

Stanwood Area ECHOES



Newsletter of the Stanwood Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 69
27112 102nd Avenue N. W.
Stanwood, Washington 98292
Office: (360) 629-6110
www.sahs-fncc.org ~ info@sahs-fncc.org

Issue No. 79; September 2023



Peter L. Anderson's Hay Press Outfit Stanwood Wn Photographer: John T. Wagness (2023.22.01)
Among the many Andersons of Norway who found their way to Stanwood, Peter L. came in 1891. After spending his youth in Wisconsin, Iowa and South Dakota at 22 he moved on to work on steamboats in Montana. His biography in Whitfield's says he was at the mouth of the Little Big Horn River in 1876 when Custer and his soldiers were killed. In 1891 he came to Stanwood to help his uncle Nels Leque in the harvest fields. His wife was Mary Olson from Wisconsin and they had ten children. There is a hay press on display at the local fairgrounds.
Source: Whitfield, William. History of Snohomish County, Washington, vols. I & II. Chicago : Pioneer Historical Pub. Co., 1926. Vol 2, p. 771-2.

2023 Stanwood Historic Home Tour

Our newest event this year was the **Historic Home Tour** featuring seven of the many historic homes of Stanwood. We thank all of the homeowners who participated :

- #1: Daniel O and Clara J. Pearson House ~ SAHS
- #2: William G. & Martha Douglass House ~ Lauren Breum
- #3: S. A. Thompson House ~ Chaim and Yonah Ben Levy
- #4: Peter & Nannie Henning House ~ Steven & Jo Hoag
- #5: Dr. Steven G. Olmsted House ~ Beth Niemi
- #6: Otto & Martha Lien ~ Lydia & Ryan Campbell
- #7: John. P. & Jennie Anderson House ~ Lady Florence ~ Amy Christianson

We regret that space limits a to provide a story for each home but below is one of the seven homes. Thank you to all that participated!

Historic Buildings with Many Lives

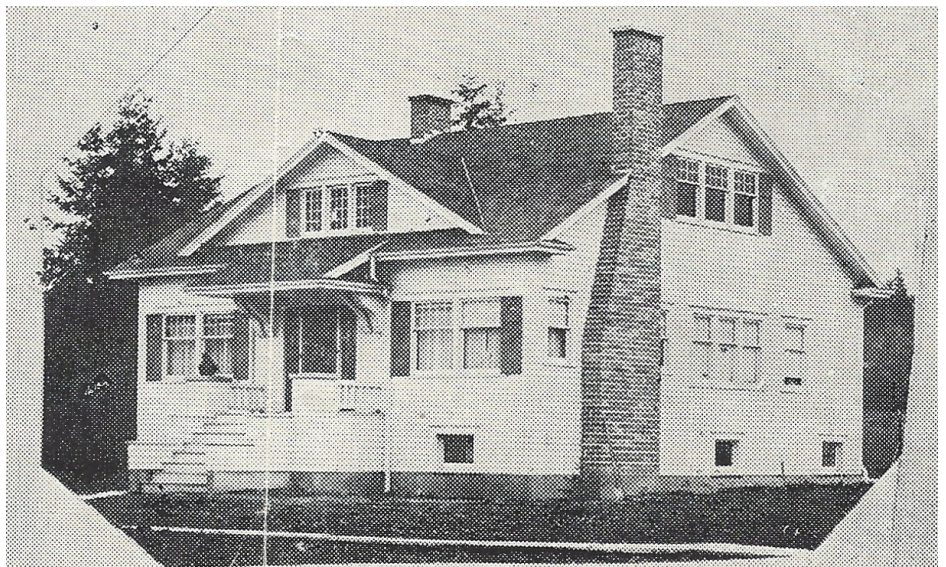
Olmsted Home on 272nd St. in “East Stanwood”

In 1887, four years before the Great Northern Railroad laid its tracks through the Stillaguamish River Valley, a man named Ole Johnson bought two patent claims of 80 acres located east of Stanwood above the flood plain. In about 1900 Johnson sold 40 acres of that claim to Knute Husby who began selling 16 one-acre tracts out of forty acres. Husby himself retained 24 acres for his home place. He married Louisa Gunderson and they had six children and in future years one of the streets through the properties was named Husby Street.

Husby Street became Two hundred and seventy second (272nd St.). According to early Census Records the area was known as “Carnation Hill” for the 1914 Carnation Milk condensery that had been recently established in East Stanwood.

One of those who purchased part of this property was Asmund and Regine Hatvedt. They were originally from Norway who in 1882 had come to Washington territory where he was then employed at the Utsalady Mill. In the 1910 census they were farmers in Cedarhome and two of the sons worked for the Stanwood Creamery nearby and one for Knud Knudson, the jeweler. Their name is on an 1910 plat map that appears to indicate they had owned several lots or parcels. In the 1920 U. S. Census the Hatvedts they are still living in the property in a 1922 home two houses east of the Olmsted Home. Asmund died in 1923 and Regine went to live with her son, in Cedarhome.

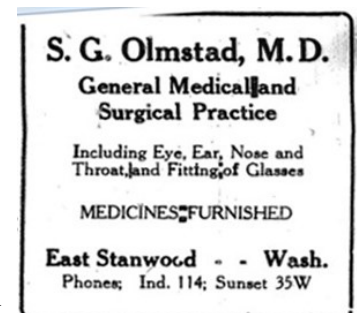
Charles R. Amundson, East Stanwood Mayor from 1939 to 1943, built his home in a lot adjacent between Hatvedt and the future Olmstead Home in 1917.



Above photograph from *Stanwood News* booster edition on June 14, 1923. Courtesy, *Stanwood Camano News*

Dr. Stephen Olmsted (1867-1932) and his wife Cordelia (1869-1943) bought their lot from Mrs. Hatvedt in 1922, the same year East Stanwood incorporated as a town separate from Stanwood.

Olmsted had been practicing in East Stanwood since about 1915. In March of 1915 an article appeared in the East Stanwood Bulletin reporting that Mrs S. G. Olmstad (sic) was elected to the presidency of the Civic Improvement Club. “The club



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Special thanks for the In Kind research services done by Quinn Marrs, under the direction of Don Graham from **Chicago Title**



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plans to consider various civic and municipal questions town sanitation and public health nursing.”

Their house was built in 1925 according to County records. Dr. Olmsted died in 1932 but his wife Cordelia Olmsted remained in the home until her death. The Olmsted’s had two daughters, the oldest daughter was Lezlie who was a stereographer in a Doctor’s Office until she died in 1930 two years before her father. The second daughter Dora/Dorothy (Elspeth) was a writer whose name appears on the deed as grantor. She moved to Seattle though if there is anyone who knew of her, please let us know!

In 1945 Gothe and Betty Oberg, originally from Sweden, purchased the home. Mr. Oberg donated to SAHS a 175 page daybook belonging to Dr. Olmsted. It contained his physicians financial notes covering 1911—1914. Gothe Oberg worked in the automobile business

and in a 1942 local phone book the Oberg Motor Company was located in East Stanwood.

In 1999, Gothe Oberg sold the home to Peter and Cara Federspiel who owned it for about 5 years. They added a back porch and enlarged the original kitchen and removed the original central stairs. The dining room contains its original light fixtures, radiators, and there are two built in cabinets with a laundry chute. They sold it in 2004 to Elizabeth Niemi, the current owner who has generously offered to share her home with many visitors during the 2023 Home Tour.

Niemi said the reason it faced East (she had been told) is that there had been a plan to build a street between the Amundson home and the Olmstead home. That did not happen but she had the original blueprints showing the early arrangement of the kitchen with a breakfast room and side porch. The central stairs was removed and a back porch was added.

It is a beautiful Craftsman/Colonial with a front gable and large chimney. Owners over the years have retained most of the original interior features as well as the exterior. It has an unusual underground garage (see photo on the left.)

The name of the designer was “R Hartmann Builder—Designed Everett Wash.”



Sources:

<https://glorerecords.blm.gov/> Doc No. 4268 WASAA 072862

Whitfield, William. History of Snohomish County, Washington, vols. I & II. Chicago : Pioneer Historical Pub. Co., 1926. Vol 2, p.437

*U.S. Bureau of the Census records;
Snohomish County Property records.*

Historical Photographs

are among the most popular features of our collections. We have over 3000 images in our collections. Not all of them are very interesting but many include street views. We use them in almost all of our exhibits. We are happy to announce that the first 100 have been uploaded to the Internet for everyone to view.

<https://sahsncc.pastperfectonline.com/>

This project was made possible by **ReMax Elevate Community Grant Chest** facilitated by the **Stanwood Camano Area Foundation**.

Also the Sno-Isle Libraries and the Everett Public Library have added samples of them to their digital collections catalogs along with those of other communities in Snohomish County.



Charter Members of the Stanwood Sons of Norway, circa 1913.

From left top row: Carl Ryan, JohnErstad, Halvor Rodseth, Andrew Klæboe Sivert Rinseth, Mr. Halvorsen (the tailor), Casper Harvold
 Middle row from left: Lars Husby, Ole Kalseth, John Walseth, Sigurd Hall, Pete Arnesen, John Haagensen, Peter Wold, Mr. Ozen,
 Front Row from left: Knute Husby, Ole Kristofferson, unknown, Ole Dahl, Knut Dalsba, Lars Langland, Ole Birkestol

Photo donated by Inga Hammer; 1988.07.352.18



Don't believe everything you see in the media — now or then

Giant strawberries before the days of photo editing software.

M. (Mortimer) L. Oakes had a popular postcard business in Seattle from 1907—1910 but apparently moved on to California with a series called Oakes Photo Company

<https://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:80444/xv52062#idm9658>

<https://www.anacorteswa.gov/1345/The-Traveling-Postcard-Photographers-of-SAHS-1990.12.01j>



Legacy Art Postcards are still available \$15.00 !

Thanks to **Stanwood Camano Arts Advocacy Commission (SCAAC)**

Thanks also to the **Legacy Art Project** artists who donated their artwork depicting museum objects to the SAHS collections:

Michelle Rushworth, Susan Cohen Thompson, Bobbie Samples, Jack Gunter, Val Paul Taylor, Jack Dorsey, John Ebner, Amy Martin, Bezalel-Levy, Molly LeMaster



Home Coming Celebration, Stanwood, Wash.
Sept. 5, 1919

World War I Home Coming Celebration, Stanwood, Wash. Sept 5, 1919. (SAHS 2005.15.14)
This photographic postcard was owned by Peter Garberg of Freeborn (*Stanwood Story*, v. 2, p. 108) but it was donated by Alex Gedstad, whose family, the Joergensons, had a farm along the river possibly the one in the distance.

In 2018 the Stanwood Area Historical Society, under the guidance of Bill Keller and Jim Joyce, created the Stanwood Veterans Memorial. They continue today to provide daily care of the Veterans' Memorial and the flags.

Granite pedestals within the Memorial list the names of 50 from the local area who gave their lives in American conflicts from World War I to the present. The memorial is completely self-funded and many of the stories of the local fallen were published in the Crab Cracker and have now been compiled in a book called "Solemn the Drums Thrill: Essays on the Fallen Heroes of Stanwood Camano: World War I to Afghanistan" by Richard Hanks, who donates all proceeds to the Memorial. The book is available at the Historical Society or on Amazon.

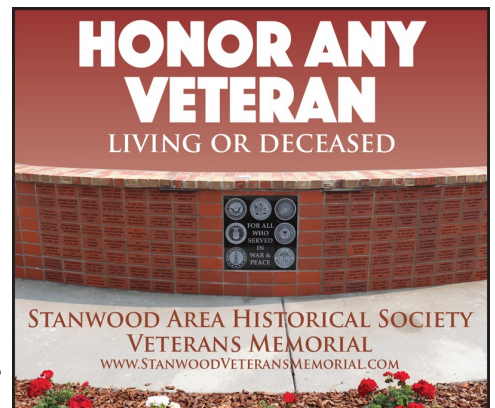
A separate Veterans' wall bears the names of veterans from throughout the United States whose bricks of remembrance pay homage to their service. We are in the process of proofing our sixteenth onsite brick engraving for the Veterans' Wall. This will bring us to a total of 266 engraved bricks. Our next deadline for brick orders will be September 30, 2023 and we already have three orders. Our goal is to get the next order engraved by Veterans' Day. The brick order form can be found on the SAHS website or the Stanwood Veterans Memorial Facebook page. The cost is \$150 a brick with the name of your veteran, living or deceased.

We will be having a **Veterans' Day Celebration on November 11, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center** with music, flags, Veteran's insights, displays, Hero Quilts, videos, tours, coffee and cookies from the Cookie Mill.

The Veterans' Committee organizes programs on Memorial Day and Veterans' Day and now is part of the Wreaths Across America campaign which lays an evergreen laurel on the graves of local veterans. On December 16th at 10:00 a.m. we will be laying wreaths on Veterans graves at Anderson, Camano Lutheran and Camano Pioneer Cemeteries. Please join us for a remarkable experience. If you want to buy wreaths go to www.wreathscrossamerica.org/WA0183P.

Honoring America's veterans, however, should not be relegated to just this or that holiday. We owe much more to those who have chosen to sacrifice for the greater good of the country and for each of us. If you agree, we hope you will act on that belief and, in your own way, choose to demonstrate your appreciation.

The last Veterans Wall engraving for 2023 will have a deadline of September 30th



**Thank You Brick Donors :
June 1, 2023—August 31,
2023**

Laurie Stover, Bill Keller, Richard & Robin Hanks, Mary Pilkington, Linda Dilday, Mary Margaret Haugen, Rachel Steer, Gary & Marsha Timmerman, Trygve Hanson, Patricia & Robert Sehlke

**Stanwood Area Historical Society
2023 Elected Officers & Trustees**

President ~	Joan Andrews	2023-2024
Vice President ~	Kathy Uroff	2023-2024
Treasurer ~	Steve Youngren	2022-2023
Secretary ~	Karen Prasse	2022-2023
Past President ~	Karen Prasse	2023-2024

Trustees

- 2023-25 Rose King
- 2023-25 Andreena Bergman
- 2023-25 Karen Pelletier
- 2022-24 Janet Utgard
- 2022-24 John Leque
- 2021-23 Clifford Larson
- 2021-23 John Smistad

Honorary Lifetime Trustees
Pat Bronson & Margaret Utgard

SAHS Board Meetings ~ 2nd Wednesday of the month
Eldridge Center 11 a.m. October 11th, 2023
Open to the public !
New members and volunteers welcome.

Stanwood Area ECHOES is published quarterly
by the Stanwood Area Historical Society

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Editorial Committee: Members of the Board

SAHS is a private, non profit organization (501c3).
Please help support this publication and other projects
and programs with your membership dues, or business
sponsorship. Contact us: info@sahs-fncc.org

2023 SAHS Event Schedule

- 2023, Sunday October 29th, 4 p.m. History Lecture/
Program - Speaker TBA
- 2023, November 11, 2023 Veterans Day program
11 am
- 2023, December 2nd ~ Old Fashioned Christmas,
(first Saturday 2023, December)
- 2023, December Holiday Member Party—day TBD
- 2024, Saturday March 23 ~ Murder Mystery Fund
Raiser

Thank you to **Coastal Bank** for funds towards
completion of the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center
entryway project now completed by **2 A T
Construction, LLC & J. Heichel Construction**



“Other duties as assigned”

Thank you to our Volunteers

Elaine Commins for her work on cleaning and research
interpretations of the D. O. Pearson and as docent.

John Leque for his passion for old automobiles and
keeping them running

Mark Commins for electrical work and spontaneous
problem solving

Building/Historic Preservation Committee—Dave
Eldridge, John Smistad, and Cliff Larson

Don Simonson—Docent work, filing and historian.

Kathy Uroff for office help and docent

Karen Pelletier and family for office help, docent and
fundraising

Celia Fiones—Docent & FNCC Host

Pat Bronson—Cataloger and Docent & Liaison with
Historic Site Tour collaborations.

**Les & Diane Anderson & the Stanwood Commerce
Alliance** for lawn mowing, the partnership on the July
4th Celebration and added security service duties

Veterans Memorial Committee for garden upkeep,
flags management and miscellaneous other chores.

Joel Spencer—our newest docent giving guided visits
and some much appreciated heavy lifting.

Joan Andrews for the Home Tour project coordination
and **Robin Hanks & Judy Fernandes** for special graphics
and layout designs.

Keeping our Museum Open !

One of our most critical services is keeping our
exhibits and historic buildings open for visitor on a drop
in basis on Wednesdays and Saturdays as well as for
guided visits by appointment.

Please call or feel free to drop by to ask the
volunteers working when you visit. Our training
program involves one training tour and volunteering on
the “job” with experienced volunteer. We need a
minimum of two volunteers on site to open.

**Open Wednesdays and Saturdays 1—4 pm or by
appointment! 360-629-6110**

Paypal link is on our website sidebar

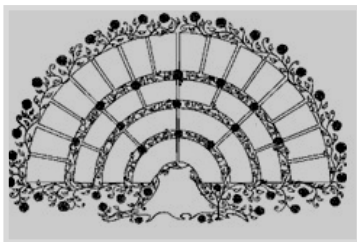


Camwood Genealogy Workshop

CGW meets on the first Mondays of the month in the Eldridge Center at 1 p.m.

Contact Bill Blandin

https://www.sahs-fncc.org/?page_id=56



Congratulations to Bill Blandin as the much deserved 2023 Heritage Preservation Award Honoree

Benefit Breakfast Honoring "Bill Blandin" will be Saturday, October 21 (11:00 am)

Reservations required.

<https://camanoschoolhouse.org/upcoming-events>

"Collectors of what happened!" - Cliff Larson

Recently cataloged item donors—thanks to these collectors and artifact donors!

Susan Goff
Joan Andrews
Ken Sharpe
Sean Connolly
Janet Larsen
Hiram & Mary Lloyd,
Penny Buse
Margaret Utgard
Janet Utgard
Elaine Commins,
M'Lisse Williams
Scott and Kathleen Chase

Misty Lucero
Frances & Ralph Underwood
Loren Kraetz
Jean Pearson
Steve Youngren
Judith Pieper
Suzanne B. Larson
Trygve Hanson
Tom Alexander,
Linda Staswick
Jan Landry Gangnes

The Eye of the Beholder

Everyone who visits or volunteers at the museum sees a different story relating to our displays. One our new volunteers, Joel Spencer, discovered a unique pair of cork boots in our logging display donated many years ago by Mike Buse. These special boots with leather heels, cork soles with quarter in nails or spikes or cleets for tree climbers.

Here is what Joel researched and wrote: *At the turn of the 20th century, the Pacific Northwest was booming. Loggers, miners, and mill workers flooded Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. A man named Otto White's ambitions grew from a one-man shop to the White Shoe Company. He bought a small building and filled it with boots. As many as he could build, he sold. Even when the building burned to the ground from a formaldehyde candle he left overnight, Otto found a way to rebuild the company bigger and better. While his father, John, ran a one-man shop in St. Maries, Otto pushed the company toward its greatest growth opportunity: Spokane, WA*

To see more exhibits and stories —please visit some time !

Open Wednesdays and Saturdays 1–4 pm, and by appointment



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY FOR SUPPORTING AND SUSTAINING SAHS

June 1, 2023—August 31, 2023

**Penny Buse
Ed & Ramona Snowden
Brent Woo
Rose & Jerry King,
Robin & Richard Hanks
Gary & Marlene Reineke**

Cindy Sundberg ~

**In honor of
Dennis & Shirley Anderson's 90th Birthdays**

Gary & Marlene Reineke ~
In Honor Of Richard Larson

June 1, 2023—August 31, 2023

Donations In Memory Of

Richard Larson— Gary & Marlene Reinecke
Jerry Kelly— Rose & Jerry King
Dallas Moen, Class of 1956—Ron Fosse
Leroy Johnson—Rose & Jerry King
Jean Logen Kallock—Barbara Logen
Van Conner—Heidi Hedeem
Kenneth Wangsmo—Victoria Conlin Wangsmo

Contact Us!

You can learn more about activities and events planned for the future in our social media links:

<https://www.sahs-fncc.org/>

<https://thefloydnorgaard.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/StanwoodAreaHistoricalSociety/>

<https://www.instagram.com/sahsfnc/>

<https://www.stanwoodveteransmemorial.com/>



Join the Stanwood Area Historical Society

Memberships are due annually. This is a significant means of support for the Society and includes a subscription to the quarterly newsletter. Volunteer members help govern our society by providing assistance with programming, publications and planning for the future. Mail to: SAHS P. O. Box 69, Stanwood WA 98292

SAHS is a tax-exempt non-profit organization and depends for its financial support on gifts, bequests from individuals and groups, fund raising activities and membership dues. Your contributions are tax deductible to you and will be used in support of history education,, preservation projects, collections care, exhibits and programs.

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Individual Membership: \$20.00 \$ _____

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General Supporting Donation: \$ _____

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