



## 2016 Accomplishments

*Building a resilient community  
with a reduced reliance on fossil fuels*

### 7th Generation Supper Presentations

550 people participated in our 7<sup>th</sup> Generation suppers in 2016; that's an average of 50 per supper. In September, partnering with the Skagit Science Consortium, we began a series of presentation called "Times of Change," inviting local experts to spark communities conversations. It will continue into 2017.

- What Skagitonians Think About Climate Change: Carol McIlroy
- The Anacortes Community Energy Challenge: Jensen Lovelett
- A Well-Framed Climate Change Message: Susan Wood
- "Food for Thought" Panel Discussion on local food resources
- Spring Fling
- *The Case for Climate Change*: Al Gore movie
- Anacortes 2016 Comp Plan Update: Liz Lovelett
- *Easy Like Water*: a film about Bangladesh and climate change
- From Glaciers to the Estuary: Climate Change Impacts on Water in Northwestern Washington: Roger Fuller, Jon Reidel
- Fire in the Anacortes Forest Lands: Chief Richard Curtis
- *Eating Alabama*, a movie about eating locally

### Food Projects

- *Anacortes Community Gardens*.
  - We have 22 gardeners, plus regular participation from about 10 Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts
  - We have had 100% occupancy at the 29th Street garden since its inception. We currently have four people on the 2017 waiting list.
  - In 2017, we gave 585 pounds of food to local food banks.
  - We logged 278.25 volunteer hours at the garden.
  - Approximately 450 students participate in the Mt. Erie Elementary school garden every year.
- *Fidalgo Island and Guemes Gleaners (FIGG)*:
  - Total number of gleans in 2016: 84
  - Total amount of fruit picked and distributed: 8,849 pounds of apples, pears, grapes, plums, and figs
  - Fruit was distributed to the local food banks, Anacortes Family Shelter, churches, community dinners, Food to Go program, Senior Center, tree owners, and local families.
  - Average time per glean: 30-40 minutes
  - Total number of volunteers: 46 (including children)
  - Estimated time of starting in 2017: June/July

- *Seed Exchange*: Our second annual seed exchange was held January 3<sup>1st</sup>, 2016, at the Senior Activity Center, and attended by 80 people.

**Began a support group** to help people feeling overwhelmed by the current state of the world process their feelings and discern appropriate actions to take.

**Skagit Community Solar Projects.** Community Solar is a program set up by Washington State to encourage people to buy shares in systems to be installed on public facilities. In 2016, Skagit Community Solar had five projects in Anacortes and LaConnor that produced more than 100,000 kw-hrs of electricity. The 74 members sponsoring these projects received incentive payments at \$.94/kw-hr, which is a reduced rate due to over-subscription of the Washington renewable energy incentive program. However, the stellar production from our community solar projects more than compensated for the reduced payment rates.

**Transition Skillshare Series.** This was our fifth year offering free community workshops to help people learn skills to create sustainable lifestyles. This year, we held 18 workshops in partnership with the Anacortes Library. 397 people learned about topics like mushroom identification, fermenting food, making medicinal teas, seed-saving, sourdough, garden insect control, water-wise gardening, tool sharpening, treating allergies naturally, and more.

**Fix-it Days.** These events help restore broken items, reduce the quantity of waste going to landfills, and provide funds to Deception Park State Park. Ten volunteers staffed the Fix-It Day and Deception Pass Foundation booths at the Depot, helping over 40 people with repairs. Many brought multiple items to be repaired. Fix-It Days generated approximately \$1000 in donations to support the Deception Pass Park Foundation. Reduce, REPAIR, re-use, recycle!

### Special Events

- *The Hidden Half of Nature*, an author presentation/book signing by David R. Montgomery and Anne Bikle.
- 2016 Energy Fair: In March 2016, Transition Fidalgo & Friends partnered with Anacortes' Georgetown University Energy Prize (GUEP) Taskforce to organize and present the second Annual Energy Fair. Presentations covered a broad range of topics, from energy efficiency to net zero energy homes to installing solar-generated electricity. Over 15 vendors participated in this event to provide attendees with hands-on information about products available to help conserve energy in their every-day lives. The goal of the GUEP competition is to encourage the participating cities and communities to develop and adopt energy-conserving programs with the intent of encouraging other cities and communities around the country to follow their lead.

**Sustainability Awards.** TF&F's awards recognize those in our community who take action to protect our environment. Local dentist Dr. Sarah Hill was recognized for her energy stewardship in designing a new building, and 7<sup>th</sup> grader Lucy Shainin for her cupcake sales to support environmental programs.

### Grant Program

In 2016, TF&F launched four grants awarding more than \$5000 annually to local people sharing our goals and values: the Anacortes Business Incubator Grant, the Anacortes School System Grant, a local Student Scholarship, and TF&F Member Project Grants. The first Business Incubator grant was awarded to Woven Dreams, the Anacortes food co-op, and enabled them to purchase refrigeration units.

**Produced *The Catalyst*, an Online Climate and Energy Info Newsletter:** 12 issues. Reader comments include:

- *It puts all those stories in one place so I can delete all the other stuff that comes into e-mail.*
- *I believe receiving this information is important. Especially useful is information pertaining to our county and state. Thanks for putting the time and energy into writing this.*
- *It's like one-stop shopping, allowing me to stay informed on climate/energy issues so I can invest more time in researching and practicing sustainability in my home, garden and work place.*
- *I think this is an excellent compilation of climate science and policy.*
- *One of the best newsletters I receive. I often pass it on to others.*
- *I can depend on the Catalyst for objective information . . . somewhat scarce from other sources these days!*
- *It is so thought provoking and has a good selection of informative writings.*

Help us do even more!

We are a hard-working, all-volunteer, 501c3 organization with little time to fundraise.

*Become a member by visiting our website at [transitionfidalgo.org](http://transitionfidalgo.org)  
(click the Join Us! tab)*

***Thank you for your support and participation!***