

STANWOOD AREA ECHOES

Newsletter of the Stanwood Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 69
27108 102nd Ave NW
Stanwood, WA 98292
www.sahs-fncc.org



Stanwood Area Echoes

Issue No. 45 : Winter, 2015

SELECTED STANWOOD AREA HISTORICAL IMAGES NOW PART OF THE HISTORICAL PHOTO ARCHIVE



The earliest transportation to Camano Island was by water. This ferry connected Camano to the mainland and was located east of the present Mark Clark Bridge. By 1909 the first bridge was built.

Digital Photographs from the Stanwood Area Historical Society collections are now available in the library catalog of the Sno-Isle Libraries. SAHS Volunteer Janet Larson and Rob Branigan, Librarian at the Stanwood Library, have selected and uploaded about 75 sample images to the Sno-Isle Library catalog. You can search for them as you would a book and see the images on your desktop, laptop, smart phone or tablet.

Many of our important pre-1922 street views, farms, logging camps are included. The photographs are by itinerant photographers of the day often printed as postcards and sold as novelties.

Above is an example of a photograph on the website. In this case the photographer is unknown but we know the photograph predates the bridge so it is listed as circa 1905.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you to all of you who participated in our holiday activities. We had a great time at our annual Christmas party with wonderful music provided by Ilsa Higgins and her children, Christmas memories from the past, and fabulous food. Then, on December 6, Santa came to the Floyd with gift bags for the children and free Santa pictures, cookies, hot chocolate, and crafts. Over 600 people came through the doors that day. Many thanks to the SAHS volunteers and the Chamber of Commerce people who made it a successful event.

We started out the new year with a retreat for the board members and officers at the Floyd on January 17. We reviewed our by-laws, and committee chairs set one-year and five-year goals. Every officer and board member attended, and everyone contributed to the discussion of our vision for the society and its place in the community.

We are excited about our events in the coming months. On Saturday, January 24, we are hosting the Nordic Heritage Association which will be interviewing area residents as part of their oral history project. Then on February 7, the South End String Band will appear at 7:00 p.m. at the Floyd with their great music and special fractured version of local history. There will be great music and lots of laughs. At the end of February we will be hosting the annual Snow Goose Festival. The rest of the spring will be filled with historical programs like those last fall, a big band dance, and other great events. Check our website for further information. Join us to volunteer a little of your time by calling (360) 629-6110 or just show up for the fun and the history.

Sincerely,
Gail Ryer, President

Stanwood Area Historical Society January 1, 2015

OFFICERS		TERM (2Yr)
President	Gail Ryer	2015-2016
Vice President	Dan Lien	2014-2015
Recording Secretary	John Smistad	2015-2016
Corresponding Secretary	Margaret Utgard	2014-2015
Treasurer	Deborah Knutson	2014-2015
Past President	Larry Lien	

TRUSTEES		TERM (3Yr)
Penny Buse		2013-2015
Bill Keller		2013-2015
Kathy Uroff		2013-2015
Louis Strangeland		2013-2015
Jim Joyce		2013-2015
Delbert Fox		2013-2015
Janet Mayer		2014-2016
Sandy Robinson		2014-2016
Dave Eldridge		2014-2016
Margaret Utgard		2015-2017
Pat Bronson		2015-2017
Vivian Henderson		2015-2017
Joan McConnel		2015-2017
Mary Margaret Haugen		2015-2017
Alex Gedstad	Honorary Trustee	

New Lifetime Memberships:

James & Barbara Joyce, Ron Douglass, Lester E. Filion

Donations in memory of Mike Buse to the Capital Funds Account:

Lars & Cindy Anderson, Penny Buse, Colin & Leah Craig, Dave & Bobbie Eldridge, Duane W. Gainer, Donald & Mary Hale, Bruce A. Hall, Luther & Dee Jonson, Diana Kempf & Bob Landles, Gerald & Rosalie King, David & Carole Mackie, Janet Mayer, Don & Lenore Moa, Claudia Janne Peterson, Margaret & C. Randall Riddle, Sandra & John Robinson, Robert & Betty Sutherland, Timothy & Claudia Teaque, Margaret Utgard, M. Lorraine VanBrocklin, Paul & Elsie Wietzke

Thank You For Your Support!

Coffee Roaster Marketplace
Elger Bay Grocery
Camano Island Plaza
Huntington's Corner Grocery
Advanced Automotive
Stanwood Camano News
Snow Goose Bookstore
Stanwood Hardware
Duck In Café
Silvana Meats

From the Stanwood Area Historical Society

IMAGINE STANWOOD 1886



Imagine yourself on a slow – moving steamboat plying the waters of Puget Sound and as you are passing through the South Pass of the Stillaguamish River you look out to see the cluster of buildings in the photograph (above). This photograph was adapted and used for our new SAHS website banner and is an edited digital copy of one of the earliest photographs of Stanwood taken by Gilbert Horton from his Palace Floating Gallery. Horton was among a few itinerant photographers who was taking photographs in early Washington State at the time.

The photograph was taken in 1886 showing the waterfront and wharf with its earliest commercial buildings. At this time the main channel of the Stillaguamish River flowed past what is now Stanwood's historic waterfront (occupied currently by Twin City Foods and several other businesses). This was before the railroad came through in 1891 and when almost all transportation took place by steamboats.

This view shows the Stanwood Store owned by D. O. Pearson from South Pass, a branch of the Stillaguamish River that emptied into the shallow Port Susan. Steamboats and other shallow bottomed boats could navigate the Stillaguamish River's West or South Passes on a high tide all the way up to Florence, another growing community upriver. Over the last century (after cleared log jams and several floods) the main channel of the river slowly diverted itself directly south through what was historically known as Hatt Slough to Port Susan.

The photograph was later published in the 1906 *The Illustrated History Skagit and Snohomish County*, a subscription biography and history proudly honoring successful farmers and businessmen who could afford to have their biographies featured as prominent pioneers in this 1000+ page publication. For more stories, see our website @www.sahs-fncc.org.

by Karen Prasse



Cabinet card photograph of Stanwood when Washington was still a Territory. It was taken about 10 years after D.O. Pearson established his store and built the wharf. The mill at Utsalady on Camano Island was still a major economic force in the area but settlers were slowly displacing the Stillaguamish Indians who lived on this delta for centuries.

HISTORY TIDBIT

BY RICHARD HANKS

WHAT'S IN A NAME: AFFIRMATION OR "POVERTY OF INVENTION?"

On November 11, 1889 Congress approved Washington Territory's petition for statehood. The exhibit *Blazes, Rails and the Year of Statehood*, honoring the 125th anniversary of the event, opened last November in the lobby of the state capitol building. Washington is the only state in the Union to be named after an American president although the name was conferred on this region of the Northwest by other than citizens of the area. The initial petition for statehood in 1853, called the Monticello Memorial, requested the name of "Columbia" for the new territory. This would not be the last time that naming this area would foment debate.



The name Columbia (in recognition of Columbus) first appeared in an English weekly in 1738 as a disguised reference for the American colonies. The concept of Columbia gained popularity in the 19th century. The name quickly became associated with anything American along with its physical personification of a female warrior/goddess or Lady Liberty.

The amendment to the Monticello Memorial presented in early 1853 was proposed by two southern legislators who rose in the House of Representatives and moved to drop Columbia and name the territory after George Washington. At the time references to the nation's capital included both the "District," or the "Territory," of Columbia with the designation of "District" not official until 1871. Kentucky Representative Richard Stanton, supported by Edward Stanly of North Carolina, pointed to possible confusion arising from two Columbia Territories and their amendment was accepted with little debate. The Senate Committee on Territories, chaired by Stephen Douglas, reportedly suggested its own amendment for the name "Washingtonia" but it was quickly withdrawn.

Washington became the name of the new territory despite some dissension among the original petitioners at home. The area's first newspaper, the *Olympia Columbian* (a clear supporter of the Monticello petition) conceded that, regardless of the title given the area, it was the national recognition which was most important. "It will be remembered that our Memorial prayed for the name 'Columbia,'—this the House refused to grant us. Be it so. Even if the name 'Columbia' had our preferences, we would not cavil at a name when principles are at stake," an editorial proclaimed. The Territory of "Washington" became official on March 2, 1853. Ironically, its first territorial delegate to Congress was Columbia Lancaster.

However, thirty-two years later, as talk of Washington statehood began, new voices sought to persuade lawmakers to look for more lyrical and homegrown monikers for new states. David Dudley Field II was a distinguished lawyer and legal reformer, nationally known for his representation of railroad tycoon Jay Gould and Tammany Hall politician "Boss" Tweed. He began a crusade to prevent or alter the names of American states, cities and places. He opposed parroting classical names such as Syracuse, Troy, Athens or Pompey and the vulgar choices by seemingly "half-civilized" settlers and names such as Jug Town, Toad Vine, Buzzard Roost or Cut Shin. He made his case in 1888 to a Senate Committee as the territories of Washington, the Dakotas, Montana and New Mexico sought admission as new states of the Union.

What should be the purpose of naming places? Field wondered of the committee. He acknowledged the melodious rhythm of those names from antiquity but "shall it be said that we have nothing of the same sense of euphony and beauty?" he asked. "We have shown, in the naming of our states, cities, and towns, the utmost poverty of invention," he continued. Field touted indigenous Indian names "as both significant and musical" but included the Spanish "Guadalupe" for New Mexico along with "Montezuma."

As for the Territory of Washington, Field praised our revered father of the country but questioned the appropriateness of the name Washington with its already prolific use for numerous counties, post offices, monuments and the nation's capital. Kalama and Yakima were offered as possibilities but his preference was Tacoma which reportedly came from a native word for Mount Rainier. "Who can foretell that in some less prosaic age than ours, in those vast regions, 'continuous woods' no longer, 'where rolls the Oregon,' some daughter of that new Hesperus, may not sing in sweeter strains of Mount Tacoma?"



David Dudley Field

There are roughly twenty-six states whose names, if perhaps corrupted, are derived from Indian languages. David Dudley Field's extensive efforts to prevent use of Washington or New Mexico were obviously unsuccessful and we today do not travel to Taos, Montezuma or Stanwood, Tacoma. Washingtonians have done well inculcating the distinctive cadence of native words of its indigenous peoples for numerous place names. However, the Indians of Washington would have no say in naming the land they had occupied for generations. And, for those Anglo settlers hungering for the advantages which statehood would bestow they concluded, what's in a name?

(Sources: The Pacific Northwest Quarterly, Jan. 1960; Washington Historical Society as reported by Slate Magazine online; The Oregonian newspaper, March 27, 1888.)



Stanwood Area History
Museum
 &
D.O. Pearson House

Operated By
Stanwood Area Historical Society
360-629-6110

HOURS

Wednesday	1pm - 4pm
Friday	1pm - 4pm
Sunday	1pm - 4pm

**SAHS Board & Member Meetings -
 Third Tuesday afternoons at 4:00 pm
 in the second floor of the museum.
 Everyone is welcome!**

**Family
 History
 Researchers!**



**Camwood Genealogy Workshop meets the
 FIRST Monday of each month at 1 p.m. on
 the 2nd floor of the Stanwood Area History
 Museum.**

**For more information, call Bill Blandin,
 360-387-3375**

SAHS Activities Report

Well, it is a new year and most of the holiday decorations around The Floyd and the Pearson House have been taken down and stored until next year. We had some great events during the holidays including our Annual Christmas Party, our partnership with the Chamber for an Old Fashioned Christmas at The Floyd with Santa and the end of year Jazzin' At Christmas. We start our year with the Magical History Tour Concert when the South End String Band returns to The Floyd on February 7th at 7:00 p.m.

All of these events take dedicated, hard-working people and our members, board, docents & volunteers do an outstanding job of getting all these things done. If you are interested in volunteering at the Stanwood Historical Society, please contact Kathy Uroff at (425) 328-8306.

Also, please join or renew your membership for 2015. There is a form on the back of the newsletter, online at our website, www.sahs-fncc.org or at our visitor's center at the Tolin House. If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please call Janet Utgard at (306) 629-6110 or email her at SAHS.Janet@gmail.com.

SAHS Memorials

Helen Stonack - Margaret Utgard
Ray Jacobson - Margaret Utgard
Roy Funk - Margaret Utgard
Margaret Brekhus - Margaret Utgard
Mel Jenkins - Margaret Utgard
Jean Christensen - Margaret Utgard
Betty Skrinde - Margaret Utgard, Bill & Dolly Bowron
Irene Vatne Mann - Margaret Utgard
Karin & George Rauch - Margaret Utgard
Alfred (Babe) Schei - Margaret Utgard
Jean Knutson - Dennis & Shirley Anderson
Mary Jane Lund - Donella Rod, Jerry & Rose King, Margaret Utgard
Dolores Utgard Becker - Janet Utgard, Margaret Utgard
Bob Burns - Margaret Utgard
Dale Christensen - Anna King, Kim Christianson, Bob & Gloria Arentzen
Edith Schei - Margaret Utgard
Eleanor Lindbeck - Pat & Jim Lund
Erna Williams - Don & Lenore Moe
Gloria Klett Arentzen - Elizabeth Landry, Margaret Utgard, Elmer & Gladys Norgaard Trust (Nancy Garlow & Larry Norgaard)
Leslie Olsen Sundberg - Clayton & Joann Olsen
Marian Turner - Clayton & Joann Olsen
Marit Highland - Margaret Utgard
Palmer Sather - Margaret Utgard, Anna King

Stanwood Area Historical Society Presents:



Big Band Dance

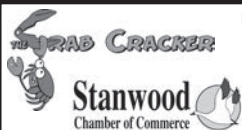
Saturday
March 21, 2015
6:30PM - 9:30PM

\$20 per person or \$35 per couple
 (Tickets Will Be Sold At The Door • Music Starts at 7:00PM)

Hors d'oeuvres Will Be Provided

Beer & Wine Available for Purchase

Thanks to the Collective on Tap for Donating All The Beer & Wine



Key Sponsors:



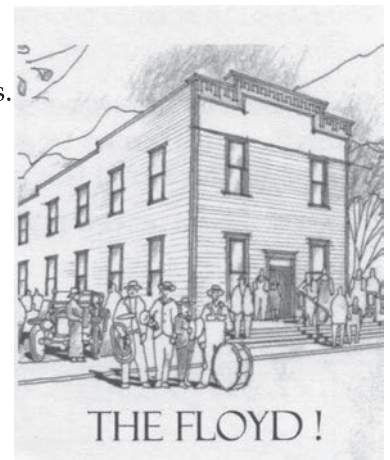
Gold Sponsor: Del Fox Custom Meats • Lenz Enterprises • Stanwood Redi-Mix
 Silver Sponsor: CarQuest Auto Parts

**SUPPORT THE STANWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 AND BECOME A SPONSOR OF THIS EVENT
 CALL 360-629-6110**

Mission Statement

The Stanwood Area Historical Society seeks to discover, preserve, and display any materials which help to establish, illustrate, and interpret the economic, social, and cultural heritage of the greater Stanwood area, including if financially possible and appropriate, historic sites and properties.

The Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center Public Hall is available for arts, music, theater, cultural events as well as a banquet hall for family events, weddings, reunions, and business meetings. Call 360-629-6110 www.sahs-fncc.org



Proceeds from rentals and events benefit the continuing preservation and rehabilitation of the Public Hall and SAHS educational and historical projects and programs.



AT THE FLOYD

February 7th • 7 p.m.
South End String Band

February 28th • March 1st
Snow Goose Festival
Headquarters

March 8th • 4 p.m.-6 p.m.
History and Hors d'oeuvres

March 21st • 6 p.m.-9 p.m.
4th Annual Big Band Dance

April 12th • 4 p.m.-6 p.m.
History and Hors d'oeuvres

April 25th • 1 p.m.
4th Annual Tea

May 3rd • 4 p.m.-6 p.m.
History and Hors d'oeuvres

July 4th • 11:30 a.m.
Parade & Ice Cream Social
Parade Starts at 11 a.m.



Michael "Tug" Buse in *Adventure* heading into Mystic Seaport, CT

OUR FIRST H&H OF 2015

Come to our next History and Hors d'oeuvres program on March 8, where Michael J. "Tug" Buse will be telling the story and showing photos of his 5,000 mile trip in a 14-foot boat, "Adventure," that he built in his garage. On an "historical and cultural pilgrimage" he left Sioux City, Iowa, and traveled by himself down the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, up the Ohio River, and down the Tennessee River and Tom Bigbee Waterway to Mobile, Alabama. Then, he crossed the Gulf of Mexico and sailed around Florida and up the Intracoastal Waterway to Maine, where he had graduated from Bowdoin College in 2001.

Stanwood Area Historical Society's 4th Annual **SPRING TEA & VINTAGE FASHION EXHIBIT**

"Waistlines and Hemlines"



Please save this date
SAT. APRIL 25 at 1:00 PM

*Do wear your fanciest hat
or a vintage costume.*

PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN

Reservations required call:

360-629-6110 by April 17 Tickets: \$15.00

The Floyd Norgaard Hall, 27130 102nd Ave. in Stanwood

Memberships are due annually in January. This is a significant means of support for the Society and includes a subscription to the newsletter. SAHS is a tax-exempt non-profit organization and depends on gifts, bequests from individuals and groups, fundraising activities and membership dues for its financial support. Your contributions are tax deductible and will be used only for the preservation of the history of our area.

New Renewal

Individual Membership: \$10.00

Family Membership: \$15.00

Business / Organization Membership: \$20.00

Student Membership: \$1.00

Lifetime Individual Membership (over 65 yrs of age to be eligible): \$100.00

General Supporting Donation: \$ _____

Name [Please print] _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____



P. O. Box 69 ~~~ 27112 102nd Ave. N. W., Stanwood, Washington ~~~ www.sahs-fncc.org Photographer: G. D. Horton, circa 1886, Stanwood Stillaguamish River Waterfront

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