



Anacortes Museum News

Autumn 2016

ASBESTOS OR TERMITES OR LEAD? OH MY!



*LaRoche c.1911 photo of
701 K Ave., Anacortes.
(Anacortes Museum Collection)*

If you have a historic home there's a good chance you have issues with lead or asbestos, or with plumbing, wiring or air quality – or something else.

Rick Bunzel, a Licensed Home Inspector with 34 years of experience, will offer some guidance in his presentation,

***“The Top Ten Issues Found in Historic Homes”
7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 2, Anacortes Public Library***

The event is sponsored by the Anacortes Historic Preservation Board (AHPB), and board members will be on hand to provide information about the Anacortes House History program and the Anacortes Historic Register.

The informative presentation and discussion will cover the top issues faced by those who own – or are considering buying – a historic home in Skagit County.

Bunzel founded Mountain View Property Inspections in Boulder, Colo. in 2002 and Pacific Crest Inspections in Anacortes in 2005. He has inspected thousands of homes, ranging from 100-year-old log cabins to multimillion-dollar waterfront homes.

Former chairman of the National Association of Home Inspectors' marketing committee, Bunzel was a founding member of NAHI's Rocky Mountain Chapter and served on its board of directors. He was chairman of the North Puget Sound Association of Realtors' Communication Committee, and a founding member of the Washington State Home Inspector Advisory Committee.

BOARD LAUNCHES NEW HISTORIC PLAQUE PROJECT

The Anacortes Historic Preservation Board has worked hard on sign projects that are either up now or will be within the next few weeks. The biggest project is a series of Central Business District Signs intended to highlight the rich history of the oldest commercial buildings in the city. The initial phase is for ten signs with more in the future. Expect to see plaques on the Platt Building, the Majestic Inn & Spa, the Wilson Hotel, the Benedict-Goodwin-Havekost (Wells) Building, the Olson Building and others.

Initial funding of the Central Business District plaques is from the Anacortes Historic Preservation Board and Apex Cannery mitigation funds. Several building owners also made generous contributions to the effort. The board hopes to have the plaques in place soon.

The board also researched, designed and oversaw the placement of an interpretive sign on the schooner *La Merced*, which is now in place at the east end of the new Guemes Channel Trail near Lovric's Marina. The schooner, overgrown with trees, is used by the marina as a breakwater. It is eye-catching, and the new plaque will answer people's questions when they encounter the unusual sight.

The AHPB also has an ongoing project of providing historic home signs to be placed on homes that have been researched by owners. Several new plaques will be presented to owners during an event sponsored by the board at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 2, at the Anacortes Public Library.



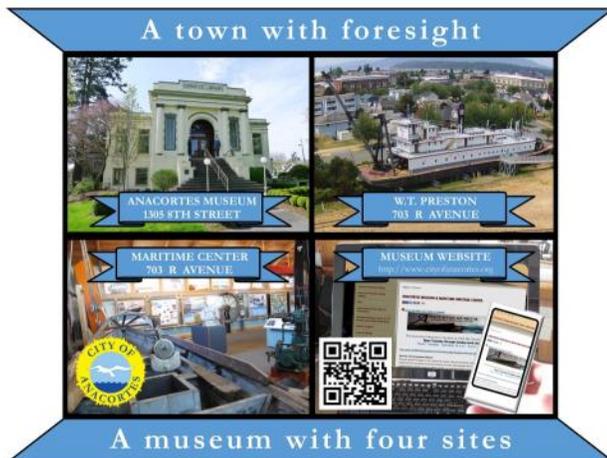
GET MORE HISTORY ON YOUR SMARTPHONE

Several of the current exhibits at the Maritime Heritage Center feature QR Codes that are linked to photographs, movies and deeper information on Anacortes waterfront history.

If you don't already know, a QR Code (quick response code) is a type of bar code used to provide easy access to web information through a smartphone.



QR Code,
Anacortes Museum



If your smartphone has a QR code app, you can scan the exhibit's QR codes and:

- Watch vintage Anacortes films from the museum collection
- Open a list of boats built in Anacortes (beginning with the *Fidalgo Traveler* built in 1877)
- Learn more about the Vashon wheel, and
- See the different ferry companies that operated in Anacortes back to the mosquito fleet days.

CITY AND YACHT CLUB BOTH CELEBRATE 125TH ANNIVERSARIES

The City of Anacortes wishes the slightly younger Anacortes Yacht Club "Happy 125th Birthday!" To honor the occasion, the city's Maritime Heritage Center has unveiled an exhibit panel detailing highlights from the club's history, including current activities like the Tulip Regatta, assisting with the youth national sailing races and Waterfront Festival boat rides.

Early Anacortes residents enjoyed cruises and racing throughout the area. The Anacortes Yacht Club (AYC) was there from the start; it is the second oldest yacht club in Washington State. According to AYC history:

"Amos Bowman, the founder of Anacortes, was a member of the Yacht Club's House Committee in 1892, and he generously offered the use of an acre of land on Hat Island and a house in town for Yacht Club purposes. Twenty-two yachts, four of which were from Anacortes, completed at the Queen's Regatta in Victoria in May, 1892. The Anacortes yachts, *American* and *Ariel* took 2nd and 3rd places. Unfortunately there was a casualty when Captain Anderson fell off the yacht *Oddfellow* and drowned."

The first Anacortes Yacht Club building was located on the west side of the Cap Sante Marina from the mid-50s through the early 1990s. This building was barged from the nearby Morrison Mill, site of Seafarers' Memorial Park, where it had originally functioned as the mill's office.

The yacht club display was a collaboration between Maritime Curator Bret Lunsford, and AYC's Vice Commodore John Wilkinson. Other displays featuring Anacortes' maritime community are in the works, including a spotlight on the Old Anacortes Rowing Society (OARS), as part of the "Explore Anacortes Waterfront History" exhibit now up at the Maritime Heritage Center, 703 R Avenue. Meanwhile, the "Anacortes at 125" exhibit is on display at the Carnegie Gallery, 1305 8th Street.



"Happy Day" photo (1902) from the
Anacortes Museum's Wallie Funk Collection

\$1,000 ALLSTATE GRANT RECEIVED FOR VOLUNTEERISM OF AGENT TAMARA WILLIS

The Anacortes Museum was pleased and grateful to hear that the Anacortes Museum Foundation was approved for a \$1,000 "Helping Hands in the Community" grant from Allstate Insurance. The grant honors the community service of Anacortes Agent Tamara Willis.

Those of us who know Tamara have been watching her helping hands for many years at the Kiwanis Thrift Shop. We know how much community involvement means to her and are grateful that Tamara is now sharing her valuable time with us here at the Anacortes Museum.

The grant dollars have purchased the supplies used by volunteers, including Tamara, to store Anacortes American news negatives in archival sleeves and boxes. The hard-working volunteers are pushing through this elephantine project.

Allstate's grant has been instrumental in keeping this project going. Thank you Tamara for sponsoring us for this grant and for continuing to volunteer with us.



Allstate Agent Tamara Willis is shown with approximately 15 years of Anacortes American news negatives safely stowed in archival sleeves and boxes purchased using the Allstate Grant.

Volunteers

TEXTILES WORK DAYS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 13 AND 19

Several members of Fidalgo Island Quilters have volunteered to participate in the Anacortes Museum's first Textiles Collection Work Days. The Sun, Stars and Art Quilters groups will be meeting on October 13, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Divas fiber arts group will meet on October 19 at the same time.



According to Elaine Walker, Curator of Collections, many of the quilts in the Textiles Collection have yet to have descriptions written, be measured or photographed. This is the work that will be tackled by the quilting groups on October 13.

On October 19, the Divas fiber arts group will survey some of the collection's garments and accessories, describing, photographing and measuring dresses, purses, undergarments and hats.

We're hoping to see some real treasures and are thankful for the efforts of these volunteer groups to help us get these quilts and garments out into the world on our website.

"NOT-SO-NEGATIVE" VOLUNTEERS NEAR MILESTONE

Our own "negative volunteers," who are anything but negative, are nearing the 30% complete milestone in placing Anacortes American news negatives in archival sleeves and boxes. We would like to thank Dani, Sallie, Suzette, Ginger and Tamara who continue each week to eat this big elephant one bite at a time.

Want to help? If you're interested in helping with this project, please call the office at 293-1915. The work is low-tech, so there is plenty of time for fun and conversation.

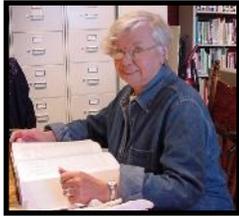
TAKE A TOUR OF HISTORIC STEAMBOAT

Snag a tour on Skagit County's only National Historic Landmark, the sternwheel steamboat *W.T. Preston*. Get a guided tour of this unique vessel 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays at 703 R Avenue. Closed Mondays. Summer hours extend through Labor Day.

The quasiquicentennial exhibit, "Anacortes at 125," details the city's history from its early days to today, viewed through the lens of the city departments. Hours above, except Sundays 1 to 4 p.m. Carnegie Gallery, 1305 8th Street.

It's not too late to renew.
Thank you for your support!

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EUNICE DARVILL,
FORMER MUSEUM CURATOR**



Former curator Eunice Darville passed away on March 2, 2016 and was honored at a memorial at the Skagit County Historical Museum in La Conner on June 25.

Eunice became the Anacortes Museum's first professional curator in 1977 and served as interim co-director until Karen Marshall was hired in 1993.

"Eunice had a huge role in turning the institution into a professional institution instead of a mom and pop outfit," said former director Doug Everhart. She started the systems of record keeping, including use of accession sheets and donation forms that track holdings. She also raised the standard of care through such preservation measures as bringing in acid-free paper and dealing with mold. She played a key role in the acquisition and installation of the cannery office exhibit in the Carnegie Gallery.

Over the years Eunice served as director both at the Anacortes Museum and the Skagit County Historical Museum. After she retired professionally, Eunice became a dedicated volunteer, focused on researching the Bowman, Curtis and Childs families. She received a Project Excellence Award from the museum in 2012 when she retired as a volunteer after 35 years of valuable contribution.

The Anacortes Museum is grateful to Eunice for all her valuable work researching history and preserving photographs, documents and artifacts.

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
and 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

Senior (65+)/Student	\$20
Individual	\$25
Family.....	\$40
Business/Organization	\$75
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!*



**DIRECTOR ATTENDS
WAMA CONFERENCE**

Steve Oakley attended the Washington Museum Association (WaMA) conference in Tacoma June 22–24. Conference events were spread over four sites: Washington State History Museum, Foss Waterway Seaport, Tacoma Art Museum and Museum of Glass.

Steve attended sessions ranging from "Social Media for Small Museums" to "Planes, Trains, & Automobiles: The Care and Feeding of Heavy Iron," a very appropriate session considering the museum's stewardship over a steam locomotive and a 165 foot-long sternwheeler.



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

The Carnegie Gallery is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. The Museum Office is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

The Anacortes Museum and 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.

***This newsletter is produced by the staff of the Anacortes Museum.
To receive your newsletter via email, contact yerbyl@cityofanacortes.org.***