



# Anacortes Museum News

Winter 2018 - 2019

## Anacortes Museum Holiday Open House with Rudolph and friends



*Sam the Snowman, one of the Burl Ives cutouts*

You're invited to ring in the season at the Anacortes Museum Holiday Open House on Thursday, November 29, 4 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the Carnegie Gallery, 1305 8<sup>th</sup> Street. This event is free.

Bring your family, enjoy some treats, and stage your selfies with life-size figures from the "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" holiday TV special narrated by the late Burl Ives. You will be able to snap a selfie with Rudolph, Sam the Snowman, the Abominable Snowman and other beloved figures from the classic animated Christmas program.

If you can't make it to the open house, never fear. These cutouts will be on display in the Carnegie Gallery throughout the month of December.

*Mayor Laurie Gere and Museum Director Bret Lunsford pictured with the Abominable Snowman, another of Burl Ives' "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" cutouts.*



## Anacortes Museum Foundation Annual Meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 11

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Anacortes Museum Foundation will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 11 in the Carnegie Gallery. The Museum Foundation is a non-profit volunteer organization of dedicated community members who support museum programs and projects through memberships, donations and fundraising activities.

There will be a short presentation on the role of the Anacortes Museum Foundation in 2018, which supported the mission and programming of the Anacortes Museum in these ways and more:

- Pulp Mill Exhibit funding at the Maritime Heritage Center
- support for October 15 museum planning retreat
- book purchases for Museum Library
- improvements to the Carnegie Building's courtyard and new flagpole
- museum staff professional seminars
- museum advertising
- support of the Museum Store

We will also have a screening of some of the short films created by Museum Intern Corin Noronha, including documentaries on local pulp mill history, a walking tour of historic Anacortes, and a preview of an in-progress documentary on Bill Mitchell's mural project.

The AMF nominating committee has selected Carol Berard, Eric Petersen and Nick Stowe to stand for election at the annual meeting for the 2019 board. We thank them for their willingness to volunteer. We thank outgoing board members Jeff and Cecilia Weldon, and Jim Taylor for their hard work and support of the museum.

You can renew your foundation membership at the meeting. A membership form is printed on the back page of this newsletter or will be available at the meeting. Most existing memberships will expire on January 1, 2019. Please continue your support of the museum through your membership.

For more information about the meeting or membership in the Museum Foundation, please contact the Museum by phone at 360-293-1915 or email the museum at [coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org](mailto:coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org). Your membership and attendance are important.

## Questors support preservation

In October, The Fidalgo Finderskeepers chapter of Questers voted to give the Anacortes Museum \$500 for archival preservation materials. In addition, they will pursue a matching state grant. The group is able to apply because chapter member Ginger Thomas has worked many hours as a dedicated museum volunteer.

Over the years, The Fidalgo Finderskeepers have been staunch supporters of the Anacortes Museum, providing grants for such things as Carnegie Library renovations and historically authentic lighting, and WCTU Fountain repairs. We are very grateful for the group's support.



*Quester and museum volunteer Ginger Thomas is shown working with fellow volunteer Suzette Richards.*

## Travel through time with vintage radio event on Saturday, January 19

Join us for a listening event featuring vintage music and radio shows on Saturday, January 19 at the Anacortes Museum, 1305 8th Street. The program will be presented twice: first, as a matinee between 3 and 4:30 p.m., and again as an evening session 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.



*Foundation President, Jeff Weldon, left, and Al Bofenkamp are shown with some of the radios they restored.*

The event is free but space is limited, so reservations are required. Please RSVP by emailing [coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org](mailto:coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org) or calling (360) 293-1915.

Staged as a guided DJ'd event, our ears will time travel to the '30s, '40s, and '50s, where we will encounter the popular music, news programs, and radio shows that Anacortesans listened to long ago. DJ and jazz musician Daniel Greenwald, museum volunteer docent Al Bofenkamp, and Education and Media Curator Kate Clark will share passion for history and music by playing selections on 78 rpm recordings. Listening selections will be played on vintage radios and phonographs currently on display at the museum and restored by Al Bofenkamp and Foundation President Jeff Weldon.

This program is funded in part with support from the Manieri Endowment through the Anacortes Library Jazz Committee. We thank them for their support.

## Students learn to research “Triumphs and Tragedies”

A group of students got a rare “behind the scenes” look at the Anacortes Museum, seeing how artifacts are stored and learning basics of researching primary sources during a visit on October 25.

Sam Guzik's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Challenge Block class from Anacortes Middle School is also turning to museum staff as research mentors while they research historical topics with the theme “Triumphs and Tragedies.” During a follow-up visit, students looked through newspapers and at collections items related to their research interests.

Their topics are varied: The Battle of Verdun, Title 9 (supporting gender equality in education and school sports), women's suffrage, D-Day, the Great Depression, Mongolia, the Manhattan Project, segregation in baseball, the Iditarod, Buddy Holly, and Liliuokalani, the Last Queen of Hawaii.



*Sixth grade Challenge Block class on the Carnegie steps on October 25.*

## Lea DeVere leaving museum after six years of valued contributions



Lea DeVere is leaving behind a long legacy of valuable work at the museum. She edited three of Terry Slotemaker's books (*Fidalgo Fishing*, *Geology of Fidalgo Island* and *Logs to Lumber*), and was a valued member of the *Pictures of the Past* book team. She coordinated the grant application to digitize early Anacortes Americans, work that is still ongoing. Her detailed editing eye has scrutinized many a newsletter, exhibit panel and research file index. Recently she reorganized and catalogued the books in Museum Library. Lea has been our “go-to” proofreader on publications going out of the museum. We will miss you, Lea. Keep up your great work at the Senior Activity Center and best of luck to you.

## Museum boards look forward at retreat

On October 15, the staff of the Anacortes Museum and its affiliated boards – the Anacortes Museum Advisory Board, the Museum Foundation and the Historic Preservation Board – met for a half-day planning retreat. On the agenda were future goals and priorities for the museum and clarification of the roles of all participants.

All left with ideas about how the various boards could better support each other, and a clearer understanding of how each group supports the Anacortes Museum’s mission “to preserve and interpret the history of Fidalgo and Guemes Islands, and to nurture in the community an awareness and appreciation of its heritage.”

The top goal identified was to increase community engagement, especially through events, educational programs, children’s activities and outreach. With storage also a priority need, the boards and staff will begin planning discussion in the coming year.

*Staff member, Lea DeVere and Advisory Board members Libby Wolgamott and Lewis Jones at the retreat.*



## Museum celebrated 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Carnegie Building



Over 75 guests attended the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on August 30 in the renovated Carnegie Building courtyard. Letters submitted for a new time capsule were read by Stella Walsh and Allie Perez, who participated with other young women in a writing class at the Anacortes Library led by Briana Alzola. The time capsule was buried following the event, to be opened in 50 years.

Karen Kiefer, great great niece of town founder, Amos Bowman, attended the event. Anacortes Mayor Laurie Gere and Museum Director Bret Lunsford opened the event, and Anacortes muralist Bill Mitchell spoke. Snacks and ukulele music rounded out the event.

*Four former and current directors attended the event. Shown are (l-r) Garry Cline, Doug Everhart, Bret Lunsford and Steve Oakley.*



*Karen Kiefer, great great niece of Amos Bowman with Mae Louise Dopps*

## Historic events at Anacortes High School

The opening of a new high school in Anacortes this year is a historic event, and the Anacortes Museum has been able to support the project in some interesting ways. First, playing a traditional museum’s role, the Anacortes Museum provided a home for decades of stored school records, yearbooks and photo albums that had to be cleared from the old school’s basement prior to demolition. Processing this treasure trove will be a long-term project. But the museum has also had an exciting opportunity to collaborate on a less traditional, but equally important, project – a public art installation designed to make local history come alive for students.



Artist Mary Ennes Davis is creating a History Wall – a mural sized assemblage in the school’s common area – incorporating such diverse elements as memorabilia, photographs, documents, stories and poetry. Most eye-catching will be objects, many salvaged by Davis from the old high school, such as yardsticks, keys, old musical instruments, globes and projector reels. Bill Mitchell provided a water fountain salvaged from the old Columbian School.

Seeing the potential impact of such a creative and visual interpretation of history on students, the Anacortes Museum enthusiastically supported the project, particularly by providing research and high-resolution images of photos and documents for inclusion in the history wall.

*Artist Mary Ennes Davis combined globes and vintage objects to create a chandelier-like effect for the new high school’s History Wall.*

**Memberships expire in January.  
Please renew NOW!**

**Renew your foundation membership and support the work of the Anacortes Museum**

The Museum Foundation is a non-profit volunteer organization of dedicated community members who work to promote the Museum’s preservation and development through memberships, donations, fundraising and in-kind contributions.

Existing memberships expire on January 1. To renew your membership, fill out the form to the right and forward it with your check to the Anacortes Museum Foundation, 1305 8th Street, Anacortes, WA 98221.

Your membership will allow us to continue our mission of preserving and interpreting the history of Fidalgo and Guemes islands. We appreciate your support.

For more information about membership in the Museum Foundation, please contact the museum by phone 360-293-1915 or email [coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org](mailto:coa.museum@cityofanacortes.org).

**Check out these videos, now online**

Thanks to Corin Noronha, Museum Intern, there are two historical videos now ready for viewing online.

Perfect Port Video:  
<https://youtu.be/5w2ZNds7Fus>

Historical Tour Guide:  
<https://youtu.be/ZIGTD0PiP8>

**Can sealer becomes art sculpture**



This old can sealer was donated by Lea Mayberry of Marine Supply & Hardware. Word is it was used in one of the Anacortes canneries long ago.

Now the can sealer is an industrial art sculpture on exhibit in front of the Maritime Heritage Center.

*Old can sealer now art on display*

**Maritime Heritage Center and W.T. Preston closed for winter**

The Maritime Heritage Center and W.T. Preston snagboat are now closed for the winter. The facilities will reopen for weekends in April. Though closed, you can still stop by 703 R Avenue and read the interpretive panels about the sternwheeler outside of the Maritime Heritage Center.



Would you like an educational tour? Call the museum at 360-293-1915 to schedule.

**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 and 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

Senior (65+)/Student .....	\$20
Individual.....	\$25
Family .....	\$40
Business/Organization .....	\$75
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 St, Anacortes, WA 98221. Thank you!*



**Anacortes Museum**  
**1305 8<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Anacortes, WA 98221**  
**360-293-1915**

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

*The Anacortes Museum and 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.*