

Bothell Museum Sentinel

"Not your usual newspaper"

October 2021

Issue 5

Bothell Historical Museum

Celebrating the History of Bothell and Northshore



Bothell's Past Through Pictures and Questions

It has been over a full year since visitors have enjoyed the Museum's collections. We are currently in the process of preparing to allow tours by appointment. Visitors will need to wear face masks and provide proof of vaccination. It may be another full year before we can completely open our doors to greet the public into the Hannan House, the Schoolhouse and the Beckstrom Cabin. That is a long time and we do not want members to forget some of the more interesting facts the docents have shared each Sunday about Bothell in the beginning. Therefore, in the next few pages, we will answer some of the questions about Bothell that were most interesting to our visitors.

Annual Membership Meeting

The annual membership meeting will be held on November 6th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the Hollyhills Clubhouse, 19200 Hollyhills DR NE, Bothell, WA 98011. Face Masks and Covid vaccinations will be required. Richard Heisler will be giving a presentation on the Bothell Cemetery's Civil War Veterans and Board elections will be held. More information is available on Page 2.

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BOTHELL MUSEUM
Opening Doors To Bothell's Past





Bob Gerrish
Vice President

Current Board Members

President—

Vice President—Bob Gerrish

Secretary—Jill Keeney

Treasurer —Jim Turcott

At Large—Mary Anne Gibbons

At Large—Carol Haynes

At Large—Don Sparling

At Large—Mike Robison

At Large—Pat Pierce

Committee Chairs

Archives—Pat Pierce

**Facilities—Don Sparling, Larry Gibbons,
Robert Beckstrom**

Collection—Pat Pierce

Display—Carol Haynes

Events—Jill Keeney

Technology—Bob Gerrish

Treasure Boxes—Mary Ann Gibbons

Lead Fashion, Textiles—Nancy Velando

Lead Past Perfect—Jim Turcott

Lead Schoolhouse Docent—Mary Evans

Lead Van Program—Mary Evans

Lead Videographer—Nancy Velando

Phone Communicator—Jo Anne Hunt

Sentinel Editor—Gayle Dimmitt

Web Master—Ron Green

It is with sadness that I write this message. We all mourn the passing of our Board President, Sharron Dimmitt. We all miss her and are trying our best to fill the void that was created.

Sharron had already written the President's message before she passed away. Nothing of substance has changed with the current situation for the museum and what she had written is still applicable. Therefore, I have retained it on the next page as the President's Message for this edition of the Sentinel. I have also included the contents of her obituary from the Seattle Times for anyone who missed it.

For those of you who don't know me, I was born in Seattle but my mother was the descendent of one of our early Bothell Pioneers. My grandmother was Christina (Reagan) Bowen who, along with her first husband, W. Henry Rosenberg, homesteaded in Bothell in 1886. She only stayed long enough to prove the Homestead and then separated from Henry who kept a presence in Bothell until 1908.

Annual Membership Meeting and Board Elections

This year we will have our annual membership meeting on Saturday, November 6th. It will be an in-person meeting from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the Hollyhills Clubhouse, 19200 Hollyhills Drive NE, Bothell, WA 98011. Face masks and Covid vaccinations will be required.

Since we did not have an annual membership meeting last year due to the pandemic, the board members who would have been up for election last year will be selected for a two year term. They are Jill Keeney, Jim Turcott, Mike Robison, and one vacant position. Nominations for the Board of Trustees will be put forward by the members attending the annual meeting. Each trustee elected will serve for two years. If you are interested in being on the board, please let us know.



Sharron Dimmitt

1941-2021

January 6, 1941 – July 26, 2021

Sharron Elaine Dimmitt was born January 6, 1941 in Seattle, Washington, and died July 26, 2021 of kidney failure and complications from polio. Sharron lived in Seattle until she moved to Bothell in 2005. She attended the Shoreline schools and got her teaching and Masters' degrees from the University of Washington. While teaching in the Edmonds School District, Sharron took many students and adults on tours to Europe during summer vacations. She was a member and a three-time president of the Edmonds Welcomers and was a founding member of Hands for Helping. Sharron was very involved with the Bothell Historical Museum, serving as president for the last two years. Sharron worked tirelessly to promote the museum as part of the Bothell community. She was a member of the Bothell Landmark Preservation Board and was also involved with the Bothell Parks and Recreation Department.

Sharron is survived by her sister, Gayle, her brother Greg (wife, Trish) and nieces Telia Oines (husband, Nathan, and daughters Linnea and Sofia) and Hailey Thrush (sons Isaac and Elijah) as well as her two rescue dogs Charlie and Daisy. At her request, no services will be held. In lieu of flowers, please send a donation in Sharron's honor to an animal rescue organization of your choice.

The Seattle Times

Published on August 28, 2021

Accessed 04 Oct 2021 from:

<https://obituaries.seattletimes.com/obituary/sharron-dimmitt-1083103007>

As we continue to adjust to life during and after COVID 19, the Museum has to face the fact that it is unlikely that we will be back to normal soon.

Therefore, we plan to continue displays that can be seen through the parlor windows until we can open. This will provide a monthly look at some of the wonderful items in the Museum.

To open, we will need permission from the City, a procedure for people entering the buildings, and our docents to act as guides.

Since we will not have events to share in our next newsletter, we will report on the beginning of Bothell, by sharing articles and photos published in the Bothell Sentinel. We will relate notable events and gossip, so we can appreciate more how the town has changed from a beautiful wilderness to becoming a city. We cannot report every detail. Books are available at the Museum and the library, if you want to learn more.

We find the people who came to the Bothell area were Scandinavians, Germans, and other North Europeans. They were loggers, then mill owners and business owners who were religious, civic minded, and cared about good education.

Who First Settled in the Bothell Area?

The earliest known people of the Sammamish River were a tribe that called themselves s-tsah-PAHBSH or “Willow People” who were members of a larger group called hah-chu-AHBSH or “People of the Lake” and the Duwamish tribe. They built settlements in Kenmore and Woodinville. It has been estimated that the tribe numbered between 80 and 200 individuals.

On January 22, 1855, the Point Elliott Treaty was signed. It required that certain tribes cede their rights, title, and interest to the land that they had occupied. It did allow use of hunting and fishing areas. Bothell was included in the area ceded to the United States.

What and Who Brought People to Bothell?

George Wilson was the first European on record to come up Squak Slough. He found some land on the north side of the river he liked, but did not attempt to claim it, as it had not been surveyed. He returned to Seattle for the winter. Columbus Greenleaf arrived at the same place later that year, and claimed the property that had interested Wilson. Upon Wilson's return the following summer, he claimed property up the hill from Greenleaf.

The land surrounding the wide and marshy river was covered with old growth timber, most of which was Douglas Fir. In 1870, George Brackett bought land and started a logging company. He used oxen and horses to drag the huge logs from the river bank (now called 101st Ave. NE) at Brackett's Landing and then added a sawmill in 1887. In 1893, a water flume was constructed to transport cedar bolts (short logs for shakes) to the river. Logging would be a mainstay of the community's economy until the early 1900's.

When Did The Homestead Act Begin?



This is a picture of one of the logs used to build a homestead during the later 1860's.

Under the terms of the Homestead Act of 1862, a head of household over the age of 18 could acquire land, by paying a small fee. He needed to improve the land and live on it for five years. One of the first requirements for a homesteader was the construction of a residence. The law stated that a building suitable for a permanent residence was to be constructed, at least 10 by 12 feet with a minimum of one window. Most of the homes in the Bothell area were built with logs or planks, which required few tools and no nails, and Bothell had a ready supply of logs.



The Sammamish River has always been important to the community. At first, it was used as the major way to come to Bothell to bring in goods and to send logs to the mills. It became a favorite way to reach Seattle in an hour and a half by using the steamer called the 'City of Bothell.' A schedule was posted in the Bothell Sentinel.

The Steamer Schedule

Steamer Schedule	
In Effect November 20, 1911.	
Steamer "City of Bothell"	
For Seattle, Lake Park, North Point, Steamers, Lake Forest Park, Kenmore and Sammamish River Points.	
Round Trip 40 Cents.	
Time and Boat Subject to Change Without Notice.	
Leave Bothell	Leave Seattle
DAILY	
8:00 a. m.	10:00 a. m.
2:00 p. m.	4:30 p. m.
SUNDAYS	
8:00 a. m.	10:00 a. m.
1:00 p. m.	7:00 p. m.

Bothell Transportation Co.
Bothell, Phone 74, Bothell.

The Railroad Station



There was a rail line that carried goods to and from Seattle and other areas.

The Red Brick Road



In 1913, the dirt road that ran to Lake Forest Park and connected to a paved road in Seattle, was paved with bricks. In 1917, Squak Slough (Sammamish River) was lowered by an average of 9 feet when the Ballard Locks opened, creating the red brick road.

First Schoolhouse and Church

How and When Was the First School House Built?

Bothell's first schoolhouse originally stood on Main Street. Money was raised by the community to build the one-room schoolhouse in 1885. The property was donated by David Bothell on what later became 10221 Main Street. Its one room was 20' by 26' for grades 1 through 8, but it was outgrown in just a few years. It was used as a home until 1989. The schoolhouse was then moved to Bothell Landing and restored to its original configuration.



The Bothell Schoolhouse
as a home



The Bothell Schoolhouse
in the Park at Bothell Landing

Helen DeVoe, Bothell's first schoolteacher

Settlers raised enough money to hire Bothell's first teacher, Miss Helen DeVoe. She was hired for a two month term to teach 23 children for \$40. Miss DeVoe came to Bothell with her mother, following the death of her father in 1882. A small cabin was constructed in David Bothell's yard for them to live in. She had purchased 160 acres, 4 miles North of Bothell before being hired as the teacher.



How Did Bothell's First Church Begin?

On the first Sunday of November in 1885, Alice Bothell organized a local meeting to read scripture and sing hymns. They met in the parlor of her in-laws' boarding house, then the school house in 1886.

The first church that was built was the Danish Evangelical Luther Molde Church. That was followed in 1886 by the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Swedish Lutheran Church in 1893.



The Lutheran and Methodist Churches

How Did the City of Bothell Come to be Called Bothell?

David Bothell was among the dozens of early settlers who came to Brackett's logging camp in the 1880's.

The Pennsylvania Civil War veteran and his wife, Mary Anne, filed the first plat in what later became known as Bothell in 1889. They built a shingle mill and created jobs.

The couple lived at what is now the downtown corner of 101st Avenue Northeast and Northeast 183rd Street. They ran a boarding house and later a hotel.

The Bothells raised seven children and became a fixture in the community.

When Bothell's first postmaster, Gerhard Ericksen, was asked what the name of the town should be, he answered that there were so many Bothells in town that it was a good name. (It probably helped that David Bothell spent a lot of time patronizing the Ericksen store.) It was incorporated in 1909. By then the community had two shingle factories, a broom-handle mill, four general stores, two new hotels, three meat markets, a bakery, a barber shop, and three saloons.



David and Mary Anne Bothell



Early Bothell



Bothell Historical Museum
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Bothell, WA 98041-0313



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