

**The Origin and Early Development
Of the
South Whidbey Community Center**

Written by

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Timothy D. Scriven.



“If one child benefits from the investment of my time... it was time well spent.”

Ross Jacobson, Attorney



Ross' donation of time was pivotal to the progression of events that allowed for our endeavor to develop a park complex to move forward.

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INTRODUCTION

By Timothy D. Scriven

A forty-three acre property site, which was originally named the South Whidbey Community Center, was acquired in 1981 and was followed by approximately eight years of work largely by professional volunteers supported by donations. During this time, the South Whidbey Community received enormous gifts of time and donated equipment from a large group of caring people who gave extensively on behalf of present and future generations. The history has largely been forgotten or is not known, as it has not been available in an accessible way. This story then is intended to provide knowledge of who did what, when and the methods that were employed.

During the whole time that clearing the land and specific building projects were being accomplished for the development of the park, the community was kept informed. A variety of public relations methods were used including articles in the South Whidbey Record and informative public speaking engagements. Photographs were shown of work being done on a large oak framed display built by Dick Scriven specifically for this purpose. This free standing six sided display was located in public areas for members of the community to enjoy.

Chain saw sculptor, Pat McVay, donated a wood carving of a construction worker shown stretching a dollar as he pulled on it between his hands. Pat's sculpture which he named, Hec for Rec., was intended to represent our message to the community of utilizing their money very efficiently, "stretching every dollar." Thanks to Pat's gift, this concept was demonstrated by the sculpture as it accompanied the photograph display.

The history of the project has remained unheralded, and this is my attempt to tell the story accurately and to make it available on the web and in this book. My source of information is my personal collection of articles, documents, pictures and other material that was accumulated as the development of the park progressed. It was always my desire to record the achievements of each person who contributed to the park's success.

I began promoting the idea for a community center complex in 1978 and I established an ad hoc committee in 1980. The option agreement to purchase the original 43 acre site was signed by the owner, Bud Waterman, and by me on February 27, 1981. I was present at most every work party and fund raising event from beginning to end, 1981 through 1989. I took pictures and retained information as my regard for those that did the work from fund raising to building the park itself was something that was important to remember in detail and therefore I made the best attempt that I could on behalf of each individual contributor to record their involvement. It is my pleasure to share the collection of pictures and documents along with my recollection of all who contributed to the project. From the first picture that I took in 1981 to the last picture in 1989 it was always my intention to tell the story.

My first attempt to share my collection of the Community Park's early history was through the South Whidbey Historical Society in collaboration with one of the Board Members, Craig Williams. Craig saw to it that the pictures and documents were put on the Historical Society's web site. My initial meeting with Craig was on September 5, 2008.

The Technical Writing Department was contacted at Western Washington University initially by me with Craig's approval. Craig

agreed to coordinate the efforts of Dr. Mark Sherman and the students as they provided further input to what Craig had accomplished. Their work is on the South Whidbey Historical Society's web site.

An earlier endeavor to write the history of the events regarding the story of the community park was provided by Edith Buck's little book, *The Birth of a Vision*, but it has received little attention since publication in 1984. She wrote the story from my notes after I asked her a second time.

Edith Buck was a wise and wonderful woman as was her co-author Dorothy Gray and the publishers Linda Colley and Bettie Hall. They understood that the knowledge of giving based accomplishments will result in appreciation and for many people appreciation is the fuel for inspiration. Inspiration is the ignition source of energy that will encourage future kind endeavors in multiple areas as we have been the recipients of since our country was founded. This is one of the keys to providing for a decent society, and so it has been practiced in our society and so it must be into the future.

For the ladies mentioned above, their purpose in investing their time was to light a flame of inspiration based on a true account of the park's story from its initial idea to the acquisition of the property. Their story is about those who did the work until 1984 when *The Birth of a Vision* was published.

There were moments of triumph and some of disappointment as we pursued our project, the latter being common in any arena of human endeavor. The politics of something that involves a lot of people will always create surprising issues to cope with, and should provide a small warning to anyone who steps into a leadership role that is focused on doing the right thing on behalf of others. All projects are to some extent political and different people can have

different reactions to projects at all levels, from local to national. You cannot be all things to all people, and the human dynamics that are manifested by individual differences is what introduces some confusion between individuals and groups. We should not expect all to embrace every project for the same reasons or in the same way.

In spite of the differences, a large—but fluid—group worked long and hard on the Community Park and the result was a triumph for the community. Since my time with the project, it has gone on to develop further and is a source of pride in the community. A large number of people continue to give their time to a large variety of programs and activities. It is my hope that an account of their efforts and the accomplishments of the South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District will be added to this story bringing the entire history up to the present.

The lessons that are provided in the story of acquiring the forty-three acre site by first using an option agreement to purchase it, then the events that lead to a cruise of the properties' timber, followed by the revelation of the surprising value of the timber which created the situation that lead to the verbal agreement and for the Waterman's to clear cut 70% of the trees; all came together in an incredible way that led to the purchase/donation of the forty-three acre site to the newly established nonprofit organization, South Whidbey Recreation. This on its own is a remarkable story!

The names of those who donated to the purchase must never be forgotten. Those who built the park must never be forgotten. Too much remains to be done and will be done if the community remembers and appreciates allowing the flames of inspiration to be nurtured in a synergistic way. Of course it was this very formula and

consequent energy that was utilized to build the Community Park, and so it goes.

This story is also intended to provide an opportunity for the reader to learn about the way that money was leveraged through the volunteer contributions of professionals and others. Then, the involvement of the civic and service clubs working cooperatively together, and how it was all accomplished in concert with well-orchestrated use of publicity and public relations. Taken together it all produces a valuable account of something extraordinary that is beyond what any small community has previously achieved. Although, the principles and concepts themselves that were used were not invented, they were utilized fully to get the results that were accomplished for such a truly large scale endeavor.

It is my hope that this story will inspire other projects for the community to benefit from, so that we can accomplish further good by placing the focus on helping each child through programs that are educational, cultural and athletic. “A rising tide lifts all boats;” and nothing provides greater lift for a community then helping children to fulfill their potential and develop their self-esteem as the people of South Whidbey continue to demonstrate.

I will be writing in the third person after this initial introduction because the story of acquiring and building the community park will flow better in that style. My intent is to share what individuals accomplished while working together building the South Whidbey Community Park during the first 8 years. The following writing style is therefore chosen to allow the story to maintain the importance of each person’s contribution.

CHAPTER 1

PLANNING AND ACQUIRING THE PROPERTY

This is the story of a dream, realized by the coming together of the community to build a forty-three acre community park complex for all to enjoy and cherish. The journey started with one man, Tim Scriven, but many joined together along the way in order to make the endeavor a great success. From acquiring the land to finalizing its development an eight year period of time was required.

For almost two years Tim Scriven had shared his vision of building and developing a single community site where different age groups could meet and interact in common interest areas. The complex would provide building sites for well-established nonprofit organizations that would construct and maintain their own facilities.

November 1980. But the first task was to search for a good site to develop the complex. Ad hoc meetings were organized by Tim Scriven with the goal of selecting and then purchasing 30 to 40 acres for the Community Center site. The initial ad hoc committee members were Bruce Groom, Steve Shapiro, Jim Porter, Bruce Anderson, Tony Shults, Wally Lehman, Scott Mickelson, Mike Shelton and Tim Scriven. The group realized that an organization needed to be formed to carry out the mission. Judy Yeakel explained the need for Articles of Incorporation and establishing a nonprofit corporation. In January 1981 attorney Adolph Koch donated his services to file Articles of Incorporation for a non-profit organization named South Whidbey Recreation.

In January 1981, Tim Scriven sought the advice of Siegfried Semaru, the Director of Recreation for the City of Bellevue,

and traveled to Bellevue to meet him in his office. The advice which Siegfried offered was to locate next to a school site, find property in the center of the service area so that the facilities would be equally accessible, and to “Ask the land what it wants to be?” meaning the land should have certain topographic and drainage characteristics that would be suitable for the kind of development envisioned for it. Siegfried Semaru’s advice was utilized by Tim Scriven as he located six potentially suitable sites. Tim walked the parcel which best represented the criteria for a community center complex in order to assess its topography and drainage characteristics. The property appeared to be ideal and Tim approached the owners.

February 1981. The preferred site belonged to Bud and Margaret Waterman, owners of Waterman Mill Co., Inc. Bud had spoken with Tim several months before regarding Tim’s vision for a community center complex. Tim called Bud and made an appointment with him to discuss the purchase of the forty-three acre tract which the Waterman’s owned next to where the South Whidbey High School was being built. The South Whidbey High School site had been donated by the Waterman’s several years before.

During Tim’s meeting with Bud, Bud offered to sell the property for \$80,000 cash using an option agreement and 60 days was provided to raise the money. Tim knew that it was foolish to attempt to try to raise that much cash in such a short time period, especially without any assets or a formally established organization to work with and certainly he was concerned about failing while attempting such a seemingly impossible task. In spite of the odds against him, Tim said a silent prayer and accepted Bud’s offer.



Waterman Mill office

The option agreement was drafted by Bud Waterman's daughter Debra and was signed on February 27, 1981. Tim called a meeting of the ad hoc committee and revealed what had occurred. Soon after Mike Shelton went to the forty-three acre site and dug several soil log holes with his back hoe to provide some additional insight into the drainage characteristics of the land. The tests were positive.

April 1981. How could we pay for the purchase? Within 45 days 36 couples and individuals had given \$250 each toward the purchase of the Community Center site. Wally and Betty Lehman gave \$2,000 and 15 others donated various amounts. The effort from the donors was exceptional in such a short time but the amount raised, about \$15,000, was far short of the required goal and therefore Tim Scriven called a meeting to announce that the effort to buy the land had failed and the money should be returned.

Scotty Michelson suggested that it might be possible to log the site and said that he would cruise the property to see what the timber was worth. Scotty Michelson visited the site and reported that there was enough value in the timber to more than pay the option amount

without taking all of the trees. Scotty estimated seventy percent would need to be logged. Scotty said that using his cruise results it might be possible to get a loan from Whidbey Island Bank to pay for the property, the loggers and fulfill the terms of the option agreement. This information made it possible for the purchase of the forty-three acre park site to become a reality!

Tim Scriven reported Scotty's finding to Waterman Mill and they invited Orvin Tveit, a forester from Weyerhaeuser Company, to come over and cruise the property. The second timber cruise also determined that clear-cutting seventy percent of the timber would net enough to pay the option amount. The original option agreement was set aside, Waterman Mill clear cut seventy percent of the timber where designated and then donated the property to South Whidbey Recreation. This arrangement was coordinated by Tim Scriven on a verbal agreement and a hand shake with Debra Waterman representing her parents. The formal donation took place on September 1981, attorney Ross Jacobson contributed greatly to the process. Special thanks are due to Pacific Northwest Escrow and Island Title for donating their time to the escrow and transfer of title. The money that community members, organizations and several others had given toward the purchase of the property was now set aside to be used for hard cost expenses in developing the land.

A detailed account of income received and money spent was carefully recorded in the check book register of the nonprofit organization, South Whidbey Recreation. When South Whidbey Recreation was dissolved the check book register was placed in the possession of the newly formed Park District. Retired engineer, Joe Putnam had been treasurer of South Whidbey Recreation during its existence and was also involved in variety of volunteer projects that

were accomplished at the park site. Joe had done a nice job of accurately keeping the records up to date.

In April 1981, a boundary survey was accomplished.

June 1981 to February 1982. Now the use for the site that was to be developed needed to be determined in more detail and for that we needed to poll the residents of the community. The Western Washington University Recreation Department students, under the direction of Dr. Jim Moore, executed a Recreation Preferences Survey at the request of Tim Scriven and on behalf of South Whidbey Recreation. WWU published the study, which served as a valuable tool in the planning of the South Whidbey Community Center. The Quorum of Bellevue, owned by Tony Shults and Jon Thomas, donated their companies' time and facilities to the graphics, layout and printing of the Preference Survey Booklet. The preferred uses were numerous, but the main benefits of the survey were to raise awareness and increase credibility of the project.

About this time a much needed logo for the proposed community park complex was created and donated by graphic designer, Tony Shults. It continues to serve as an invaluable symbol of recognition for the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District and what it represents and provides to the community.

Now we were ready to clear the land! Or so we thought.

February 1982. Jack Siebert, owner of Tri-County Land Survey, directed a topographic survey at 2 foot contour intervals at the request of Tim Scriven who organized a volunteer work force for Jack. Jack Siebert donated his time to do the topographic survey. Then, Hanford Thayer donated his engineering expertise and created

a grading plan from the survey for construction of the athletic fields and to secure the required permits.



***Joe Putnam,
Hanford Thayer and
Jack Siebert & daughter
Shannon.***

Randy Bradley worked with Hanford and Tim to plan the initial site clearing and slash burning. Randy was always available for whatever the project or the situation called for. He maintained a high level of enthusiasm for eight years, giving generously with his wife Myrna and stepsons Mike and JT Madsen.



Attorney Ross Jacobson

At the request of Tim Scriven, attorney Ross Jacobson donated his time and persuaded Island County to eliminate a fee of \$10,000 for back forestation taxes. Special thanks to the Prosecuting Attorney Dave Theile whom Tim Scriven contacted initially and who expressed an interest in working to resolve the problem.

Ross gave his time to the acquisition of the park's property site and to the establishment of the nonprofit organization, South Whidbey Recreation, and then its dissolution upon voter approval of

the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District.

Ross once told Tim Scriven that if one child benefited from his investment of time, it was time well spent. Amazingly it was time spent in concert with the contributions of other professionals who also gave very significantly, most likely with the same type of motivation in mind. One by one they cooperated to build the park complex over an eight year period of time. Each of them was inspired by the hope of influencing the life of one child in a positive way through creating a venue where the age groups would interact.

When the forty-three acre property site was acquired from the Waterman's following the purchase/donation process an easement to the northwest corner was included. It was recognized that an easement to the southwest corner would be highly desirable.

Tim Scriven spoke to both Arthur (Johnny) and Dora Gabelein and to the South Whidbey School Dist. about cooperatively sharing the adjacent easements that they each owned going from Maxwellton Road to the southern boundary of the park site. All agreed and the easements were put together for the common use of the Gabelein's, the School District, and the community park then owned by South Whidbey Recreation.

Attorney, Ross Jacobson, donated his professional time to draft the necessary agreements. Pacific Northwest Escrow and Island Title worked cooperatively with Ross during the process as needed.

The purchase of the property and planning the project were complete. The uses of the property resulting from the preferences survey were yet to be determined, but it was envisioned that long term leases would be signed for one dollar per year for qualified 501 C-3 groups. Systems such as roads, power, telephone and

drainage would be developed by the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District which would also hire a director to manage and coordinate the Community Center complex. A letter dated Oct. 20, 1983 was written by Island County Prosecuting Attorney David Thiele explaining the feasibility of a Park and Recreation District to work cooperatively with Community organizations to facilitate funding and operation of the community center complex. (See Appendix)

The Parks and Recreation District would also participate in other ways as necessary and all facilities would be available to the general public. Using these approaches non-profit organizations would continue to benefit from their network of volunteers and private donations. As a result a great deal would be provided with tax money supporting, not carrying, many beneficial programs for adults and children.

To do as much as possible without tax money was the concept preferred by the majority of those who gave to the project. With the organizations being at one site they would each have better visibility and accessibility. People would go to one site and have an opportunity to do many things at that site. Facilities and programs would complement each other and people with different interests would meet and interact. A very practical and efficient, in fact synergistic concept!!

As this was not a taxpayer funded project for the initial 6 years, fund raising and organizing volunteer help and the donation of the use of the equipment became a central part of the Community Park's development process and is detailed in Chapter 2.

Keith Gunnar, a photographer for Sunset Magazine, was invited by Tim Scriven to take pictures of the forty-three acre site after it had been logged.



The picture is looking west from the upper eastern portion of the property.

CHAPTER 2

FUND RAISING AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS

The land for the Community Center had been purchased, but a flurry of activity was necessary to spread the word and to continue enlisting the support of the community.

1982

In March 1982, a dance was held at the American Legion with Anna Unum as the organizer for the fund raising event. Music was provided by the Desoto's.

In April 1982, an informational dinner meeting, organized by Tim Scriven, was held at Useless Bay Golf and Country Club. Special thanks to John Watson the master of ceremonies. The speakers included, attorney Ross Jacobson, Bellevue Mayor and also Boys and Girls Club Executive Director, Cary Bozeman, Director of Recreation for Bellevue, Lee Springgate, Senator Jack Metcalf and Dr. Steve Shapiro of Langley.

This was followed in May with a presentation by Tim Scriven to the Island County Board of Adjustment for a Conditional Use Permit, written by Jean Wallin.

An oak photograph display was built by Dick Scriven. The large six sided display was used in local banks and stores by Tim Scriven for public relations purposes. The sculpture of a man in the lower left of the picture is Hec for Rec, shown stretching a dollar. Hec for Rec was created by chain saw sculptor Pat McVay to demonstrate the concept of leveraging money that Tim promoted while speaking about the park complex.



Oak photograph display.

While building the South Whidbey Community Center complex, great value was efficiently achieved using a relatively small amount of money. The professional volunteers worked in concert with those who raised the funding. Their donation of time building the complex allowed the money to be leveraged, i.e., to go much farther toward accomplishing needed projects. In this manner they followed in the footsteps of those before them with the spirit of love that represents the traditional principles of American Civics. Their primary motivation was their regard for the welfare of each child.

In August 1982, an Orange Frosties booth was operated at the Island County fair. The organizers were Tim and Georgia Scriven, and many individuals worked at the booth as volunteers during the fair. Gary Piper donated his talents to painting the Orange Frosties sign displayed above the booth. The frame work for the booth's awning was built by Denny Smith and the awning was made by June Bell. The fair booth produced excellent promotional and fund raising benefits

for the park effort.



Orange Frosties Booth.

November 1982 saw the publication of an informal booklet entitled *Your Community Center*, by Sue Ellen Hanson and Tim Scriven. The graphics were provided by Tony Shults of the Quorum. The layout and printing of the booklet were also donated by the Quorum.

1983

Throughout 1983, site planning and permits from Island County were pursued. Architect John Thomas of the Quorum contributed a great deal to this, along with engineer Hanford Thayer and consultant Tom Roehl.

In March 1983, at the request of Tim Scriven, Help, Inc. donated \$8,500.00 and 50% of the proceeds of a real estate contract to South Whidbey Recreation. Help Inc. board members were Bonny Arndt, Carol McNeil, Alex Pong, Ernie Noble and Jeff Handley.

The summer of 1983 was a busy time. A 4 ft. X 8 ft. sign was erected at Maxwellton Road pointing the way to the South Whidbey Community Center site. The sign was built by Danny Bayha, Tim DeMartini and Dick Scriven. Tim Scriven and Bill Baller placed the sign in its location. Donations for the sign were made by Gary Reys,

Betty Harris and the South Whidbey Kiwanis Club. Gary Piper painted the sign which displayed the parks logo and its name, then known as the South Whidbey Community Center.



Judy McVay standing beside the sign that she and others made.

Another sign, 16 ft. X 8 ft., reading South Whidbey Community Center, valued at approximately \$3,000 was designed and carved by chain saw artists Judy McVay and Steve Backus. The sign was burned by Boaz Backus then brushed as part of the finishing process. Arlene Roe also helped with the finishing work. The planks for the sign and the log poles upon which it was mounted were donated by Waterman Mill. The poles were delivered to the site by Scott Mickelson and Todd Brager. Tim Scriven had the idea for the sign and coordinated the process of it being made by those involved.

Dick Scriven and Bill Baller assembled the sign. Using an 18 inch auger donated by Greg Smith of Greg's Rent-A-Tool, Jim Scriven drilled holes into the ground for the sign's poles. A boom truck was donated by Island Sand and Gravel for placing the sign into position with Jim Scriven, Keith Iverson, Dick Scriven, John Little, Bill Baller and Tim Scriven involved. All aspects of the endeavor were coordinated by Tim Scriven.

The fall of 1983 saw a number of fund raising events:

In August 1983, a second Orange Frosties booth was provided at the Island County Fair thanks to the giving spirit of many great volunteers who worked there. Tim and Georgia Scriven were the project coordinators.

In the fall of 1983, a Volks March was organized by June Bell and Ruth Rhodes. A large group of people of all ages participated in this march. The occasion was used to promote the community park and funds were raised for the park by those involved.

Also in fall 1983, Ron Lind coordinated the Langley Fun Run, sponsored by the Langley Chamber of Commerce and the South Whidbey Brokers Association. This was a huge success with many people involved. Each of the organizations publicized the community park with their event and donated a sizable amount of money to the park cause.

Then in November 1983, the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District was formed, with commissioners Dave Anderson, Steve Shapiro, Judy Yeakel, Jim Porter and Al Good. The accumulated efforts and achievements of those who gave to the acquisition of the park property and its development culminated in the establishment of the Parks and Recreation District by the voters. Voter approval for the District followed intense publicity emphasizing the work of the many volunteers, including the purchase/donation process used to acquire the forty-three acre site in 1981, several years of work achieved by volunteers whose accomplishments were spoken about at various civic organization meetings and many stories in the South Whidbey Record. The District did not receive tax revenue when it was first established and work continued entirely through donations until a levy

was approved in November of 1987.

1984

The approval by the voters of the Parks and Recreation District was followed by the dissolution, in January 1984, of the nonprofit organization, South Whidbey Recreation, and its assets were given to the newly formed South Whidbey Park and Recreation District. These assets included clear title to the forty-three acre South Whidbey Community Center site, half interest in a real estate contract that South Whidbey Recreation acquired from Help, Inc., and cash which had been received through donations and various fund-raising projects. Attorney, Ross Jacobson, donated his services to this endeavor.

Tim Scriven contacted retired teacher, Edith Buck, and asked her to utilize his notes to write the history of the park at that time. Edith had taught Second Grade at the South Whidbey Elementary School and then went on to write children's books during her retirement. The emphasis that Edith placed in the story was that the American Spirit was well represented by those who were responsible for building the park through donations of their professional time and money. Many civic organizations contributed greatly to the process. Along with Tim Scriven, Dorothy Gray also collaborated with Edith to write the story. Linda Colley and Bettie Hall donated their typing skills and Linda donated her office equipment to make copies of Edith's book, titled *The Birth of a Vision*. Copies may be found at the web site SouthWhidbeyHistory.org, along with many other historical pictures and documents depicting the history of the South Whidbey Community Park.

The information provided upon the South Whidbey Historical

Society's web site is due the efforts of Craig Williams who received the collection of historical park data from Tim Scriven. *The Birth of a Vision* is also available on Dr. James Talbot's Western Washington University web site, <http://faculty.wwu.edu/talbot/> Dr. Talbot's web site also provides additional information about the community park, including many additional pictures, that are complementary to this story.

In August 1984, the operation of another Orange Frosties booth was provided at the Island County Fair through the efforts of Anna Unum and the volunteers that worked with her. This was the third time that volunteers worked at the fair booth. Many thanks to all who made it a success!

1985

Tim approached the CEO of Pioneer Bank, Ralph Shapler, in February to discuss the community park project, and Mr. Shapler provided a check for \$1,000. Mr. Shapler said that he wanted Pioneer Bank to be part of something that was truly great in how it represented the community at large. Donations of money were given as a way of supporting the work that many professionals were doing to build a park complex that was for everyone to enjoy. Tim's approach was that once donors knew what had happened, what was going to happen and what the overall benefits of the park complex were they would want to participate. To further prove this Ralph Shapler and others were invited to write letters of endorsement for what was being achieved. President Ronald Reagan, Governors Booth Gardner and John Spellman, South Whidbey School District Superintendent, Art Jarvis,

and Island County Sheriff, Richard Medina wrote letters of support and encouragement for the park complex.

Tim's method of raising money and support always involved speaking to those at the top. For many years all fund raising, promoting and the implementation of needed projects were left up to Tim and those that he involved.

In March 1985 a raffle fund raising event was held with the winner receiving a logging truck load of firewood. The logs were donated by Margaret Waterman, and the logging truck was donated by Bradley Construction. Raffle ticket sales coordinator was Jeannie Babik of Tara Properties.



Raffle fund raiser - logging truck load of firewood.

April 1985 saw the first publication of CommUNITY News. Written by Tim Scriven, this was a newsletter featuring accomplishments, needs, projects and general information regarding the park. Linda Colley, owner of South End Office Supply, donated her time and ideas to the publication of the newsletter.

From the very beginning the South Whidbey Record was very instrumental in informing the community regarding the progress of

the park. Special recognition is given to the Editor, Jim Larsen. He always pretended to be reluctant as Tim Scriven approached him but in his heart, hidden from view, was great enthusiasm!

In August of 1985 the first application to the Seattle Mariners was made for the \$40,000 Boeing-Mariners Jr. Athletic Field Grant. Project coordinators were, Tim Scriven and Craig Dill. Approximately 500 South Whidbey residents attended the Mariner's game as Betty and Wally Lehman and Margaret Waterman were honored at the opening ceremonies of the game. Michael Helvey threw out the first pitch and Heather Bradley did a beautiful job singing the National Anthem. The South Whidbey Athletic Club that Craig was President of played a very large role in attaining the excellent turn out to the Mariners game. South Whidbey did not receive the grant but many families and community members enjoyed attending the Mariners game and a good sense of community support was realized.



Randy Stearnes (representing the Seattle Mariners), Swede Anderson, Hanford Thayer, Jim Larsen, Ken Bloom, Sandy Gage and Jim Porter. Being honored were Margaret Waterman & Betty and Wally Lehman. Michael Helvey threw out the first pitch.

1986

In January 1986, the South Whidbey Progressive Club was formed as a non profit organization that served as a booster club for improvements to the South Whidbey Community Center. Tim Scriven was the first to recognize the need for the type of vehicle which the South Whidbey Progressive Club provided and he organized its formation. A great deal of professional time was donated through the South Whidbey Progressive Club. Numerous projects were accomplished including construction of the log picnic shelter building, restroom building, playground site preparation, well installation with its pump house and construction of the athletic fields. All coordinated by Tim through the South Whidbey Progressive Club while working in cooperation with various civic organizations.



Garage sale/auction.

In June 1986, a garage sale auction was organized by Patty McGlenn and Georgia Scriven to benefit the South Whidbey Community Center. Local attorney, Doug Kelly, served as auctioneer.

Rob and Dorothy Mast sold their car for \$500 and gave the proceeds to the June 1986 auction effort targeted at supporting the ongoing volunteer projects at the community park.



Rob and Dorothy Mast- Donation of proceeds from the sale of their car.

In the summer of 1986, the South Whidbey Kiwanis club donated \$660 toward the purchase of shakes for the log picnic shelter and the well house at the request of Tim Scriven on behalf of the South Whidbey Progressive club.

Kiwanis members presenting a check for shakes for the pump house & picnic shelter.

Art Hyde, Paul and

Ed Sawyer are representing Kiwanis as they presented the check to Swede Anderson and daughter Star who represented the South Whidbey Progressive Club.



At all of the major work parties, food was donated by various restaurants and grocery stores in the South Whidbey community.

Other businesses donated needed items and cash for the purchase of construction supplies. In most cases Tim and Georgia Scriven participated in requesting the donations, rounding up the food and preparing it barbeque style.

On several occasions Dave Anderson provided salmon for all who attended. Often times Al Good, a retired Principal of the South Whidbey High School, worked at the barbeques as well. Most of the money raised for the Community Center projects was coordinated through the efforts of Tim Scriven on behalf of the South Whidbey Progressive Club.

In 1985, the Pool and Recreation Committee (P.A.R.C.) organized to plan the swimming pool and recreation building. The following year the P.A.R.C. group participated in the Maxwelton 4th of July Parade and generated interest and promoted the construction of a swimming pool and multipurpose recreation building.



*1986 4th. of July
parade, Pool
and Recreation
Committee
(P.A.R.C.)
members.*

1987—a very busy year!

The fund-raising for the community center complex involved a variety of organizations, businesses and individual donors, many of whom gave repeatedly over the years. As much as the needed money,

the promotional benefits of the fund raising events was of great importance to the spirit that motivated professional people to carry forward toward completion of the park site.

Fund-raising in 1987 included a gift from the Seattle Mariners of \$1,200 at the request of Tim Scriven on behalf of the South Whidbey Progressive Club. Then in May, the second annual South Whidbey Progressive Club garage sale was held. The sale was organized by Patti McGlenn and Georgia Scriven. Both individuals and businesses donated items for the event which proved to be a success.

In June, the South Whidbey Progressive Club received donations of a fireplace insert from Rich's Wood Stoves and Spas, a \$60 dinner from Fountain Court Off Main, a rhododendron from Gilbertson's, a shirt and hat from Tim and Georgia Scriven and a \$25 gift certificate from Hanson' Building Supply. A raffle was held and many people purchased tickets in support of the community park.

In the summer of 1987 Vicki Scott and Sandy Gage made a second application to the Seattle Mariners for their annual grant of \$40,000 for construction of a youth baseball field. The request was made on behalf of the South Whidbey Athletic Association in cooperation with the South Whidbey Progressive Club. South Whidbey was not chosen, but the interest and support generated was in itself of value toward maintaining enthusiasm for the ongoing development of the park complex.

Randy Stearnes came to the South Whidbey Community Center site to discuss South Whidbey's third application for the \$40,000 Jr. Mariners athletic field grant. Craig Dill and members of the South Whidbey Little League did most of the work which was involved in applying for the grant. Again, their effort was important because of the community spirit and interest that it helped generate although South Whidbey did not receive the grant.



Soroptimist wine tasting party.

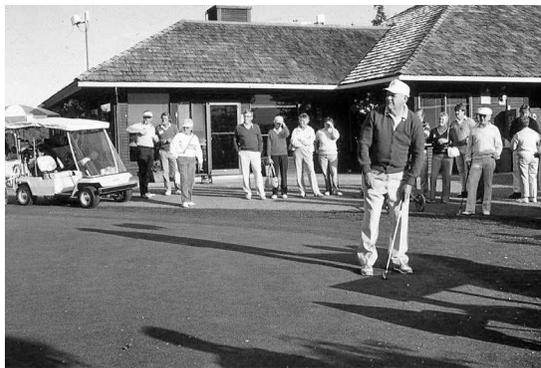
Virginia Bloom made a request to the South Whidbey Soroptimist Club in June of 1987 to do a wine tasting party as a fund raising event on behalf of the community park. It was held at Useless Bay Golf and Country Club and was very successful with a large turnout.

At the Choochokum festival in Langley during the summer of 1987 a joint venture of the Pool and Recreation Committee and the South Whidbey Progressive Club sponsored an Orange Frosties booth. The proceeds were to be used for park improvements. Georgia Scriven served as project coordinator.

Also in 1987 Delores Cobb, who was mayor of Langley at the time, was asked by Tim Scriven to help the South Whidbey Progressive Club raise money for building projects needed at the community park. Mayor Cobb conceived the idea for a golf tournament at Useless Bay Golf and Country Club. She then organized the event with Al Good. The tournament was an excellent fund raiser and provided additional publicity for park projects as well. About 40 donated items were received from local businesses for tournament prizes through the fantastic achievement of Al Good.



Delores Cobb and granddaughter.



1987 Useless Bay golf tournament.

November 1987. The South Whidbey Park and Recreation District receives voter approval of a levy providing \$100,000 per year for 5 years. Special thanks to Terry Snyder, Nancy Tomaso and Dave Anderson for their work promoting the levy. As was the case in 1983, with the passage of the formation of the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District, the accumulated donations of time and money invested in the continued development of the community park by a large number of volunteer professionals, civic organizations, businesses, and others contributed in a large way to the voters' approval of the levy. A letter to the Editor inviting voter approval was written and signed by Tim Scriven and Steve Shapiro. The letter (see Appendix) stated the Parks and Recreation District Commissioners commitment to a dimensional funding plan as had been supported by the community from the beginning when the forty-three acre site was being purchased and then during its development.

1988

Chain saw artist Pat McVay, who had already contributed a great deal to the South Whidbey Community Center project, suggested joining with other wood carvers in carving from a single log a bear family playing together. Several logs were donated by Waterman Mill, hauled from the forest by Jim Scriven and loaded onto Bradley Construction's trailer by Danny Waterman for delivery to Pat, who with the other carvers completed the Bear Family sculpture and donated it to the park.



Jim Scraven and Clint Scraven hauling cedar logs for the Bear Family carving.



Bear Family created by Pat McVay.

Fall 1988

Arthur and Dora Gabelein donated \$50 to purchase a gate which was placed at the entrance of the community center property to keep people from dumping garbage on the site and from driving cars on the athletic fields. The gate was erected by Tim Scraven and Chuck Hosmer. Greg's Rent a Tool donated the use of a post-hole driller and a lock for the gate.

Many of the local businesses gave money to the ongoing projects over the years, but the one who gave every time was Vic Hansen, owner of Hansen's Building Supply.

CHAPTER 3

CLEARING AND PREPARING THE LAND

The forty-three acre park site was acquired in Sept. 1981. Tim never stopped promoting the development of the park. Public speaking, newspaper articles informing the public as projects were accomplished, receiving letters of endorsement from community leaders, etc. Tim kept moving the project forward. The people who were responsible for the accomplishments that took place were appreciated and thanked. They were the source of inspiration for those who kept stepping forward to do their part as the development moved ahead.

For the most part, the Board Members of the nonprofit organization, South Whidbey Recreation, through which the land was received and much work was accomplished prior to the establishment of the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District agreed with and approved Tim Scriven's proposals for action, but it was not without conflict. There was not always a sense of collaboration and encouragement regardless of the remarkable results and the core reasons for building the South Whidbey Community Center. Board Member Dave Anderson was the exception to this in the beginning and Board Member, Al Good was also involved with many of the projects as will be mentioned further as the story is told. Then several years into the park's development, Kenny Bloom did a ton of work on the various building projects which will be shared in more detail later in the story. Kenny also served as a commissioner of the South Whidbey Parks & Recreation District.

Throughout the years another Parks & Recreation District Commissioner, Curt Gordon, was always involved during the initial

eight year development of the park complex at the heavy equipment work parties. Near the end of the park's development, Curt took on the role of project coordinator for finishing the southern most athletic field.

Despite the problems, much was accomplished and the community received the gift of a park complex which provided a venue for perpetual opportunities for interaction among the age groups. A venue for teaching, caring and positive experiences was achieved.

1982-1984

Now the planning moved to execution!

May 1982. Bob Moch donated a complete soils analysis of the forty-three acre Community Center site. Albert Gabelein donated his bulldozer and built four roads on the property which Bob utilized to gain access to locations throughout the property. A representative of the Island County Health Dept. was present to record the data from each of the thirty soil log holes.



Albert Gabelein working with his bulldozer.

*Volunteer Bob
Moch with his
backhoe.*



Dave Anderson was the first to bring his bulldozer to the park site for the purpose of removing stumps and slash. Johnny Gabelein transported Dave's bulldozer to the site and then Wally Lehman brought his bulldozer over to work with Dave. Their effort preceded the idea to invite the Navy Sea Bees and the concept of the Banner Days event which followed the eventual removal of the stumps by the Sea Bees. Both projects will be explained further later in the story.

Dave said that he didn't think that he could accomplish too much with his old machine but he wanted to plant a seed for the idea of people donating their equipment toward the park improvement effort. Dave then referred to his bulldozer as a "seed cat". The idea started by Dave and Wally along with donations of work by Albert Gabelein, Bobby Moch and Mike Shelton, who also donated equipment prior to Banner Days, all played an important role in its great success.

Wally and Dave tried working together with their machines to remove the stubborn stumps and after a short while Dave's cat broke down. Randy Bradley brought over his portable welding rig and Tim Scriven crawled under Dave's cat and made the repair. Randy donated his low-boy trailer and returned Dave's bulldozer for him.

What Wally and Dave did in 1982, proved that the Douglas fir stumps were too big for the volunteers to handle without damaging their machines and incurring expenses that were excessive for them. The work that the Navy Sea Bees did in June 1984, following the establishment of the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District, November 1983, was a pivotal accomplishment toward moving the development of the park forward. Our fledgling nonprofit organization could not have come up with the money for such a large and expensive job as removing thirty acres of stumps. The 1985 Banner Days event was possible and its success was largely a consequence of what the Navy Sea Bees did and the other work that preceded it.

Before receiving the commitment from the Sea Bees to remove the stumps, many people knew Tim Scriven must be a fool to keep trying to accomplish seemingly impossible things. He didn't argue this perspective but he never lost faith either. During periods of uncertainty it was like sledding uphill for days and weeks at a time for Tim. His quest to build a complex that would serve the age groups and benefit children was always on his mind.

In September 1982, Coach Carl Westling presented an idea for a jogging trail to Tim Scriven who then coordinated the project. The trail layout was done by Doug Alderdice. Bob Moch donated his bulldozer to build the trail through the forest on the south and east boundaries of the park. Many South Whidbey residents have enjoyed using the trail ever since including many high school track athletes, as Carl originally envisioned.

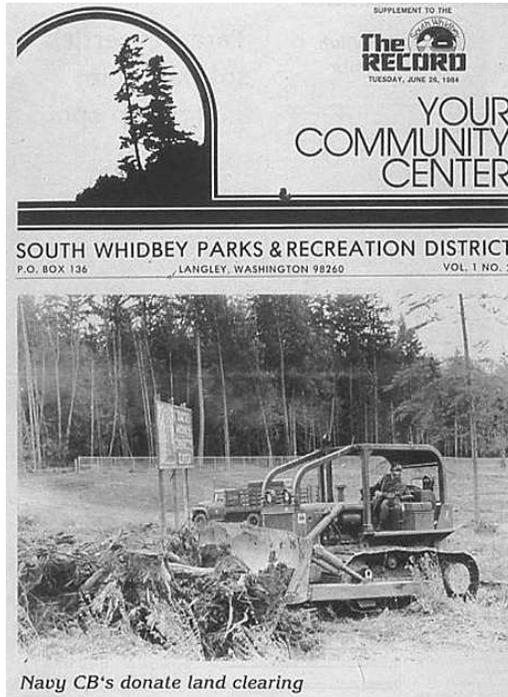
Now the land was ready to be cleared. Waterman Mill had logged the property in 1981 as part of the purchase/donation agreement.

Then in June 1984 the Navy Sea Bees from the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station removed the stumps and piled them with other debris for burning at the South Whidbey Community Center site.

The initial request to the Navy was made by Tim Scriven. Dorothy Gray and Dorothy McCann were invited by Tim to go with him to meet Capt. Langdon. When Tim followed the ladies into the Commanding Officer's office at the Naval Air Station in Oak Harbor he received instant credibility from the Captain. The two petite grandmothers captured the Captain's heart instantly. Without speaking a single word they accomplished what Tim alone could not have.

After a brief explanation of the reasoning behind the proposed park complex, Tim asked Captain Langdon to tell him the steps needed to be taken in order to gain his approval for the Sea Bees doing the work. Tim wrote the steps down as Captain Langdon stated them, the steps were followed and what had seemed insurmountable was accomplished as the large Douglas fir stumps were removed by CB Unit 417 in 1984.

The value of this accomplishment cannot be over stated. It got things moving forward again in a big way! From the stand point of the money that was saved to the community it was obviously very important. But, the Sea Bees work also provided lots of great publicity and interest which provided momentum for what needed to happen next. Everything explained in this story that happened before the Sea Bees, along with the work the Navy Sea Bees accomplished, brought more people to realize that the development of the park complex was achievable and many enthusiastically told their neighbors and friends.



CB unit 417 from the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station

1985

Banner Days: the first work party

March 1985 was the time of a weekend event that Tim Scriven named Banner Days. The name came from the expression, “it’s a banner day.” And, also from a desire to build a bridge between the service and civic groups in the community with those who donated their time and equipment during the event. To make the connection of support visual Tim invited the community organizations to display their banners on the equipment that was donated by private individuals and construction companies. From the beginning it was an objective of those building the park to provide exposure and appreciation for the many organizations that were historically

responsible for the comprehensive benefits to the community that they collectively and traditionally achieved.

The Banner Days event was fun for those who attended to observe the work and for those who participated. All of the projects that had been accomplished to that point contributed collectively to the remarkable work that the equipment owners and others came to do.

March 1985. A well was drilled by Joe Lehman at the request of Tim Scriven.



Joe Lehman drilling the well.

Joe donated his time and equipment and also sold the casing, drive shoe and screens at \$550.00 below his cost. Fund raising for the purchase of the materials was accomplished through the efforts of Tim Scriven. At Tim's request Joe provided him with a formal contract which Tim used to share Joe's generous contribution while Tim approached people for donations of money to be used for the hard cost items of the well.

The well that Joe Lehman donated his time and equipment to drilling during Banner Days was by itself a huge gift. It is possible that with so many contributions taking place they over-shadowed each

other to a certain extent. Hopefully, as people read this history they will stop for a moment and reflect on each individual contribution that was made.

The invitation to Joe to donate was made during a ferry crossing when Tim and he were traveling to the mainland at the same time. The contract stating what Joe agreed to do was signed soon after and Tim set out to raise the money for the hard cost items the very next week.

One of the things which greatly contributed to the success of the Banner Days weekend of work was the large quantity of salmon donated by Dr. Dave and Karen Anderson and prepared by Dave barbecue style. The salmon was complemented with lots of other food and drinks which Tim and his wife Georgia had gathered from local stores and restaurants that donated it. Those working ate as much as they wanted whenever they wanted. Imagine the healthy appetites that those working over the weekend produced. Al Good along with Tim and Georgia Scriven also helped with the duties of serving and preparing food and wherever else that was necessary.



Donors who contributed to the success of one of the first work parties where heavy equipment was used.



Harold Hagglund & Bob Windecker donated their equipment to clear the Community Center site and burn stumps and debris.

When the property was being purchased Wally and Betty Lehman donated \$2,000. Over the years their accumulated contributions to youth programs and many other community needs extended beyond any monetary value and in their honor an athletic field was named the Lehman field. Although Wally and Betty weren't mushy about it, it was easily recognized that they loved each other, and their love was shared with their five children and spilled over with kindness that presented itself in many ways to the people of South Whidbey.



Wally Lehman donated his bulldozer.



*Al Kittleson &
Harold Hagglund
and their
equipment.*

Randy Bradley and bulldozer.



*SWAA youth assisting with
the burning of debris.*

*Feeding the
troops.*



In August of 1985 Herb Hunt donated a copy of the conceptual drawing of the South Whidbey Community Center mounted on a Styrofoam board. Tim used the large 24" x 36" drawing to inform groups while promoting the development of the park during his public speaking engagements. Great appreciation is given to architect, Jon Thomas and his partner Tony Shults of the Quorum who created the conceptual drawing by utilizing the ideas and information that were approved at the board meetings.

1986

March 1986. Hanford Thayer donated his engineering services and developed a grading plan for the excavation of the northern athletic field. Later Hanford donated grading plans for the southern most athletic field and the other multipurpose fields. All along Hanford Thayer played a critical role in providing a wide variety of engineering services. Without the donation of Hanford's professional time, progress probably would have been stopped. He attended almost every meeting and was present for all of the work as it was done. Hanford always had a smile, always was kind to everyone and was always diligent in providing his engineering designs and in procuring the necessary permits. It would be worthwhile to contact the Island County Planning Dept. to procure a list of the engineering accomplishments that Hanford provided. Someone qualified for the task of assessing the cost value of Hanford's engineering contributions for 8 years could then be asked to make an assessment of his work on that basis.



*Hanford Thayer-
surveying for the
excavation of the south
athletic field.*

The Second Heavy Equipment Work Party

In March of 1986 a second work party was held on the park site for the purpose of building athletic fields and doing additional clearing. Many of those who donated their time and expertise at the Banner Days work party, the year before, came back to continue what they had started. New volunteers also joined in the effort. Ladonna Thorsen flew her airplane over the property and Harvey Friesen, Jr., took aerial pictures.



*Aerial photograph - LaDonna Thorsen pilot, Harvey Friesen Jr.
photographer.*

Donating expensive earth moving equipment is unheard of especially when many of those who donated it worked in competition with each other through their construction companies. The guys, along with Myrna Bradley, for the most part had very little free time as keeping their small companies afloat meant working weekends and evenings bidding future jobs, repairing and maintaining stuff and fighting what the government and weather might throw at them..... and on and on! There are many reasons for not giving, and there are many times when giving isn't possible. What took place is truly extraordinary.

During the March 1986 work party the guys worked all weekend having moved their equipment in the Friday before. The accomplishments that preceded the March 1986 event probably inspired and motivated them. Often the achievements of caring people create the inspiration and momentum for other good things to follow.

Leading up to the second work party, Tim Scriven had continued to arrange fund raising, publicity and to invite people to participate in various projects. He conceived the idea for a second nonprofit organization to be formed to replace South Whidbey Recreation which was dissolved once the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District had been established. The new organization was named the South Whidbey Progressive Club and was founded in Jan. 1986.

The new organization served as a booster club for the development of the park making it possible to continue the effort in the same manner as before. This was necessary because the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District did not have money to operate with when it was established. Two consecutive levies failed to pass by the frugal voters.

To demonstrate a broad base of support, many community leaders were named to the Progressive Club's Advisory Board. They were people who had supported the park effort in the past. Tim used tactics of all kinds in concert with each other to maintain momentum and credibility for the volunteer based development which was required for approximately 8 years as work on the park progressed.

Jack Siebert, owner of Tri County Surveying, had donated the topographic survey in Feb. 1984, which was an essential and invaluable gift to the project. Engineer, Hanford Thayer used Jack's survey to do the grading plan. Hanford designed the drainage plan as well as other engineering requirements and with the help of Tom Roehl, a planning consultant, acquired the necessary permits from the County. Electrical engineer, Jim Duncan, also worked with Hanford designing the electrical system for the park complex.

Tim was always utilizing momentum from past accomplishments to keep the ball rolling for what needed to be accomplished next. Seemingly things just happen by themselves, though the reality is that is not the case. Constantly informing the community through public speaking, the newspaper and word of mouth was important to maintaining momentum and good will for future accomplishments.



*Earth moving equipment
assembled on the southern
athletic field.*



*John Bradley and great-
grandson Ryan with Bradley's
turn-a-pull.*

*Feeding the
troops.*





*Work party donors
and volunteers.*

Third Heavy Equipment Work Party

The May 17-18, 1986 weekend work party focused on excavating approximately 8,000 cubic yards of soil for construction of the athletic field located near the southern portion of the forty-three acre park site. Randy Bradley took the initiative to speak with Tim Scriven and Hanford Thayer about the importance of doing additional work almost immediately after a large volunteer project using heavy equipment had been accomplished in March, just two months prior.

Randy took on the role of project manager and developed a plan with Hanford and then Randy called the volunteers who did the work. Tim promoted the project and raised money through the South Whidbey Progressive Club.

Those who came to donate their time and equipment had given in the past. Bradley Construction donated two bulldozers and a dump truck with Randy operating equipment, Myrna driving the dump truck and Mike and JT Madsen involved as operators. George Paris donated his bulldozer and Everet Peterson operated a bulldozer donated by Frank Todd. Bob Keys and Jerry Stonebridge donated dump trucks.

The South Whidbey Park and Recreation District was established without a tax base and the first two levies failed to win voter approval. An example of the community spirit which supported the work of the volunteers mentioned above, however, was displayed by the contribution that Nichols Brothers Boat Builders made in 1986 with the employees raising \$800 along with the company matching the employees' effort, for a total donation of \$1,600.

Robin Flem sent out 150 letters in August of 1986 promoting the community park effort and requesting contributions to the South Whidbey Progressive Club. Approximately \$500 was received in response to his effort.

A broad based support was promoted and the collective efforts of all involved carried the project forward without tax money being available for the first six years. It was the persistence of those who kept on getting work accomplished on a volunteer basis, that more than anything won the approval of the voters for the passage of the levy on its third attempt, along with a letter to the Editor of the South Whidbey Record promising a broad based funding concept that was approved by the Park and Rec. Dist. Commissioners.

Randy Bradley and Hanford Thayer were constant collaborators and partners of Tim Scriven. Tim could count on them for accomplishing work as the development of the forty-three acre site continued from project to project over the years. The three of them maintained a constant presence while conceiving, planning and organizing specific jobs. It never became a problem for one to contact the other. They were independently committed to building the park complex for their community for their own individual reasons. Yet, they were mutually dependent on each other for the results that they achieved project after project, year after year.

*Ladd Wilmoth
operating a bulldozer
donated by Stonebridge
Construction.*



*Pete Krogseng, George
Paris donating their
equipment with Joe Lehman
operating the Bradley's road
grader.*

*Mike Madsen operating the
Bradley turn-a-pull.*



*George Paris - dump truck;
Pete Krogseng – bulldozer;
Wally Lehman –bulldozer;
Mike Madsen - turn-a-pull.*



Al Good, Patty McGlenn, Georgia Scriven, Clint Scriven, Randy Bradley, Hanford Thayer.



Curt Gordon operating the road grader donated by Karl Krieg.

Finishing and planting the athletic fields

In the summer of 1986 the heavy equipment contractors had finalized the clearing and excavation work at the park site with their equipment and it was time to involve people in grooming the property in preparation for planting. Tim Scriven spoke to the South Whidbey Athletic Association regarding the process of picking up rocks, sticks and debris left over from the clearing and excavating. The coaches of the youth teams brought over their players after practice to help. About 150 children and adults joined together in the project.

To coordinate the site preparation and planting, Jim Hansen, a

landscaping specialist, donated his time. Many individuals also came out to help. Jim's leadership was very important to the success of the community effort.



Jim Hansen - project manager of the cleanup and initial planting of grass on the northern and southern athletic fields.

Volunteers clearing the site.



Susan Knickerbocker, Sandy Gage, Lynn Willeford and others.

Summer 1986 to 1989.

The finishing of the Community Park grounds

Spring 1987. Site preparation of the playground area required stump and slash removal by Jim Scriven who donated his time and bulldozer to the job. The idea for the location of the playground was given to Tim Scriven by Betty Lehman. Tim relayed the idea to Jim who took it upon himself to do the clearing and cleanup for what became a fantastic place for children to play.

The construction of the playground took place several years later and is one of the great achievements of community volunteers. Its story deserves to be told on its own, as it too was a great accomplishment in its own right.



*Jim Scriven and
niece Erika Scriven.*

In the summer of 1987 the northern athletic field was named Lehman Field in honor of Wally and Betty Lehman who donated countless hours to youth sporting activities for several generations of South Whidbey children. Chainsaw sculptors Dave Sipes and Pat McVay carved a likeness of Wally Lehman, “The Umpire” from a large log and donated it to remember Wally and Betty. “The Umpire”, was installed near Lehman Field and is an inspiration to us all. Wally’s

sons, Jim, Terry and Joe donated their time to improving and maintaining the field.

In the spring of 1988 sand was donated by Frank and Joan Todd and was hauled to the southern athletic field by Curt Gordon, George Paris and Pete Krogseng. Curt Gordon was coordinator for this project and for additional work that followed.



Frank and Joan Todd donated over 750 yards of sand and their bulldozer.



Curt Gordon dump truck and Randy Bradley road grader.

In the summer of 1988 volunteers installed the lateral drainage lines for the southern athletic field. Curt Gordon borrowed Karl Krieg's trencher for the project and Pete Krogseng donated the use of his backhoe. The pea gravel was hauled by dump truck operators, Myrna Bradley and John Johannsen. There was also a large turnout of

individuals who participated in providing the labor required by hand to install the drainage system. Food and drinks were donated and hamburgers were prepared barbeque style for those who attended.

Bill Bergthold donated his time and equipment to install the sprinkler system for the southern athletic field. The materials were purchased by the South Whidbey Park and Recreation District.



Bill Bergthold with his equipment installing the sprinkler system for the athletic field located near the south boundary of the park.



Curt Gordon, Hanford Thayer, Jim Porter, Ryan Porter, Pete Krogseng, and Bill Bergthold placing drain pipe in trenches.

On Saturday November 12, 1988 a volunteer work party was organized by Randy Bradley to excavate soil from a 30 ft. easement

leading from Maxwelton Rd. to the South Whidbey Community Center site. The easement was donated by Arthur and Dora Gabelein for ingress, egress and utilities to the Community Center.

Alongside the Gabelein easement is a second easement 40 ft. wide donated by the South Whidbey School District. The School District easement is a paved road which is available for the public to use for access to Community Park site. Legal services to acquire the easements were donated by Ross Jacobson. Pacific Northwest Escrow and Island Title participated cooperatively with Ross. Tim Scriven conceived the idea for the easement and negotiated with the property owners to arrange the agreement for it with them.

The South Whidbey Park & Recreation District paid Puget Power about \$21,000 to install underground power to the Community Center site. The work that the S.W. Progressive Club volunteers achieved was in preparation for the work that Puget Power accomplished afterward.

Curt Gordon, South Whidbey Park & Rec. Dist. Commissioner, asked Randy Bradley to organize the work party for excavating the soil from the Gabelein easement and Randy immediately thought of the need which the S.W. Eagles Club had for fill material at their new building site. The contractors and operators who donated their time and equipment did so knowing that two worthwhile community building projects would be accommodated at the same time from their work.

Those who participated were: Jim Scriven, dump truck; Greg Capes, dump truck; Curt Gordon, dump truck; Myrna Bradley, dump truck; and Everett Peterson and Tom Reynolds, operators of the excavator donated by Bradley Construction. A special thanks to Arthur and Dora Gabelein for donating the soil from their property to the South Whidbey Eagles. Eagle's members Bill Dunlap and Bob

Keys donated equipment at the Eagles site where the Eagles built their facility which has been serving the community for many years since.

Jim Scriven donated a treated power pole which he and Buck Walters installed at Maxwellton Road in the fall of 1986. This pole received the power line crossing over Maxwellton Road. The power line connects to the top of the pole and then runs down the pole where it enters the ground and travels from that point to the South Whidbey Community Center. Jim Scriven also put in many hours on his own, before the Eagles work party, excavating the Gabelein easement. A special thanks to engineer Hanford Thayer and electrical engineer Jim Duncan for their professional counseling and services.



Excavating the Gabelein easement.



Excavating the remaining portion of the easement donated by Arthur (Johnny) and Dora Gabelein.

Landscape professional Dan Lett donated his rock hound, tractor and hydro seeder to complete the cleanup, grading and planting of Lehman field. Dan agreed to seed the field early in the spring of 1989. The South Whidbey Park and Recreation District purchased the hydro seed mix which Dan used. Joe and Leland Long donated fertilizer from their chicken ranch for the fields and approximately \$500 worth of pellet fertilizer was purchased by the South Whidbey Progressive Club also for use on the fields.



Dan Lett.

Dan Lett's rock hound.

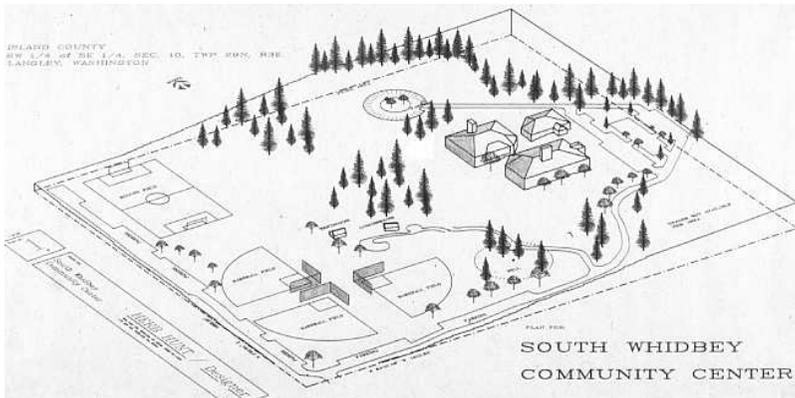


CHAPTER 4 THE BUILDING BEGINS

Now that the land was cleared, we could plan the buildings needed along with the systems that they and the athletic fields required.

In August 1985, Herb Hunt had donated the 24"x36" conceptual drawing of the South Whidbey Community Center having used his computerized equipment to draw it. We were now ready to proceed.

Tony Shults and Jon Thomas contributed the original conceptual drawing of the park complex to Herb. Because of the panoramic view of the Olympic Mountains looking to the west from the upper level of the park site's eastern location the buildings were planned to be in that area. Everyone visiting the park would have an opportunity to enjoy the magnificent mountain attraction while at the same time observe activities taking place on the athletic fields and playground below. A truly spectacular concept and must-do idea which the property itself was asking for!



The original conceptual drawing.

Building the Pump House 1986-1987

With the well having been drilled by Joe Lehman a pump house was needed to contain and protect the plumbing system above it. The Lions Club said that they would take responsibility for it and did so in a very timely manner. Our ever present engineer, Hanford Thayer, who was a member of Kiwanis Club, worked cooperatively with Lions Club members providing a design for the building and gaining the necessary permits.

Hanford had previously donated the engineering design for the park site's drainage system and a grading plan for the excavation of the athletic fields. He and planning consultant Tom Roehl acquired all of the necessary permits as projects moved forward. Staying with the development from the beginning to the end, Hanford Thayer's contributions were essential to eight years of successful achievements as the park complex became a reality for the South Whidbey community.

Following the drilling of the well by Joe Lehman, Bloom Construction, owned by Ken and Virginia Bloom, took responsibility for pouring the slab for the pump house. The work was done in cooperation with many of the same volunteers who also poured the slab for the picnic shelter building. Those working with Ken and Virginia were, Mark Meyers, Dave Johnson, Keith Iverson and Bill Rhodes. Whidbey Island Sand and Gravel donated the concrete and Greenbank Sand and Gravel donated the rock and sand for the mix.

Carpenters, Tom Permenter, Dave Johnson, and Dave Hershey, framed the building. The roof and siding were added by Lions Club members and the shakes were purchased by the Kiwanis Club.

The plumbing for the pump house was completed by Jim and Terry Lehman who donated their companies' equipment and materials to the project. The pump for the well was donated by Randy and Myrna Bradley and was installed by Jim and Terry.

An article about the construction of the pump house appeared in the Record. Over the years the South Whidbey Record continuously provided stories of the various projects as they were accomplished. Their articles, mostly written by Editor, Jim Larsen, were essential to the community spirit that was required to continue forward.

The fundraising for additional projects required continual publicity and promotion that was provided in a variety of ways in order for each endeavor to be successful. The focus was on appreciating those who were responsible for the accomplishments that took place and keeping the community informed. A sincere thank you was always given to people individually and collectively.

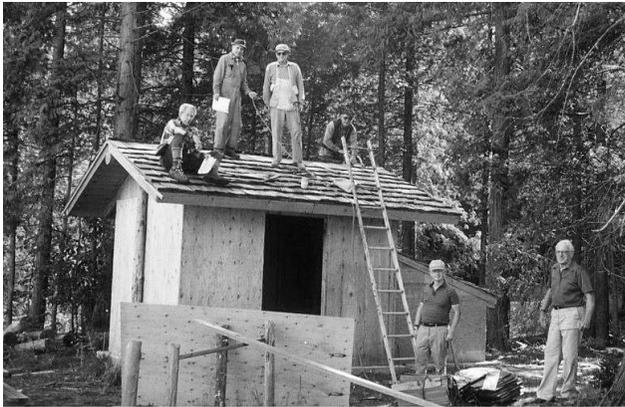
Approximately thirty years later this story is being written largely for the purpose of remembering and appreciating the events that were accomplished by the professional volunteers and those who raised the funds, etc. over an eight year period of time. This story is a continuation of the appreciation process!



*Pouring
concrete for the
well house floor.*



Dave Johnson, Tom Permenter and Chris Hershey framing the well house.



Lions Club members putting the shakes on the well house. The shakes were purchased by the Kiwanis Club.

**Summer 1986 to 1987.
Construction of the cedar log picnic shelter building.**

The need for a picnic shelter became apparent and so Tim Scriven initiated fund raising projects and requests for building it from those

who would be involved. Tim spoke to designer Herb Hunt and Herb donated a set of plans for a log framed structure.

As with all of the projects that were accomplished, many individuals helped in a variety of ways toward building the picnic shelter. Everyone's effort contributed to the momentum that was generated to keep the energy level high for additional needs that were required for future projects. In a word, synergism was nurtured and its benefits were procured.

Tim contacted engineer Hanford Thayer who utilized Herb's plans and then secured the building permit. Next, Tim spoke to Randy Bradley who donated his equipment to select, peel and move the logs to where the structure was to be constructed near the proposed playground area. Those who worked with Randy are remembered in the pictures taken by Tim Scriven that are provided.



Selecting cedar logs for the picnic shelter. Volunteers trimming and peeling the logs are: Randy Bradley, Bill Rhodes, Wally Lehman, and Hanford Thayer.

Bloom Construction poured the concrete slab with volunteers and Whidbey Island Sand and Gravel with Greenbank Sand and Gravel donated the concrete. When the slab was being poured steel brackets for the buildings vertical posts were set in place. The brackets were built and donated by Nichols Bros. Boat Builders, Inc.



Pouring the concrete floor are Dave Johnson, Jacob Bloom, Ken & Virginia Bloom, Hanford Thayer, Tim Scriven and Mark Myres; holding the float is Todd Dubach.



Finishing the concrete floor - Dave Johnson, Ken & Virginia Bloom, Mark Myres.

The log picnic shelter building was constructed in stages and took about a year overall to complete. The boards for the roof were donated by Waterman Mill and the shakes for the roof were purchased with a donation from the South Whidbey Kiwanis Club. Professional builders did the work and the craftsmanship was superb.



Randy Bradley with his tractor, Hanford Thayer, Ric Collins and Steve Backus.



Bill Rhodes, Ken Bloom, Ric Collins and Dave Johnson.



Placing boards on the roof of the picnic shelter are Don Hickson, Bill Arnold, Steve Hall and Jack Hall.



Kiwanis members presenting a check for \$660 for shakes for the cedar log picnic shelter and well house. Art Hyde, Paul and Ed Sawyer representing Kiwanis presenting the check to Swede Anderson and daughter Star representing the South Whidbey Progressive Club.



Dave Johnson is shown putting shakes on the roof of the picnic shelter.

The expertise of Ric Collins was critical to the superior quality of the work performed on the picnic shelter. Special thanks to Dave Johnson who can be credited as the project superintendent. Tim Scriven's role was to get the ball rolling for the project. He acquired funding and took care of the logistics and publicity. Then he worked

with Virginia Bloom and Georgia Scriven to provide refreshments for each of the work parties as work progressed.

As the project continued most of the previous volunteers returned to do the additional work and to see the project to the end. Don Hixson contributed a lot of work toward installing the building's roof, and was present at each work party throughout the entire roofing process.



Our first pot luck in the picnic shelter building. The man in the plaid shirt is Bill Sherod who donated \$2,000 toward Community Center projects.



Rock drinking fountain built by Jim Odle and Steve White.

Jim Odle and Steve White constructed the rock drinking fountain on the south side of the picnic shelter from plans donated by Hanford Thayer. Jim and Steve did the work at the request of Tim Scriven on behalf of the South Whidbey Progressive Club.

1987 Building the Restroom Building

In the spring of 1987 engineer, Hanford Thayer, spoke to Jim Scriven while Jim was clearing the area for the playground. Hanford asked Jim if he would excavate the site for the restroom building. Jim took his bulldozer over to where Hanford indicated the restroom building was planned to be constructed and he excavated the place for its location.



Jim Scriven donated his bulldozer to excavate the site for the restroom building. Hanford Thayer is on the left.

Next, Hanford worked with designer, Herb Hunt, and plans for the restroom building were created with a shake roof and log trusses to complement the picnic shelter building. Hanford then worked with Bob Moch on designing the drain field and planning consultant, Tom Roehl, acquired the permits. Each of those mentioned served on a volunteer basis.

The rough-in plumbing was installed by volunteer plumbers Scott Lincoln and Steve Carter.



Scott Lincoln & Steve Carter donated their time plumbing the restroom building.

Whidbey Concrete Construction, owned by Ken and Virginia Bloom took responsibility for building the forms and pouring the concrete slab floor with volunteers Mark Meyers, and Todd Dubach.

Mark Myres, Ken Bloom, and Keith Iverson pouring the restroom building slab.



Ken Bloom, Todd Dubach and Mark Myres pouring the concrete floor.

Tom Permenter, Joe Putnam, Ken Bloom and Tim Scriven delivered commercial grade steel door jams and installed them in their

respective locations. Next, masons Jim Odle and Tom Permenter worked with volunteer hod carriers to build the split block walls for the building. Jeff Carty, Joe Putnam, Ken Bloom, Tim Scriven and Curt Leroy worked to assist Jim and Tom. It required several work parties to complete the building's walls.



Jim Odle, Ken Bloom and Curt Leroy.

Jim Odle and Tom Permenter laying cement blocks.



Jim Odle, Jeff Carty and Joe Putnam.



Door jambs were put in place for the restroom building by Tom Permenter, Joe Putnam, and Ken Bloom.

Ken Bloom and Hanford Thayer coordinated additional projects including construction of the roof, installation of the interior plumbing and wiring and installation of the drain field that were required to finish the restroom building and make it functional. Some of the expenses for completion of the restroom building may have come from the proceeds of a levy which the voters of South Whidbey approved for the Park and Recreation District in November of 1987. The amount of money provided by the first voter approved levy was \$100,000 per year for 5 years.

While Tim Scriven continued promoting and managing the construction of the park complex by utilizing the methods that had been endorsed by the community from the beginning, he was not actively involved in the first two levies. On the third levy attempt Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Dr. Steve Shapiro, asked for Tim's support. Steve and Tim drafted a letter that was endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Dist. Board. A copy of the letter is included in the Appendix. It outlines the funding scheme that was represented by Tim Scriven for eight years as he directed the acquisition of the

forty-three acre site and its development. The letter supporting the levy was submitted to the Editor and was published in the local newspaper. It endorsed the concept of utilizing lease agreements and the other principles that had been accepted by the majority of those who built the park complex and donated to the acquisition of the property.

The levy committee's persistence, the assurances provided in the letter to the editor, along with the accumulated donations of professional time and money provided by individuals, organizations and through a variety of fund raising efforts, over the years, generated the necessary enthusiasm and support from the community for approving the levy. A portion of the levy money was used along with donated funding and volunteer labor to finish the restroom building and athletic fields, and to install water, drainage and underground power lines.

This concludes the history of the development that South Whidbey Recreation, the South Whidbey Progressive Club, and the accomplishments that numerous volunteers achieved from 1980 to 1989. Further development took place under the ownership of the South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District and the park complex continues to benefit the local citizenry.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Although a great number of people were involved in this project, three people in particular were my constant companions during the eight years that the forty-three acre site known then as the South Whidbey Community Center was being developed. They are Engineer Hanford Thayer, and Randy and Myrna Bradley of the Bradley Construction Company. Hanford donated his engineering services from beginning to end and Randy and Myrna Bradley donated their construction company's equipment. At work parties Randy would operate one of their bulldozers, Myrna usually drove a dump truck, Everet Peterson an excavator or road grader, and son Mike a bulldozer and various other machines, while their youngest son JT would also be involved wherever needed. The Bradley Construction workers and the other construction company operators worked together with great energy and smiles through the various weekend work parties after putting in too many hours on their paying jobs.

I could call Randy Bradley or Hanford Thayer at any time for their professional consultation and advice. They were both always encouraging and enthusiastic, which was critical to the eight year endeavor and the many projects that were accomplished as part of the overall development. Even though they were both extremely busy with their own business and personal affairs they treated the development of the park as if they were being paid at a premium although along with their donation of professional time they also incurred many out of pocket expenses.

I would also like to acknowledge the large groups who took part in the work parties, those who did the legal , escrow and title work, and who took part in all the fund raising projects with such great

enthusiasm. Each person who gave to the park project was very important. Each one is thanked and appreciated by inclusion in the story where the record and the pictures of their work are detailed. I believe all those who did the work will agree that without Randy and Myrna Bradley and Hanford Thayer the volunteer effort to build the South Whidbey Community Park would not have succeeded.

Although I kept pictures, notes, articles and documents for about twenty eight years hoping to someday write the history of the beginning years of the Community Park it would not have been written if not for Dr. James Talbot who invested numerous hours working with me as he edited the story and coordinated its development. He spent additional long hours with his computer organizing text with pictures and documents and has placed them onto his Western Washington University web site until a permanent location can be found.

Dr. Talbot is also the one who came up with the idea for writing a book about the park's beginning years and he was instrumental in accomplishing many of the things that were required in writing the book with me. At the age of 80 years he continues to pursue additional community projects with the hope that others may benefit from them.

In the case of the story about the South Whidbey Community Center, Jim and I hope that it will serve as an inspiration to those who are engaged in civic endeavors of their own and that the ideas used in building the park will be of value to projects that are being achieved wherever caring people are involved serving the needs of their community.

Craig Williams put my collection of pictures and documents onto the South Whidbey Historical Society's web site that provided the

basis for this story written with Dr. Talbot's assistance. Craig's appreciation of those who built the original forty-three acre community park and his subsequent involvement inspired me to move forward with the documenting of this historical record.

Timothy D. Scriven

APPENDIX: A SELECTION OF DOCUMENTS
PERTAINING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
SOUTH WHIDBEY COMMUNITY CENTER.

Waterman Mill Co., Inc.

- Phone 321-4532
- Box 325
- Langley, Wash. 98260

February 27, 1981

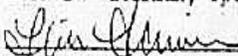
Option To Buy

I, Bernard Waterman, agree to sell to South Whidbey Recreation, Inc. the following property. The SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 10-Twn 29N Range 3E

The price will be \$30,000 cash and the South Whidbey Recreation, Inc. agrees to pay the penalty taxes on Forestry Designation taxes. This option is secured by \$1.00 and will expire May 1, 1981.



Bernard Waterman, Optionor



Tim Scrivens, Optionee

Option Agreement for purchase of park site

**The 48 Charter Members and Contributors of South
Whidbey Recreation**

CHARTER MEMBERS \$250.00

Vic & Carol Hanson
Mike & Marla Shelton
Jim & Carrie Porter
Bruce & Cindy Groom
Tony & Jeanie Shults
Berry & Dana Brown
Jack Barrett & family
Dennis & Debra Smith
Jim Maynard
Father Royer
Robert & Demaris Whitehead
Tim & Georgia Scriven
Wayne & Linda Tippery
Al & Peg Good
Ric Prael
Scott & Carol McNeil
Steve Shapiro & Debra Valis
Herman Cortez
Dave & Karen Anderson
Terry & Becky Galvin
Bruce & Judi Anderson
Ed & Sandy Butler
Vic & Anne Primavera
Bill & Donna Hanson
Earl & Louise Smith
Steve & Wanda White
Bob & Jane Grebil
Martin & Phillis Schmidt
Judy Yeakel
Stan Gabelein
Stefano Carosi & Pat O'Neill
Emil & Gladys Gabelein
Mrs. Busch
Hanford & Lois Thayer
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Murray
Universal Life Church
L and T Associates
Nichols Brothers Boat Builders Inc.
Island Theater

Betty M Harris
 Mary Renwick
 Rick & Ronnie Schroeder
 Richard & Dianne Delmonte
 Jean Rowe
 William & Ida Baller
 Terry & Sue Hansen

LIFE MEMBERS \$2000.00

Wally & Betty Lehman

Conservative Timber Valuation

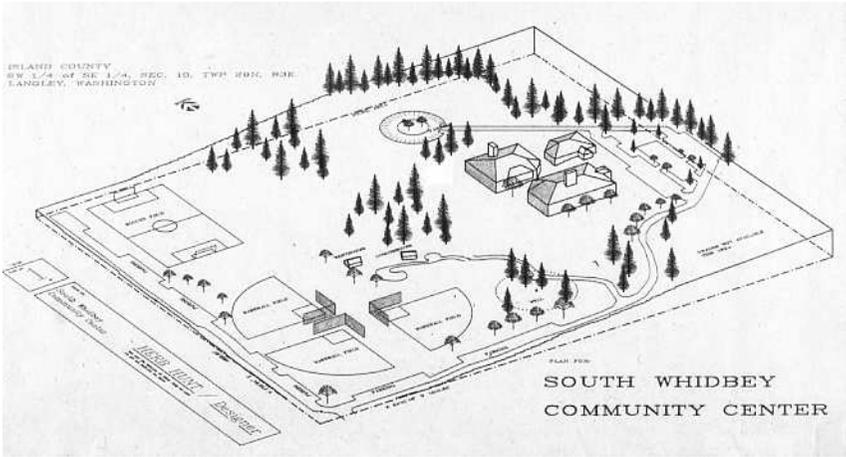
40 ac 50 ccf DF

$$\begin{array}{r} 50 \\ \times 40 \\ \hline 2000 \text{ ccf } \text{Tim} \\ + 60 \text{ (70)} \\ \hline 12000.00 \text{ ccf with removal in CC} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 12000 \text{ ccf} \\ \times 100 \\ \hline \$120,000 \text{ believed value} \\ \quad \quad \quad .25\% \text{ stumpage} \\ \hline 2800000 \\ 720000 \\ \hline \$72,000.00 \text{ stumpage value} \end{array}$$

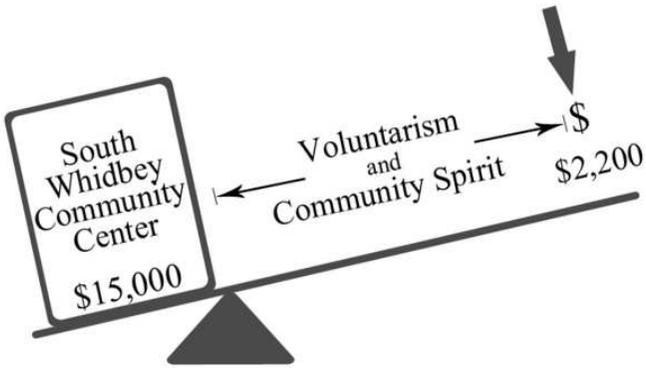
Orvin A Tveit
 Weyerhaeuser Forester
 4-14-81

Orvin Tveit's Timber Cruise



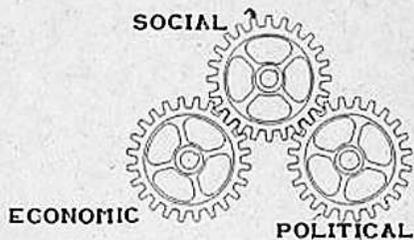
Conceptual Drawing

Leveraging Money



© Tim D. Scriver, 1985

Leveraging Money Drawing



The social, economic and political elements of the community are interwoven. Consequently, when one element is improved the other elements are also improved.

For example, positive interaction leads to communication, understanding, knowledge and cooperation. These fundamental skills give a community the ability to represent itself politically. Less money will be spent rehabilitating people and rebuilding or replacing things otherwise damaged. The community will attract people who are positive and constructive. Well planned facilities will provide the community with an opportunity to put on tournaments and special events which will stimulate tourism and bring in outside funds aiding the economy of South Whidbey.

Timothy D. Scriven

© Copyright 1985
Timothy D. Scriven

Social, Economics & Political Elements Drawing



B & W Drilling

Joe Lehman, Owner and Operator



WELL DRILLING CONTRACT

This Agreement made _____, 19____
by JOE LEHMAN, d/b/a B & W Drilling Company, herein referred to as "Driller" and

Sarah W. M. P. R. E. and A. J. E.

Husband

Wife

herein referred to as "owner". WITNESSETH:

That the Owner has hired the Driller to drill a water well on their property at 1 M. B. Lee
In Island County, Washington.

It is understood that the well is to be drilled at a site to be selected by Owner, who shall have the right to stop Driller at any time after hole has reached 35 feet, provide payment in full is made for the drilling done to that date. Driller is authorized to discontinue drilling whenever he has reached an adequate amount of water, or whenever he is convinced drilling further will result in a dry hole, that usable water will not be obtained or if a structure encountered makes drilling further impossible, in his opinion. Driller makes no warranties as to the quality or the quantity of water.

OWNER agrees to payments as follows:

\$ 197 ^{Drill 11" PER FT. To Rec 135A} per foot drilled, including 6 inch casing;

\$ 750 for strainer, plus a minimum of

\$ 100 for installation;

\$ 150 for drive shoe;

\$ 150 for ecology casing seal.

\$ _____ misc.

Payments to be made by OWNER as follows:

\$ _____ down payment;

\$ _____ balance due on completion of well drilling.

Owner agrees to be liable for the full amount until paid and if not paid as agreed, for 12% per annum interest on unpaid amounts until paid. Owner acknowledges that, pursuant to RCW Chapter 60.04, a lien against Owner's property may be filed for labor and materials, unless amounts due are paid in full.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, our signatures the date first above written.

OWNER:

Husband

Wife

Street City State Zip

DRILLER:

Joe Lehman

d/b/a B & W Drilling Company
Freeland, Washington

4007 E. Deer Lake Rd.
Clinton, Wa. 98236

321-4016
Home Phone: 321-1400

Joe Lehman's Contract for Drilling the Well



Administration Center
4111 230th S.W.
P.O. Box 14
Lynnwood, WA 98046
Phone: 771-1525
Seattle: 622-5865

Ralph V. Schapler
Chairman

August 22, 1986

Mr. Tim Scriven, President
South Whidbey Progressive Club
P O Box 444
Freeland WA 98249

Dear Tim:

As you requested, we are enclosing our check for \$500 for your continued work on the South Whidbey Community Center of which we have been a contributor in the past.

These funds may be used for your continued work as outlined today in finishing the areas such as the ball field that you and your group have been developing the past several months.

We wish you much success in this project and are pleased to be a part of such a worthwhile project for your community.

Sincerely,

PIONEER BANK

Ralph V. Schapler

RVS:rv

Enclosure

Ralph Schapler's Letter From Pioneer Bank

Endorsement Letters
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 6, 1983

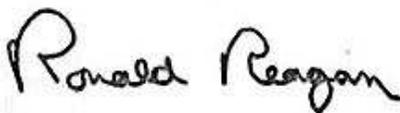
Dear Mr. Scriven:

Word has come to me of your remarkable volunteer efforts on behalf of your community. I understand as the founder of South Whidbey Recreation, you are the driving force behind the building of a community center where the young and old will come together and share their talents and experiences.

Your efforts and the efforts of everyone involved in this project reflect the best American spirit of voluntarism and goodwill. I commend your fine example.

My best wishes for every success, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mr. Timothy Scriven
1226 E. Bush Pt. Road
Freeland, Washington 98249

President Reagan's Endorsement Letter



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OLYMPIA
08504-0413

BOOTH GARDNER
GOVERNOR

May 13, 1985

Mr. Tim Scriven
South Whidbey Community Center
5106 South Coles Road
Langley, WA 98260

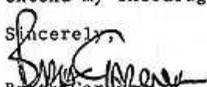
Dear Tim,

Mrs. Bacon has made me aware of the ambitious project you are involved with in Langley. Your efforts on behalf of your community are to be commended. Mustering local resources and volunteer participation to provide services for the citizens of the area is to be applauded. Everyone who has taken part in your work days and in the planning of the South Whidbey Community Center deserves the highest congratulations.

I wish you every good luck in each step of the process as you build not only a community facility, but community strength through cooperation and hard work toward a single purpose.

I will keep apprised of your progress through Mrs. Bacon. I extend my encouragement and support to you all.

Sincerely,


Booth Gardner
Governor

/d

Washington State Governor Booth Gardner's Endorsement
Letter

DAVID F. THIELE

Prosecuting Attorney of Island County

David L. Jamieson, Jr., Deputy
Alan R. Hancock, Deputy
H. Clarke Harvey, Deputy
William H. Hawkins, Deputy

COURTHOUSE
COUPLVILLE, WASHINGTON 98239
(206) 678-5111
(206) 678-4011 (AFTER HOURS)

October 20, 1983

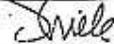
South Whidbey Recreation
P. O. Box 329
Langley, WA 98260

Gentlemen:

Mr. Tim Scriven has described your plans for a South Whidbey Community Center and has asked for my comments. As I understand it, your organization, together with other civic organizations and members of the public, through cooperative efforts, hopes to build a multi-use community and recreation center on South Whidbey Island. Land which could be used for this purpose has already been acquired from the late Mr. Waterman. I want to point out that the establishment of a park and recreation district could facilitate the establishment and running of the complex you envision. The district could work cooperatively with private organizations and enter into a variety of agreements with them to facilitate funding and operation of the center.

As you know, the Island County Board of Adjustment has already made certain rulings concerning taxes which have the effect of reducing the taxes on the real estate, which should help in the establishment of the community center. I wish you well in your endeavor to establish this center, which should benefit the entire South Whidbey community. Please let me know if I can be of assistance to you.

Very truly yours,



DAVID F. THIELE
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DFT:kk

cc: Mr. Tim Scriven

Island County Prosecuting Attorney David Thiele's
Endorsement Letter



November 1, 1962

Tim Scriven
South Whidbey Recreation
Box 756
Freeland, Washington 98249

Dear Tim:

This letter is written to fully endorse South Whidbey Recreation, its immediate future plans, and its long-range objectives. It represents the fulfillment of dreams of many South Whidbey residents going back almost half a century.

This program will strengthen the community in many ways beyond the immediate recreational needs obviously served. The impact of different individuals and interests pulling together, shouldering the burden and solving the immediate problems will aid better understanding and demonstrate that our differences are really of minor importance.

South Whidbey Recreation represents a unified effort that will improve our community, and make it a shining example to other communities which have not yet the vision and the energy — and the leadership — to step forward as we have.

Sincerely
Jack Metcalf

WA. State Senator Jack Metcalf's Letter



R.R. Medina
SHERIFF

Office of

ISLAND COUNTY SHERIFF

P.O. Box 960 • Coupeville, Washington 98239
(206) 678-4422 or 321-5111

October 21, 1985

Tim Scriven
5106 South Coles Rd.
Langley, WA 98260

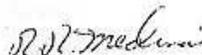
Dear Tim,

I have been following your progress with regards to the South Whidbey Community Recreation Center. I would like to offer my congratulations. Your relentless efforts seem to be paying off and I am certain, will "pay off" in the form of community activity for many years to come.

As the Chief Law Enforcement Officer for Island County, I would like to congratulate all of the volunteers who so generously donated their time, financial help, and plain hard work to help you get this most worthwhile program in motion. This is the type of project that shows what a community such as ours is really all about.

Please keep me advised of any assistance this office may be to you.

Sincerely,


R. R. Medina
Island County Sheriff

RRM/sc

Island County Sheriff Richard Medina's Endorsement
Letter

South Whidbey Consolidated School District No. 206

P.O. Box 346
Langley, Washington 98260

Dr. John R. Kinsley
Superintendent
321-8100
Douglas A. Comer
Principal
South Whidbey High School
321-4300
Dana M. Brown
Principal
Langley Middle School
321-5100
Gaylord Lughland
Principal
South Whidbey Elementary School
321-5265

October 8, 1985



Tim Scriven
5106 South Coles Rd.
Langley WA 98260

Dear Tim:

I enjoyed our recent opportunity to discuss the plans for the South Whidbey Community Center. Thank you for taking the time to stop by and share the information with me.

On behalf of the South Whidbey School District, I would certainly like to extend our support for your efforts to develop the community center. The center would appear to offer an outstanding program for the people in the South Whidbey area. With the site adjacent to South Whidbey High School, the opportunity should exist for us to work closely together to build even more offerings for the youth and adults in the community.

Please keep me informed of your plans as the community center progresses. I wish you the best in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Arthur O. Jarvis,
Superintendent of Schools
South Whidbey School District No. 206

cas

An Equal Opportunity Employer

South Whidbey School Dist. Superintendent Art Jarvis'
Endorsement Letter



Soroptimist International of South Whidbey Island
P.O. Box 817
Langley, WA 98260

South Whidbey Progressive Club
Mr. Tim Scriven

Dear Tim,

Soroptimist Int. of South Whidbey Island were so pleased to have such an impressive presentation at our recent program meeting and were happy to support your efforts with the purchase of raffle tickets.

We have many community goals in common and would like to consider some long range support for the community center. There are so many needs for our little community that can be filled through your project. We stand behind you one hundred percent.

We hope to see all the service groups such as Soroptimist get behind the project and together we can and will see the fulfillment of this idea. With the support of the people such as you are receiving, this will truly be a 'community' center.

Sincerely,

Virginia

Virginia Bloos
Cor. Sec.

Soroptimist International of South Whidbey Island

South Whidbey Soroptimist Club's endorsement letter.

Other letters of support and contributions

March 16, 1986

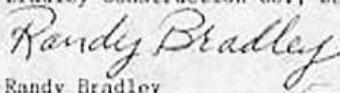
To the people of South Whidbey;

Our family would like to give thanks to all the people, volunteers, and contributors, which have made the South Whidbey Community Center possible.

In the past year, we have helped in making decisions, clearing stumps and burning debris on the land for the creation of this project. Our family will benefit not only in a learning experience, but also by having a lot of fun working towards the completion of the project.

We have donated our business experiences and heavy equipment towards this project. In the future we would like to assure the completion of the South Whidbey Community Center by donating more of our time and construction equipment for the project. We hope that many others will join us and share in the community spirit.

Randy, Myrna and family,
Bradley Construction Co., DBA



Randy Bradley

Randy Bradley's Letter

Licensed Professional Engineer **HANFORD THAYER, P. E.** Planner and Consulting Engineer
5674 S. McDonald Drive
#202
Langley, Wa. 98260

In Reply Refer To:

January 24, 1986

Island County Parks and Recreation Commission
Attention: Mr. Tim Scriven
5601 South Coles Road
Langley, Washington 98260

Gentlemen:

In the past couple of years I have assisted the recreation project in several ways and I wish to continue to do so. I am a licensed professional engineer and designer in the State of Washington and in my experience have covered all phases of the engineering profession as project manager and project coordinator. Therefore, I am offering my continued services to the recreation project known as the South Whidbey Community Center.

In addition, you may use my name in any of your endeavors.

Sincerely,
Hanford Thayer
Hanford Thayer, P. E.

Hanford Thayer's letter

January 26, 1986

Hanson's Building Supply, Inc.
2863 E. Verlane St.
Langley, Washington
98260

Tim Scriven, Chairman
South Whidbey Progressive Club
P.O. Box 444
Freeland, Washington
98249

Dear Tim:

This letter is to confirm our continued support of the South Whidbey Community Center. Your organization can depend on Hanson's Building Supply, Inc. to sell materials at cost for the items that you will require for the development of Phase I of the Community Center.

We appreciate all those who are involved in this project which will become a focal point of activity for all ages of people in the South Whidbey Community.

Victor E. Hanson
Victor E. Hanson

Vic Hanson's Letter

May 10, 1985

To The Editor:

There has been some disagreement and confusion regarding the best way to finance construction of play fields and other facilities at the South Whidbey Community Center. Such disagreements are inevitable in any project of this scope. We believe that all of the following are important complimentary components of a balanced funding program for the Community Center:

1. Donations of time, money, equipment, materials, and professional expertise.
2. User fees for some facilities.
3. Income from tournaments and other special events.
4. Public and private grants.
5. Lease agreements with appropriate organizations.
6. Support from the entire community in the form of modest tax levies and/or bond issues.

The South Whidbey Park and Recreation District and the groups and individuals who have worked so hard to make the Community Center a reality are pledged to follow this balanced approach to funding that leverages every tax dollar to the fullest.

The concept of a Community Center is base on participation, cooperation, and volunteer effort by the widest possible spectrum of ages and interests within our community. The combined value of land, time, and money donated already can be conservatively estimated at \$220,000. That spirit will remain the foundation upon which we will continue to build.

We have the momentum to complete work on the ball fields this summer. Passing the May 21 levy will provide the funds needed for diesel fuel, drain pipe, see or sod, sprinklers, bleachers, landscaping, snackbar, playground, swings, etc. It will also enable us to plan and partially finance future development at your Community Center. Passing this levy of 15¢ per \$1000 will go a long way toward making this dream a reality.

Let's prove that our little community can conceive and complete a big project without outside help. We can all be proud of what's been accomplished. Let's finish what we've begun. Vote YES on Tuesday, May 21.


Tim Scriven


Steve Shapiro

Levy endorsement letter to editor