

## “We’re Still Here” continues in Carnegie Gallery

Don't miss “We’re Still Here.” *The Survival of Washington Indians*, the important and thought-provoking exhibit that continues at the Anacortes Museum through mid-April.

The main exhibit, created by the Washington State Heritage Center, follows Washington's original inhabitants through a war over land, a clash over culture and a revival of Native tradition today.

To enhance local context, the museum worked with the Samish and Swinomish Tribes to develop exhibit panels about the first people of Fidalgo and Guemes islands, and to display hats, baskets, weaving and other items.



We were honored when members of the Samish Indian Nation sang at the Oct. 19 opening of our exhibit “We’re Still Here.” *The Survival of Washington Indians*. Above, Museum Director Steve

## Ko Kwal Al Woot: Hear the story of the Maiden of Deception Pass on Feb. 19

Join sculptor Tracy Powell and Leslie Eastwood, general manager of the Samish Indian Nation, for a slideshow and presentation on Ko Kwal Al Woot, the Maiden of Deception Pass, from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19 at the Anacortes Public Library. This program is presented in conjunction with the Anacortes Museum’s “We’re Still Here” exhibit.

Tracy’s cedar sculpture of the Samish Maiden has weathered 30 years since it was dedicated at Rosario Beach in September 1983. Tracy and Leslie will narrate a slide-show on how the Samish story pole project came about.

Leslie will also share the ancient story of Ko Kwal Al Woot and of the Tribe’s continued gratitude for the blessings bestowed upon the Samish people by the Maiden.

To receive your newsletter via email, contact [elainew@cityofanacortes.org](mailto:elainew@cityofanacortes.org)

This newsletter is produced by the staff of the Anacortes Museum and edited by Elaine Walker

## 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
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New Member     Renewal

(Contributions tax deductible to fullest extent of law)

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



Anacortes Museum  
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<http://museum.cityofanacortes.org>  
[coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org](mailto: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 Museum Office 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.



# Anacortes Museum News

WINTER 2013/14



A group of people, perhaps the Kasch family and friends, shovel snow in front of the home at 1917 8th St., circa 1920. City directories list the family at this address from 1917 to 1948, and a daughter’s family was here longer. The photo is from the Anacortes Museum Collection.

## A Happy Holiday Gathering...

You are invited to join us for light refreshments and good cheer at our annual holiday reception, hosted by the Anacortes Museum Foundation, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10 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 would like to join or whose memberships have lapsed can simply renew or join at the gathering. Memberships support museum efforts to preserve, interpret and share the history of Fidalgo and Guemes Islands. Benefits of membership include discounts at our museum stores and on photograph purchases.

## Remembering 2013 — A productive year at the Anacortes Museum

Looking back at 2013 I realized what a productive year it has been. The year started with a bang (and a cloud of dust). We finally launched the much-delayed renovation of the ground floor of the Carnegie building, funded largely by the family of Orrie Rodeffer. Work began in the front office/reception area over the holidays and quickly extended into the research library (now serving as the Museum's collection processing area). Due to the extent of the project, there was considerable disruption to staff and patrons. I appreciate their patience. Before the project started, the rooms were dark and dank. Now, due to opening up long-concealed windows and new carpet and paint, the rooms are colorful and filled with light.

It was also a very productive year for our sternwheeler, the *W.T. Preston*. Virtually all of the first and second decks were cleaned, scraped, primed and top-coated by Mitch McCormick and College Pro Painters, some of it done on a volunteer basis, and the rest with about \$9,000 of City funding.

Somehow we also found time to open two new exhibits: a small one on BMW/Oracle at the Maritime Heritage Center and the "*We're Still Here*" exhibit at the Carnegie site (See Page 4).

And finally...all of us at the Museum wish to thank outgoing Mayor Dean Maxwell for his support and encouragement. For 20 years Dean has been a good friend to the Anacortes Museum. We wish him and Lisa happy trails and good adventures.

**Steve Oakley, Museum Director**



*Clockwise from top left: Sheetrock replaced acoustic tiles during renovations of the Carnegie building; Mitch McCormick works on the W.T. Preston; Steve Oakley and Tom Thompson hang a repainted sign on the newly painted Anacortes Railway train shed.*

## New Anacortes history book by Nancy Werner Mathews soon to be published

*Lance Burdon: A Photographic Journey*  
Soon to be published, a new book on Anacortes history by Nancy Werner Mathews

Lance Burdon's career in photography began at the dawn of the 20th century. Along this photographic journey we are allowed to share the stories that underlie the images, providing a deeper look at Washington State's Northwest pioneer life through the eras of early hop and dairy farming, boomtown schemes and their inevitable bust. For all of the courageous exploration and tragedy, the story resembles Annie Dillard's *The Living*, supplemented with beautiful prints that are comparable to Lance's photographic contemporary, Darius Kinsey.

In 1900, Lance Burdon was official photographer for the Atlin-Quesnel telegraph line between lower British Columbia and Alaska. This project overlapped with the early Anacortes images – documenting canneries, salmon fishermen, and street scenes – during the brief span of his professional camera work. In 1903 Lance Burdon stepped away from commercial photography and made another career leap, piloting aboard the steam-powered boats of the Puget Sound "mosquito fleet."

Thankfully, he kept a camera at hand for the rest of his life, providing rare images of early farming practices on Fidalgo Island and pictures from the bygone landings of local waters.



The spirit of wisdom and kindness that Nancy Mathews approached life with has been sustained in the work done by her friends and family to bring *Lance Burdon: A Photographic Journey* into the world. Nancy's words and research about her grandfather form the bulk of the text, yet there are parts – the captions and the photo section introductions – that I am to be held accountable for. The Anacortes Museum's Wallie Funk

Collection was the source for many of the 115 photographs in this book.

This book was made possible by generous donations from the family and friends of Nancy Werner Mathews to the Anacortes Museum Foundation. Proceeds from the sale of this book will fund a Nancy Werner Mathews endowment meant for use in future Anacortes history book projects through the Anacortes Museum Foundation.

**Bret Lunsford, Education Curator**

## The Anacortes Historic Preservation Board needs you

Old buildings are the most tangible, visible, and accessible link to our community's past. And they are a great way to learn about our city's history and how our community grew and developed over time. If you've ever wondered as you walked by an old house, "Who lived there and what did they do?", then consider joining the Anacortes Historic Preservation Board. We have openings on the Board and would welcome your application.

The Board meets once a month at the museum and sponsors such programs as the House History program, the Anacortes Register of Historic Places, historic house surveys, and historical interpretive signs. For more information, contact Steve Oakley at the museum ([steveo@cityofanacortes.org](mailto:steveo@cityofanacortes.org)). Applications are due by 4 p.m., Dec. 31, 2013.



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, and other items. Tom Thompson created two beautiful 12x36-inch salmon label posters, including the one pictured at left, which we are for sale for \$15 each or two for \$25.

The store also has a nice assortment of local history books and several museum publications.



## The museum: Your partner in preserving your Anacortes family's history

Saving history—that's what we, in the museum, are here for! A museum is a storehouse of the history of our town. I have tried to figure out what is considered history worthy of preserving for tomorrow. The first thing that comes to mind is the history of the people — their families, their lives, where they worked and played. Where they came from and where their ancestors came from. Can our museum help in this preservation? Of course!

Through our photographs and artifacts and important papers that show the lives of prominent and not-so-prominent citizens, we can learn just how people lived before us. By saving the facts of lives today, we are saving what will be our descendants' history. Have you ever been "addicted" to delving into your family genealogy? Can a museum help you by saving family facts? You bet! How, you may ask? By having people, like you, document their family history and giving it to the museum for generations to come.

I am one of those addicted to genealogy. Some of

the best resources I have found for information on ancestors have been local museums. People before me have jotted down glimpses into the lives long past, to show me the history of who I and my children have descended from. What a treasure all my hard work will be for my grandchildren and their grandchildren. They will be able to connect to their ancestors who came over in ships from other countries!

You, too, can keep ancestors' lives alive. Do you have your genealogy written down? Do you have photographs of your family from the yesterdays of Anacortes? Are they labeled? Once that photo of Great-Great-Grandpa is lost, torn or thrown out, it is gone forever. Donate the rare finds, the things that record the history of Anacortes and its people. If your children are not interested, save your family history and genealogy in the museum. Someday a grandchild or great-grandchild will find their story here.

**Judy Hakins, Curator of Collections**