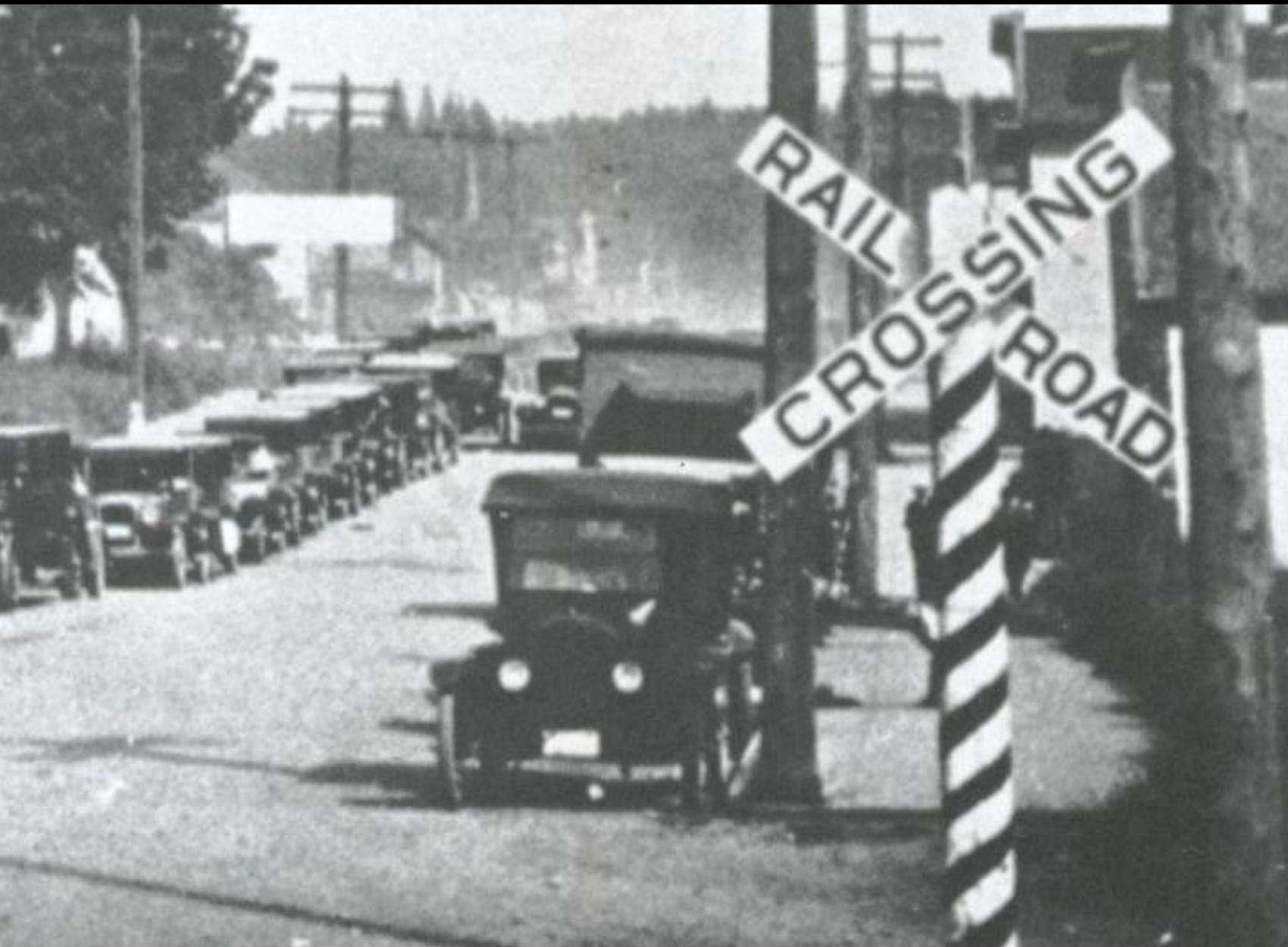


The MUSEUM *Light*

May
2011

Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society and Museum



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The Museum Light is a publication of the Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society whose mission is to perpetuate the memory and spirit of our pioneers; to identify and preserve historical documents, relics and incidents; and to encourage historical research, today and tomorrow.

From President Bill Lambert

May 2011

It is with humility that I write to you as the newly elected President of your Historical Society and Museum. As a relative newcomer to the Edmonds community, my wife Judy and I moved here from Cincinnati, Ohio in 2004, I welcome the opportunity to work with the Board Members and volunteers to sustain and build your programs and activities.

2011 has already been a banner year: an energetic, capable new director, Tarin Erickson, arrived; the Board completed strategic planning for 2011-2012 and beyond; a well-received exhibit, "Nothing but Stumps and Mud," opened; and the 100th Birthday of the Carnegie Library was celebrated.

COME AND HELP US GROW

If you are not currently a member, I encourage you to join for 2011 NOW! It is the passion and commitment of the Edmonds and South Snohomish community that powers this remarkable Society!

Bill

From Museum Director Tarin Erickson

Wow - a lot has happened since our last newsletter! We have installed our new train layout downstairs, moved the Marine Room, started participating in Art Walk every third Thursday, and of course, welcomed many people through the doors to read Martha Reynolds' diaries. It is an exciting time at the museum!

The upcoming months are filled with many fun programs and events. We hope you can join us for the grand opening of our Train Room June 4, from 1-4 p.m., to see all the changes we have made! While you're here, check out the new Marine Room and the current exhibit celebrating our Carnegie Library.

I have enjoyed meeting a number of you in the last few months, and hope to meet even more as spring turns to summer and more people venture downtown. I am here most Mondays-Thursdays, so stop by and say hi. Even better, come down and volunteer for a few hours. We are always looking for more docents or help in other areas. It's a great way to stay in touch with us. See you soon!

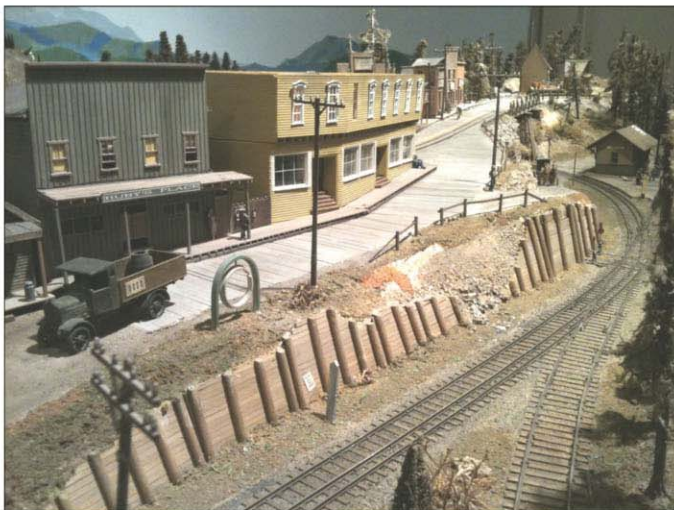
-Tarin



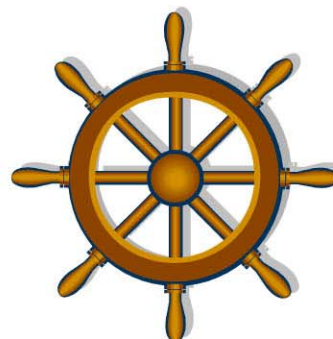
New Exhibits Opening at the Museum

Train Room Grand Opening June 4

Our new model train layout downstairs is almost ready for its grand debut. Join us June 4 from 1-4 p.m. for our grand opening celebration. Tickets will be mailed out soon.



The celebration will include food, drinks, a raffle, the train's inaugural trip around the track, and an opportunity to invest in railroad stock. That's right, you can own your very own piece of the railroad layout! Don't miss this celebration and your chance to be a part of history at the Edmonds Historical Museum. The layout was a donation from Sean and Duf Drew, the heirs to Donald Drew's estate. Donald Drew, who bought the Pacific Fast Mail (PFM) company in 1966, created the layout and it was located in his Edmonds office for many years. We are lucky to have it now as part of our permanent collection.



Marine Room Gets Makeover

Also reopening June 4 is the Marine Room, which had to be relocated due to the acquisition of the new train layout.

The Marine Room is now located in the old jail cell, and the steel floors of the cell now resemble the hull of a ship. Stop by and see the transformation!

Current exhibit: Carnegie Library Centennial



Come explore the pages of Edmonds' history at our current exhibit, opening May 11. The exhibit celebrates the anniversary of the opening of our Carnegie Library, and explores the history of this building and the library system in Edmonds from 1901 to today.

Carnegie Library Centennial:
*Celebrating the legacy of learning in
 Edmonds, Washington*
 May 11-July 17

NEW WEB SITE!

Our web site has a new look! Thanks to the generous donation of time and expertise by Richard Lawrence, we now have an updated site that includes more information, photos, and even **PayPal** for those who prefer to renew memberships, make donations or join online.

4TH AVE.

Public Meeting June 2 for Downtown Cultural Heritage Project

Work is beginning on the Preserve America grant funded project to create a walking tour of downtown Edmonds focused on a loop along Main Street and north on 4th Avenue up to the ECA and back on 5th. Residents, property owners, and interested community members are invited to attend a public meeting on June 2 at 7 p.m. at the Edmonds Conference Center, 201 4th Avenue N., to learn more about the project.

The City Arts Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, Edmonds Historical Museum, Edmonds Center for the Art, Edmonds Arts Festival Foundation and EdCC Conference Center are partnering on this project and we need your help in gathering our collective story for this part of downtown Edmonds.

Be part of preserving our community history and share your memories about 4th Avenue and downtown Edmonds. For more information contact the City of Edmonds Arts Office 425-771-0228; chapin@ci.edmonds.wa.us

From Buckets to Faucets:

Water Supply in Edmonds



Turn on the faucet and as if by magic we have a free flow of water, hot, cold and everything in between. We all appreciate having clean water to drink, cook with, and bathe. We all know diseases, typhoid, cholera, and dysentery, to name three that are more well known, are the result of ingesting dirty water. Did you know in areas where people lacked access to clean water they drank beer, ale, or wine and if they couldn't afford it they took their chances if they couldn't.

Cleanliness may be next to godliness but our ancestors did not have the luxury of regular

bathing. We shudder to think of not being able to bathe on a regular basis but bathing, out of necessity, was often postponed until the snow melted, streams were no longer frozen and the water was warm. Depending on your stamina and the weather, that might mean you don't bathe between October and May.

When Edmonds was first settled each family established their own water system. The first settlers made their homes close to the beach at the bottom of the bowl. The land between the village and the top of the bowl had many springs and streams. Homes near these water sources would push hollowed out logs into the streams and let gravity channel the water to them. Some people put out rain barrels, some hand carried buckets of water to their homes. Since water was so close to the surface it was even possible to dig only a few

Research Corner

By Kathe Hall



feet before you had your own well. By 1890 the newer houses had hand pumps installed at the wells or on their back porches.

As the community grew clean water became more of a challenge. Rain and multiple water sources eroded the denuded hillsides to the east and Edmonds became a sea of mud. Additionally the flooding waters sweeping through vulnerable outdoor facilities and already saturated land would compromise the health of the community.

The boundaries of Edmonds in the late 1890's were Edmonds Street on the north, Fifth Avenue on the east, Dayton Street on the south, and the waterfront on the west. Shell Creek on the north and Yost/ Shellabarger Creek on the south were the largest water sources. The citizens of the community were displeased with the water problems and petitioned for a water system controlled by the city. After several months of discussion the water committee "petitioned that an ordinance be drawn providing for the construction of water works and for issuing and sale of coupon bonds for \$6,000 to pay for same and providing a special election that the people of the town may vote for or against said proposition." The financial

responsibility appeared to be too much and the vote failed.

Several ideas, over the next months, were proposed but each was turned down. Finally, Mr. W.D. Perkins, a financier from Seattle, presented to the City

Council a proposal that would give the right to lay water pipes in Edmonds. His company started laying pipes between 10th and 11th on north and south sides of Main Street. These pipes channeled the water from Shell Creek and its tributaries. All the pipes were made of cedar wood wound with wire and coated with a preservative. Believe it or not some of these pipes lasted into the 1950's. They were often compromised by heavy mud or the huge loads of logs being hauled to the waterfront. A health officer was hired to check for needed repairs.

George Brackett also had a smaller water system south of town utilizing the springs at 11th and Maple. Another water system was owned by Louis C.



Edmonds Spring Water Company, Main St., between 1st & 2nd, George Yost at desk, Nov. 1913

Engel, John Medeen, & William H. Cook. October 17, 1899 a tract of land for water was deeded to the town by A.M. and Amanda Yost. Mr. Yost formed the Spring Water Co. and on Oct. 1, 1902 the company was granted a franchise applied for by Daniel M. Yost. Later this company purchased the Perkins' & Engel's water systems.

Some time later, after continuing complaints concerning water quality and rates, the city considered going into the water business. Mr. Yost offered to sell the business to the city for \$30,000 and to take city bonds in payment. The city was so in debt at the time that they ended up awarding the Edmonds Spring Water Co. a 25 year franchise.

Volunteers

Market Volunteers: A Call to Arms - Once Again!

Our Summer Market Committee is in dire need of more able bodied members to help “set up” and “take down” our White Elephant Booth each Saturday (July 2 through Oct. 1st). There are two short shifts each Saturday (7:00 – 8:00 AM and 3:00 – 4:00 PM). If you can help out on either shift for two or more Saturdays – your volunteering will be very much appreciated.

Here are the answers to some of the questions you may have:

(1) If I “answer your call” and volunteer my time for certain Saturdays, will I be sent a schedule verifying my time slots?

Yes! Once we know who would be available and when – a work schedule will be established and sent to you either by email or regular mail sometime during June.

(2) Is any training required?

No. If you’ve never participated before, you would be paired with an experienced volunteer.

(3) Does either shift require hard physical labor?

Not really. It does involve carrying boxes of goods to and from the tables, however.

So that’s it. If you’re ready and able to answer our “call” or if you have any additional questions regarding this ongoing task, please contact Don Olsen, either by email or phone as soon as possible. So a schedule can be set up before July – we’ll need to know of your availability by the end of May. Contact Don Olsen:
email: donolsen@aol.com – phone: 425-771-6496.



Garden Market Starts May 7

The Edmonds Museum Summer Garden Market starts May 7, and runs through June 25. It is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Public Safety Parking Lot at Fifth and Bell in downtown Edmonds.

The Summer Market starts July 2 at 9am. This year the museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Summer Market Saturdays (July 2-Oct. 1). Don’t miss it! For more information, go to our web site at: www.historicedmonds.org



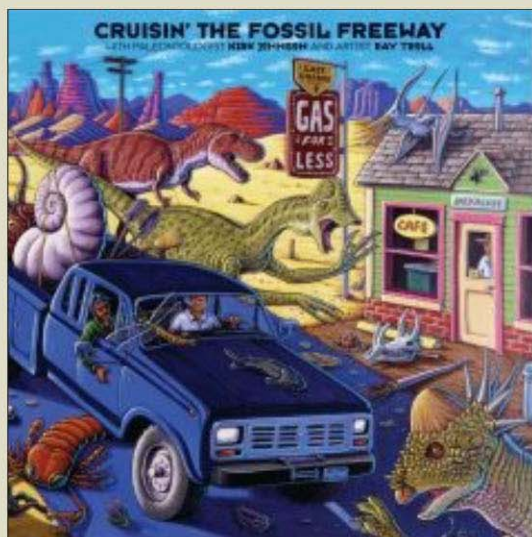
DOCENTS WANTED:

We welcome anyone who is interested in becoming a museum docent. We ask for a three-hour commitment each month. Please contact the museum with your details, or for more information.

Our next exhibit ...

Cruisin' the Fossil Freeway

*In Association with the
Burke Museum, University of Washington*



**Exhibit runs
July 23 - October 2**

In Memoriam

The following memorial donations were received in memory of:

Lillian Sorensen

Donated by
Alice Pierce and Evelyn Jasper

Bob Sorensen

Donated by Alice Pierce

Jim and Janet Murphy

Donated by Dale and Donna Hoggins

Memorial donations are put into our general fund unless otherwise specified.

We would like to acknowledge the following donations and membership levels:

Donations received from:

Cynthia Accetturo	Bill and Judy Lambert
Mary Ann Bakken	Francis and Darlene Lucas
Stephen Beck	Ray and Ruth Pennock
Nancy Blakemore	Alice Pierce
Norma Bruns	Jean Richards
Joy Cain	Robert Taylor
Ramona Durham	Thom Wert
Mary Hawley	Teresa Wippel
Dale Hoggins	Joan Wolgemuth
Frank Keeler	Herb Yellin

Sustaining Members

Bob Aldrich	Dorothy P. Gross
Stephen Beck	Evan and Josephine Lloyd
Robert and Claire Brine	Lyn and Alan Macfarlane
Diane Buckshnis	Gail Michaels
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Jeff and Lorena Daggett	Steven Pennington
Barbara and Pat Fahey	Stan and Rita Wiklund
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Benefactors

Norma Bruns	Chuck LeWarne
Sean and Duffy Drew	Brian Taylor
Jack and Kathe Hall	Windermere Real Estate - Edmonds Office
Dave and Marlene Johnson	
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Edmonds Center for the Arts	Sound Styles
Edmonds Chamber of Commerce	Stephen A. Bernheim, Attorney at Law
Edmonds Printing Co.	Union Bank
Edmonds Vision Center, P.S. Inc.	Walnut Street Café
Edward Jones/Alan Lawrence	Van Hollebeke Insurance & Financial Services
Greater Edmonds Chamber of Commerce	Washington Federal
Guildmark Antique & Appraisal Service	Windermere Real Estate- Ron & Michelle Clyborne
Housewares	The Wooden Spoon

ESSCHS is a private, non-profit organization (501 c-3) and receives no regular funding from the City or County. We welcome your support and membership!!!

Edmonds-S. Snohomish Co.
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Museum Open Hours:
Wednesday through Sunday,
1pm to 4pm

Photo credits - front cover: Photo No. 150.22, Edmonds Historical Museum archives

Research Corner sources:

Ruth C. Sater - (1902-2001) Oral History File: Her personal recollections of early Edmonds.

Edmonds the Gem of Puget Sound: Ray V. Cloud: pp 19, 29, 44

http://www.ci.edmonds.wa.us/wtr_src-qual.stm

http://www.ci.edmonds.wa.us/discovery_programs_website/Yost_Park.html

The historical society would like to thank the following people for their generous donations in support of our train room and marine room remodeling projects: Greater Seattle Floors, for their donation of hardwood flooring for the Marine Room; Reliable Floor Coverings, Inc. of Edmonds for installing the Marine Room flooring; A.P. VanMeter for his donation of 16 train cars and one PFM engine for our new model layout; Verna Rauscher for her assistance and expertise in all things relating to PFM; Bob Clos for supervising construction projects in both rooms; and countless other volunteers for their time and dedication. We appreciate all of you!
