



MHS Receives Important Book Donation

By Peter Anderson

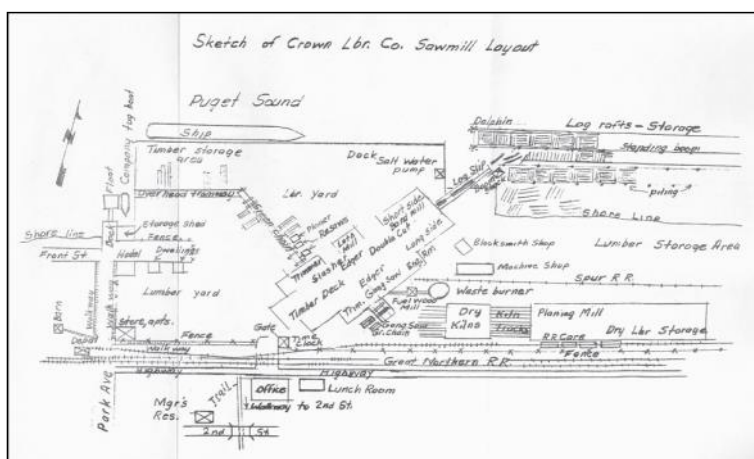
MHS recently received a donation of 45 softbound books from the estate of James and Marie Kaiser. The limited-edition book, titled "Crown Lumber Company and The Early Growth of Mukilteo," was written in 1990 by James G. Kaiser.

James George Kaiser was born March 8, 1907, in Mukilteo to John and Elizabeth (Gessner) Kaiser. James was raised in Mukilteo and graduated from Everett High School in 1925. He went to work at the Crown Lumber Company at an early age and earned enough money to attend the University of Washington. He graduated from the University of Washington, receiving his Bachelors Degree in 1931 and Masters in 1932, both in Forestry. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 17 years in Washington, Colorado, and California. He then

worked for the Washington State Land Office (now known as the Department of Natural Resources) and eventually retired as manager of the Grays Harbor Log Scaling Bureau.

James married Marie Antoinette "Leona" Josh in 1936, in Denver, Colorado. Born June 14, 1913, Leona was the daughter of Howard Leon Josh and Marie Miralda "Mildred" Poirier. Born October 15, 1883, Howard Josh was a well-known Mukilteo pioneer who worked for the

next to the Mukilteo ferry terminal that later became the Ferry Lunch, Taylor's Landing, and eventually Ivar's. He was also manager of Mukilteo's baseball team.



Pullout front piece has sketch of the Crown Lumber Company Sawmill Layout

Crown Lumber Company

and

The Early Growth of Mukilteo

James G. Kaiser

Cover of James G. Kaiser books donated to MHS

Crown Lumber Company. He was the captain of the company's tugboat and also skippered the "Noreen," one of the boats that took Mukilteo kids to high school in Everett before the road was built. He built the Eagle Lunch Room on the property

Leona Josh Kaiser graduated from Everett High School in 1932. She was very active in MHS and authored several historical stories that appear in Opal McConnell's book, "Mukilteo Pictures and Memories." She was a lifetime member of MHS and a lifelong and oldest living member of St. John Catholic Mission in Mukilteo. She was a graduate of the US Power Squadron Seamanship Course, past president of various organizations, and she volunteered with the Girl Scouts in the 1960s.

James and Marie (aka Leona) were Mukilteo Pioneers of the Year in 1990. James died at age 96 on June 1, 2003, and Leona died at age 98 on August 20, 2011. Both are buried at Cypress Lawn Memorial Park in Everett. The books given to MHS were brought to us by Howard L. Josh Jr., executor for their estate. Howard, who lives in Bellingham, is the grandson of Howard Leon Josh described above and the nephew of James G. Kaiser, the book's author. It was the wish of Jim and Leona that the donated books be sold in our gift shop for the benefit of MHS.

A Message from our President

As the sun sets on another year, I am reminded of all the accomplishments and progress the MHS organization has made. I had a personal goal to speak and write more in support of MHS in order to improve and I feel fortunate to have had opportunities. I was surprised when Q13 called to request an interview to provide free publicity, which was uncomfortable and fun. I hope it impacts interest in the lighthouse. The season is over for the lighthouse tours and gift shop, although there are still several private tours. The marine biologists of Washington State Ferries are looking out from the tower for the safety of marine life as the new ferry terminal work is performed. They also count the marine life and will provide a report to us at a general meeting in the future. The City of Mukilteo has contractors repairing the lighthouse windows. Grants have been approved to fund a new lighthouse roof while the City of Mukilteo is developing a plan. The tourist season is over, yet the work continues.

Each January, the MHS Board meets to create a list of goals to undertake in the year ahead. Many of those goals are realized with the hard work of each team and those who lead them, many of them Board members. Sometimes, as more information is discovered, a goal could be dropped since it may not be cost effective or make sense. Other times, these goals are more involved than initially realized and it takes years to accomplish them in steps. There is much to do and the enthusiasm and creativity our members bring to these projects is fun to watch.

On Thursday, November 14th, the general membership will vote on the new and returning 2020 Board members. Eric Richstad and Peter Anderson have each agreed to serve another three year term as directors. Sadly, our Vice-President, Sally Morrison is stepping down after many years of service to the Board. She has been a vital member of our team, planning our parties, supporting weddings and filling spots in the schedule and booking rooms at Rosehill. She's co-chair of the gardening team and managed the planting day this year. I will miss her historical knowledge of MHS and its members, her unique perspective and the elegance she brings to our annual events. Tina Saunders has stepped forward to complete Sally's term. Tina is membership chair so you will hear from her soon about the annual membership drive. The Board has not changed significantly in the past few years, which has provided continuity.

Thanks to the 2019 Board, including the Consulting Board, for operating efficiently to make MHS successful, solving issues that arise and exceeding their goals. A lot was accomplished! At the November meeting, the Board and I will provide an overview of the 2019 accomplishments including team updates. 2020 is a brand new year full of possibilities. Thank you to all the MHS teams: Exhibits, Gardening, Technology Support, Training, Finance, Gift Shop, Special Tours, Weddings, Maintenance, Newsletter, Preservation, Publicity and (new) Scholarship. A big welcome to Erika Skar as our new newsletter editor. Thank you, Mary Dulin, for being an outstanding newsletter editor for so long and for making this transition so smooth. This is Mary's last newsletter and we wish her well in her travels and grandparenting.

I'm proud to be a member of MHS and the Board and am grateful for all you do. I learn so much from all of you and get excited by your energy, ideas and enthusiasm. I look forward to serving MHS in 2020.

Have a delightful holiday season! Come by the gift shop and lighthouse on Saturday and Sunday, November 30th and December 1st from noon to 3pm. The lighthouse will be staffed with lighthouse keepers and everyone will get the membership discount of 10%. The lights will go up on the lighthouse the week of November 18th. Thanks to Star Rentals and the City of Mukilteo!

Joanne Mulloy, President ♦

In Memoriam



Art Losvar MHS mourns the death of **Arthur Losvar**, who passed away on September 14 at age 94. Art was born in Mukilteo and was a lifelong resident. He was an enthusiastic member of MHS, along with his wife Connie Fischer Losvar, who was also a lifetime Mukilteo resident. Together they provided many photos and artifacts for the Historical Society's collection and contributed greatly to our knowledge of the town's history. Connie, who died in 2008, was a faithful member of the A-Team, working in Quarters A to help to identify photos and other memorabilia. Art and Connie were named Mukilteo's Pioneers of the Year in 2003. Art was the grandson of Peter Christiansen, the first Mukilteo lighthouse keeper. Art worked for many years at his family business, the Mukilteo Boat-house, which was located next to the lighthouse. An avid and renowned boat racer, Art had set 10 national records by the time he retired in 2002. MHS sends its condolences to all the Losvar family and assures them that the legacy of Art and Connie remains deeply appreciated and will continue to live on in the mission of MHS.

Joyce Wans MHS is saddened to hear of the death of **Joyce Wans** on September 29. Joyce was active in the Mukilteo Historical Society, doing highly respected research on early Mukilteo history. She provided numerous well-written historical articles for the MHS newsletter, notably one that established 1860 as the most accepted date for the founding of Mukilteo. She also helped a great deal with some of the first exhibits created in the early 2000s when MHS moved to the light station. When Joyce moved away from Mukilteo, she generously donated her binders of historical research and other materials to MHS where they remain a valuable resource for use in Quarters A. ♦

Continued from page 1...



*Jim and Leona Kaiser (seated) with
Opal McConnell (standing) in 1990*

Copies of the 88-page book are for sale in our gift shop for \$14.95. Each book has a very interesting fold-out frontispiece that shows a sketch of the Crown Lumber Company sawmill layout. The first chapter describes the early history and growth of Mukilteo. Subsequent chapters contain very detailed descriptions of the operations that took

place in each of the buildings that are depicted in the fold-out layout sketch. There are two Appendices: one is a tabular history of Nelson Steamship Company wooden schooners, and a second contains an alphabetical listing of Crown Lumber Company employees. We urge you to come to the gift shop and see for yourself while the supply of this limited-edition lasts! ♦

Membership Corner

The year is winding down, but we still are adding members to our organization. Warm welcome to the following members who joined MHS since our last Newsletter:



- ♦ Bill & Tina Dickson
- ♦ Kevin & Sarah Doar
- ♦ Kathleen Garspari
- ♦ Mary Ann Macomber
- ♦ Megan Nash
- ♦ Dwayne Wilton
- ♦ Bernadette Wogan
- ♦ Jericho Bridge Church

We now have over 25 new members who joined MHS this year and have a total of 164 loyal members.

We will be launching our 2020 membership campaign in November so keep an eye out for your membership renewal correspondence. This Newsletter include a membership application that can be used for both renewals and new members. Please pass it on to a friend, neighbor, colleague, or anyone else you feel would be a great addition to our organization.

Thanks for helping pass on the word. The more active members we have - the more fun accomplishing great things within the Mukilteo Historical Society! ♦



MHS Holiday Potluck

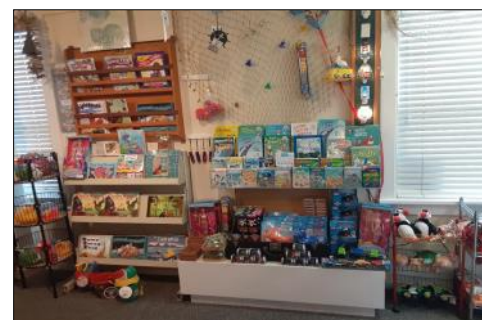
The annual MHS Holiday/Christmas potluck dinner will be held at Rosehill, **Sunday, December 15th at 5:30 pm.** Members are asked to provide a food item of their choice: main dish, casserole, salad, vegetable, bread or dessert. Tableware and beverages will be provided. There will be a free raffle of table arrangements after dinner. We hope to see you there!

Sharon Sutherland; Potluck Coordinator ♦

Gift Shop News

Another successful season has come to an end for the MHS lighthouse gift shop. While the number of guests was low at the beginning of the season, the warm summer weather brought more visitors. We were opened fewer days this year mainly because there wasn't a farmer's market on Wednesdays. To make up for lost days, the gift shop and tower were open on Labor Day.

As can be seen in the photo of the children's area, our inventory is now sparse – exactly what we want to see at the end of the year! We enjoy offering new and interesting items each year and are looking forward to our 2020 season. The goal is to bring in fun and noteworthy items of interest for our visitors and volunteers. This year we supplied a sign-up sheet for suggestions and comments on items to possibly purchase for 2020. Thank you for your recommendations. It will be a huge help when ordering for next year!



Unfortunately, some of the merchandise we carried is no longer available including our popular \$1.00 mini lighthouse. The supplier has retired but we hope to find a new vendor.

Our heartfelt thanks go to: Becky and Mitch Owensby for receiving merchandise and bringing it to the gift shop; Mary O'Neil for helping with shopping at the Seattle Gift Show; Mary and Sandy Tyler for receiving, pricing, and stocking new merchandise; Nancy Joao for helping out in too many ways to count; and Joanne for her support and advice. A HUGE THANK YOU to all the tower and gift shop volunteers who donate their time and offer invaluable suggestions. A special thank you to volunteers who willingly agree to step in when we need someone to fill in.

The gift shop will be open for Christmas shopping on **November 30th and December 1st.** Please join us for this fun event and spread the word to your friends! Lastly, we will be looking for volunteers to help for a few hours with our annual inventory on **Saturday, January 11, 2020.**

Have a good winter and we hope to see everyone next year!

Sue Anderson ♦



Cemetery Corner

By Margaret Summitt

I wonder about that big cut-off maple tree in Pioneer Cemetery, the one with the sign on it..

How old is it? Last summer, while on the Garden and Quilt Tour, I visited the garden of the Foster house at the west end of 88th Street. In that garden is an enormous maple tree estimated to be 200 years old.

The size of the base of the cemetery maple trunk suggests it may be of similar age. Who knows why it was cut off? Branches may have grown to enormous size and may have been unstable; when I recall the enormous branches of the Foster maple tree, I can imagine that without care they would have become hazardous. Or the heart of the cemetery maple may have rotted.

The ivy may be another clue. The cemetery maple trunk is covered in ivy. Photos of the cemetery from the Holtgeerts family album show that the front part of the cemetery was a sea of ivy before any renovation was attempted. If this ivy had engulfed the old maple tree it may well have killed it. Ivy, by the way, was planted in old cemeteries as a symbol of everlasting life.

When was the sign attached to the tree? From the design of the wooden sign and the style of the lettering, I would guess that it was made in the 1970s-1990s. It seems that the ivy was there when the sign was attached.

The maple trunk and the sign are a part of the cemetery's history that we have no records for, but that history may live in the memory of someone living today. Let me know if you have any information. ♦

2019 Visitor Statistics

Compiled by Peter Anderson

We ended another great season with a total of 16,530 visitors counted entering the lighthouse tower building. Of these, 4,844 took the time to sign our guestbook. The guestbook signers represented 53 different U.S. states and territories and 70 different foreign countries. See accompanying table for the details. ♦



USA VISITORS				Listed by State/Territories			
4	Alabama	55	Idaho	24	Montana	1	Rhode Island
24	Alaska	40	Illinois	15	Nebraska	5	South Carolina
	American Samoa	17	Indiana	33	Nevada	31	South Dakota
102	Arizona	16	Iowa	3	New Hampshire	29	Tennessee
8	Arkansas	32	Kansas	14	New Jersey	131	Texas
307	California	5	Kentucky	15	New Mexico	52	Utah
78	Colorado	13	Louisiana	44	New York	11	Vermont
9	Connecticut	1	Maine	29	North Carolina	31	Virginia
1	Delaware	20	Maryland	12	North Dakota	2770	Washington
7	District of Columbia	13	Massachusetts	39	Ohio	3	West Virginia
55	Florida	17	Michigan	23	Oklahoma	26	Wisconsin
21	Georgia	32	Minnesota	113	Oregon	8	Wyoming
1	Guam	8	Mississippi	33	Pennsylvania		
19	Hawaii	27	Missouri	1	Puerto Rico	Total	4,428
Visitors 4/6/2019 through 9/29/2019							
53 US states and territories							
70 Foreign countries and territories							
Total number of visitors signing guest book = 4844							

FOREIGN VISITORS				Listed by Country			
1	Argentina	1	Fiji	2	Lebanon	1	Singapore
2	Armenia	2	Finland	2	Lithuania	2	Slovakia
11	Australia	9	France	2	Malaysia	3	South Africa
2	Austria	14	Germany	14	Mexico	11	South Korea
1	Bahrain	1	Greece	1	Monaco	1	Spain
2	Bangladesh	2	Guatemala	5	Nepal	4	Sweden
2	Barbados	1	Honduras	6	Netherlands	1	Switzerland
1	Bolivia	9	Hong Kong	2	New Zealand	16	Taiwan
1	Boznia	3	Hungary	1	Northern Ireland	1	Tanzania
7	Brazil	27	India	1	Palestine	4	Thailand
1	Bulgaria	1	Indonesia	1	Panama	2	Turkey
91	Canada	1	Iran	1	Peru	10	Ukraine
2	Chile	2	Ireland	18	Philippines	1	United Arab Emirates
13	China	1	Israel	1	Poland	17	United Kingdom
7	Columbia	10	Italy		Portugal		Uruguay
6	Czech Republic	1	Jamaica	1	Romania	5	Venezuela
4	Denmark	23	Japan	12	Russia	1	Vietnam
1	Ecuador	1	Kazakhstan		San Salvador		
1	El Salvador	1	Latvia			Total	416

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat Nov 30 12-3pm LH & Gift Shop Open
1 12-3pm LH & Gift Shop Open	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 5:30 MHS Holiday Dinner	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Board Retreat
5	6	7	8	9 7 pm-MHS General meeting	10	11 Annual Gift Shop Inventory
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 6 pm-MHS Board meeting	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



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.		
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

What's up with the Yellow Tape?

Good news! The yellow caution tape surrounding an area of the Mukilteo Light Station (MLS) is finally gone. But wait, why all the fuss?

A casual glance skyward would have revealed a broken antenna atop the wooden pole. Now the antenna has been replaced and the yellow caution tape is no more, not to mention all the orange safety cones.

We know the MLS is home to two **active** United States Coast Guard (USCG) Aids to Navigation. The first, a light encased in a Fresnel Lens which was made by opticians in Paris, France in 1852. Visible for 10-12 miles on a clear night, the signature flash is every 5 seconds (2



USCG Vendors Replacing the Antenna and Wooden Pole.

seconds on and 3 seconds off). The light is listed in USCG publications and shown on navigation maps. The MLS has the only active Fresnel Lens in the State of Washington. The second, a foghorn that can be activated by the USCG on those "rare" foggy days. The signature sound is a 3 second blast every 27 seconds.

But did you know that the MLS is also home to a communications system which is part of the USCG Vessel Traffic Service? In the words of the USCG at the Navigation Center website (navcen.uscg.gov):

"The purpose of a Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) is to provide active monitoring and navigational advice for vessels in particularly confined and busy waterways. VHF-FM communications network forms the basis of most major services. Transiting vessels make position reports to a vessel traffic center by radiotelephone and are in turn provided with accurate, complete, and timely navigational safety information. They encompass a wide range of techniques and capabilities aimed at preventing vessel collisions, ramblings, and groundings in the harbor, harbor approach and inland waterway phase of navigation. They are also designed to expedite ship movements, increase transportation system efficiency, and improve all-weather operating capability. The Coast Guard operates 12 Vessel Traffic Centers (VTC): Prince William Sound, Puget Sound, Valdez, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles/Long Beach, Houston-Galveston, Berwick Bay, Louisville, Saint Mary's River, Port Arthur, Tampa, and New York."

The communication system at the MLS is part of the Puget Sound VTC located at Pier 36 in Seattle. The Puget Sound VTC monitors the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Rosario Strait, Admiralty Inlet and Puget Sound south to Olympia. The MLS system provides valuable communications to/from vessels passing through Possession Sound (Whidbey Island and the coastline of Mukilteo and Everett).

Since 1979, the USCG has cooperated with the Canadian Coast Guard in managing vessel traffic to include areas north of the Strait of Juan de Fuca through Haro Strait to include Vancouver B.C. The relationship with Canada is invaluable in their mission to protect vessels in Puget Sound and the Salish Sea.

In summary, the USCG, the City of Mukilteo and the Mukilteo Historical Society are pleased to cooperate in the preservation and maintenance of the Mukilteo Light Station whose mission is to serve as an Aid to Navigation for all vessels sailing the Possession Sound.

Al Friedrich ♦



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

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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.

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