

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. 81; March, 2024

Stanwood Cooperative Creamery built in 1895



Acc# 1992.112.11



2024.05.23. circa 1887—1900 Photographer. Oliver S. Van Olinda

Above is a newly received photograph of the 1895 Stanwood Cooperative Creamery taken by Oliver S. Van Olinda. Van Olinda was the newspaper editor of the *Stanwood Weekly Press* with D. Carl Pearson between 1897 and 1900. This photograph is similar to other photographs of the creamery but taken earlier. It was among many others received from the family of Anton Anderson. The Creamery was insured for \$2,000 at the cost of \$45.00 in both 1895 and 1896 covering the building, the engine and boiler and all other machines "as is used in a creamery." The photograph on the upper right shows the location of creamery on the hillside to the right of the road.

Anton F. Anderson Cemetery Legacy

One of our recent catalog projects is a collection of family documents donated by the 5th generation of a family we knew very little about. It had been brought in by Mrs. Shanley Rubatino Van Ditto Lett in 2019 for safe-keeping and study. She is the granddaughter of Anna Anderson Rubatino (1898—1990) who collected, compiled and profusely labeled her family's history in her own distinctive handwriting. Anna A. Rubatino (A.A.R) is the granddaughter of Norway's native son and pioneer Anton(e) Frederick Anderson (1834—1923).

The collection came to us meticulously preserved and notated her family's photos and documents with information on how she helped manage estates when parents and siblings passed, and achieved official Washington State Genealogical Society's Pioneer Family certification in 1988. She was active in the American Legion and had passed the W.P.A "First Aide to the Injured" exam for wartime assistance with highest marks. Without her personal notations we would not have known that her Norwegian uncle died tragically driving a cart with runaway horses in 1895 in East Stanwood and other family lore.

There are 142 sets of chronologically sorted primary source documents for five generations of this Washington Territory Pioneer family (circa 1882 – 1988). This includes some documents and a map requiring delicate handling due to their age and condition.

The first generation, **Anton F. and Johannah "Jennie", arrived in the USA in 1868** from Christiania and Trondheim Norway with their two young sons, Christian and Andrew Anderson. They arrived in Stanwood WA in 1882 with some of their relations in the Torum, Tjerne, Sailstad, Olsen, and Lerstein Scandinavian families. This collection gives important views of the earliest



1989.01.06 ; Donor: Andrew Anderson

businesses (the Cooperative Creamery), schools, homes, plats, roadways and ways of life and death, as well as establishments of three historical Stanwood cemeteries, a hand drawn survey map circa 1891, and the succession of railroad companies.

In a sheriff's sale the 1902 Stanwood Fraternal Association building was put up for sale in 1904 and sold to Anton F. and Jennie Anderson for \$1684.15. In 1909 Anderson sold the building and the two lots for \$2,000 to the Stanwood Lodge #249 of the I. O. O F (International Order of Odd Fellows Hall (now the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center))*

Anna's father was Andrew Anderson the only surviving son (1865 - 1955) who inherited, with his wife Anna Olina (Torum) the farmlands and cemetery from Anton F. Their land straddled the "Great Northern Railway" tracks, today's Pioneer Hwy (St. Route 1; Highland Avenue in 1910), and is bordered by today's Marine Drive (west) and 532 (north). Many early arrivals to Stanwood paid mortgages to Anton F. Anderson as he parceled out pieces of his land for homesites, or offered burial plots in the cemeteries he established.

The "Lutheran Cemetery" (now Our Saviours on Pioneer Hwy) was a part of Anton Anderson's parcel that he transferred to the first Norwegian Trinity Lutheran Church in 1898. In 1905 Anton and Jennie platted their own Anton F. Anderson Cemetery still visited today. In 1948 and 1950 conveyances were documented between Great Northern RR, Andrew Anderson and the Cedargreen Cemetery Association.

The viewing of this collection reveals that this family was incredibly loyal and responsible to each other and their extended family in Norway. There is an original receipt for a \$250.00 dollars money order, sent from Andrew Anderson to his Tjerne relation in 1915 in Norway. This would be \$7,600.00 in today's currency, in



2024.05.02

businesses (the Cooperative Creamery), schools, homes, plats, roadways and ways of life and death, as well as establishments of three historical Stanwood cemeteries, a hand drawn survey map circa 1891, and the succession of railroad companies.

In a sheriff's sale the 1902 Stanwood Fraternal Association building was put up for sale in 1904 and sold to Anton F. and Jennie Anderson for \$1684.15. In 1909 Anderson sold the building and the two lots for \$2,000 to the Stanwood Lodge #249 of the I. O. O F (International Order of Odd Fellows Hall (now the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center))*

Anna's father was Andrew Anderson the only surviving son (1865 - 1955) who inherited, with his wife Anna Olina



2024.05.15; Anderson's first home.

the midst of WW I. The Anderson's were a stable resource for their neighbors, as well as diverse in their economic ventures, resilient, and hard working. Their bonds as a family and to the Scandinavian community of Stanwood, over five generations, were palpable in this collection.

Narrative and Collection Summary compiled by Elaine Commins

*See also Hanks, Richard "They Built the Floyd" about the early Stanwood pioneers who built the Stanwood IOOF Public Hall (now the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center) in 1902. *Stanwood Area Echoes Spring 2021 no. 70*

Marion Duff—Interviewer & Writer

Marian Duff (1904-2001) and her husband Gerald (1901–1973) came to Stanwood about 1967. Marion graduated from Ballard High School in 1922 and she and her husband were married in September 1924. How they met is elusive perhaps because he was Canadian and naturalized in 1937.

In 1967 after raising two children living in Seattle, where he was a grocer and bookkeeper, they moved to Stanwood. She had been writing articles for the *Seattle Times*. The first article in the Times was in 1958. She wrote feature articles on topics like local schools, theater, art, firefighting, and one interesting one of the safety of sliding glass door panels. In 1964 one of her articles featured a history of Monte Cristo. She described her father's first job at the age of 16 in 1893 at the logging camp there. The sawmill failed and Loken moved to Ballard to work in another mill.

Mrs. Duff's first article in the *Stanwood News* appeared in 1968 featuring a history of Josephine Sunset Home. She wrote several more and then in February 1969 she wrote the first of her series called "*Meet Stanwood's Business People...*" It featured Lucille Hopkins, "one of this area's accomplished florists". Her extensive biographical and business series ended with an article about the short-lived business "Alternatives in Wood" which appeared eight years later in September 1975.

There are over 200 articles for which she interviewed business owners about their careers and introduced new businesses, usually taking photographs. After she stopped writing other reporters contributed for a few more years to the series including Judy Starr, Carol Schmidt, Becky Walker and some unattributed. The cumulation of these articles form a unique biographical history of the area. Only a small number of the businesses are still around or they have moved or changed names. The articles represent the amazing variety of the entrepreneurial success stories and not so successful stories of a small town.

While doing her interviews, photographs and writing her articles Marion Duff was also one of the charter members of the Stanwood Area Historical Society bringing together many in the community to help accomplish this cause. In her papers were letters to the Washington State Historic Preservation officer about the D. O. Pearson Historical Register nomination. She donated many of her papers to the museum in the 1980s

(We also give a shout out to Brandon Ericson, Owner of Camano Commons Marketplace who has been doing some great interviews of current local business owners and community leaders on his Camano Voice Podcast (<https://camanocommons.com/podcast/>))

The Hamilton Stack

One of Marion Duff's articles featured Dennis Hamilton of J. E. Hamilton & Sons in November of 1969. His story tells of when the

(Continued on page 4)



Source: U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900-2016 for Marion Loken Ballard High School 1922.

Meet Stanwood's business people . . .



*The photograph above shows the old style refuse/sawdust burner common in that era that stood next to the stack for years
Accession No. 1987.04.27.40; Donor Photographer—Marion Duff*

(Continued from page 3)

Hamilton family moved to Stanwood after ventures in Anacortes and later Burlington and Coupeville. After selling lumber from the area around Madrona Beach, they took over the mill that had been closed where the landmark stack remains.

The mill had closed in 1929 as the Depression came on. The buildings burned first in 1936. J. E. Hamilton & Sons had a small mill and also established their current lumber yard on "Burnway" (271st). The mill property extended from their current lumber yard to the river where the stack had been constructed in 1927 by then owners, the Clough Mill (formerly Wisconsin Timber Company) to raise the smoke above the town. Hamilton established their lumber sales yard and a finishing mill. It was an all-electric mill that took 13 months to build. In May 1954 the Hamilton had about 20–40 workers and was very successful until another fire in 1957. Different companies tried to operate again in 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1965. After the numerous fires and setbacks the attempt to run a mill there was finally abandoned. Hamilton took it over again and finally sold sections along the river and S. R. 532 cut through the site in the 1960s.

— Editor



Memorial Day Remembrance 2024

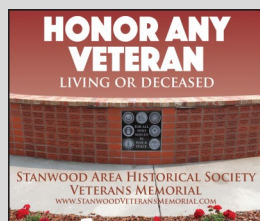
The SAHS Veterans Memorial Committee will place flags on Veteran's graves at Camano Lutheran Cemetery for Memorial Day while the Von Moos family places flags on Veteran's graves at Anderson Cemetery and the Utsalady Ladies Aid place flags on Veteran's graves at the Camano Pioneer Cemetery.

The Memorial Day program will be held with the American Legion at the Anderson Cemetery on Monday, May 27th at 11 am.

We will have a Spring engraving before Memorial Day for the Veterans wall which will bring us to a total of 285 engraved bricks.

Thank You Brick Donors : November 30, 2023 - Feb 28th, 2024

Kris & Rick Anderson
John Saimons
Bill & Alice Blandin
Donald Odenborg
Wickstrom & Withers Families
Cheryl Conner & Stephanie
Hamilton
Valerie & Angela Rifner



Accomplishments of our Volunteers

Research / Genealogy Assistance— **Bill Blandin, Sandy Blesie**

Construction repairs in Tolin House Office—**Mark Commins**

Archival Processing & Pearson House History Booklet—**Elaine Commins**

Collections/Accession work—**Pat Bronson, Elaine Commins, Janet Mayer, Karen Pelletier, Janet Utgard, Kathy Uroff, Karen Prasse**

Three antique vehicles repairs & maintenance by **John Leque** and occasional helpers.

Facilities Committee—**Dave Eldridge, John Smistad, Cliff Larson, Les Anderson, Karen Pelletier**

Snow Goose Festival 2024—**Coordinated by Robin and Richard Hanks.**

Photography Projects—**Doug Vorwaller, Judy Fernandes**

Storage projects—**Kathy Uroff, Steve Youngren**

Guided Visits / Tours by **Don Simonson, Elaine Commins, Cliff Larson**

School Tours— **Rose King & Board members**

Schoolhouse Classroom Exhibits—**Elaine Commins**

Kitchen Hosts— **Rose King, Celia Flones, Kathy Uroff, Joan Andrews, Janet Utgard, Diane Anderson**

Trucking Services—**Steve Youngren (when not being Treasurer), Jack Archibald**

Thanks to **Joan Andrews, President (2023-2024)** for her new ideas and enthusiasm for all we do.

Updated Nordic Heritage Exhibit by **Janet Mayer, Janet Utgard, Janet Larson, Karen Pelletier, Pat Bronson, Joan McConnell, (not pictured, Pat Bronson, Mary Margaret Haugen, Kathy Uroff)**— see below



THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESSES FOR THEIR SPONSORSHIPS!

Banner Sponsorships for 2024:

Amigos Mexican Restaurant
C B. Transport
Coastal Bank
Del Fox Meats
Gerber Collision
Remax Elevate NW
Gilbertson Funeral Home
Hamilton Lumber
KPRO Auto Inc.
Lenz Enterprises
North Sound Physical Therapy
Pelletier & Schaar LLC.
Sahara Pizza
Schenk Packing
Stanwood Auto Parts
Stanwood Redi-Mix
Taylors Excavators , Inc.
Windermere Real Estate

December 1st 2023—February 29th, 2024

Donations In Memory Of

Barbara Logen—Janet Utgard/Scott Shroyer,
Margaret Utgard, Steve Youngren, Rose & Jerry King

Bruce Hall—Linda & Tom Lenz, Ted & Linda
Johnson

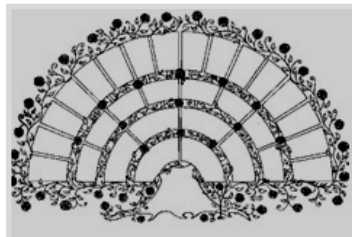
Thor Stangeland—Steve Youngren, Margaret Utgard

Mary Lindahl—Steve Youngren

Jean Nelson Pearson—Pat Sundberg Lund, Carolyn
Brower, Margaret Utgard, Barbara Logen

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



**1930s
MURDER MYSTERY
DINNER THEATRE
& SILENT AUCTION**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD

Doors 5:00 pm
Show 6:00 pm

**“Best Laid
Plans”**
Come to the
quintessential
whodunnit thriller at
the estate of Sir Warren
Peace and get thrown
into a night of mystery,
intrigue, and murder.

Who Dunnit?

Dinner
Juniper Bites Creative Catering

Show
Murder Mystery Co.
“Parties people are dying to attend”

Attire
1930’s era (optional)

Floyd
27130 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood

Tickets
\$75 or \$90

1930s Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre & Silent Auction

Saturday March 23, 2024

Dinner by Juniper Bites Creative Catering

Show by the Murder Mystery Company of Seattle

Attire: 1930s era (Optional)

At the Floyd

27130 102nd Ave NW

Stanwood, WA

Click here for tickets \$75 or \$90

5:00 PM Cocktail Hour, Bidding starts

6:00 PM Show Begins

6:30 PM Dinner Served

7:00 PM Dessert and Silent Auction

The Floyd

STANWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



perfect for
**Weddings
Receptions
parties**

360-629-6110

fnccmanager@sahs-fncc.org
thefloydnorgaard.weebly.com
www.sahs-fncc.org

Stanwood Area Historical Society 2024 Elected Officers & Trustees

President ~	Joan Andrews	2023-2024
Vice President ~	Kathy Uroff	2024-2025
Treasurer ~	Steve Youngren	2024-2025
Secretary ~	Karen Prasse	2024-2024

Trustees

2024 -26 Kris Anderson
 2024 -26 tbd
 2023 -25 Rose King
 2023 -25 Andreena Bergman
 2023 -25 Karen Pelletier
 2022 -24 Janet Utgard
 2022 -24 John Leque

Honorary Lifetime Trustees
 Pat Bronson & Margaret Utgard

SAHS Board Meetings ~

2nd Wednesday of the month

Eldridge Center 11 a.m. March 13th, April 10th

Open to the public !

New members and volunteers welcome.

Welcome to new Board Member for 2024 –2026,
 Kris Anderson.

Officers serve for two year terms.

Trustee terms are 3 years

President and Secretary rotate on the even year.

Vice President and Treasurer rotate on the odd year.

Contact Us!

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

info@sahs-fncc.org

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

<https://thefloydnorgaard.org>

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

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

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



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

P.O. Box 69

27122 102nd Ave. N. W. (no mail)

Stanwood, WA 98292

360-629-6110 ~ <http://www.sahs-fncc.org>

Editorial Committee: Karen Prasse & 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

Keeping our Museum Open !

One of our most critical services is keeping our exhibits and historic buildings open for visitors 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 an experienced volunteer. Museums call their tour guides or hosts “docents.” We need a minimum of two docents on site to keep our buildings open to give our guided visits .

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

Events helpers welcome

Historic Sites Tour.org every August TBD

Historic Home Tour Sept 2024 TBD

Fall History Programs TBD

4th of July Parade & Social

Memorial Day Program

Veterans Day Program

Writing /researching / local history

Designing Exhibits Projects

Museum Collections projects & Committees

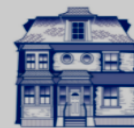
Clothing/Textiles Collections

Historical Photographs Project :

https://www.sahs-fncc.org/?page_id=3806

Photographs committee needs volunteer with scanning experience.

Paypal link is on our website sidebar
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



←←← **Standing Room Only for most of our Snow Goose Festival in February.**

Among the favorites were the bus tours to observe the snow geese and swans and the programs on photographing birds, eagles at Camano Island State Park, and Northwest owl habitats and behavior.

Martha Jordan of the Northwest Swan Conservation Assn returned with her program “Washington White Birds of Winter” and updated statistics on migration patterns of the geese and swans. Their populations are affected by fewer crops in fields and developments taking over farmlands.

Thank you also to the supporting renters/ attendees and volunteers of **the Sound Water Stewards, Shore Steward, Snohomish PUD, Whidbey Camano Land Trust, Pilchuck Audubon, Skagit Audubon, City of Stanwood, Northwest Swan Conservation Assn., Snow Goose Transit, Camano Center, Northwest Glass Quest, Camano Island Chamber of Commerce.**

New Acquisitions below

Donations of artifacts are received and recordkeeping progresses with help from Pat Bronson.

Pictured below is an unusual children’s high chair donated by SAHS member Dee Jobe. It is a new addition to the Pearson House kitchen displays. It is a 1902 oak child’s convertible chair rocker . It collapses for storage. Our Donor is a member of Questers and founder of the Clara Jane Stanwood Chapter of Questers in Stanwood. <https://www.questers1944.org/>



The SAHS volunteer kitchen committee once again provides healthy hot homemade soups and refreshments for the attendees of the **Snow Goose Festival on February 24th.**

In picture is Rose King, Janet Utgard, Diane Anderson, Karen Pelletier (in back) and Kathy Uroff on far left. Unpictured trustees and members helping were Joan Andrews, Celia Frones, Janet Mayer. Other members on hand to watch programs and mingle with the crowds were Elaine Commins, Chris Galloway, John Leque, Pat Bronson, and several who are members of several of the groups.

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 \$ _____

360-629-6110

Mail to:

Stanwood Area Historical Society

P. O. Box 69, Stanwood WA 98292

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Stanwood, WA 98292

Bulk Permit No. 186

U. S. Postage Paid

Non Profit Organization

STANWOOD, WA 98292

P. O. BOX 69

STANWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY