

## AIHS 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes, November 9, 2024

**The Annual Meeting was called to order at 7pm on 11/9/24 by Bob Bedoll.**

Present were: Bob Bedoll (president), Carol Pascal (vice president), Jon Field (Public Information), Rick Anderson (Archives), Leslie Lamb and Virginia Cummings (gift shop), Lee Ann Whitaker (Education), Tod Billett (Treasurer).

Absent were Serena Frank (Events), Ed Stephenson (Past President), Sally Buchanan (Secretary)

Bob verified that a quorum was president.

Minutes for the 2023 meeting were approved.

### **President's Report – Bob Bedoll**

- We have a great team and great facilities.  
Our facilities have become a focal point for the community.
- Events/Classes:
  - Almost 300 classes and events this year, including 220 recurring classes/events, plus 100 unique events and meetings including 7 concerts, 2 showers, film festival. (in conjunction with Island Arts)
- Community/Fundraising Events:
  - Plant Sale, Farm Day, Garden Market, Salmon Bake, Apple Squeeze, raised over \$40K, a new record.
  - Salmon Bake Meals: served over 900 salmon & rib meals, the most ever.
  - Silent Auction: raised over \$18,000, the most ever.
- Membership: 270 members (268 last year).
- Financial: Over \$200K in reserve (including funds for the bandstand roof).
- Facilities: upgraded the farm buildings, grounds, greenhouse, annex, bandstand, archival building, gardens, gift shop.
- Displays: upgraded signage, displays and collections. New movie: *The Tahoma*
- Visitor Engagement: We kept the gift shop open every weekend from April,
  - farmhouse and archival building open and staffed every weekend this summer.
  - Almost 1000 visitors

### 2025 Goals

- Celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (incorporated July 15, 1975).

- Continue our tradition of great community events.
- Move us in the direction of the 2025 Vision
- Enhance the content and usefulness of the farm and all the museum buildings.
- Maintain fiscal health
- Find a successor

The Bandstand Roof Project is on indefinite hold. It was rejected by Pierce County Planning Board because we are zoned R10 Rural Residential, and Outdoor Performance Centers are prohibited.

**Treasurer Report – Todd Billett.**

Summary for 2024: Total gross income: \$74,727. Total Operating Expenses: \$50,261. Net Operating Income: \$24,466. Capital Expenses: \$27,496. Net Income: -3,030.

Balance Sheet Assets: \$203,370.

The 2025 budget is for total gross income of \$75,600; total operating expenses of \$67,140, and net operating income of \$8,460.

Bob reported that the silent auction, salmon bake, and gift shop provided over half of the AIHS annual income. Our largest expense was insurance (38%), followed by utilities (27%) and maintenance (16%).

**Vice President: Carol Paschal.**

- Insurance: increase of \$3,155: \$10,420 last year, \$13,575 this year
- Garden Report
  - People:
    - Market – Susie Cunningham, Jane Evans, Agnes Rogers
    - Coordinators: Kathy Gadbois, Laurie Ospal, Larry Gramling, Jimmy Ng
    - Ornamental Beds – Laurie Ospal
    - Market Garden – Sue Salo, Anna Davidoff
  - Financial

Garden Market \$ 6,039

Plant Sales \$5,879

Garden rental fees \$1,320

Total revenue \$ 12,400

Expenses \$2,453

Net contributed to AIHS \$9,947

- Market: New leaders, New vendors, New volunteers
- Greenhouse -propagating by cuttings, not just planting seeds.
- Landscaping – irrigation improvements, plant replacement, lost vine maples to disease
- Garden – new volunteer requirement

**Gift Shop: Leslie Lamb and Virginia Cummings:**

2024 Accomplishments:

- Successful shopping trip to Anchorage Gift Show in January.
- Welcomed 3 new consignors
- Trained 3 volunteers to open & close on their own
- Phonebook completed in June
- 2025 calendar currently at the printer
- A financially successful year

2025 Goals:

- Paint the shop's windows to enhance the 'curb appeal'
- Reroof the Nelson Corner reader board
- Rearrange back storeroom
- Continue to welcome new consignors & train others to open
- Start the phonebook so it can be ready by mid-April
- Look for a gift show to attend and sample sales

**Past President and Archival Building Manager – Ed Stephenson:**

*The first annual meeting Ed has missed in 18 years!*

- Continued maintenance of the eight year old building
- Hosted almost 250 scheduled meetings, events and services
- Added repeater monitor on west wall.
- Switched internet and phone service to Starlink.
- Added removable drapes in the restroom entry to suppress sound during events.

2025 Goals

- Add repeater monitor on the east wall of the AB for supplemental viewing of presentations and movies by audience in rear half of the hall
- Add a hood over the stove in the office/kitchen area

Continue routine maintenance and repair of the building

#### **Events – Serena Frank. Presented by Bob**

- Our community & fund-raising events:  
Plant Sales, Farm Day, Salmon Bake, Apple Squeeze  
Garden market, raised over \$40,000.
  - Salmon Bake served over 900 meals
  - The Silent Action raised over \$18,000.  
Thanks Jill Aschendorf, Eileen Laskowski
- The Farm hosted almost 300 classes and events.
  - 5 Concerts with AIA and Island Arts
  - AI Film Festival, Winter Art Show (with Island Arts)
  - 84 Monthly meetings, 200 weekly activities
  - 2 showers, and several private events
  - 10 workshops and classes
- 100 reservations in our online reservation system.
- 2025 Goals – Keep up the good work.

#### **Public Information – Jon Field**

##### Commitment to Engage the Community

- Communication is critical:  
Emails, Facebook Posts, Signage at the Building, Sandwich Boards,  
Signboards at the Store and Garden, Articles In The Sounder,  
Flyers, AIHS Web page, etc.
- AIHS Is committed to engage with the community:  
Musical Concerts, Art & Writing Workshops,  
Poetry Nights, Potlucks & Programs, Photo Contest, Holiday Open House,  
Film Festival, Memorials, Weddings, Anniversaries, Saturday Night Social,  
Share & Care, Garden Club, Health & Safety meetings etc.
- Traditional AIHS events:  
Farm Day, Salmon & Rib Bake, Silent Auction,  
Apple Squeeze, Bake Sale, Garden Markets, Plant Sales

## **Operations and Facilities – Jim Battishill**

Completed in 2024:

- New Cold-room Compressor
- New well filter.
- New garden gates.
- Wood chip distribution.
- Workshop in Annex.
- Timers and filters installed in water lines.
- Visitor gates built for farmhouse rooms.
- Storage for silent auction & other orgs organized.

In Work now:

- Welcome sign restoration near completion.
- Rebuilding gravel road by lower garden in work.
- Heat pump for Coop 2.

Goals for 2025:

- Install heat pump in coop 2
- Improve old-saw-mill exhibit
- Replace sidewalk between gardens
- Apply Timbor to the barn
- Add warehouse shelving to the Annex.
- Install another well filter.

## **Archival Director – Rick Anderson.**

- Acquisitions: 1889 Map, 2 paintings
- Coop II: Military Museum, Insulation. *Goal:* Add heat pump, improve displays.
- Tahoma Pilot House: Restoration complete. Movie *The Tahoma*
- Antique Apple Project: Plan to graft & plant 20 varieties. *Goal* 100 trees in 2026. SEE MAP.
- Farm Implements: *Goal* – add signage for the 15 antique implements
- Hazel Heckman Project: 12 boxes of papers, 150 stories, 5 novels, 2 being edited. *Goal* : publication in 2025.

- Photo Collection: Cindy Haugen identifying them. *Goal* : Move them online.
- Johnson Farmhouse: Curated by Mary Rabe. New barriers. *Goal* : Cleaning in 2025.
- Scrap Book Project: *Goal* : Organize hundreds of old newspaper articles.
- Old Financial Reports: *Goal*: Cleanup in 2025. Volunteers needed.
- Anderson Island Brickyard: Karen Carter-Schwendler researching. On-site work in progress. *Goal* : Present at March potluck.

### **Education Chairman – Lee Ann Whitaker**

- Docents: Recruited, trained, scheduled. Add 6 new.
- Provided docents for groups, field trips, events.
  - About 900 visitors.
- Opened Barn and Saw Exhibit
- Expanded the Docent Handbook
- Revisited the Johnson Farm signage plan.
- Invited speakers for monthly Potlucks
  - Anne Irish, Brad Biggerstaff, John Dodge, ...
- Fed information to website, Sounder, AI app, AIHS Newsletter

### **Election of Officers**

The following were nominated and elected for one more term:

President: Bob Bedoll

Vice President: Carol Paschal

Treasurer: Todd Billett

Archives Director: Rick Anderson

### **President's Award**

The 2024 President's award was given to Jill Aschendorf for leading the Silent auction team for the past 5 years, Phil Lutes for being the purchasing agent for the salmon bake for the past 6 years, and Jerry Simonsen for leading the Salmon Bake barbecue team and the apple orchard team for the past 5 years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.