

# MHS Newsline

## Jobs Wanted: 100 Years Ago in Mukilteo

by Ann and John Collier

Most of us remember our first foray into the job market and the heady feeling of independence that comes with actually earning “our own money.” A century ago teenagers in Mukilteo were no different, even if it seems like everything else has changed.



*Strawberry pickers, including Beverly Dudder, at Mr. Pott's field on the Speedway between 88th and 92nd Streets*

One hundred years ago the Crown Lumber Company was the dominant industry in Mukilteo, and its doctor was the only doctor in town. Dr. Claude Chandler also owned the only drugstore in Muk-

ilteo, and that is where Louise Pallas got a job...at the age of thirteen. As described in Opal McConnell's book, *Mukilteo Pictures and Memories*, Louise at first sold ice cream in bulk and sodas, as well as making sundaes and ice cream cones. Louise added: “Also I learned to load the Brownie box cameras and this I was expected to do when I sold the film. I went to work on Sundays at 12:00 noon and got off at 6:00 or 6:30 and earned fifty cents.”

“Later I also worked on Saturday and in the summer when the Chandler family went on vacation I took complete charge. I opened the store at 8:00 a.m. and closed at 10:00 p.m. Dad would always come down just before closing time and I would bag the money and we would walk home along the track...I can still hear the cheers of the baseball fans in the grandstand just behind the store and often wished I was there, too, but I felt pretty lucky having a job because there just weren't many jobs for young people in a small town like

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# MUKILTEO HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

304 LINCOLN AVENUE, STE. 101  
MUKILTEO, WA 98275

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

### Phone

*Voice mail (425) 513-9602*

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



MHS has been a flurry of activity this season! There is a shortage of volunteers and members generously stepped up to work several shifts a month. I am very grateful to all who have chipped in to make this season work. MHS is one of many non-profit organizations with staffing needs and has remained open every day as promised. Jerry Arnold and I did a third training session in June. The staffing schedule is filling up with new and enthusiastic volunteers. I'm hopeful the new volunteers and even more will return next year. The Mukilteo Garden and Quilt Tour was a big success. Volunteers looked over comfort quilts for on the tour days and were able to sell 8 of the 10 quilts on display. These funds will go to charitable organizations. Plans are being made for the plans are being made for the Lighthouse Festival on September 6-8th. At the end of June, almost 5000 visitors went through the lighthouse plus there were many weddings. There have been many weddings and special tours. Those teams are filled with volunteers who already work shifts. Thanks to Marianne Anderson, Kris Hoffman and Dona Fretz! Mark your calendars for the end of season potluck on Sunday, September 29th at 4:30pm at Rosehill. This is a well-deserved opportunity to celebrate our accomplishments and hard work and have fun! Sharon Sutherland is planning this event, a well-deserved opportunity.

The gardening team has met regularly over spring and summer, making quite an impact. The flower beds are well tended thanks to the efforts of Sharon and Joe Dreimiller, Tracey Stark and Ann Collier. Geraniums, lobelia and impatiens have been planted, many donated by gardeners. Joe trimmed the rose bush that overgrew the bench so people could sit there again. The raised bed has a

whole new look. If you get a chance to see the hollyhocks outside of Quarters B have been a big attraction for photographers. I've even seen people taking seeds home. See page 4 for pictures!

The project to replace the coating on the gallery deck took a big step forward when the grant funding arrived recently. The tower may not close for the project since it will be quick. The inside of the lighthouse now holds the clock that Edward Brooks had at New Dungeness, thanks to Jerry and Peter Anderson's efforts.

At the last general meeting, Chad Kaiser reported on the work being done at Point Wilson. Surprisingly, the lens was returned back to the tower and it's stunning. Chad has a hopeful theory about where the original Mukilteo rotating lens went when it was replaced around 1927. He believes our current, fixed Fresnel lens arrived from Admiralty Head. He has asked anyone with photos to reach out to him to help substantiate this theory.

Sadly, this is our last newsletter with Erika Skar as editor as she needs to step down to allow more time with her family. Erika's work on our newsletter is professional and high quality and she will be missed. If you know anyone who has editing skills and is interested in this role, let me know.

Thank you all for supporting MHS and for making the lighthouse and gift shop such a welcoming place for the community and visitors. We are ambassadors of the City and our Board, members and volunteers all contribute to creating a healthy culture to light up this beautiful spot!

~JOANNE MULLOY,  
MHS PRESIDENT

Mukilteo. After the game the young people would congregate here and I would be busy dishing ice cream for a while.”

While Louise Pallas was fortunate to “find a real job,” in many cases when your family ran a business you became a worker in it whether you liked it or not. For example, at the 56-room Klemp Hotel on Second Street in the early 1900s, the entire family pitched in: elder son Bill was expected to help his mother cook, Charlie and Edie helped in several ways, and Jenny, Mary, Emma and Ellen were chambermaids. McConnell’s Boat House was also a source of employment for many Mukilteo boys. In addition to working with the boats, the job included fishing with a seine net for candle fish to be sold as bait. Opal McConnell wrote, “Many boys who grew up during this period can remember helping pull in the net to see how many fish had been caught.”

Beverly (Bevo) Dudder Ellis remembered helping her father bake bread and then taking it to neighbors to barter for items the Dudder household needed. Strawberries were grown in many fields around Mukilteo and Bevo also recalled fondly how she and her friends would pick strawberries for themselves, their families, and to sell to others in town.

Sometimes a teenager had to be ingenious to hustle up some extra cash. As Rudolph Pallas recalled (also in Opal McConnell’s book), “Now, as all boys in Muk, I wanted to make a dime, but money was scarce... One way to make some money was to sell wild blackberries and clams to the bachelors who lived in the shacks on the waterfront.”

“There was only one track of the Great Northern Railroad north in 1910-12. Then they built an extra track as business was booming. The sea wall you see today was built at this time. The workers had a construction camp a mile south of the depot. They worked long hours, and on Saturday night they kind of relaxed and celebrated as they could sober up on Sunday. Well, there was my gold mine. Monday A.M., early before school and my chores, I would comb the area around the camp picking up beer and whiskey bottles which I sold back to the saloon. I got 15 to 20 cents for a dozen.”



*Louise Pallas at the soda fountain in Dr. Chandler's Drug Store, 1918*



*The 56-room Klemp Hotel on Second Street, burned down in 1926*

(Authors’ note: we both remember our first jobs, but we recall even more vividly when our teenage son got his first job in our local library in Virginia, which consisted of mainly picking up items and putting them back where they were supposed to go. This was a skill and inclination never before revealed to us!).



## MAY 3RD GARDEN PARTY AT THE LIGHT HOUSE



*Gardeners at the May 3rd Garden Party from left to right: Ann Collier, Joanne Mulloy, Tracey Stark, Shannon Collier, Joe Dreimiller and Sharon Dreimiller. Photo by Jerry Arnold.*



### IN MEMORIAM

MHS members are saddened by the news of the death of **WILLIAM SACHEREK** on July 2, 2024. William and his wife, Lilo Lamerdin, have been long-time members of the Mukilteo Historical Society, and William served as Vice President of MHS for several years beginning in 1999. MHS sends condolences to Lilo and family and friends—William will be missed.

## GIFT SHOP NEWS

The gift shop has been a success this season and an initial large apparel order paid off. Marble turtles are selling fast but a fresh shipment just arrived. New puzzles are also being stocked. April was a big month for sales and people were happy to see the gift shop doors open and get first pick of their new sweatshirt or t-shirt. Thanks to the gift shop volunteer staff for pricing, displaying and restocking. More orders will be placed soon to ensure the gift shop is stocked and ready for customers. The gift shop revenue makes so much possible in MHS such as supporting the Archive expenses and preservation projects. A special thanks to Inge Greeninger for her work to maintain gift shop financial processes.



# Events Calendar

## August 2024



- **Thursday, August 8**  
7pm **General Membership Meeting**  
at Rosehill
- **Thursday, August 29**  
6:30pm **Board Meeting via Zoom**

## September 2024

- **Fri-Sun, September 6-8**  
**Lighthouse Festival**
- **Thursday, September 12th**  
7pm **General Membership Meeting**  
at Rosehill
- **Thursday, September 26**  
6:30pm **Board Meeting via Zoom**
- **Sunday, September 29**  
4:30pm **End of Season Potluck**  
at Rosehill



## October 2024

- **Thursday, October 10**  
7pm **General Membership Meeting**  
at Rosehill
- **Thursday, October 26**  
1-4pm **Members and Friends Sale**
- **Thursday, October 31**  
6:30pm **Board Meeting via Zoom**

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Greetings!

On the second Thursday of every month (except December), at 7PM, we have the MHS General Membership meeting. We have been fortunate to have excellent speakers who provide us with insights into historical events and help explain how our community is part of history. These presenters provide information and context needed to understand these events.

Information is a funny thing. I have found that without context, information is at best a clue and at worse misleading or unrelated to what you thought it meant. I am grateful to the presenters for their time and efforts to learn about a specific subject or event and then for sharing that with us. Thus, providing both information and context.

There are other opportunities to gain context for the information we receive. Courses through CRI (Edmonds), Osher (national) and other sources for continuing education are out there. I did a Google search for “continuing education for seniors near me” and found that most of our Community Colleges have programs for seniors.

Books and articles written by accredited researchers are another source of context and a joy for learning. One I can recommend hands down is *Last Call, The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* by Daniel Okrent (2010). More regional reading on Prohibition is found at HistoryLink.org in an article titled *Prohibition in the Puget Sound Region (1916 – 1933)*. Our own Peter Anderson is going to give a presentation on Prohibition at a membership meeting before the end of this year.

With that, it is summer! Find a book that will help keep that mind lubricated and learn something new! Meanwhile, please welcome the following NEW members to MHS:



- **Gregg Mortenson**
- **Annalisa Clough**
- **Mel Cogar-Lollis**
- **Robert Daley**
- **Lisa Wilson**
- **Kelli Wilson**
- **Travis Wilson**
- **Glenda J. Chaffin**
- **Joanne Jones**
- **Carolina Trestain**
- **Allison Woodbury**
- **Mike G. Larson**
- **Beverly Droppelman**
- **Brian Thorngate**
- **Susan Ringquist**

Thanks for being there!

~JERRY ARNOLD  
MHS Membership Chair 2024  
Broom and Hammer Caddy, as needed



# MUKILTEO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please review the membership categories below carefully. As a member you will receive an exclusive member decal, quarterly newsletter and a 10% discount in the gift shop. Your donation is tax deductible. Membership runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Return this form and your payment to:  
**Mukilteo Historical Society – 304 Lincoln Avenue, Suite 101 – Mukilteo, WA 98275**

**Membership Type:**

- \$15 - INDIVIDUAL     
  \$10 - SENIOR (65 OR OVER)     
  \$20 - SENIOR COUPLE     
  \$25 - FAMILY  
 \$500 – LIFE     
  DONATION ONLY –provide name and address so we may acknowledge your donation

*Corporate Applications are available at mukilteohistorical.org or by emailing memberships@mukilteohistorical.org*

**Applicant #1 Data\*:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant #2 Data\*:**      *Please use a second application form for more than two applicants in family memberships.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**How did you hear about the Mukilteo Historical Society?**

- Lighthouse Visit     
  Newspaper     
  Website     
  Friend     
  Other \_\_\_\_\_

For office use only: Date Received \_\_\_\_\_  Added to Membership Roster  Exclusive Membership Decal Sent

## 2024 SPONSOR HONOR ROLL

The **Mukilteo Historical Society** thanks the following 2023 corporate sponsors who helped 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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#### **Mukilteo Historical Society**

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