



THE REDMOND RECORDER

REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
MAY 2020 • VOL. 22 • NO. 5

Every town has a history. Discover ours.

THINGS TO DO FROM HOME

Love history? Looking for things to do from home? Check out our [online resources](#)! They are a great way to learn more about Redmond or get you started on a new research project. See pages 3-4.



Inside:

- Saturday Speaker Series returns “virtually,” p. 4
- Tom Hitzroth looks at Luke McRedmond’s estate, p. 6.
- Society profiles Business Member Teresa Potter of Urban Dakota, p. 8.

Due to increased production cost and postal fees:

- We are going to paperless in September unless you request a paper copy by responding that you would like it or need a printed version. See p. 5.
- You can opt to receive via email or find it on the website if you prefer.

2020

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Our finances are public record and may be viewed at the office.

FREE NEWSLETTER

If you don't subscribe, please sign up.
Call the office at **425.885.2919** or email info@redmondhistoricalsociety.org.
State your preference of email or U.S. Mail.
The Historical Society prefers email as it's inexpensive and photos are enhanced online.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK:

[facebook.com/Redmond.Historical.Society](https://www.facebook.com/Redmond.Historical.Society)

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HOURS Please contact the office to schedule an appointment

SOCIETY NEWS

Redmond Derby Days Cancelled

The City of Redmond has cancelled all major events through August. We will miss seeing you this summer at the Derby Days Parade. You can stay in touch with us through Facebook, and through our website. Be well, be safe!



Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Society Partners with Sotheby's International Realty

Marketplace Sotheby's International Realty brokers **Cynthia Olsen** and **Mary Sullivan** have formed a unique partnership with the Redmond Historical Society in an effort to help raise money for the Society. Sotheby's International Realty will give 10% of commissions to support the Redmond Historical Society when you or someone you refer is looking to buy or sell property. Ask Cynthia Olsen, Mary Sullivan, or the Society for details. Marketplace Sotheby's International Realty established this program as a way to give back to organizations that are committed to the welfare of our communities. For more information, contact Cynthia Olsen at cynthia.olsen@sothebysrealty.com, 425.877.9904, Mary Sullivan at mary.sullivan@sothebysrealty.com, 425.449.2841, or call the Society Office at 425.885.2919.



TIMES HAVE CHANGED!

By John Oftebro

Greetings from the “home offices” of the Board Members and Staff of the Society, which have been successfully moved to a new location—that we are not using yet.

These are the Times of COVID-19, and we want you to know that despite the circumstances, we are continuing with planning and committee work, and preparing to see you all again.

If you're bored with Netflix, take a look at the suggestions on our [website](#) to learn more about Redmond's history. You can even participate in collecting our current experiences in this historic time.

Sammamish Valley News

Archives: Look up [news](#) from significant dates in your family's life in Redmond.

History by the Decade: View interesting [timeline facts](#) since 1912.

Virtual Walking Tour: Enjoy [touring historic downtown Redmond](#) from the comfort of your couch.

Our Facebook Page: Here's where we share past and current stories, and you can add your experiences for all to see. And there are links to view other wonderful historic stories. You don't have to be a member of our [Facebook page](#) to join the fun.

We plan to resume our Saturday Speakers Series in the fall, but in a different way, by making use of online, or “webinar,” presentations. By now we believe the majority of our members have experienced Skype, Facetime, Zoom, or Google Hangouts by keeping in touch with family and friends afar. We plan to start with a **Redmond History 101** presentation in August. Our email invitation will provide simple instructions for you to join on your computer and ways to participate.

We will be launching our new website in the next few weeks. Any and all feedback will be appreciated.

Most important, we hope for all of you to stay healthy and safe!

THINGS TO DO FROM HOME

{Continued from page 1}

Sammamish Valley News Archive: The Society has a searchable, free online archive of the *Sammamish Valley News*. On the Society [website](#), click on **Collections**, then click on **Sammamish Valley News**. You can **browse** the archive by date, or you can also **search** for specific words, businesses, or individuals.

Past Perfect Online Catalog: Browse documents, photos, and even listings for 3D objects. It's a great place to start your research, and will give you a better sense of what's in our physical archives.

Tip: When searching Sammamish Valley News Archive and Past Perfect Catalog, to find an exact match for a name or phrase, try putting it in quotes! For example, searching for "Happy Valley" will return only results where the two words occur next to each other. Without the quotes, it will return *all* results with the words "happy" or "valley".

Our Manager of Administration and Archives is still working M-W, from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM! Though our office is currently closed, she has access to many items in our digitized collections. If there is an item in our collection of [Obituaries](#), or [Oral History Recordings](#) that interests you, please contact manager@redmondhistoricalsociety.org.

SATURDAY SPEAKER SERIES 'GOES VIRTUAL'

While we are sequestering ourselves for our health and the safety of others, we're planning to "go virtual" with our speaker programs for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic. It will be a learning process for us all, but we're in this together. We have an exciting series already scheduled for the fall, and meanwhile, we'll be presenting some other programs as we get up to speed. We'll let you know by email how to join us for these events, and we hope you'll encourage your friends to do the same. Let's make history together, apart!

NEWSLETTER ‘GOES NEARLY PAPERLESS’

To do our part to help the environment and to help reduce expenses, the Society newsletter is going *nearly* paperless. Starting with the September issue, *The Redmond Recorder* will be available from our website, by email, and only by printed mail (snail mail) to members who have requested as such.

- If you want a printed copy of the newsletter, download the newsletter from our website (click **About Us>Newsletter**) and print to your home printer.
- If you are a Society member, and cannot receive the electronic version—or if you prefer the printed copy—please complete the form below and mail it to: RHS, ATTN: Newsletter, 8345 – 154th Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052.
- If you receive this newsletter via snail mail and you are *not* a Society member, now would be a great time to join! See p. 11, or visit the Membership page on our website.
- If you would like to receive the electronic version of our newsletter by email, please contact our office at (425) 885-2919 or email manager@redmondhistoricalsociety.org. You can also sign up online.

Many thanks to the City of Redmond, and in particular to **Jodi Daub**, for coordinating the printing and mailing of our newsletter every month. *Thank you, Jodi!*

Yes, I am a Society Member, please send me the printed RHS newsletter. Thank you!

Names: 1) _____

2) _____

Address: _____ Unit # _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail to: ATTN: RHS Newsletter,
8345 – 154th Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052

LUKE MC REDMOND'S ESTATE

By Tom Hitzroth

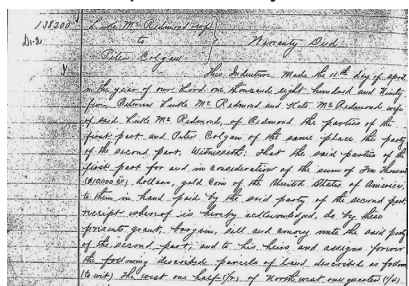
Although **Luke McRedmond** is one of the founding fathers of Redmond, I often wondered about the estate Luke left behind, considering the extent of his land holdings. I began looking for his probate record and was puzzled when I could not find one. I became more curious when I obtained his wife **Catherine McRedmond's** probate record. I began collecting Luke's land transactions in an attempt to follow the paper trail and learn when he acquired property. One day as I was studying two of the land records the answer to the puzzle began to present itself.

Catherine McRedmond died October 5, 1895. On April 11, 1895, Luke had sold all his land to **Peter Colgan** of Seattle for \$10,000.00. Luke retained some farm implements, furniture, and animals. On April 20, 1895, Colgan sold the same land to son **David McRedmond** for \$10,000.00. When Catherine passed away, Luke had

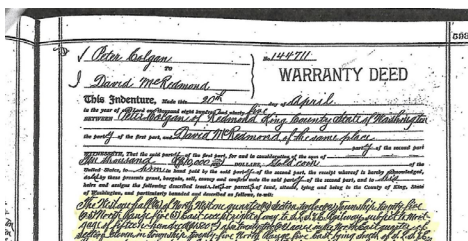
no real estate though he did have some personal property. Neither Luke nor his children applied to be administrator of Catherine's estate. On September 30, 1897, the King County Probate Court appointed **Lyman W. Bonney**, the undertaker, as administrator of Catherine McRedmond's estate. Luke apparently owed the undertaker, as well as other persons, firms, and corporations in Seattle.

On October 31, 1898, David McRedmond signed over the land he purchased from Colgan to **Justice William White**, his brother-in-law, for \$1.00. Much of Luke's Redmond land was in **Emma Mc Redmond White's** possession until its foreclosure in 1925.

Luke McRedmond helped found what would become a major city on the eastside of Lake Washington. The fact that his fortunes turned does not diminish the value of his accomplishments.



Top portion of deed,
Luke McRedmond to Peter Colgan.
Source: King Co. Archives, *Deed Book*,
Vol. 198, pp. 82-84.



Top portion of deed, Peter Colgan
to David McRedmond.
Source: King Co. Archives, *Deed Book*,
Vol. 199, p. 593.

SOCIETY CELEBRATES 17 YEARS OF WALKING TOURS



Tom Hitzroth in front of Justice White House/Hotel Redmond.
Photo: John Oftebro

Since 2003, Tom has led walking tours of Redmond's historic district. Over the years, the tour has evolved from one hour to two, with the script changing as new information is discovered. "I'm looking for the question I can't answer, which means I need to look further into a particular area."

A lifelong Eastside resident Hitzroth continues to work at identifying details of Redmond development from its earliest times into the 1930s. He is currently researching the historic site of

the earlier settlement of Melrose that preceded Redmond as well as the historic development of the downtown.

2020 Walking Tour Schedule

Sunday June 14, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday September 6, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

There is a suggested donation of \$10 per person with a limit of 10 people per group. You can pre-register for the event by calling our office at 425.885.2919. You can also drop by our office, or mail in a check to 8345 – 154th Ave NE, Redmond, WA, 98052. You can also pre-register on our website: www.redmondhistoricalsociety.org. Registrations must be received by the Wednesday before the tour.

Tours include a significant amount of walking and standing, with limited opportunity for resting. We recommend comfortable shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. If you have any further questions about our tours, please call our office. Tour begins across the street from the Justice White House/Hotel Redmond (Jensen/Fey Architects) at 7730 NE 76th St.

BUSINESS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: URBAN DAKOTA CREATIVE

Our business members are an important part of Redmond Historical Society! Over the next few months, we'll feature some of our business members and the impact community and history has on their business.

This month's spotlight is on **Urban Dakota Creative**. Owned by **Teresa Potter**, Urban Dakota has been a business member for two years and started in Redmond on Thanksgiving, 2013. Teresa started in the business out of high school and completed her degrees in Marketing & Sales, Supervision & Management.

Urban Dakota offers a boutique-style graphic design and marketing business, providing insight to capture client target markets while keeping a focus on branding. In addition, she develops logos, brochures, digital images for social and other media, and MailChimp marketing campaigns for both large and small projects.

Pricing is unique and based on no-obligation consultation; meeting with prospective clients and determining the project and best possible price quote; and even suggesting ways costs can



be reduced for both design and printing. This personal approach helps Urban Dakota provide project scope through branding and mood boards.

Teresa has designed graphics for many of our Society events, including the Ice Cream Social and Fundraising dinners, as well as layout and design for this newsletter, *The Redmond Recorder*. She loves being so closely connected to the community and having the opportunity to get to know them both professionally and personally.

Thank you for being a member!



URBAN
DAKOTA
CREATIVE

A SENSE OF PERSPECTIVE: 'AND THE PEOPLE STAYED HOME'

Editor's Note: Retired Wisconsin teacher Kitty O'Meara's prose poem exploded on the internet in March 2020. In an interview in Oprah! Magazine, she was dubbed "poet laureate of the pandemic." Her poem has been paired with emails, blog posts, and mistakenly attributed to Victorian novelist Kathleen O'Meara (in response to the 1919 Spanish flu).

Today, Ms. O'Meara's poem has inspired many to create art, music, and their own poetic expressions. Here is the text of the poem. May you find some comfort and inspiration as well. May you find "new ways of being."

In the Time of Pandemic

And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.

—Catherine M. ("Kitty") O'Meara



VOLUNTEER CORNER

By Jo Ann Potter

We love our volunteers! Here are the hours and efforts you've contributed so far in 2020. Thank you!

Month	Members	Hours	Activity
January	25	374	Ice Cream Social fundraiser planning, setup, takedown..
February	15	233	Committee work and fundraiser.
March	11	270	Committee work and office move. (Note: John Oftebro contributed 122 hours in moving the office! Thank you, John!)

A Volunteer Voice...

I've lived in Redmond since 1974, and commuted to Seattle. Four years ago, I attended a Saturday Speakers Series, asked questions, and the next thing I knew I was on the Board. Since then I've enjoyed meeting so many nice people who share a common interest in keeping our history alive.

—John Oftebro, Board President

OUR SOCIETY LIFETIME MEMBERS

Sharon Freeman, Ballisty
Louise Graep Barnes
David Best
John and Jay Cogan
Marjorie Costello
John Couch
Cory de Jong
Betty L. Emmanuel
Tony Emmanuel
Don and Mary Fowler
Frank Garbarino
Peggy Garbarino
Madeleine Roberts Hagen
Suzanne Hall
Wayne Hansen
Mary Hanson
Jerry Hardy
Chris Himes
Rosemarie Ives
Patricia Weiss Jovag

Barbara Weiss Joyce
Allen Lang
Judy Aries Lang
Judith M. Lankford
Miguel Angel Llanos
*Cheryl Strong Magnuson
*Gene Magnuson
Jon M. Magnussen
Dorothy Matsui
Diana Morelli
Panfilo Morelli
Allison Reed Morris
Edward O'Brien
Deborah Oftebro
John Oftebro
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Jo Ann Potter
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Subhadra Terhanian
Doris Townsend
Joe Townsend
Roger Trepanier
Arlyn Bjerke Vallene
Sue-Lynn Walsh
Patti Simpson Ward
Donald Glennister Watts
Joanne Westlund
James Windle

An asterisk (*) indicates Family Lifetime members. A full listing of Lifetime Members, both current and in memoriam, is available at redmondhistoricalsociety.org.



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Every town has a history. Discover ours.

CONSIDER A GIFT MEMBERSHIP FOR A FAVORITE HISTORY BUFF.

LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one only.)

- \$5.00** TRAILBLAZER (Student)
- \$25.00** PIONEER (Individual)
- \$40.00** HOMESTEADER (Family)
- \$250.00** VISIONARY (Business)
- \$1,000.00** HISTORY MAKER (Lifetime)
- \$2,000.00** LEGACY (Family Lifetime)

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fill out the form below, cut out and mail with your check to:

**Redmond Historical Society
Attn: Membership
Vision 5 Building
8525-163rd Court NE #120
Redmond, WA 98052**

**RENEW
Now!**

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION • Application effective for year: 2020

Membership Names: 1) _____ 2) _____

Address: _____ Unit# _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ Address Change

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

Newsletter Delivery Preferences

☐ New to Redmond

☐ I would like to volunteer

☐ Email

☐ US Mail

How did you hear about the Redmond Historical Society? _____



REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vision 5 Building

8525-163rd Court NE #120

Redmond, WA 98052

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