



Newsletter

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The Museum Is Located At

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

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Quarterly Meeting Dates Announced!!

All members are invited, and encouraged to attend our quarterly meetings. Help us to decide what is best for **your Museum**. We need your ideas!
Sundays at 1:00 **April 15, July 15, October 14**

THIRD ANNUAL WELSH DAY

Saturday

June 9, 2001

12:00 to 3:30

**The Black Diamond Historical
Museum and the Puget Sound Welsh
Society will sponsor a
WELSH HERITAGE PROGRAM.
AT THE BLACK DIAMOND
DEPOT MUSEUM**

(32627 Railroad Avenue)

**Many people of Welsh heritage were in-
volved in the coal mining of this area.
Come meet some Welsh
descendents, share stories, pictures and
memorabilia.**

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
Vice President	Evan Morris Jr.
Treasurer	Clayton Mead
Secretary	Dee Israel

Museum Manager

Bob Eaton

Directors

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

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

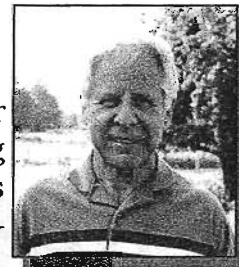
360-886-2582 stevedee@tx3.com

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Don Mason

I have been an active member of the Thursday crew since retiring from Boeing five years ago. There has been a big change in that time period. The Thursday crew, up until a certain time, was involved in construction work. Now, it is a maintenance, repainting, rearranging, and paper work outfit.

This old depot with its 110-year-old wood needs much attention, along with painting and wood preservative. We are fortunate in having members that have various tools, which they gladly share, along with their labor. Our Editor, **Steve Israel** has a pressure washer that we have used to clean our platform and three sets of steps. **Joe Zumek** does our special projects, like making a new board for our memorials and repairing the wood on our depot's baggage carts. **Charlie Corlett** has remodeled the video room down stairs and has other detailed jobs. **Don Botts and Clayton Mead** have completed numerous projects, like new signs on the caboose, new benches to set on in our video room, and other spur of the moment jobs.

Our "downstairs crew" has handled the paperwork. **Joanne Matsumura and Jackie Cedarholm** spend many hours managing our photo collection. They are identifying homes, people and locations in our unidentified file.

The care of the flowers and shrubs are under the Green thumb of **Gino Picini**. We could not ask for a better gardener.

As you can see, we are busy just keeping up this old depot museum.

Don Mason

Board meetings to be held every

3rd Thursday of the month @ 1:00

You are retired when you work only seven days a week.

(Wisdom by: Charlie)



Dee Israel

**Secretary of the
Black Diamond
Historical Society**

**BDHS BOARD MEETINGS REPORT
BY THE SECRETARY**

From the minutes of the Board Meetings of November 16, 2000, December 7, 2000 and January 18, 2001:

Bob Eaton and Dee Israel are working with the local elementary schools as to what they would like from the Society during 2001. In the past, we have had a box of educational material on local history that we would loan to the schools, as well as having tours and talks at the Museum. This same type program is being offered again this year.

The addition of two aluminum signs from **G and K Graphics of Enumclaw** completed the restoration of our caboose.

Dee Israel brought in 2 pictures that were painted by BDHS member, **Ruth Ayers Hofto**. She had advised that she wanted to be able to help the Society, so was donating the pictures to be used in a raffle. It was decided that the raffle would be incorporated in with **The Welsh Day Celebration on June 9th**. (See separate article in this newsletter pertaining to Welsh Day and the Ruth Ayers Hofto's paintings.)

Evan Morris Jr. has been voted in, to fill the vacant Vice President position on the Board.

At this time, Evan is looking into the procedure for having 8 mm. movies put on videotape, and **Cory Olson** is getting the Mining The Memories audiotapes transferred onto CD's. This will make for longer preservation of our memories.

Don Mason advised that the fire inspector came by in December, and 6 out of 7 of our fire extinguishers needed recharged. The 7th one needed to be replaced. The cost of having the fire extinguishers recharged would be almost the same price as buying new ones, so we have bought 7 new fire extinguishers for the Museum. Don also thanked **Steve Israel** for power washing the deck and cleaning out the gutters.

Bob Eaton suggested that the Museum hours be changed from 12:00 to 3:00, to 11:00 to 4:00. After much discussion, it was decided that we wait until April to try new hours, and at that time, we would try 12:00 to 4:00.

Steve Israel brought up the fact that we really need a fireproof door on the vault and at least one fireproof file cabinet. It was suggested that we make an appeal in the next newsletter for these items, or monies to help purchase them.

The quarterly Society meetings for 2001 will be held April 15th, July 15th, and October 14th. Everyone is welcome at these quarterly meetings, so mark your calendar and be sure to come. Our monthly board meetings will be at 1:00 p.m., on the third Thursday of each month.

At our next monthly board meeting, we plan on going over the Black Diamond Historical Society Constitution, as additions and changes have not been made to it in some time. Also, the first chance we get, we plan to put together a collections policy.

Submitted by Dee Israel, Secretary

From your secretary

I am working on getting the membership roster up to date. On the page of this newsletter, that has your mailing label, there is a square that reads, "If this box is checked your dues are due". Please look to see if that box has been checked. If it has, please send me your membership renewal form and your membership dues, or let me know why you feel it is in error. Otherwise, I'm afraid you will be dropped from our membership and I don't want that to happen anymore than you do.

Membership dues are as follows:
Individual=\$10.00, Couple=\$15.00,
Organization=\$30.00, and
Lifetime (Individual)=\$100.00.

Dee Israel

From The Editor

By: **Steve Israel**

It' a real pleasure to publish another newsletter for the Black Diamond Historical Society. A lot has happened since the last newsletter.

I have started school. I am currently enrolled as a full time student at Edmunds Community College. I am in a vocational re-training program, due to the fact that 22 years of carpentry has taken it's toll on my elbows.

I am training to be a construction estimator. My classes also include business math and a computer class (MS Office 2000).

With all of that homework, I wasn't sure I could find the time to get this newsletter published. But, thanks to the help of all who contributed, my job is getting easier. **Bill Kombol** e-mailed his report to me, and I was able to cut and paste it right in. **JoAnne Matsumura** handed me her reports typed neatly on paper, and I was able to scan it into the computer using word recognition software. Most everything else was typed (into the computer) by my wife **Dee**.

I welcome all material for the newsletter, whether it is e-mailed, put on a computer disk, typed on paper, or even scratched out on a 100 dollar bill. I'll take it..

Keep those card and letters coming!

Your editor, *Steve Israel*

Postcards Wanted

The Black Diamond Historical Society has discovered a wealth of value in old picture postcards. Many of the pictures in our "Mining The Memories" book came from postcards. Like this one ↳ If you have any old postcards you are willing to donate

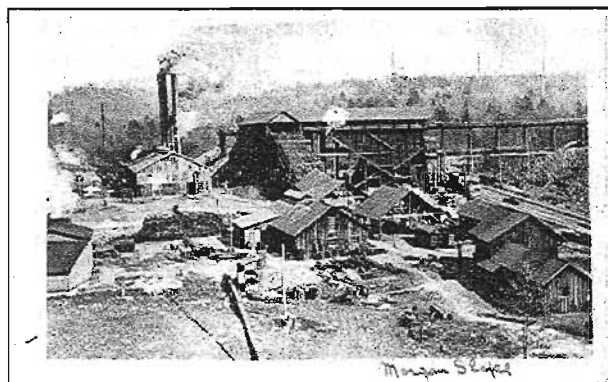


MUSEUM HAS MANY VISITORS

Don Botts

During the year 2000, we had nearly 5,000 visitors to the Black Diamond Museum. Some came on specially arranged tours, some set out for a days outing with the Black Diamond Museum as their destination, and others were just out driving, and decided to stop in.

In addition to visitors from though out the Puget Sound area and other places in Washington State, there were visitors from the States of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas Utah and Virginia. There were also people visiting from the countries of Australia, Canada, Check Republic, E. Sussex UK, England, Germany, France, Holland, Iran, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Taiwan and Wales.



Recognizing Our Volunteers

DOCENTS

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

COOKS

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

THURSDAY CREW

Don Botts
Jackie Cedarholm
Charlie Corlett
Bob Eaton
Dee Israel
Steve Israel
Don Mason
JoAnne Matsumura
Clayton Mead
Gino Picini
Joe Zumek

Volunteers Needed!!!

We would like to keep our doors open longer. Many people have been turned away that have wanted to visit our museum, because we don't have the personnel to extend our weekend hours. It has been suggested that we be open from 11 AM to 4 PM during the Spring through Fall.

Contact us if you can be at the museum anytime on weekends.

There once was a lawyer named
Bender,
Who worked as a public defender;
Since his limo bumped into
A little Ford Pinto, He's referred to
As Defender Bender.

(Submitted by: Charlie Corlett)

1889-1890 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 JOHN SULLIVAN, MINE INSPECTOR
OF WASHINGTON TERRITORY, FOR THE YEAR
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1889
by John Sullivan, Mine Inspector

FRANKLIN.

During the quarter ending Dec. 31st, 1888, I visited this mine several times. In the upper portion of the McKay vein the miners were supplied with barely sufficient air to sustain them at their work. I immediately gave notice to all miners operating in that part of the mine to suspend work until some improvements could be effected. In the lower portions of this vein the air was fair. In mine No. 12 the air was good. On the 11th of December fire was discovered in an old breast leading from the lower level of the McKay vein. The men were called out of the mine and all the available water power brought to bear on the fire, but it proved useless. That section of the work had to be flooded. The machinery and ropes were in good condition. Shipments for quarter ending Dec. 31st, 1888, 43,060 Tons.

During the quarter ending March 31st, 1889, I inspected this mine and found the air in poor condition. In the upper McKay I stopped the men from working in the four inside breasts. The greater portion of the mine was idle for two months on account of the fire mentioned above.

An accident occurred here on Feb. 19th, by which John L. Jones was killed. As a full description of the accident is given in my report for this quarter a repetition of it here I deem hardly necessary. A certificate from the Superintendent showing the boilers to be in good condition was forwarded to me. Shipments for the quarter ending March 31st, 30,250 Tons.

During the quarter ending June 30th, 1889, I inspected this mine and found it in bad condition. I again suspended some of the miners found working in places where black damp was discovered. I intended applying to the court for an injunction restraining the company from operating certain portions of the McKay vein; but

realizing the strain placed upon them in battling with the fire I concluded to allow them to drag along. Preparations for the sinking of a new slope on the McKay vein were begun again this quarter. Around the entrance to the slope is erected a fine arch of brick, durable and strong. The machinery and ropes were in good condition. Shipments for quarter ending June 30th, 28,536 Tons.

In my visit to this mine in the quarter just ended I noticed some improvements. The larger fan had been connected with the lower portion of the McKay vein. A locomotive was also placed on the lower gangway for the purpose of drawing coal to the bottom of the slope. In the upper portion of the mine, however, we had to suspend some of the men, until the condition of their places was improved. The fire which broke out during the first part of this quarter still smolders and is carefully watched. The company has had considerable trouble during the year, and a decrease in their shipments has been noticeable.

The number of men and boys employed in and around the mines, 381.

Their monthly pay for the year averaged \$17,000.

Shipments for the quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1889 (illegible)

Shipments for year ending Dec. 31st, 1889 43,060 Tons.

BLACK DIAMOND.

There are two mines worked by this company at this place, and their conditions are superior in every respect to that of every other mine in the District. During the year improvements have kept pace with the developments. On the morning of January 11th fire was discovered in the old workings in the mine on Sec. 14. It was entirely unexpected, as but very little dross is left remaining when the chambers are finished. In less than a week it was brought completely under control, and today no indications of it are traceable. On January 25th an accident occurred, by which a man named Peter Hansen lost his life. A full description of the occurrence gleaned from witnesses is already on file in the report for that quarter. A statement certified to by the machinist is on file in this office showing the boilers to be in good condition.

The machinery, ropes and pumps are in good condition.

The number of men employed is 275.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Shipments for quarter ending Dec. 31st, 1888,
30,880 Tons.

Shipments for quarter ending March 31st, 1889,
28,392 Tons.

Shipments for quarter ending June 30th, 1889,
27,470 Tons.

Shipments for quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1889,
27,470 Tons.

Total output for year ending Sept. 30th, 1889,
105,255 Tons.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE MINE INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1890 FOR THE MINE DISTRICT NO. 2 By Ed T. Morgan, Inspector FRANKLIN.

This mine ranked at one time No. 1 in King county, but a portion of the mine caught fire and decreased the output considerably. The No. 12 vein has been abandoned for some time and all the operations continued to the McCay vein. This vein yields from four and a half (4 ½) to five (5) feet of marketable coal of an excellent quality.

A new level has been opened with over two thousand (2000) feet of gangway, and very little of the coal mined yet. Preparations are now being made to sink down another level before starting in earnest to mine coal, then there will be two levels from which coal can be mined at the one time.

Four boilers are in use and written statements of their good condition are in my possession. Drainage of the mine is effected by two (2) steam pumps. Ventilation of this mine, fair. Only a limited number of miners are working here at present.

BLACK DIAMOND.

There are three slopes or openings connected with this mine named respectively 2, 12, and 14, each of which is in good condition as regarding facilities for transportation, drainage and ventilation. It matters not how rich a vein of coal is as to quantity and quality, if either of those absolute necessities are wanting, the whole mine suffers. This mine, taken as a whole, employs a large number of men and their output is proportionately the same.

Certified statements of the good condition of all their boilers are in my possession. One fact worthy of being inserted in my report is, that they have more boilers in place than they actually need, consequently they are prepared for an emergency.

Ventilation of the three slopes is all I could wish.

Their pumping plant is equivalent to their number of boilers.

In slope 14, possibly at a distance of fifteen hundred feet west, they have started to sink another slope, an underground one, where the power of hoisting will be supplied by an electric plant.

NEW DONATIONS

We wish to acknowledge and express our appreciation to those of you who have remembered the Society with your monetary donations and artifacts since our last report. This is the way in which artifacts continue to improve our collections and gives us opportunities to teach the past history of Black Diamond. Your monetary donations provide funding for the continual maintenance preservation of these artifacts and the acquisition of historical information to Black Diamonds past. In appreciation for the following artifacts from:

ADA EVANS: 1939 Exposition Edition, The Post Dispatch, Pittsburg, CA., and various clippings.

CITY OF WILKESON: Coal dust carving of a miner.

JACKIE CEDARHOLM: Original sheet music, "Sixteen Tons".

RUTH HOFTO AYERS: Copy of an original painting by Ms. Ayers of Pacific Coast Coal house #350, ca early 1900s, behind the ball field now known as Second Avenue. A home Ms. Ayers once lived in.

NEW ACQUISITIONS

State Inspector of Coal Mines Report, Division 3, Biennial Report of Bureau of Labor, January 1, 1897 through December 9, 1898. (copy).

DID YOU KNOW

THAT Captain James J. Crow, 1842-1918, "engaged in prospecting in the mountains and in 1880 discovered the famous Black Diamond coal mine located 12 miles east of Kent". Captain Crow resided in Kent for much of his life. (Source, History of King County, VOL IV, by Bagley, 1929, page 207.)

THAT the first Pacific Coast Bulletins were written in five languages to accommodate the various ethnic groups. (Source, Pacific Coast Bulletin, VOL 1, No. 2, February 1914.)

THAT in February 1923 at the Black Diamond Theatre, Ringside seats were \$2.00 plus War Tax to see Ernie Dorman of Black Diamond fight 6 rounds with J.J. Forbes of Issaquah. Len Berry had suffered an injury and could not meet his brother Bill Berry, Jr., in a 4 round exhibition bout. That the Hendrix Orchestra played at the Masonic Hall after the bout. Admission was \$1.00 or \$.50 with smoker coupon. That Jackie Koerner (3 years old) was billed to sing at the bout. That H. M. McDowell was manager of the Company Store. That Phillip John Bisch was born to Mr. & Mrs. Joe Bisch. That Mike Hovan starts work at the BD Mines as a laborer, and that D. Beddard leaves BD to work in Burnett. (Source, Pacific Coast Bulletin, February 1923, VOL 3, No. 5.)

By Dorothy Franz Corlett

The people of Black Diamond were generous people. They looked after their own in time of need. There was no welfare for them. If a man was killed in the mines, his wife and kids survived as best they could with the help of their neighbors. The Company gave the family free rent and one ton of coal each month. The Mother took in a boarder or two, did laundry for others, or did sewing or mending for others. I don't know how they survived, but they did.

Almost everyone had a large family. Most had a cow, chickens, and a garden. A mother baked bread several times a week, and if they heard someone was in need, they took over a loaf or two of bread and whatever else they could spare. Everyone was generous. If a family had sickness in the house, someone went over and "sat" with the ill one so that the family could get some rest. Wouldn't it be great if the tradition was still kept up?

If someone didn't speak English their country people took over with help.

One old couple I remember lived near us at Claymine. He was a big, husky man who had a herd of cattle. He always had 6 or 7 milking cows, calves and bulls. He kept all the calves that the cows had. There were as many heifers as bull calves. When he couldn't find feed for them, he walked three miles to Black Diamond and begged people to give him hay for them. He rolled up the hay into a huge bale and carried it on his shoulders. Sometimes, you couldn't see the man, only his legs and feet, under the hay. Several times a week, his little wife took her flour sack and went to their friends in town. When she returned home, she had things that everyone had given her (a loaf of bread, and anything else they could spare). That kept them in food until the next "foraging". Her husband wouldn't sell any of his livestock, so periodically his creditors came and took almost everything from him, and sold it at auction. All he did then was to start up another herd of livestock!

This couple had previously lived on PCC property, near Lake Twelve. When he got behind

with his rent, etc. they asked him to vacate. After several notices, the Company Men and the police came and moved his belongings out onto the street! Guess what? The next morning, they had moved back in! This happened several times, and at last PCC had to burn the shack down. That is when they moved to Claymine.

Several years later, when the man died, there was no place for the wife to go. They had no children to take her in, nor any other close relatives. (To show the kindness of friends) The Martin and Kate Tenio family lived at Lake Fourteen. They had a two-room house that was unoccupied, so they took her in. Kate said, "She has a place to live out her days near us, rent free." She lived there for several years before she died. The Italian folks looked after her as best they could. Mrs. Steve Vernerelli, Esther Babb's Mother, shared spaghetti, bread and anything else she had in the house, with her, as did the other Italian families.

Wouldn't it be great if folks looked after one another like that now? The world would be a better place.

Some folks may remember Katrina and John Farrara (sp.). A lot of people had nicknames. Theirs was Razzalula (sp.). More folks remembered them by that name than their own. No one seemed to know how they got that name or what it meant.

Dorothy Franz Corlett





This picture is of Ruth Ayers Hofto with the two paintings that she has made and donated to the Museum to be raffle items. The paintings will be raffled at **The Welsh Day Celebration on June 9.**

Ruth Ayers Hofto
(By Dee Israel, December 2000)

Ruth Ayers Hofto was born in Black Diamond on May 13, 1910 as Vivian Ruth Ayers. She was the daughter of George and Jane Dunn Ayers.

George Ayers was an orphan, born and raised in the area of Sacramento, California. When George was about 4, his father (a Civil War veteran), was hit by a train and killed while working for the Southern Pacific Railroad. He was then raised by an uncle until he could make a living for himself. At about age 14, George began working in the mines. George heard that miners were needed in Black Diamond, Washington, and that there was a great baseball team there. With his experience in the mines, and since he was a very good baseball player, George traveled north to Black Diamond. He joined the team, and was one of the more valuable players. He also did some boxing. There are several pictures of George Ayers on display at the museum. Some of the pictures are as he is refereeing boxing, and some with his baseball uniform. He is also pictured a few times in *Mining The Memories*. George lived in the hotel in Black Diamond. That is where he met Jane Dunn, as she was working in the hotel. In 1908 George and Jane Dunn were married.

Jane Dunn was the third child of John and Jane Ann Harper Dunn (John and Jane had five daughters and one son). The William Harpers and the Dunns came from Durham, England to Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. It was while they were in Canada that Jane was born; on July 2, 1888. When Jane was about 2 months old, she and her family moved to Black Diamond, Washington. Working in the mines

was how the Dunns and Harpers made their living.

The Dunn's home was located across from the bleachers at the ball park in Black Diamond. Their house is no longer standing. It used to be on the property where Rich and Carol Palmer now live, on 2nd Ave.

Ruth remembers visiting her great grandparents, The Harpers in a house located just east of the bridge that used to be just down the hill from the depot. While visiting, she slept in the attic, and it was a scary place to be.

In 1908 George and Jane Dunn Ayers had a pair of identical twin boys (George and William), a daughter (Vivian Ruth) was born in 1910, and one more son (Arthur Clifford). Doctor Bowles was the Ayers doctor in Black Diamond. In about 1913, due to the miners strike, the Ayers' moved to Issaquah. Ruth said she mostly remembers living in Issaquah, because she was only 2 or 3 when her family moved from Black Diamond. In Issaquah, they had a nice little bungalow, and her father always had a garden; and raised beautiful flowers. A scary thing that Ruth remembers happening while living in Issaquah, was when some horses got loose and jumped over the hedge into their yard. She has been afraid of horses ever since.

When the Issaquah mine went on strike, the Ayers moved to Newcastle, and when Newcastle went on strike, they were moved to Mine 5 at Union Town. (That was between Roslyn and CleElum). In her later years, Ruth and her parents moved to Tacoma.

Ruth got a job in the JC Penny Company in Tacoma. She was working there in 1928, when she met Henry Hofto. At that time, he was a musician, playing in a band; and a sawyer, making wood barrel staves. Due to the depression, Ruth and Henry waited until 1934 to get married. After eleven years of marriage, Ruth and Henry had a child, Jacqueline. (Jacqueline is now a world famous accordionist and flutist.) After the birth of their daughter, Henry quit playing in the band and went from stave making to buying homes that needed fixed up. He would remodel them and then resell them. He eventually began building new homes and apartments. He did very well at all of this.

Ruth says the woman who got burned, (in *Mining the Memories*, page 151, by Cecil Gwilym Robison) was her grandmother.

Ruth has had many psychic experiences. She inherited this gift from her father. (Her daughter also has this gift.) Ruth is a very gifted painter with oils and watercolor. She also does mosaic, silk screen, etchings, cloisonné, wood cuts, and works with clay, paper mache and batik.

Ruth Ayers Hofto will be 91 on her next birthday, and is still living in her home in Lakewood (just south of Tacoma), Washington.

DATING YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

A challenge even for the experienced

By JoAnne Matsumura, Technical Researcher

Many of you have among your own archives beautiful photographs of a bygone era. There may be no date to help you with that part of the historic photographic images. With knowledge and study anyone can learn to determine the date of a photograph, at least within a decade and with careful study, within a several years period.

Photographs have many clues to help you in dating them. Recognizing the surroundings or objects in the photograph. An embossed seal with the name of the photographer, or hand written on the front of the photograph. If there are people in the photograph, determine their approximate age. The style of garments will also be helpful. There may be an emblem on the paper framing or on the back of the photograph. A postmark on photographs known as Real Photo Post Cards is a solid clue to further exact dating.

If you are able to obtain a copy enlargement of your photograph you will find even more clues to date your photograph. Things like; jewelry, lace, fabric, wording on lapel ribbons, patterns in wallpaper, and signs on buildings are just a sample of ideas. The list is endless.

As an example, in the early 1900s in Black Diamond the photographer Clara F. Shorey owned Holden Studios near the Black Diamond Depot. A photograph of the studio "Holden Photographers" appears in the Societies Calendar Series of 1984. In the early era it was also known as Pacific Coast Coal building #269.

Clara Shorey's Portrait Studio had several backdrops you could choose from for your photograph. The one most used and is evidenced in many photographs, had a spiral appearing staircase with an appearing stained glass window behind it. This detail is most always on the right hand side of the photograph. To the left was a drapery valance with large and small tassels hanging. There would usually be a large pottery with greens and flowers atop a table. There were various styled chairs to choose from or a column pedestal to hold a child on or flowers or objects.

These are the surrounding objects that immediately tell us it is a Holden Studio photograph and thus a photograph taken in Black Diamond, WA. whether or not the people in the photograph have been identified. This also tells us the photograph would most likely be dated prior to 1925.

Ms. Shorey primarily used an embossing seal to identify her photographs, 1909—1924. However some have been seen with her personal signature. Some examples to identifying her photograph markings are: Shorey & Shorey, Clara E. Shorey, Johnston & Shorey, Clara Holden, Holden & Shorey, C. E. Shorey, C. E. Johnston and C. E. Holden.

The first clue to the age of any photograph is in the type of process used to create it. You may find the following summary of terms helpful for your studies:

The DAGUERREOTYPE, 1839-1860 A fragile silver surface on a polished copper plate, usually enclosed in a hinged case and framed under glass. The image has a mirror-like surface. Cleaning the image will damage it.

The AMBROTYPE, 1854-1860s A glass negative with black background black paper or cloth behind it. Enclosed in cases. The image appears positive when held to the light.

The TINTYPE/FEPROTYPE, 1856-1920s- An image on thin metal known as black enameled iron, rather than tin. Popular during Civil War. Cost about 1 penny. If a small magnet attracts, it is an original tintype. Preserve it by having a high quality copy made.

The TINTYPE-Civil War period tintypes are often adorned with patriotic stars on the paper holders or with emblems. If embossed they are dated after the mid 1860s. If you find a levy stamp on the back it would be dated 1864-1866. Chocolate colored tinted surfaces are dated about 1870—1885.

The CARTES DE VISITE (visiting cards), 1860 - 1910 The first paper photograph. The photograph was taxed so you should find a revenue stamp on the back, which will indicate the Civil War period. Some have the photographers name or initials. They were usually mounted on a board.

The CABINET CARDS, 1866 - 1910 Mounted on boards with several thin layers of paper in-between the boards.

The STEREOVIEWS Photographic images side-by-side, and viewed by hand held viewers. If your stereoview is curved it was specifically designed this way and should not be 'flattened'.

The CHARCOAL & CRAYON PHOTOGRAPHS, 1890 - 1910 Primarily oval and rectangular. They were copies of earlier photographs.

(Continued on page 11)

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.)

For Museum Use Only:

Date: _____ Initials: _____ File: _____

(Continued from page 10)

The REAL PHOTO POST CARDS, 1905 – 1930 The photo image was printed directly on post card stock. If mailed, the post-mark then becomes a clue to dating the photograph.

The POLOROIDTTPPE, 1939 To preserve, take black and white copies - soon - as the color is probably fading. Never use the self-stick pages on card stock photo albums for any photographs. The chemicals damage the photographs.

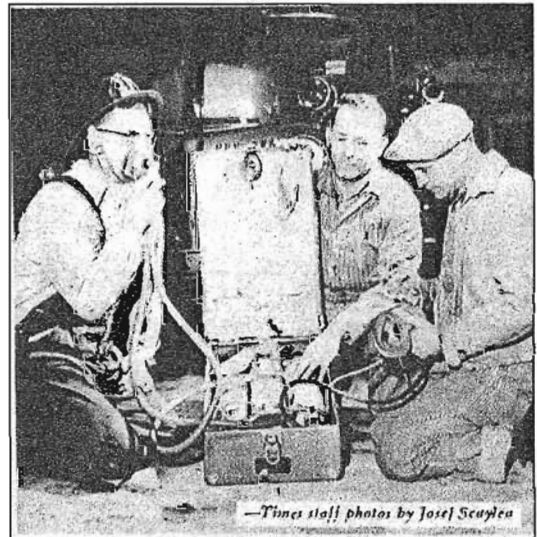
Now that you have that beautiful photograph dated with a label on the back (never write directly on the back of a photograph) give it a special place in your home, album or pass it on to a descendant. (They make wonderful gifts anytime of the year.)

Above all, do not put it back in that shoebox, or drawer in the attic or basement. Remember; heat, light, air, moisture and dust are enemies to every photograph.

Take good care of them, they are too precious not to preserve. It is your obligation as the family historian, and ours as the caretakers of Museum artifacts.

JoAnne Matsumura

At The Museum



Printed in The Seattle Times, Sunday January 3rd, 1954: Left to right are **Jules Dal Santo, Carl Steiert, and Kravagna**. "Interest in the resuscitator, inhalator, and aspirator is as great as in the trucks."

The Black Diamond Fire Department recently donated this piece of equipment to the Museum.

Black Diamond Historical Society



**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

**Quarterly Membership
Meetings**

1:00 P. M.

Sunday January 14

Sunday April 15

Sunday July 15

Sunday October 14

**All Members
Are Encouraged
To Attend**

**The Black Diamond
Historical Society**

is a non profit organiza-
tion. Our funding comes
mainly from donations,
dues, and some grants.

The restoration and main-
tenance of the Museum and
it's contents are done by
volunteers.

To donate your time or
money would be a great
way for you to help pre-
serve our history.