



MUSEUM HOURS

Saturday & Sunday noon to 3  
 Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 For special arrangements and  
 Tours call:  
 886-1168 886-2327  
 Volume XV Issue II

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Black Diamond, WA.

B.D.H.S.

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

IN MEMORIAM

Charles Thielken A long time Black  
 Diamond resident.  
Nellie Parkinson Johnson. She lived in  
 Black Diamond most of her life. She  
 graduated from Black Diamond High.  
Harold Parkinson former Black Diamond  
 resident. He was the brother of Nellie  
 and a member of an early family.  
Carol Moore Carol was the wife of  
 Martin Moore a member of the Thursday  
 Crew. She leaves Martin and two sons.  
Janet Thim Wife of Ken Thim pf Downey  
 Calif. She was a member of the Harry  
 Hammond Family. She was known as  
 Jeanette while going to school here.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

<u>Ethel Deardan</u>	Joe and Eileen Zumeck	Carl & Ann Steiert	Jessie Landis
<u>Harold Parkinson</u>	Joe & Evelyn Dal Santo	Carl & Ann Steiert,	
	Olga & Everett Swann	Lynda Maks & Frank Hulet	
<u>Nellie Johnson</u>	Mt. Rainier Rebekah Lodge	Ethel & Ruby Duncan	
	Jewell McCloud	Helen Darby	Carl & Ann Steiert
<u>Charles Thielken</u>	Charles & Dorothy Corlett	Juliea Mann, Carl & Ann Steiert	
<u>Tom Campbell</u>	Mr. & Mrs. Lew McCauley	Daryl & Norine McCauley	
	Inez Aden, Elsie Marchetti, Carl & Ann Steiert,		
	Deno Mariotti, George & Wilma Campbell, James Poalucci		
	Bruce & Darlene Campbell		
<u>STERNIG FAMILY</u>	Mr. & Mrs. Sam Witt		



MUSEUM DOINGS

The New Year of 1992 has started off with a bang. Railroad Ave is busy all the time. Attendance at the Museum has been great. Since the first of the year we have had 2835 persons through the place. It has been a real hassle too since the Thursday Crew has been hard at work trying to meet the June 6 deadline. We get people from all over the world. Last week a family from Denmark was in. One of the men was able to read the Danger Sign which we have. It was used in the early days so that all nationalities were able to read and heed the warning. We get many compliments which does a lot for the morale of everyone.  
Robert Barry our member from Edmonds, WA. made a trip to the Museum last week with his wife Katherine. She had just gotten out of the Hospital after suffering a stroke. He has donated many assorted tools and is excited about his tools being shown. They were brought by Regina Whitehill (formerly Marchx) who has been most supportive of the Museum Movement.

Happy Birthday Black Diamond

110 Years

Come Celebrate on June 6

The Whole Town will be

Ready

Begins at 9:00 a.m. on

Railroad Ave

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"BLACK DIAMOND DAY"

The members of the Thursday Crew and others have been hard at work in trying to meet the June 6 deadline for completion of the new additions. Unless some unexpected happens they will, on target. They are anxious for everyone to come out on June 6 and see what has been done. The day is planned to be a old-fashioned visiting Day. There are a lot of home businesses in Black Diamond. They have all been invited to participate and let people know who they are. There will be some booths with various wares for sale. The new Eatery is scheduled to be open. The Eagles will be sponsoring an activity. The Bakery will be open with all their good food. At the Community Center there will be a Breakfast and in front of the building there will be a Saturday Market. It will all begin at about 9 a.m. and run until.....?

We urge everyone to plan to come out and get reacquainted with each other.

"THURSDAY DOINGS"

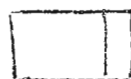
The men have been working extra days in order to get everything done. Even at that there will be a few things which can't be rushed and will have to wait.

The men most often seen with their saws and hammers are: Bob Eaton, Gerald Baintan, Joe Kuzaro, Donald Botts, Bob Burdick, Carl Steiert, Ted Barner and Martin Moore. Charles Corlett has been working hard putting the finishing touches on his display of a Coal Mining Town. It is a mine yard complete with hoist and many buildings representing the Town. You have to see it to appreciate it. He is to be highly commended for the work he has done. It is a great addition to the displays. Joe Dal Santo has also been working on the building.

The Thursday cooks have been doing a great job with their lunches. There is still room for more volunteers to help them. If you can spare an occasional day please call Rose Guidetti at 886-2858

DUES DUES DUES

Jan. 1. is dues time. There are some members who are delinquent. If you have an X in the square it means dues are due. If you have a question about it call 886-1168.



"THE OLD BLACK DIAMOND SALOON"

Most local members of the Black Diamond Historical Society are delighted to hear that the old Saloon building on Railroad Ave. is being made to come alive again. Jared Fors who owns Alphy's Pizza Houses has purchased the building and is going to make it into an Eatery. Plans are for a family style restaurant which will serve family type meals at a reasonable price.

Much history has been reenacted in the space which the Saloon occupies. The first building on the site on the site was in 1885. It was a small log building. It served as a store for the settlers. As the population grew more space was needed for their supplies. It was decided to build another building. The building method was a little unusual. Instead of demolishing the little cabin they built the new building up around it. They used the old cabin for firewood as they needed it.

The area behind the Museum was occupied by a large saloon, a livery stable and several other businesses. Being a Company Town, Black Diamond was allowed only one saloon. This was jeopardized by a County law that was passed which declared that you had to be an incorporated City before you could have a saloon in Town. This was the law that forced Ravensdale to incorporate part of their Town creating the section that was known as Georgetown and contained many new saloons. In Black Diamond it caused the closure of the Krause Saloon, Morgan Davies and Paul Medica rented the store building from the Coal Company. They turned it into a Billiard Parlor. Morg Davies was the father of Verna Thompson. During prohibition it was a place where people could have a game of cards or play a game of pool. It was closely watched by the then sheriff Matt Starwich.

Later on it became a saloon. It had several owners during the next few years. It was a gathering place for the men where they could relax after a hard days work. They would spend hours leaning on the loafing rail which extended towards the Depot.

The building belonged to the Coal Company and they paid rent for it. Some of the men who owned it were: Morgan Davies and Paul Medica, Grover Kertis and Jim Chambers, Al Robinson, Art Kelly. He was Eileen Zumek's father.

Some of the men would consume a goodly amount of liquor and resulted in creating some wild tales of what happened in the "Old Days".

One was about a man called Toby Legee and a man named Kaiser. They had a real dispute going. Kaiser was not doing too well in the fight so he went outside and got a big rock and came back into the Saloon and won the fight.

Another story that is told about Kaiser is that he and another bachelor named Mike were having a dispute. Mike was shaking his finger at Kaiser when Kaiser seized it in his teeth. unthinkingly Mike grabbed a frying pan and hit Kaiser over the head. The blow was so hard that it caused Kaiser to clench his teeth and he bit off Mike's finger. THOSE WERE THE DAYS!!!

POSITION AVAILABLE



With all the preparations going on to meet the June 6 Celebration deadline we find ourselves in need of someone to spruce up the landscaping area in the front of the Museum. There are some dandelions which need to be eliminated and a few annuals planted in the three flower beds. Unless some good soul has some plants to offer, the Society plans to purchase the flowers. It is just the need for someone willing to see that it gets done. So that we will not be accused of any discrimination the wages will be on the same scale as the Thursday Crew.

Late Bulletins: Paul Botts is the newest Museum "Sitter". Thanks, Paul

There is going to be some drilling for gas in Black Diamond.

One site is up above the Town near the water reservoir and at the far north end of Fifth Ave.

"DISCRIMINATION"

Discrimination is a word used frequently in all forms of News Media. One can hardly pick up a paper or listen to a Newscast but what there is some type of it being discussed. It is not a happy subject and gives one a lot of things to think about. What most people don't realize that it is not just a product of this generation but has been going on in one form or another throughout the years. It is not just reserved for people of different skins.

When Black Diamond was a young town there was discrimination going on too. Most of the people who lived here and helped settle the area were immigrants from the "Old Country" as Europe was then called. They slowly and painfully made their way west in spite of not being able to speak any English. When they got to Black Diamond they tended to settle in clusters of same-speaking people. Here they lived and worked together. We joke about it now but there was a definite possessiveness about each area that they settled in. The Welch and English settled on the main section of Town. They were mostly the men who knew mining best and were the bosses etc. Nevertheless they were called such names as Limeys, and Cousin Jacks. The Italians settled in the lower part of Town and a spot off Lawson St. They had a whole litany of names they were called by. They were Wops, Dagos and sometimes Spaghetti-Benders. The word Wop came from when people landed at Ellis Island and didn't have proper papers. They were "With Out Papers" The other nationalities were not overlooked either. The following are some of their names. The Germans were Krauts and Squareheads. The Slovenians were Bohunks and the Polish were Pollacks. Frèch were often called Flying Frogs.

The people being called these names were sensitive to them too because most of them wanted to shed their ties with the Old Country and become American. The name calling was a constant reminder that they belonged elsewhere. Everyone is grateful that in our Town now these names are seldom heard.

"MINING TODAY"

The John Henry Mine which is operated by the Pacific Coast Coal Co. achieved its design capacity of 250,000 tons per year for the first time since it opened in 1986. The mine is located 2 miles northeast of Black Diamond in SE King County. With its 150-ton per day beneficiation plant in full operation the mine produced an all-time high of 251,459 short tons of bituminous coal during 1991 nearly doubling the 1990 production.

Ninety-nine percent of the John Henry mine's production was exported to Japan and Korea for use as steam coal and in cement manufacturing. Use of the remaining one percent was divided among public institutional heating, industrial use and residential heating.

PCCC had considered co-use of the John Henry mine for disposal of construction demolition material and had also considered for applying with County and Federal authorities. The Company abandoned these plans because King County decided to ship demolition material by rail to sites outside of King County.

"A NEW PROBLEM"

Until this time there has been only one person "sitting" the Museum on open days. With the expansion of the facility we feel that there should be another person at least to help. It is difficult right now to keep one's eye on all the people when they come in in bunches. It will be easier to keep track of what is going on if there are at least two on duty. It is actually safer also. We are asking some of you members who have not helped to please consider giving a few hours each month so that the displays may be shown to their full potential and people can be made to feel welcome. Please consider and call: Bob Eaton 886-2327 or Carl Steiert 886-1168. It amounts to only 3 hours once a month.

For several months now the Thursday Crew have been fortunate in having a very good carpenter and workman join their ranks. Everyone is very happy when he shows up each Thursday. Gerald Bainton is a true pioneer of Black Diamond in that his roots go back to the beginning of the Town. His ancestors were part of the many people who migrated from Nortonville in 1882. His Grandmother was a member of the Habenicht Family and his Grandfather was Harry Bainton an early settler .also. Gerald's father was Gus. There were several men in the family namely Henry, George and Gus. There were two girls, Elvera and Loretta. When they first came to Black Diamond they lived up in the main part of Town. Then when the Strike came in 1921 they acquired property on the Chub Lake Road and built their home there. They were a musical family. Many old-timers recall them sitting on their front porch and playing their instruments and being heard uptown to the delight of their many listeners.



Gerald has a rich heritage to draw from. All of his ancestors played an important part in the history of Black Diamond. Gerald ,also, had an Uncle Bill.

Gerald was born Sept.28,1951. He attended the local schools and graduated from the Black Diamond High School. He married his wife,Vivian June 16,1952. They have three sons and one daughter. Gerald retired after working for 38 years at the Boeing plant. He worked mostly at Renton. He did put in some time at the Seattle plant and in Everett for a short time.

He likes to do woodwork in his shop and,also, enjoys boats and fishing. And, of course, camping in the motor home. "None of this primitive stuff, we're told!!"

He enjoys having morning coffee with the "Boys" at the Cenex MiniMart.

He designed and built their home. They did all the labor except the fireplace. Several friends donated labor which was wonderful, Their home is next to his parents home where he was born. Their oldest son now lives there.

We are very happy that he has decided to join the "Crew". Not only are his many talents appreciated but so is his great sense of humor. Because of the fact that most of the men have been working together for a long time a closeness has developed which we all treasure and everyone enjoys Gerald a lot.

#### BUSY BLACK DIAMOND

Most of us living in Black Diamond are guilty of taking too many things for granted. When the Historical Society Board began to discuss the June 6 plans we all took a good look at the Town and had to admit that there is a lot going on. Our City Fathers have to make a lot of decisions which will impact people living here in the future. The Board was amazed to find that there are at least 53 businesses in Town. There is a great deal of discussion as to where there should be growth all around us. There is going to be a group of houses built on the property at the top of Lawson Hill where the Johnson family once lived. There is a development going up on the Ravensdale Road near Ginder Lake. That with the Surface mine traffic makes that area a very busy place. Another group of houses is being built at the west end of Morganville. One very positive addition to the Town is the Community Center. Dorothy Botts and all her helpers are to be congratulated for a job well done. Many people are better for it. Now there is going to be a Saturday Market started in the lot in front of the Center Railroad Ave. is busy with the MiniMall, Bakery, Eagles, Museum and now the new Eatery. We should all be proud of our little City and enjoy it.

(6)  
"MYSTERY TOOLS"

In the Museum we have three artifacts mounted on boards and labeled Mystery Tools. They are labeled 1,2, and 3. We have a lot of fun listening to the guesses that are made. After some guessing we tell them what they are. The first one looks like a part of a horses bridle. It is rather ugly looking. We are told that horses and mules sometimes grow a tooth or two longer than the others. This is due to lack of roughage in their diets. If this condition is not taken care of they will bite themselves and then refuse to eat. They have been known to starve to death because of it. The tool is shoved into their mouth while the teeth are either rasped or sawed in line with the rest of the teeth. This is a process called floating. Many people who deal with horses have guessed what the tool is.

The second tool is very old and was used in early meat markets. It was used to to pull the tendons from turkey thighs. Since that is something no longer done very few people guess it. Everyone expresses the wish that it were still being done.

The third tool looks like a large forcep. We had no idea<sup>s</sup> what it was when it was given to the Museum. We asked many people and they gave us some really unusual guesses! One day a class of fourth graders came through. One boy stood back and said, "I know what that is." He told us that it was a tool used by a shoemaker. When asked how he knew, he said his grandfather had one. He told his folks and a few days later his Father came in with a catalogue of shoemakers' tools. It showed it in there. It is called an Easment tool. It is used to make a stretch place in a shoe where one might have a corn or bunion. The young man who told us was very cute in his pride of knowing what it was.

The mystery tools are of interest to most visitors. They provide much space for exchanges of experiences and conversation with visitors.

We are always on the lookout for any unusual tools or items that we can use to replace the present ones. We have gotten much mileage out of these!!

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The following verse was sent to us by a member from Downey, CA. He is the husband of Janet (Hammond) Thim. Unfortunately we have to report that Janet died in March of Cancer. Ken writes much poetry.

"KEEPING IN TOUCH"

I thought I'd drop a line today, although it won't mean much.  
You see, I think it's nice for folks and friends to keep in touch.  
I thought I'd pen a little note to let you know I'm fine,  
For that can be expressed, I've learned in just one single line.  
I thought I'd stop to say hello and ask if you're ok.  
It only takes a moment and could brighten up your day.  
I thought I'd ask about your health and if you're feeling well.  
Unless I ask, there is no way for me to really tell.  
I thought I'd pen a little note, amidst life's daily gring.  
And, even more specific'lly composed with you in mind.  
I thought I'd drop a line today to one of whom I'm fond.  
It might just be contagious and, if so, you might respond.

Written by;

Ken Thim

*Don't Forget June 6*