

# Utsalady Ladies Aid

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Utsalady Ladies Aid is the second oldest continual organization in Island County. It was formed in 1908 by a group of pioneer women who wished to improve the quality of life on the island and have a social break from their hardworking lives. Engaging in civic duties and planning community events, the women did good works that stretched well beyond their island shores, supporting the war effort and disaster relief in times of crisis.



After many years of clam bakes and raffle drawings, the group had raised enough money to construct their own building. Built by volunteers for \$566, the Utsalady Ladies Aid Building is now on the National Register of Historic Places. Many social, civic, and even government events took place there. A beautiful table from the grand Utsalady Hotel was donated to the Ladies Aid which still serves up lunches today. Local legend suggests President Hayes and General Sherman visited Camano Island in 1880 and sat at this very table!

The first meeting in the building took place in April of 1924, and the Utsalady Ladies Aid has continued to serve Camano from there for a century, hosting community gatherings and awarding scholarships to high school graduates. The membership also includes men and multiple generations of some families. This dedicated group maintains the historic building beautifully and provides staple events in the annual calendar of islanders.

**This historic building is located at 78 Utsalady Road, Camano Island. Look for the interpretive panel at the front of the building.**

# Gamano Island



TOP: The Utsalady Ladies Aid building today. ABOVE: Grennan & Cranney's Saw Mills at Utsalady, circa 1862.