



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: Tove Lund & Terry Moreman

Fall 2013 Newsletter

Dr. Bob Lewis

**North Korea:
"A Weird, Creepy Odd Place"**

Monday, September 16, 1PM

This past Spring, Dr. Bob Lewis spent a week touring the secretive, strange country of North Korea. Only about 60 Americans visit the country each year and there are some added restrictions for their activities beyond most of the rest of the world.

North Korea has an unpredictable, neurotic dictator, Kim Jong Un, who continues to follow in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. The country is desperately poor with about half the country malnourished and the worst human rights record in the world. It has almost no communications with the outside world and seems to be living in the Korean War era. The government makes threats toward South Korea, Japan and the United States and yet their leader is a buddy of Dennis Rodman (Chicago Bulls basketball player.)

Dr. Lewis will share his views and experiences from his North Korea experience.

Rich Conrad, City Manager

**The 35 Year History of
Rich Conrad on Mercer Island**

Monday, October 21, 1PM

Rich Conrad began working for the City of Mercer Island on July 23, 1979 as a research assistant to the City Manager. He was promoted to Assistant City Manager in 1989, and has served as the City Manager since 1996.

He has been very active in regional policy matters. He was instrumental in the transfer of Luther Burbank Park and Mary Waite Pool from King County. He has served on and chaired various regional boards dealing with issues such as affordable housing, public safety communications and the E-Government Alliance. He also served on the Suburban Cities Association Management Board. He is past president of the Washington City/County Management Association. Last but not least, he has been a strong supporter of the Historical Society.

He has a B.A. from the College of William and Mary and M.P.A. from the University of Washington.

Rich will be retiring from his position as City Manager January 5, 2014.

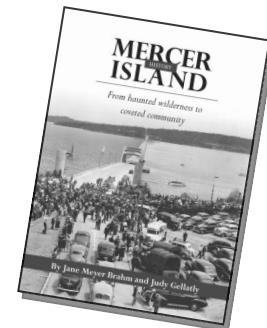
Jane Meyer Brahm

The History of the History Book

Monday, November 18th, 1 PM

The Inside Story Behind The History of Mercer Island

- Gathering a team – editorial board, graphics experts, other professionals
- How we got started, decided on a format, found a printer, etc.
- Getting organized, deciding on a process and sticking to it
- Photos and maps: all about finding them and using them to the best advantage
- What we learned about publishing a hardback book today – in the era of e-books and Amazon
- What we know now that we didn't know then – and what we'd do differently today



Location Of All Programs:

**Mercer Island
Community & Events Center
8236 SE 24th Street
Mercer Island, WA**

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

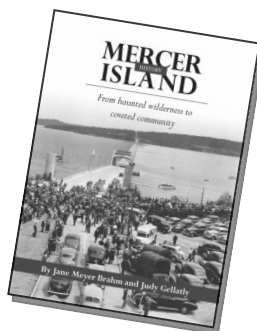


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“A mere compilation of facts presents only the skeleton of History; we do but little for her if we cannot invest her with life, clothe her in the habiliments of her day, and enable her to call forth the sympathies of succeeding generations.”

- Hannah Farnham Lee, Historian



Dear Fellow Mercer Islander:

The book is coming. ***Mercer Island History, From Haunted Wilderness to Coveted Community*** will go on sale November 1st at Island Books. Our thanks to Editor Jane Meyer Brahm, and her editorial board, Nancy Hilliard, Sally Brown, Susan Blake and Dick Decker for the endless hours they put into this book. They met monthly for three and a half years to contribute information and ideas, discuss content, make layout decisions and select photos. The final result is a book that not only tells the history of Mercer Island but has pictures never before published. Thanks also go to the many individuals, organizations and businesses for their generous donations supporting the publication of the book. They are recognized on the front pages of the book.

Island Books is the exclusive distributor for the book. Book sales will begin November 1st. If you preordered a book, you will be receiving a reminder postcard in mid-October. That postcard must be presented at time of purchase to receive your discount.

Watch the Reporter for news of a book signing event at Island Books in November. This is the perfect holiday gift for any Mercer Islander, former Mercer Islander or history buff.

Happy reading to all,

The Mercer Island Historical Society Board of Directors:

All Meetings Held At:

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

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