



Newsletter

Volume XXV, Issue IV
Printed Quarterly-November 2000

The Museum Is Located At

32627 Railroad Ave
P.O. Box 232
Black Diamond, WA 98010-0232
360-886-2142
Bdmuseum@foxinternet.com

Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturday 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Sunday 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Museum Hours

Special Tours May Be Arranged
By Calling 360-886-1162
Or 360-886-2327

Visit our new web site!

[Http://mytown.koz.com/
community/blackdiamondmuseum](http://mytown.koz.com/community/blackdiamondmuseum)



The Caboose Restored

If you haven't seen the caboose that stands in front of the Black Diamond Museum for a while, come and check it out.. The paint was in poor condition, so through the efforts of our volunteers, the caboose has a new paint job.

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Happy Holidays to Ann Steiert

The Museum Staff extends Best Wishes and Happy Holidays to **Ann Steiert**, who is convalescing at Living Court in Enumclaw, Washington.

We Miss You Ann!!!

Holiday Hours

Closed on Thanksgiving Day
Closed from December 22nd through
January 3rd.

Membership Rates

Individual, Annual	\$10.00
Couple	\$15.00
Organization	\$30.00
Lifetime	\$100.00
Membership App.	Page 11

Payable To

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

Society Officers

President	Don Mason
Treasurer	Clayton Mead
Secretary	Dee Israel

Museum Manager

Bob Eaton

Directors

Don Botts, JoAnne Matsumura, Jackie Cedarholm, Gino Picini, Joe Zumek, Bill Luke, Steve Israel

Volunteers

(Listed on Page 5)

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

To send material for the Newsletter, address it to:

Steve Israel, Editor

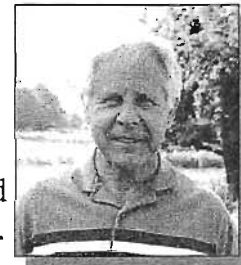
P.O. Box 22
Black Diamond, WA 98010

360-886-2582 stevedee@tx3.com

The membership mailing list is maintained by **Dee Israel**. Please address any changes or corrections to **Dee Israel** at the Museum:

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

Welcome Our New President



We have had our elections, and **Don Mason** is our new President. Don has been with the Black Diamond Historical since the beginning.

Don Mason

Don's interest in the Black Diamond area started about 28 years ago when he ran across a tombstone in a pioneer cemetery located near his home in Kent. It read "**Johnny Hall - Killed in Franklin Mine Disaster**". Not knowing where Franklin was, he and his family, while taking a drive one Sunday stopped at the Black Diamond Library and inquired as to it's whereabouts. A retired Black Diamond miner, **Ted Barner** offered to take them to the area. He has been tromping, investigating, researching and educating anyone interested in the area ever since.

Don's enthusiasm is so catchy that through his efforts Franklin has once again seemed to come alive and taken its real place in our history. We have all gained a very special friend and co-worker.

Since the conception of the Museum, Don has been an active member as director, special events coordinator and Vice President. Now that **Bill Luke** has stepped down, while he and his wife **Betty** do their traveling, Don has filled the position as President.



Welcome Our New Secretary

Dee Israel is our new Secretary, taking over where **Betty Luke** left off. Dee has been a Black Diamond resident since 1970, when she moved here as a result of a transfer to the Enumclaw office of the State Department of Transportation.

Dee has been retired for a few years now, and is busy researching genealogy, and writing a book on her family history.

Along with her office skills, Dee brings skills from holding offices with the TOPS chapter that meets here in Black Diamond.

Welcome Aboard, Dee!



Dee Israel

**Secretary of the
Black Diamond
Historical Society**

**BDHS SECRETARY REPORT
AUGUST 10 THRU OCTOBER 1, 2000**

Steve Israel, new newsletter editor, was introduced and was complimented on the success and the good job he did on his first issue. Steve said that he will produce four issues per year, with a printing schedule of the first day of the months of February, May, August, and November. The deadline for all submissions is two weeks prior to the first of those months. Articles may be e-mailed to him, sent in on computer disc, typewritten, for him to scan into the computer, or in any form desired. He will work with whatever comes in.

Museum director, **Bob Eaton**, applied for and has gotten a Sesquicentennial Grant from the King County Landmarks and Heritage Commission. According to the terms of the grant, the Monies awarded are to be used for Maintenance and Operations, and must be expended before the end of the year. Mr. Eaton is working on two additional grants for the Society. One for archival equipment and one for the **Lake Sawyer School**.

Mr. Eaton reported that we are the only museum which is not able to send and receive e-mails. He suggested the Society purchase a new computer (to replace the antiquated one we now have) so we could, not only have E-mail available, but have a direct link to AKCHO, and set up a web site, as well as type up the many reports and correspondence that go along with running a successful museum. After much discussion, **Steve Israel** volunteered to do some research on what options we have for a new computer. At the next meeting, Steve presented a report with comparisons between different computers. The Board selected the Homepower 700 made by Tiny. The computer was purchased

and set up in the office. It is connected to the Office Jet printer/scanner that we have had for a while. A few improvements were also made to the office to better utilize the available work space.

Bob Eaton, advised that there were approximately 230 visitors over the Labor Day weekend. The visitors enjoy our museum very much, but wish we could be open more days. Bob advised we just don't have enough volunteers, and there really should be at least 3 volunteers available for the visitors when ever the Museum is open.

Bob also reminded us that \$5.00 from each "Mining The Memories" book sold, goes into The Societies savings account. and **Clayton Mead** suggested, we have a raffle to help the treasury.

Archive Chairman, **JoAnne Matsumura** handed out an Archive Committee Report, and Treasurer, **Clayton Mead** gave an extensive report of the finances of the Society since the beginning of the year.

President, **Bill Luke** advised the Board that he and Betty were not going to be available to fill office positions this coming year, as they would be traveling. **Don Mason** thanked Bill and Betty for their efforts and work for the Museum during the past year. At the Societies annual meeting, on October 1, 2000 election of officer's was held. The Officer's are now as follows: **Don Mason, President; Clayton Mead, Treasurer; Dee Israel, Secretary. The Directors are: Don Botts, JoAnne Matsumura, Jackie Cedarholm, Gino Picini, Joe Zumek, Bill Luke, Steve Israel**

Don Mason suggested we have quarterly board meetings instead of monthly. The board agreed. Don advised that meeting dates, times and other details of museum operations would be worked out in the near future.

Don also advised the board that **Charles Payton**, Community Museum Advisor, would be at the Museum at 9:00 a.m., on October 7th to help us get started putting together a 5 year goal plan.

President Luke advised the group that the By-laws (Constitution) needed to be reviewed and official amendments made, and when this is done, it should include a definition of who the officers are, what their duties are, and the function of the Board of Directors.

The Board agreed that this should be done soon after the planning sessions with **Charles Payton** were completed and the 5 year goal plan done, so that all the necessary changes could be done at once.

Steve Israel presented a proposed museum



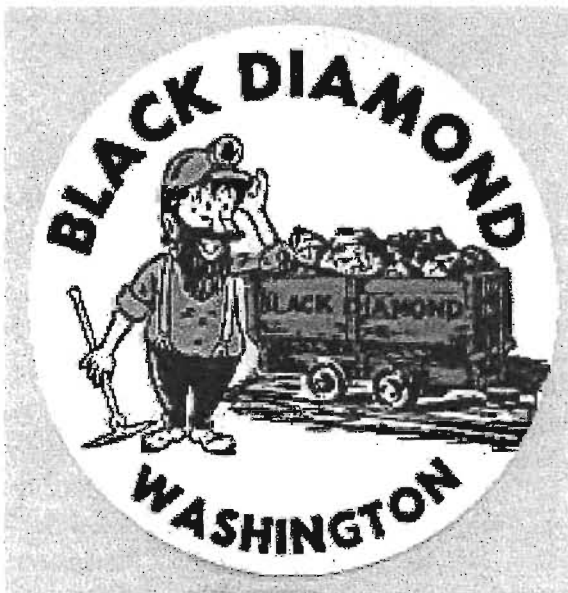
(Secretary's Report continued from previous page) brochure. It was approved and copies have been made for distribution.

Bob Eaton reported that the AKCHO are having their annual book sale on November 25th from 10-5. A few dollars was made in the past, selling our "Mining the Memories" book. If others want to join him at the sale, for the day, let him know.

Doug Danley from Othello, WA, and his brother **Bob (Glackin) Danley** from Louisville, KY attended the meeting on October 1. Doug thanked all the people present for the effort they are putting in to the Museum, and for the jobs they are doing. He said he sees some positive things going on, and good things happening.

Respectfully Submitted by;

Dee Israel, BDHS Secretary



From The Editor

By: Steve Israel



Here it is, time for another newsletter already. We have been having so much fun that time has been flying by!

I would like to thank **Bill Kombol** for the Coal Mine Report from 1887 that he sent for publication in our newsletter. With our interest in the history of Black Diamond, I think we all enjoy reading this.

Please feel free to send me anything that you would like to see in the newsletter. Send material to my address listed on page 2.

**Due date for the next issue is:
January 15th, 2001**

Our office at the Museum has been streamlined a little. We now have more work space, better lighting, and a new computer. I am now able to publish the Newsletter at the Museum.

Now that we have the new computer, we have e-mail. Already, it is proving to be handy for receiving information for the Newsletter.

Our new web site is another opportunity for the rest of the world to visit us, to get an idea of what we are all about. (Of course we don't want to put too much on the web, or they wouldn't have a reason to come and visit in person, now would they?)

Please visit our web site and give us ideas of what you would like to see there. We will be updating it regularly.

My wife, Dee and I would like to wish you all of you Happy Holidays! We are looking forward to meeting more of the members of the Black Diamond Historical Society, so don't be shy, we are at the Museum on many occasions.

Steve

Recognizing Our Volunteers

DOCENTS

Don Botts
Donna Gouchenour
Mary Chilcott
Ethel Duncan
Mary Lou Bovee
Charlie & Dorothy Corlett
Don Mason
Nadine Hulsey

THURSDAY CREW

Bob Eaton
Don Botts
Charlie Corlett
Don Mason
Joanne Matsumura
Gino Picini
Joe Zumek
Jackie Cedarholm
Steve Israel



(Well, at least the cooks survived, are you feeling ok Don?)

COOKS

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

We Cooked For The Cooks!

And they all survived!
Yes, the Thursday Crew cooked for the Cooks, in appreciation of all of the good food that they have been providing for the Thursday work parties.



1887 COAL MINE REPORTS: by Bill Kombol

Beginning in 1887, Washington's State Inspector of Coal Mines began issuing an annual report of their inspection of the coal mines and ventilation of coal mines. This series of articles for the Black Diamond Historical Society Newsletter is a verbatim transcript of those portions of the annual reports dealing with the coal mines of Black Diamond and Franklin.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF COAL MINES AND VENTILATION OF WASHINGTON TERRITORY, OLYMPIA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1887 by James H. Watson, Coal Mine Inspector

THE BLACK DIAMOND MINES

The Black Diamond mines are the property of the Black Diamond Coal Mining Company. They are situated thirty miles south east from Seattle, on the Cedar River extension of the Columbia and Puget Sound Railroad. The daily capacity of the mines is about 700 tons. Their annual shipments, which began in April, 1885, are as appended.

Year.	Tons.
1885	10,562
1886	71,356
1887	66,500

Total	148,418

The coal from these mines is of the semi-bituminous class. It meets with considerable favor as a steam coal, and finds an easy market.

BLACK DIAMOND.

During the term ending October 31, 1886, visited the mines of this company several times. Slope No. 2 is being opened out slowly, but what there is, is in good shape, and the ventilation is good.

SLOPE NO. 14.

This slope is being sunk for another lift below the one now in operation. The methods adopted for the sinking, I examined and found safe. The workings on the east side of this slope have been closed down for the time being, but on the west side, they are working all the men they can. I found the workings and ventilation in good condition as also the slopes and machinery. Out put for the quarter, 14,900 tons.

During the quarter ending December 31, 1886, I vis-

ited the mines on several occasions. No. 14. is now being worked from the third lift. This coal seems to improve the deeper they get. No. 2 is being worked slowly, the coal being more in demand for household purposes. The mines I found in good condition, the ventilation good, and the machinery and outside fittings in good shape. Out put for quarter, 18,250 tons.

In my various visits to this company's mine during the quarter ending March 31, 1887, I seldom reached them when in operation, but although the mines were idle I found the workings in good condition, and the ventilation in first rate order. Out put for quarter, 11,696.14 tons

In my examinations during the quarter ending June 30, 1887, I found the mines in good condition. The only new work being done is the driving of the crosscut tunnel from the lower lift on No. 14, over to their No. 2 seam. The slopes are in first class condition, as are also their pumping and hoisting machinery, fans and hoisting ropes.

	Tons.
Out put for quarter	21,654.15
Total out put for year	66,509.29

THE FRANKLIN MINE.

The Franklin Mine is situate about 3 miles east of the Black Diamond, is owned by the Oregon Improvement Company, and produces semi-bituminous coal of fine quality, which has become quite a favorite for domestic use.

The average capacity is about 300 tons per day, but in a few months this colliery will be one of the largest producers on the coast.

Coal was shipped from this mine in July, 1883, but the developments were slow, and regular shipments only commenced in the latter part of 1885.

Their annual shipments commencing in 1886, are as follows:

1886	8,350
1887	37,922

Total	46,272

O. I. CO. FRANKLIN.

During the term, this mine has been fitted up with a large fan, which has much improved the ventilation. At my last visit they had not got their system of ventilation fully perfected, but it gives promise of being very effective. The workings I found in good condition, as were also the outside slope, and machinery. Out put for quarter, 3,469 tons, 1,232 lbs.

During the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1887, made several visits to this mine and found everything in good shape.

In the water lever gangway of the No. 12 vein, fire damp was discovered and to prevent any accident, I had the management place a competent fireman in charge, as called for by the mining laws. Out put for quarter, 8,977.85 tons.

During my visit to this colliery through the quarter ending March 31, 1887, I found the workings and ventilation in good condition. The company are now engaged in opening on their No. 12 vein, sinking a slope on it, as well as pushing the water level gangway. I suggested the using of a safety catch attached to the rear end of car, to prevent accident while hoisting. This they are now doing.

On February 1, 1887, David Lewis met with an accident in the upper McKay Gangway face. He was working in the gangway face, when a large slab of slate fell from the roof, knocking him down, the edge of the slate catching his foot. No bones were broken. If he had used the slightest judgment, no accident would have happened.

The outside fittings I found in good condition. Out put for quarter, 9,836.62 tons.

During the quarter ending June 30, 1887, I visited the mines of this company and have found them, although being developed very fast, with one exception to be in good condition. The exception was the safety of the diagonal chute, between the counter and

main gangway, in the McKay vein. The chute was only boarded up half way to the roof, and on that ground I considered it unsafe for men to travel. I called the attention of the management to this, and it was immediately fixed.

The workings from the counter and main gangway, I found (with that exception now remedied) to be in good condition, and the ventilation at all times good.

On the water level gangway on this vein, they opened out a few breasts, and are pushing their air course through to the upper gangway with all possible speed. When this is completed, the ventilation of this part of the mine will be very good. It is at present ventilated by a small forcing fan, at the mouth of the gangway, which is able to keep the mines clear. A little fire damp has been found in the gangway, but the necessary precautions have been taken in regard to it.

On their No. 12 vein, from the 700 foot level, they are driving two gangways, one on the lower bench and one on the upper bench of the vein, also from this level their diagonal slope is being sunk to connect with the water level gangway.

The upper gangways are ventilated by hand fans, the lower gangways by a small steam fan, and the slope by a steam jet. I found all the places as well as the ventilation in good condition.

	Tons.
Out put for quarter	15,638.40
Total out put for year	37,922.42
Total tons mined per man employed:	
Franklin:	119.63
Black Diamond:	443.34

TABLE

(at bottom of page)

SHOWING THE YEARLY OUT-PUT FROM EACH MINE, NUMBER OF MEN EMPLOYED, AND NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS.

	Men Employed	Accidents. Fatal	Accidents Slight	Total Out-put for 1887
Franklin	317	—	1	37,922.42
Black Diamond	<u>150</u>	—	—	<u>66,500.29</u>
Totals	467	0	1	104,422.71

FROM THE ARCHIVES

By JoAnne Matsumura

The Museum continues to be the beneficiary from many generous people in their donations of artifacts. Each one is gratefully appreciated and enhances the Museums various collections.

We are especially grateful to the Guidetti family for their generous loan of 52 beautiful photographs, with the gifting of one, from the personal collection of **Frank Guidetti**. Their loan of these photographs comes with the permission for us to have negatives and prints made for our collection. After which the photographs will be returned to **Albert Guidetti**, the family messenger who brought them in.

Thank you for remembering the Museum and our goals and mission to preserving the history of Black Diamond through collections such as yours. It was indeed a pleasure Albert to have had your help and expertise with the committee as we inventoried the collection. Thank you.

The Museum also was the recipient of other artifacts. From the lovely 1941 Black Diamond High School class ring from **Conrad "Coke" Roberts**, to the unique live mouse trap and creatively made wooden toy and two egg cups. All having been hand made by **Morgan W. Morgan**, Master Machinist, Mine 14, and donated by his granddaughter **Jackie Cedarholm**. Jackie expressed that Mr. Morgan was uncomfortable in killing animals, so he devised the live trap and then always released them back to the wild.

Jackie also donated a map of the coalfields in Wales, with a lithograph print listing the coalfields names and dates of existence. She also donated a carving made from coal. If you have the name of a coalfield in Wales and would like to know the date of existence, let us know. We would be happy to look it up for you.

From the watchful eye of two donors several artifacts were rescued from going to artifact heaven. From **Dan Miller**, a lovely Gloritone Radio, ca. 1920's, and from **David Schroeder**, a collection of mining lunch buckets, pans, iron and forgers tool. Thank you for remembering the Museum.

There is the intriguing new "mystery tool" donated by **Velena E. Burns**. **Mr. Mel Nelson** used the mystery tool in his onion fields to catch those pesky rodents, the mole. You'll find it with the other mystery tools in the Museum.

In sync with the baseball season, **Keith Timm, Jr.** brought in two baseballs ca. 1950's, owned by **Rudy Malachnik** who played for the Black Diamond Town Team. Thanks Keith!!

For the studios we are pleased to have received; **The Morris Family History** and King County History excerpts, from **Bill Kombol**. Crosscut Saw Reflections In The Pacific Northwest, from the author, **James F. Deaton**. And Discovering Washington's Historic Mines, VOL 1, from Oso Publishing Co.

NEW ACQUISITIONS:

City Directory-1889 King County.
— 1911 — 1912 ,
Franklin, WA. Article-
Blacks & The Coal Mines of Western Washington, 1888-1896,
Pacific Northwest Quarterly,
October 1982.

Mine Inspection Reports—1906 and 1906.

Information-that Audrey White was a Black Diamond Quilter.

Respectfully submitted, by:

JoAnne Matsumura
October 2000



IN THE ARCHIVES

Submitted by: JoAnne Matsumura
Archive Chairman

From Pacific Coast Bulletin
VOL 2 NO 36 September 7, 1922

THE BEST TOWN ON THE MAP

It's not in distant Asia, in Egypt or Japan,
It's not in France nor Russia nor on the Isle of Man:
It's not in Greece or Turkey nor far away as Home—
It's in the country where you live—the town you call your home.

Be always glad to praise it up, no matter where you are:
Be ready to defend its name and spread it near and far:
And when you hear some knocker knock, respond at every rap:
"The town where I am living is the best one on the map."

The little place where I reside is good enough for me.
I love its shady nooks and dells, its air and open sea;
I know it is a tiny spot, old fashioned, quaint and odd,
But every tree and leaf and shrub reveals the hand of God.

So when some fellow comes along and gives the place a whack,
I feel like telling him to go and nevermore come back.
Because it's much too good a spot to harbor such a chap—
"The town where I am living is the best one on the map."

If ANY town in which you dwell is backward, dull or slow,
Why don't you try the boosting plan and help to make it grow?
It's little use to vilify, to kick and run it down—
Such antics never built a shack, nor ever made a town.

If you would have your burg become a busy, growing mart,
Just put your shoulder to the wheel and help it get a start;
And let this little motto be enshrined beneath your cap:
"The town where I am living is the best one on the map."



Christmas Gifts

Do Your Christmas Shopping At The Black Diamond Museum

Books For Sale	Author	Price
Black Diamond, Mining The Memories	Diane & Cory Olson	\$15.00
Uncle Sam Wants You (Maple Valley)	Barbara Nelson	\$20.00
The Mining Camps Speak	Beth & Bill Sagstetter	\$20.00
Notes From The Past (Welsh)	Alan Upshall	\$15.00
Old King Coal (Pierce County)	Louis Jacobin	\$5.00
Two Points Of View (Dash Point)	Mavis Spears	\$5.00
I've Been Working On The Railroad	Marie Donaldson	\$1.00

Other Items For Sale	Description	Price
Pocket Planner - Calendar, Check Book Size (Postage Included)	2001	\$1.00 6/\$5.00
Picture of Black Diamond Bakery 1912	14"X18"	\$1.00
Post Card Size Photos	Color	\$1.00
Post Card Size Photos	B. & W.	\$0.50
Music CD By: Red Dragon Band	Welsh Folk	\$15.00
Stickers! Black Diamond, Washington	2-1/4"	\$0.50
Tee-Shirts, Black Diamond Historical Society	All Sizes	\$4.00
Candy, Black Diamond Coal	Bag	\$4.00

**It's easy to shop at the Black Diamond Museum by US Mail.
Let us know what you want, we will ship books for \$3.20
postage. Other items by donation.
(For our records, please note on your check what it's for.)**

Application For Membership or Renewal



Name (s) _____ Day Phone ____-____-_____
 _____ Eve. Phone ____-____-_____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 E-Mail _____
 Signature _____ Date _____

Annual Membership Fees

- Cash Check
 New Renewal
 Individual \$10.00
 Couple \$15.00
 Organization \$30.00
 Lifetime (Individual) \$100.00

Make Checks Payable To: BDHS
Mail To:
Black Diamond Historical Society
P.O. Box 232
Black Diamond, WA 98010- 0232

(For our bookkeeping records, on all checks please note what the check is for: Dues; Donation; Memorial; Etc.)

Date: _____ Initials: _____ File: _____

For Museum Use Only:

On The Grounds At The Museum



The Black Diamond Simulated Mine

The coal cars are set up beside the Museum, at the simulated mine entrance. Our latest project has been replacing some rotted boards, and we are ready to refill the cars with coal.



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

Address correction requested

If this box is checked

Your dues are due

The Black Diamond Historical Society

**is a non profit organization.
Our funding comes mainly
from donations, dues, and
some grants.**

**The restoration and mainte-
nance of the Museum and it's
contents are done by volun-
teers.**

**To donate your time or
money would be a great way
for you to help preserve our
history.**