



NEWSLETTER

The mission of the Mercer Island Historical Society is to collect, preserve, research, record, and make available the heritage of Mercer Island.

Newsletter Editors: Susan Blake & Terry Moreman

Fall 2012 Newsletter

Dr. Chuck Wischman, M.D.

Health Care Reform History, Development and What it Means to You

Monday, September 17, 1 PM

Health Care Reform and what you need to know. The Supreme Court upheld it's constitutionality, keeping provisions already in effect and allowing other measures to phase in as scheduled.

As the law stands now, your guaranteed Medicare benefits are safe and you can your own doctor. If you like your employer's coverage, keep it and do nothing. If you would like to make a changes, in 2014, you will be able to buy coverage through Washington state's health insurance exchange. If you have low to middle income, you may be eligible for a subsidy to help with the cost. If you don't buy health insurance by January 2014, in most cases, taxpayers without it will be required to pay a special tax on their returns.

Historical Society member Dr. Chuck Wischman, M.D. will speak on health care reform, it's history and the development of health insurance and what it means to you. He is deeply interested in how health care is delivered throughout the world.

An Island resident since 1968, he and his wife Judie raised seven children as well as much of their own food. Chuck worked for 29 years as an Internist and Gerontologist at Group Health Cooperative. He retired 17 years ago. He is a frequent speaker for various groups and teaches classes through the TELOS Program at Bellevue College.

Karl House

Research Analyst
Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society
The Mosquito Fleet

Monday, October 15, 1 PM

The Puget Sound Mosquito Fleet was a large number of private transportation companies running smaller passenger and freight boats on and other nearby waterways and rivers. This large group of steamers and sternwheelers plied the waters of Puget Sound, stopping at every waterfront dock. Residents put a flag up as a signal and the boat would pick them up. The historical period defining the beginning and end of the Mosquito Fleet is ambiguous, however the peak of activity occurred between the first and second World Wars. Karl House will discuss the Mosquito Fleet on Lake Washington before 1916 with a power point presentation.

Karl House, a Seattle native born 1934, graduated Queen Anne High School in 1951 and the University of Washington in 1955. During school vacations and weekends he worked as a deckhand and mate on tugboats for Foss Co. and Washington-Tug and Barge Co. He was commissioned in the U S Navy 1955, serving 3 years at sea on two Naval ships. Following active service, he served in the Naval Reserve for 25 years, retiring with the rank of Captain.

He currently serves as research analyst for Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society.

Mercer Island Police Office

Jennifer Franklin

Are You Prepared for an Emergency?

Monday, November 19, 1 PM

In case of an emergency such as an earthquake, do you know how to:

- Turn off your water either at the house or the street water main?
- Turn off your gas?
- Turn off your electrical?
- Do you have a battery or hand cranked radio?
- Do you have a first aid kit?
- Did you know you can use your water heater as an emergency water supply?
- Do you have a list of emergency contacts that are not in the immediate area?

The Mission of Mercer Island Emergency Preparedness is to have Mercer Island be self sufficient for 7 days.. Our Mission includes city government, city staff, citizens, businesses, schools, and the faith community. We should all be prepared to be self-sufficient for 7 days following a major disaster where public safety and emergency medical services are overwhelmed and may not be available to respond to most calls.

Officer Jennifer Franklin has been a Mercer Island Police Officer for over 22 years, the last 4 years as the City of Mercer Island's Emergency Manager.. Prior to police work Jennifer was in Army Intelligence for 4 years. Jennifer graduated from the University of Washington and currently lives in Issaquah with her 5 year old daughter Isabel.

Location Of All Programs:
Mercer Island Community Center
8236 SE 24th Street

Mercer Island Historical Society
P. O. Box 111
Mercer Island, WA 98040

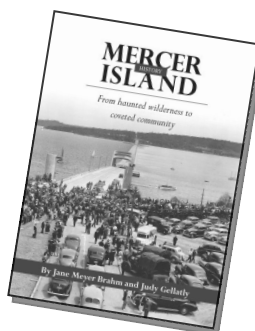


PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Mercer Island WA
Permit No. 135



"A mere compilation of facts presents only the skeleton of History; we do but little for her if we cannot invest her with life, clothe her in the habits of her day, and enable her to call forth the sympathies of succeeding generations."

- Hannah Farnham Lee, Historian



Dear Fellow Mercer Islander:

Page by page, the new, improved Mercer Island history is taking shape. The effort is led by Jane Meyer Brahm, with the help of an able editorial board made up of Nancy Hilliard, Sally Brown, Susan Blake, Laurie McHale, Kris Kelsay and Dick Decker. They read and edit drafts of chapters and meet monthly to contribute information and ideas, discuss content, consider layout options and select photos. Meanwhile, they share nuggets of "new" history they've uncovered, amidst much reminiscing, wrangling, and laughing. A Marketing Committee is planning the launch.

Meanwhile, word about the to-be-published book is spreading in the community. Brahm presented her program: "An UN-History: What Mercer Island would be like if ideas from the past had come to pass" to the Mercer Island Historical Society last fall. Since then, she's presented to the Mercer Island Women's Club, the Covenant lunch group, and the Island House men's group. She's scheduled to speak to the Mercer Island Probus Club on Wednesday, April 4th. Other members of the editorial board will be making presentations as well.

Please help make this history project possible. Sponsorships are needed to help pay for the printing of the book. For a \$50 donation your name will be listed in the book. The donations are tax-deductible. Donations may be sent to the Mercer Island Historical Society, P.O. Box 111, Mercer Island, WA 98040. **It's an invitation to make history!**

Many thanks,

The Mercer Island Historical Society Board of Directors:

*Phil Flash, Susan Blake, Ed Rice, Sally Brown, Rand Ginn, Virginia Anderson,
Dick Decker, Bob Lewis and Kisi Goode*

All Meetings Held At:

Mercer Island Community Center
8236 SE 24th Street
Mercer Island, WA

Contact Us:

Web: www.mihistory.org
Phone: 206-232-6187
Email: info@mihistory.org

Membership Reminder!

If the label on this newsletter has a red star, your membership is current through 2012. If there is no red star, it is time to renew. Membership is on a calendar year: January-December. Individual memberships are \$15. Family memberships are \$20. Membership dues pay for newsletters, mailings and office expenses. Renew your membership at a monthly meeting or mail your renewal check to:

Mercer Island Historical Society
P.O. Box 111
Mercer Island, WA 98040

*The Mercer Island Historical Society
is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.
All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.
Please pay your dues if you haven't
done so already! We need your support!
Special donations are also
appreciated to further our work!*