

# The MUSEUM *Light*

Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society and Museum

## ALL ABOARD

*Steaming a path through history*



Don't miss out.  
Reserve your seats  
before it sells out!

*4th Annual*

## Heritage Days Benefit

### In This Issue:

President's Message.....	Page 2
Director's Message.....	Page 2
Scarecrow Festival .....	Page 3

Research Corner.....	Page 4
Newspaper Archives.....	Page 5
Museum Happenings .....	Page 6



## Edmonds South Snohomish County Historical Society & Museum

Phone: 425-774-0900

Mailing Address: PO Box 52,  
Edmonds, WA 98020

Shipping Address: 118 5th Ave. N.,  
Edmonds, WA 98020

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

[info@historicedmonds.org](mailto:info@historicedmonds.org)

### Museum Director

Katie Kelly: [director@historicedmonds.org](mailto:director@historicedmonds.org)

### Collections Manager

Briana Brenner: [artifacts@historicedmonds.org](mailto:artifacts@historicedmonds.org)

### Volunteer Coordinator

Sandra Butterfield: [volunteer@historicedmonds.org](mailto:volunteer@historicedmonds.org)

### Historical Society Officers

#### President:

Bill Lambert: [welambert@comcast.net](mailto:welambert@comcast.net)

#### Vice President:

Dean Averill: [dean15111@comcast.net](mailto:dean15111@comcast.net)

#### Secretary:

Sandra Allbery: [leasta@comcast.net](mailto:leasta@comcast.net)

#### Treasurer:

Jerry Freeland: [jerry.freeland@comcast.net](mailto:jerry.freeland@comcast.net)

### Board of Directors

**Market Chair** Margaret Wilcox: [mandmwil@frontier.com](mailto:mandmwil@frontier.com)

**Governance Chair** Barb Fahey: [barbsfahey@comcast.net](mailto:barbsfahey@comcast.net)

**Collections Chair** Greg Jorgenson: [gregjorgenson@comcast.net](mailto:gregjorgenson@comcast.net)

**Development Chair** Janis Flom: [jan.flom@swedish.org](mailto:jan.flom@swedish.org)

**Membership Chair** Linda Borofka: [lborofka@gmail.com](mailto:lborofka@gmail.com)

Jack Hall: [j.k.hall@comcast.net](mailto:j.k.hall@comcast.net)

Teresa Wippel: [teresa@myedmondsnews.com](mailto:teresa@myedmondsnews.com)

Ann Wood: [Annwood5@comcast.net](mailto:Annwood5@comcast.net)

Darlene Newquist: [alphawiffy@comcast.net](mailto:alphawiffy@comcast.net)

Dean Larson: [deanL1952@comcast.net](mailto:deanL1952@comcast.net)

Dave Buelow: [dbuelow@comcast.net](mailto:dbuelow@comcast.net)

The Museum Light is a publication of the Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society, whose mission is as follows: "We are dedicated to sharing the history of our community. We will achieve this by research, collection and preservation of historical documents, artifacts, memories and events, and by utilizing interpretive displays and engaging in creative public educational programming."

## From the Society President

As we conclude a very successful 2016 Museum Farmer's Market we want to express our appreciation to Margaret and Mike Wilcox for their many years of leadership of the Market Committee. They will be stepping back, but not stopping their involvement in 2017. They will continue to provide their collective wisdom and assistance to Board Member Dean Larson, who will give on-site leadership, and with Christina Martin, continue the tradition of the best market for citizens of our community.

Our thanks to the dozens of volunteers who worked through all kinds of weather to operate the White Elephant sales tables, kept the Market safe and clean, and created a wholesome experience for the thousands of visitors to Edmonds. Our special thanks to Dean Averill and his team for their leadership of this activity and the beautiful Museum Plaza Project.

Now on to fall, as scarecrows begin to appear, and the transformation of the building into the Haunted Museum occurs led by Dave Buelow and Director Katie Kelly. What a fun time to be in Edmonds!

Finally, we hope you will join us at our 4th annual Heritage Days Fundraiser, November 5 6-9 pm at Holy Rosary Pastoral Center. Jump aboard and get your ticket now for another chance to show your support for the museum.

Bill Lambert

## From the Museum Director

Time sure has flown by! Fall is indeed in the air. We have a busy season coming up: Scarecrow Festival, Heritage Days, Haunted Museum and more. As always, if you would like to volunteer, just let us know—we would love to have you!

This summer has been wonderful; our exhibit *Hook, Line & Sinker* has been well received, we enjoyed hosting Wine Walk, Artists Studio Tour Preview and speaker Ross Coen. We've made some wonderful connections with other organizations in town and are looking forward to all the great things we can do together.

Thank you for supporting us in all we do!

Katie

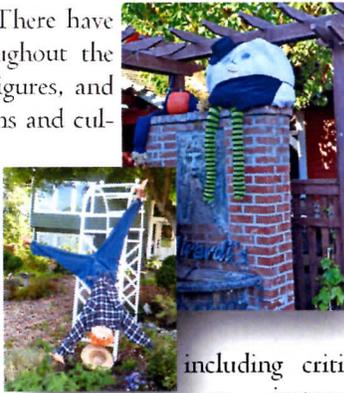
## Scarecrow Season in Full Swing



At first, children would run through the plots sounding wooden clappers, sending those annoying crows to flight. Later adults took on this task of guarding the crops, some keeping watch in straw huts, as Native Americans did, or stood on wooden lookouts.

There have been all kinds of scarecrows throughout the ages; they have been sad-looking figures, and figures that reflect images of customs and cultures, mythology, humor, and even superstitions.

And now with summer behind us and autumn in the air, it's time to start thinking about the annual Edmonds Museum-sponsored Scarecrow Festival. All information including dates, voting instructions, and instructions for how to build a scarecrow is available on the museum's website, [scf.historicedmonds.org](http://scf.historicedmonds.org) and the Scarecrow Festival Hotline, 425-774-6507.



including critical even instructions

The goal of the Edmonds Museum is for everyone have a good time in planning, carrying out, and viewing their entry, and everyone else's imaginative creation. What a perfect time to stroll around town, with perhaps a short drive, here and there, to see all the entries. While there are prizes, with the community voting, in truth, everyone is a winner, as a good time will be had by all.



- Excerpt by Bette Bell

Scarecrow Registration: October 1st - October 22nd  
 Scarecrow Voting: October 23rd - November 4th

Winners Announced at 4th Annual Heritage Days Fundraiser Benefit, November 5th, 2016



## Welcome Our Newest Employee!



We are proud to announce our new part-time Collections Manager! Briana Brenner recently graduated from the University of Washington's Museology Graduate Program. She has been an intern with the Edmonds Historical Museum for the past year.

She graduated from Central Kitsap High School in 2008 and continued her undergraduate studies at Washington State University in Pullman, WA earning a B.A. in Anthropology in 2012. In her free time she loves to cook and bake, make cross stitches, watch television and movies, play board games and attend concerts. She is a big Sounders fan and "a huge Harry Potter geek!"

She has been working predominantly at storage inventorying, cataloging and organizing our large collection - a gigantic job, indeed! We are so happy to have her be a part of our museum family, and excited for everything she will accomplish. If you see her, say "Hello!"

## Collections Corner

One of the most exciting parts of working in a museum is seeing all the wonderful artifacts which are donated.



1915 Dance Card

Since our last newsletter, we've had a W.P.A. stamped axe, Engels and Kelly family documents, an Edmonds Fire Department Captain's helmet worn by Cecil "Red" Francis in the 1960s, and much more! Recently, a couple of interesting items have come in, including a 'business card' for J.A. Robertson and an Edmonds High School Junior Prom dance card from 1915! The dance held March 6, 1915 at the Edmonds Opera House (current Masonic Hall at 515 Dayton Street), was found in a residence in Snohomish. Names included are Mary

Brackett, Fairy Taylor and Clara Otto.

Another fantastic item found at a local estate sale and donated to the museum, was a business card/ink blotter from J.A. Robertson Insurance Agent in Edmonds. In the early 20th century, businesses began customizing blotting paper sheets with their company's name, thus becoming a form of business card. These were often given away by bankers or insurance salesmen.



Notice the ink stains on the back. The back was used to blot excess ink, which would allow letters to dry quicker.

\*Remember, if you wish to donate an item please make sure to fill out and sign a Temporary Deed of Gift - this document temporarily transfers ownership to us, but also serves as a legal document and contact sheet if we want to return the item.

Research Corner, by Kathe Hall

# One Thing Leads to Another

## One Thing...

Throughout the ages civilizations have recorded their history using whatever tools were handy: string, rocks, clay, paper, stories passed down from one generation to another, and finally histories that were written in the language of the people. How did the story of Edmonds become written history? The first events to be documented were land records and they provided important but limited information. The first settler, George Brackett, changed things as he envisioned more than just a location to build a shelter; he envisioned a community, and the community chronicled their day to day events in newspapers. Newspapers recorded the activities of people as they lived, worked and entertained themselves, and fortunately many of those newspapers were saved enabling future generations to know the history of their community.

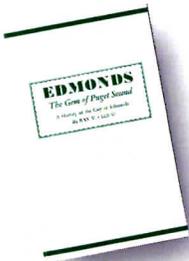


George Brackett



## Leads to...

Fast forward to the 1950's when Ray V. Cloud decided to write the history of our city by compiling information from the newspapers printed in Edmonds. The book, Edmonds, The Gem of Puget Sound, became the catalyst for Doug Egan as he began to consider the possibility of a museum for Edmonds. What better way to share history. Mr. Egan, an active member of the community, was president of the Edmonds Chamber of Commerce at this time, and as a community leader he had many contacts. With his interest, a new chapter was occurring in Edmonds history and it needed to be recorded; this is where Mary Nielsen comes in.



Ray Cloud signing a copy of Edmonds: Gem of Puget Sound, March 20, 1973

## Another...

Doug Egan asked Mary Nielsen, the secretary for the Edmonds Chamber of Commerce, if she would be the secretary for a museum committee he was forming and she graciously agreed. The committee met at Yesteryears Restaurant, located on Highway 99, owned by residents of Edmonds. The small group decided they needed a plan which meant they needed more information. The committee surveyed many local museums



Yesteryear Pin  
Acc. #2005.21.21

and discussed possible problems and how they could be solved. Mary gives us a glimpse of Mr. Egan's character by describing him as a "gentle bulldog". He presented his idea to the city and they did not say: "What a great idea!" Mr. Egan persisted, and finally they were informed they could use the Carnegie Library for the museum. There were many delays for permits and money from the city was slow in arriving. It is probably a testament to Mr. Egan and his committee that they didn't walk away from the whole project. However, the cavalry, in the form of Edmonds citizenry, were excited about the project. Many of them were families that had a history in Edmonds and were eager to share their treasures with the museum. There was

and discussed possible problems and how they could be solved.

Mary gives us a glimpse of Mr. Egan's character by describing him as a "gentle bulldog". He presented his idea to the city and they did not say: "What a great idea!" Mr. Egan persisted, and finally they were informed they could use the Carnegie Library for the museum. There were many delays for permits and money from the city was slow in arriving. It is probably a testament to Mr. Egan and his committee that they didn't walk away from the whole project. However, the cavalry, in the form of Edmonds citizenry, were excited about the project. Many of them were families that had a history in Edmonds and were eager to share their treasures with the museum. There was



Doug Egan,  
February 15, 1989



National Historic Register plaque dedication of Carnegie Library, June 21, 1974

a growing list of volunteers willing to make the lower level display ready. There is always the question of funding and at the grassroots level garage sales and spaghetti dinners were held while many gave donations. Creativity, talent and just plain generosity played a big part in the success of the project. William & Glen Green donated 19 months of

their time and talent building a model of Edmonds. Nordstrom's donated display cases. A painting of the Edmonds waterfront by Fritz Dalby was donated. The committee had the foresight to set up a memorial fund which honors members, friends, and family. It was a community effort and it was a success. The museum committee coordinated the museum opening, June 13, 1973, with the annual Edmonds Art Fair thus assuring a wonderful opportunity to showcase this new addition celebrating their hometown. Nothing attracts attention more than an antique car and Jack Nielsen displayed his 1903 International Auto, IHC, for International Harvester Co. in front of the museum. Thanks to Mary Nielsen we are able to get an inside look at the efforts required to get this project off the ground.

*One Thing Leads to Another Cont'd*

Mary Hatcher's family gradually moved west traveling through Iowa, Nebraska, and Wyoming before they settled in Washington. Mary was born in Mount Vernon to Lee and Portia Hatcher. Her parents eventually moved to Everett where she attended school and graduated from Everett High School. While in school she worked part time at the Scott Paper Company in Everett. Mary married Jack Neilsen in 1954 and in 1960 they moved to Edmonds. Mary worked with the Edmonds school district and Jack was a teacher with the Bellevue School District. They retired in 1986 and with their motor home traveled around the United States three times. They now enjoy the activities in Edmonds and Jack participates in classic car shows with his 113 year old car.



Jack with his International Harvester Company Auto Wagon

**Sources**

Interview with Mary Hatcher Neilsen & Jack Neilsen  
 Edmonds Tribune Review: Jan. 24, 1973; Mar. 28, 1973; Apr. 18, 1973; June 13, 1973

**Membership News**

As a member of the Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society & Museum your perks include invitations to members-only events, early and/or discounted registration and more! In 2017 we hope to add more events, speakers and member perks. Look for your membership renewal in the mail coming soon!



We're always listening! Have a suggestion for us? Let us know!  
 Info@historicedmonds.org

**We Would Like to Acknowledge the Following Donations**

Linda & Darryl Berg  
 Deanna & Alex Boras  
 Sandra Butterfield  
 Calvin Presbyterian Church

Laurie Griffiths  
 Sue Lowell  
 Jan & Warren Wilkins

**From the museum's Newspaper Archives**

Excerpt from the Chronicle (Edmonds)  
 November 5, 1892



**Hallowe'en Fun at Tacoma.**

The most amusing trick was indulged in at Tacoma on Hallowe'en by three dozen boys, their ages ranging from 10 to 16, who soaped and greased the electric street rails on the grade on Sixth avenue line. Considering sand was required to run the cars up the greased rails. Passengers, as a rule, enjoyed the Hallowe'en sport.



Excerpt from the Edmonds Review  
 November 7, 1908



**Pranks of the Spooks on Hallowe'en.**

Many innocent pranks were perpetrated on Hallowe'en by our young people. To be free, absolutely free, and do things is the desire of childhood, as well as to "do things" secretly and play a joke. Both to amuse children and older people about Hallowe'en time; perhaps they feel licensed at the time to do things that they would not think of or dare try at any other time, because it is all laid on the spooks.



**Hallowe'en Party.**

A little gathering of young people, in honor of Kathryn Lipke, who was up from Seattle, was held at the home of Clara Everton on Hallowe'en. After seeing a real ghost there, those present went over to the home of Leanore Pike, where they were badly frightened by a very tall spook.

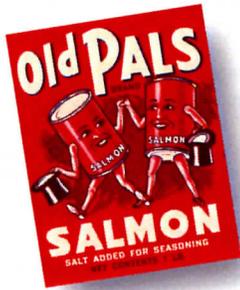
**Hallowe'en Masquerade.**

The Masquerade given at the pavilion on Hallowe'en was a decided success. Characters were well sustained, and the attendance large. Dewey's orchestra furnished fine music.



# Edmonds Historical Museum Happenings

## Member Events & Programs



This past year we have re-invigorated our Member's Only Exhibit Previews. These events have been wonderfully successful! Members enjoy light hors d'oeuvres, beverages and a sneak peak at the newest exhibit. If you haven't joined us for an exhibit preview, please consider doing so. It's a wonderful chance to meet and interact with staff and board members, along with other historical society members. You might even be a lucky winner of the door prize! Our next Member Exhibit Preview is Friday November 18th, from 5-7 pm.

Last month we welcomed Ross Coen, PhD candidate from the University of Washington, to speak on the history of canned salmon labels. This topic, which was part of his dissertation, was an unique opportunity added to our newest exhibit: *Hook, Line & Sinker*. We hope to offer more experiences like this in the future—so stay tuned!

## Community Events & Partnerships

We're fortunate to be a part of a wonderful community who values partnerships. This summer marked some important milestones for the Ed-

eca  
edmonds center for the arts



monds Center for the Arts and Edmonds Community College.

ECA turned 10 and celebrated with a much deserved Birthday Bash which included a timeline detailing the history of the original Edmonds High School plot and structure. We

were honored to loan some artifacts that helped tell the story. These included a watch fob from Edmonds High School class of 1924 and a high school diploma for George Dewey Leyda, who graduated from EHS in 1917.

Edmonds Community College which is celebrating their 50th anniversary kicked off a year long celebration with a party at Triton Field. Some artifacts on loan include a 1975

-1976 Art & Literary Publication for the community college and booklets from Edmonds Community College campus in Japan.

Look for the Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society & Museum to partner with more organizations in the months to come!

## Exhibits

Our upcoming holiday exhibit will feature toys throughout the decades. Do you still have your favorite childhood toy? We would love to encourage you to loan your toy for our display. Let us know by emailing us at: [info@historicedmonds.org](mailto:info@historicedmonds.org) or 425-774-0900.



## Give Back This Season!



Next month we are holding a clothing drive for Clothes For Kids. Packages of new underwear and socks are greatly needed along with jeans. Look for more information coming soon!

## Grant Update

At the start of the year we were awarded a grant to re-inventory, catalog and update our artifact collection, along with purchasing preservation supplies, including new shelving with a specific section for large artwork, photographs and paintings. We are so proud of all the hard work already completed and would like to give you a sneak peek at some of the wonderful updates. As a member, your dues help us continue the important work of pre-



4th Annual Heritage Days Benefit



Get your tickets for “All Aboard! Steaming a Path Through History” the historical society and museum’s annual fundraiser. This year we are excited to host Glenn Farley of King5 News fame, and an avid model train enthusiast. He will give a riveting talk on how Edmonds’ own Pacific Fast Mail changed the model train hobby. Don’t miss out on this wonderful opportunity to meet members and friends of the museum and historical society.

Come join us and lend your support to our mission! For your convenience we have added a “ticket” for you on the back of this newsletter. Hope to see you there!

End of an Era

As you may know Mike & Margaret Wilcox are “retiring” from the Summer Market. They will continue to be important figures and resources on the Market Committee,

but hand the reins to Dean Larson for market day organization. We want to thank them for all their hard work and dedication to the

Museum’s Garden & Summer Markets over the years. They have been an integral part to the success of the markets and we wish them the very best!

We also say farewell to Kathe Hall as author of the newsletter’s Research Corner. Kathe has been developing and writing the column, and acting as our Volunteer Researcher, for many years. She has ferreted out unique articles and information which have given us a glimpse into the area’s history. Thank you for all your hours of service and research - you’ve answered so many questions, and given wonderful advice!



In Memoriam

The following memorial donations were received in memory of:

Alan Macfarlane

By Bob & Carol Close

The universe gained a bright new star when the soul of Alan W. Macfarlane, 87, started a new life on May 23, 2016.

Born February 3, 1929, he was the eldest son of Alan and Josephine (Renz) Macfarlane. He attended Laurelhurst Elementary, graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1946, and received a BA in Chemistry from Whitman College in 1950. While at Whitman, he was a member of Phi Delta Theta; the college later named him a Distinguished Whitman Alumnus. He began his lumber career with Weyerhaeuser at the Snoqualmie Mill, serving as sales agent for Weyerhaeuser in MD, VA and Washington, D.C. He returned to Seattle in 1955 to work at the Macfarlane Lumber Company, a wholesale lumber brokerage, founded in 1946, which he operated until 2004.

He married Virginia Symns Norton in Washington, D.C. in 1954 and had three children. After Virginia’s death in 1975, he met and married Lyn Campbell Sullivan in 1977, adding three stepchildren to their family.

An avid amateur astronomer, he pioneered color astrovideography, spoke to adults at as-

tronomy conventions, and published articles in Astronomy and Sky and Telescope. He conducted 90 astronomy-related interviews on various local TV news programs, receiving national coverage for NBC News for a lunar eclipse in Hawaii. As a teaching astronomer, Alan accompanied ten airline flights to observe Halley’s Comet. His proposal for video observation of Mars was a finalist for amateur use of the Hubble Telescope. Macfarlane took astronomy to the schools. His talks and video tour of the solar system gave over 14,000 local elementary schoolchildren a glimpse into the universe, leading to his nomination for the Jefferson Award for Public Service in 1987.

Rich in creative hobbies and interests, he summited Mt. Rainier and Mt. Hood and loved hiking and backpacking in the Pacific Northwest. He loved shorelines, snorkeling and scuba diving. As a sculptor, Alan developed a method of casting and plating bronze busts from clay. He sculpted a head of Seattle banker Joshua Green, among others. An engaged community member, Alan served as past president of the Seattle Astronomical Society, the Windermere Corporation, The Rainier Club, and was a member of the Rainier Club, and the Edmonds Historical Society. Alan and Lyn were proud to be co-founders with the Owens family of what would become NAMI-Greater Seattle.

Beverly Neff  
By Alice Pierce

Beverly Neff passed away at home on March 21, 2016, after battling cancer for many years. Born in Everett, Wash. on January 27, 1932, to Charles and Adda Bienz, Beverly met Desmond (Ted) Neff, who had also attended Edmonds High School, at a Saturday dance at the Masonic Temple in March, 1951. Five months later, on August 24, 1951, they were married in time to depart for Pullman, where Ted began his four years as an undergraduate. Four years, two children, and an undergraduate degree later they returned to Edmonds, Wash. where Bev continued to work to support Ted in his pursuit of a dental degree, which he completed in 1959 at UW. Together they raised five children, and celebrated 64 years of marriage last August. She touched many lives and made many friends as she worked for the Edmonds School District, served as a wedding director at

the Edmonds UMC for fifteen years, and volunteered with various community groups. Her Soup Group, Sewing Club, Class of 50 and Claire’s Tuesday lunch group were among her favorite ways to keep in touch with Edmonds friends. Connecting with friends made at WSU or UW, as well as out-of-state relatives kept Bev and Ted busy traveling. Bev enjoyed spending time at the lake cabin where she could relax, read her mystery books, play cards, float on an inner tube, or host family gatherings. She and Ted welcomed many people to her home and hosted two foreign students, Solomon Misango from Uganda and Luis Araujo from Brazil, during her children’s school years. She loved her family, friends, chocolate and the Huskies. When not busy lunching, meeting or traveling she was content at home to watch her favorites, Family Feud or HGTV. We will all greatly miss her.

Memorial donations are put into our general fund unless otherwise specified

Edmonds-S. Snohomish Co.  
Historical Society & Museum  
PO Box 52 - 118 5th Ave. N.  
Edmonds, Washington 98020

*Return Service Requested*

Non-Profit  
Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Lynnwood, WA  
Permit # 1071

# Heritage Days

Reserve your seats for November 5, 2016 6-9pm  
Holy Rosary Pastoral Center  
Please remit to: PO Box 52, Edmonds WA 98020

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Tickets @\$80.00 ea. For a total of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Table of 8 @\$600 (\$75/person) for a total of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please seat me with: \_\_\_\_\_

I am unable to attend, but please accept my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For credit card payments  
Please visit  
[www.Historicedmonds.org](http://www.Historicedmonds.org)



**Museum Open Hours:**  
Wednesday through Sunday  
1pm to 4pm

[www.historicedmonds.org](http://www.historicedmonds.org)  
[info@historicedmonds.org](mailto:info@historicedmonds.org)

Note: Alan Macfarlane's obituary appeared in the Seattle Times /  
Beverly Neff's obituary appeared in the Everett Herald

### Opt in for the eNewsletter

Opt in for receiving your quarterly newsletter by email. Reply to: [info@historicedmonds.org](mailto:info@historicedmonds.org) with "(your name) Opts In" in the Subject Line. Help us to stay green and conserve paper!

