide your name and address so we may acknowledge your donation.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Go GREEN! Check here for electronic newsletter only. ☐

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the volunteer activities you would like to help with:

- ☐ **Archives/Trunk Treasures**—Collect and archive documents, photos, and artifacts. Organize exhibits. Present Trunk Tales.  
☐ **Garden**—Join our group of gardeners or adopt a specific garden bed at the Light Station.  
☐ **Gift Shop**—Staff the gift shop. Help price, stock, and maintain inventory. Prepare drawer for next shift. Operate credit card processing terminal and cash register.  
☐ **Lighthouse**—Become a lighthouse tour guide.  
☐ **Maintenance**—Liaison to Board about Light Station and Pioneer Cemetery issues and plans.  
☐ **Publicity**—Advertising (Beacon/Herald/etc.). MHS Newsletter, website. Membership mailing (Sunshine)/emails/phoning.  
☐ **Special Tours/Weddings**—Assist with group tours and events.

For Office Use Only:    ☐ Added to Membership Roster    ☐ Added to Address Labels    ☐ Membership Card sent

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