

Message from the President

By Mary Peterson

The sun is shining and my petunias are finally starting to pop! So are the ones we planted in the boxes hanging from the handrails outside the gallery. They'll soon be a glorious riot of color. (Taken right from the seed packet.)

Our Association has been busy. We've awarded a scholarship to a talented, college-bound senior. This year the South Kitsap Artists Association added \$500.00 to the Sidney Museum & Arts Association's \$1000.00. SMAA raises the money for the scholarship from ticket sales for our heritage quilt so be sure to remember this when you get those tickets in the mail.

The Gallery and Historical Museum will again be a stop on the **Gifts of the Garden Tour** (come on petunias, BLOOM!) and we look forward to providing a rest stop and a look at our wonderful June show to the weary but enthusiastic patrons of an entertaining and worthwhile cause.

The **Pie and Ice Cream Social** will again be held on the day of the Fathom's of Fun parade. There have been times when each of us has wondered if the Social is worth all the time and effort it takes to feed scores of hungry people home made pies. But then it all comes together. A live, patriotic, old fashioned band concert, folks sitting outside the Gallery enjoying pie and ice cream, talking, laughing and sharing the day with old friends and strangers. Is it worth it? You bet it is. It brings back a little of the good times we remember and reminds us that we need to slow down, look around and enjoy what our community has to offer. So... have a piece of pie like grandma used to make... forget carbs and calories and throw on a slab of ice cream... and enjoy the day!

Our wildly popular **Art of the Quilter** Show will be featured in July. It's truly a unique, one of a kind show that is not only a visual treat but an opportunity to purchase a sample of real Americana. Don't miss this one.

August brings the annual **Hats Off to Sidney** luncheon. Vintage hats, (wear your own or choose one from our collection) entertainment, wonderful food and a chance to say hello to old friends and meet new ones. Its a favorite, fashionable fund-raiser for the SMAA and tickets will go on sale soon. Join us and have a great time.

The **Log Cabin Museum** is open on weekends for the summer and by appointment any time. The Orchard's are entertaining out-of-town friends, Anna and Chester from Troy, New York. Stop by to say hello and take a look at Lewis' fancy new radio and Anna's beautiful but very impractical big city wardrobe!

This year we're having a long-deserved, special day for our

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Suggested Donation: \$2



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360.769.9551
molly01@harbournet.com

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360.649.0150

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prislyn16@hotmail.com

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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

From the President, continued.

VOLUNTEERS. A picnic at my house, inside or out depending on the weather. It's Sunday, July 18 and the volunteers won't have to BRING or DO anything! Food will be provided, there will be croquet and horseshoes if you want to play and you will get a chance to meet those known only as "2nd Tuesday or 1st Wednesday."

We couldn't survive without each of you. Gallery volunteers, Log Cabin volunteers and of course the Board. You'll be getting invitations soon so save that day for you and your significant other to sit back, relax, eat and do nothing!

One more thing... We want our facilities to be a part of the community. We have space, albeit somewhat limited, for meetings and groups to get together once in a while. If this is something you might be interested in taking advantage of please contact Pam Heinrich, our facilities chair, or Lynne Little, our membership chair, through the Gallery at 876-3693.

Book Sale

The Book Sale has had one phase, with a couple more in the future. Hopefully we will be able to sell the day of the Fathom's of Fun parade, and at the Cruz.

We have some really good novels, westerns, and reference books, with a few classics thrown in for good measure. Be sure to come down and browse. It is set up between Myhre's and AJ Michaels in downtown Port Orchard.

50-50 Raffle

The 50-50 raffle was a nice little fund raising project. Cindy Harris of Bremerton was our lucky winner with \$195.50.

by Virginia Collins

Volunteer Needed

Looking for a volunteer to oversee the gambling rules for compliance with the State on behalf of the SMAA.

Please call Mary Peterson. 360.769.9551

Letters to Anna

by Mary Peterson

Anna and her husband, Charles are visiting the Orchard family in Port Orchard. In this letter Anna writes to her sister and mother back home in Troy, New York.



Dear Mama and Alice,

I've finally relaxed after what seems to have been a trip around the world! The train was bumpy, as expected, but truly offered a window into the back yards of America. And breath taking vistas of mountains and rivers, deserts and forests and everything in between. Then a short and beautiful boat ride into Port Orchard. No wonder Emilia loves it so.

We've had a few days of rain, which everyone jokes about but the sunny days more than make up for the clouds. When I step outside this house the view exceeds anything our stereoscope has to offer. It's just beautiful!

Emilia truly lives in a log cabin. Its small and cozy and the logs its made of seem to wrap themselves around you and welcome you home every time you step through the door. It is surrounded by the biggest trees I've ever seen and I've actually seen deer peek through the kitchen windows! Port Orchard is a thriving little town, filled with people eager to make friends and help out whenever needed. Lewis and Emilia are well thought of and have no lack of friends and acquaintances. They play an active role in their little community and are happy and thriving.

Emily has become a lovely young lady, seemingly content and even anxious to be leaving her childhood behind. Charles is beginning to look just like his father, strong and tall but with a surprisingly gentle side that he reserves just for his grandmother. They share a bond that is touching and a joy to see. They share a love of books and Charles is fascinated with his grandmother's keen remembrance of things gone by. I believe its Charles' questions and interest that help keep her sharp and eager to greet each day.

Teddy is a little harder to describe and a little harder to get close to. He is an absolute whirlwind. The entire family expends an enormous amount of time and energy just keeping Teddy from bringing the house down around them. He's a bright, innocent looking child who means no harm but his curiosity, fear of nothing and an alarmingly short attention span keeps everyone within fifty yards of him on their toes. Honestly, if there's a bug in the yard, Teddy catches it and brings it inside. If he finds an injured, or ill or even slower than normal little animal, he catches it and provides it bed and breakfast somewhere in the house. He climbs the ivy that clings to the

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Scrub-A-Dub-Dub Day

On April 19, the gallery got a clean, fresh spruce-up thanks to Virginia Collins, Deb Danielson, Theresa Day and myself. Things look and smell a whole lot better. Allen Peterson worked on the flower boxes outside.

The Log Cabin was being set up for its 2004 review by Mary Peterson, Louise Ness, Virginia Minor, Maxine Spillinger and Virgil Reames.

We all shared a good lunch and after a hard day's work went home to nap.

I'd like to thank Dave Selbig for making two more flower boxes, Allen Peterson and Virgil Reames for replacing the brokent front gallery window, Judd Turner for power washing the steps and cement, Virgil for making shelves for the kitchen closet and Jim McCary and Mike Heinrich for trimming the tree on the side of the gallery.

- Pam Heinrich



In the Next Issue

There will be some photos of Old Port Orchard in the next issue (October | November | December 2004).

Volunteers Needed

Wanted – Volunteers for Log Cabin docents. Will need to show Log Cabin once a month.

Call Mary Peterson 360.769.9551.

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

My grandparents were Charles and May Gorst Ainsworth. They lived halfway up Mitchell hill and owned and operated Ainsworth grocery on Bay Street [where the Kitsap Bank is located today, 2004]. At their home on Mitchell hill there was a large barn where they kept a team of horses to deliver the groceries. Because there were not a lot of roads they drove the team on the beach to their customers being careful to watch the tide. Charles and May had two sons, Carl and Walter. Both boys delivered groceries and Carl went on to run the grocery store when Charles decided to retire and farm on Glenwood Road. Walter went to work at the PSNS and became Tool Master for many years. He married Selma Nelson from Silverdale and they had one son. About the time my father Carl started at the store he married my mother, Winifred Kendall. My mother was born in Port Orchard. She was one of five daughters and one son of Thomas and Mary Kendall who homesteaded and pioneered in the area. Thomas Kendall helped build the courthouse, the school, the Methodist Church, was on the city council, school board and was mayor. They were busy people and led interesting lives. My cousin Carol Corliss Busch is writing a complete Kendall history. Carol is daughter of Mary Kendall Corliss and granddaughter of Thomas and Mary.

My parents bought a home at the top of Mitchell hill across from the high school. I was the youngest of four girls and was born in the front bedroom. My older sisters were Doris who passed away in 1970 and Audrey and Mary Alice who live out of state. I have happy memories of living in Port Orchard. It was especially fun to have my cousin Melba living only two streets down on Mitchell and we did a lot together...some of the things we did seem dangerous to me, however, at the time I don't think anyone was worried about us. We used to swim and play on the log rafts at the foot of Mitchell hill. That was before West Bay fill and the water came right up to the road. My Aunt Nona Kendall [Carlisle] lived at the foot of Mitchell and sometimes swam with us. She was a very strong swim-

mer and would swim over to the Bremerton side. Probably the most fun was playing in the warehouse behind the grocery store. It was full of all sorts of tempting sacks, boxes, crates stacked high against the walls and there was always a cart or two to push around. There were holes in the wooden flooring and a person could drop a fish line down into the water below. There was an attic to explore and ladders that went nowhere. Across from the Mitchell house beside the high school was a small hospital called "the poor farm" and a section of it was reserved for tubercular patients. Across the road and down a half block was a tiny café called the Jack o Lantern. It was the perfect place for the high school students to stop at on their way home...walking, as not too many students drove to school unless they were from way out in the country.

While my father was running the grocery store, my grandparents cleared and farmed some land on Glenwood Road near Minter Creek. A little later my parents bought a summer home on Horseshoe Lake and a house at Purdy. At the beginning of the World War II, they bought an apple ranch in Twisp. All of these places hold fond memories and make a story for each place. My grandparents lived on the farm until my grandmother died in 1942. Grandpa Charles lived until 1953 and both are buried at Sunset Lane Cemetery. My parents were busy people raising four daughters, running a grocery store, running an apple ranch and being involved in community affairs. My father was a Charter member of Associated Grocers and was very active in this association. I can remember when he took me with him to a meeting at Carnation Dairy Farms in the Seattle area. I often was with him when he drove back and forth to Twisp on the old Steven Pass highway or on Snoqualmie before I-90 and when there were the old switch backs on Swauk Pass. These were the days when highway 99 was the main road between Portland and Everett and two

lane roads if they were paved were considered good roads. My father was Mayor of Port Orchard the year I was born and kept active in civic work with the other Port Orchard business men and women. When my mother could she helped out at the store doing bookkeeping as until the day when the store went “modern” all the groceries were charged to customers’ accounts. Also, after the team of horses was retired the groceries were still delivered – this time by a wooden Model A van and later a wooden-sided station wagon. Mother was active in the Methodist Church and the Pythian Sisters. She died in 1949 at 56 years of age. My father died in 1958. Both are buried along with my sister Doris at Sunset Lane.

Because Vergne Gorst was a pioneer in aviation and famous for it I’d like to add a brief summary of his flying career. Besides flying a service between Port Orchard and Seattle, he flew one of the earliest services between Seattle and Los Angeles. The following is a quote from the Time Life Books Series, The Airline Builders: “there was an enterprising promoter named Vern Gorst traveling from city to city up and down the West Coast, he peddled \$175,000 worth of stock and hired as pilots some barn stormers who were willing to take a portion of their wages in stock certificates. Vern called his new corporation Pacific Air Transport, flying between Seattle and Los Angeles in new monoplanes designed by T. Claude Ryan of San Diego. The scheduled flights started in 1926 but three pilots lost their lives in crashes and soon Vern had financial troubles. Gorst approached a young loan officer named William (Pat) Patterson and talked him into a loan of \$5,000.00. Thanks to Patterson’s watchfulness, Gorst’s determination and the reliable Ryan mail planes, Pacific Air Transport was on its way to becoming a successful concern.”

However, in a few years, on the advice of Pat Patterson, Gorst was selling his company’s outstanding stock, voting and non-voting alike, and Pacific Air Transport became part of Boeing Air Transport. Boeing agreed to keep all of Pat’s people on the payroll and pay \$200.00 per share of Pat’s stock. Gorst received a check for \$94,000 and he bought a “Boeing flying boat” and started an airline to Alaska. He eventually lost this run to Pan American Airways so he started a motor stage company in Oregon

where he lived until he died in 1953. His descendents are living in Oregon at this date.

I’m proud to say that I was one of the many people who went up with Uncle Vergne in one of his flying machines. When I was learning to fly at Port Orchard airport in the 1940s, he took me up in his Ercoupe and turned over the controls to me. I was tremendously honored by his trust but I was scared stiff.

Lulu Gorst Taylor wrote a family history of her early days in Port Orchard and Melba and I have used some of her information. Most of her adult life was spent in Ketchikan, Alaska, where her husband worked for the Alaska Steamship Company. Lulu and Charlie Taylor are buried at the Sunset Lane Cemetery, Port Orchard. Effie Gorst Wheeler’s adventures cooking for the miners in our family and walking to Dawson in the middle of winter are all recorded on a three hour tape (with transcripts) which was made shortly before her death. I have given copies of these transcripts and tapes to the Washington State Historical Museum in Tacoma, The Klondike Museum in Pioneer Square, Seattle, and the Skagway Museum in Alaska. Effie and Walter Wheeler are buried in California.

The above has been written by Norma Ainsworth Brady while living at her home of thirty years in Manchester, 2004. At this time I have two sisters, Audrey Ainsworth Christensen and Mary Alice Ainsworth Bethel. They both have large families. My husband, Gene Brady, keeps a large museum of antique farm equipment and hybridizes rhododendrons. We have two daughters, Wendy Brady and Sharron House and her husband, John, and one granddaughter, Emma Gene. I attended Annie Wright School, graduating in 1945, and graduating from University of Washington in 1949. Gene and I were married in 1950 and I became a military wife visiting and living in some very interesting places...South Africa, Alaska, parts of Europe and a lot of the 50 States and Canada. In 1970 I helped Virginia Stott with information about our family for the Kitsap County History book published by the Kitsap County Historical Society. I have tried to be supportive in the community and right now I am active in the Manchester Community and the Washington Park Arboretum.



Art of the Quilter II

July 6th-29

Awards reception Sunday July 11th

1-4 PM

An appraiser will be at the reception.

Children's Tours:

Saturdays: July 10, 17, & 24

Starting at 11:30 AM and 2:30 PM

This unique show highlights the beauty of quilting, applique, and patchwork, and at the same time gives the artisan a chance to compete and sell. Categories include Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced, machine work, & non-machine.

56 sponsors have donated over \$1,800 worth of prizes. This show will offer wearables which include jackets, vests, hats, scarves, and purses, also decorative items such as wallhangings, placemats, potholders.

The traditional full size quilts will also be displayed.

Volunteers Needed

Looking for volunteers to serve on the SMAA Board of Directors for 2004-2005. Will be asked to serve as Chair for one committee.

Please call Pam Heinrich 360.876.3881.

Art Scholarship Awarded

The SMAA in conjunction with the South Kitsap Artist Association (SKAA) awarded a \$1500 scholarship to an art student on May 24, 2004.

There were seven applicants. The winner is Brittany Thompson for her artwork in photography. A reception was held in her honor at the Sidney Gallery on May 24, highlighting her artwork. Congratulations Brittany!

-Pam Heinrich

Deb Danielson makes a presentation to a happy recipient as Augusta Asberry looks on at the May Art Show.

Courtesy photo.



Winners of the 34th Helen Norris Open Art Show 2004

by category

Oil & Acrylic

- 1st Place: Adeline Ardesson/Tacoma —"Mountain Stream" —Acrylic
2nd Place: Adeline Ardesson/Tacoma —"Early Snow" —Acrylic
3rd Place: George Fine/Bremerton —"Rain Forest" —Oil

Honorable Mention

- Dave Miner / Allyn —"Exit Stage Right" —Oil
Pamela Vesterby/Poulsbo —"Federation Forest" —Acrylic
Bernadine Stage/Port Orchard —"Oops" —Oil

Watercolors

- 1st Place: Chris Cotton/Gig Harbor —"Memories"
2nd Place: Jan Lytle/Poulsbo —"Poppy Pleasure"
3rd Place: Pamela Vesterby/Poulsbo —"Portrait of Vincent"

Honorable Mention

- Richard Rathbun/Port Hadlock —"Life's A Beach"
Adrienne Daugherty/Poulsbo —"Downtown Poulsbo"
Bey Pedersen/ Lakebay —"Circle Tree Homestead"

Mixed Media

- 1st Place: Victoria Volelka/Bremerton —"Warm Solitude II" —Painting
2nd Place: Gail Janes/Tacoma —"Spirit Shawl" —Painting
3rd Place: Jim Knull/Grapeview —"Tree House" —Wood Diorama

Honorable Mention

- Ann Stockdale/Gig Harbor —"Serafina with Basket On Head" — Dyes on silk
Ann Marie Barnes/Belfair —"Blue Mist" —Photography
Nola Tresslar/Fircrest —"Existence" —Mixed Media
Nola Tresslar/Fircrest —"Enlightenment" —Mixed Media

Drawing

- 1st Place: Mary McInnis/Port Orchard —"Capilano Morning" —Pastel
2nd Place: Barbara Newton/Renton —"Sincerely II" —Pastel
3rd Place: Mary McInnis/Port Orchard —"Tracks" —Pastel

Honorable Mention

- Barbara Newton/Renton —"Chorus Line" —Pastel
Anna Hoey/Bremerton —"Desire" —Pastel
Diana Zacharias/Poulsbo —"Birds Eye View" —Pastel

People's Choice Award

- Anna Hoey/Bremerton—"Desire"—Pastel

Editor's Note

We are lucky to have a special color insert for the Gallery exhibits, courtesy of Pam Heinrich, who learned to load up the digital files on a zip drive, and took them over to Printing Services.

This issue may look a little different as it was created on Adobe InDesign 1.5. Thanks to all who submitted photos and stories.

Fred Chang

Letter to Anna, Continued
most enormous trees right outside the house and is in the process of building a dam in the small creek that runs at the bottom of the ravine on which this little cabin stands. It wouldn't surprise me if his dam is entirely successful and we wake up one morning to find the ravine filled with water and the cabin rocking on the edge of a large pond!

Speaking of animals, Teddy displayed an instant fascination with my fox stole and has worn it, dragged it, tried to force feed it and has even taken it outside and perched it in the laurel bushes in an attempt to scare the people that walk up and down the hill. He is definitely a child to test one's patience.

And clothes! Mama, you were right. I brought all the wrong things. Emilia, Sadie and Emily have spent a good deal of time pouring over my totally out of place finery and I suppose in Emilia's case, remembering all the silks and crepes she used to wear in New York. There is absolutely no place to wear the lovely things I brought and Emilia has been a dear sharing her more practical wardrobe with me. I don't mean to sound snooty but with the exception of one or two events each year, there is just no reason to have fancy clothes. Emilia, and Sadie to a lesser extent, seem to have adjusted to this and have no qualms about wearing house-dresses every day, diminishing the drabness by putting on a freshly laundered apron.

Its a different world here but one that I might get used to and even embrace, with enough time. Right now we're sitting outside, shelling peas and chatting with every person, friend or stranger that walks by the house. It reminds me that sometimes in the city we forget to take the time to be friendly. I'll remember that when we get home.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Anna

Hats Off to Sidney Luncheon

Raffles, Door Prizes, Entertainment and good food!

Date: August 18, 2004
Time: 12 noon

Knights of Columbus Hall
1153 Mitchell Avenue
Port Orchard

Ticket cost: \$15.00

For reservations and tickets, please call
Sonnie Selbig (360.871.3823).
Tickets will also be available at the Sidney
Gallery: **360.876.3693**



Peggy Hoyt Hats. Vogue Magazine, 1917.
Source: <http://www.oldtimeclipart.com/>

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Port Orchard, WA 98366

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Details inside on Page 6.