

Lummi Island Work Group Members – Brief Bios

(Whatcom County Ferry Working Group)

- **Bob Anderson (Moderator)** – Career health care and senior living executive (Ret.); Founder and Board member of Wider Horizons a virtual village for Seattle older adults who desire to remain in their homes sustained by a social network and supportive services; Consultant specializing in strategic planning and board governance to non-profit/public service organizations, such as the Lummi Island Heritage Trust and Western WA University
- **Charles Bailey** - Agricultural Economist and public policy specialist; 33 years as a grant maker overseas with the Ford Foundation; LIFAC member 2016-2022, Vice chair 2021; Climate Impact Advisory Committee member 2022-present, Secretary 2023.
- **Rhayma Blake** – M.B.A. in Marketing; career in advertising, product development and marketing; volunteer leader in various neighborhood associations and advisory committees; leadership roles in Episcopal and Congregational churches, including Administrator of LI Congregational Church; created mission statement for LIFAC and served for six years, the final year 2022 as Chair.
- **Peter Earle** - Semi-retired civil rights and election law lawyer dedicated to enforcing the rights of working people and holding accountable those who abuse authority. His practice focuses in the areas of civil rights, gerrymandering, and lead poisoning. Since moving to Lummi Island in 2015 Peter has become active in the local community including as a board member of the Lummi Island Heritage Trust.
- **Rich Frye** – PhD (Marine Resource Economics), retired professor in Environmental Studies from Western Washington University with decades of academic and personal interest in long term resource impacts; former U.S. Navy member with many years of small boat sailing experience. Rich operates one of the small businesses on the island, Artisan Wine Gallery, where he meets many island visitors. He currently is a member of LIFAC.
- **Pam Gould** - Registered Nurse, BSN-C, PeaceHealth, retired; Community health worker and advocate; Leader of the LI Health and Wellness Resources Committee.
- **Diane Harper** – Career working for engineering firms, the state of Arizona, the Whatcom County Planning Department, followed by a stint with King County Metro Transit. Diane was appointed by the Whatcom County Council to the Lummi Island Ferry Citizen's Task Force in 2011; Diane has been active in multiple island organizations for many years, currently serving as treasurer for the Friends of Island Library. Diane is primarily doing the analysis of the ferry financial data that Public Works has provided.
- **Janice Holmes** - Attorney, experience as both a trial attorney and in an appellate capacity. Currently a small business owner, a micro bakery, licensed by the State of Washington under the Cottage Home Food Production law for the past 7 years. Past professional and education experience includes work in the field of outdoor resource management and an MS in Outdoor Recreation Planning. Former board member and chair of Lummi Island Heritage Trust
- **Marissa Ourada** - A pregnant mom who joined the Work Group to learn more about ferry issues with the hopes of advocating to keep the ferry affordable for everyone; serves on the

Scenic Estates social committee organizing fun family events; active in community volunteering having served as a PTA leader.

- **Myra Ramos** – Myra retired from Harvard Medical School as Associate Dean for Educational Services. She is a community leader of progressive causes; active in local and state politics.
- **Mary Ross** - MA in Teaching, lifelong instructor, and educator. Current Board Member and longtime volunteer for the Lummi Island Heritage Trust. Former member of the Board of PLIC a grassroots island organization formed to advocate for islanders with the county during ferry lease negotiations with Lummi Nation. Member of the PLIC Committee that worked with Council Member Carl Weimer to draft LIFAC's charter. President of the Lummi Island Community Association. Cofounder and member of the Public Dock Advisory Committee. Member Lummi Island Civic Club.
- **Catherine Shornick** - Retired from Western Washington University as operations manager for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, working primarily in communication, policy development and process, budgets, regulations, and records; former director of international adoption programs; professionally trained mediator; serves as a board member for the Lummi Island Heritage Trust.
- **Ralph Steele** - CPA, CA with over 48 years of financial reporting experience with family-owned private companies, not-for-profits, government agencies and publicly reporting companies (Controller and Director of Finance). Currently volunteer with a number of not-for-profit utilizing his financial accounting expertise.
- **Steve Thomas** - Owner/operator Steven Thomas Construction specializing in custom home construction; Project Manager building custom homes; Project Manager Bellingham power supply systems for telephone and cable industry nationwide; Community leader/board member Allied Arts Bellingham, Lummi Island Boys and Girls Club, Lummi Island Congregational Church