# The SMAA Newsletter

Volume 29, Number 2

Sidney Museum and Arts Association | 202 Sidney Avenue | Port Orchard, Washington 98366 April | May | June 2004

# Message from the President

By Mary Peterson

As I write this the wind is blowing and it looks like rain. I have a tiny bunch of violets sitting beside the computer so I know spring is almost here. Spring brings more than violets. It brings our board and our membership together to plan the events that will take place in the months to come.

We've raised our student scholarship to \$1000.00 and will combine it with a \$500.00 scholarship provided by the South Kitsap Artist's Association so that local, talented students can compete for a more significant boost to their continuing education.

- We're planning another book sale. I'd like to offer a special thank you to Elmer and Maxine Bell. Through SMAA member Roberta Worford they've donated dozen of hardback books in pristine condition that will make a wonderful and valuable addition to our sale.
- We'll offer treats and a rest stop again this year to all those avid gardeners on the annual Kitsap County Consolidated Housing Authority Garden Tour and look forward to saying hello and showing off our gallery and museum.
- We hope to have an antique appraisal and a high tea and of course the Pie and Ice Cream Social and the Hats Off To Sidney luncheon.
- The Log Cabin Museum opens the first week-end in May and the Orchard family is getting ready for visitors with a whirlwind spring cleaning. We hope to do some outside maintenance at the Log Cabin and are always looking for volunteers.
- The historical museum upstairs at the gallery is getting a face-lift thanks to Virgil Reames and Louise Ness and soon our visitors will be able to stroll down historical Bay Street while window shopping.
- Our art classes are going well. We have so many talented artists in our area willing to teach both new students and accomplished artists and may be able to open classroom space upstairs.
- The second annual July quilt show is in the works and quilters are busy with exquisite projects they hope to enter and sell.

Continued on next Page

Please be sure to send in your dues if you just received a renewal notice.

#### Inside

New Members2
April Art Classes 2
Garden Tour2
Letters to Anna3
Local History4
Book Sale 6
Art Scholarship7
High Tea7
Sidney Gallery8
Quilt Show9
Upcoming events9
Old Port Orchard 10
Spring Cleaning 11
Editor's Note11

From the President, continued.

- There will be a Volunteer Appreciation picnic in July and of course our member's Christmas party in November.
- Take note of our activity dates in this newsletter and in special mailings. We're busy all year long and there's certain to be something to interest you.

It takes so many people to see that the entire SMAA runs smoothly, along with the members that support us with their continued membership. Please let us know if there's an activity you'd like to see us try. Our association exists for our community and we are always open to suggestion.

### **New Members**

Dues for the year of 2004 are still being taken.

Please welcome our new members:

Loretta Anderson of Port Orchard Alexandra Peterson of Port Orchard Larry Sukut and Inga Carmack of Port Orchard

Tracy Lestor of Silverdale



## April Art Classes

by Mallory Jackson

The Sidney Art Gallery will be hosting a series of fun and educational, hands-on art classes this April.

The Sidney Art Gallery is located at 202 Sidney Avenue in downtown Port Orchard. Advance registration is required. All classes are open to the public.

Beginning Oil Painting instructed by Roy Carr Saturday, April 3rd from 10am-1pm Fee: \$35

Watercolor Painting instructed by Jo Ann Sullivan Saturday, April 17th from 9-4 pm Fee: \$55

Advanced Seascapes in Oils instructed by Roy Carr Wed, Thurs & Fri April 21, 22 & 23 from 10am-3pm Fee: \$120 or \$40 per day

A supplies list will be given at time of registration. For more information, contact the Sidney Art Gallery at (360) 876-3693

Join in the fun this April at The Sidney Art Gallery.

#### SMAA on the Garden Tour

by Maxine Spillinger (871-3791)

Sidney Gallery again will be a stop on the 4th Annual "Gifts from the Garden" tour sponsored by Kitsap County Consolidated Housing Authority. The tour of local gardens will be June 19 and 20 from 10 am to 5 pm.

Last year it was so nice to participate since we were able to have so many visitors who were new to our facilities.

We would like to have extra volunteers for the two days (phone Virginia at 871-4717) and appreciate all your suggestions.

Anything "bloomin'" in your area, or artistic garden muses will be appreciated.

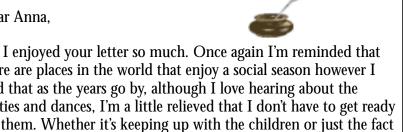
The proceeds from this event will benefit the Kerry Ogden Memorial Scholarship Fund. Tickets, at \$15 for the weekend, will be available at Sidney Gallery after May 1.

Ticket holders may park at Cedar Springs, 7354 Bethel Burley Rd. SE Port Orchard, and take the shuttle buses to the garden locations. This is a wonderful weekend please join us and participate in the fun.

# **Letters to Anna**

by Mary Peterson

Dear Anna.



there are places in the world that enjoy a social season however I find that as the years go by, although I love hearing about the parties and dances, I'm a little relieved that I don't have to get ready for them. Whether it's keeping up with the children or just the fact that all the preparation rarely produces the effect I used to achieve with half the work, I don't know. Anyway, don't stop writing about all the festivities. I can enjoy them vicariously without any of the fuss!

Things around here have been less than glamorous as Teddy introduced us to the joys of ring-worm. The obvious culprit, the puppy, doesn't seem to have it and we may never find out where it came from but Teddy has four spots that we can't seem to get rid of.

The doctor says we can mix spit and cigar ashes and our neighbor Louise swears by an ointment of lard and gunpowder but neither "cure" has taken effect yet. His sister refuses to sit at the table with him because she's afraid of it getting in her hair and she knows a girl at school who had ringworm on her head and had to have her head shaved. Naturally Teddy is taking full advantage of her concern and has taken to following her around, threatening to "let the critters loose".

I agree with Mother Orchard that Teddy's behavior is unacceptable and extremely irritating so I kept my mouth shut when she told him that in her day they used a mixture of turpentine and cow manure rubbed on the offending spots three times a day and the patient had to sleep outside because of the odor. The threat of an ointment made of manure gave Teddy pause for thought and his behavior has calmed significantly. When I asked his grandmother if they really used that combination of ingredients she laughed and said the mere threat was usually enough to cure the disease.

We've started our annual spring cleaning and there are times when I wonder if the house will ever be back to normal. The first thing we did was offer the children a penny for every hole they could find that a mouse might be able to get through. Since our mouse experience during the Christmas season we've been very aware that we are sharing our home with unwanted guests. After handing out an alarming number of pennies Lewis cut out the lids and bottoms of many tin cans and nailed the lids over the holes. It doesn't look very nice but it certainly keeps the rodents outside where they belong!

Lewis has taken the braided rugs outside for a good beating, weather permitting. We've painted the floors with boiled linseed oil and although it's a little rough in places, they look as good as new.

Mother Orchard and I have washed all the blankets and quilts Continued on Page 5 Sidney Museum & Arts Association Board of Directors - 2003-2004

Mary DeSanta Peterson - President Finance/Budget Committee Chair Fundraising Committee Chair Grants Committee Chair 360.769.9551 molly01@harbornet.com

Pam Heinrich - Vice President Facilities Committee Chair 360.876.3881

Virginia Collins - Secretary Hospitality Committee Chair 360.871.4717

Glory Berglund - Treasurer 360.871.0048

Gerry Bruckart

Roy Carr - Education Committee Chair 360.876.5336

Fred Chang - Newsletter Committee Chair ferrycommuter@yahoo.com 360.649.0150

Lynne Little Membership Committee Chair Volunteer Commitee Chair 360.871.4965 prislyn16@hotmail.com

Mallory Jackson Public Information Committee Chair 360.876.1031

Louise Ness Museum and Historic Committee Chair 360.871.2237

Bess Olson

Abe Porter

Virgil Reames

Sonnie Selbig - Historian

Maxine Spillinger

Jessie Turner

Judd Turner

Deb Danielson - Gallery Manager Tuesdays 360.876.3693 Other days 360.871.4859

The Sidney Museum and Arts newsletter is published quarterly.

The Sidney Museum and Gallery is located at 202 Sidney Avenue. The museum and gallery are open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.

The Log Cabin Museum is located at 416 Sidney Avenue.

360.876.3693

### GORST, AINSWORTH, and SIEGNER HISTORY

By Melba Siegner Moran and Norma Ainsworth Brady (2004)

At the Pie and Ice Cream Social last year I had a conversation with Melba Moran about her family history. I asked if she would put down on paper her memories of her family and about growing up in Port Orchard. Melba got together with her cousin Norma Brady and they produced a family history. The following is the first half of that history. The second part will appear in the next newsletter. V. Reames – Log Cabin Museum

This history is written and remembered by two cousins who were born and grew up in Port Orchard in an extended and loving family. More than 76 years of memories are joined along with historical dates and notes taken from family journals and tapes.

It all began with the marriage of John Phillips Gorst to Lorinda Moore Coe in 1864. John, whose parents came from England, was born in New Brunswick and met Lorinda at Oberlin, Ohio after serving in the Union Army. Lorinda Coe came from a missionary family; her father was the Reverend Orrin Coe, also, educated at Oberlin who served as missionary among the Ojibwa Indians. The John Gorsts moved to Belle Prairie, Minnesota and ran a saw mill on the Mississippi River. They raised six children losing two others to early deaths: Minnie born 1866, May born 1868, Effie born 1869, Vergne born 1876, Lulu born 1878, and Lorena born 1886. During this time at Belle Prairie, two young brothers who had left their home in Albany, New York, showed up at the saw mill and became part of this large family. These young men were Allison Ainsworth who married Minnie Gorst and Charles Ainsworth who married May Gorst. Allison and Charles had a younger sister, Katherine born 1863, who was still in Albany, New York. The brothers sent her money to join them and she later married Stewart Finney and traveled west to the Puget Sound area. The Finneys are buried in the Knights of Pythias Cemetery in Port Orchard.

Sam Phillips, a cousin of John Gorst, decided to head west and ended up in the Sidney area near Phillips Creek and homesteaded. He encouraged John to bring his family and move west, too, which John did in 1888. He bought a home site of 60 acres near Anderson Landing which was part of the original Swan Anderson estate and on it he built a large house on the slight rise overlooking the water.

Lumber used to build the house was brought over

from Seattle on a chartered sloop and John and his 12 year old son, Vergne, finished the house in a few months. At about this same time at the head of the bay John's brother, Sam Gorst, was building another house for his wife, Mary, and their eleven (to be) children. The two Gorst brothers exchanged many labor hours and were very industrious men. The Sam Gorst house can be seen today (2004) still in reasonably good condition standing next to the railroad overpass.

About a year after John finished his house, Charles and Allison Ainsworth and their families moved out from Minnesota to join the rest of the family. Allison and Minnie lived in the Pottery Hill area and had five children. Allison owned and operated a saw mill at the foot of Pottery hill and then he worked at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) after it was established. All of these cousins visited back and forth and when there was a family reunion it was quite a crowd. Allison and Minnie Ainsworth are buried in the family plot at Knights of Pythias Cemetery in Port Orchard. At this date, there are Allison Ainsworth descendents living in Bremerton.

Because there was not yet a road from the head of the bay to Sidney the Gorsts had to row boats to school, for groceries, church and visiting. It could be quite an adventure for the children when the weather turned stormy. Neighbors were few but each one had a mooring for the boat even if it was just a small launch. Adjoining the John Gorst home site was the Curtis home with Mrs. Curtis and her three children, Edward, Asahel and Eva. The Curtis family supplied wood and coal for the Leif Erickson which stopped at their dock weekly. There were (and probably still are) seams of soft coal running through to the beach. The Gorsts burned a lot of coal in their stoves and tapped into the artesian water which because of

the coal had a strong sulphur smell. Other neighbors in the area were the Andersons, the Hagens, the Edwards and the Hines family. The Port Blakeley Mill owned 160 acres beyond Anderson landing which they farmed under the management of a family named Gooch. A Mr. Hart ran a launch which visited the bay and carried supplies of groceries, dry goods, clothing and household wares. During this time the Post Office for the area was in an extra room in the Gorst home at Anderson landing.

Asahel and Eva Curtis and Lulu and Vergne Gorst were all about the same age so they usually rowed to school together. Because this proved to be a tedious endeavor, Vergne rigged up a small engine to use and even taught his little sister Rena how to run it. Asahel and Vergne were good friends and a few years later Asahel accompanied the Ainsworth-Gorst group to the Klondike taking a



Effie Gorst Wheeler and Alice May Gorst Ainsworth.

lot of pictures of the group. Asahel and Charles Ainsworth owned and mined together <u>60 Above Sulphur</u> gold claim. This claim did not produce enough to keep them busy so Charles joined his brother-in-law Vergne and his father-in-law John Gorst on the Tom Lippy claim <u>16 Above Eldorado</u> where they worked for wages. This claim was very rich and productive so Vergne talked his older sister, Effie, into joining them as a cook and her husband, Walter Wheeler, as their night watchman. They all prospered from these years in the Klondike. When Effie and Walter came out of the Klondike they bought the <u>Sidney Broad Axe</u> owned by Tom Cline and changed the name of the

paper to <u>The Independent</u> and ran it for several years. Vergne married Julie Johnson on <u>Eldorado 16</u> and went on to become quite famous for his flying and launch business in Washington, Oregon and Alaska. Charles Ainsworth came home to his wife, May, and two sons. He bought a site on Bay Street in Sidney and started Ainsworth Grocery. John Gorst and nephew, Johnny Gorst, came home with enough to continue their various commitments to families and business. John and his cousin, Sam Phillips, logged together and took their logs to Seattle and Port Blakeley. John and brother, Sam Gorst, both helped to

build the dry docks in the new PSNS.

John Gorst met a tragic death in 1904 accidentally shot himself while climbing through a barb wire fence near his home. Lorinda lived on until 1913 caring for her children and grandchildren. She and John are buried at the Knights of Pythias Cem-

etery in Port Orchard. Sam and Mary Gorst are buried at Ivy Green Cemetery in Bremerton. [Please note I've used the old spelling for Vergne because I saw it spelled that way in old records.]

#### The following is written by Melba Siegner Moran:

Rena Estella Gorst was married to Ralph Stanley Siegner in Sidney in 1911. They had gone to school together until the 8th grade. Rena born in 1886 and Ralph in 1888. Ralph and family lived in Annapolis along the water a mile from Sidney. It was later named Retsil. His mother, Priscilla, was a single mother after the death of her husband Stanley Siegner

# GORST, AINSWORTH, and SIEGNER HISTORY (continued)

who was killed logging for the building of the Retsil Veteran's Home. There were two sons, Ralph and Clarence and one daughter, Eunice.

Ralph at one time was the youngest apprentice in the PSNS, Bremerton. He was an electrician and started at the age of 14 years and retired as Chief Electrician.

Their first child, (Rena and Ralph's) was Laurice Lorena born in 1912, then Celeste Iris born in 1919 and Melba Jean 1922.

They lived on Mitchell Hill overlooking the bay. Rena spent many of her declining years at the head of the bay, finding arrowheads, picking up driftwood and fishing for smelt. She enjoyed hunting and was a crack shot. She and her older brother Vergne flew around the area planting catfish. She was famous for her smoked salmon and clams. She was an enterprising woman ahead of her time.

Celeste, the middle daughter, was the only one of her three daughters that was interested in flying. Because of her love of her Uncle Vergne and watching her first husband solo at a field in Tacoma, she took lessons and soloed in 1971.

Vergne's grandsons had already become very good pilots and Vergne's son, their father, wrote a book about his father called <u>Vern C. Gorst Pioneer and Granddad of United Airlines</u> by Wilbur Gorst.

Wendy Brady, Norma Ainsworth Brady and husband Gene's daughter, became our youngest pilot in the family. As a licensed pilot, she is flying many different kinds of airplanes including antique aircraft which would make her Great Uncle proud.

Laurice, the oldest daughter of Rena, was a home-maker for her two sons James and Stanley Larson. Celeste has two sons, Nicolas and Richard Patterson, and Melba, two daughters, Cynthia (Moran) Frawley and Diane (Moran) Kilgare.

Melba (Siegner) Moran felt she was very fortunate to be born to such a wonderful family and raised in such a wonderful town.

To Be Continued



# **Book Sale**

The Book Sale is set for May 6th, 7th & 8th in downtown Port Orchard.

Howard and Virginia Minor have donated the store front space at 727-731 Bay Street, next to Myrhes cafe, for us to use for this fund raiser.

We are asking for any donations of books from friends, family, neighbors. Books can be brought to the Gallery. They will be stored there until the sale days. If we start now, we should have a great selection by May. Help needed.

Please contact Glory Berglund 871-0048 with any questions.

#### Letter to Anna, Continued

and what a job that was! Our old wooden washer is fine for the family's clothes but certainly not big enough for heavy, wet bedding. We started bright and early on a sunny morning thinking everything would be hanging in the breeze by noon. How wrong we were!

We'd forgotten just how heavy a wet quilt is and how many rinses it takes to get the soap out of a wool blanket. We were still struggling to get everything on the clothes line (after breaking the rope twice) when Lewis got home from work. When he greeted us with, "Hello Ladies, what's for dinner?" we would have gladly drowned him in the wash if we'd had the strength left to do it!

The curtains are bleached and starched and the mattresses have been turned and everyone's clothes have been mended, aired and are hanging in the newly freshened closets. We even got into the basement and sorted all the canning jars, getting rid of the damaged rubber rings and ordering new ones from the hardware store so we'll be ready to put up fruit and vegetables in the fall.

While rummaging around in an old box Teddy found a brick that had been carefully wrapped in burlap then brown waxed paper. No one knew what it had been used for or why anyone would wrap a brick so carefully but Teddy brought it upstairs and set it beside his bed. About a week ago Lewis was upstairs fixing a window with his friend Nicholas and Nick spotted the brick.

"What on earth is that doing here?" he asked. Lewis explained that Teddy had found it in the basement and we had no idea what it was for. Nick laughed and said, "Well it's not some rare antique and not even worth the effort to carry it upstairs."

Turns out it's the brick the owner of the general store used to hold the lid down on the sauerkraut barrel! I always make a point of avoiding that vile smelling barrel. I can't imagine eating anything that smells the way sauerkraut does but there are many in the area that wait impatiently for the proper degree of fermentation to occur and then line up to get their share. They're no doubt the same folks who enjoy lutefisk.

How the brick got into into our basement we'll never know but I suspect one of our children could solve that mystery .

Well, Anna, the wind is blowing cold and strong off the bay and I've got to get the laundry hung up before it rains so I'd better close. I spotted a small wave of purple violets yesterday so it can't be long till spring!

Take care and give my love to your family.

**Emilia** 

## Art Scholarship

by Roy Carr 876-5336

The Sidney Museum And Arts Association will be presenting a \$1,000.00 art scholarship in May, 2004. This has been made possible because of the beautiful quilt the ladies made this year, and the very successful ticket sales for the raffling of the quilt. The South Kitsap Artists also will be awarding a \$500.00 scholarship this year.

It has been decided to combine the presentation of these two awards for a more distinctive impression. A committee comprised of members of both groups has been formed and will be meeting to discuss the area of consideration, and the possibility of extending it to include, in addition to South Kitsap High School, other high schools and home schooled students. The committee is working on the scholarship details and will soon be advertising them in the areas of consideration.

The scholarships will be awarded at a buffet to take place on Monday, May 24, 2004 at Giotto's Ristorante Italiano in Port Orchard. This is also the regular meeting of the South Kitsap Artists. If anyone is interested in attending the buffet/meeting, please R.S.V.P. to Roy Carr (876-5336) by Sunday, May 16, 2004. The price is to be announced after arrangements are made with the restaurant.

## High Tea

Virginia Collins

The Sidney Museum and Arts Association was held at the Sidney Gallery on Friday, March 12th. It was highly successful, everyone attending seemed tohave a good time, and the committee had a great time planning and preparing it. We are looking forward to having another, possibly in October. We hope each and every member will also look forward to attending, the ambiance at the gallery is wonderful and the food is great.

# Sidney Gallery Presents by Deb Danielson



APRIL: Port Orchard artist Bobbi Loudon will be our featured show this month. With a degree in commercial art and background as a graphic artist, Loudon has worked in various media including painting, sculpture, and printmaking. Her primary focus in printmaking has been the Collograph print and most recently the Monotype, one-of-a-kind hand-pulled print. It is in abstract imagery that Bobbi enjoys the challenge of marrying form and space with action and color. Loudon's goal is to produce works that create a unique enjoyment and personal involvement for each viewer. This show will exhibit April 1st through April 23rd. There will be an artist reception on Sunday April 4th, 1-4 PM.

MAY: This month is our 34th Helen Norris Open Art Show competition. Our judge is Augusta Asberry of Bremerton. Augusta has been active for 23 years in both King and Kitsap county art communities as an artist and volunteer. She is a member of the Women Painters of Washington and her work is exhibited all over the country. In 1992 she began an independent study of African art and designs. The African influence is there in her work but does not limit its possibilities. In the year 2000 she was the recipient of the Master Artist title and the naming of an art scholarship in her honor, Seattle Urban League. The Helen Norris Open Art Show will exhibit May 2 - May 27. The reception & awards presentation will be held Sunday May 2nd 1- 4 P.M., with the judge's critique at 2 P.M.





Portrait by Lynda Lindner

JUNE: This June we have Gig Harbor artists Lynda Lindner and Joan Teed displaying their paintings. Lynda lived, trained, and taught in England until emigrating to the US some years ago. Her technique involves a system where she begins with gouache and finishes with pastels. Joan moved to Washington about two and half years ago. Her job experience involved 18 years with Houston Space Center providing graphic support on the Apollo and shuttle contracts. She has been an avid oil painter but recently has enjoyed an affair with pastels. Lynda's work can be viewed on her web <www.smlib.com/LRD>.Their work will display June 2nd - June 25. There will be an artist reception on Sunday June 6th, 1 - 4 PM.



Portrait by Joan Teed

# how about that quilt show?

by Deb Danielson

I don't know how many of our members have ever been to a quilt show. I went to a couple huge shows at the Puyallup fairgrounds. Those were great. You can get caught up in the stream of people and end up three rows away from your friends without even realizing it. You can't help being drawn to the booths with the most crowds around them. You just know there's got to be something fantastic waiting for you there.

We had no idea how our quilt show last year would turn out. We had the help of several experienced quilters, one month when the gallery was available, and the unique enthusiasm that bubbles like a hot pot whenever you get more than two or three quilters in a room at the same time.

If you couldn't make it to the last years Art of the Quitter awards party, you missed a fantastic event. Almost every competitor walked out with a brightly colored bag. These awards were made possible by our generous membership and business communities. You should have seen all the smiling faces.

And the question of the day was, "Will you-have another quilt show next year?"

You bet! Art of the Quilter II is on its way. The poster is in progress with the original artwork painted by yours truly. I'm having a blast with this fantasy painting and I think you will enjoy its colorful whimsy. The *Bremerton Sun* has again agreed to produce the poster and we are now gathering our list of contributors. The names of the contributors will be listed on the poster so time is of the essence. We need to finalize that list and then allow *The Sun* to do their magic.

Many came forward with yardage donations. We once again look for donations of this kind. Each l-yard piece of new cloth was folded up by loving hands and deposited with other donations into the colorful awards bags. Would you like to help us play Santa Claus? Last year we gave away a brand new sewing machine thanks to Sound Sewing & Vacuum of Silverdale. If you have any ideas, donations, or free time please contact me on Tuesdays from 11 to 4 at the gallery, or email me at info@sidneymuseumandarts.corn.

Our brochure for this show is available now at the gallery. The entry form is now on line at our web site. Just as last year we have children's tours scheduled for three Saturdays during the show throughout July. I hope to hear from you and I would love to see you visit this years "Art of the Quilter II", join us at the awards party on July 11th.





# **Upcoming Events**

Here is a chance to have a bit of extra cash at tax time. Purchase some **50-50** tickets from any SMAA board member, or at the gallery. The drawing will be held on Tax Day, April 15, 2004.

Time to take Grandma's teapot off the shelf and see what it is worth. **An Antique Appraisal** is being planned for Spring.

The Gallery and Museum will be closed on:

Sunday, April 11, 2004 - Easter Sunday, May 9, 2004 - Mother's Day Sunday, June 20, 2004 – Father's Day

There will be a **book sale** in June good chance to clean out those shelves of books you have read and gain some new ones.

**Pie Social**, June 26, 2004.

From Virginia Collins and Glory Berglund.

# Historic Port Orchard: The County Courthouse



The Second Kitsap County Courthouse, located at Division between Sidney and Cline. Built around 1916.



Third County Courthouse, built around the second, on Division Street, c. 1935. Photos: courtesy Virgil Reames and the SMAA.

# The Kitsap County Courthouse

Kitsap County's first Courthouse was located in Port Madison, from 1857 until the general election of 1892.

The next Courthouse built in Port Orchard (above left) was the county's second. From the photo, it looks like a stately building, and was located at Division Street, where the current County Administration building stands.

The next courthouse (the county's third) is shown here (lower left) around 1935. This building was apparently built *around* the first one. The original building was then removed to make room for the courtyard shown in the second picture.

The current Administration building (built after World War II) is apparently a series of additions to this 1935-ish building, including filling in much of the open space in the second photo.

What the current building made up in square footage, it certainly lost in charm. We didn't include a picture of the current building because it does not have a lot of architecturally distinctive features, in fact some people think it is kind of ugly.

As Guy Wetzel says in his article on Port Orchard:

As an inducement to the voters of the county to move the seat to Sidney (as Port Orchard was known until about 1902-3), residents of the town built a new courthouse, deeding it to the county.

It was a fine two-story affair with fireproof vault, ample office space and a large court room. In the rear were two Chick Sales edifices, one for the ladies and one for the men, and also a large cistern equipped with a pump for fire protection.

Scores of residents charter the steamer W.J. Ellis and went to move county records from Port Madison in January of 1893. The county seat has been maintained on land and a building donated by citizens to the county.

by Fred Chang and Virgil Reames, with thanks to Dan Goddard for making available a copy of the 1971 reprint of a supplement from the Port Orchard Independent.

This account of Port Orchard is also available in the book Kitsap County, A History, printed 1977 by the Kitsap County Historical Society.

# Spring Cleaning Scrub a Dub Dub

It's time to think about Spring Cleaning again.

The gallery and museum need a good cleaning this year, so let's put it on our calendars for Monday, April 19, 2004 from 9 am to 4 pm.

A light lunch will be provided for all your back-breaking work.

If you have any questions, please call Pam Heinrich 876-3881.

#### Editor's Note

There is a lot going on in the city of Port Orchard in the present day.

A committee of over 30 building owners, business owners and residents met to formulate plans to revitalize the downtown Port Orchard area.

Called the Port Orchard RevitalizationTeam (PORT), this group met at City Hall and brainstormed.

Some of the common themes were the desire to clean up Bay Street and enliven the area, for stores, residents and visitors. Many also cherished the historical aspects and the waterfront location.

Now the city staff will be writing a proposal for a consultant to come up with ways we can make these various goals happen. The consultant is scheduled to be hired April 2004, with completion of the project by year-end.

Fred Chang ferrycommuter@yahoo.com



Sidney Museum and Arts Association 202 Sidney Avenue Port Orchard, WA 98366



NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORT ORCHARD WA
PERMIT NO 75