

P.O. Box 232
Black Diamond, Washington 98010

B.D.H.S. Newsletter

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a nonprofit corporation

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are as follows:

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- Lifetime.....30.00
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- Business Annual.....15.00
- Business Lifetime.....150.00

Send dues to: Box 232
 Black Diamond, Wa.
 98010

Editor.....Norma Gumser
 Box 288
 Black Diamond, Wa.

IN MEMORIAM

Since our last Newsletter, we are
sad to report that these "Old Friends"
are no longer among us: Gertrude Dal
Santo (Callero). She was a Charter Member
and a Lifetime member of the Society.
Mansuete A. Malgarin, Mary Grady and
Raymond V. Rosso, a former Post-master
in Black Diamond.

That Time is Here Again

Just a reminder that 1979 dues are
now due!!! If there is a Big red X in the
square it means that you need to send in
your \$2.00 now or whatever will bring you

up to date. This will be the last newsletter sent to the names who's membership is
not renewed. Where else can your \$2.00 buy so much?



What's Happening

Our now-famous Slide Show was shown at the Tuesday evening Kiwanis meeting in
Enumclaw. Carl Steiert and Norm Gumser, BDHS members, both received Certificates of
Appreciation for providing the entertainment at this meeting. We are working on a
new and shorter Slide Show which will also be available to be shown by our committee
for interested organizations. Arrangements can be made for showing these slides by
calling in advance. No charge is made.

Two double-hung windows were replaced in the Depot. The old frames were copied
at a Millwork in Seattle at a cost of \$188.00!! Restoration is costly and all new work
must resemble the original as nearly as possible. The platform in front of the depot
is nearly finished. It, too, is as close a copy of the original as possible. Our
calendar sales make most of this restoration possible.

We still have some 1979 calendars left. Did you get one? Send \$5.00 and one
will be sent in the next mail. There are also a few of the 1977 & 78 issues left.
Our first calendar in 1976 has been soldout for some time. Bouquets to Totsie

What's Happening cont'd:

Bellack for selling nearly \$200.00 worth of calendars this year, and more late bouquets for all the previous years.

We are pleased to report that the BDHS has received a Grant of \$2500.00 from the King County Council from HUD funds. We applied last summer for the Grant. The wheels of government turn agonizingly slow, but we will apply for more money for the electrical wiring in the Depot when that application is available. The Commission was impressed by the fact that it was a depot we are trying to save since depots are fast disappearing from the American scene.

SECOND ANNUAL ANTIQUE APPRAISAL DATE SET

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! All you collectors circle the big weekend of May 5 and 6th to have your favorite antiques appraised. Again, we will have some reputable appraisers to tell you what you have always wanted to know, but were afraid to ask. The specifics have to be worked out and these will be announced later in the local newspapers. The Appraisal price remains the same as last year--at \$3.00 per item. Bring a Friend!!

???How Good is Your Memory???

The time will soon be here when the weather improves and work has progressed far enough for us to begin to think about the painting the Depot. What color stands out in your memory--was it grey--or a sort of mustard color--or can anyone remember it painted a beautiful shade of red? The men volunteers working the Depot have uncovered layers of paint--all different. Let us hear from you.

Archives Given to BDHS

We received a packet from Mr. Charles Falk of Palmer Coking Coal. These archives date back to the beginning of the coal mines here in Black Diamond. We will share some of the information in these fine old records with you in some future newsletter. The Society is always eager to receive any memorabilia. Although our Depot is not ready and secure to exhibit, all articles are kept carefully, stored and recorded till that time.

ADVERTISERS

We will take this opportunity to thank all our Advertisers. It is through their generous subscription of the Ads on the mailing cover that this newsletter is possible. You can show your appreciation by patronizing these businesses.

DON'T FORGET: Remember the workday every Thursday at the Depot!! The gang has a nice roaring fire going in the old wood-burning stove inside to keep the enthusiasm warmed up. So come on down and lend a hand--or even a word of encouragement!!!!!!



EVAN THOMAS

"Eve" Evan Thomas will be 86 years old this March. He is our oldest "born in Black Diamond" resident. We are helping him to celebrate by sharing a little of his life with our members. Most of these facts are taken from a taped interview done in April 1976 by Don Mason and Carl Steiert.

Eve's parents were from Wales and had come to Black Diamond from Nortonville, Calif. Eve was born in 1893. When he was only three years old his Father was killed while working in the mine. His Mother provided for her six children by taking in boarders. The Company gave her free rent and coal. There were no compensations for any men killed at work in those days. He helped out his Mother by working at meat markets and as delivery boy from the time he was ten years old. He had quit school to work at a mill at 14 for \$1.00 a day. In 1910 he went to work as a machinist's helper at Mine 14 for \$1.50 a day. He was now 17. He could remember very young men, mere boys walking to work along the tracks--their lunch buckets nearly touching the tracks. He did mostly "outside work", working on the machinery that kept the mines operating. He later worked for the livery stable and drove a team and wagon, to among other places Ravensdale. Ravensdale had an abundance of saloons and a favorite place for miners to go on Saturday night.

He went to school with a young lady named Florence Harris and they were married in Sept. 1916. They have one daughter, Lois, She is married to Frank Zumek, and they also live in Black Diamond. They have two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. They have lived in their present home for over 35 years.

The afternoon we sat in his livingroom while he reminisced over a long period of time. We listened and tried to visualize how things looked back then. We hear from all the "Oldtimers" that the winters were colder...the prices were lower...life was simpler... so it must be true. We asked Eve what he would like to see happen to Black Diamond in the future--and in a moment he said, "Well, I think it is alright just the way it is." So its been a good life for Eve and Florence and we wish him:

Happy Birthday and Many Many Happy Returns

Thoughts at Random

The meeting of the Historical Society on Feb. 12, featured Roger and Janice Maddy, who entertained with many musical numbers. They featured the "fiddle", guitar, the mouthorgan and the mandolin. Everyone enjoyed it immensely. The attendance was better than usual but still could have been better. Which brings up the point of meeting attendance. Every meeting is geared to inform and entertain. It would be great if more effort was made on the part of our many members.

The Society needs:

We are still collecting artifacts and pictures.

We need ideas and suggestions.

We need moral support since it gets to be frustrating when so few are willing to help.

We need labor on the Thursday work days.

Most of all we need the togetherness that common interests and ideas that make for a better and lasting Society.

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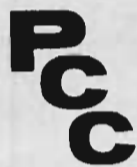
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