



Anderson Island Historical Society's

A Little Old, A Little New News

Spring - Summer 2019

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Volunteers check in for food safety training the evening before the Salmon and Rib Bake

President's Message

Bob Bedoll

It's been another great year for the Anderson Island Historical Society.

First, my thanks go out to all our amazing volunteers, for their tireless contributions to the weekly Wednesday work parties, the events, the potlucks, the gift shop, the docents, and the AIHS board. It's because of you that the AIHS is such an active and vibrant organization.

I hope you all have noticed some of the improvements we've made at the Johnson Farm, all under the direction of Wayne Wallace, our operations manager:

The Farmhouse: We have replaced some of the original, decaying windows with historically correct replacements, which hopefully will last another hundred years.

- We've installed a heat pump to keep the indoor winter temperatures reasonable. Although not historically correct, we felt it was the best way to preserve the farmhouse for future generations, and it was done in an inobtrusive way. (It's also much safer than the original wood-burning stove).

- We have a master plan for maintaining the farmhouse and ensuring that it remains the showplace of the farm. Karen Stephens is now our farmhouse curator and is giving it the TLC that it deserves.

The Gift Shop: We have installed a heat pump to keep the gift shop a pleasant temperature during the summer, and to preserve the inventory during the winter.

- We've replaced the door and improved the ramp to make the entry

BUILDING THE BARN: August 20, 1917

Rudy and Oscar Johnson erecting the barn.



One of our new informational signs

AIHS BOARD

Officers

Bob Bedoll, President
Ed Stephenson, Past President
OPEN Vice President & Ways & Means
Bobi Hughes, Secretary
Todd Billett, Treasurer

Directors

Rick Anderson, Archives
Peggy Hodge, Education
Lynne Jacobsen, Public Information
Jeanne McGoldrick, Events & Community Services
Wayne Wallace, Operations & Facilities
Sutton Stephens, Director Emeritus

Museum Store, Kathy Bailey Leslie Lamb

Committee Chairs & Task Managers

Liane Heckman
Jane Groppenberger
Sue Huseby
Marsha Howells
Cathy Thome
Dick Throm
Dave Hummel

way more inviting.

The Barn: We've completed the county-mandated structural upgrades, and installed handicap parking and a ramp. The barn reopened this spring and is now available for events (with a maximum occupancy of about 40). Thanks go to Sutton Stephens and his crew for the great work.

- We've rearranged the exhibits in the barn, and we will be including it on farm tours.

The Farm: We've installed new signs on all the major out-buildings, allowing a self-guided tour of the farm. Thanks to Lynne Jacobson for the new signs.

- We've installed new sidewalks between the garden and the archival building.

We've also had a very successful string of events at the farm, including those sponsored by AIHS and by Island Arts. Again, Jeanne McGoldrick and her team have done an outstanding job on Farm Day, the Salmon Bake, and last year's Apple Squeeze and holiday open house. The monthly potlucks, organized by Peggy Hodge, continue to be both popular and enlightening.

Special thanks also go to the volunteers of the Gift Store (led by Kathy Bailey) who see a hundred customers each week and continue to be the single biggest source of income for the Historical Society

Thanks also to all our docents, led by Peggy Hodge, who every weekend provide tours of the farmhouse and the farm.

Our vision for 2025, the fiftieth anniversary of the Historical Society, it to have each of the smaller buildings, as well as both chicken coops, open as stand-alone museums. Rick Anderson, our Archives Director, is working with a team of curators to make this happen.

Finally, I want to thank you, our members, for joining with us to make the AIHS a wonderful part of Anderson Island life, both this year, and for many years to come.

Bob Bedoll, AIHS President





Setting up this year's silent auction at the Salmon and Rib Bake



One of the new displays in the historic barn



Lots of apples for the Apple Squeeze this year! 9/21/2019

Spring and Summer at the Farm

Farm Day

This event occurs toward the end of Spring, this year on May 25th. A family affair, you can find games for the kids, food for all, tours of the farmhouse and outbuildings. This year we celebrated the re-opening of our barn after a long couple of years of renovation. We also had a successful plant sale, and the first day of our Garden Market.

New signs for the farm were installed, and the farmhouse was spruced up for company!

Salmon and Rib Bake

July brought the annual Salmon and Rib Bake. This year's good weather meant great crowds, all enjoyed the fantastic food. This year's silent auction, held in conjunction with the bake resulted in excellent sales, all proceeds going to the general fund for upkeep of the farm. This is the major event of the year and draws in several hundred guest every year. Hope you were able to join us! Planning will start in January for the 2020 event. Contact Jeanne McGoldrick, 253-884-4096 if you are interested in working on the planning committee to make next year a success.

Summer Concerts

August had THREE concerts this year. The first, in July, was Daryl and the Diptones, this local northwest band is celebrating 35 years together! Then in August there was the Island Band concert, folks picnicked, enjoyed the sunset and relaxed to the music of some of the island's best musicians. A mix of jazz, rock and roll and blues filled the evening. The final concert was the return of the popular Tacoma Concert Band. Weather was a bit iffy, but the sunshine held out and the band entertained all with classical, standards and patriotic music.

Upcoming Events for Fall/Winter 2019-2020

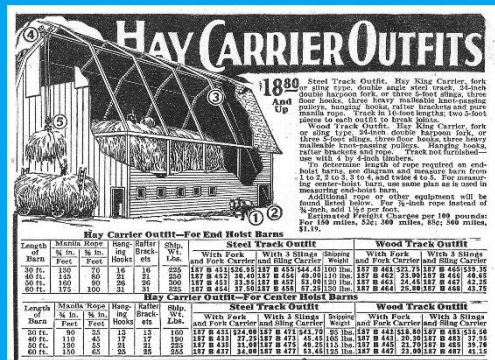
Apple Squeeze

Fall will kick off on September 21 with the apple squeeze. The red dragon, our mechanical apple press will be put into use making gallons of cider from the apples grown on the island. Look for more information on this event (date is dependent on the ripening of apples) on our website andersonislandhs.org. We will be dedicating the quilt display on the second floor of the farmhouse to Bernice Hundis, a long-time volunteer for AIHS and a life-time quilter, as one of our apple squeeze activities. Please join us for in this remembrance.

- September 21, Potluck 6 PM (note the date change) 7 PM:



Selling tickets at the Salmon and Rib Bake, a busy team!



Ad from a Montgomery Ward Catalog, Spring/Summer 1928 illustrating a hay carrier system similar to what we have in our barn at the farm.

This catalog and other interesting books and written material related to farming and the history of Puget Sound are part of our library

Ann Kane Burkly, author of McNeil Island (Images of America series) will present the history of McNeil Island. You can purchase copies of her book and get her autograph.

- October 26, 6 PM. Potluck, 7 PM Nile Thompson on local Native American tribes.
- November will be the Annual Meeting of the AI Historical Society.

Scheduling continues into 2020 with more educational presentations from January through March.

Holiday Open House at the Farm is set for December 1, the farmhouse will be decorated and we will serve Scandinavian treats and hot cider.

Archives and Displays

The Museum continues to improve and evolve, thanks to the work of the curators of each space. Visit our Archival Building if you have not yet done so to see the artifacts in cases and information boards. The sawmill and Chicken Coop #2 have been refurbished, cleaned and cataloged, the farmhouse has been spruced up, and some major and much needed work has been done in the attic, with the heating system and new windows. The barn is also now open for tours. The exhibits in Chicken Coop #1 have also been rearranged and staged. Our intern, Beau Barkley has scanned many of the documents and photos we have accumulated throughout the years into our digital files, and the website now has many short film clips and historical interviews posted.

As we expand our database and exhibits, we are aware that the most pressing concern is capturing the stories of the island and the farm. One exciting way of doing this is the film project. There is a team making a short documentary of the farm, starting from its' inception. Interviews with some of the 'hired hands' and long-time islanders are finishing up and being edited. Watch for the grand premier of this fun project!

Sharing our Venue

The Archival Building has a very full dance card! This has become a popular venue on the island with many events, hosting all of the Historical Society Events and meetings, but is also available for weddings, programs, musical and art events, and Share & Care. During the remodel of the Lakeshore Restaurant, the Wednesday night Bingo, sponsored by the American Legion, was able to meet here. Food trucks came in from town to feed the bingo aficionados, as well as delighted Islanders. September will bring the Anderson Island Second Annual Film Festival, and February will host the Ninth Annual "Winter at the Farm" art show.



Gardens were in full bloom for the visitors at the Salmon and Rib Bake



Community Garden

Sue Huseby, garden coordinator, reports that there are some gardens available for the new year. Just contact her: 253-358-5699 to reserve a spot. They are open now so you can get them cleaned up and ready to plant once the season starts.

The earlier you start the better. Don't wait until spring, all the spots will be long gone by then. Reserve your spot now and enjoy planning your garden this winter. Cost is \$40 plus your \$20 annual AIHS Membership.

Garden Market 2019

Submitted by Jane Groppenberger

The Garden Market at the Historical Society farm has done well this year with all the generous donations from our community gardeners and island residents. The Garden Market also is a great activity to meet and socialize with islanders and island visitors.

Our philosophy is to have all our produce donated to be grown organically. Vegetables that have been sold to date include beets, cucumbers, carrots, broccoli, tomatoes, peppers, various squash varieties, snap and snow peas, string beans, cabbage, cauliflower and more. We are so grateful to have such a variety of vegetables available for sale. Our diversity also included pounds of plums donated by the McGoldricks. Dick Throm spent hours picking Gravenstein apples from the farm orchard. We have sold about 175 pounds thanks to his efforts. More is to come in the weeks ahead.

I'd like to thank all the community gardeners who have generously given their extra produce which includes Sue Salo, Sue Huseby, Penne Wilson, Nancy Riggs, Debby Alvarez, Gayle and Jim McDaniels, Dana Gerstlauer, Gina Munson, Kathy Martin, and Robert Ball. Robert spent much time picking raspberries. His efforts gave us the highest income of July. Tim VanHaverbeke and Penne also contributed many pints of raspberries. Lovely flowers for bouquets many of which were created by Judy Olsen were supplied by, of course, the community gardeners. It is wonderful to sell such beautiful gifts.

We've had a grand year so far as the produce increases with the season and look forward to our last few weeks. Our last Garden Market will be on September 14.

All income earned at the Garden Market goes to the support of the Historical Society.



Always something new at the Gift Shop, come in and shop!



Be sure to check out our website: andersonislandhs.org for a complete calendar and other information about the museum

Gift Shop News

Once again, the gift shop is the most significant fund raiser for the historical society. The volunteers spend countless hours behind the scenes, attending gift shows, setting up displays and working every weekend from early April through mid-December. No visit to the farm is complete without a stop in the Museum Gift Shop. You will find a large inventory of art and crafts made on the island, along with other great items. The shop is closed from mid-December until April, but will open for you as needed. Contact Kathy Bailey at 884-9930 to make arrangements.

The Gift Shop is always on the lookout for helpers and consignors. It is a fun place to spend some time on weekends. The shop is also a great venue for selling your island made arts and crafts.

Contact Kathy Bailey (253-884-9930) or Leslie Lamb (253-884-2295)

Art News

Art Club meets every Thursday at 230pm in the Lois Scholl Room, unless the weather is great, then we meet at the marina! Bring your supplies and project and come to work with other artists on the island. It is nice to have someone to talk about your work and share your ideas with. Contact Gina Cummings to be added to the email list.

Gina17c@yahoo.com

Art classes have been successful with students learning drawing, painting (oil, watercolor and acrylic) included in this year's classes. In the fall we will be offering weekend workshops, watch for more information coming out in September, check the website and Island Sounder for more details.

Docent News

This summer, the Farmhouse has been open every Saturday and Sunday for the many visitors to our island and historical farm to enjoy. It has been a wonderful pleasure to see visitor's eyes light up as they "call back the years" or simply walk into an unfamiliar time period. Farmhouse curator, Karen Stephens, has displayed donated turn-of-the-century items in a timely way to make each room in the Farmhouse appear as though it is still in use by a farm family today.

HELP WANTED

There are so many ways to be a part of the Historical Society and make a major impact on our community. The farm is always in need of volunteers and there are unlimited ways to serve. You may want to just help at one of the big events, or you might be interested in position of our Board. Whatever gifts you have to share, we can put you to work!

We currently are in need of someone to serve as Vice President, this person would need some business experience and a willingness to attend the monthly meetings. We also are looking for some persons interested in taking on the task of chairing our major events such as the salmon and rib bake or apple squeeze. Contact Jeanne McGoldrick if this appeals to you. We'd love to have you on our team. 253-884-4096

We have weekly work parties (Wednesday 9-12) and you are welcome to drop in any time to see what fun it is to keep this farm going. There are several projects going on at any given time, I bet you find something that appeals to you. It might be weeding, painting, repairs, building, setting up for an event or something unexpected or seasonal, for example, in the winter we prune the orchard. We anticipate some building projects in 2020. Bring your enthusiasm! Great way to make friends!

Many thanks to this summer's docents: Bruce and Sally Buchanan, Betsy Donworth, Mary and Greyson Gelstin, Nancy Greshle, Peggy Hodge, Dave Hummel, Ann Ingham, Lynne Jacobsen, Luci Janzen, Sheryle Jaschke, Ellen Kaspi, Cyprienne Schroepel, Jerry and Linda Simonsen. All of you have made a huge difference in our visitor's (children through adults) appreciation and understandings of our island with your welcoming sharing of information. Your gift of time has stimulated curiosity and a deeper understanding of our island's history and connection to the Pacific Northwest. Thank you!

Now it is your turn to think about getting actively involved in the AI Historical Society as a DOCENT or Archival Building Host/Hostess

- Be a bridge between visitors and the AIHS Farm
- Stimulate curiosity and a deeper understanding of our island
- Actively engage visitors of all ages on their journey of discovery

Whether you have a passion for history or just love our island and its unique 1900's farm, you too can enjoy the interaction with visitors and neighbors, while being part of a group of guides with a 4-hour (or less), once a month commitment, to serve. No need to be a long-time island resident! We are recruiting now but will train new docents after the first of the year. Please contact Peggy for information (253-884-2078) or bookwoman!@centurylink

We are also looking for Archival Building hosts/hostesses on weekends. WE NEED YOU! Qualifications: "

- be a member of AIHS
- be interested in sharing the Johnson Farm with the public
- be available for 2-4 hours (or share a shift) Saturday 10-2; Sunday 12-4
- be 18 or older
- Serve once a month-more or less
- be able to share the posters/displays
- provide the Farm brochure for walking tours. Guide to Museum Store
- put out OPEN sign (kept in the building)
- be able to answer some visitor questions

If you could volunteer, please call Peggy (253-884-2078) or bookwoman1@centurylink.net.