

# Bothell Museum Sentinel

"Not your usual newspaper"

March 1, 2019

Spring Edition

Issue 2



## The Bothell Museum Celebrates its Golden Anniversary!

After a great summer in 2018, with 130 visitors one Sunday, we are now looking forward to a special year, our 50th year Anniversary!

We will celebrate and look back at beginnings honoring our forward thinking founders for their vision.

In 1969, the Northshore Bank offered Hannan House to the Bothell Historical Society which wanted to preserve Bothell's rich history. The group accepted the offer and opened the Museum officially on July 4, 1969. During

that summer, the new museum counted 603 visitors with the largest attendance on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend.

The Museum sat next to the bank on 102<sup>nd</sup> and Main Street until 1978, when the city of Bothell opened the Park at Bothell Landing and moved the house to the riverside, its present site. The museum will open Sunday, April 7, from 1 to 4 p.m.



**BOTHELL MUSEUM**  
*Opening Doors To Bothell's Past*

## Come to the Spring Membership Meeting!

This year's Spring Membership meeting will be on Saturday, March 23, 2019, at the Lytle House at the Park at Bothell Landing from 1 to 3 p.m.

This will be an afternoon coffee and cookie affair, an open meeting for all members and anyone interested who might want to join us.

Tell your friends. Come and join us for a wonderful Spring day!

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Margaret Turcott

**Generation** is defined as the time for children to grow up, become adults, and have children of their own.

I've thought about generations who have passed since the first white settlers arrived in Bothell. Since **Columbus Greenleaf** and

**George Wilson** had no children, I chose to look into the family of **Gerhard Ericksen**, since we can easily identify them.

**Gerhard** was born in 1860 and settled in Bothell in 1883. He had several children including Carlton J, born in 1891. Carlton J. then had children that included Carlton L (Bud) Ericksen. Carlton L. is the father of Edith Berg, grandfather of Kimberly Berg-Dunlap, and the great-grandfather of Kim and Jeff's two children, Katrina and William.

It is amazing that we have history of 5 generations of the Ericksen family, or over 150 years.

The Ericksens are only one of many families' histories that the Bothell Museum has lovingly preserved.

Continuing further with the theme

of **generations**, at 50 years, our museum has for two generations honored Bothell's past and set in place some beloved activities that continue to this day. We have also found new ways to serve our area that were not even imagined in 1969, such as a digitized collection of newspapers that have reached over 130,000 people all over the United States and the world.

As we venture into the museum's third generation, I like to think we have an organization that will keep the door to Bothell's past open. I can see children in the year 2100 marveling over the rich Bothell history that we will still be saving, and our descendants using us to learn about the life in Bothell in the early 2000s.

## THANKS TO OUR PATRONS

### BOARD MEMBERS

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#### YAKIMA FRUIT MARKET

17321 Bothell Way NE

425-486-6888



10010 Main Street

425-486-5292

#### OLSON DESIGN

Downtown Bothell Custom Design  
Jewelers

10034 Main Street

425-489-0617



## Petals on the River



For years, the Bothell Museum, has honored each Memorial Day with a special ceremony held at the beautiful bridge at the Park at Bothell Landing.

This year, at 1 p.m. on May 26th, the Sunday before Memorial Day, people can gather on the bridge and spread petals on the river, along with thoughts of those who have passed on. **Yakima Fruit** and **Bothell Florist** have donated flowers to add to the ones brought by people who want to honor the memory of a loved one.

Below are the names of those who have been honored this year by their loved ones, with a donation and their name added to the Memorial plaque.

David Bothell

Roberta Worley Carlyon

Carlton "Bud" Ericksen

Eleanor Green

Betty and Harold Keeney

Bill Stain

Jess Stewart



## Treasure Boxes Teach Students About the Past

A treasure box is a container filled with objects that were important for living in earlier days. The Bothell museum offers them to schools and the community to learn about the past.

Elementary school teachers bring these boxes, which include reference materials and teaching suggestions, to their classes and spend a week learning about pioneer life. The boxes are filled with "hands-on" objects that were important for living in earlier days. Students can handle cooking tools, toys, and general items found in homes in the early 1900's.

The students are amazed that people needed to churn cream into butter rather than buying it at the grocery store. The toys are always fun and the other items help connect them to another time.

At the end of the study unit, the students can be scheduled to visit the museum on a special tour.

We have had many students bring their parents to visit the museum and enjoy showing their parents what they have learned by giving them the tour themselves.

**Moorlands Elementary** is one school that makes use of the Treasure boxes

Other groups and schools have also explored these boxes. They can be rented for \$10.00 for a week. **MaryAnne Gibbons** is in charge of this service.

**Jane Yadav**, a 4th grade teacher at **Wellington Elementary** commented, "the students made great use of the museum's treasure boxes. They used many items as props in skits. They also had a blast trying to figure out what the individual objects were used for and enjoyed recognizing objects we still use today."

## The Beckstrom Family History in Bothell

The Beckstrom Cabin is a favorite sight at the museum. Hundreds of family pictures have been taken using the cabin as a backdrop. Some wonder just how many people lived in this small space. Here are the facts:

The cabin was constructed in 1883 on a site on Beckstrom Hill near where St. Brendan's Church is today. During the next several years, two lean-tos were added.

The Beckstroms had a total of 16 children, but not all children were born in the cabin before they moved into the farmhouse, which was completed in 1895. Andrew Beckstrom's father (Farfar) also lived with the family until his death in 1895. Our best estimate is that 11 or 12 people lived in the cabin with the two lean-tos – about 756 square feet!

The new house was a place for the family to grow up. In the picture of the farmhouse, the kitchen wing was on the right. The living room had a fireplace.

The central wing, which protruded from the wrap-around porch was probably the dining room. Two large dormitory rooms were on the second floor, one for the boys and one for the girls.

**Mary Baldwin**, the granddaughter of **Selma Beckstrom**, presented the museum with a newly released volume of her grandmother's stories and a detailed history of the Beckstrom family entitled *Nana's Book*. This beautiful book is full of family photos and facts about the cabin. It is a priceless resource.



The Beckstrom Cabin



The Beckstrom House

## The Tree With Many Lives

The beautiful noble fir tree, donated to the museum by Yakima Fruit has had an extended life.

First, it graced our parlor, decked out with historic ornaments and strings of popcorn and cranberries. After the Christmas Tea, it was placed in the Memorial Garden and paper snowflakes were added. The squirrels and birds dined on the popcorn and cranberries. The tree still looked good at the end of January, so red hearts were added for Valentine's Day.

Then came the snow. What a beautiful sight ! **Jeanne Zornes** took this picture of the tree with the snow and the red hearts peeking out for all to see. This was another wonderful sight for the visitors at the Park.



A passerby took this photo of the schoolhouse and Hannan House on one of the most gorgeous snow days. There was bright blue sky, snow-covered trees, and the museum. It was a beautiful scene.



**Pippin Sardo and Nancy Velado**



**Jill Keeney and Margaret Turcott**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The museum opens on Sunday, April 7.

Jim Benson authored a book titled the "Taming of the Slough" about the Sammamish Slough Race, "the crookedest race in the world."

The Hannan house has been re-keyed.

The city asked that we take ownership of the school bell. It is safely stored at a city facility until a new bell tower is built.



**JoAnne Hunt**

## Docents are Needed on Sundays at the museum

The museum would not be able to function without the help of our docents.

Question—What is a docent? What does a docent do? Answer— a docent is a member of the museum who enables each visitor to have a pleasant, informative time while visiting the museum. The docent finds information about each visitor. Are they new to the museum or Bothell? Do they have a special interest in the history of our city? Do they want a guided tour, or simply an introduction and then an independent look?

One of our 2019 goals is to update docent training and provide resources for those of you who serve as our face to the public. There will be informational handouts for each museum building, explaining its past, so visitors can better appreciate the way people lived in the early 1900's.

Docents are people who enjoy talking with others to share details about the museum. We have docents in the Hannan House and the schoolhouse. You can choose where you wish to engage with the people of Bothell and the surrounding areas.

If you have not acted as a docent, it is easy and fun. Meeting people and answering their questions is a rewarding experience.

Sign up at the Spring meeting or contact **Sharron Dimmitt** at [sdimmitt@frontier.com](mailto:sdimmitt@frontier.com).

### **2019 Membership Form Bothell Historical Museum**

**PO Box 313 Bothell, WA 98041**

**[bothellmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:bothellmuseum@gmail.com)**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP**

**Individual—\$15**

**Family—\$25**

**Business—\$50.00**

**Seniors—\$10**

**Students—\$10**

**I would like to learn more about volunteering.**

**Make checks payable to Bothell Historical Museum**