

WAGON WHEEL

May/June 2016

Duvall Historical Society · PO Box 385, Duvall, WA 98019 · www.duvallhistoricalsociety.org

May/June Events

June 4th

Duvall Days Open House

The Dougherty Farmstead was open for a special open house on Saturday, June 4th, from 1pm to 4pm. Visitors revisited Duvall's past and observed yarn-spinning demonstrations.

Upcoming Events

Sundays, May through September Dougherty Farmstead Open House

Stop by from 1pm to 4pm every Sunday through September 30th for a tour of the Dougherty Farmstead. Walk through the Dougherty House and visit the bunkhouse, milk barn, and pioneer cemetery nearby. The Dougherty House is located at 26526 NE Cherry Valley Road in Duvall.

August 26th

Novelty Cemetery Tour

Stroll through the Novelty Cemetery on this guided evening tour with Diane and Sam Baker. Hear legends of the cemetery's origins, and learn stories about the prominent Duvall residents who now reside there.

November 7th

How a River Defined the Valley; the Natural History of Duvall

Join us for this presentation by the Wilderness Awareness School. Monday, November 7th, at 7:30pm at the Duvall Visitor Center.



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

The End of the Trail

By Denny Redman

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For 40 years Duvall Books has easily been the cultural high point of Duvall with a wide sweep of loyal fans from all over the region and beyond. There were stories of people meeting other people in places like Egypt or Guatemala or Borneo who had all been and enjoyed a visit to Duvall Books.



Vicki and Mike Elledge, who founded Duvall Books in 1976, stand with their mascot "Uncle Wiggily" in front of the store. Longtime store employee and friend Denny Redman can be seen behind them in the window. (Photo by Lisa Allen)

But beginning May 1, owners Mike and Vicki Elledge stopped buying or trading books and started pricing everything that hung on the walls – saying they had had enough. No they weren't on the verge of dying. Yes, they had for years stayed open because so many people wanted the joy of coming in or returning. Naturally, there has been an outpouring of commentary and disappointment already as contented and smiling customers came by only to learn the sad news.

This is not just any business closing its doors due to a downturn in the economy or the passing of an owner. This is a loss that will be deeply felt by so many because Duvall Books has been part of their lives for so long. "I used to come in here when I was just a kid," people will say. It was generational, in other words. But more than that, the bookstore held a kind of solace and comfort, so much so that many customers often made weekly visits or almost daily



Denny Redman helps Mike Elledge price books and photos. (Photo by Lisa Allen)

visits in some cases. And if a pile of books next to your bed included many books unread, it still didn't seem like a serious vice. After all, you were only after some form of entertainment or the concentrated knowledge that comes from reading a book and not the vacuous and mindless brain suck of most television and radio to the point these days where it's actually so appalling you almost can forgive the world for its lack of insight and political acumen.

But if you are one of those who feels the loss and is feeling a bit blue, be reminded of the family of employees who work there. For despite the fact that they too have gathered their share of crows' feet or laugh lines, if you will, their great affection for the incredible assortment of humans that visited the store and the amazing stories and exchanges that took place is almost palpable. So is their closeness to each other. It is they who shall deal with the greatest loss – the loss of a sense of community that all of us long for and seem to need. That is something that Mike and Vicki fostered to a large extent and a big part of what made them such excellent employers as well as caring human beings.

Posted on their website (duvallbooks.com) are these comments:

"After 40 years of selling used books, we have decided to retire. We are selling everything: books, art, ephemera, bookcases, chairs, etc.

"Our plan is to start with 10 percent off everything and decrease the price every two weeks. We will close the store when there's not enough to stay open.

"As of May 1, we will no longer be accepting books. We will honor existing credit in our files.

"We want to express our sincere appreciation to each and every one of our loyal customers throughout the years. It's been a great ride; you never know who (or what book) will come through the door. Never a dull moment! It's given us a chance to meet some remarkable folks.

"Our store wouldn't be what it's been without the input, help, and support of each of our employees and longtime friends. Many many thanks and best wishes to them all.

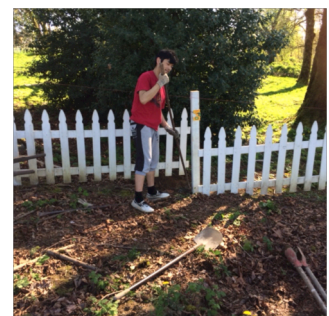
-Vicki and Mike Elledge"

Visit the Dougherty House on Your Summer Bike Tour

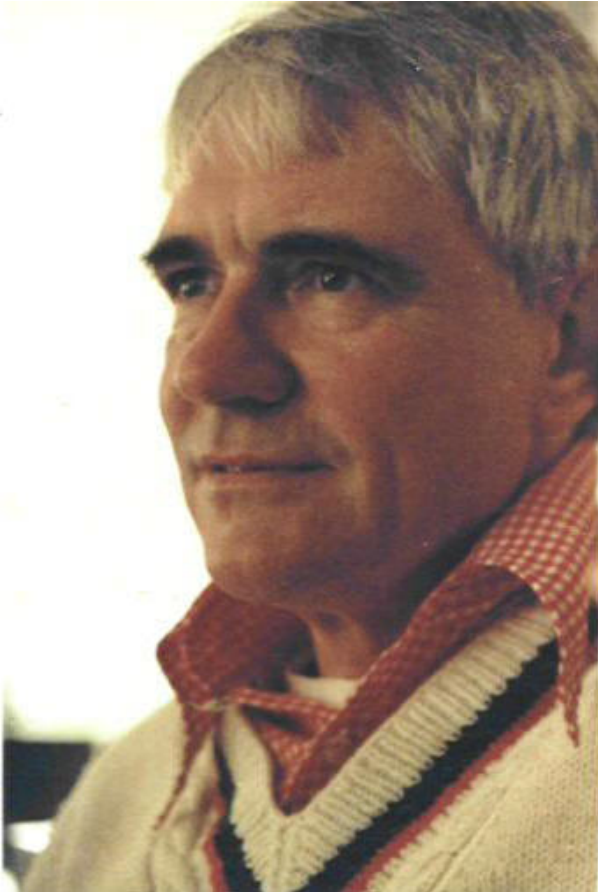
Valley Vignettes Tours now features the Dougherty House as one of the stops on both their guided and self-guided bike tours. Visit their website at www.valleyvignetestours.com, to learn more about biking our valley's history on the Snoqualmie Valley Trail.

Historical Society Thank You's

A big "thank you" goes out to Cedarcrest High School student Zhuhan Liu for his hard work and efforts repairing the Pioneer cemetery fence. The Historical Society appreciates you, Zhuhan.



Saying Goodbye to Duvall's Own Francis Cox



By LeeAnn Cox, daughter of Francis Cox

Dad was born in 1929 to Samuel Leonard and Mabel Hooey Cox on a farm in Langdon, ND. He grew up in Enderlin, ND, the eldest of four children. He is survived by brothers Thomas (Irene) Cox and Kenneth Cox, and baby sister, Janice Cox. Enderlin was sealed in his heart, and he visited as often as possible throughout his life.

He was very proud of his youthful days as a ski instructor/bum in Aspen, CO. In WA, he worked in the savings and loan industry managing branches for Cascade Savings & Loan, Franklin Savings & Loan, and ending his banking career as Vice President of Capital Savings & Loan in the late 1970s. He sang in a barbershop quartet, became a private pilot, coached little league, and was a member of the Kiwanis Club. We spent our growing-up summers cruising the San Juans in our 1937 wood cabin cruiser, the *Pal-o-Mine*. He and Mom were longtime parishioners at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Seattle and helped establish Grace Episcopal Church in Duvall.

Dad and Mom owned and operated a Coast-to-Coast Hardware store in the early 1980s in Duvall, WA, which eventually became the current True Value Hardware store. Dad was one of the founders of Valley Community Bank in Duvall and served on the bank's board of directors. He co-founded and served on the Duvall Business Association, which is now the Duvall Chamber of Commerce. He also served as chairman of Duvall Days. He and Mom were honored as Duvall Citizens of the Year in 1999. This past March, Dad and his childhood friend, Hubert Bleese, beamed while receiving their *North Dakota Flying Legacy* award jackets at a ceremony in Bismark, ND.

Dad died from complications of rheumatoid lung fibrosis on June 6, with his family surrounding him with love. He was sadly predeceased by his beloved wife, DeLayne Ann Welch Cox, in 2004. He is survived by his seven "super" kids, Colleen Wilson (Marc Wilson), LeAnn Cox (Richard Lynn), LuAnn Spitzbart, Cathleen Cox, Thomas Cox, Lorin Robertson (William Robertson), and Sarah Higgins (Mathew Higgins). He was so proud of his 12 "super" grandkids and 6 "super" great-grandkids.

There will be a memorial service for on Sunday, June 12, 2016, at Timberlake Church in Duvall, 15520 Main Street NE, Duvall, WA, at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to Seattle Children's Hospital Foundation, PO Box 5371, Seattle, WA 98145. Please write Francis William Cox on the memo line. Or, go to www.seattlechildrens.org and click on the "donate now" tab, upper right. Sign Dad's guestbook at Legacy.com.

Dad was always the consummate gentleman, and we will never hear Dixieland Jazz without thinking of him.

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.

- 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

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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

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Editor: Beth Lepkowski

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

Become a Member!

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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