Weeks of work this spring and early summer have paid off at the Anacortes Maritime Heritage Center, which looks bright and inviting — and the center has enjoyed a boost in visitor numbers to prove it. Attendance was 1,605 in the second quarter of 2015 compared to 1,144 in the same quarter of 2014.

Staff and volunteers spent many hours prepping the building and applying fresh stain. Then, interpretive panels were relocated to the exterior of the building to make information about the W. T. Preston available to visitors who come when the center is closed. Now, instead of wondering about the steamboat sitting there, these visitors can learn the history of the National Historic Landmark and about the Army Corps of Engineers snagboats that keep the waterways of Puget Sound free of navigational hazards.

The Maritime Heritage Center and W. T. Preston are open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays in September and October. Admission to the center is free to all. Admission to the Preston is $1 to $3 to the general public and free to Anacortes Museum Foundation members.

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: $100

□ 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!

Don’t miss the 20th (and final?) Antique Engine & Machinery Show
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12
6th & Market St. (Behind the W. T. Preston sternwheeler)

Free Admission!

The theme for the show is “Models,” so there will also be plenty of miniature trains, vehicles, engines and devices — many of them working. This is a fun event for the whole family. Exhibitors are welcome.

For more information, call the Anacortes Museum at (360) 293-1915.
Elaine Walker is researching an exhibit that will commemorate and celebrate the 125th anniversary of the incorporation of Anacortes in May 2016. The exhibit will look back at how the city has evolved into what it is today.

In July the museum received the first in what promises to be a major donation of digital photos from the Anacortes American. So far, the museum has received all the images used in each edition of the American for the last several weeks, about 25 images per week. Because Publisher Jack Darnton plans to also contribute archived photos, this will amount to about 1,250 images per year or about 12,500 for the past 10 years (counting only images that ran in the paper, not additional staff photos). This will be a significant historical resource. We are grateful to Jack and the American for a fruitful partnership.

Lea DeVere is working with new volunteer Anne Ciochetto to explore grant opportunities for digitizing newspapers and archival documents.

During 2015 we have received many different types of donations which all require researching, submitting to the acquisitions committee for review, scanning or photographing, and clearing. Next, each item is entered into the database and properly boxed and stored. There is a lot of work to be done “behind the scenes” in the museum. Some of the more interesting items we have received are:

- Over 300 photographs
- Family genealogies
- Glass plate camera from the turn of the century — Byron Winget
- WWll “Quiet Please War Worker Sleeping” sign — Terry Dorn
- 4’ model of the purse sewer Tiny Boy II — Tim Knapp
- Ledger Book for Byron’s Bakery Service – Priscilla Legg
- 1962 bound issues of the Anacortes Reporter Newspaper — Maryville Historical Society
- Slip scoops from the paper mill to transfer sulfur from box cars to the mill to make pulp — Russell Brown
- 1846 Immigrant Guide — Richard Dilline estate
- Eyeglasses and cases from E.E. Dodge Optometrist — Dr. Jay & Kitty Huddleston
- Wooden wheels that conveyed power in a cannery — Gene Carey

Enjoy a ‘Pictures of the Past’ slide show Oct. 28

Join us for a breezy photographic overview of Anacortes’ history — including the role Wallie Funk played in preserving so much of it! A morning showing is 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13 at the Anacortes Senior Activity Center and an evening showing is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28 at the Anacortes Library.

Presenter Elaine Walker, editor of Funk’s new book “Pictures of the Past: Celebrating 125 Years of Anacortes History” will discuss the making of the book and share many of the historic images published in it, as well as a selection of fabulous photos that were painfully left out. The images featured in the book and slideshow are almost exclusively from the Anacortes Museum’s extensive Wallie Funk Collection.

Books will be available for purchase.

Enjoy hiking and at Washington Park’s Havekost Loop Trail dedication celebration

Saturday, Sept. 19
9:30 a.m. History Hike
A walk covering park history begins at the Loop Road exit gate and ends at the Havekost Monument in time for the trail dedication.

10:30 a.m. Havekost Loop
Park Manager Bob Vaux will lead the inaugural stroll on the new Havekost Loop Trail (no parking is very limited at Burrows Viewpoint)

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Centennial Picnic
Come out for food, fun and games (including clowns) — and lemon treats

The new Havekost Loop Trail at Washington Park will be dedicated on Saturday, Sept. 19, culminating a year of research, design and presentations by Washington Park Manager Bob Vaux, working collaboratively with Bret Lunsford, Anacortes Museum Education and Maritime Curator. The celebration marks the centennial of the naming of Washington Park, which got its start with a founding donation by Tonjes H. Havekost, a Fidalgo Island pioneer of 1871.

The Havekost Loop Trail is billed as “a short historical stroll” and is meant to connect the popular Burrows Loop to the park’s founder.

Two interpretive signs, funded in large part by a donation from Havekost descendants at the Rodeffer Trust, have been produced with a brief overview of park and Skyline area history. While most park enthusiasts know that Mr. Havekost donated the first 8 acres of Washington Park’s 220 acres, many more acres were acquired by the city from the Havekost estate shortly after his death in 1911.

Tonjes’ nephew John H. Havekost lived in Anacortes long after his uncle’s death; his great-grandchildren (and Tonjes’ great-great-grandnephews) are planning to attend the dedication event on Sept. 19.

Museum donations help keep the community’s history alive for future generations

During 2015 we have received many different types of donations which all require researching, submitting to the acquisitions committee for review, scanning or photographing, and cleaning. Next, each item is entered into the database and properly boxed and stored. There is a lot of work to be done “behind the scenes” in the museum. Some of the more interesting items we have received are:

- Mayor Hogan’s cane (The first Anacortes Mayor; this cane was his signature item) — Mark Mitchell
- Sarah “Salllie” Curtis (sister of Annie Curtis Bowen) prayer book — Mark Mitchell

Every donation enhances the exhibits and keeps Anacortes alive for generations to come. Thank you everyone!

— Judy Hakins, Collections Curator