

*Black Diamond Historical Society*



# Newsletter

Spring (J,F,M) 2000  
Vol. XXIV, Issue 1

Published in Black Diamond, Washington

Printed Quarterly

USPS Permit #19

## The Museum is located at

32627 Railroad Ave.  
Black Diamond, Washington

## Museum Hours:

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday Noon - 3:00 p.m.  
Sunday Noon - 3:00 p.m.

Special tours may be arranged  
by calling 360-886-2142  
or 360-886-2327

## Visitors:

*(In addition to local visitors from  
the surrounding Puget Sound  
area)*

Since the first of the year, people  
have visited the Museum from:

Deft, The Netherlands

Cincinnati, Ohio

Thousand Lakes, California

Friends Wood, Texas

Woodburn, Oregon

Alingsas, Sweden. Iowa

Mountain Home, Idaho

Guy, Arkansas

Munich, Germany

Honolulu, Hawaii

Walnut, California

Oldsma, Florida

Logan Lake, British Columbia

Wainae, Hawaii

Port Washington, New York

## Museum Report

Notes on "What's been happening at the Museum" By Bob Eaton, your  
museum "~~Executive director~~" (a big fancy title, but the same hard worker.)

The museum has needs for volunteers, the first opportunity is in  
working with the two educational grants to be used at Black Diamond and  
Sawyerwoods Grade Schools. These grants are used to pass on the history of  
coal mining and Black Diamond on to the children in these two schools. The  
program has a traveling box of artifacts and an informational book as  
supplies.

What this program needs to really make it complete is a volunteer to go  
with the information into the class rooms to present the artifacts and work  
with the teachers on answering the students questions. This is a truly  
rewarding experience and it passes on valuable information by bringing  
history alive for the students.

The second opportunity is babysitting! Just kidding, on Saturdays and  
Sundays during the regular "open" hours we could use more volunteers for  
Docents. A Docent is someone to show visitors around the museum and  
answer questions. The qualifications are as follows: over 10 years of age, alive  
and friendly! Training is available to all. There is no limit to the fun and you  
learn a lot from the visitors too.

If you would like to volunteer or know someone who would, call the museum  
at (360) 886-2142 or me at home after hours at (360) 886-2327

## Society Report:

The Winter meeting was held on Sunday, February 28, 1999, at 1:00 p.m.  
This meeting had almost no attendees! This is your Society. All members  
(and non-members, too) are invited, and urged to attend. The few remaining  
hard workers cannot be expected to do the work, conduct the business forever.

Discussed: grants, work accomplished, need of Trustees, newsletter,

Current critical needs and problems are:

- Active participants in the Black Diamond Historical Society
- Volunteers for Society offices and positions
- Volunteers for Museum maintenance, upkeep, improvements.
- New members

Black Diamond Historical Society



**Membership Fees:**

Personal, Annual \$ 5.00  
 Family, Annual \$ 7.00  
 Business, Annual \$15.00  
 Lifetime \$50.00

**Payable to:**

Black Diamond Historical Society  
 P.O. Box 232  
 Black Diamond, WA 98010-0232

**Society Officers:**

President: Bill Luke  
 Vice-President: Don Mason  
 Secretary: Betty Luke  
 Treasurer: Clayton Mead  
 Manager: Bob Eaton  
 Trustees:

Ann Steiert  
 Don Botts  
 JoAnne Matsumura  
 Jackie Cedarholm  
 Kelley Sauskajus  
 Shelley Aarness  
 Howard Botts  
 Gino Piccini

**Volunteers needed for:**

Host/Hostess  
 Thursday Crew  
 Thursday Cooks  
 Newsletter  
 Special  
 Cookbook

The Black Diamond Historical Society Newsletter is published by and for members of the Black Diamond Historical Society, a Non-profit organization.

Bill Luke, Editor  
 P.O. Box 237  
 Black Diamond, WA 98010-0237  
 360-886-2331

**- - Memorial Donations - -**

*Note: Names are posted on the Memorial Board in the Museum.*

**Memorial in the name of:**

**Donation made by:**

Emil Rogsi	Don Botts, Charlie and Dorothy Corlett, Carl and Ann Steiert
Theola Estby	Don Botts, Muriel Waldo, Judy Young
Rose Quidetti	Bob Eaton, Evan Morris, Ramon Kravagna, Don Botts, Carl and Ann Steiert
Mondell Merlini	Darline and Norman Sunde, Harriet Budinich, Margaret Vernarelli, Angeline Olson
Eibie Hunter Lombardi	Margaret Chamberlain
Albert Rossi	Joe and Eileen Zumek, Carl and Ann Steiert
Bertha Jones Ingalls	Corine Deering
Margaret Fyock	Charles and Dorothy Corlett

*- - Volunteers - -*

**Docents**

**Coordinator:** Don Botts  
**Host/Hostess:**  
 Don Botts  
 Mary Lou Bovee  
 Mary Chilcott  
 Charlie & Dorothy Corlett  
 Florence Garrett  
 Ethel Duncan  
 Donna Gouchenour  
 Betty Luke  
 Don Mason  
 Nadine Hulsey  
 Joanne Matsumura

We have one lady who travels many miles to be a hostess at our museum. She lives north of Seattle near the King-Snohomish County line. Her name is *Mary Lou Bovee* and she says she enjoys very much coming here to be a part of the Museum staff. The Museum appreciates her efforts very much and wish there were more volunteers like her.  
*(Contributed by Dorothy Corlett)*

**Monthly Museum Attendance:**

Jan. - 231  
 Feb. - 215  
 Mar. - 392  
 Apr. - 391

# Carl, We'll Miss You!

The following is reprinted from the South County Journal, Tuesday, April 25, 2000

## Longtime Black Diamond historian dies

By Mike Archbold  
Journal Reporter

**BLACK DIAMOND**-The man known as Mr. Black Diamond, because of his long-standing passion for perserving the history of this one-time coal mining town, died Sunday in an Enumclaw assisted- living residence.

Carl Henry Steiert was 89.

Born Feb. 3, 1911, in Leland, Idaho, he was brought to Black Diamond when he was 6 months old, the adopted child of Joseph and Rosa Steiert who had settled in Black Diamond in 1888. He never left.

He lived much of the history of the town and became part of it. He was never a miner. His career was auto mechanics. He went to work for the Diamond Stage Company in 1926 when he was 15 years old. In the 1960s he bough its sucessor, the Diamond Garage. He retired in 1974.

He and his wife, Ann, were married for 65 years.

What Carl didn't know about the history of Black Diamond area probably wasn't worth knowing. Without him, there might never have been a Black Diamond Historical Museum. Opened in 1982, it is filled with artificats that Sterert donated or helped obtain.

He shared his love of history with school children, civic groups and muesum visitors. He spent a great deal of time as late as last fall at the museum. Print and TV reporters would seek him out for stories on the true happenings of Black Diamond.

"He was the father of the town and the museum," said Bob Eaton, manager of the museum and one of its founders. "He was the backbone of the museum and was a pretty good citizen all the way round.

Steiert also was one of the first volunteer firefighters for Black Diamond Fire District 17 and served as a volunteer firefighter for 25 years. He tried his hand at politics as a member of the Black Diamond

Planning Commission but later said he was not cut out for politics.

Instead, if there was a project in town, he was the first to volunteer. Those who knew him called him "the heart and the soul of the town."

Last year, he slowed down a bit. He use a cane to steady himself and he used it his way - with the curled handle facing out, as he explained, put weight directly over the shaft.

He is survived by his wife, Ann in Enumclaw; son Jerry Steiert of Kirkland; daughter Carol Franklin of Auburn; sister Thelma Griffith of Sequim; four grand daughters and one great Grand daughter.

A potluck gathering in memory of Mr. Steiert was held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Friday at the Black Diamond Community Center, 31605 Third Ave. Memorials may be made to the Black Diamond Historical Society, P.O. Box 232, Black Diamond, WA 98010.

(Editor's Note: More than 200 people attend the memorial potluck.)

### *Volunteers (Cont.)*

#### **Thursday Crew**

Coordinator: Bob Eaton

Crew:

Don Botts  
Bob Burdick  
Charlie Corlett  
Bob Eaton  
Betty Luke  
Bill Luke  
Don Mason  
Ann Steiert  
Joanne Matsumura  
Joe Zumek  
Gino Piccini

#### **Thursday Cooks**

Coordinator: Beth VanBuskirk

Cooks:

Marlene Bortleson  
Ethel Duncan  
Harriette Rossi  
Charlene Birkliid  
Eileen Zumek  
Betty Luke  
Nancy Mead  
Evelyn Dal Santo  
Jill Sena  
Rosemary Kanoski  
Beth Deady  
Linda Maks

I believe all of these ladies have provided lunch for the crew since work parties began - with the exception of a couple of "snowbirds". They are available, we work the schedule around to accomodate their travels.

If all goes well they serve about every 8 weeks. They enjoy doing it, as the men are very appreciative.

*(By Beth VanBuskirk)*

Support our Advertisers

## Enumclaw Licence Agency

1612 Cole Street  
ENUMCLAW, WA 98022

360-825-2711  
FAX 360-825-2997

*Ona L. Smith*

### Coming Events:

The *Black Diamond Historical Museum* and the *Puget Sound Welsh Society* will sponsor a special *WELSH HERITAGE PROGRAM* from noon to 3 p.m. at the Museum on May 22, 1999. There will be a number of special exhibits. Many persons of Welsh heritage were involved in the coal mining communities in the King County.

Contact the Museum at (253) 886-2327 or the Society at (206) 282-5680.

## *Black Diamond Neighborhood Market & Smoke House*

Ron and Sharon

### Store hours

Monday - Saturday  
7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Sunday  
7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

*JoAnne D. Matsumura*

*Technical Researcher  
1110 Wildwood Blvd. SW  
Issaquah, WA 98027-4503  
425-392-7673*

## PALMER COKING COAL CO.



RED CINDERS  
GRAVEL  
- WASHED  
- CRUSHED  
TOP SOIL  
FIREWOOD

PO Box 10 - 31407 Hwy 169  
Black Diamond, WA 98010

360-886-2841 206-432-4700  
FAX 206-432-3883

*Call for prices  
U-Haul or We Deliver*



Wood Products Co., Inc.

4 CORNERS

(206) 432-1222

WHOLESALE      RETAIL



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