

ACT Board 2025 Annual Report

Annandale Area Community Team (ACT)

There were four ACT Board Meetings in 2025: January 11, April 11, July 11, and November 13. All were held at City Hall. Conveners were Marlene Young and Laura Hood Beckman.

Officers for the ACT Board remained the same as last year: Judy Grabham as Vice-Chair, Jill Bishop as Secretary, Marlene Young as Treasurer, and Kelly Hinnenkamp as Coordinating Chair. Other Board members are Arts Team lead Jane Willman, Feast Team of Friends lead Sandy Holthaus, and Laura Hood Beckman for a total of seven board members.

There are currently three active Teams: Feast of Friends, Arts, and Discover Downtown consisting of Clock Tower Park and Farmers Market.

FEAST OF FRIENDS

The annual Feast of Friends was held Saturday and Sunday, August 16th and 17th in 2025, 4 to 8 pm, at the Boathouse at Tween Lakes. Close to 500 guests attend over the two days. Team Lead Sandy Holthaus has a committee of 7 members. Many features returned in 2025 including a Bouquet Bar by Secret Garden, Silent Auction, music by Hick With a Pick, catering by Any Thyme Catering, and a seating chart. A raffle for a VRBO vacation getaway was donated once again, and there were also three cash prizes.

ARTS TEAM

Jane worked with Continuing Education Director Tiffany Grube in lining up bands for the Concerts in the Park on Friday evenings in City Park. Options are being pursued for more public art in our community.

CLOCK TOWER PARK

ACT has 5 flower pots in Clock Tower Park in addition to the large cement round. The round is planted by the Improvement Club and watered by the City. Judy coordinates the pots that are planted by Improvement Club and paid for by ACT.

In July Jane and Jill assisted Karen from Casting Creations, the Howard Lake company that created the bronze statue in Clock Tower Park, as she cleaned the statue.

The Annual New Year's Eve Ball Drop in Clock Tower Park was held at 9 p.m. The holiday tree in the park is formed with descending strings of lights on a flag pole. The Annandale Ambassadors helped ring in the New Year along with the Santa costumed bronze statue.

FARMERS MARKET

The Farmers Market ran 8:00 a.m. to noon from Memorial Day Saturday through September 13th in 2025. Market Manager Joe Rand was assisted by Dan Seaberg as alternate. A Kids Day with face-painting and games was added to Market days. The PoP (Power of Produce) program continues to be very successful with children receiving tokens to spend on produce at the Market.

In 2025 ACT continued as a member of the Chamber of Commerce and had an ad in the Summer Guide. In April ACT had a booth at the Business Expo that had many visitors. The table had Save the Date cards for all ACT events in 2025, and 200 tickets were submitted for a drawing of paver in Clock Tower Park or a gift basket or a fabric bag.

This ACT Annual Report and others since 2016 appear on the ACT website www.annandaleonline.com/ACT.

Jill Bishop
ACT Secretary