

# WAGON WHEEL

April 2017

Duvall Historical Society · PO Box 385, Duvall, WA 98019 · [www.duvallhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.duvallhistoricalsociety.org)

## Remembering Ray Burhen



**CULTURE**

*We are grateful to 4culture, the King County Cultural Services Agency, for their support in the preservation of our heritage.*

**Don't forget!**

**Remember  
Membership  
Dues for  
2017 are  
due!**

Ray Burhen was born September 9, 1927 in Oklahoma City, OK. On his 13th birthday, his family moved to Seattle where he graduated from Queen Anne High School at the age of 16. He then attended the University of Washington, interrupting his stay at UW during World War Two to join the United States Navy, where he continued his studies in the Naval Pilot's program, as well as The Montana State School of Mines and Colorado School of Mines. Upon receiving his Honorable Discharge from the Navy in 1947, he returned to the University of Washington to finish earning his Bachelor of Arts Degree with emphasis on engineering and zoology. After graduation, he purchased and ran a sawmill in Stillwater, WA (midway between Duvall and Carnation.)

When the Korean War began, Burhen was drafted into the United States Army where he served in the 25th Medical Battalion, running a Dental Aide Station. With his service completed in 1954, he returned to Seattle where he began a 35-year career at Boeing. Working primarily in program planning as an aerospace engineer, he was part of teams which designed, engineered and developed the B-52 Stratofortress, the Hickam

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and SAGE projects, AWACS radar, Hydrofoil, and Space Shuttle among others, before retiring from Boeing in 1987. Work of all types was fun for him and in his free time Burhen tended up to 200 cattle, cut wood, bailed hay, raised fields of corn, had a vegetable garden and performed the various jobs associated with running an 80-acre farm. He also enjoyed walking in the woods to oversee his various real estate interests. In 1978, he built Duvall's Depot Village Mobile Home Park virtually by hand, operating it for nearly 35 years before selling in late 2012.

Ray met his beloved and devoted wife Tove in 1949. The college sweethearts went their separate ways before reconnecting years later and marrying in 1986. Together, the Burhens have carved out an eternal legacy in their beloved Duvall and the Snoqualmie Valley with their exemplary work in the community. Ray purchased the Milwaukee Railroad depot in 1954, restoring it in 1980 and donating it to the City of Duvall in 2004, who moved it to the river trail entrance of McCormick Park. Ray and Tove were also influential in the restoration of the historic Dougherty Farmstead as well as the Snoqualmie Valley Senior Center. As part of their tireless involvement with the Duvall Historical Society, they helped publish 8 books including "Digging Duvall's Past" and the "Wagon Wheel" and "Jist Cogitatin" series. Ray faithfully served on the Duvall Planning Commission for 22 years, 20 of those as Chairman. Ray and Tove were also well known for their continuous attendance in the front row at Duvall City Council meetings, and their frequent interactions with the King County Council and Washington State government, making innumerable trips to Olympia to meet with politicians. Thousands of dollars in college scholarships have been funded by the Burhens for Cedarcrest High School students.

Among their many acknowledgements, Ray and Tove Burhen were the first to be awarded Duvall's "Volunteers of the Year" in 2012. They were Duvall Days Grand Marshals in the city's centennial year of 2013. To also celebrate the centennial, a "temporary" sign was put in place on 275th street to honor them...which remains today. In 2015, Metropolitan King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert joined the cities of Duvall and Carnation to salute them with proclamations praising their volunteerism. And in 2016, in a lasting recognition of their many contributions, the street leading to McCormick Park, the depot, and comfort station was renamed, "Northeast Burhen Way."

Article taken from Ray Burhen's obituary, which was posted in The Woodinville Weekly.

# Historic Happenings in Duvall



Dressing the Edwardian Woman presentation was a smashing success. Thank you to everyone who attended.



Fruit tree pruning workshop hosted by Duvall Historical Society

Randy Lee, currently president of Snohomish County Fruit Society taught pruning of apple and pear trees at the Dougherty Farmstead in Duvall on the morning of March 25<sup>th</sup> 2017. Duvall area residents and members of Snohomish County Fruit Society attended the class, most bringing their own pruning

tools, about 20 people total. The 3 primary goals for the morning were to manicure 4 dwarf Liberty apple trees, a heavier pruning for 2 semi-dwarf Akane apples, and being renovation for a very old pear tree. We were lucky, the weather was overcast with a breeze but NO rain.

Randy began by emphasizing the importance of getting direct sunlight to the fruit buds. Under exposed buds become weak and lack the vigor resulting in poor fruit set. He talked about the difference between “pruning” and “heading cuts” on limbs, when, where and how to remove different sized limbs and the importance of thinning fruit. A fruit tree can produce only so much weight in fruit. If you remove some of the fruit, the remaining fruit will be larger and of better quality. Also, the tree is better able to maintain good health by avoiding the stress of carrying a large fruit load. The best time to thin is when fruitlets are between the size of a nickel and a quarter. After Randy’s talk folks were encouraged to participate with hands on pruning and the group effort yield fantastic results. Within 30 minutes or so the apple trees were smartly rounded into shape.

The big task for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the class was 1<sup>st</sup> stage renovation of the estimated 70+ year antique pear tree adjacent to the bunk house building. The pear tree is 3 or 4-year renovation since it has not been pruned for estimated 20 years. The rule is to remove no more than one-third of the limbs per year to avoid shock. The tree was originally maintained at 15 feet height but over the years several spars grew vertically adding an additional 15 feet. The mass of interconnected limbs jutting from the spars had shaded out and stifled new vegetative grow causing much dead or unproductive wood. Also, the height of the tree made it dangerous to try and harvest fruit, the best fruit grows at the top. An extension pole pruning chainsaw was used to cut through the spars at their base then rope was secured to pull the spars out of the tree top. Now, sunlight can reach the tree’s interior, new growth will sprout froth from long dormant buds imbedded in the bark. Net year taller limbs will be removed and the tree will eventually be reduced to 10 feet of height. By the 3<sup>rd</sup> year new fruit will buds will bloom and should produce pears. We will take photos to document and archive the pear tree restoration sequence. Within the next few weeks, a Boy Scout troop will move masses of pruned pear limbs out of the lawn. Stay tuned for our March 2018 pruning class announcement in the Wagon Wheel, you are welcome to attend.



# Upcoming Events

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**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Historical Society Board Meeting**

Monthly board meeting at the Dougherty Farmstead 7pm.

**May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Historical Society Board Meeting**

Monthly Board meeting at the Dougherty Farmstead 7pm.

**May through September**

Stop by from 1pm to 4pm every Sunday through September 30<sup>th</sup> for a tour of the Dougherty Farmstead. Walk through the Dougherty House –built over 100 years ago- and visit the bunkhouse, milk barn, and pioneer cemetery nearby.

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**

**Duvall Days Open House 12pm-3pm**

More info to come soon.

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## Be Part of Historic Preservation, Volunteer!

The Duvall Historical Society is continuously looking for volunteers to help in its mission of recording and preserving culture. If you'd like to help with one of the opportunities below, or have an idea of your own, please contact us at [webmaster@duvallhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:webmaster@duvallhistoricalsociety.org).

- Dougherty House docent
- Website design
- Education and outreach
- Book publication
- Maintenance of buildings and gardens
- Cataloging of artifacts, books, and ephemera
- Promotion of Historical Society membership
- Planning of speakers and programs
- Research

### Current Officers

Rache Hess, President  
Mary Lampson, Vice President  
Alana McCoy, Secretary  
Connie Zimmerman, Treasurer

### At-large Board Members

Ruth Bellamy  
Kimberly Engelkes, Past President  
Tom Norenberg  
Greg Giuliani

The **Duvall Historical Society** is located at the Dougherty House at 26526 NE Cherry Valley Road, Duvall, WA 98019  
Contact us at [webmaster@duvallhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:webmaster@duvallhistoricalsociety.org)

### The *Wagon Wheel* is a bimonthly publication of the Duvall Historical Society

Editor: Rachel Hess

If you would like to receive a copy, be interviewed for a future edition, have something to share, or would like to be added to or removed from our emailing list, please email

[wagonwheeldhs@gmail.com](mailto:wagonwheeldhs@gmail.com)

## Become a Member!

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Enclosed/Yearly Membership Dues** (check one):

\$15 Individual Memberships       \$5 Students 18 & Under       \$250 Friends of DHS

**Would you like to receive information about volunteer opportunities?**     Yes     No

**Thank you for your support! Please detach and mail this form to PO Box 385, Duvall, WA 98019**