

# EASTSIDE HERITAGE CENTER



*Connections for yesterday, today, and tomorrow.*

## HERITAGE REFLECTOR

Fall 2016

Volume XVI

Issue 3

### Vision

To be a destination heritage museum and research facility that enhances community identity through the preservation and stewardship of the Eastside's history.

### Mission

To steward Eastside History by actively collecting, preserving, and interpreting documents and artifacts, and by promoting public involvement in, and appreciation of, this heritage through educational programming and community outreach.

### In this Issue

Recent Accessions.....	2
Collection Corner.....	3
Wish List.....	3
Winters House Closure.....	4
Message from Director.....	5
Programs.....	6
Gift Corner.....	7
EHC Membership .....	7

# Making the Cut: Eastside Stories

### Bellevue Biography:

**William H. Hewitt**  
(b. circa 1870, d. unknown)

William Hewitt was born in Wisconsin in about 1870. He was the son of Henry Hewitt, Jr., a wealthy businessman.

In 1890, the Hewitt family moved to Washington State, and Henry Hewitt acquired multiple mining, lumber, and manufacturing companies in the Puget Sound area, from Everett to Tacoma. In 1903, William was put in charge of the family's lumber mills in Everett.

In 1904, when Henry Hewitt purchased a lumber company on the east side of Lake Washington on Wilburton Hill (just east of a town called Bellevue), he

**LONG TIMBERS FOR PROMPT SHIPMENT**

Cedar Flume Stock and Cedar Shiplap.

We are Manufacturers of View of Our Plant.

**FIR AND CEDAR LUMBER AND RED CEDAR SHINGLES**

**HEWITT-LEA LUMBER CO., BELLEVUE, WASH.**

*Above:* Advertisement for the Hewitt-Lea Lumber Mill, located on Wilburton Hill. From the EHC Reference Collection

made William the overseer of logging operations at that location as well.

The Hewitt-Lea Lumber Company, as William's mill was called, used the nearby Mercer Slough to transport logs. Workers would cut the logs on the hill, and then

send them down a long chute called a flume into the Slough. From there the lumber could be towed into Lake Washington.

In August of 1916, the US Army Corps of Engineers completed the Lake Washington Ship Canal. The

*Continued on pg. 2...*

...Hewitt cont.. from pg. 1



Above: Loggers posed with felled tree, at the Wilburton logging site, EHC Collection #OR/L79.79.057

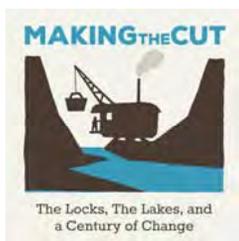
water level of Lake Washington dropped by nine feet, and sea-going vessels could now sail from the Pacific Ocean all the way into Lake Washington.

When the water level in Lake Washington dropped, the Mercer Slough began to drain. The newly shallow waters in the Slough made it much harder for the Hewitt-Lea Lumber Company to transport its product, and the company shut down in 1919.

The owners of Hewitt-Lea, including William, sued King County, arguing that the construction of the Ship Canal had destroyed their business. The lawsuit was successful, and the

businessmen were awarded \$125,000, though this was later overturned.

Please follow the Facebook page for *Making the Cut: The Locks, The Lake and a Century of Change*, to stay up-to-date on county-wide centennial celebrations, focused around the opening of the Hiram Chittenden Locks, or check out the website [www.makingthecut100.org](http://www.makingthecut100.org).



Left: Before the opening of the Ship Canal, the waterline in Lake Washington was 9 feet higher than it is today. This photo shows the lake's original shoreline, c. 1910.

#L96.025.020, Dick McDonald Collection

# Recent Accessions

*Thank you for your donations to the collection:*

**Margot Blacker** – Eastside newspapers, clothing worn by donor from her time as a Bellevue city council member

**Lee Maxwell** – Personal archives related to the opening of Meydenbauer Center, artifacts from the Nelson-Hendee family of Duvall

**Will Adams** – Digital image of Lake Hills Roller Rink

**Theresa Cuthill** – Bellevue High School Barques, 2007-2013

**Jan Stout** – Archives from the Lake Washington Chapter of the Association of University Women

**Bellevue Collection** – Bellevue Arts and Crafts Fair photos

**Ty and Terry Thorpe** (in honor of Rody Burrows) – Tools and other artifacts from the Burrows Cabin and Burrows family

**Nokomis Club** – Club archives from 2013-2016, building plaques

**Patty Bainter** – Bellevue Chamber of Commerce materials, 1960's

**Anonymous** – Atari computer console and games

**Marshall Curtis** – King County newspapers, 2000's

**King County Historic Preservation** – File on Old Bellevue development, 1980-1990's



Above: Wall clock from the Cherry Valley Grade School in Duvall, c. 1920, from the Nelson-Hendee Collection, 2016.045.005, donated by Lee Maxwell

**Bellevue Rotary Club** – Service Club sign from The Smokehouse Restaurant

**Anne Christensen** – Bellevue Art Museum commemorative puzzle, corset cover

**Paul Brallier** – digital archive of materials from the Northtowne Community Club

**Betina Finely** – two catchers mitts, c. 1920

**Brian Wescott** – Dunn-Wescott family genealogy materials

**Dean Jowers** – Railroad tie from the Sammamish River Railroad Trestle (Burlington Northern Railroad Bridge 6)

**Melissa Haferty** – Jane McDowell's candy tin



# Collections Corner

Sarah Frederick  
Collections Manager

## Exhibits

Eastside Heritage Center's next exhibit will be at the downtown Bellevue Library, and opening on October 28th (up through November 14th).

You may or may not be familiar with the name Dudley Carter, but you've likely seen his artwork around the Eastside. The creator of the Forest Deity, Bird Woman and Legends of the Moon (just to name a few), was King County's first artist in residence in 1987. He lived in Redmond's Slough House until his death in 1992.

The exhibit will include carved models for some of Carter's larger sculptures, as well as more information on this important Pacific Northwest artist.

## Projects

A big project underway in our collections department is an inventory of our artifact collection. Thanks to funding from 4Culture, EHC has been able to take on two University of Washington Museology Graduate Students to help us with this significant endeavor.

With 778 boxes, containing the majority of our 60,000 piece artifact collection, we are anticipating this project to take a couple of years to complete. Our two interns, Lauren Banquer and Blair Martin, are going through each box, item by item, and comparing the contents with the corresponding box inventory sheet.

We started this project in June, and so far, have made it halfway through EHC's extensive clothing collection

(numbering approximately 335 boxes). Additionally, they are notating items with condition concerns or numbering problems, so they can be addressed by staff.

This project has already improved access to the collection and led to some new discoveries of items we did not know we had!

Watch for some of Lauren and Blair's finds to be displayed at EHC's Benefit Dinner in February and in an upcoming newsletter.



Above: Blair & Lauren hard at work in EHC's collection storage facility.



Above: Dudley Carter at work on a sculpture, EHC reference collection .

## Wish List

*EHC is seeking the following donations:*

### For Care of the Collection

- HEPA vacuum for cleaning artifacts.
- Rolling garment rack to use when processing or repairing textiles.

### For the Collection

- Photos, documents, ephemera from 1910-1920 related to lowering of the Lake Washington and the eastside communities affected
- Eastside materials from the 1970's to present day
- Materials from the Crossroads and Eastgate neighborhoods, any era.

- Issues of the *Overlake Outlook* newspaper.

- Lake Hills Roller Rink or Skate King photos or ephemera

### For use in the office

- Android or Windows tablet for use in off-site storage and at events.

- Self-healing (PVC) cutting mat for producing labels for exhibit and outreach activities.

To Donate Items:

Call: (425) 450-1049 or

Email: [collections@eastsideheritagecenter.org](mailto:collections@eastsideheritagecenter.org)

## Eastside Heritage Center

### Board of Trustees

Betina Finley <i>President</i>	Sherry Grindeland <i>Secretary</i>
Brittany Barker <i>1st Vice President</i>	Ross McIvor <i>Treasurer</i>
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Rick Carlson	Trisha Nerney
Don Davidson	Michael Nesteroff
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Anne Pickering Morisseau	

### Staff

Heather Trescases <i>Executive Director</i>	Sarah Frederick <i>Collections Manager</i>
Jane Morton <i>Education Coordinator</i>	Lexi Roberts <i>Marketing &amp; Events</i>

### Endorsers

Bob & Clodagh Ash	Sarah Langton	Colin Radford
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George Brace	Ken Johnson	David Schooler
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Birgit Hansen	Charles Morgan	James & Gwen Warren
Peggy Hansen	Bob Neir	Robert & Barbara Welsh
Bob Hennig	Phil & Shelley Noble	Rosalie Whyel
Thomas K. Hitzroth	C. & W. O' Donell	Marcy Williams
Helen Johnson	Arnold Olson	
Karen Klett	Sally Polk	
Suzanne & Tom Knauss	Connie Reed	
	Betty Ann Rizk	

# Winters House Closure

In preparation for the construction of Sound Transit's East Link light rail line, the City of Bellevue has closed the Winters House for approximately four years. Sound Transit anticipates



construction of the South Bellevue segment of East Link to begin as early as January 2017. The rail line will run on the east side of Bellevue Way SE, dropping down into a covered trench as it passes in front of the Winters House.

The Winters House was built in 1929 in Spanish Eclectic style for \$32,000 by Frederick and Cecilia Winters. In the late 1980s, the Bellevue Historical Society worked with the City of Bellevue to restore the structure and subsequently list it on the National Register of Historic Places. Since 1992, the City and EHC have partnered to provide programming, exhibits and public access to the historic site.

Eastside Heritage Center's archive and research center are currently located within the Winters House, but will be relocated for the duration of the closure. In addition, all furnishings in the House will be put into secure, climate-controlled storage, until the

site re-opens to the public after the construction of East Link. For research inquiries and public access to Eastside Heritage Center's archive and artifact collection, please call (425) 450-1049 or email [collections@eastsideheritagecenter.org](mailto:collections@eastsideheritagecenter.org).

EHC has worked with representatives from Sound Transit, the City of Bellevue and the State's Historic Preservation Office, to ensure that appropriate steps are taken to protect the structure during construction. These measures include:

- Frequent city inspections;
- Monitoring devices to detect ground movements;
- On-site evaluation of excavation and construction by geotechnical engineers; and
- Construction barrier and dust control measures around the house.

For questions related to the East Link project, contact Marie Jensen with the City of Bellevue at (425) 452-2064 or [mjensen@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mjensen@bellevuewa.gov).

# Important Message from the Executive Director & Board President

It is with much emotion that I write this message to say that after 11 incredibly fulfilling years as Executive Director of Eastside Heritage Center, I have made the very difficult decision to move on to the next chapter in my life.

Eastside Heritage Center is made up of passionate and dedicated people, working together to preserve the generations of stories that tell our region's history. It fulfills a mission that is critical in an area that is changing so rapidly. There is a constant need to understand what was here 10, 20, 75, 100 years ago, to learn about the efforts and accomplishments of those who have come before. It is this knowledge and understanding that shapes strong community identity and pride.

I feel so fortunate to have been a part of this amazing organization for more than a decade, and to have played a role in its growth and development.

As a newcomer to Bellevue back in 2002, getting involved with Eastside Heritage Center as a volunteer was a way for me to discover more about my new community. Little did I know what an important part of my life the organization would become. Not only did it provide me with a connection



to Bellevue's past, it helped shape my civic involvement and gave me a true sense of belonging to a community that I now consider home and where I have established roots of my own. I am truly grateful.

My last day will be November 4<sup>th</sup>. What's next? For now, with three young children at home, I am looking forward to dedicating more time to them – from the chaos of activities to the treasured moments together as a family.

Thank you for your support. It has been an honor to be entrusted with the leadership of Eastside Heritage Center for all these years.

I will miss being involved on a daily basis, but will continue to be a strong advocate for the

organization, its mission, and the cultural vibrancy of our community.

I do look forward to keeping in touch, so please feel free to reach out to me personally at any time at

[HeatherTresc@outlook.com](mailto:HeatherTresc@outlook.com).

Sincerely,

Heather Trescases  
Executive Director

\*\*\*\*\*

We are saying farewell to Heather Trescases, our amazing, talented, loyal Executive Director, November 4, as she leaves Eastside Heritage Center. After dedicating 11 years to EHC as director and several years prior as a volunteer, we're thrilled she's deciding to pursue a bigger calling of spending more time with her family and three young children.

However, replacing Heather is not easy and we will miss her valued work ethic and super organizational abilities. For years she's successfully grown our heritage dinner and Strawberry Festival, wrangled loads of high schoolers for volunteer activities and helped negotiate with public agencies, cities and businesses to keep history and EHC relevant and present in our region. She helped locate a storage facility for our collection and has actively

listened to generations speak about their times on the Eastside and how special our city histories are to them. We will truly miss the pleasure of working with her.

Heather has made a lasting difference for EHC and has ushered us into a new era of expectation and hope for what it means to be the keepers of the stories, artifacts, and archives of the Eastside, while educating our community about their lasting heritage in an era of rapid growth and change. We wish Heather well and much success for the future.

The Eastside Heritage Center Board has convened a transition committee to begin the search for a new Executive Director.

This is an exciting time for our region, and Eastside Heritage Center looks forward to continuing its mission of preserving the past, building community and connecting people to their heritage.

Sincerely,

Betina Finley  
Board President  
[betinarf@gmail.com](mailto:betinarf@gmail.com)

# Save the Date!

## Heritage Benefit Dinner

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

5:30pm-9:00pm

Meydenbauer Center

### Get Involved!

Be an Eastside history advocate, and join us as a **TABLE CAPTAIN** or **SPONSOR** this year! Invite your friends and colleagues to join you on a trip down memory lane and a journey into the Eastside's past.

For more information, call 425-450-1049 or email [info@eastsideheritagecenter.org](mailto:info@eastsideheritagecenter.org)

High School Memories...



Tickets \$100 per person.

Registration opens in November at [www.EastsideHeritageCenter.org](http://www.EastsideHeritageCenter.org)

# Upcoming Program

## HANDS-ON HISTORY:

### EASTSIDE FARM LIFE

**Date & Time:** Thursday, November 17, 2016  
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Location:** KidsQuest Children's Museum  
4091 Factoria Square Mall SE, Bellevue, 98006

**Admission:** \$1.00

Celebrate Bellevue's history through the use of a corn shelling machine and corn grinders. Collect eggs from a chicken coop, weigh them, and see how much they were worth in the late 1880s. Don't forget to milk Daisy Belle the cow before you leave!

Presented by Eastside Heritage Center  
in partnership with  
KidsQuest Children's Museum.



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# Gift Corner

Treat your friends, family (and yourself!) with the gift of Eastside history!

Visit our [online bookstore](#) to tour a variety of books on the Eastside.

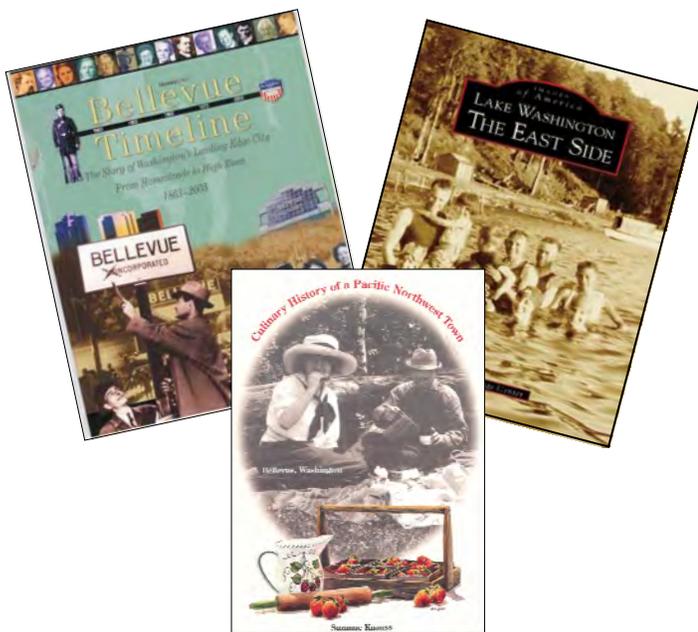
Whether you want a book filled with photos, or are looking for something with more text, there is something for everyone.

Some examples of available books include, *Bellevue Timeline* a documentation of Bellevue from 1863-2003; *Arcadia*

Publishing's *Lake Washington: The Eastside*; and Suzanne Knauss's *Culinary History of a Pacific Northwest Town*.

Many more great Eastside reads are also available! Visit our digital bookstore at [www.EastsideHeritageCenter.org](http://www.EastsideHeritageCenter.org)

You may also want to consider giving the gift of **Membership** as a start to the New Year! You can do so with the form in this Newsletter, or through EHC's website.



## Eastside Heritage Center MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:**

- Benefactor \$1000
- Contributor \$100
- Steward \$500
- Family \$40
- Supporter \$250
- Individual \$25
- Organization \$100
- Student \$15

Enroll me as:  New Member  Membership Renewal  Gift

MEMBER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*This membership is a gift from:* \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION:**

- Check (make checks payable to the Eastside Heritage Center)
- Credit Card
- Visa  Master Card  American Express

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_ V-CODE (last 3 digits on back) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution: \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

My company will MATCH my gift. Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*The Eastside Heritage Center is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.*

**PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO:**

Eastside Heritage Center Phone: 425-450-1049  
 P.O. Box 40535 Fax: 425-450-1050  
 Bellevue, WA 98015 [www.EastsideHeritageCenter.org](http://www.EastsideHeritageCenter.org)

**All Eastside Heritage Center**

**Members receive:**

- Membership Card
- Quarterly Newsletter with historical features and program updates
- Invitations to exhibits and programs
- 10% discount on books and gift shop items

**CATEGORIES:**

**Benefactor - \$1,000**

Receives Steward Benefits, plus:  
 Honored at Annual Event

**Steward - \$500**

Receives Supporter benefits, plus:  
 Special publication  
 Curator's Tour of the collection

**Supporter - \$250**

Receives Organization benefits, plus:  
 Historic photo reproduction

**Organization (schools, scout troops, etc) - \$100**

Receives Contributor benefits, plus:  
 Discounts on Treasure Box rentals, field trips  
 and classroom presentations

**Contributor - \$100**

Additional benefits include:  
 Access to Archives fee waived

**Family - \$40**

**Individual - \$25**

**Student (under 18 years of age) - \$15**

## EASTSIDE HERITAGE CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 40535, Bellevue, WA 98015

Tel: 425-450-1049

Fax: 425-450-1050

E-Mail: [info@eastsideheritagecenter.org](mailto:info@eastsideheritagecenter.org)

Website: [www.eastsideheritagecenter.org](http://www.eastsideheritagecenter.org)

**McDowell House** (EHC Administrative Offices)

Physical Address: 11660 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

Office Hours: M-F, 10am - 4pm

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