President’s Message

Bob Bedoll
Welcome to the forty-third year of the Anderson Island Historical Society. I have had the pleasure of serving as president of this organization for the past year, and I look forward to another year of fun and accomplishment for the Historical Society.

Our mission, simply put, is to preserve, protect, and present the history of Anderson Island. We do that through maintaining and enhancing the Johnson Farm and the new Archival Building, collecting and displaying island artifacts, and bringing together and nurturing the Anderson Island Community. And thanks to our volunteers and members, we do a great job. It has been tremendously gratifying to see the new Archival Building become an essential piece of life on Anderson Island. Last year there were sixteen events in the building, including potlucks, concerts, art shows, silent auctions, weddings, and dinners. At the end of the year we began to fill the building with historical exhibits, and that will continue throughout this year as we add over twenty display cases to show historical island artifacts. Rick Anderson, our Archivist, is leading this exciting effort, and he is looking for volunteers to help with ideas and display creation. Peggy Hodge, our Education chairman, is also looking for docents to lead visitors through the farm and the Archival Building. Additionally, Wayne Wallace, our Operations chairman, leads Wednesday work parties that maintain and improve the entire farm – we can always use volunteers to help.

Since the Historical Society began in 1975, it has constantly upgraded the farm to create a showplace for life on the Island in the early 1900s. Somewhere around the year 2000 a ‘vision’ was put together for the 50th anniversary of the Historical Society (in 2025). Out of that vision came a plan for the new Archival Building, which was finally realized last year. We have now put together a new vision for what we want the Historical Society and Farm to be in 2025. You can find that vision elsewhere in this newsletter.

As in previous years, our focus on bringing the community together is continuing with our major events for this year: Farm Day, the Salmon and Rib Bake, and the Apple Squeeze. Jeanne McGoldrick and our volunteers do a great job of making these events successful, but we are always reaching out to all of you to join us in helping on these events. It’s part of what makes Anderson Island such a great community.

Finally, I want to thank all our donors, volunteers, and members, for making the AIHS such a great organization, and I want to encourage all of you to help in any way you’d like.
What a busy fall and winter!

The Apple Squeeze was fun and wonderful, we pressed a lot of apples and enjoyed the bake sale, music, hot apple cider. The rain held off for most of the event, which was very nice. We had enough cider to be able to serve it at the annual meeting, and the December open house. This is my favorite event, I think because it is so laid back, plus it is a wonderful way to close out the farm work season. Thank you to all the volunteers who headed up the ‘dragon’, a special thanks to the bakers, the food servers and the folks who made hot soup, salad and bread for the volunteers.

Educational Programs and Potlucks were well attended. This fall started out with a talk by Belen Schneider on ‘Birds of Johnson Farm’, her fantastic photographs of birds enjoying the community gardens were lovely and added a lot to her entertaining program. She will return with another talk soon! (We hope!)

October brought John M. Horton from Vancouver, B.C. The title of his presentation was "Voyage of Discovery: Captain Vancouver’s Charting of the Pacific Northwest Coast.” Mr. Horton is a talented marine artist who has portrayed the Pacific voyages of Cook and Vancouver.

Belen Belgic Schneider and Ed Stephenson discussing technical issues!

Our annual Open House on December 3 was preceded by our lefse making party on Friday the 1st. We made a lot of the potato flat bread and were able to provide it for the open house as well as sample ourselves. The open house also served hot cider, cookies and many Scandinavian delicacies. This is our last event of the year and a great way to start the holiday season.

Our Volunteers were honored at a wonderful feast on December 6th. They were served a full turkey dinner with all the associated side dishes. Thanks to another group of volunteers who did the cooking of the turkey and other foods, as well as the setup of tables and decorations. Marsha Howells is the head of the cooking group and was ably supported by a cast of great island cooks!

Lefse makers (Liane Heckman, Luci Janzen, Jeanne McGoldrick and Sue Huseby)
2017 Annual meeting was held on November 11, 2017 in Stephenson Hall. We had a good turnout and an equally good potluck! The annual meeting is a lot of fun with a short business meeting, drawings for door prizes and the contest to choose the poster design for the next year’s salmon bake.

This year’s highlights were the election of new officers, Kelly Hinds was elected to a two-year term as Secretary, and Todd Billett was re-elected as treasurer, also a two-year term. We also heard reports from all the officers and directors. The much-anticipated President’s Award for outstanding volunteer went to Ed Stephenson. Ed served many years on the board as president, past president and president again, plus worked tirelessly as project manager for the Archival Building Project. He now is the manager of the Archival Building, a huge job which he handles exceptionally well. We appreciate all he has given to the society.

After the business meeting we had a special presentation from the Quilts of Valor. Quilts were presented to four of our members, John Larson, Chuck Hindshow oas, Rick Anderson and Pat McGoldrick.

This year’s Salmon Bake Poster Contest was a challenge for the voters! There were many outstanding entries, but Virginia Cummings was the winner with her Salmon Medallion. Look for this wonderful piece of artwork this summer on the posters.
Sample of other entries for the Poster contest

With 8 entries, choosing one was not very easy! Good job island artists.

Many items in our displays still need to be prepared for proper display, once the proper buildings for each item is decided. Contact Rick Anderson to help with this project.

Archives and Displays

Rick Anderson

Wanted: Curators

Everyone knows we have a great collection of artifacts, implements, archives and buildings at Johnson Farm. With the new Archival Building coming on line, the time has come to thoroughly catalog our collection and prepare new exhibits to tell the story of the farm and the history of Anderson Island.

Many of the buildings at the farm are stand-alone museums on their own. Examples of this are the farm house and the Saw Museum. Most of the other buildings are chock-full of artifacts which can be displayed to tell the story of how that facility fit into the daily or seasonal operations of the farm.

If you have toured the farm recently, you know that we face a great challenge to identify, sort, preserve and prepare the items in our collection for display. Or it could be said that we now have an opportunity to take the next step in making Johnson Farm the best museum it can be.

The task we face is not so much a technical one as a matter of energy and focus. Success depends on a team of dedicated volunteers stepping forward to take responsibility for the different venues of the farm, as it were. The board has endorsed the concept of having a curator, or a team of curators, take ownership for those buildings, and their contents, which have a story to tell about the farm or the island.

The mission for each team would be to survey and catalog the contents of the building, enter the data in our PastPerfect program, research the historical use of the building and its artifacts, and prepare the building for its role as a stand-alone museum in the larger context of the farm.

No one person would be expected to accomplish all this alone; rather it would be accomplished through team-building and collaborating with the other AIHS volunteers. The time-frame in most cases would be a matter of several years, with overall completion of this phase expected to be complete by 2025, in time for the 50th anniversary of the founding of our Historical Society.
Most of the buildings already have an assigned curator, but there are a few which don’t, and plenty of opportunities for team members. The tasks include everything from photographing and identifying artifacts, to entering data on our computer, to cleaning and restoring the buildings and implements, and to preparing displays. If you are interested and could spare a few hours a week to participate in this project, please contact Rick Anderson and express your willingness to get involved.

### Salmon and Rib Bake 2018 Planning

The **Salmon and Rib Bake** Committee will begin monthly meetings in February, the first Monday of the month, Feb. 6, at 7pm in the Archival Building. These early meetings are key to making this event a success. You are welcome to join us as we start the process of pulling together all the pieces necessary to bring this event to the island.

### McGoldrick Library

**SOMETIMES A DISASTER** can turn into something wonderful. One winter saw some truly bad weather and fierce storms, with winds which felled many trees. One of these was a magnificent old oak tree on the property which belongs to David and Jeanne McGoldrick. Dave recognized that the wood in the tree would be much too good to go to the firewood pile, so decided to consult some experts in the design and manufacturing of fine furniture. They were excited as the old tree yielded exceptionally fine, furniture grade lumber. This was turned into a set of gorgeous custom designed library furniture, a fourteen-foot long table and several matching book cases as well as two smaller display tables. This was graciously donated to the Anderson Island Historical Society and now sits in our Library/Meeting Room. Dave and Jeanne are lifetime members of the historical society, Jeanne has been the director of events for many (many) years, she was also the interior design manager for the new building and continues to assist in the landscape around the new building and the farmhouse. David is always willing to lend a hand, as well as donating apples for the annual squeeze, plus, he is a fount of information and support. Although the board was truly excited and grateful for the library furniture, the commitment of this family to the farm led to the board decision to name the Library after the family which has given so much time and energy to AIHS.
**Apple Pies made in our new kitchen for sale at the Garden Market in 2017**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND**

Anderson Island Historical Society is dependent upon the skills and energy of our volunteers. No matter what you are interested in, there is a place for you. It is a great way to meet people, connect with friends and have fun. Below are some of the ongoing opportunities to share your skills with the community.

Docents are needed to lead tours of the farm and farmhouse. This is an ongoing need, it is fun and a great way to meet new people.

Twice a month we provide lunch to the work parties at the farm, it is fun, and you are never on your own, someone else is paired with you to make the meal. Contact for lunches is Marsha Howells (253-884-4342).

Speaking of work parties, the farm takes a lot of upkeep, small repairs, big jobs, sometimes building, sometimes grounds work. The work parties take place on Wednesdays from 9-12, lunch provided on the second and fourth Wed. of the month (March through November). If you have questions, check with Wayne Wallace (253-884-0843).

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**AIHS 2025 Vision**

*Bob Bedoll, President*

The ‘Vision’ is a snapshot of how we would describe the AIHS to a visitor in 2025. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Bob Bedoll.

**ORGANIZATION**

- The AIHS is a vibrant organization dedicated to the history of Anderson Island.
- A significant percentage of the Island population belongs to the organization (and many of them are under fifty).

**FACILITIES**

- The Archival Building serves as a Visitor Center for the entire AIHS/Johnson Farm and Museum. It contains an inviting, comprehensive, and well-organized set of displays that tell story of the history of Anderson Island. There are also as various rotating displays from the AIHS collection. The building also serves as a meeting hall for many of the AIHS events.
- The Visitor Center also orients visitors to the well-maintained farm, whose buildings are clearly signed with information and displays that tell the story of life on the farm one-hundred years ago. A crew of docents is available for guided tours, but the building signage and brochures allow self-guided tours.
- The gift store offers Island memorabilia and gift items for sale.

**COLLECTION**

- The AIHS owns, displays, collects, and has catalogued an extensive and ever-growing collection of island artifacts and chronicles of island people, activities, and institutions.
COMMUNITY

- The AIHS actively engages and nurtures the Anderson Island Community with a dozen community events each year, including events designed for younger members of the community, often in conjunction with other island organizations.

Gift Shop News

This year the board wishes to thank the manager and staff of the gift shop for their significant contributions to the historical society. In 2017 they made contributed $13,000 to the farm! That makes them our largest fund raiser! This volunteer group spends countless hours behind the scenes, attending gift shows, setting up displays and working every weekend from early April through mid-December. No visit to the farm is complete without a stop in the Museum Gift Shop. You will be able to shop through a large inventory of art and crafts made on the island, along with other great items. It is closed now until the first weekend in April, but will open for you if you want, just contact Kathy Bailey at 884-9930 to make arrangements.

The Gift Shop is always looking for both helpers and consignors. It is a fun place to spend some time on weekends. The shop is also a good venue for selling your island made arts and crafts. Contact Kathy Bailey (253-884-9930) or Leslie Lamb (253-884-2295)

Winter at the Farm and Other Art News

Hope you all made it to the 6th annual Anderson Island Art Show, now titled ‘Winter at the Farm’. It was held January 19th and 20th. This event is co-sponsored with Island Arts. It is a crowd favorite, this year drawing in over 30 artists and more than 200 guests. Prize ribbons were awarded with Best in the Show going to Sue Huseby for her charming painting of a cow and her calf, “Mom and Baby”, and Peoples’ Choice awarded to George Millikin for his watercolor, “Envy”. Winners per category were:

**Photography:** 1. Holding Stones, by Nathan Clark; 2. Streets of Venice, by Beula Robb and 3. Becalmed, by Nancy Peterson

**Student:** 1. Benson Boy, by Katie Prisco; 2. Nature’s Honcho, by Agustina Alvarado, and 3. Honey, by Gracie Robb

**Abstract:** 1. Messy Nest, by Kim Crawford; 2. Circadian, by Alana Ianniciello and 3. Love, the Wild Beast, by Kat Treichel

**Wildlife/Nature:** 1. One with Nature, by Kim Gunns; 2. Ever Watchful, by Leslie Lamb and 3. Around the Farm, by Gina Cummings

**Portrait:** 1. Aged to Perfection by Denise MacDonald; 2. In Heavenly Light, by JM Starz and 3. Darneshia by Carol Paschal
Envy by George Millikin, Peoples’ Choice Award Winner

Still Life/Interior: 1. Chai ala Guatemala, by Lynne Jacobsen; 2. Pitcher by Tim Mansen and 3. Fruits and Flowers by Sue Huseby. Thanks to all who participated and those who helped with serving snacks at both events. Simona Martinez donated some lovely cookies and brownies, and Ellen Kaspi donated wine for the opening reception. The show was judged by Alexi Antonov, so he is also owed an extra big thank you as he filled in for our scheduled judge who was felled by the flu. Stephenson Hall is a beautiful place well suited to this event, and it got many positive comments from the delighted viewers.

Art Club meets every Thursday at 230pm in the Lois Scholl Room, unless the weather is great, then we meet at the marina! Bring your supplies and project and come to work with other artists on the island. It is nice to have someone to talk about your work and share your ideas with. Contact Gina Cummings to be added to the email list.

gina17c@yahoo.com

Art classes begin again April 19th, 2018. This fall’s classes will be Thursdays from April 29th through May 24th.

- Drawing will be from 1-2 pm
- Watercolor painting from 230-4pm
- Oil Painting from 630-8pm

For information and supply lists please call Lynne Jacobsen, 253-320-5571, or: lynnejacobsen48@gmail.com

Farm Day Sale

This winter we have been doing some cleaning and sorting of items throughout the farm. There are a lot of tools, some building supplies and other items that are duplicates, extras, and just in the way! We have decided to have a sale during Farm Day, May 26th to share this bounty with all bargain hunters. Please check out this sale, you may find exactly what you need to finish your project or start a new one.

Wish List

Now that we have finished our new building and Lois Scholl kitchen, we find that we are short a few items to make everything work more smoothly. The kitchen could use: good knives, plastic spatula, disposable pie tins, small canning kettle, cookie pans, and salad tongs.

The office could use a tape dispenser and tape, pens, markers and post-it notes.