



The Anacortes Museum's Elaine Walker, right, thanks Dee Jobe, president of the Fidalgo Finderskeepers chapter of Questers, next to the chapter's display of Depression-era laundry items. This display supports the current exhibit *All in the Same Boat: Anacortes in the Great Depression*. The Finderskeepers recently awarded the museum a grant to renovate the lighting in the Carnegie Library building's stairwell, replacing fixtures from a 1960s-era remodeling project with more historically authentic lighting. Thanks to the Questers for their continuing support and involvement!

Visit the historic *W.T. Preston* Weekends through October

The sternwheeler *W.T. Preston*, a National Historic Landmark, and the Anacortes Maritime Heritage Center are open weekends only in September and October — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays — in the 700 block of R Avenue.

Admission to the *Preston* is free for Anacortes Museum Foundation members and \$1-\$3 for non-members. There is no charge to drop in to the Heritage Center to learn about the sternwheeler and local vessels such as the codfish schooner *Wawona* and *Bijaboji*, the dugout canoe Betty Lowman rowed solo to Alaska in the 1930s.

The trimaran *USA 17*, which won the 33rd America's Cup, is the focus of the center's main exhibit, *BMW Oracle: Building a World Champion in Anacortes*. The exhibit includes a large model of the craft and a rudder, and offers mind-boggling facts — its wing sail is larger than a Boeing jet's, its waterline footprint is the size of a baseball infield, and more.

To receive your newsletter via email, contact elainew@cityofanacortes.org

This newsletter is produced by the staff of the Anacortes Museum and edited by Elaine Walker

Anacortes Museum Foundation

Through memberships, the Anacortes Museum Foundation supports and assists the educational and preservation goals of the Anacortes Museum.

Become a Member — Support Local History!

Benefits of Annual Membership & Annual Membership Categories

- ◆ FREE admission to the *W.T. Preston* and Maritime Heritage Center
- ◆ 10% discount at the Museum store
- ◆ Invitation to exhibit openings and special events
- ◆ Quarterly Museum newsletter
- ◆ Discount on select special events

Student & Senior (65+).....	\$10
Individual	\$20
Family	\$35
Business/Organization	\$50
Sponsor.....	\$100
Life	\$250
Donation.....	\$___

New Member Renewal

(Contributions tax deductible to fullest extent of law)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to: Anacortes Museum Foundation.
Send to: 1305 8th, Anacortes, WA 98221. Thank you!



The Carnegie Gallery is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. The Museum Office is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

The Anacortes Museum & Maritime Heritage Center exist to preserve and interpret the history of Fidalgo and Guemes Islands, and to nurture in the community an awareness and appreciation of its heritage.

Anacortes Museum
1305 8th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-293-1915
<http://museum.cityofanacortes.org>
coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org



Anacortes Museum News

Fall 2014

All in the Same Boat: Anacortes in the Great Depression



There is a timeless, Huck Finn quality to this c. 1934 photo of (from left) Jim Funk, Bill Rieger, Charlie Funk and Wallie Funk at Campbell Lake. These kids knew a Depression was on, but didn't let it spoil their fun. Wallie Funk Collection.

Please visit the Anacortes Museum to see *All in the Same Boat: Anacortes in the Great Depression* 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tues.-Sat., 1-4 p.m. Sun. (closed Mondays)

The 1930s was a lively, fascinating decade in Anacortes. During the Great Depression, no one here had any cash, but, with everyone in the same boat, they worked together and looked out for each other.

With ingenuity, hard work, and determination, they not only got through, but lived life to the fullest. Kids played and couples started families, and for fun there were festivals, parades, dances, sports, movies, plays, clubs, and gatherings.

This exhibit discusses how the Depression started, how people got through it and how it ended, as well as some of the lasting legacies of the era — like Deception Pass State Park.

A series of Anacortes history presentations are coming up this fall. All are on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the Anacortes Public Library:

Sept. 10, "Research the History of Your House" — Diane Wilkinson of the Anacortes Historic Preservation Board will discuss the Anacortes House History & Plaque program, which encourages owners to research the history of their homes.

Oct. 1, "The Improbable Saga of Satko's Ark" — Using photos and vintage audio clips, historian Michael Sullivan will tell the remarkable Depression-era story of the Satko family's odyssey across America, first by land and then by homemade boat, to a homestead in Alaska, with a memorable stop in Anacortes.

Nov. 5, "Civilian Conservation Corps at Deception Pass" — Deception Pass State Park Manager Jack Hartt will share the history of the building of the park. The CCC built many structures we still use today at Deception Pass State Park. With original photos and stories, he will discuss the people of the CCC, the work that they did, and how it compares with today.

Dec. 3, "Anacortes Historical Film Festival" — Historian Bret Lunsford will show old-time Anacortes footage.

Don't miss the 19th Antique Machinery Show Sept. 13

Enjoy hay rides, a parade of vintage vehicles, chugging engines, children's activities, music and much more at the 19th annual Anacortes Antique Engine and Machinery Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13 at Market Street and 6th Street, behind the *W.T. Preston*. Admission is free. Volunteers are always appreciated.

This year's theme is "Tractors." A parade of tractors and other vintage vehicles is at 11 a.m. downtown.

We plan to have Tommy Thompson's engine out of the train shed for those who would like to take a closer look at the beautiful and beloved little train.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact the Anacortes Museum at (360) 293-1915.



Kiwanis gift brings photos into focus

A brand new Epson Perfection V700 Photo scanner will help bring local history into clearer focus, thanks to a \$760 grant from the Anacortes Noon Kiwanis Club.

The Anacortes Museum's older scanners were not designed to handle large-format negatives, making it difficult to get clear digital images from them. The photos at right tell the whole story. Both came from the same negative — the top one processed by an old scanner and the bottom one by the new one.

The new scanner will help with our ongoing efforts to digitize the museum's collections and to make them more accessible to the public. We offer our heartfelt thanks to the Anacortes Noon Kiwanis Club for this grant and for its ongoing support of the museum.

The image, from the Wallie Funk Collection, was taken by Ferd Brady circa 1944. It shows the Anacortes Housing Authority project, which was built for military and low-income families. The buildings fell into disrepair and were demolished in 1960. The site is now the location of Island Hospital, the Anacortes police/court facility and the National Guard Armory.



T.H. Havekost mural completed

Artist Bill Mitchell recently delivered a long-awaited mural of T.H. Havekost, an Anacortes pioneer who bequeathed the city the first 10 acres of what later became Washington Park. The mural was one of five funded by the Rodeffer family through the Anacortes Museum Foundation. It is pictured at right with Anacortes Museum Advisory Board President Lewis Jones.

The mural is the first one completed by Mitchell in nearly two years. He and Museum Director Steve Oakley, below, decided that Mr. Havekost should be installed near the museum's sign at 8th and M, where it will catch the attention of people heading east past the front of the building.



Research sheds light on origins of Skagit fair mural

The sensation of this summer's Skagit County Fair was the newly discovered Depression-era mural by William Cumming that was displayed there. Stored for years in the Breckenridge family's barns, and occasionally used as a tarp, its estimated value is as much as \$500,000.

When Tony Breckenridge brought the mural to the fair, Fair Director Brian Adams immediately realized that it was significant. Brian contacted Bret Lunsford, the Anacortes Museum's Education and Maritime Curator, who had recently conducted extensive research on the Anacortes Post Office's Kenneth Callahan mural. Bret knew where to search, and soon discovered a wealth of information in an old Burlington newspaper.

The William Cumming mural was painted as part of the New Deal's National Youth Administration (NYA) program for Burlington High School's new "Farm Shop." The shop was dedicated in a public ceremony on Oct. 29, 1941. "Bill Cummings (sic), a young NYA artist, has been diligently working for six months," the *Burlington Journal* reported, "briefly depicting Burlington community history. It starts on the extreme left with early logging scenes, and advances into the era when the railroads were built, and then going farther right carries us into the present period of farming, berry growing and dairying."

You can read the whole story on the museum's website, at www.cityofanacortes.org/Skagit_County_mural_mysteries.pdf.

While conducting research for the Anacortes Museum's current exhibit, *All in the Same Boat: Anacortes in the Great Depression*, Bret also made some interesting and significant discoveries about the Kenneth Callahan mural at the post office. Has much been cut off the top? What is its real title? What did Postmaster Gus Dalstead think of it? To find out, stop by the Carnegie Gallery and visit the exhibit, or read the article at www.cityofanacortes.org/callahan_s_anacortes_fishing_mural.php.

Many thanks to our summer intern Stephani Noar

An internship consists of an exchange of services for experience between an intern and a business on a volunteer basis. Students and graduates can use an internship to gain exposure to the working environment to help determine if they have an interest in a particular career, create a network of contacts or gain school credit.

This summer we were blessed to have Stephani Noar as an intern for school credit and to experience the museum workings. She was willing to move from one project to another at a moment's notice. She worked on cataloging and photographing items in the artifacts room that I have not been able to get done. Also, without her help, my part of the new exhibit, *All in the Same Boat: Anacortes in the Great Depression*, would have taken me many more hours to complete. She wore other hats too, such as receptionist, answering phones, docent, looking for paperwork on artifacts received many, many years ago and assigning temporary accession numbers. In fact, she did so much there isn't room to mention it all here.

Stephani helped me understand what an internship entails and I hope anyone who is looking for an internship in the museum will contact us. Thank you for all your hard work and your smile every day!

Judy Hakins, Collections Curator

