



MUSEUM HOURS

Saturday & Sunday Noon to 3:00p.m.  
Thursday 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Special Arrangements & Tours  
Call: 886-1168 or 886-2327

May 1993

Black Diamond, Washington

Vol. XVI Issue II

B.D.H.S.

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Send dues to; Box 232  
Black Diamond, WA. 98010

Editor: Ann Steiert 886-1168

IN MEMORIAM

Lucille Matheaus: Member of St. Barbara's  
Catholic Parish. A long time area  
resident.

Laverne Goodspeed: A member of the long-  
time resident Hawthorne Family.

Alice Scott Jones; She was a pioneer  
in the area. She was born in Franklin  
in 1896. Her mother died when she was  
very young and she was forced to quit  
school and take care of her brothers and  
sisters. She latter married Dick Jones  
whose family owned one of the hotels in  
Black Diamond. She was widowed early and  
supported herself working for the Phone  
Co. She died March 13, 1993. We want to  
thank Regina for the information.

MEMORIALS

Laurel Shute: Don & Margaret Shute, Leona Forler, David Baker, Mr. & Mrs  
Ted Barner.

Helen Darby: Mr. & Mrs Ted Barner, Lynda Maks, Mr. & Mrs. Otto Mattson,  
Pauline Kombol.

Mel Tyler: Lois Zumeck, Mr. & Mrs. Bud Simmons, Everett & Olga Swann

Joe Romedo: Mr. & Mrs. Bud Simmond, Gary & Barbara Raykovich

Jack Hope: Mr. & Mrs. Otto Mattson, Charles and Betty Falk, Carl & Ann Steiert  
Pauline Kombol, George Morris, Frank & Elizabeth Grgurich.

Alice Scott Jones: Mr. & Mrs. Harold Whitehill  
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JUNE 6 BIRTHDAY

On June 6 it will<sup>be</sup> the 111th birthday of the Town. This year it will be  
celebrated by having an open house where everyone can come and see the Museum  
and hopefully have a lot of people to get reacquainted with. Festivities will  
start at Noon. There will be a slide show and we hope a good old "Coming Home"  
time for everyone. Please mark your calendar.....see you on June 6!

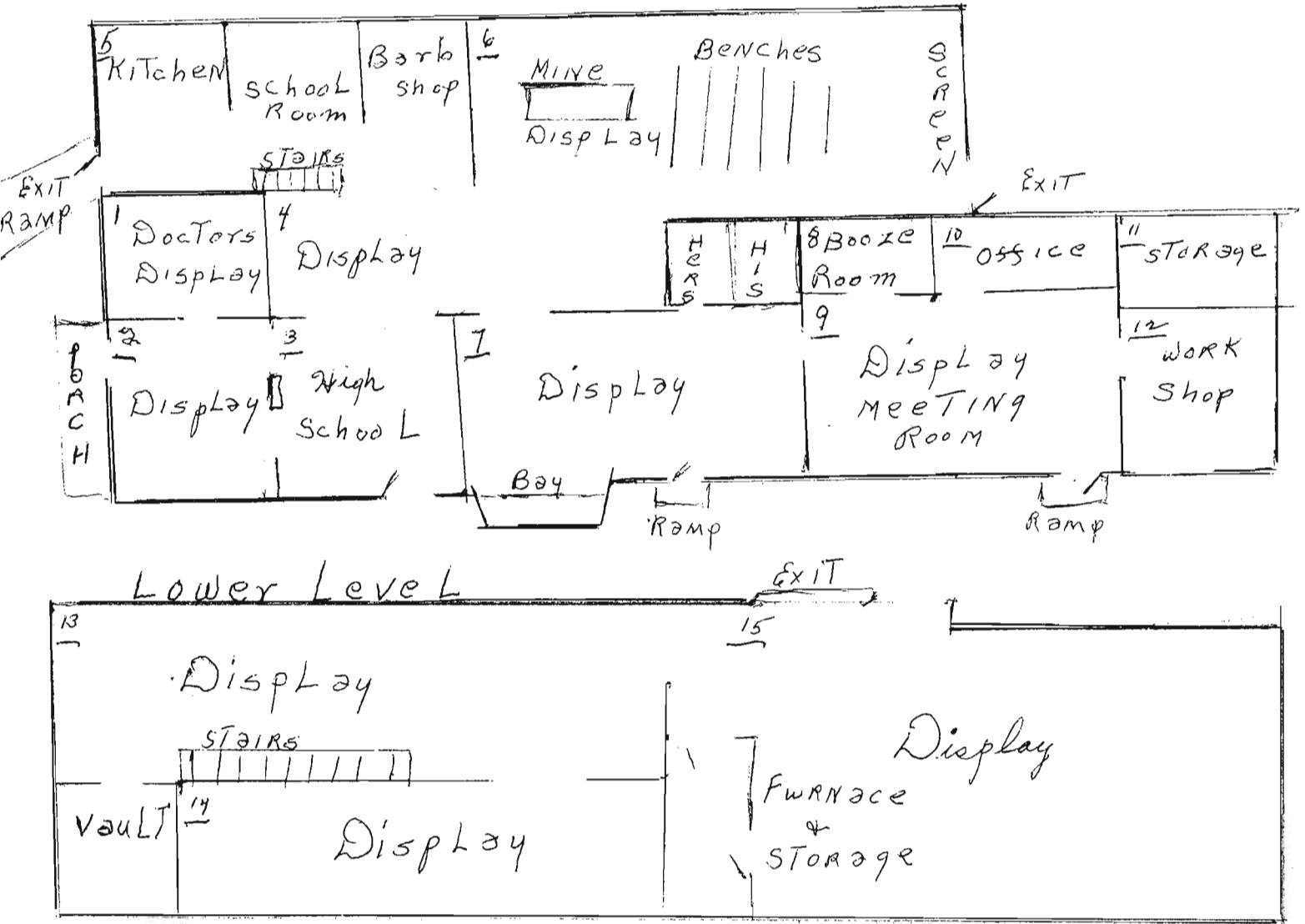
QUILT RAFFLE

One day this past month Marilyn Pederson (Flothe) came into the Museum  
carrying a beautiful hand made quilt, She said had been made by Patti Olson.  
She suggested that it would be a good idea to use it as a prize in a fund-  
raising raffle. We all agreed that it would be a good idea since money has been  
very hard to come by. There will be four other prizes offered along with the  
first prize "the quilt". We are asking everyone to take part in this effort  
so that we can complete the work already started on the Museum.

We would like to thank Marilyn, and Patti for the quilt. It is valued at \$300.00  
The Dinner House, The Saloon/Eatery and the Black Diamond Video along with  
Ann Steiert donated the rest of the prizes. Thanks you all.

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"LET'S TAKE A TOUR"



We are very fortunate that the interest in the Museum continues to grow. Since the first of the year there have been over 1900 persons who have gone through the place. A good many of them are children who are being taught at home and from the traditional schools also. I am going to take you through on a brief tour much as we give to our visitors.

We like to have them come into room 2 which is just off the front porch. We get them to gather there and listen while we tell them how our Town got started and some historical facts about the early days. We tell them that we have our roots in Nortonville, CA. It all began in 1880 when the Black Diamond Mining Co. realized that their coal was such poor grade that they would have to get another location or close their business. The poor quality of their coal was being shown by ships coming into San Francisco harbor who were selling coal from the holds of their ships which was very good coal. This only increased their feeling that they had better move.

They had been told that in Washington Territory there was a place called the "Green River Coal Fields". which had very superior coal. They sent up men to prospect the area and in 1882 they decided to move north. They sent 100 men and one woman in the first contingent of people. They were met by a land filled with huge forests and a lot of coal. Their first concern was how are going to

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Get the coal to Market? They contacted a small Railroad which went from Seattle to Renton and they agreed to extend their line out here. This took about two years. They were really in business then. One thing that took sometime to cope with was the abundance of trees and the great size of them. They were a great help to them because they were able to use them to timber the mines and to build their homes. It was a real challenge to all. The kids get a kick out of putting themselves into the place of the 1882 kids. When asked how they would have reacted if they were alive then, they have mixed feelings. We talk about some of the things we take for granted now such as electricity, bath rooms. They were asked what they would miss most if a huge hand would come into their home and take out everything that had a plug on it. TV and Nintendo took first place with refrigerators close second.

We talk a bit about the Medical room and the fact that Dr. Tate Mason was a doctor here before he went into Seattle and started the Virginia Mason Clinic.

The 3rd room is where the reception desk is and is full of school pictures and diplomas etc. Much time is spent in this area as people look for pictures of friends and relatives. The next room has a collage of buttons in a frame under glass. It has 3000 buttons going back to 1900 in it. A very old machine for sewing leather and many other items are there too.

Room 5 has a kitchen display, a School room, and a Barber Shop. Many people spend a lot of time here just "remembering" how it was. The stairs going to the lower rooms are in here.

Room 6 is a very busy room. Here Charles Corlett shows the people how his mine yard Diorama works. He built the exhibit which consists of a Mine Tipple with a mine car coming out of the ground. He built many houses which are typical of how the early houses looked. The coal car goes underground and comes back up with a load of coal and dumps it. The display is well done and is made up of a lot of hard work and planning. In this room there are several rows of wooden benches where people sit while Carl shows them the Slide Show and narrates. It is a popular room.

Room 7 has 4 large showcases filled with many artifacts. There is a huge multiplex filled with photos of the early days. The Railroad Agent's Bay is here and on one wall is the working model of the car that took the men down into the mine.

Rooms 8 and 9 have many displays. No. 8 is called the Booze Room and contains a big cidr press and a Whiskey Still. Lots of stories are exchanged here, also! The last display room is No 9. It has many displays and is a very much used multi-purpose room. It is here that the men have their lunches and A few organizations have meetings as well as the Historical Society.

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"LET'S TAKE A TOUR" Cont'd

In this area there are three more small rooms used for an office, storage room and finally a workshop for the men.

This pretty well covers the first room. There are two restrooms. We tailor each tour according to the age of the people in the tour and what sort of interest they seem to show. It is gratifying because we meet a wonderful assortment of people and learn many things ourselves.

When we go downstairs we show them all the tools and motors and things that were used in early work days. There are wash machines and typewriters and tools of all sorts. Robert Barry of Edmonds has contributed a great many very interesting tools which he brings all mounted and ready to go.

Carl quite often takes those who wish to go, under the building and shows them how it would feel to work in a mine. There is so much to see that it is hard to put it all down on paper. We feel that everyone who has worked on the project can be justly proud.

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TELEPHONE

Everyone was very excited when the Board decided that it was time to have a telephone installed at the Museum. Until now the thinking was that most of the time there wasn't anyone there when the place was not open. Now with all the visitors of all ages it was decided that it was the better part of precaution to have a phone in case we had to call 911 or have any sort of emergency. It has an answering service which can be read from home. The number is 886-2142. We would like to thank Carl and Betty Falk for paying for the Answering Machine Charles Corlett and Bob Eaton took care of the installation. Bob's son donated the cable. There is a unit at the front desk and just a phone in the back office.

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LABOR DAY

The Labor Day Committee is beginning to have their meetings now which makes us aware that it will soon be upon us. For many years now we have decorated Carl's Model T truck for the Parade. We've sort of run out of ideas and would like some suggestions from the members. The ideas don't have to involve the truck. In fact, Carl has been heard to complain that he has not been able to see the Parade for ten years because he's always stuck in the truck. Please, think  
36 out it and let us know if you have an idea.

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This is the time of the year that dues are due if you are not a Life member. We have 296 members. There are some who are over 80 from whom we never hear anything. If anyone knows of such a case, please, let us know about it. During the years since the Society was started we have had a pretty steady rate of membership. However, time has taken its'toll, also, we have lost about 75 members through the years.

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"GARDENER"

Gino Picini, our volunteer gardener from Seattle has come out and started to work on the area. He spent a long time picking up papers etc. on Railroad Ave. He has started to work on the roses and shrubs. Thanks a lot, Gino, it is really appreciated.

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Morgan Davis was born in Scranton, PA. He came to Nortonville, CA with his Father and Mother as a young boy. He went to work with his Father in the mine. His Father was killed in a mine explosion and he was burned. It left his lungs weakened. Later he spent a lot of time in the hills.

When the miners were sent to Black Diamond he, his mother and nephew James Cartwright came here. She was

the first woman in Camp. That was 1882  
There was only one house in town.

Two bachelors had built a shack on the creek that runs through the now Raykovich property. The Company had them move out so she would have a place to live. At that time the men slept in tents. Later they built a house next to Barkley's Hotel-

later known as Scott's place. Then he worked in the store for a while and then in Joe Krause's Saloon.



When the Country went dry 1918 the Saloon was closed. He and Paul Medica started the Pool Hall in the Calhoun Store. It kept going until 1921 when the big strike began. Then the Company told him that he had to let the scabs come in and keep the Union men out. He refused. They then told him he would have to move his building off of their land. It was impossible to do so. So he sold out to Kertis and Chambers.

He then invested as a partner in Lake Twelve. They started a Resort. It ran until 1930.

They moved to Renton to his sisters' His mother had died 1900 and is buried in the Black Diamond Cemetery with her Nephew who had died earlier

He married Ann Elizabeth Davies in 1906. They had five daughters Verna Thompson, Evelyn Hart, Jane Hawthorne, Merle Santini Romedo, Clarissa Beers.

He died of pneumonia in 1946 and is buried in the Black Diamond Cemetery.

Editor's Note: I would like to thank Verna for telling us about her family. They were some of the substance from which the Towns Roots are made. They lived in the very interesting beginning days of the area.

"MORE MUSEUM THOUGHTS"



We are finding that as the Museum grows so do some of our problems. Thus far things have gone smoothly. As we have grown in size we are finding that some of the smaller chores have now grown considerably. One of the ones facing us is that we will be needing more help to keep the place clean. For the past 16 years the Curators have done most of the sweeping etc. The floor space has doubled and so has the amount of people going through. Since the weather is so unpredictable and we have lots of mud to contend with it keeps a person busy all the time. It isn't a hard job to clean the place but one that needs weekly attention. We are hoping that there might be someone to lead some volunteers to help the situation. This the seventeenth year of the project. Ann Steiert says that after all those years her bones are beginning to rebel. A chap by the name of Arthur Itis is playing heck with her hands! If you have any ideas as to how we can cope with these problems, please, let us hear from you..... Jill Sena has been the only recent offer and Rose Guidetti has helped in past times. She does a super job in getting the Thursday Gang their much appreciated lunches.

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"CLEAN COAL??"



From the beginning of coal mining as we know it one of the concerns which the Coal Companies have faced has been the cleaning of the coal after it was brought to the surface. The best known way was to have a bunker through which the coal was run through and processed for dirt and rock. It was, also, graded for size. The following article was found in the April issue of Popular Science Magazine. It gives a more hopeful aspect on future mining.

Borneo's Squeaky Clean Coal

The the techniques used to clean up coal before it is burned are aimed primarily at removing naturally occurring sulphur. It's far from cheap. Compliance with smokestack sulphur dioxide levels stipulated by the Clean Air Act are estimated to cost utilities nearly \$300 for every ton of sulphur removed. In Borneo, though, one mining operation is producing coal that, right from the ground contains one-fifth the sulphur found in the cleanest coal found in America. If the sulphur dioxide level from this miracle fossil proves low enough to meet regulations without the use of a smokestack scrubber, the benefits multiply, as the total carbon dioxide output would drop by 15%. While transporting this pure coal from the other side of the Globe may not be feasible. Its discovery may point out the possibility that much cleaner coal may be available right under our feet. Exploration in modern time has focused on more previous commodities; but with this teaser, there could be a Coal Rush in the offing.

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"MORE MUSEUM"



Robert Barry and his wife Catherine visited us recently and brought a large log jack. It is big! and some cans which will be used in an "OLD Company store" which we are setting up in one of the small rooms in the basement section. We thank Bob for his interest in our Museum. We already have many items which he has given us.

We are asking all of you to help with the store. If you have artifacts or any suggestions we will be glad to receive them.

We recently were given a showcase by the Post Office here in B.D. It is large and is going to be used right now to hold many old coins and valuable items. It is built very sturdy and has locks on it.

"THANK YOU DON BOTTS"

We would like to thank Donald Botts and the people who are helping him man the Museum on weekends. Thus far the faithful ones have been, Donna Gouchenour, Ethel Duncan, Florence Garrett, Mary Chilcott, Don Mason, Verna Thompson and Carl and Betty Falk. Charles and Dorothy Corlett have also been helping. The problem that faces us is that the place is now too big for one person to sit. We need more volunteers. I have asked for volunteers before and have yet to get a response. It is only 3 hours once a month. The ones who have been coming have been most faithful and we really thank them. Let's hear from someone....

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