

*Black Diamond Historical Society*



# Newsletter

Volume XXVI, Issue I  
Printed Quarterly-May 2001

## WELSH DAY CELEBRATION

### RAFFLE TICKETS

This is your last newsletter before the big Welsh Day Celebration at the Black Diamond Museum, so we have included another sheet of raffle tickets. If you have already purchased your raffle tickets, and don't want to purchase anymore - keep this in mind - Think of all your friends, relatives and neighbors that you have purchased Girl Scout cookies, candy bars, wrapping paper, magazine subscriptions, as well as their raffle tickets from. Check with them, isn't it pay back time? Remember to mark your calendar for **June 9th, 12-3 PM.** Hope to see you then.  
Dee Israel

Second prize in the raffle  
**Water color of the Dunn house,**  
**by Ruth Ayers Hofto.**

*-correction-*

(Last issue was the mention of Ruth's art in the Governor's Mansion. Should have read "...in exhibits, galleries, and public and private collections.")

### 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 **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 MUSEUM**  
**(32627 Railroad Avenue)**

Many people of Welsh heritage were involved 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 14

## Payable To

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

President	<b>Don Mason</b>
Vice President	<b>Evan Morris Jr.</b>
Treasurer	<b>Clayton Mead</b>
Secretary	<b>Dee Israel</b>

## Society Officers

### Directors

**Don Botts, Jackie Cedarholm, Bob Eaton, 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.

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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 Editor

**By: Steve Israel**



As I mentioned in the last newsletter, I am attending Edmonds Community College full-time, working toward a Construction Management Certificate. I haven't had much time to help the busy volunteers at the Museum lately.

The business communication classes that I have been attending has got me wishing I could write the perfect article to reach out for more volunteers, and fill them with inspiration.

When I first started helping out at the Museum, someone asked me why it took me so long to decide to volunteer. I could honestly say, I didn't know the Museum was run by volunteers of a non profit organization. I thought it was run by the City, or the State. Another thing I didn't know was how friendly the people are here, and how welcome they could make me feel.

All of the folks that help out around the Museum actually do have a life outside of the affairs of the Black Diamond Historical Society. As busy as I am, I can still find a little portion of my time to help in my own way.

We can all make a real difference in our community by taking that first step in helping in some way. The Museum needs people in many different capacities, and at different times. Contact one of our volunteers, and we will match your skills with our needs; and match your schedule with ours.

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 rock. I'll take it, however I prefer E-mail or computer disk.

Keep those card and letters coming!

Your editor,

*Steve Israel*

Steve Israel



**Dee Israel**

**Secretary of the  
Black Diamond  
Historical Society**

**BDHS BOARD MEETINGS REPORT**  
February 15, 2001, thru April 19, 2001:

It was noticed that the attic in the museum was open from one end to the other. In case of fire, this would act as a chimney and draw the fire quickly thru that area. We are now in the process of building three firewalls in the attic to help prevent this from happening.

We have found that 68 to 72 degrees should be maintained at all times for the preservation of our artifacts. We have set and taped the thermostat at 68 degrees.

**Steve Israel** made arrangements for **Terry Morris Fuel** to stop by and evaluate our heating system, as the furnace is having a hard time maintaining that temperature in the downstairs area of the museum. They came by on March 29 and determined that our system was fine, but was not big enough. They suggested we add another forced air furnace that would heat the downstairs area only, and reduce the load on the existing system.

For the **Welsh Day** celebration, we are going to place an 8" x 10" Welsh flag on fifty of the approximately 217 Welsh graves that are near the entrance of the Black Diamond Cemetery. Fifty flags would cost \$200.00 plus tax. This plan and the cost of it was mentioned to several Welsh members of our society, and as of this meeting, we have received \$100.00 in donations to help with that expense.

We have begun the process of rewriting the Black Diamond Historical Societies Constitution. The first thing we decided was to change the name to By-Laws. We will have several more meetings before our new By Laws are perfected.

**Bill Luke** advised he would be in charge of completing the "Riding/Walking Tour of Black Diamond" grant. He said he would like to have the guide printed and available to be handed out by

Black Diamond's **Labor Day** celebration.

**Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI)** has applied for a grant to make digital versions of 15,000 historic photos from all over King County available on the Internet for the use of researchers, teachers and school children. If MOHAI gets the grant, it would pay for all of the scanning, photo research and setting up of separate web sites (hosted on the UW server) for each participating organization. We, the Black Diamond Historical Museum have agreed to participate in this project.

We have received our reimbursement this quarter from **The King County Landmarks and Heritage Program** on grant #M10115. The moneys were used for the purchase of archival equipment and supplies.

The person that has been making copies of photographs for us at a discount is no longer able to give us that discount. We are searching the local area for someone else that we can do business with.

**Steve Israel** obtained copies of the Museum's energy statements from the City, and made a graph showing our energy usage during a two-year period. From the graph we could see that our usage of electricity and gas has been fairly consistent.

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, you will be dropped from our membership and I don't want that to happen any more than you do.

Membership dues are as follows:

Individual=\$10.00

Family=\$15.00

Organization=\$30.00

Lifetime (Individual)=\$100.00

*Dee Israel*



# Recognizing Our Volunteers

## **DOCENTS**

Don Botts  
Howard Botts  
Donna Gouchenour  
Mary Chilcott  
Ethel Duncan  
Mary Lou Bovee  
Charlie & Dorothy Corlett  
Don Mason  
Anna Morris  
Nadine Hulsey  
Beth VanBuskirk  
Muriel Waldo

## **COOKS**

Marlene Bortleson  
Beth Deady  
Ethel Duncan  
Donna Gouchenour  
Rosemary Kanoske  
Nancy Mead  
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.**

## **MUSEUM HAS MANY VISITORS**

During this past quarter we had 1150 visitors to the museum. Some came on specially arranged tours, some set out for a days outing with the Black Diamond Historical District as their destination, and others were just in the neighborhood and decided to stop in.

In addition to visitors from the State of Washington, there were visitors from the States of California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Utah. There were also people visiting from British Columbia, Holland, and Dubrovnik in Croatia.

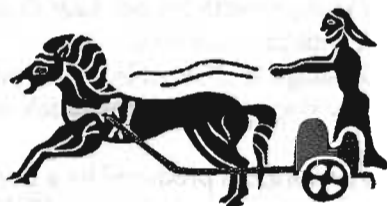
Don Botts

## A TRUE STORY

### How Specs Outlast Civilizations

The US standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. How was that measurement, so odd yet permeating the nation's landscape, determined? Because that's the way England's railroad builders made them, and English expatriates built America's early railroads. Why did they use those dimensions? Because the first rail lines here were laid by the same people who had built the pre-railroad tramways (iron cars run on coal mine tracks), and that was their gauge. So why did the tramway builders use that gauge? Because the tramway builders borrowed the jigs and tools used for building horse-drawn wagons, which featured that wheel spacing. Why did the wagons use that particular wheel spacing? To match the old wheel ruts grooved from centuries of farmers commuting to market with their produce. So who built these old rutted dirt roads? The first long-distance roads in Europe were built by Imperial Rome for the benefit of their legions. (Many of these roads, widened and paved over, remain in use across Europe and England.) And the ruts that everyone had to match for fear of snapping wagon axles? They were set down by Roman war chariots that featured uniform wheel spacing. Roman soldiers had borrowed wheel spacing from the ancient Greeks, who in turn had borrowed them from the Hittites, going back more than a thousand years before the birth of Christ.

So now we answer our original question. The US standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches derives from the original specifications for the Hittites, in the cradle of civilization. Somehow, specs outlive the civilizations they came from. So the next time you are handed specs and wonder of you are being wagged by a tail, you may be right. Because the ancient Hittites' war chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate their 2 horses back ends. ♦  
*-Found on the Internet, source anonymous*



## WELSH CONCERT AT BLACK DIAMOND

ca. 1886

(The following article appeared in the Seattle Daily Post Intelligencer, Wednesday May 12, 1886.)

"The Welsh people have an institution known to them by the name of 'Eisteddfod.' The literal translation of the word in English is a 'Session of Bands.' The institution dates back to the time of the DRUIDS, and it is today very popular in Wales and rapidly growing into popularity in the Eastern States. The character of the Eisteddfod is purely Welsh, while much of its operations today are conducted in the English language. The Welsh working people owe much to this institution for their social, moral, musical and literary attainments. The chief feature today of the Eisteddfod is music and wherever a dozen Welshmen meet together an Eisteddfod is usually the result. During the Philadelphia bicentennial festivities of 1882 one of the features of the program was a Welsh choir numbering about 2600 voices. Some of those participating in that affair are at present among the King County coal miners, and they have formed a musical company. The leader of this party, Mr. Howell I. Jones, conducted a successful choir in a competition in Pennsylvania for a prize of \$800.00 and a silver vase. He is himself a sweet and powerful baritone.

On Saturday evening last this party gave the Black Diamond people a very pleasing concert, and Mr. 14. Morgan, foreman of the mines, presided. The following selections were sung by the quartet, Messrs. H.T. Jones, George Walter and Davies; "The Life Boat", "Give me my own Native Isle", "Comrades in Army", "The Mighty Conqueror", and "Johnny Smoker". Several well selected arios, duets and solos were delightfully rendered also, in the performance of which a number of lady and gentlemen singers aided, the most noted of which is Mr. John D. Jones, known generally by the name of "Jack Y. Oigidd". Miss Lizzie Armstrong played the accompaniment." (This is the first known documentation of an early Welsh celebration in Black Diamond, WA.)

By Jackie Cedarholm &  
JoAnne Matsumura

*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.*

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COAL MINE INSPECTORS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1891  
by Ed T. Morgan, Coal Mine Inspector, First District

BLACK DIAMOND.

This mine consists of three slopes, called Nos. 14, 2, and 12, respectively. *No. 12 slope* is 1,250 feet deep, on a dip of fifteen to eighteen degrees. A new lift has been opened within the year. The management has had serious troubles, which are constantly menacing coal mining owing to the yielding of the superincumbent strata, extending from the west gangway on the second level to the slope. Active measures were promptly taken, and the difficulties overcome. Coal mining in Washington becomes expensive when these unforeseen occurrences take place. Several mines in the district could present a more desirable balance sheet at the end of the year were things otherwise. When we consider the upheavals and internal disturbances that have taken place within the bosom of mother earth, so say nothing of the innumerable evidences left by the glacial period in the shape of erosions and drift, particularly in King, Skagit and Whatcom counties. Drainage is effected by Cameron pumps, with a good margin in case of an emergency. Hoisting is done by a single engine, second motion, with loose drums. Steam is generated by three boilers, while there are three more not in use except when repairing or examinations are done on the former ones. Ventilation is produced by a large eighteen or twenty-foot fan propelled by a direct acting engine.

*No. 2 slope* is 950 feet deep, and connected to *No. 14 slope* by a rock tunnel. All coal mined in this slope is prepared and cleaned at what is called *No. 2 bunker*. All water that this mine produces is conducted through a ditch in the aforesaid tunnel to slope 14. Hoisting is done similarly to that done in *No. 12*. Ventilation is produced by an exhaust fan.

*No. 14 Slope.*—The slope in this mine is 950 feet deep. West of this some fifteen to eighteen hundred feet, is another underground slope sunk to a depth of 400 feet, the hoisting from which is done by an electric plant (the only one in the district). The power for the electric plant is produced by a large dynamo placed outside the mine, and the current is led down the main slope and along the gangway to

the head of the underground slope by means of large insulated wires.

Drainage of this mine is done by use of steam pumps; but had not the labor troubles occurred last summer, no doubt the pumps also would have been ere this operated by electricity.

Hoisting is done by a single engine and as soon as the loaded cars are landed the same are conducted to the bunker by a rope which is put up in short sections and then joined by several iron links. The cars when landed have momentum enough to run under this wire rope. The rope drops into a slot on the hind end of the car, and slips through until the iron links are taut and cannot slip through: as a consequence the rope, which is in constant motion, takes the cars along and likewise drops them at the proper place. The empties are returned by the same means.

Ventilation is produced by an exhaust fan.

These mines are extensive and have been better ventilated than any extended mine during my visits.

FRANKLIN MINE.

The main opening (at one time) of this mine was on the *No. 12 vein*: it consisted of a slope sunk 500 feet deep in an oblique direction to the dip of the vein. It was sunk on an angle of thirty-five degrees, thereby bringing the bottom of the slope to a level nearly to *Green river*. This slope has been abandoned for some time as a hoisting slope, but is now used as a return or outlet to the fan.

The main hoisting slope that is now used is sunk on a vein overlying the *No. 12 vein* and underlying the *McKay vein*. This slope is sunk to a depth of 275 feet deeper than the *No. 12 slope*, and is connected to the *McKay vein* by a rock tunnel ninety feet long. All the coal hoisted by means of this slope is conveyed to the bunkers by means of a gravity road, and the empty cars are hoisted up a short plane, and from thence run by gravity to the head of the slope back again.

There are three escapements to this mine, independent of the outlet or *No. 12 slope*.

An auxiliary slope has been sunk on the *McKay vein*, 275 feet below the bottom of the main hoisting slope, and as soon as the gangway has been driven far enough north the hoisting slope will be connected with this new level.

Drainage is effected by steam pumps near the auxiliary slope, the outlet of which is near the *Green river*.

Ventilation is produced by a thirty-foot Gui-

*(Continued on page 9)*

(Continued from page 8)

bal fan on the north side of the fifth level; while the difference of temperature caused by the steam pump near the auxiliary ventilates the south gangway.

The sixth level is also ventilated by the same means until it is connected with the main hoisting slope. All the coal mined in the sixth level is hoisted through the auxiliary slope and dumped into a counter chute, then reloaded at the fifth level and run to the foot of the hoisting slope.

A new departure in the method of mining is in operation here, namely, mining by the long wall system. Four sets of miners are working an opening in the vein up the pitch one hundred feet wide. This they will work to the limit line of the chain pillar, thence one hundred feet of solid coal will be left for a pillar; and if this system will be satisfactory to the management every alternate hundred feet will be worked, and the remainder can be taken out when the limit line is reached, thereby insuring their gangways from a "creep."

This mine has been seriously affected from time to time by the yielding strata which overlies the coal, causing great expense to the company, besides throwing large numbers of men out of constant employment.

#### FATAL ACCIDENTS, 1891.

JANUARY 6.—*Evan M. Jones*, age 42, married: He was employed with another man at No. 12, Black Diamond mine, taking down top coal. The lower portion of the seam having been previously worked four and one-half to five feet in thickness, props were stood at proper spaces to support the roof, which consisted of a tough bone about two and one-half feet thick; above this bone was a bench of coal three feet thick. To obtain this bench of coal Jones and his partner were taking out the props that the bone and coal would fall down, or be blasted down. The coal was thence picked out, leaving the bone to remain where it fell. Contrary to the usual method of taking a coal drill to loosen the head of the prop, he used a pick, the handle of which was scarcely half as long as a coal drill. When he gave the last blow with his pick, loosening the prop, the mass of bone and coal unexpectedly fell, catching him in a stretching position, before he could recover his equilibrium. The suddenness of the fall was caused by a face slip, which has not previously been observed. The accident happened at 9 A.M. He was taken home, and died from internal injuries received, at 5 P.M. the same day. I was acquainted with the deceased for the last twenty years, and had worked with him. I always found him to be a miner of good judgment, sober and industrious.

MARCH 21.—*Thomas Davies*, age 21, single: Davies had been engaged, one of a party, in sinking a new slope at Franklin. The sinking of the slope was accomplished, and he with others had commenced lagging the sides of the slope as a precaution to prevent coals falling off the sides. The dip of the vein is from fifty to fifty-five degrees. When placing the upper laggings he used another to stand upon, placing one end on the sill of the road while the other end rested upon the upper portion of the side-prop beneath him. The miner who was lagging the opposite side had his back toward Davies, and *vice versa*. He heard something falling down the slope, and looking to where Davies had been working he missed him: and, as a miner, instinct and reason told him the whole story. He immediately went down the slope, to find the unfortunate man in the throes of death.

APRIL 26.—*Edward D. Comstock* (driver), age 39, married: While following his occupation at the Franklin mine, at the foot of the slope waiting for the regular complement of cars to make up the trip, a car got detached from its fastenings and rushed down the slope (which is at an angle of thirty-five degrees), and by its accelerated motion overtook Mr. Comstock before he could rush to a place of safety. His body was mangled terribly.

NOTE.—At the foot of this slope there is a gangway running south out to Green river; probably Comstock got bewildered and tried to escape the impending danger by running through the rock tunnel. Had he gone to the south side he would have reached a place of safety.

#### NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS, 1891

JANUARY 6.—*William Withrow*, miner: While following his vocation he was seriously hurt by a fall of rock at Black Diamond mine No. 14.

APRIL 3.—*Benjamin Meade*: Franklin; burned by gas; neglected building his air brattice.

JUNE 13.—*George Perry*: Franklin; leg broken. He was riding up the slope on the front end of car; the car jumped the track; he lost his grip, and the above result happened.

AUGUST 27.—*Henry Robinson*: Franklin; burnt by gas while endeavoring to clear the place.

AUGUST 27.—*Luther White*: Franklin; burnt by gas while assisting Henry Robinson

#### IMPROVEMENTS AND NEW OPENINGS.

*Black Diamond No. 12*.—A new level opened by 400 feet of slope.

*Black Diamond No. 2*.—A new level opened by 350 feet of slope.

*Black Diamond No. 14*.—A new level opened by 400 feet of slope, and a new electric hoisting plant.

(Continued on page 10)



TABLE NO. 1  
COAL MINED DURING THE YEAR 1891.

Franklin	11,577
Black Diamond	111,172

TABLE NO. 2.  
EMPLOYEES.

<i>Name of Mine</i>	<i>Inside</i>	<i>Outside</i>	<i>Totals</i>	<i>Mules</i>
Black Diamond No. 12	76	12	88	1
Black Diamond No. 2	41	7	48	1
Black Diamond No. 14	87	46	133	5
Franklin	161	93	254	17

TABLE NO. 3.

Air measurements, showing the quantity displaced by fans, etc., at various mines.

<i>Name of Mine</i>	<i>Cubic feet</i>
Black Diamond No. 12	31,125
Black Diamond No. 2	24,180
Black Diamond No. 14	20,208
Franklin (fifth level)	15,618
Franklin (sixth level inlet)	6,888

TABLE NO. 4.

Number of boilers in use, and date of certified reports received showing them to be in good condition.

<i>Name of Mine</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>No.</i>
Franklin	December 1, 1891	8
Black Diamond (Nos. 12, 2, 14)	January 11, 1892	13

TABLE NO. 7.  
COMPARATIVE ANALYSES OF COALS

<i>Name of Mine</i>	<i>Fixed carbon</i>	<i>Volatile matter</i>	<i>Moisture</i>	<i>Ashes</i>	<i>Sulphur</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Black Diamond	48.11	47.19	3.11	1.58	.01	100.00
Franklin No. 10 vein	57.68	33.92	3.33	5.07		100.00
Franklin No. 12 vein	50.78	34.63	3.66	10.93		100.00
Franklin No. 14 (or McKay)	51.82	40.07	4.01	4.10		100.00

# WELSH PIONEERS OF BLACK DIAMOND, WA.

## THOSE WHO FIRST CAME

BY, JOANNE MATSUMURA, TECHNICAL RESEARCHER

April 2001

They came en masse, these hardy Welsh people from Black Diamond, CA., also known as Nortonville, CA., to settle here and make this area "The best town on the map." They brought not only themselves, but the town as well. From mining equipment to tools, furnishings, and all they could possibly carry.

Superintendent Morgan Morgans closed the California affairs of the company in March 1885 and went to his home in Oakland, CA. He came to Black Diamond, WA in March 1885 and moved to Spokane, WA in 1904.

The migration from California to Oregon and Washington Territory had already begun and people were here in time to be counted in the 1885 Washington Territorial Federal Population Census. Who were these 194 Welsh individuals of whom 124 are known to be from Nortonville, CA among the many other ethnic groups who came, between 1882 and 1885, to Black Diamond, Washington?

From the Thesis by Jacqueline Byer Dial, June 1980, with acknowledgements to Carl & Ann Steiert, the following is a Positive Surname List of those who first came: (Heads of Households)

ABRAHAM, DANIEL	EVANS, EDWARD	MURRY, WM. J.
ROSSER	EVANS, J. B.	NOAKES, WM. J.
ABRAHAM, LEWIS & ANN	GALLAGHER, PATRICK	PIERCY, JOHN
ABRAHAM, LEWIS	HABENICHT, HENRY	POWELL, DAVID
ARMSTRONG, WM. JOHN	HABENICHT, AUGUST	THOMAS HENRY
BENEDETTI, ANGELO	HABENICHT, ALBERT	THOMAS, HOWELL J.
BOTTING, DAVID	HEACOCK, REESE	TURNBULL, ALEX
BOTTING, KATE	HEWITT, ROBERT	VESTENYS, PETER
BOYLE, ROGER	HUNTER, JAMES	VESTENY, PETER
BOXILL, SAMUEL H.	JONES, DAVID	WATKINGS, J. B.
BRYANT, MARK W.	JONES, JOHN O.	WATKINGS, JOHN
BRYANT FREDERICK	JONES, LIZZA	WATKINS, DAVID
BRYANT, JAMES	JONES, JOHN E.	WEBER, DAVID
CARDARAY, CHAS. W.	JONES, THOMAS F.	WILLIAMS, JOHN
CANTRILL, M. L.	JONES, WILLIAM T.	WILLIAMS, WM. HENRY
DAVIS, CIARISSE	LEWIS, ELIZABETH	WILMOT JAMES
DAVIS, D. B. (DAVID)	MILLS, JOHN X.	WITHEROW, W.R.
DAVIS, DAVID R.	MINAGLIA, GIOVANNI	
DAVIS, THOS. A.	MORGAN, J. W.	
DAVIS, THOS. X.	MORGAN, S. S.	
DAVIS, WILLIAM W.	MORGANS, MORGAN	
DAVIS, WILLIAM B.	MORGANS, W. P.	
DUMAS, LOUIS	MURRY, WM. A.	

(Continued on page 12)

**WELSH PIONEERS**

Ms. Dial also compiled a Tentative Surname List of individuals that could have migrated from Nortonville, CA., to Black Diamond, WA. The names are:

ABRAHAM, JOHN H.	JONES, RICHARD
DAVIS, DAVID	LEE, GEORGE
EVANS, DAVID	MARINO, F.

In addition to the above, the 1885 Washington Territorial Population Census for Black Diamond, WA, the following surnames are shown with the birthplace as Wales. They are: HUGHES, PHILIPS, RYAN, D. JOHN, ADAMS, DAVIES, HARRIS, JENKINS, AND ROBERTS.

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**DID YOU KNOW**

THAT—In the 1890's Welsh families in Black Diamond picked currants nearby to put in their Welsh cookies.

THAT—Over 217 Welsh family names appear in the 1982 Black Diamond Cemetery book.

THAT—Welsh mine workers were paid more than the Italian mine workers.

THAT—A Morgans Fan, 24,X 4½' that forced air into the mine, was invented by Morgan Morgans, pre 1885.

THAT—The Welsh were the predominant members at the first initiation of the Black Diamond Mt. Rainier Chapter of Rebekah Lodge #106, September 26, 1896.

THAT—We do all that we can do so that we can bring the pre— history and history of Black Diamond, WA to the largest audience.

THAT—We look forward to your presence at the Museum on June 9, 2001, for the Welsh Day Heritage Celebration.

JoAnne Matsumura  
April 29, 2001

The Black Diamond Historical Society now has over 235 members. Of those members, 15 are local business and Historical Societies or Museums; and 15 are new members in 2001. These new members are:

Arthur Ayers	William C. Ayers
Esther Babb	M. Lou Bischoff
Bob Davidson	Myron Davidson
Del & Bobbie Davis	Michael Deicher
Cheryl Dubbs	Linda Lewis
Margaret Pearce	Gladys Pierotti
Frank & Eleanor Roulst	

We are happy you have joined us and hope you are as excited as we are to share knowledge of this area's memories and people. We also want to thank those of you who have recently renewed your membership. The support of our members is what helps keep your museum alive.

The membership committee would like to get an idea of the ages of our members. Would you let us know what the date of your birth is? You can do this by a phone call, a card/letter or by E-mail.

Do you have a close friend or relative that is interested in the history of Black Diamond and it's surrounding area? Why not purchase them a membership to the Black Diamond Historical Society, the next time you want to give them a special gift.

Dee Israel

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**MONETARY DONATIONS**

The museum wishes to thank the following for their monetary donation that have been made since the first of the year. The Black Diamond Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the Law.

The Betti Trust	Marcia Berg
Thelma Griffith	Robert Glackin
Bremmeyer Logging Co.	Muriel Waldo
Esther Mumford	Don Botts
David & Kimberly Rendle	Clara Murphy
Mel & Junette Larson	Jennie Johnson
Dawn Johnson	Maxine Shelton
Glenn & Barbara Fredericksen	Lois Estby

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

By JoAnne Matsumura

We are pleased to report the King County Landmarks & Heritage Commission has provided funding for archival storage containers for the archives collections. This generous funding is appreciated.

Society members and visitors are a constant source of information from which we continue to learn. On a recent occasion, new members brothers **Bob and Myron Davidson** were visiting and reminiscing. Through them and **Beth Van Buskirk** the 1938 Black Diamond High School class photograph on exhibit has been correctly identified with each graduates name. This living history is the best yet!

The Archive Department eagerly seeks the names of each graduating class of Black Diamond High School (also known as Union M High School) prior to 1929. If you have information please call, write, or come for a visit and give the information to me at the Museum Thank you!

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### NEW ACCESSIONS

James and Nancy Lewis Gladys Pierotti	Unique coal dust carving, coal miner. Prayer card, Obituary and pictures of Emilio "Meg" Pierotti.
Linda L. Benson	Steamer trunk ca. 1889, Raymond sewing Machine ca. 1870, and bench in memory of Mary Marriotti.
Elsie Thompson Marchette Betty Jo Gross Bill Kombol Bob Eaton	Pictures, First Aid Teams & Mr. Fulford. Eyeglasses ca. 1900, worn by Jessie Crenshaw. Two-volume dictionary set, 1937. Large coal dust carving by "Rullo" inscribed, "George Mikos, PA. Coal Miner".
Myron Davidson	Black Diamond High School Graduation Announcement, June 3, 1938.
Southeast Glass	Glass shelving for display case.

We thank each of you for your generosity and kindness for these donations.

#### NEW ACQUISITIONS

1892 King County Directory, Copy, (Polks).  
Index—Columbia Magazine, VOL 1—10,  
1987—1996, by,  
Washington State Historical Society.  
Index to lumber Mills & Saw Mills, by Eric  
Erickson.

#### WISH LIST

Oblong "Diamond Briquette"  
Briquette Coal sack, "Pacific Coast Coal  
Company"  
Water bath Canner with lid, 10" high or more,  
ca. pre 1950, carrier optional.  
The above items would enhance the Museums collec-  
tions. If anyone can help locate these items, please let  
us know. Thank you!

## 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
- Family \$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.)*

<u>For Museum Use Only:</u>	Date: _____	Initials: _____	File: _____
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## At The Museum

Our current projects have included the focus on keeping our building safe from fire. We do realize the fact that our building is far from fireproof. Our efforts in the attic firewalls are only part of our ongoing effort to protect our artifacts and records from being destroyed in a fire.

In the office, **Dee Israel** has been organizing our three 4-drawer file cabinets. She has found that we can eliminate one file cabinet, and separate the remaining material into three categories:

- 1. Important documents and photographs** that should go downstairs to the fire-proof vault.
- 2. Important papers** that need stay in the office, for us to conduct our affairs.
- 3. Copies and other papers** that stay in the office.

We only need to have two file cabinets in the office, and one of them should be fire-resistant for the important papers that need to stay in the office.

**We have located fire-resistant file cabinets at Office Depot for \$600.00. If anyone has any better sources, please let us know. We are starting a fund for one of these cabinets, and welcome donations earmarked specifically for this cause.**



**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 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  
its contents are done by  
volunteers.  
To donate your time or  
money would be a great  
way for you to help pre-  
serve our history.