



Sat. & Sunday—12 noon-3
Thursday—9 a.m.-3
Special arrangements call:
886-1168

B.D.H.S.

Published by the:

Black Diamond Historical Society

a Non-Profit Corporation.

Membership fees, which include a subscription to the Newsletter are as follows:

- Annual Individual—\$ 5.00
- Annual Family — 7.00
- Lifetime — 50.00
- Family Lifetime—75.00
- Annual Business —15.00

Send dues to: Box 232

Black Diamond, WA 98010

Editor: Ann Steiert 886-1168

IN MEMORIUM

James Vernarelli—A lifetime resident of Black Diamond. He was very much a part of it's history. He remembered the past years and contributed a great deal to our knowledge of times past. He was a brother of Esther Babb, Iuda and Rome. He leaves nephews and nieces also.

Louise Pagani—She, too, was a lifetime resident of Black Diamond.

Richard "Boots" Pierotti—He was, also, a longtime resident of Black Diamond. In his youth he was very much interested in sports. He was the brother of "Meg" Pierotti.

Del McIntyre—A former resident.

MEMORIALS

Jane Hawthorne;— Jene Loken Audrey Mendenhall Banchemo Family

Ruth Dittman;— Kathi Shay and Family

Richard "Boots" Pierotti;— Carl & Ann Steiert Esther Babb

Louise Pagani:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Helen Darby | Lou & Rachel Fagnon | Inez Aden | Banchemo Family |
| John Morganti Family | Mr. & Mrs. Nick DiJulio | Kathi Shay | Sons of Italy |
| Esther Babb | Everett & Olga Swann | Charles & Dorothy Corlett | |



James Vernarelli:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Jack & Jerrine Hope | Charlene Birkliid | Geno & Ruth Picini | Inez Aden |
| Fred Banchemo | Ethel & Ruby Duncan | Lou & Rachel Fagnon | |
| Margaret Vernarelli | Palmer Coking Coal | Mr. & Mrs. Nick DiJulio | |
| Arthur Eltz | Banchemo Family | Carl & Ann Steiert | |
| John Morganti Family | Everett & Olga Swann | Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Murdock | |
| Kathi Shay & Family | Chuck & Marie Freeman | Sons of Italy | |
| Charles & Dorothy Corlett | | | |

LABOR DAY

Labor Day proved to be a very exciting and busy day for the Society. We were given a surprise gift by Ed Banchemo. He donated several hundred pounds of his new Chicken Sausage to the Society. They were to be sold and we were to keep the proceeds. It proved very profitable indeed.....netting nearly \$700. Ed helped us sell them at the Park and proved a super salesman. We thank him for his very generous donation and for the help too.

Our Float won second prize in the Parade. The Museum was very busy. Bob Eaton said he stopped counting when it got to be 300 people. Everyone was very pleased with the outcome of the day.


CABOOSE DEDICATION AND CHRISTMAS PARTY


The Thursday Crew have been working very hard to get the Caboose restoration finished by the December deadline. It is shapping up beautifully and has been the source of many good comments by passersby.

The Board decided to have a combined Dedication day and Christmas Party. Festivities will begin at 1:00 p.m. on SUNDAY DECEMBER 3. We urge everyone to come and take part in celebrating our CABOOSE DAY too.

MUSEUM ATTENDANCE

This has been the busiest year yet. Many school groups have been bringing their pupils to see what we have and view the artifacts. The Steierts have been going out into schools and showing the Society's slide show and talking about "How it was" in the early days. The last school was Crestwood Elementary which is in the Kent School District. There were 3 through 6 graders who saw the show. One of the fifth graders wrote us the following letter:

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Steiert

Thank you for the slideshow of Black Diamond. It seems like a real nice town. I really liked how you talked to us. I don't have enough nerve to talk in front of a group of people. Black Diamond is a nice place I think, but I've only driven through it. I don't really know what its like.

Thanks again
Tanya Jackson, 5th grade.

We have been adding more artifacts. The downstairs rooms focus on household items and tools. We recently put up a couple of boards containing hand tools. One is of general unusual handyman tools and the other has early automotive tools. There are two post drills and a blacksmith's vise have been mounted. The Renton Historical Society gave us a showcase. It now is in place next to the Barber Shop and holds early cosmetic items such as combs etc. The smaller case which it replaced now is our Labor Day case holding many years of buttons, and early Labor day artifacts. The "Person of the Year" Labor Day Trophy rests on top of it so that people can get a close look at the names of persons who were honored.

Attendance has been very gratifying this year. According to signatures in the Guest Book we will be close to 10,000 people in attendance since January.

DOCENTS AND COOKS

The people who have been tending the Museum on weekends and the cooks who bring the men their lunches on Thursday are to once again be applauded. We invite, in fact, we urge other members to take part in this program. The workers on Thursdays put in a lot of hours each week and really enjoy that hour at noon when they can relax, plan further work and enjoy the good food that is provided. If everyone who could were willing to lend a hand it would give everyone a chance to take part in this historical effort. Jewell McCloud is our latest volunteer. We thank her very much.

Please call Rose Guidetti, 886-2858 if you are willing to do a lunch occasionally. If you can spare 3 hours once in a while to tend the Museum call Elaine Griffin at 886-2663.

Thank You Thank You Thank You

A word of special thanks goes to Palmer Coking Coal Co, William Kombol and Jack Hope Jr. for supplying the material and labor to secure the Caboose to the tracks so that it can't be moved....a piece of rail was welded to the main rail near the wheels so that no movement is possible.

"BLACK DIAMOND, MINING THE MEMORIES"

It will soon be a year since the book, Mining the Memories, was first released. During this past year the book has done exceedingly well in its' sales. Comments have been very good. Now it is once again time to think about the annual Christmas giving. We are hoping to match last year's Christmas sales. Please keep the book in mind for your own Christmas list. We'll be happy to see that your orders are filled. Send requests to: Box 232, Black Diamond, WA. zip 98010.

The Board is now at the point where they have to decide on whether to purchase more books. Most are of the opinion that since the stories in the book are timeless this is the time to get some to have on hand to sell during the coming years. At this time we can still get them at a reasonable price.

IMPORTANT DATES IN BLACK DIAMOND

- 1882 Victor Tull and Morgan Morgans visit site for Black Diamond Coal Co.
- 1884 First train into camp with men and equipment
- 1885 Mine #14 opens
First trainload of coal is hauled out.
Lawson Mine opened
Mine #2 opened
- 1896 Mine #11 opened
- 1898 Pacific Coast Coal Company buys out Lawson
European Immigrants come because of jobs.
- 1904 Pacific Coast Coal Company buys out Black Diamond Mines.
- 1907 The Company Store burns, located near Bakery site.
United Mine Workers organize.
- 1910 Lawson Mine explodes. 16 men killed. Eleven bodies retrieved, 5 remain.
- 1911 St. Barbara's Catholic Church built at cost of \$2227.20.
- 1914 World War I begins
- 1917 United States enters the War.
Mine #14 is closed
- 1918 World War I ends.
- 1919 Prohibition begins
Women are granted right to vote.
- 1921 United Mine Workers Strike.
Morganville is born.
- 1926 Indian Mine is opened
- 1927 Mine #11 is closed.
- 1933 Prohibition is repealed.
- 1941 World War II begins.
- 1947 Pacific Coast Coal Company sells out holdings.
- 1959 Black Diamond becomes an incorporated City.
- 1976 Black Diamond Historical Society is founded.
- 1982 Black Diamond celebrates its Centennial year
Black Diamond Museum is opened.
- 1989 Washington celebrates its Centennial year.

VITAL STATISTICSDues Due

There are 256 members in the Historical Society. Of that number 138 are Lifetime members. A sad statistic, we have lost 54 members since we began keeping records.

There are quite a few members who have failed to pay their dues these past two years. Remember that whenever you reach the age of 80 we automatically give you a Life Membership. However, we must be informed so please let us know.

COAL COAL COAL

Note: The following article was taken from our recently acquired book by Clarence Bagby. It is an interesting history of King County.

P.B. Cornwall was at the head of the Black Diamond Company when it decided to enter the King County field in 1880, and it was under his direction that Victor Tull was sent north from San Francisco with instructions to explore all the coal fields of the Puget Sound country with the object of discovering new and better veins. The Company desired to find a better coal than the Newcastle, which at that time was the best coal being shipped from King County. Tull began his work on the banks of the Skagit River: continuing on south. Many veins were examined. Many samples sent to San Francisco for testing but it was not until July 1880 that he discovered the great beds which are known to underlie the Black Diamond-Franklin-Ravensdale field. The small sample which Tull had sent to San Francisco were found to show such high quality that the Company sent B.B. Jones, a coal expert, who had been employed by the Company at its Mount Diablo mines for some years, to Seattle with instructions to continue the prospecting of the district. Jones' report of what he found was so favorable that the Company at once put a crew of men to work opening what has since been known as Mine No. 14 of the Black Diamond Group

Following the visit of Cornwall and Morgans the Oregon Improvement Co. sent Harry Whitworth and a crew of surveyers into the field for the purpose of surveying the extension of the Columbia and Puget Sound Railroad from Renton to the mines. The survey was completed in June and within a short time construction work was started on the new line. After this time King County was producing sufficient coal to keep the steamship, Willamette, Umatilla and Walla Walla constantly engaged in carrying it to San Francisco, the three boats averaging five trips per month and carrying 2,200 tons per trip.

With the opening of the Black Diamond mines and the completion of the Cedar River Extension in 1884 prospectors began searching for other veins of coal in the district and it was not long before it was found that the out-cropping discovered by Tull was in the center of a large coal field. Many prospects were opened and some of them notably those of Franklin, Ravensdale and Lawson soon became heavy producers. Development work on the Franklin Mine was begun during the summer of 1885 and was hurried along with much vigor that the mine had produced 7,854 tons by the end of the year. This mine is located about three miles east of the Black Diamond mines, and, like them, was a long heavy producer of high quality coal. It was opened by the Oregon Improvement Company, later passing into the hands of the Pacific Coast Coal Company. The field reached its highest production in 1900 with 167,600 tons taken out that year.

Coal mining has contributed its share of the comedy and melodrama as well as the tragedy to the romance surrounding the development of the Puget Sound country. Promising prospects which fill their discoverers with high hopes of financial success have often failed to produce the desired results. Rich mines have been discovered only to be lost to the original locators. Fortunes have been lost and other fortunes won, and notwithstanding all the wealth which has been taken out of the mines of King County during the last sixty years there remains today a body of coal of unknown vastness which as the years roll along will continue to produce wealth, not only for the men who own and operate the mines but for the manufacturers, transportation lines and the army of people who depend upon these and allied industries for a living.

VERNA THOMPSON

"Who is Verna Thompson?" that is a question frequently asked by people going through the Museum. Verna has contributed many articles for display and her name appears in many places in the Museum. She is active in the Historical Society. She has been working at the Museum on weekends as a Docent. Her family is one of the oldest in Black Diamond. Her father came here with his mother in 1883. His mother was the first woman in the new Town. His name was Morgan Davis. At first he worked in the mine. He developed Black Lung and had to quit. He recovered from that and went to work in the Joe Krause Saloon until it closed. During Prohibition he and Paul Medica started the Billiard Parlor in the old store building.



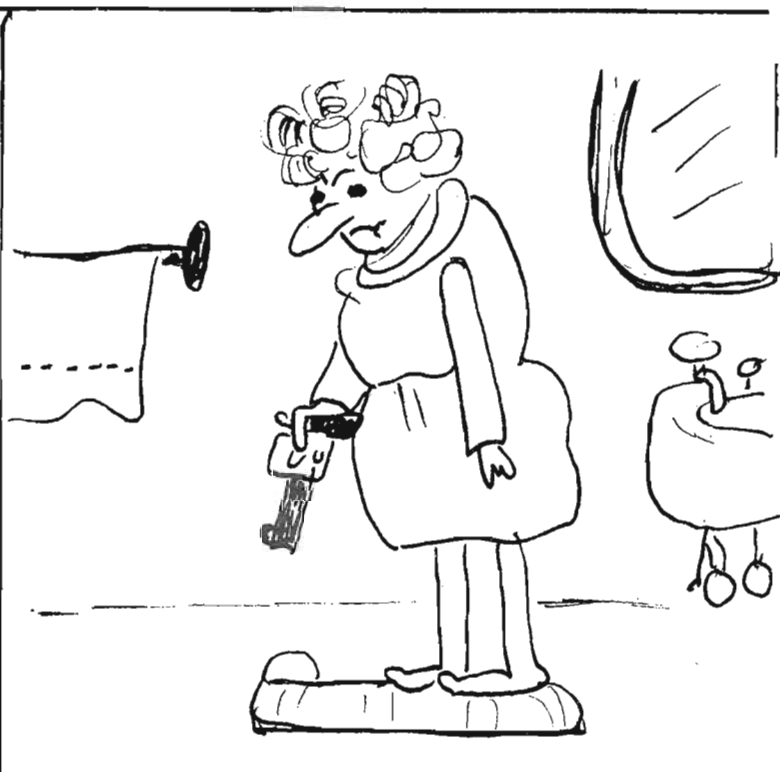
Her mother was 2 years old when she came to Black Diamond in 1884. Her family first lived in a tent behind the store.

Verna was born in Black Diamond on October 15, 1907. She was one of five girls. Her sisters are, Merle (Babe) Romedo, Clara Beers, Evelyn Harte and the late Jane Hawthorne. She graduated from the Black Diamond High School in 1925. She married John Thompson in 1934. For a time she worked for the Telephone Company in Seattle. Later she was a bookkeeper for the Pacific Coast Coal Co. For many years she lived on Morgan St but recently has purchased a new home in the new development in Town.

We feel very privileged to have Verna working with us. She has been a great source of information as to "How it was in the early days." She has always tried to help in whatever way she has been able. As can be noted from the information above, her family roots truly go back to the beginnings of our Town. She contributed much information contained in our "Book". Our association with her has been very special to all of us.

NEW DIET RULES

- If no one sees you eat it ... it has no calories.
- If you drink a diet soda with a candy bar they cancel each other.
- When eating with someone else calories don't count if you both eat the same amount.
- Movie related foods don't count as they are part of the entertainment.
- Food used for medicinal purposes don't count i.e. hot chocolate etc.
- If you fatten up everyone around you then you will look thinner.
- Calories in cookies and pies leak out when being baked.



Don't Forget: Dec. 3 Christmas Party 1:00 p.m.

THE SHORT BUT SWEET HISTORY OF THE CANDY BAR

A candy bar is not only a treat, it also brings back fond memories. The first chocolate bar was made in England back in the 1840s. The first candy bar made in the United States by machine came out in 1894, made by Milton S. Hershey at his factory in Lancaster, PA. He later built a new factory in Pennsylvania farm country and the town of Hershey around it.

The first peanut bar came out in 1905. It was called the Squirrel Brand Peanut Bar and was made in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

World War I lasted from 1914 to 1918. Servicemen were often given candy bars and chocolate as rations. Why? The Army and Navy knew that candy gave an energy boost to soldiers and sailors. Since candy bars were good-tasting and a pleasant reminder of happier days back home they were also a morale booster. When World War I ended many companies began making candy bars to sell in stores and found a buying public.

The 1920s were the height of the new candy bar craze. It is estimated that around 40,000 different candy bars came into being during that decade. They were made by many candy companies strung out everywhere in the United States. The candy bar was suddenly the "in" thing.

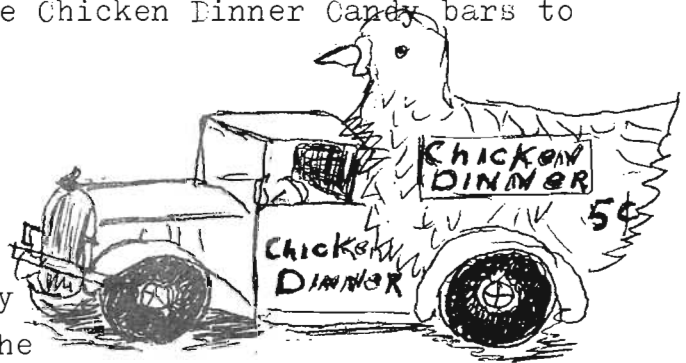
Many people were unemployed during the 1930s when the Great Depression hit in full force. Times really became hard, but people managed. Candy was one of the bright treats still around that was affordable. So candy and candy bars were good sellers even in those hard times.



World War II lasted from 1941 to 1945. Most of the candy bars made in those years again went to men in the service as energy and morale boosters.

One of the bars that was liked in those years was the Chicken Dinner Candy Bar. It was made in Milwaukee, Wisconsin by the Sperry Candy Co.

The early trucks which were used to take Chicken Dinner Candy bars to stores looked like giant chickens. Specially made hoods fit over the beds of the delivery trucks.

The candy bar became the symbol for America during those war years throughout the world. The words "candy bar" consequently gained universal recognition as symbols of the free world. Hershey's wrappers used to advertise "More nourishing than meat" Some early candy bars often sold for 10 cents but 5 cents soon became the norm. The assortment of bars on the market now defies the imagination. The prices have risen considerably since the 5 cent price was popular.



 Homemade Soap 

We have a large container of homemade lye soap in the laundry section of our display area. It gets a lot of notice from children going through. When we tell them what it is the response is invariably, "Oh Yuck!" The following is a recipe for making soap:

Render all fats clean by boiling them in an equal volume of water. Remove from heat and chill by adding 1 quart of cold water for each gallon of liquid. Allow mixture to cool thoroughly. Remove firm fat from the top. Use 12 ounces of powdered lye, 2½ pints cold soft water and 6 pounds of clean fat. Slowly add lye to the cold water, stirring to dissolve. Melt fat and let it cool to 110 degrees with lye solution at 85 degrees. Pour lye solution into melted fat in a thin steady stream with slow, even stirring. Continue to stir until a wooden spoon can stand on its own. When all the fat is mixed in, pour soap into box and cut into squares. Cures poison Ivy, fleas and bad-mouthed kids.

BLACK DIAMOND BAKERY

Wood Fired Brick Oven - Since 1902

Call Order
886-2741

Wed. thru Sun.
Thank You For Our 75 Years Of Business

THE Hardware Store, Inc. Coast to Coast

We now have more room
and merchandise to meet
your hardware needs.

Stan & J Johnson

432-3384

AT FOUR CORNERS - MAPLE VALLEY

BLACK DIAMOND AUTO PARTS

886-1133

Open 7 Days a week

COMPLETE MACHINE SHOP
SERVICE

32632 Suite C 3rd AVE.

Black Diamond Automotive ARCO

Jim Kemmer - Darwin Glaser

Complete Auto Repair
Tires - Batteries

Arc & Gas Welding Hot Tank Service

886-2800

Next to Boots' Tavern

THE DINNER HOUSE in Black Diamond

A Fine Dining Establishment

886-2524

Wednesday thru Friday
4:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Saturday
5:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Sunday Brunch
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Sunday Dinner
2:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Serving
Cocktails and Wine

No smoking for your dining pleasure.

Black DIAMOND Pharmacy, Inc.



CARDS & GIFTS

Four Corners Village

26923 Maple Valley Hwy. S.E.
Maple Valley, WA 98038
Phone: (206) 432-6002



Wood Products Co.

4 CORNERS

(206) 886-2804 (206) 432-1222

WHOLESALE RETAIL

Moergeli-Vesey Agency

Home • Auto • Business • Life

825-5508

Miles Moergeli
Greg Vesey

1612 Cole Street
Enumclaw, Washington 98022



FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF ENUMCLAW

MEMBER FDIC

Your Home-Owned
Independent Bank

24-Hour

Quickbank™ services at Main Office,
Black Diamond Branch
& Four Corners Branch

Main Office 1212 Cole St., Enumclaw, WA 98022 (206) 825-1651
Central Branch 1609 Cole St., Enumclaw, WA 98022 (206) 825-1651
Chinook Branch 747 Watson St., N., Enumclaw, WA 98022 (206) 825-1651
Black Diamond 31605 3rd Ave., Black Diamond, WA 98010 (206) 886-2812
Four Corners 26866 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Rd. S.E. (206) 432-7077

PALMER COKING COAL CO.
COAL FIREWOOD GRAVEL RED CINDERS
886-2841 GRAVEL 432-3542

P.O. BOX 10, 31407 HIGHWAY 169
BLACK DIAMOND, WA 98010

Duane and Fay Weeks

ENUMCLAW
FUNERAL
HOME



825-3548

Nearest Service to
Black Diamond



FLOTHE'S INSURANCE AGENCY

Len Flothe Marilyn Pedersen

"INSURANCE OF ALL KINDS"

26840 Maple Valley Rd. S.E.
Maple Valley, WA 98038

886-2772

BLACK DIAMOND RENTAL
EQUIPMENT RENTALS

"HARD TO FIND BUT PRICES ARE GOOD"

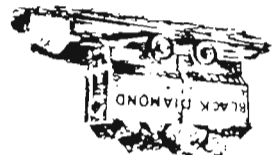
886 - 1545

EQUIPMENT FOR HOMEOWNERS
AND CONTRACTORS

STEIERT ST., BLACK DIAMOND, WA

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BLACK DIAMOND, WA
PERMIT NO. 19

Frank Manowski
Black Diamond, WA 98022



Black Diamond Historical Society
Box 232 Black Diamond, Wa. 98010

10 Shops... ... 1 Roof

ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE DEPOT MUSEUM, BLACK DIAMOND
CRAFTS • COLLECTIBLES • ANTIQUES • AMERICANA
HOURS: 10 AM-5 PM
Tues. thru Sun.

Phone 886-2663

Crystal, Pewter, China, Collector glass, Flo-Blue, Antique Jewelry, Antique Prints, Wood toys, Dolls, Antique Linens, Crochets, Roseville, Fostoria, Bauer Lefton, Toile work, David Winter cottages, Hummel and more...

MARJIE R. KARI,
General Manager***

FRANK'S MEAT MARKET & SAUSAGE COMPANY

"Sering This Area Since 1936"

Market 432-2685
Evenings 886-2685

FRANK ZUMEK, JR.
Black Diamond, Wash.

Diamond Auto Rebuild

All types of Glass and Body Work
Free Estimates

886-2200

Larry Romine
32619 3rd Avenue
Black Diamond

BLACK DIAMOND HAIR DESIGN

886-1448

WE HAVE A SERVICE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
SENIOR DISCOUNTS

32621 3rd Ave.

*Black Diamond
Discount Auto & Tire*
886-1766

Auto Sales & Repairs
32607 3rd P.O. Box 343
Black Diamond, WA 98010

OPEN SIX DAYS

A friendly place to shop

ZUMEK'S FAMILY GROCER

BLACK DIAMOND

Proprietors: Rod Adler and Fred Friedrichsen

Store Hours:

7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Monday thru Saturday

7 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Sunday