

Stanwood Area ECHOES



Newsletter of the Stanwood Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 69
27112 102nd Avenue N. W.
Stanwood, Washington 98292
Office: (360) 629-6110
www.sahs-fncc.org ~ info@sahs-fncc.org

Issue No. 85; June, 2025

Viking Village Era, East Stanwood



Over sixty years ago in February 1964 it was announced that John Strandjord and George Hanson had purchased the 18 acres farmland owned by Francis Giard, East Stanwood's first mayor and a Klondiker. The former mayor's beautiful home with its distinctive tower was demolished in July 1964 to make way for a new shopping center. George Hanson had operated the Pure Foods Mart since 1946 in a building that once was the Bartz Hotel (near the railroad tracks.) John Strandjord was a real estate developer. Meanwhile, S.R. 532 (then Hwy I-Y) was being

(Continued on page 2)



Above is a 1956 aerial photograph showing the channel of the Irvine Slough before S.R. 532 was built. In the top of the photograph the channels draining into the slough can be seen in farm fields that belonged to Francis Giard. This view also shows how the Irvine Slough curved around and entered the river east of Hamilton Lumber. (2021.23.16; Photographer H. H. Wingrove)

constructed bypassing the main street through town. By February site preparation and fill work had already begun. "The lush pasture was now blacktopped with parking for 150 cars."

Above is an aerial view from above Stanwood looking East before the construction of State Route 532 (first called Highway I-Y). The Giard farm fields had channels for draining into Irvine Slough tributary to the Stillaguamish River. This was critical drainage for the Giard Farm and East Stanwood. S. R. 532 was built upon a levee in 1960-61. In this view the sewage lagoon is not yet in place. In the far right is the Hamilton Lumber company stack.

In December 1962 the new section of Highway I-Y from the west end of town to Lindstrom Road was completed. The new highway approach to Stanwood allowed for more convenient access to a new shopping center and expansion of other businesses and services.

Plans for the new Viking Village Shopping Center appeared in a March 26, 1964 *Stanwood News* issue featuring a proposed 7,000 square foot grocery. It had a unique steeply angled roofline in the center with side wings, wooden beams and stonework. At the peak of the roofline was a dragon-like figure mounted as if on the prow of a ship. The *Stanwood News* reported the carver was Andy Fleshman of Mount Vernon. This original carving has long since deteriorated but was replaced by a new carving in the early 2010s. The 2024 photograph (opposite) shows it looking a bit weathered but intact. There are now plans to replace these buildings with a new housing development that will have some retail space.



1999.138.1964_08_29



1993.113.01

Viking Village and eventually expanded with room for more stores and businesses.

Among the many shops since 1964 are and were:

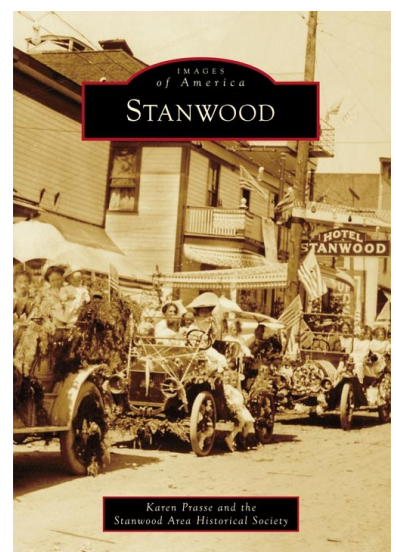
- Al Aitkins Realty
- Arnold Furuheim Insurance
- Barber Shop
- Coin Operated Wash n Dry Mart
- Country Kitchen : the "Krouse's CountryKitchen" began in 1964 was taken over by British immigrant Rita Ware in 1971 as simply the Country Kitchen
- Duck In Café (about 1990) formerly Country Kitchen
- Giftland Toyland operated by Bess Bellinger
- Gordon Husby Insurance
- Hopkins Flowers by Mabel and Lucile and Lucille Hopkins
- O'Connors Apparel
- Shirley's (Barbeau) Nimble Thimble (formerly Shirley's House of Ideas 1972)
- Shoe Corral
- UFF DA Shoppe - established in 1981 - Still in Business!
- Viking Apparel (opened in 1966 by Helen Equals)
- Viking Beauty Salon
- Viking Camera began in 1968 with Mike Tuss
- Viking Imports - Irene Sipe
- Viking Market - 1972 owner Ed and Jeanne Morris taken over 1975 by Jim Thomas; in the 1990s it was called "Bob's Red Apple"
- Viking Meat Market - started by Gordon Barzee and later Del Fox
- Viking Motors started by Doug and Darline McClay in 1969.
- Viking Real Estate
- Viking Restaurant & Fjord Room
- Viking Variety added by the Eliasons in 1970
- Village Laundry & Dry Cleaning
- Wynne Bookkeeping

In 1981 after managing Thrifty Foods since 1964, Bob Andrews became manager of the Viking Market. It was also managed by his son, also named Bob Andrews. The Viking Village Shopping Center has lasted about 60 years . It is thought to be quaint when compared with the ultra modern new shopping centers with far greater square footage. It was accessible to visitors on their way to Camano Island as its population began to grow. We await another era for this property currently being planned.



In 1967, the Fjord Room opened in the Viking Restaurant "where you could enjoy a night out dining and dancing!" (1999.138.1969_01_18)

New Book !
Will Be available on July 26 !

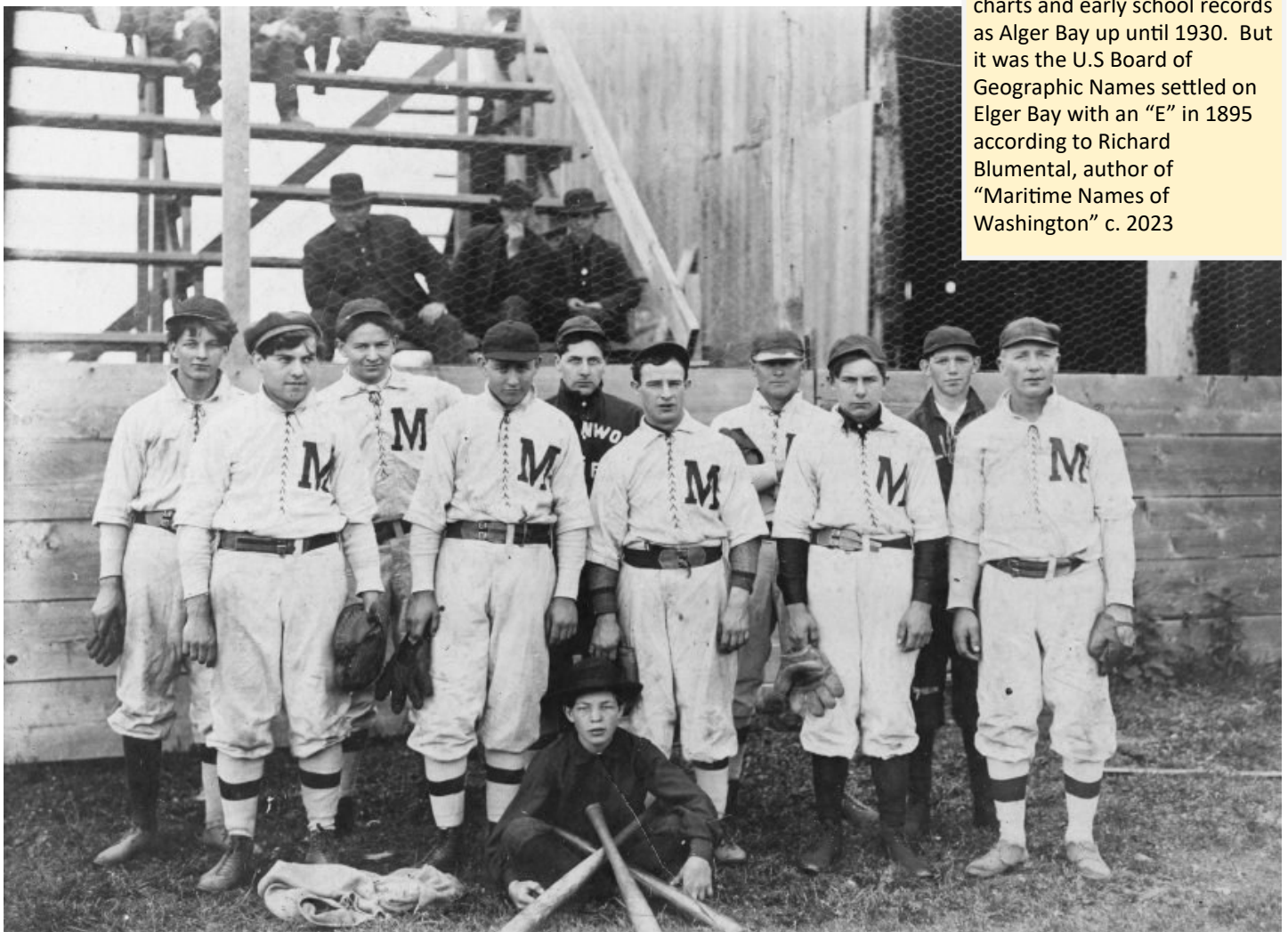




2008.22

Alger Bay Baseball Team circa 1914

This digital photo of a 1914 postcard shows players representing Alger Bay according to Bonnie Duncan Peters who provided the scan to the Historical Society in 2008. Since then we haven't uncovered any more details about the team or the place before this except as it is known now with scattered school records and vague land records. The Alger Bay school was located across from the South Camano Grange which was established later in 1930. The name was on early U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey charts and early school records as Alger Bay up until 1930. But it was the U.S Board of Geographic Names settled on Elger Bay with an "E" in 1895 according to Richard Blumental, author of "Maritime Names of Washington" c. 2023



According to newspaper article March 12, 1959 this is the 1913 baseball team from Milltown, taken about 1913 and owned by Eric Sigerstad shows team members Olgar Lian, Victor Nicklason, Bill Hanson, Art Wirth, Eric Sigerstad, Joe Edgard, Bill Starbird, Fritz Sigerstad, Elmer Swanson and Gus Helland. The bat boy is thought to one of the Silvernail boys. (2015.27.11; 20191901-4.JPG)

Victor Nicklason is holding glove donated later by Gerald Magelssen

Join us for the all new Summer Tour of Stanwood and Camano Island Historic Sites

Saturday, June 14

12-4 Book Launch of "All Roads Lead to Utsalady" with Talks, Sales & Signing plus a tour of the Camano Schoolhouse Foundation Archive at the Camano City Schoolhouse, 993 Orchid Rd.

Saturday, June 21

1:00 History Walk at Camano Island State Park. Meet in parking area at entrance.

Friday, July 4

11-12 Parades at Utsalady Ladies Aid, and the Stanwood Area Historical Society.

Saturday, July 12

1-4 Open house at the Camano Schoolhouse Foundation Archive

Saturday, July 19

11-2 Barn Tours at the Kristoferson Farm.

Saturday, July 26

9 & 11 The Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center will serve as the starting point for the Historic Walk of Old Downtown Stanwood.

12-4 Book Launch, Sales & Signing of the "Images of America: Stanwood."

10-4 Open house at Stanwood House, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and the old Masonic Hall.

August and September on the other side.



www.HistoricSitesTour.com

All Roads Lead to Utsalady

A History — 1853-1955



New Book on
Camano Island :

All Roads Lead
to Utsalady
By
Richard
Hanks

SAHS Donations ~ March 15, 2025 - May 31, 2025

Rick & Kris Anderson, Olen Ronning, M. J. Clark, , Rich Tiedeman, Nicholas Gouette, William Gay, Steven & Cindy Sundberg, Gwendolen Campbell, Connie & Alan Hall



Saturday, August 1, 2 & 3

10-4 Tours of the 1880s Log Cabins at the Pioneer Village during the Stanwood Camano Community Fair.

Saturday, August 9

11-2 Barn Tours at Kristoferson Historic Farm.
12-4 Tours of the Camano Island Fire Museum.

Saturday, August 16

9:30 & 1 Talk on the history of the Camano City Schoolhouse by its first school teacher.
9:30 & 1 FOCIP Charter Tours leaving the Camano City Schoolhouse & Fire Hall for English Boom Historical Park, Camano Pioneer Cemetery, Utsalady Vista Point and Cama Beach & Camano Island State Parks.

Saturday, August 23

10-4 Open House at Utsalady Ladies Aid with panel discussions--"Our Mother's Stories" on how WWII opened up careers for women.
10 & 2 Walking Tours of Historic Homes & Places on Utsalady Bay.

Saturday, September 6

10-4 The Pearson House in Stanwood will serve as the welcome center for the popular Stanwood Historic Homes Tour.

Saturday, September 20

10-4 Camano Island American Legion's Stanwood-Camano Veterans' History Tour. Immerse in the rich military history showcasing Stanwood-Camano heroes.

Saturday, September 27

8-11 Breakfast at the historic South Camano Grange with displays of the history of this building and the organization.



www.HistoricSitesTour.com

Join Us Friday July 4th, at 11 am for the traditional Stanwood 4th of July Parade and Ice Cream Social

All are welcome Participants (children, automobiles, fire trucks, wagons are encouraged to line up at the Josephine Caring Community parking lot at 10:15 a.m. to participate in the parade. The parade includes costume contest for children in the following categories: historic, patriotic, and 4th of July.

After the parade all are invited to gather at the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center for an old-fashioned Ice cream social. At the social there will award certificates and prize money presented to the parade participants. Sponsored by the Stanwood Area Historical Society and the **Stanwood Commerce Alliance.**

Stanwood Area Historical Society 2024 Elected Officers & Trustees

President ~ Joan Andrews 2025-2026
Vice President ~ Kathy Uroff 2024-2025
Treasurer ~ Celia Flones 2024-2025
Secretary ~ Rose King 2025-2026

Trustees

2023 -25 Karen Pelletier
2023 -25 Andreena Bergman
2024 -26 Kris Anderson
2024 -26 Les Anderson
2025 -27 Cliff Larson
2025 -27 John Smistad
2025 -27 Steve Youngren
2025 -27 Janet Utgard
2025 -27 John Leque

Honorary Lifetime Trustees

Pat Bronson & Margaret Utgard

~~~~~

### New Board Meeting Hours:

#### SAHS Board Meetings ~

**3rd Thursday of the month, 11 a.m.**

New members and volunteers welcome.

*Officers serve for two year terms.*

*Trustee terms are 3 years*

*President and Secretary rotate on the even year.*

*Vice President and Treasurer rotate on the odd year.*

## Contact Us!

You can learn more about activities and events planned for the future in our social media links:

[info@sahs-fncc.org](mailto:info@sahs-fncc.org)

<https://www.sahs-fncc.org/>

<https://thefloydnorgaard.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/StanwoodAreaHistoricalSociety/>

<https://www.instagram.com/sahsfnc/>

<https://www.stanwoodveteransmemorial.com/>



Stanwood Area ECHOES is published quarterly by the Stanwood Area Historical Society

P.O. Box 69

27122 102nd Ave. N. W. (no mail)

Stanwood, WA 98292

360-629-6110 ~ <http://www.sahs-fncc.org>

Editorial Committee: Karen Prasse & Members of the Board

SAHS is a private, non profit organization (501c3). Please help support this publication and other projects and programs with your membership dues, or business sponsorship. Contact us: [info@sahs-fncc.org](mailto:info@sahs-fncc.org)

December 2024 ~ May 31 2025

### Donations In Memory Of

**Clinton Kallock** ~ Kathy Uroff, Jim & Marie DuBois, Rose & Jerry King, Walt Anderson & Joann Oellers, Joan Andrews & Jack Freberg

**Dave Eldridge** ~ Margaret Utgard, Pam Fugier, Kris and Rick Anderson, Karen and David Pelletier, Laura & Tom Byers, Janet Mayer, Janet Utgard, Scott Shroyer, Rose & Jerry King, Kathy Uroff, Mary & Walton Nicholas, Dean Devera.

### In Memorium for Dave Eldridge

The Stanwood area was lucky to have a teacher so dedicated to local history. He inspired more than a generation of middle schoolers to appreciate the history of the place they live, with its own accomplishments and conflicts.

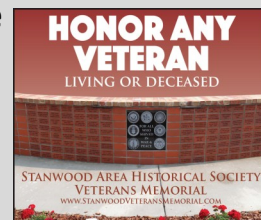
He served SAHS as President from the 1980s until the 2010s but he remained involved and giving students history tours after retirement. He also helped SAHS grow adding the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center in the 2000s. He connected with the community through his work on the Planning Commission from 1994 - 2004 and grew amazing dahlias. This testimonial is all too brief an account of your commitment.

*Requiescat in pace Dave.*

-Editor

## Stanwood Veterans Memorial

**Bricks of Remembrance**  
may be ordered using  
the form on our  
[website](https://www.stanwoodveteransmemorial.com/)



Paypal link is on our website sidebar  
[www.sahs-fncc.org](http://www.sahs-fncc.org)



Donate to

Stanwood Area Historical Society

We collect and preserve the wondrous treasures of history that define our community.

\$10.00  
USD

\$20.00  
USD

\$50.00  
USD

Other Amount

Donate with PayPal

Donate with a Debit or Credit Card



## THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESSES FOR THEIR SPONSORSHIPS!

Sponsorships for 2025:

**C B. Transport**  
**Coastal Bank**  
**Del Fox Meats**  
**Funderburke Auto Body LLC**  
**Gerber Collision**  
**Gilbertson Funeral Home**  
**Ixtapa Stanwood Inc.**  
**K-Pro Auto Inc.**  
**Kallock Enterprises**  
**Lenz Enterprises**  
**Les Schwab Enterprises, Stanwood**  
**Northsound Physical Therapy**  
**Pelletier & Schaar LLC.**  
**Sahara Pizza (Martin & Miner LLC)**  
**Schenk Packing**  
**Spane Buildings Inc.**  
**Stanwood Auto Parts**  
**Stanwood Redi-Mix**  
**Taylors Excavators , Inc.**

We are glad to receive more new business sponsors for 2025. Contact our President, Joan Andrews. Logos are welcome to be included in our Sponsorship Banner.

## Thanks to new (renewed) Members for 2025

Our 2025 Memberships dues were increased this year to \$50 to help with the increased costs to maintain our historic buildings. The perk of your membership is our quarterly newsletter with many interesting fun facts about our historic community. Please consider volunteering to keep our museum open. We are open Wednesday and Saturday, 1-4. Volunteers are also needed to assist with many other tasks. Thanks again and continue supporting SAHS. - Joan Andrews, President

## Keeping our Museum Open !

New Volunteers are welcome to help keep our exhibits open to the public. Please let us know if you have an interest in giving a "tours" once a month or so. Training is provided!

Contrary to popular opinion, we receive no City or County funds. Keeping four buildings of historical displays and information available to the public is a large task. Having people around for guiding visitors throughout our eclectic set of historic buildings is interesting in that they are part of a whole group of buildings here since 1902.

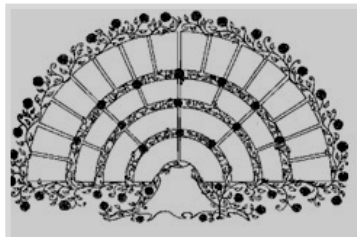
Other volunteers do maintenance, collections care, writing, researching, grant writing and displays. Find out how you can help with photographs, carpentry, technology to name only a few of the skills needed. Lots of detail oriented projects for those who like that kind of work. Someone with good scanning skills are needed about 2 - 3 hours per month.

**Exhibits are open Wednesdays and Saturdays 1—4 pm  
or by appointment! 360-629-6110**

## Camwood Genealogy Workshop

CGW meets on the first Mondays of the month in the Eldridge Center at 1 p.m.

Contact Bill Blandin  
[https://www.sahs-fncc.org/?page\\_id=56](https://www.sahs-fncc.org/?page_id=56)



# Rent The Floyd

STANWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*perfect for your next:*

**Wedding      Birthday**  
**Reception      Memorial**  
**Party              Gathering**

360-629-6110  
[fnccmanager@sahs-fncc.org](mailto:fnccmanager@sahs-fncc.org)  
[thefloydnorgaard.org](http://thefloydnorgaard.org)  
[www.sahs-fncc.org](http://www.sahs-fncc.org)

## Join the Stanwood Area Historical Society

Memberships are due annually. This is a significant means of support for the Society and includes a subscription to the newsletter.

Volunteer members help govern our society by providing assistance with programming, publications and planning for the future and in many other ways. Mail to: SAHS P. O. Box 69, Stanwood WA 98292

SAHS is a tax-exempt 501c3 non-profit organization and depends for its financial support on donations, bequests, fund raising activities and membership dues. Your contributions are tax deductible to you and will be used in support of history education,, preservation projects, collections care, exhibits and programs.

NAME (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Email (Program/Activities notifications) \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership: \$50.00**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**General Supporting Donation:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal / New ((please circle one)

**Mail to:**

**Stanwood Area Historical Society**

**P. O. Box 69**

**Stanwood WA 98292**

Non Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Bulk Permit No. 186  
Stanwood, WA 98292  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

STANWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. BOX 69  
STANWOOD, WA 98292