



MUSEUM HOURS

Sat & Sunday      Noon to 3 pm.  
 Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 By special arrangements and  
 Tours call:  
 886-1168                      886-2327

February 1992

Black Diamond, WA.

Volume XV

Issue I

B.D.H.S.

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Send dues to:      Box 232  
                                  Black Diamond, WA. 98010  
 Editor:      Ann Steiert      886-1168

IN MEMORIAM

George Malatesta      brother of Mary  
Marròtti  
Bernice Gibson Kochevar      Wife of  
Phillip Kochevar and former Black Diamond  
 resident.  
Tom Campbell      Husband of Vi and long  
 time resident of the area.  
Julie Savicke Scoutin, George Savicke,  
Mary Keehner      Janet Eltz.  
Merna Hawk      Mother of Tonnie Wolfe,  
 sister of Tonnie Hawkins. A member of  
 the McLoughry Family. Treasurer of the  
 Black Diamond Historical Society.



MEMORIALS

Maxine Bryant _____	Palmer Coking Coal	Pat Sternig	Alice Norton
Ethel Deardan _____	Jewell McCloud	Ladies Aux. Eagles	
	Past Predidents Club F.o.O.E.	Alice Norton	
George Malatesta: _____	Meg Pierotti	Rose Guidetti	Olga & Everett Swann
Tom Campbell: _____	Charles & Doroht Corlett		
Julie Scoutin: _____	Mary Keehner, George & May Savicke	Janet Eltz	
Merna Hawk: _____	Olga & Everett Swan	Moergli-Vessey Insurance	
Mutual of Enumclaw	Donald Botts	Charles McLoughry	
Glen & Monica Neal	Bill McLoughry	Edith Bancher, Banchemo Family	
Joyce Branch	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Eaton	Ruby & Ethel Duncan	
Helen Manowski	Jewell McCloud	Carl & Ann Steiert	
Dorothy Craycraft	Rebekah Lodge	Charles & Dorothy Corlett	
Bernice Kochevar _____	Donald Botts	Keith Timm Jr.	
Boots Pierotti _____	Meg Pierotti		
Val Sternig _____	Pat Sternig		
Michael Norton _____	Pat Sternig		

RECENT BOARD MEETING

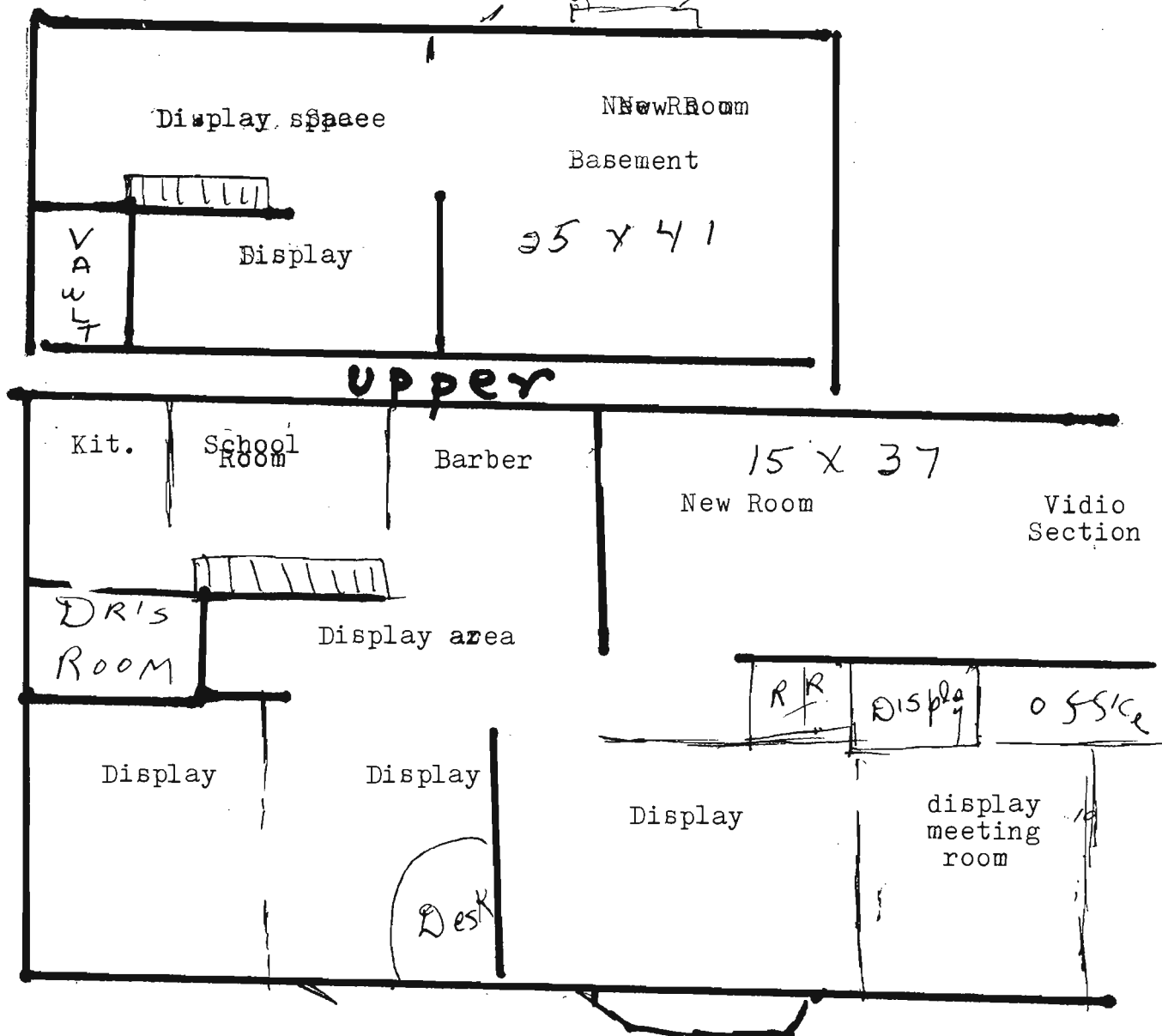
On Jan. 27 the members of the Board met and discussed the finances and progress of the Museum. Thus far it seems that we are in fair shape. President Bob Eaton is making every attempt to purchase and use materials wisely. We are very fortunate that our expenses contain very little paid Labor.

We now have a new Treasurer. Roberta Falk has agreed to serve in that capacity. We welcome her aboard. The office was left empty with the death of Merna Hawk. It saddened everyone. Other new members are Tom Dodd and Sue Capponi.

There will be another meeting on March 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the Museum. Every one is welcome to attend.

FEB 1992

# Lower Level



## THURSDAY DOINGS

Things are really shaping up on the new construction. The wiring is almost all in place and the men will be able to finish sealing off the walls. We are all eager for it to get done so that we can start putting displays up. Much interest is being shown by all the visitors who come through. Much interest is shown in the proposed Audio-visual section. The room downstairs is large and will lend itself nicely to the many kinds of machinery that we have not been able to show thus far.

The attendance in January has been very good. We have had five classes of fourth graders from the J.J. Smith school in Enumclaw. There have been several Retirement Home visitors and some Home Schooling people. It keeps everyone really busy. We are glad to welcome Mary Chilcot to the "Museum Sitters Group" Phil Werle of Puyallup is also going to help out. We have many good comments and very often someone gives a good suggestion which we appreciate and act on.

The Thursday Gang has felt bad because Martin Moore has had to miss some working days. His wife is very ill and he couldn't come out. Everyone wishes the best for him at this time.

Thursday lunches are still being brought by our member-cooks. There is always a space for anyone who would like to volunteer their services. Phil Werle's wife, Hazel is going to take a turn next week. If you would like to help feel free to call Rose Guidetti at 886-2838 and you will be most welcome.

Do you know where we can get some mannequins? We have an army uniform that Mr. Cobb wore during the Spanish-American War. There are some women's clothes which we have not been able to show because of space and lack of figures. We have been surprised at the lack of availability at the stores. We are told that they are so expensive now that they no longer throw them away

In the Museum we have taken one small room and converted it into our "Booze Room". In it we have a restored cider press, assorted bottles and glasses along with a whiskey Still. On the wall is a sign telling everyone that during National Prohibition Days that bootlegging was our No.2 industry. Many people get a charge out of that. We tell them a bit of how it was in those days when the Country was dry.

At that time many people made and sold liquor. The County shefiff was the famous Matt Starwich. He was a many faceted person. He was a fearless officer and did his duty but he was not averse to taking some extra money if it were offered to him. In Black Diamond there was a group of major <sup>turns</sup> producers. They had an agreement amongst themselves that they would take getting fined when the sheriff came out to raid the Town. He would come out periodically as required by Federal Law and try to catch someone making whiskey. He would come out and stop at the Billiard Parlor and shoot a game of pool. The word would soon spread around Town that the Feds were in Town. It is said that he really hit the other producers who weren't in the Group. If they happened to have a big batch on hand they would hurry and hide the booze out in the woods. At that time the forest was right near Town. Then there was a third element who would go into the woods and steal the hidden whiskey. This was almost sure to set of a fight after the Feds had gone away.

When we tell the Museum visitors about the Prohibition times they are many times reminded of some incident they have hears of in their own Town,

MINING VOCABULARY

Mining just like other professions has a good many words which are used by people in the profession. Here are a few known to miners:

Adit A nearly horizontal passage from the surface by which a mine is entered and water is removed. It has just sufficient slope to insure drainage.

Air Shaft: A shaft used expressly for ventilation.

Anthracite: A hard mineral coal formed of almost pure carbon with few volatile hydrocarbons. It burns with little flame.

Bench : The bottom part of the seam when the holing has been done in the middle.

Blast: Bring down or shatter coal with explosives.

Charge: Amount of explosive used in one blast or shot,

Colliery: The whole mine plant including the mine and all adjuncts.

Bone: Slatey or carbonaceous shale found in coal seams.

Briquets! Fuel made of fine coal pressed into brick form.

Workings: General term used to describe the area where coal is being mined.

Trip: Number of coupled coal cars taken to the surface at one time.

Tipple: The dump trestle and shaft at the mouth of a slope or shaft where the output of a mine is dumped, screened and loaded. Also, applied to the ~~whole~~ structure of the headframe containing the tipple.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

As you are reading this Newsletter you can't help but notice some poor composition in terms of irregular lines, margins etc. I apologize for them and tell you they are the result of disturbed vision. During the past month I have had Cataract surgery and I am in the midst of adjustment.

Ann S.

FEB 1992

(4)  
LAWSON HILL SEWING CLUB

Most of the time when "old times" are written about there is a tendency to write about things long gone and completely antiquated. There is an organization which has been in existence since 1943 and is still meeting. It is the Lawson Hill Sewing Club. In 1943 a group of ladies all living on the Hill got together for a social evening. There were about 20 more or less at the first meeting. The first meeting was held at the home of Fern Denny who lived in the house now occupied by the Joe Dal Santo Family. The evening was spent in visiting, getting acquainted and enjoyed by all the women. Some of the first women who attended were Gertrude Dal Santo, Gloria Maks, Fern Denny, Pat Eltz, Janet Eltz, Ruby Greenfield, Ann Steiert and Livia Vernarelli. They agreed to take turns being hostess and to meet each month.

As the months went by a few of them decided that sewing wasn't their interest. Attendance was around 15 for many years. They would lose an old member and a new one would move into the neighborhood and they would invite her to join the Club. Sadly, Gloria Maks and Anne Eddy were the first ones to be lost through death. Mary Darby followed many years later. Pauline Neimscyk and Pat Eltz moved away. Emma Sigmund moved away for a while but is back in the area again. Helen Manowski and Evelyn Carnino moved to Enumclaw. Through the years there were changes in membership but the group still meets and some of the original members still attend.

It has been a great experience for all of them. They shared so many things during the years. Since it was the child-bearing time for most of them very often there would be several pregnant at the same time. They bore and raised their children together, sent them through school. They all worked on PTA and other Community projects. They share a wealth of memories of the past years. They shared graduations, weddings, Bake Sales, and helped one another when loved ones were hurt or lost. A special bond exists which is very precious to all of them. They have had 49 special years together and are still meeting. Those still in the Club are May Savicke, Gertrude Botts, Mary Hope, Ann Steiert, Emma Sigmund, Helen Manowski, Evelyn Carnino and Evelyn Dal Santo

???? WHAT DID YOU SAY?????

Overheard in an attorney's office.....A farmer goes to an attorney and says he wants one of them de-vores;

<u>Attorney</u>	Do you have any grounds?
<u>Farmer</u>	I got 30 acres.
<u>Attorney</u>	No--that's not what I meant. Do you have a case?
<u>Farmer</u>	Nope. I got a John Deere. That's what I farm them 30 acres.
<u>Attorney</u>	NO! NO! You're not understanding me. You want to bring a suit. Have you got a grudge?
<u>Farmer</u>	Well I got a suit hanging in the closet. The grudge is is where I keep my John Deere.
<u>Attorney</u>	Oh we're not communicating at all. Let's talk about your wife for a minute. Do you beat your wife up?
<u>Farmer</u>	Nope! She gets up at 4:30 about the same time as I do.
<u>Attorney</u>	Is she a nagger?
<u>Farmer</u>	Nope, but the last kid was and tha's why I want a de-voce.

PLEASE NOTICE THE NAMES OF THE FIRMS ON OUR COVER PAGES AND THANK THEM FOR THEIR SUPPORT BY USING THEIR SERVICES.

As the Thursday Crew have been working on the new rooms they have been veru grateful for the good men who have turned out to help them on Thursdays. It helped a lot when they got to the part of working on the rafters and roof. This involved much high climbing which really challenged the over-70 crew. If you passed the Museum one day last month and saw a man sitting on the peak of the roof you would have recognized Joe Dal Santo who had come to help. He was greeted with pleasure!! Joe Dal Santo is a member of the Historical Society and a member of a very old and prominent Black Diamond family. Joe was born in Renton On November 20, 1925. His family moved to Black Diamond when Joe was just 6 months old. He had four brothers Jules, Leo, John and Roy. His sisters were Angeline and Linda.

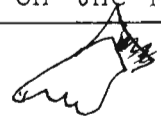
He started working in the mines when he was still in High School. He worked at several jobs including school bus driver and Bartender at Boots Tavern, He then went to work for Mutual of Enumclaw where he worked until he retired six years ago.

He made the remark that retirement was the best thing that happened to him until his wife, Evelyn reminded him it was the second best!!!

When Joe and Evelyn first got married they lived in Enumclaw for 1½ years. They then moved back to Black Diamond. They still live in the same house. He is definitely a family man. He has four



children, 3 live in Black Diamond and one lives in Ravensdale. He thought he would never be a Grandpa and now he has eight beautiful Grandchildren. All his life he has been involved in Community Life. He was a volunteer Fireman, for many years. He has been an active member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles for many years--since he was eighteen. He has been a Water Commisioner and served on the City Council. He was Man of the Year in 1970. He worked on the Labor Day Committee for years. He now serves as a volunteer driver for Senior Services. His hobbies are golfing and camping. Every morning he can be seen taking an early walk and carrying a sack of cans for recycling. Joe is part of our Black Diamond Family. Many of us have worked together on so many projects that there is indeed a family bond. We work together. We laugh together. We disagree and argue sometimes but through it all there is a sense of togetherness which can be had only in a small place like Black Diamond. We want to thank Joe for the work he has done on the Museum. We really do appreciate it.



WANTED WANTED

BLACK DIAMOND SALOON

WANTED WANTED

We are happy to report that the Black Diamond Saloon has been purchased by Jared Flors. He is planning to turn it into a family style restaurant. He is planning to decorate it in the coal miners theme. He is asking everyone if they have anything which he can use to add to his theme., pictures and artifacts which represent the mining days. . Please call him at 886,0186. Jared Flors.

CALL: 886 0186 Jared Flors

FEB 1992

In the Fall of 1890 a bitter Strike was going on in the Franklin mines. The Company officials decided to allow an man named T.B. Corey, who was the mine superintendant of the Franklin mines to recruit strike breakers from the East. The following is the handbill which was being distributed amongst the out-of-work miners. They were mostly black:

COLORED WORKINGMEN! NOTICE!!

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Good wages will be paid the above men. Steady work for three years. No Strikes or trouble of any kind. The finest country on earth. Railroad fare with Board and sleeping - car accomodations, will be furnished to the work place. from St. Louis. Ample provision will be provided for the care and comfort of the men en route to the destination.

Ship from St. Louis without fail Monday May 11, 1891

The men were brought to Franklin only to be greeted by very angry men who were on Strike. Hostility grew to such a point that at one time it was necessary for the Governor to call the Militia to quiet things down.

GREEN RIVER COAL FIELDS TODAY

When the people from Nortonville, CA. first thought about coming to the Washington Territory they were told that the coal they were interested in was in a section of land called the Green River Coal Fields. It consisted of 80 sq. miles which ran from Black Diamond up to Selleck, Kanasket and Cumberland. up past the Green River Gorge. It was virgin timber so thick that it was a real problem to cut and use for the many building projects the new settlers had.

If anyone who lived in the earlier days has not been around for years they would be very surprised to see what has happened in the intervening years. The above mentioned towns have been built and past their heyday. There are still a few residents living there but not as it had been before. The thing that most people are appaled at is the amount of timber that has been cut. Now there are hundreds of acres of stumps and fallen timber. There are many hills visible which had been concealed by timber. There are quite a few acres of second growth trees starting to show and cover some of the scars.

I hope that any of you who lived in the area in the 20's thru 60's will be able to take a ride out and see what is being said. The Gorge and its new Bridge is worth seeing also.

JUNE 6, CELEBRATION

At the recent Board meeting it was decided to have a celebration on June 6. It will be the 110 birthday of the Town. The new additions to the Museum should be completed so there will be double reason for celebrating. No details have yet been decided on but there will be another Newsletter before that time and we'll let everyone know the plans. In the meantime if anyone has any ideas or suggestions we would like to know them also.

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