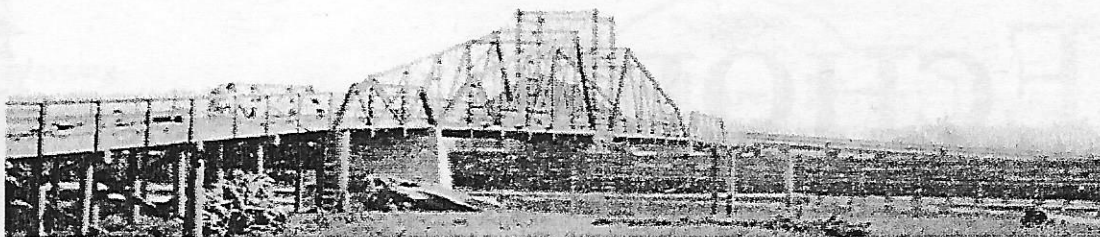


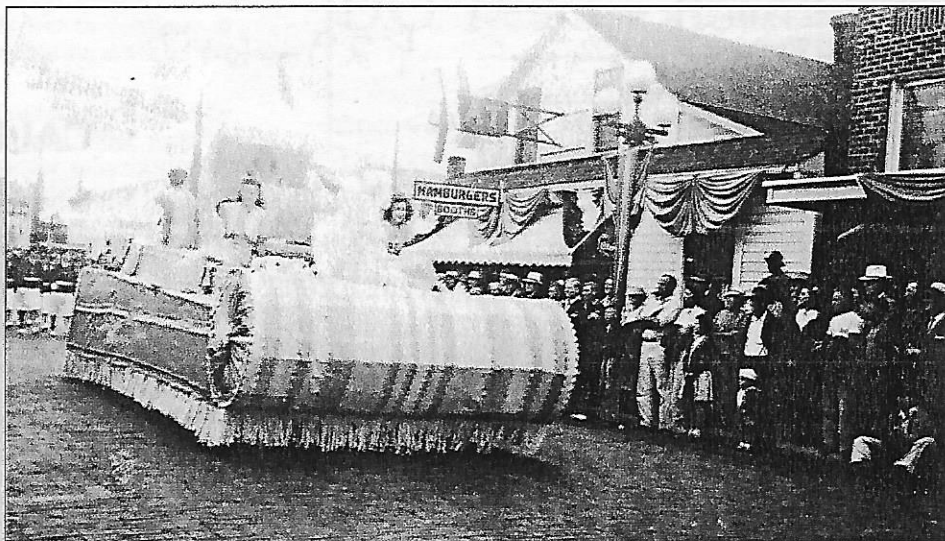
Times & Places of Stanwood & Camano Island, WA



History of the Harvest Jubilee STANWOOD, WASH.

In 1933 the Stanwood Commercial Club sponsored a "Diamond Jubilee" on Aug. 25 & 26. It was designed that year to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of Stanwood to "furnish entertainment to the patrons of the town." Festivities that year included visits and speeches from politicians and grange officials. Activities included music, baseball, races of all kinds including Indian canoe races that year.

The following year the Stanwood Commercial Club met in a special meeting on July 26 1934 and decided to hold a "Harvest Jubilee." Only a month later, on August 25th the festival was underway! It featured dancing in the IOOF Hall and in addition to the roller skate and bicycle races, kids pet parade, they had a merry-go-round and ferris wheel. There was amateur wrestling and boxing. Howard Wangsness



The 1941 Harvest Jubilee Royal Float carried Dorothy Brown, Agnes Torset, Erna Thomle, Jean Knudson, Marian Hatton and the Queen, Raechel McGladery. [Snapshot from the Viola Schmidt Michael Collection. SAHS 90.28.08.07]

remembers the carnival wrestlers would challenge the locals but Florence's meat packing businessman, Nels Lindahl, an accomplished wrestler in the area, always won.

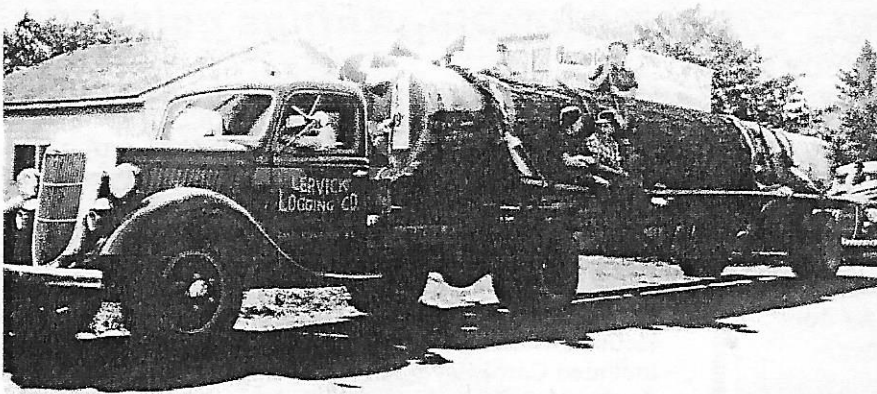
Farmers would bring their equipment and animals, especially notable were Sam Bates large horses. The log bucking and tree felling contests were also very popular events.

Nancy Olson, who lived on Camano at the time, remembers the Harvest Jubilee as a carnival and participating in the parade as an Island County (Camano) 4-H member in 1938 and 1939. The Jubilee was a Stanwood event - at the time, East Stanwood was a separate town though the parade went through both



1937 Harvest Jubilee Parade clown musicians in front of the Twin City Dairy and Pearson Store on Market Street in Stanwood's west end. [Snapshot from the Viola Schmidt Michael Collection. SAHS 90.28.04.21]

(Continued on page 3)



← In 1937 Lervick Logging provided the parade entry for the Stanwood Drug Company which featured a contest to guess the combined weight of the girls on the log. [Snapshot from the Viola Schmidt Michael Collection. SAHS 90.28.04.26]

towns. That year there were three rides - the ferris wheel, the Octopus and large swings between the Stanwood Hotel and Rosser's grocery (now Pawn Shop). There was a greased pole for a climbing contest in the lot south of the Pearson Store (now Blazing Saddles). She also remembers that the "Beer Barrel Polka" was popular at the time and it was always blaring out into the streets from the taverns - the Stanwood Hotel, Clyde's Tavern and the Central Tavern.

The Jubilee continued through 1941 when they attracted "seven bands and drum corps that kept the air filled with music and did much to give color to the grand parade in the afternoon. It was the biggest, most spectacular parade that ever marched on Stanwood Streets representing every phase of commercial, agricultural and social and fraternity life."

The June 11, 1942 *Twin City News* reported the Stanwood Commercial Club decided to sponsor a barbeque and community gathering following discussion of dropping the Harvest Jubilee celebration for the duration of the war. Many assume the Jubilee was the early version of the current August fair, and perhaps in some sense it was. But beginning in 1937, the Stillaguamish Grange began a separate event they called a festival that took place after the Jubilee in September. For this event too, the other granges, (South Camano, Meadow, and Silvana Granges) and the 4 - H, Future Farmers of America, the High School, many local businesses had booths in addition to the home grown fruits, vegetables, canned goods, fine art and needlework. It took place at the Grange Hall, the just recently purchased former Woodland Tavern. The activities were followed by a dance. By 1958, the fair had become too large for the Grange to handle and the Fair Board was formed to manage it as a community fair to this day.

(Sources- articles in the *Twin City News* and "Historical Hi-Lites of the Stillaguamish Grange #1058" by Bernice Hanson.)

PROGRAM

Harvest Jubilee

Friday

12:30 P. M.—Band Concert.

1:00 P. M.—Kiddies' Parade.

3:00 P. M.—Races, Pie Eating contest, Jam Eating contest, Egg Throwing contest, Husband Calling contest, Baseball Pitching contest.

7:30 P. M.—Boxing and Wrestling, seven good bouts.

9:00 P. M.—Dancing at the City Hall Wide-kamp will play.

Saturday

10:30 A. M.—Band Concert.

2:00 P. M.—Parade.

3:30 P. M.—Baseball game, Twin Cities vs. Everett, followed by sports and baseball pitching contest.

7:30 P. M.—Log Bucking and Log Chopping contest.

9:00 P. M.—Two dances, one at the City Hall and another at the I. O. O. F. Hall. Wally will play at the City Hall and Rudd will play Scandinavian - American music at the I. O. O. F. Hall.

1937
Harvest
Jubilee
Program



This 1939 parade entry by the S. A. Thompson Store captures the harvest theme in front of competitor Ernest Carlson's Stop & Shop Grocery on Main Street which is now the Stanwood Cafe (10025 270th, the brick street). [Snapshot from the Viola Schmidt Michael Collection. SAHS 90.28.06.03]