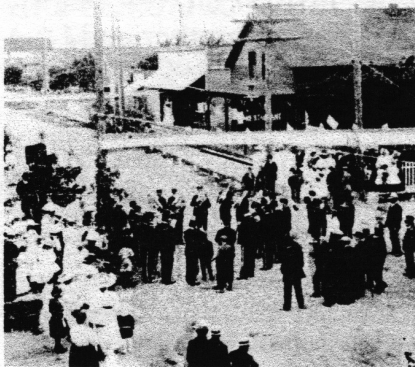


## Times & Places of Stanwood & Camano Island

### *A Building with Many Lives*

First filled with music, this beautiful small "Classical Revival" style building with a Greco Roman porch has a long history. Built as the local Stillaguamish Band Hall it was located across (west) from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. The Band formed about



1903 and was made up of trumpets, trombones, drums, woodwinds and tuba players who provided a lively atmosphere on street corners, civic functions, parades and at special concerts.

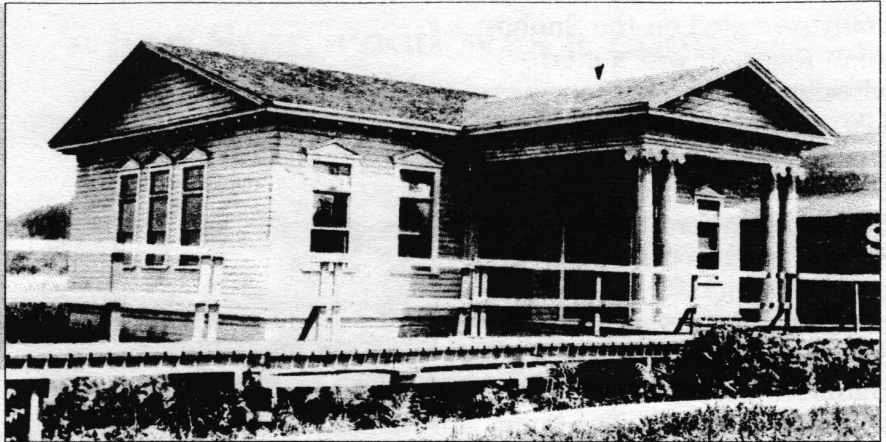
In 1912 the community received a bequest of \$2,500 from Lizzie Post

Brownell Irvine for a "municipal library fund". This was only a small part of her fortune given mostly to the Seattle charities, relatives and friends. Her husband, John Irvine, a Stanwood rancher and general merchandise store owner from 1879 until 1900, matched it two years later.

Conditions of the wills required that there be a suitable building. Then as now, new library buildings were not easy to come by. Several locations were considered. It was decided that the Lien property was most desirable. The only concern at the time was that it was too close to Lien Barn and might be a public health hazard. Doctor McEacheran, the local physician, was called to make a determination and he approved it. So, in 1916, the land for a library was sold to the local school district and City of Stanwood for \$500 by Nils and Kristi Lien.

For funds to actually build a building, money was raised by the Four Leaf Clover Club, a women's group dedicated to civic causes who held numerous basket socials and other money raising events. It was in 1919 when the band offered their building to the library if the Club would pay to move it. The building had to pass certain requirements before

Stanwood Area Echoes, Issue 26, March, 2004, p. 4



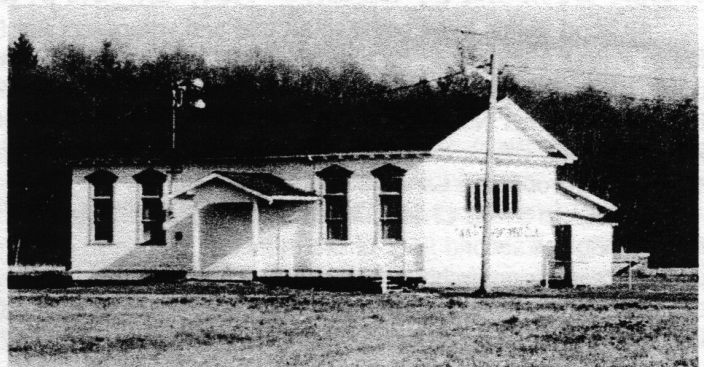
The Stillaguamish Band Hall building as it looked in its early years. We haven't yet found its exact date of construction but the Band gave it up in 1919 when it was moved to Main Street to be used as the Irvine Public Library.

funds for books and maintenance would be released. Four Leaf Clover Club members provided more than their share of scrubbing to make the building useable.

The Irvine Public Library officially opened in 1922 on a frigid January day. Town of Stanwood Ordinance #115 determined that the library would be governed by five trustees and authorized the organization of a library association to charge membership to be used to raise funds for maintenance. The Town was also authorized to levy and collect a tax to support the library.

The library used the band hall building for almost 50 years. In 1970 when a new library was built, the hall was purchased for \$25 to be moved up to Cedarhome as the Twin City Sportsman's Club. In May of 1970, local house mover Red Faulkner hauled the building over the S. R. 532 overpass to its current site.

The Sportsman's Club, a long standing local organization continues to use the building. The club now focuses on promoting firearm safety, providing a safe trap shooting range and a scholarship fund for students interested in outdoor activities.



With its original windows but without its Greco-Roman columns, this building is now Twin Cities Sportman's Club, now in its third location east of Stanwood.