

Stanwood Area ECHOES



Newsletter of the Stanwood Area Historical Society
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Issue No. 80; December 2023



Levison stumphouse being prepared to move to Stanwood Camano Fairgrounds. Photo by Marion Duff in 1975; See p. 3

Historic Buildings with Many Lives

Log cabins at the Stanwood Camano Fairgrounds

The Stanwood Camano Fairground Log Cabins and the other wooden buildings are in serious need of rehabilitation beginning with new roofing. A group of interested community members have begun meeting to plan for repairs. Watch for progress on this project in the coming year for next year's Stanwood Camano Fair. If you would like to participate or have information, contact us.

The Settre cabin (photo right taken 2019) was built about 1885 near Cedarhome. Ingeborg and Rasmus Settre were from Norway and arrived in North America in 1868. They lived in Iowa and Minnesota before arriving in 1885. "Mr and Mrs (Ingeborg) Rasmus L Settre came here at a time when the virgin forest was still covering the largest part of what is now our uplands and many hardships were endured by them and other pioneers who tried to hew themselves a home out of the wild woods." They lived in the cabin without running water until 1904. Rasmus whose father's name was Lars Rasmussen of Norway died in 1908 leaving three sons and two daughters.

The Peter Logen family lived in it next adding wallboards to the interior and it became bunkhouse. Bertha Logen remembered the pull down bed and how wind whistled through the cracks between the logs that were chinked with newspaper...the floors were cleaned with hot lye.

It was moved to the fairgrounds in 1965 for the 1966 fair and displayed exhibits. Bertha was part of a group who fixed it up for the fairgrounds in 1968 and added a Monarch stove when the chimney had to be removed. Walls were papered. Many community members contributed antiques and artifacts for the displays.

The Erdahl Cabin (below) was also built about 1885 near Cedarhome. It was constructed of split cedar planks about 8



inches thick. It was moved to school property south of the Lincoln School, (Stanwood Senior Center). When the high school stadium was built the cabin was moved to Church Creek Park but the city had no funds for care. In 1974 the Lions Club had Red Faulkner move it to the fairgrounds where a floor was added and a small room was removed and remains on display and still awaiting visitors.

The Garrison Landry Blacksmith Shop (below) was added in 1968. Ernest Landry had set up a blacksmith shop that was constructed in 1965 by Porter Garrison and Mansur Wangsness at the rear of the Heritage House which was an antique store at the time (known later as the D. O. Pearson House.) It was then brought to the fairgrounds and placed on a cement foundation.



“Every Old Timer Has the Right to One Stump”- Tosten G. Levison

The stump house in this photograph is located on the Stanwood Camano Fairgrounds. Note the notches chopped in the stumps for the springboards the loggers used to chop higher on the tree. This stump was brought to the fairgrounds by Tosten “T. G.” Levison (1878-1966) of “Village”, a small community east of Cedarhome (See front page).

T. G. Levison’s parents, Levi (1848-1920) and Torgen (Kittelson) Levison (1836-1925) were born in Norway. In 1869 Levi came from Norway to America arriving first Illinois where she had been since 1850 and they married in 1874 in Illinois.

They moved to Nebraska where they suffered hailstorms for four years in a row and decided to go west in 1884. They arrived in Seattle by train and took the “*The Cascades*” a sternwheeler which was built at Utsalady in 1864 and used as a mail boat. They were met by Tom Logen who had arrived earlier and who had been with them in Nebraska.

Levi took a preemption claim in 1890 of 160 acres two and 2 1/2 miles east of the Cedarhome Store . The land had been burned but was covered with second growth. The area was often referred to as “The Burn.” At the age of twelve T. G. helped Levi haul shingle bolts to Arlington, pulled stumps from 1891 to 1986 and hauled more shingle bolts in Bryant area. In 1890 Levi bought a stump puller and team of oxen and continued to clear land

After a brief adventure in the Klondike(1903-1904) T.G. continued as a logger. In 1904 he married Christina Stangland (1882-1973) “*We were Incorporated and went partners* ” said T. G.

T. G. became a lumberman who set up or worked in a succession of sawmills, the first on his father’s land. In 1910 T. G. established a mill with John Bertson (aka Bertilson) but sold out though Bertson continued until 1916 when it burned down. In 1910 he started another venture with Ed Edlund but



sold his interest in 1919. He cleared land in Bryant, Florence and Arlington. At some point when he had cleared his land and used the timber for one sawmill or another throughout his life, his land was left without a stump. “*So when the neighbors heard he was to move a stump to his farm they kidded him about it. Every old-timer has a right to one stump, “ he said with his usual cheery smile, At least one stump after all the stumps I’ve worked with all my life.*” The article did not mention specifically where he found the old stump. The stump house was a cedar tree that grew close to his farm in the thick growing virgin stand of timber at Cedarhome.

Sources: next page

Duff, Marion “The stump house — memorial left by woodsman” *Stanwood News* Aug 13, 1975

(Continued on page 4)

The Plat map T32N R4E sections above shows the properties of the R. L Sattre (sect 19), Kolben Erdahl (section 20) Levi Levison, Tosten Levison and the Bertson Mill (section 22) Rasmus Settre (aka Sattre on map) not far from the Erdahl.



Plat Book of Snohomish County, Anderson Map Co. Seattle, Washington, 1910

(Continued from page 3)

Ellingson, La Vine Levison. Handwritten accounts of Village [community, school]

Levi Levison The Illustrated History of Skagit and Snohomish County, 1906 p. 995

Ash, Lois (Flo) Typewritten family history including connections with the Erdahl family. 2001.17.01

Ellingson, La Vine (Levison), Handwritten remembrance by daughter of Tosten T.G. Levison

"Stanwood Fair" : *Everett Herald* July 22, 1966

"Histories of Cedarhome" *Stanwood Area Echoes*, Winter/Spring, 2001, no. 19, p. 1-4

Abstract of Title United States to Levi Levison, dated Mar. 21, 1890 acknowledges payment of \$200.00 in full for containing 160 acres at \$1.25 per acre.

"The Log Cabins Historical Museums" Stanwood News Supplement Stanwood Camano Community Fair, 2001

Settre Scrap Book compiled by Fair Board Committee, n.d. 2002.113.01

"An early day blacksmith shop added to the 1968 Fair" *Stanwood News* supplement Sect. A., Aug. 8, 1968

Settre Log Cabin Washington State Inventory of Historic Places Nov. 1974



The photograph on the left is of the Cedarhome area mill men
Top row, L—R—Chris Jensen, Allison, K or L Larson, T G Levison, Torstein Waale,
Front row—Lars Langand, Cliff Johnson, Oscar Edlund, F. Steering.

SAHS Event Schedule

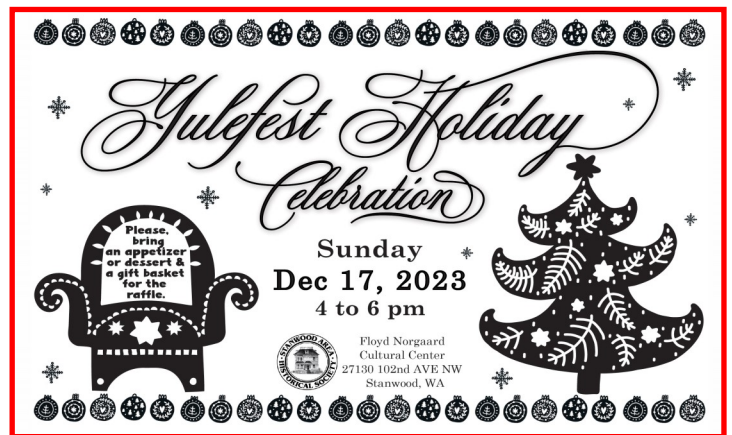
Yulefest SAHS Holiday Party—Join the Holiday party for a fun raffle and Holiday Refreshments, December 17th

Jazzin with the Classics Christmas Concert —Jeffrey Cohan...December 28 7 pm

South End String Band RETURNS Saturday February 3, 2024

Snow Goose & Birding Festival Saturday February 24th 2024, 9 am—4 PM

Murder Mystery Fund Raiser Dinner, Saturday March 23, 2024 ~



Concerts at the Floyd and the Stanwood Area Historical Society present the 15th annual

Jazzin' with the Classics for Christmas!

Thursday, December 28, 2023 at 7 PM
Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center
27130 102nd Ave.N.W. in Stanwood
Suggested donation (a free will donation towards expenses): \$20 • 18 and under free!

Holiday Refreshments!
(360) 629- 6110

Musical Perspectives Blend in this Unique Celebration for the Yuletide Season

Performers:
Gail Pettis - vocalist
Martin Lund flute - clarinet & piano
Paul Gabrielson - bass
Jeffrey Cohan - flute



Above: Colben Erdahl on the top of the hayload; Clement Erdahl behind the horse on the Otterson farm next to the Erdahl Farm. 1988.07.352.07

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 130 have been uploaded to the Internet for everyone to view.

<https://sahsfnc.com/pastperfectonline.com/>
This project was made possible by **ReMax Elevate Community Grant Chest** facilitated by the **Stanwood Camano Area Foundation**



Message From The Veterans Committee

Roughly 65 veterans, their families and supporting public attended the Veterans' Day event at the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center on November 11 th . Mary Pilkington put up displays about her husband Fred Pilkington, his service in World War II and his time as a POW. The Stanwood-Camano Hero Quilters decorated the hall with their beautiful work on tables and the balcony railing.

Service Officer Leslie O'Bannon of Stanwood American Legion Post #92 was the main speaker. Her message dealt with the earned benefits her office provides to veterans. Besides being a gathering place for vets, the Legion's other activities include providing a color guard for local high school games, parades and funerals, school visits to offer education on vets, and Memorial Day programs.

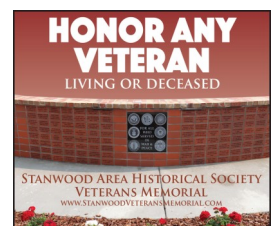


Veterans' Day was also a way of promoting the Memorial and its Veterans' Wall at the Historical Society. Engravings on the wall have kept a steady pace. We had three brick engravings in 2023: one in the Spring, Summer and Fall. We will be taking orders now for Spring2024. Our brick engraver, Tim Tiffany, lives on Camano Island and has taken a personal interest in our Veterans' Wall, which has 280 engraved bricks to date.

Our next event is **December 16, 2023 at 10:00 am**, where we will place wreaths on veteran's graves at Stanwood Anderson, Camano Lutheran and Camano Pioneer Cemeteries. Join the more than two million volunteers and supporters who will gather to Remember, Honor and Teach at more than 4,000 participating locations in all 50 states, at sea and abroad.

Thank You Brick Donors : August 31, 2023— November 30, 2023

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



**THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY
FOR SUPPORTING AND SUSTAINING
SAHS**

September 1st—November 30, 2023

Carol Triplett, Gene Moe, Dean Good, Brett Woo



SCGIVE - GIVING Tuesday — Acoustic improvements to the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center

Pat Bronson, Kathy Uroff, Mary & Walt Nicholas, Molly Alumbaugh, Joan Andrews, Bill Blandin, Scott & Kathleen Chase, Susan Cole, Elaine Commins, Christine Galloway, Robin Hanks, Trygve Hanson, Marla Heagle, Vivian Henderson, James Horak, Alexis Keggan, Rose King, Gaylen Link, Janet Love, Judy Mieger, Rose Olson, Carrie Paulson, Pamela Pritzl, Terry & Nancy Roberts, Rose Seaburg, Erika Sigmon, Carolyn Spector, Janet Utgard, Pamela Wesley, Steven Youngren, Katie & Ed Farrey, Stanwood Camano Area Foundation, Jack Archibald Coastal Community Bank, Seaside Services.

Banner Sponsorships for 2024:

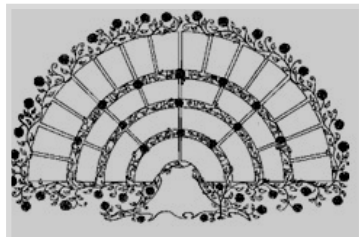
Gerber Collision, Amigos Mexican Restaurant Lenz Enterprises, Windermere Real Estate, C. B. Transport, In., Pelletier + Schaar LLC, Hamilton Lumber, Northsound Physical Therapy, Gilbertson Funeral Home, Taylor's Excavators, Inc., Kallock Insurance Agency, Ixtapa Stanwood, Inc., Stanwood Auto Parts, Stanwood RediMix, Schenck Packing Co., Martin & Miner LLC, KPRO Auto, Inc., Del Fox Meats.

September 1, 2023—November 30, 2023
Donations In Memory Of
John Case—Gary & Marlene Reinecke, Norma & Jerry Gilbertson,
VeeAnn Zelmer Yates—Stanwood High School Class of 1964
David Ipsen—Twin City High Class of 1956

**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



*Thank you to our
Santa Day Donors—*



The Old Fashioned Christmas on December 2nd featuring free pictures with Santa was popular this year for children's gift bags, Holiday crafts and Christmas Cookies with festive holiday music by **Ed Pearson**.

Thanks to **Bill Keller, Rose King, Dave from Starbucks, Billy Jennings, Richard and Robin Hanks Jim Shipley** for meeting throughout the year to plan and prepare for this event.

Thanks to the following for donations:

Ed & Ramona Snowden, Janet Mayer, Jerry King, Dave and Karen Pelletier, Cliff and Janet Larson, John and Jana Smistad, John Leque, Camano IGA, Pelletier and Schaar, Carol Covert, Community Resource Center.

A Giant Thank you to Billy Jennings, The Village Photographer for returning for 22 years to the Floyd to help families remember Christmases pasts.



New & Renewed Memberships for 2024

Received September 1, 2023—November 30, 2023

In addition to general support, Memberships help cover costs of printing & mailing the newsletter. We accept new memberships at any time of the year.

**Sharon & David Snelling
Vicki Lee Rensink
Phil and Candace Trautman
Don Myron
Benjamin & Angela Powers**

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/>



Message from the Stanwood Area Historical Society President

Dear Friends,

Season's Greetings from the Stanwood Area Historical Society. As I complete my first term as president it's hard to believe that 2024 is almost upon us. We have many challenges including the care and maintenance of our historic buildings and grounds. I have the honor of working with so many fantastic individuals. We work hard to keep our doors open and provide opportunities for individuals to research their roots and visit our museum to see displays of where Stanwood / Camano began.

As a non-profit and volunteer organization we can only accomplish our mission with your support. Please consider donating and volunteering!

Our community is full of many talented individuals and we would love to have you join our organization and share your talents. Thank all of you who have given your time and money to maintain SAHS.

Sincerely,
Joan Andrews, President SAHS

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

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

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SAHS Board Meetings ~ 2nd Wednesday of the month  
Eldridge Center 11 a.m. December 13th,  
Open to the public !  
New members and volunteers welcome.  
We welcome a new Board Member for 2024 –2026,  
Kris Anderson.  
Trustee terms are 3 years  
Officer positions for President and Secretary begin on the  
even year. Vice President and Treasurer begin on the odd  
year. Officers serve for two year terms.

## 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](mailto:info@sahs-fncc.org)

## 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 tours and volunteering on the "job" with experienced volunteer. We need a minimum of two volunteers on site to keep our buildings open  
**Wednesdays and Saturdays 1—4 pm  
or by appointment! 360-629-6110**

At The Floyd!



Mark your  
Calendars!

Paypal link is on our website sidebar  
[www.sahs-fncc.org](http://www.sahs-fncc.org)



Donate to

Stanwood Area Historical Society

We collect and preserve the wondrous treasures of history that define our community.

\$10.00  
USD

\$20.00  
USD

\$50.00  
USD

Other Amount

Donate with PayPal

Donate with a Debit or Credit Card



## 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.*

NAME (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal / New (please circle one)

Email (Program/Activities notifications) \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership: \$20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership: \$30.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Student Membership: \$5.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

General Supporting Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contact us if you are a business and would like to support with a business sponsorship for 2024

360-629-6110

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