

MOVING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK



Washington's First Women in Government

— with some Anacortes "First" women!

Through April 1

in the Museum's Carnegie Gallery

Did you know Anacortes had a woman mayor 35 years ago? Learn about Mayor Bettye Bryant and other groundbreaking Anacortes women at *Moving Forward: Looking Back: Washington's First Women in Government*, which continues through April 1 at the Anacortes Museum.

The traveling exhibit honors the first females elected to major public offices in Washington, from State Reps. Frances Axtell and Nena Jolidon Croake (1913-1915) to U.S. Sen. Patty Murray (1993-present). The exhibit is based on a 2010 Washington State Heritage Center exhibit commemorating the state centennial of women's suffrage.

The museum has added photos and information featuring eight of Anacortes' own "first" women. Some you know – like Police Chief Bonnie Bowers. Others may not be so familiar, such as Nina Antonius, the first woman elected to the Anacortes City Council.

Members Can Receive Museum News Via Email

Are you fighting stacks of paper around the house, but feel a little guilty tossing your old copies of Museum News in the recycling? Foundation members can save trees and postage by signing up to receive their quarterly newsletters via email.

To sign up, just email Anacortes Museum Administrative Assistant Elaine Walker at elainew@cityofanacortes.org.

If you prefer the printed newsletters you have received in the past — do nothing! We will continue to mail them to your address.

Anacortes Museum Foundation

Through memberships, the Anacortes Museum Foundation supports and assists the educational and preservation goals of the Anacortes Museum.

Become a Member – Support Local History!

Benefits of Annual Membership & Annual Membership Categories

- ◆ FREE admission to the W.T. Preston and Maritime Heritage Center
- ◆ 10% discount at the Museum store
- ◆ Invitation to exhibit openings and special events
- ◆ Quarterly Museum newsletter
- ◆ Discount on select special events

Student & Senior (65+)	\$10
Individual	\$20
Family	\$35
Business/Organization	\$50
Sponsor	\$100
Life.....	\$250
Donation.....	\$___

New Member Renewal

(Contributions tax deductible to fullest extent of law)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

*Please make checks payable to: Anacortes Museum Foundation.
Send to: 1305 8th, Anacortes, WA 98221. Thank you!*

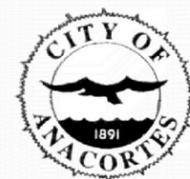


Anacortes Museum
1305 8th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-293-1915

<http://museum.cityofanacortes.org>
coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org

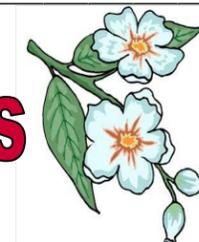
Gallery and Research Library hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays (except closed on Wednesdays); and the Gallery is also open 10-4 Saturdays and 1-4 Sundays.

The Anacortes Museum & Maritime Heritage Center exist to preserve and interpret the history of Fidalgo and Guemes Islands, and to nurture in the community an awareness and appreciation of its heritage.



Anacortes Museum News

SPRING 2012



Eight girls in festive fairy costumes savor sunshine and lollipops in this photograph of a Guemes School Maypole Day, circa 1933. From left are two unidentified girls, then Louise Merchant, Virginia Walton, another unidentified girl, Jeanne Williamson, Beatrice Strickland and Helen Dolph. Do you know the identities of the mystery girls?

Museum Curator Judy Hakins is working to identify unknown people and places in photographs such as this in the Museum's collection. For more about this, look inside.

This image was donated to the Anacortes Museum by Eugene "Bud" Strom.

Island Plants & People: A Twisted Path



Can't wait for spring to fully *spring*? Then take a rainy day and check out *Island Plants & People: A Twisted Path*, an exhibit showcasing the relationship between Fidalgo's human inhabitants and its native plants.



Continuing in the Museum's Carnegie Gallery
through Spring 2013

Director's Notes

In February the Museum Foundation Board, Museum Advisory Board and Museum staff held a planning retreat to set short- and long-term goals for the Museum and Maritime Heritage Center. Our last retreat was three years ago, in the winter of 2009, and resulted in a 5-year plan that we have been using to guide us.

Any long-range planning document needs to be periodically reviewed and updated to reflect changing needs and focus. We reviewed our goals and discussed what has been accomplished and what hasn't, and why.

We received great suggestions on how we can better serve the community. A couple stand out: To develop a signature event to both involve the community and hopefully raise a little money; and to draw more attention and visitors to the Maritime Center and W.T. Preston by blowing the Preston's whistle, turning its paddlewheel and flying nautical flags.

Museum staff is assembling ideas emerging from the retreat to create a new 5-year plan.

It's a fine thing to see boards working together for the good of all. These community members are contributing their time and considerable talents to preserve and protect our local history and making this a better place to live. We appreciate them all.

Steve Oakley, Museum Director

Anacortes Presents!



You've often seen Mae-Louise Dopps modeling elaborate bonnets around town at parades and events.

Starting the first week of April, you can see a collection of these stunning hats at the Anacortes Museum.

Mae-Louise has graciously agreed to fill our *Anacortes Presents!* display case with colorful, intricate and beautiful hats worthy of Ascot or *Easter Parade*. The hats will remain on display through mid-June.

We've displayed plumb-bobs, toys, sewing-machine tractors, antique machinery, old-time Christmas ornaments, amazing needlework and vintage valentines. If you have a unique collection you'd be willing to show off for a couple of months, please give us a call!



Volunteer Spotlight: Eunice Darvill

It was the end of an era here in January when Eunice Darvill made good her often-voiced threat to retire as an Anacortes Museum volunteer.

Eunice has had a long and productive association with the Anacortes Museum — she became the Museum's first professional curator in 1977. One of her legacies was a professional filing system for Museum holdings. Over the years she served as director both here and, from the early 1980s, at the Skagit County Historical Museum.

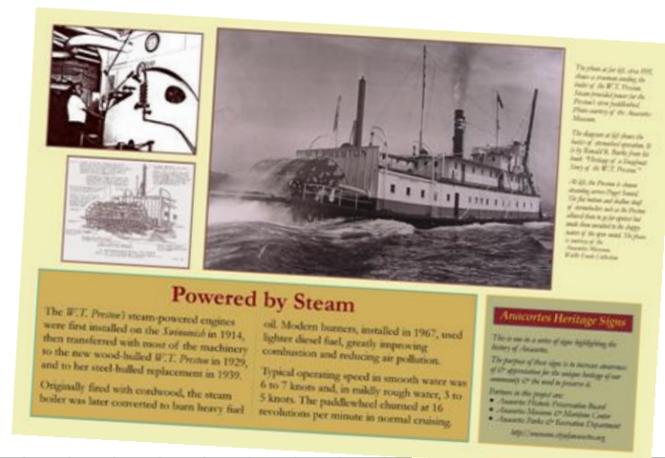
For the past 20 years or so she has focused on researching the Bowman, Curtis and Childs families, devoting many hours to sorting documents, articles and photos on these pivotal Anacortes figures.

Eunice plans to spend her retirement researching and organizing the history of her own family.

We thank Eunice for all her valuable work and we wish her well in her new endeavors!

The Maritime Heritage Center & W.T. Preston reopen weekends in April!

Until then, check out three new outdoor interpretive panels at the Preston, funded by a grant from the Anacortes Tourism Fund and designed by Elaine Walker.



Powered by Steam

The W.T. Preston's steam-powered engines were first installed on the *Satanstol* in 1914, then transferred with most of the machinery to the new wood-hulled W.T. Preston in 1929, and to her steel-hulled replacement in 1939. Originally fired with coal, the steam boiler was later converted to burn heavy fuel

oil. Modern burners, installed in 1967, used lighter diesel fuel, greatly improving combustion and reducing air pollution. Typical operating speed in smooth water was 6 to 7 knots and, in really rough water, 3 to 5 knots. The paddlewheel churned at 16 revolutions per minute in normal cruising.

Anacortes Heritage Sign

This sign is a part of sign interpreting the history of Anacortes. The purpose of this sign is to increase awareness of the importance of the history of our community. It is not a guarantee. Dates in the panel are: • Anacortes Marine Preservation Board • Anacortes Museum of Maritime Center • Anacortes State of Maritime Department 2011 www.cityofanacortes.org

E-Volunteers Welcome at the Anacortes Museum

Would you like to help the Anacortes Museum via email? Many potential museum volunteers have difficulty fitting museum time into their busy schedules. That's why we have been teaming up with Anacortes history lovers to work on research and projects via email. Help us identify people or places in photographs within your age or interest area. Maybe you are already doing family or historical research that you'd like to share. There are many online research possibilities we need help pursuing. And simply typing documents from printed pages (so that we have digital versions) is an enormous help.

Here's how it works: When we come across a photograph that stumps us, we'll email you a low-resolution version of it. Look it over, and get back to us if you have any information about it. If your version of the picture is at odds with another source, we might – with your permission – put you in touch with another e-volunteer to explore the mystery.

On the research front, there is a wealth of genealogical information on the internet that could augment our research files. If you are motivated to explore a subject, then by sharing your finds with the Anacortes Museum everyone comes out ahead.

As communication becomes increasingly digitized, so to must our education and research practices. We are exploring new ways to make our historical records more easily accessible, and the volunteer and education process more collaborative.

If you'd like to be an Anacortes Museum E-volunteer, we will work together to the benefit of the museum, and in a way that fits your schedule. To get involved, send us an email at coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org.

Naturally, we won't share it.

Bret Lunsford, Educator

Do You Know These People?

Anacortes' history is certainly "saved" in our collections, from home-life objects such as cooking utensils, TVs, organs, tools, fishing gear, and even medical items and musical instruments. We have clothing from citizens' everyday life to military and Red Cross uniforms. The count is immense when inventorying our collection, which includes can labels, documents from canneries, mills and other businesses and industries, books, newspapers, maps and much, much more.

The largest portion of the collection consists of photographs — thousands and thousands of wonderful, history-recording photographs. Most of these photographs are identified or partially identified; however, there are, to our dismay, many that need identification. See if you can recognize the photos at right and help us out. Perhaps someone can remember the who, what, where or why of these photos or even has them hanging on a wall, with proper identification enabling us to catalogue them for future usage. To save these people from obscurity, you can call 293-1915 or email hakinsj@cityofanacortes.org.

When you label your own family photographs, always put dates, names, occasion, etc. on the back in pencil, so your family will always know the reasons for the photos and who's in them.

Judy Hakins, Curator of Collections



Photos from the Wallie Funk Collection, Anacortes Museum