Annual dues are due in January. Thank you for your support!

Under Construction: The Museum’s Research Library Gets a Needed Face Lift

Researchers may be turned away in December and January while Anacortes Museum staff, volunteers and contractors tackle a renovation of the museum’s Research Library and administrative office. Please call us at 293-1915 before coming in to check for availability. Work will not affect the Dec. 11 Anacortes Museum Foundation meeting and holiday open house.

During renovation, we plan to remove a false wall and old ductwork, and open up a blocked window. We’ll replace an acoustic tile ceiling, worn (and ugly) orange carpeting and some “modern” touches. Like the recently renovated upstairs gallery, the goal is to return the area to a more original condition.

The work is made possible by a generous donor who contributed $5,000 for the effort.

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:____________________________________

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

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

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.

Need some ideas for a gift? The Museum Foundation Gift Shop has a selection of Anacortes salmon label mugs available for $8 each or four for $30, as well as note cards, prints, magnets and other items. Tom Thompson has created two beautiful new 12x36-inch salmon label posters, including the one pictured at right, $15 each or two for $25.

The store also has a nice assortment of local history books, including Bret Lunsford’s recent book, “Croatian Fishing Families of Anacortes,” and several museum publications.

A Happy Holiday Gathering...
You are invited to join us for light refreshments and holiday cheer, hosted by the Anacortes Museum Foundation, 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11 at the Anacortes Museum, 1305 Eighth St.

Before the celebration, the Anacortes Museum Foundation’s annual meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. downstairs. Members will vote on Foundation Board officers, with nominations accepted from the floor. The following have agreed to stand for election: Tom Thompson, President; Roger Born, Vice-President; Barbara Larson, Recording Secretary; and Jim Taylor, Treasurer.

Remember, your Foundation membership renewals are due in January. Those who are not yet members or whose memberships have lapsed can simply renew or join at the gathering. Memberships support museum activities (turn the page to see a list). Benefits include discounts at our museum stores and on photographs.

St. Mary’s Catholic Church is pictured above on a snowy winter day in the 1950s, when it was still located at 1202 7th St. The steeple was blown off the church during a severe windstorm in the spring of 1962. St. Mary’s moved to its current location in 1979. The building is now owned by the American Croatian Club of Anacortes. The photo is from the Anacortes Museum’s Alf & Gunhild Bowman Collection.

This newsletter is produced by the staff of the Anacortes Museum and edited by Elaine Walker
**Director’s Notes**

Tis the season to be thankful, and we are truly thankful for the Anacortes Museum Foundation’s continuing generosity to the museum and to a wide variety of museum projects.

In 2012, the Foundation gave to us:
- One Past Perfect Online software upgrade, allowing patrons to view our photo collection online.
- Funding to create a W.T. Preston video in two versions: long, about 30 minutes, to show on Channel 10, and short, 5 minutes, for viewing at the Heritage Centre and other venues. The short version will be helpful for those unable to climb the steep access to the upper levels of the vessel.
- Two domain names for the Foundation website.
- An eye-catching OPEN flag to be placed in front of the Heritage Center.
- Funding to complete the exterior painting on the port side of the Preston.
- Five new Anacortes High School Rhododendron yearbooks (for the years 2007 through 2011).

- Tarps and bungees to protect Tommy Thompson’s engine and cars while in storage.
- And a partridge in a pear tree!

This year the Foundation played a significant role in helping bring Tommy’s Train back to Anacortes, contributing time, muscle and technical support. And, the Foundation’s purchase of Tommy’s calliope and 20 music rolls helped to cement the deal with the Thompson family.

In addition, the Foundation hosts all museum events, such as a retreat in February at the Maritime Heritage Center. The retreat allowed members of the Foundation Board and the Advisory Board to join museum staff in valuable long-term strategic planning.

Don’t miss the annual holiday reception at the Museum, also hosted by the Foundation. The gathering starts right after the annual board meeting and election — the meeting is at 6:30 p.m. and the celebration at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 11. We hope to see you there.

And once again, thank you for all you do!

*Steve Oakley, Museum Director*

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**History in the Classroom**

Over 200 students visited the Anacortes Museum as part of school tours during the month of October. I gave the same homework to all of them: Go home and show your folks our new website’s searchable photo database! Since then I’ve received numerous kind thank you letters, which are always appreciated. Better still are the follow-up visits I was invited to make – into the classrooms – to see the projects that those museum visits have inspired.

Last week I made two such visits. The first stop was in the high school’s photography class taught by Jim Thompson. His students are working on fixing pictures using “photoshop.” Each year the museum supplies Jim with digital scans of some of our damaged images and the students learn how to retouch the photos, which improves the experience of viewing them in our online database.

Later in the day I made a trip to my elementary school alma mater, Island View, where the students in the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Class were presenting shoe box museums, which they created to display their personal and family history. The exciting part about working as a museum educator is watching how the history connects with the kids after the field trip, when they’re back to living their lives.

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**Recent Accessions to the Museum’s Collections**

The year has slipped by, again, so quickly! Those of you on the Accessions Committee for the museum have seen what we have been given this year; however, those who have not been by may be wondering. A few of the items accepted into the collection at the Anacortes Museum this year are:

- Victorian dress, parasol and beaded purse — ACT Theatre
- Fr. Melvin Ray Brown, Episcopal Communion church and field sets — Anacortes Episcopal Church
- 2007-2011 AHS Rhododendron yearbooks — Museum Foundation
- Shingle from Anacortes Shingle Mill — Harry Hibler
- Photos of Samish members fishing, etc. — Rosie Cayou James
- War Memorial Field dedication program — Laurie Gere
- Trafton family genealogy — Bruce Trafton
- Model of Depot made by Carrell Stromberg. with train, etc. — Carol Stromberg

Taking a quick inventory I count 114 donations through November, which include over 1,615 items and hundreds of documents, each of which has to be processed, photographed/scanned, measured as well as entered into our database, PastPerfect.

I want to personally thank everyone who has donated to the museum and has helped this year in any, and all capacities, including the Accessions Committee, Foundation Board; volunteers like Emilie Owens and Terry Slotemaker; Charles Smith photographing artifacts; Renee Shain and Linda Yerby entering data; Julie Edwards, Katelyn Provot and Melyssa Chambers scanning photographs; Naomi Hollister who helps as gallery docent and Lorre Rendell who is helping with oral histories, as well as the volunteers at the W.T. Preston and the Maritime Heritage Center. Of course, this includes my other co-workers Pam Bagnall and Kay Glad, Elaine Walker, Bret Lunsford and our Museum Director, Steve Oakley and the Maritime Center and Preston workers, Nancy Coggen, Jenny Market and Dennis Mazza. I hope I didn’t leave anyone out! 2012 has been a very busy year and I am confident that 2013 will continue in that same manner. My thanks to everyone to allow me to work with the collections at the museum over these 10 ½ years!

*Judy Hakins, Curator of Collections*