



Looking Back From the Year 2044

A Futuristic Vision of Mukilteo

By Neil Anderson

On this warm spring day, June 1, 2044, I'm sitting in my car at the Mukilteo ferry dock waiting for the 11 am sailing to Camano Island to visit my oldest son. The ferry terminal is not so new anymore. Locals call this location the "old tank farm" site. My parents called this general area Shingle Mill beach. Time marches on, doesn't it?



A car ferry has provided transportation from Mukilteo to Whidbey Island since 1919. Pictured is one of the older boats from the 1930s.

Mukilteo has seen so many changes in the last 25 years. Probably the most significant change is that the ferry no longer travels to Whidbey Island from Mukilteo, since Mukilteo and Clinton were connected by the Daniel J. Evans Memorial Bridge in 2041. The bridge was quite an accomplishment and, I must admit, the bridge is quite spectacular.

My youngest son lives in Mukilteo's Rosehill-Losvar Condominium complex, two 24-story residential towers constructed next to the Rosehill Community Center. They are the two tallest buildings in Mukilteo and are adjacent to the 14-story Mukilteo Financial Center Building. The two condo towers are designed somewhat similar to the old Smith Tower in Seattle to reduce view blockage and allow for view corridors. The project is considered quite a success.

The old Losvar condominiums next to the lighthouse were demolished as part of a development agreement and the property was added to Lighthouse Park. My dad's childhood home at 4th and Loveland is just a hop, skip, and jump away from the Rosehill-Losvar towers. He never would have believed it.

In 2029, the BNSF & CN Railroad finished the tunnel underneath the Mukilteo town site. The Canadian National Railroad merged into the BNSF in 2025, creating the largest railway in the world.

To reduce train traffic in town and delays caused by mudslides, the tunnel was built. This engineering achievement runs from a point near Japanese Gulch to a point near Naketa Beach. The old track was removed, including the seawall south of Lighthouse Park. The natural beach has returned. From the BNSF & CN mainline at the east end of the new tunnel near Japanese Gulch, only a small spur line now exists to serve the Mukilteo Sounder station and the Boeing 797 assembly facility.



North portal of the Mukilteo tunnel.

The Harbour Pointe residential community remains virtually the same, although the Harbour Pointe Resort Golf Course & Spa now hosts several PGA golf tournaments each year. The tournament golfers and television audience viewers enjoy the course with its many spectacular views.

Mukilteo is now a destination for tourists and travelers. Luxury accommodations are plentiful. The Hilton, Sheraton, Four Seasons, and Westin hotel chains have all constructed facilities along Possession View Boulevard, formerly known as the Mukilteo Speedway.

With population growth, a new high school was established in

Continued on page 3...

A Message from our President

I am excited to serve another term as MHS President for 2019-20. We have three new members on our Board of Directors, who are already immersed in projects—Craig Fisher, Mark Sutherland, and Sharon Sutherland. We also have five new Advisory Board members, after the Bylaws revision was approved to include their role.

MHS members put in many hours and/or contribute financially to make it all work. I'm honored to learn from everyone and to carry on the mission of MHS. My first year as President was all about learning the job role. My second year was more about learning the history of the organization, learning about historical building preservation, and understanding the community that MHS supports. I look forward to discovering what 2019 will teach me!

At our annual Board retreat on January 5th, we developed the following major goals, using the MHS mission for guidance:

- Develop initial online access to 200 historical object records in addition to the online photo archives (which will also grow).
- An exhibit committee and chair, Craig Fisher, was established to plan and place exhibits. A library exhibit is scheduled for April. The Interpretive Center was painted and updated last year and now exhibits need to be planned for that space. An interpretive sign for the fog horn/baffle was suggested by community member, Norm Webb. Plans and estimates are being collected.
- The Humidity Abatement Team has tracked and analyzed humidity levels in the lighthouse since October and will continue to investigate moisture issues. An LEP grant application was submitted to request additional funding for repairs outlined in the historical building inspection performed on 11/1/2018. MHS is collaborating with the City of Mukilteo's Public Works team on this project. In April, I will present our project at the LEP workshop to inform others in the lighthouse community about our lessons learned and to perhaps inspire others to perform similar projects.
- Over the past two years, the Board has created processes to amplify visibility in the community using ads, banners, and "Mukilteo Revisited" articles in the Beacon. The efforts have been very successful. MHS needs someone to manage the schedule for these activities going forward.

Lens cleaning has been planned by previous Boards since 2013. On February 1st, Chad Kaiser cleaned the MHS-owned Fresnel lens in the lighthouse lobby and the active United States Coast Guard-owned Fresnel lens in the tower. The lens display glass in the lobby was also cleaned, which had not been done since the lens was installed in 1997.

On January 31st, the Board met with committee chairs to review budgets and plans for the coming year. MHS treasurer, Al Friedrich, will work with the Board to finalize the budget at an upcoming meeting. Committee chairs and their teams work long hours to manage their roles and responsibilities, including gift shop management, staffing for weddings and special tours, garden management, storyteller events, technology requirements, maintenance, volunteer staffing for the season, archive projects, publicity, exhibit planning, speaker scheduling, and newsletter publishing. Each committee chair plays an important role, as it takes thousands of volunteer hours each year to implement the plans.

Sue Anderson and Mary O'Neill are busy buying new items for the gift shop. March is always bursting with activity as we put a shine on the lighthouse and prepare it for visitors from near and far. Annual cleaning day and volunteer training sessions are listed on the calendar. Opening Day is Saturday, April 6th. All the committees listed above can use help, which may involve just one task. Docents and gift shop staff keep the lighthouse open during the upcoming season. More volunteers mean that fewer people must work additional shifts. For me, a day at the lighthouse means learning something new, meeting new people, and enjoying the beauty of the northwest. Here we go!

Joanne Mulloy, President ♦

In Memoriam



MHS is mourning the recent deaths of two of its longtime members, **Tom "Bear" Keane** and **Mim Loree**.

Tom Keane, who died on November 9, lived for many years at the Losvar Condominiums. From his apartment he kept watch over the light station and volunteered as a lighthouse docent for many years. He was also delightful as the MHS Santa when the lighthouse opened at Christmas time. Tom's sly humor and the twinkle in his eyes will be missed by all. MHS sends its condolences to Tom's wife Char, another longtime member, and to all their friends and family.

Muriel "Mim" Loree passed away on December 23, not long after she learned that her beloved Seahawks had once again gotten into the playoffs! A longtime member of MHS, Mim served in many roles, including MHS President, 1992-1994. Mim was also Mukilteo's Citizen of the Year in 1992. She helped create the Lighthouse gift shop and managed it for a number of years. She served as the MHS Wedding Coordinator well into her nineties! MHS extends its sympathy to all of Mim's family and friends.

MHS is a volunteer organization, and its current members are deeply appreciative of the far-reaching legacy left behind by such active volunteers as Mim Loree and Tom Keane. ♦

Continued from page 1...

2034, the third high school in this city of 49,000 people. Oddly, this school is located in the old town area and is not your typical campus. The new high school consists of two retired Washington State ferries, the MV Chelan and the MV Kittitas.



A 1950's image of the ferry Olympic leaving Mukilteo for Whidbey Island.

Both boats once served on the former Mukilteo-Clinton run and are now permanently moored at the dock near the Silver Cloud Hotel. The passenger decks were enclosed into classroom space and the car decks into campus recreational spaces. This revolutionary concept won numerous awards.

There were renovation costs, but the Mukilteo School District only paid \$1 for each boat. Of course, the school mascot is a ferryboat captain. Students have been known on Senior Day to jump off the old car deck and swim to Ivar's for an ice cream cone. You may have already guessed it—the school swim team is the “Captains,” who have won the state swimming championships four times in the last 5 years.

Before the arrival of the European settlers in the 1800s, the Native Americans called Mukilteo a good meeting place and campground. It remains so today. The former vehicle holding area for the old ferry dock has been redeveloped into Mukilteo Town Village. Several small restaurants, cafés, and retail stores now occupy the property.

Boaters, tourists, and city residents all gather at this popular location. I was pleased to see that the businesses took the

names of many of the historic operations of old Mukilteo. Now we have the Seahorse Coffee Shop, the New Ferry Lunch Café, and the ever popular McConnell's Donuts. The best steaks on the west coast are grilled at the Crown Lumber Steakhouse.

Surrounding the entire commercial development are rose bushes, signifying the sight of many roses seen by British explorer George Vancouver at this location during his 1792 expedition.

Mukilteo is one of the most livable cities in the country, if not THE most livable. One of the reasons is the fact that city residents have no electricity bills. It all goes back to the Daniel J. Evans Bridge over to Whidbey Island. The bridge is also a wind turbine power generation facility. It is a complex story, but engineers devised a most successful plan.

The Mukilteo-South Whidbey Public Utility District (MSWPUD) was formed during the initial construction stages of the bridge in 2025. The bridge was designed so that cylinder-shaped canisters cover the numerous suspension cables. Wind causes the canisters to rotate and spin, driving two large turbines at the base of the bridge support towers, generating electricity.

To mitigate impacts created by the bridge on the communities of Mukilteo, Clinton, and South Whidbey, the electricity is free of charge. The traffic back-ups are gone. Well, except on some sunny weekends, but this situation is related to the popular success of Old Town Mukilteo.

I see that the ferry to Camano has now docked. My car starts automatically as directed by the dock manager, and upon his command, the computerized self-driving vehicle slowly moves forward to board the old but reliable ferry MV Spokane, the oldest boat in the fleet. It's time to say goodbye, as the ferry will soon begin the 45-minute journey to the Camano terminal dock.

Hoping that you all have a pleasant day. ♦

Membership Corner

We launched our 2019 membership campaign at our November 2018 general membership meeting. Ninety-nine members have renewed their membership and 23 lifetime members were automatically continued through 2019, so we currently have 122 active members. This leaves 45 members whose memberships expired at the end of December 2018.

Per our bylaws, membership dues are payable in advance on or before January 1 of each calendar year. Members who have not yet renewed will still receive this issue of the MHS newsletter, in anticipation of receiving their 2019 dues. A membership application is included with this newsletter. We look forward to receiving more renewals and new memberships, and everyone's participation in another great year of fun activities in 2019! ♦





Cemetery Corner

By Margaret Summitt

Of the annual gatherings that MHS hosts at the Pioneer Cemetery, 2008 (eleven years ago!) stands out as a major event in story-telling and re-enactment. Diane Tinsley was the chairperson for the event and Ellen Koch was cemetery coordinator. Some MHS members in costume roamed about telling stories as historical characters. Others read lists of names. Altogether, fourteen MHS members participated, and the names of the 48 known burials were read aloud.

- Bob Burnham read the soldiers' names.
- Olivia Getz portrayed pioneer Mary Fowler.
- Ellen Koch portrayed pioneer Alice Pallas Brooks.
- Sheila McGillivray read the children's names.
- Rosemary Nellist read the women's names.
- Mas Odoi and his nephew Steve Odoi read the Japanese names.
- John Petroff portrayed Captain Peter Puget.
- Herb Pridmore read the men's names.
- Jim Shipman honored the Civil War veterans.
- Robert Smith portrayed a lighthouse keeper.
- Christopher Summitt portrayed pioneers Morris H. Frost and Jacob D. Fowler.
- Diane Tinsley portrayed pioneer Louisa Fowler Sinclair.

Coupons were given out for a free ice cream cone at Woody's on Front Street.

MHS Storytellers would like to recruit active members to participate in future events like this. As the program shows, not every participant needs a costume or acting skills. Enthusiasm is a big plus. Contact Christopher Summitt and Margaret Summitt if you would like to participate or have ideas for future events such as this memorable commemoration. ♦

MUKILTEO LIGHT SHINES BRIGHTER

Mariners may notice the Mukilteo Lighthouse beacon shining brighter due to the cleaning of its historic Fresnel lens on February 1st. According to some, Mukilteo has the only active, Fresnel-lens-equipped lighthouse in Washington State that is also open to the public. MHS engaged the services of Chad Kaiser, General Manager of the New Dungeness Light Station Association, to clean both the active lens in the tower and a display lens in the lighthouse lobby.

These historic lenses are quite fragile and require special care when cleaning. Only a Coast Guard-approved technician is allowed to work on the active lens, and such approval requires significant training and experience before being granted. Kaiser used special liquids and cloths to clean the glass and brass supporting fixtures. The items had not been cleaned in several years.

Mukilteo's active Fresnel lens was manufactured in Paris, France, in the 1850s. This type of lens was invented by French physicist, Augustin Fresnel. The design allows the construction of lenses of large aperture and short focal length without the mass and volume of material that would be required by a lens of conventional design. Its combination of glass lenses and prisms can capture more oblique light from a light source, thus allowing the light from a lighthouse equipped with one to be visible over greater distances.

The original apparatus was a small kerosene lantern set within a different fourth order Fresnel lens that rotated on ball bearings. Keeping the light shining meant carrying kerosene up to the lamp every three hours, winding the clockwork weight system to maintain the rotation, trimming the lantern wick and adjusting the air intake in the tower, as well as the nearly constant cleaning of the tower glass and the lens itself. These were the jobs of the lighthouse keepers who lived at the light station. The City of Mukilteo now owns the light station buildings and grounds, while the Coast Guard owns the Fresnel lens, associated light apparatus, fog horn, and artifacts. MHS provides volunteer docents for the public to tour the lighthouse and learn about its history. ♦



Chad Kaiser cleaning the active 4th order Fresnel lens in the lighthouse tower.

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 10 am-noon Volunteer Trg - Lighthouse
10	11	12	13	14 7 pm MHS General Mtg	15	16 11:30 am- Keyholder Trg—LH <hr/> 1-3 pm- Volunteer Trg - LH
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 10 am Annual Cleaning Day-Light Station
24	25	26	27	28 6:30 pm MHS Board Mtg	29	30
31						

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 11:30 am Opening Day Ceremony! <hr/> 12-5pm LH Open
7 12-5 pm - LH Open	8	9	10	11 7 pm MHS General Mtg	12	13 12-5 pm - LH Open
14 12-5 pm - LH Open	15	16	17	18	19	20 12-5 pm - LH Open
21 12-5 pm - LH Open	22	23	24	25 6:30 pm MHS Board Mtg	26	27 12-5 pm - LH Open
28 12-5 pm - LH Open	29	30				



MUKILTEO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Keepers of the Mukilteo Light Station

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please review the membership categories below carefully. As a member you will receive a membership card, quarterly newsletter and a 10% discount in the gift shop. Your donation is tax deductible.

Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st. Return this form and your payment to:

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

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

- ☐ INDIVIDUAL - \$15
 ☐ SENIOR (65 OR OVER) - \$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

APPLICANT #1 DATA*:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail _____

☐ Help us GO GREEN! Check this box to opt-in for paperless-only newsletters

APPLICANT #2 DATA*:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail _____

☐ Help us GO GREEN! Check this box to opt-in for paperless-only newsletters.

Applicant*

Please check the volunteer opportunities each applicant would like to help with:	#1	#2
Archives/Trunk Treasures – Collect & archive all documents, photos, and artifacts relating to the history of Mukilteo. Organize exhibits. Present Trunk tales throughout the community.		
Garden – Join our group of gardeners or adopt a specific garden bed at the light station.		
Gift Shop – Help to price, stock, and maintain inventory. Operate credit card processing terminal and cash register.		
Lighthouse – Become a lighthouse tour guide.		
Maintenance – Liaison to Board about Light Station/Pioneer Cemetery issues and plans.		
Publicity – Advertising (Beacon/Herald/etc.). MHS Newsletter, Membership mailing (Sunshine)/emails/phoning.		
Special Tours – Assist with docent tours, field trips, and visiting groups.		
Technology – Website, internet, social media.		
Weddings – Welcome guests & provide tours for wedding guests.		

**Please use a second application form for more than two applicants in family memberships.*

For office use only: Date Received _____ ☐ Added to Membership Roster ☐ Membership Card Sent

Gift Shop News

Activity at the gift shop for 2019 started with a bang. Saturday, January 5, was inventory day. A big thanks to Pat Friedrich, Nancy Joao, and Mary O'Neil for all your hard work. It seems as though we didn't have much time to put the inventory numbers together before the "big day"—shopping at the Seattle Gift Show.

On a snowy Monday, February 4, and Tuesday, the 5th, we drove into Seattle to attend the Seattle Gift Show and Seattle Mart. With snow on the roads, the traffic on I-5 fortunately was light.

From now until opening day on Saturday, April 6, we will be busy receiving, pricing, and filling the shelves with our incoming merchandise. We have a few new items this year along with our staple items such as t-shirts, baseball caps, MHS lighthouse mugs, and more. There will be long-sleeved t-shirts with a new Mukilteo lighthouse design and a limited number of lighthouse-designed cardigan sweatshirts as requested by several people.

Since Nancy Joao stepped down as buyer, Mary O'Neil and Sandy Tyler volunteered as new members of our team. Both women have retail experience and also volunteer at the Future of Flight. They are a welcome addition to our team.

After 4 unexpected snow storms, we leave you with this photo of bulbs getting ready to bloom on the side of Quarters B (taken 2/14/19). Spring is on its way.



We look forward to the 2019 season.

Your gift shop buyers,

Sue Anderson, Mary O'Neil, and Sandy Tyler ♦

Help Wanted

Editor's Note: Each MHS newsletter will feature a different committee and volunteer opportunity. In this issue, we feature the needs of the Technology Committee.

The **Technology Committee** needs help monitoring the internet connections at the Gift Shop and Quarters A. Other tasks include helping to create backup and recovery documents for those facilities. Future projects include inventorying tech equipment, both active and unused. Lots of other tasks are available, if you are interested.

For more information, contact Eric Richstad at mhstech@mukilteohistorical.org. ♦



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

2019 Directors

Peter Anderson
Eric Richstad
Craig Fisher
Mark Sutherland
Sharon Sutherland

Officers

President

Joanne Mulloy

Vice President

Sally Morrison

Secretary

Margaret Summitt

Treasurer

Al Friedrich

Advisory Board

Ann Collier
John Collier
Becky Owensby
Mitch Owensby
Lisa Romo-Bremerthon

Gift Shop

Sue Anderson

Weddings

Sharon Sutherland

Special Tours

Kris Hoffman
Marianne Anderson

Membership

Peter Anderson

Newsletter

Mary Dulin – Editor

MHS Website

www.mukilteohistorical.org

Phone

Voice mail (425) 513-9602



2019 SPONSOR HONOR ROLL

The Mukilteo Historical Society (Keepers of the Mukilteo Light Station) thanks the following corporate sponsors who help support its mission to preserve and exhibit items of historic value that pertain to the City of Mukilteo and its environs.

BENEFACTORS*

SUSTAINING SPONSORS*

BASIC SPONSORS*

*Robin Boyer
Sno-Isle Libraries - Mukilteo Library*

*Basic Sponsors make an annual contribution of at least \$50; Sustaining Sponsors \$100; Benefactors \$300.

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