



Get to know your Port of Anacortes...

Meet Wendy Fauver!



We checked in with our Director of Finance and Administration, Jill Brownfield, to find out what it's like working with Wendy and here is what she had to say.

“At the Port, we run lean, and have very high expectations for our employees. Wendy is the perfect example of what that means. In addition to her primary role as Accounting Manager, she is the backup for both Human Resources and Information Technology, and is fully trained to support the office staff at Cap Sante Marina. Wendy has helped the Port earn the reputation of the State Auditor’s Office for being extremely transparent, informed, and responsible. She has contributed to more than ten clean financial and accountability audits and continues to be someone that the SAO looks to as a subject matter expert on emerging Port issues. Wendy is direct. She is honest. And she challenges me every day to work smarter, not harder, always identifying efficiencies through technology and workflow processes. P.S. she’s also hilarious, just ask her”.

Photo credit: Karla DeCamp Photography

Q & A with Wendy:

Why did you decide to join the Port of Anacortes team? This is kind of a funny story. In 2009, because of the 2008 recession, I had just been laid off from Island County. I had also just had a baby and wasn't in a hurry to return to work, so I was a bit picky at the jobs I applied for. I noticed the Port position of Accounts Payable Bookkeeper in my weekly review of available jobs, but didn't think to apply. In the next few days, I had multiple people I know send me the job posting. I still didn't apply for the job. On the last day of the posting, I received a call from the VA job placement counselor letting me know there was a job I'd be perfect for and wanted to bring it to my attention in case I'd missed it. I thought, “all these people contacting me about this job must mean something!”, so on that last day, I submitted a hurriedly completed application, and the rest is history.

What never fails to make you laugh? Punnies! I love pun humor. The best ones actually come from my elementary school-age nieces. They have the best, clean, wholesome jokes and pun humor I have ever heard. They can definitely get me to belly laugh – I don't know who is happiest at those times, them for making me laugh so hard, or me seeing their faces light up when they've “landed” the joke.

What is the most important thing you have learned since working at the Port of Anacortes? That the working environment and workplace culture are more important than anyone could have ever described to my younger self. My time in the military introduced me to the camaraderie one can build with co-workers, but I never thought it would transfer to civilian life.

What are a few of your hobbies? I love to knit. I am fairly new to it, and to be honest, not very good. I started it not realizing how much of a stress relieving hobby it is. Now, when I am anxious, I take the time to breathe and let my hands create loop after loop.

What is your favorite vacation spot, and why? Anyone that knows me knows I am a Disney fanatic, so I'd have to say Disney World. I grew up in California and always loved Disneyland, until I finally visited Disney World a few years ago. That is now my favorite winter vacation spot. However, I wouldn't give up summers in the Pacific Northwest. Camping trips to the east side during summer months make me so so happy!

Do you have a personal motto or a favorite saying? If so, what is it? Yes, I do! “Work smarter, not harder.” I believe in making things as efficient as possible, even if the initial set up takes two or three times longer than the traditional way, it will save hours over the long-term. I do this at work, of course, but if I see opportunities to do so at home, I do it there too!