



Newsletter

Volume XXVII, Issue IV
Printed Quarterly-October 2002



PICTURES OF THE PAST

The above graduation photograph was a recent donation for our Archive photograph collections. The names of the individuals are on the back of the photograph. However, putting the name with the face has been our challenge.

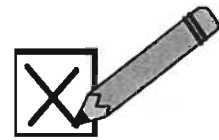
With the help of Lois Estby, Ruth Mills Kerkes and Suzanne Cluett, all but two have been matched. We need your help to identify which one is Mathis Albert and Gethin Davis. We would also like to know when and where this photo was taken. It does not appear to be Black Diamond.

The ladies seated are; left to right, Selma Victoria Hanson, Annie Mills and Gladys Jones. Those standing, left to right are; Maggie Thomas, unknown, Ellen Hanson, Garfield Morgan and unknown.

Please write, call or E-Mail your response to us. All information is gratefully appreciated and welcome. THANK YOU!!

BDHS Catalog #2002.20, Lois Estby Collection.

ELECTIONS!!



It's time to vote for our Society
Officers and Directors
October 13th
(Details on page 10)

Then join us for a hay ride to the John Henry Mine, followed by a chili feed! Please let us know if you plan to attend so we have an idea how many to expect.
(Look for further details on page 5)

Holiday Closures

The Museum will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, and from December 23rd through January 8th.

Winter hours will begin
November 2nd

The Museum Is Located At

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

Museum Hours

Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sat & Sun 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Summer
Sat & Sun 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Winter

Special Tours May Be Arranged By Calling
253-852-6763

Visit our web site!

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

Membership Rates

Individual, Annual \$10.00
Family \$15.00
Organization \$30.00
Lifetime \$100.00
Membership App. Page 17

Payable To

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

Society Officers

President **Don Mason**
Vice President **Darryl Buss**
Treasurer **Clayton Mead**
Secretary **Dee Israel**

Directors

Don Botts, Howard Botts, Jackie Cedarholm, Bill Luke, JoAnne Matsumura, Anna Morris, Gino Picini, Joe Zumek

Volunteers

(Many, but never enough.)

The **Black Diamond Historical Society Newsletter** is published by and for the members of the Black Diamond Historical Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3), Washington Corp.

To send material for the Newsletter, _____ address it to:

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

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Don Mason

My full first year as President is coming to an end and I can say "all is well with our Historical Society". The newsletter is one of the finest in the state, all our business data is now totally on the computer, our quality of volunteers is outstanding (but we are always in need of more) and the Thursday lunches for the work crew are tops.

We are in the process of repainting the Museum. Only when you are scrapping, washing and priming like this do these additions become evident.

We are always adding something new to our displays, so stop by when you can and spend some time with us. A reminder - in addition to our Saturday and Sundays hours, we are always open all day Thursdays.

President
Don Mason

FROM THE EDITOR



I have received some letters to the editor, and wish to share them with our readers. Ms. Jeanne Norman writes:

Steve Israel, Editor

Dear Sir:

From the Editor down the long line of those who have had anything to do with the Black Diamond Historical Society Newsletter – a most sincere Congratulation.

*I have always enjoyed reading of people and places of the old days in and around Black Diamond. The current issue had a most interesting article, "Our Home Town", well written by the **Roberts brothers, Conrad and Gordon**. My special interest concerned the teacher. My husband's father was **James Norman**, one of the first male teachers. He died in 1977 at the age of 96. His son, Homer drove from Kirkland every Friday after school (I was lucky enough to enjoy the ride) to bring his father home, and late Sun. or early Mon. a.m. took him back to BD where he rented a small home near the school – he batched & during those days crocheted a large bed spread. He spoke of **Mr. & Mrs. Cobb** so often and even after retirement they remained friends and kept in touch.*

When it became possible for BDHS to start fulfilling the plans for the Museum – the restoration of the old railroad station began and how it has strived with so many far-sighted people and eager volunteers to work long hours to see their vision as the Museum is today. If Mr. Norman could see it, he would be so pleased as he always thought of his time at BD very happy. My husband and I became Life Members at least 20 years ago.

Thank you for your time and continued success.

Jeanne Norman

PS The Steiert's were special people – Anne would tell us of her days with Mr. Norman as her teacher.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Black Diamond Historical Society

I want to thank you so much for sending me the newsletter to my new address. It is a retirement home. I have been here 4 months.

I do miss Black Diamond; I lived there for 72 years. Chick and I raised two boys there: Jerry and Jack. In those days it was a great place to raise them. The whole town was their playgrounds, from Lake 14 to lake 12. They fished Lake 14 and swam Lake 12. They also had the big school grounds for all sports, and all the woods around for sling shots.

The one thing I remember the most, was the outhouse. In the summer it was flies; in the winter it was cold, and I do mean cold! Everyone had a Sears Roebuck catalogue. It was kinda nice sitting there looking at all the nice things you could buy, but no money to buy them with.

The town will never be the same, that is why it is so nice to sit back and remember how it really was.

Love Ya,
Irene Thompson

Dear Black Diamond Museum Newsletter Editor,

In case you need some news for your next newsletter, I thought I'd send this information to you regarding Margaret Spaight Covey.

Margaret will be 100 years old on July 29th, 2002. She taught school in Black Diamond in about 1922. Later she taught over 30 years in the Seattle Public Schools.

Her Parents had a meat market and lumberyard in Black Diamond and later moved down the valley and her father had the mineral springs there.

Her grandparents had a small hotel in Black Diamond.

Margaret lives at Meadowbrook Extended Care in northeast Seattle and plays BINGO twice a week. Her mind is still sharp and she gets around on a walker having broken her hip in 1992.

Marilyn Covey (Daughter-in-law)

SECRETARY REPORT

July, August, September 2002



FACILITIES COMMITTEE,

Chairpersons Don Botts and

Joe Zumek: The inside of the

caboose has now been re-

ainted, and hopefully it will be

a while before more graffiti is

on it. A washable, semi-gloss paint was used, so if there is more graffiti, perhaps it can be washed off.

The Facilities grant with King County Landmarks and Heritage has been approved. The contractor that has the painting contract, along with some Museum volunteers have done the pressure washing, spot priming and caulking of the Museum. If the weather holds, by the time you receive this newsletter, the painting will be done.

GROUNDS COMMITTEE, Chairperson Gino

Picini: Gino has advised us that for this next year, he has decided to quite being a director on the Board and help more on the Thursday work crew. He is still interested in keeping the grounds beautiful with flowers, etc, but would also like to be involved in other committees.

RIDING/WALKING TOUR BROCHURE

COMMITTEE, Chairperson Howard Botts:

Howard has been working with Laura Olsen of Olsen Creative in Black Diamond to come up with the brochure. Ms. Olsen has showed us her prototype and explained their idea of including about 16 locations, 8 photos and a map in this 11" x 17" brochure. She has contacted 3 different sources to get bids for printing, and is waiting for their reply. Anyone with ideas of what places should be used in this brochure, bring a list to the Museum so Howard can make his selections. Some suggestions were the 2 Historical homes that are in Black Diamond, the Union Stump, the Depot, the Bakery, and the Dinner House. A grant has been approved from King County Landmarks and Heritage Program to help with the costs of this brochure.

(Continued on page 5)

BLACK DIAMOND: MINING THE MEMORIES COMMITTEE, Chairperson Steve Israel: Steve has announced that his committee is JoAnne Matsumura and Don Mason. It was great to have Diane and Cory Olson (the author and co-author of *Black Diamond: Mining the Memories*) attended the July 21st Board meeting. Their biggest concern in regards to the Book was that the text of the book not be changed. Cory and Diane Olson and the Board approved the following proposal: "Any person wanting to use a quote from the book *Black Diamond: Mining the Memories* which does not exceed 150 words must get approval from The Black Diamond Historical Society. This approval is conditioned on the person using the quote, citing the title of the book, the names of the authors and giving credit to the Black Diamond Historical Society. Requests for using quotes from the book which exceed 150 words shall be considered for approval by the Black Diamond Historical Society on a case by case basis".

Steve and his committee are putting together a complete index and a list of improved citations (possibly 40), to be added to this next printing. Do to these enhancements, plus the cost of inflation; the Board has approved a price increase for the next addition.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Chairperson Dee Israel: Dee announced that she has selected Beth Deady, Elsie Parkin and Junette Larson as her committee. This Committee will be in charge of the election as well.

For anyone interested, after the annual Membership meeting on October 13, 2002 we will have a **hayride** down to the John Henry Mine site, with someone from Palmer Coking Coal to explain things as we go. Upon returning to the Museum we will have a chili feed, so be sure to schedule your day to include all of this.

Dee Israel, Secretary

GUESTS

By: Don Botts

During the months of **July, August and September** we had **1290** visitors to the Museum. There were visitors from 27 States: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin and here in Washington. There were also people visiting from Belgium, Columbia, England, Germany, and Norway.

REMARKS MADE BY OUR GUESTS

Delightful visit at an excellent museum. A great service in preserving and explaining the past. By letter from Mrs. Hart, 8-6-02.

It was delightful to be here. The enthusiasm is catching. (visitor, 90202, talking to Mrs. Pearce.)

Love the explanations on the signs for artifacts. (visitor 90202)

The amount of coal mine equipment you have is impressive. (By letter 8/02 Mr. Dockham.)

WOW! We love it – thank you

It was very neat & interesting

Great mining display

So much nostalgia

Always great

A lot of history

Very educational

Very Nicely done

Glad we stopped in

Cool Dude

Awesome "Thanks for the heritage"

Excellent! Very impressive

Surprised at extent of history & care taken

Wonderful museum

Awesome ancient things

We love to come here

Surprisingly nice

Proud of my home town

Love it ~ God Bless

Really enjoyed the tour

Lots of cool, interesting stuff

Intriguing & historical

What a lovely project

So glad your doing this

Fantabuleristic

So many great old things

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

For July, August & September, 2002

The Black Diamond Historical Society now has 242 memberships. I'm sorry to report that since our last newsletter, 4 memberships have been dropped due to death or non-payment of dues. However, we have had 21 new memberships. Our new memberships are for: **Allen County (Indiana) Public Library, Nancy Baltazor, Jack & Andrea Cairnes, Roy & Shirley Dal-Santo, Joe & Mary Darby, Robert & Marie Darthez, Ralph E. Dockham, David & Connie Florence, Jane Gattavara, Ruth Harden, Charles Kessner, Pauline Lane, Josephine Lang, George & Martha McPherson, Gus Paglia, Catherine Spedden, Sean Taeschner, Anne F. Thorsett, Ralph & Betty Uhrig, Bonnie & Katie Wigginton, and Robert Whiting jr.**

We are happy you have all 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 the members is what helps keep our museum alive.

Look to see if there is a red check on the mailing label of this newsletter. **A Red check on your label indicates your membership is due.** If it has been checked, please send me your membership renewal form and your membership dues; or let me know why you feel it is in error. Otherwise, you may be dropped from our membership and I don't want that to happen anymore than you do.

Believe it or not, Christmas is just around the corner. Are you looking for that special gift for a close friend or relative? If they are interested in the history of Black Diamond and it's surrounding area, you can purchase a membership to the Black Diamond Historical Society as a gift for them.

Membership dues are as follows:

Individual = \$10.00

Family = \$15.00

Organization = \$30.00

Lifetime (Individual) = \$100.00

Dee Israel

IN MEMORY

The Black Diamond Historical Society offers condolences to the families and friends of:

GEORGIA MAE DUNCAN ZUMEK, died April 26, 2002. She was a Black Diamond resident for more than 80 years and wife of Thomas Zumek. They worked together at Zumek Brothers Market in Black Diamond.

HENRY "HANK" TYERMAN, died April 28, 2002. He was born in Seattle in 1924 and grew up in Black Diamond.

CHARLES M. CORLETT, died May 16, 2002. He was a Charter member of the Black Diamond Historical Society and husband of Dorothy Franz Corlett. Charlie was the recipient of an award for his electric, model display of Mine 11 in the Museum.

MARGUERITE BOSTENERO JACOBSON, died June 19, 2002 at the age of 88. She was born in Black Diamond to Josephine & Guacomio Bostenero.

ROBERT J. (Bud) GLACKIN, died July 3, 2002 at the age of 79. Bud was a life member of the Black Diamond Historical Society since 1977 and brother of member Douglas Danley.

THOMAS ZUMEK, died July 10, 2002 at the age of 80. Tom was a longtime Black Diamond resident, storeowner and served as Fire Chief until 1963. He served his community and will be missed by many.

MARY K. KRAVAGNA CROSS, died August 9, 2002 at the age of 94. Mary grew up in Black Diamond and was the sole survivor of five siblings to parents Anton & Antonia Kravagna.

HARRIETTE D. MANOWSKI ROSSI, died August 11, 2002 at the age of 84. Harriette was born in Black Diamond. She was a lifetime area resident, and wife of Emil Rossi. She was the sole survivor of her 13 siblings to parents Cornell & Anna Manowski.

(Please send a notice to the editor if you know of a member or friend of the Society that has deceased, because we would like to extend sympathies from the Museum, and inform our members.)

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

During this past quarter, The Black Diamond Historical Society has received the following in Memorial Donations:

IN MEMORY of Harriette Manowski Rossi, donations were made by Helen Manowski and Mary Elsie Marchetti.

IN MEMORY of Mary K. Kravagna Cross, donations were made by Ramon Kravagna, Nancy Baltazor, Hubert Kravagna Family (John, Chuck & Marilyn) and Don Landskov.

IN MEMORY of Thomas Zumek, donations were made by JoAnne Matsumura, Muriel E. Waldo, Gloria Duffey, Leasha T. Janet, Joseph & Evelyn DalSanto, Lois & Ralph Estby, Walter & Joan Clark and Anne F. Thorsett.

IN MEMORY of Roberta Salinas, a donation was made by Nancy Baltazor.

IN MEMORY of Georgia Zumek, donations were made by Leasha T. Janet, Gloria Duffey, Walter & Joan Clark and Anne F. Thorsett.

IN MEMORY of Henry Tyerman, a donation was made by Helen Manowski.

IN MEMORY of Robert J. (Bud) Glackin, a donation was made by Gordon & Colleen Danley

IN MEMORY of Charles Corlett, donations were made by Muriel E. Waldo, Albert & Norma Arrington and Gordon & Colleen Danley.

IN MEMORY of William T Thomas and Hilda Paulson Thomas, a donation was made by Margaret Stanley.

The Black Diamond Historical Society would like to offer condolences to the families and friends of all of the deceased that we have mentioned.



MONETARY DONATIONS

We wish to thank Dick & Lori Hoyt, Margaret Vernarelli, Bill Bremmeyer, Mary Sabine, James & Carolyn Galligan and Vera Toman for their generous donations to the Black Diamond Historical Society's general fund; and Nancy Condotta Comstock and Mr. And Mrs. Lawrence Condotta for their donations to the Society's Archive Preservation fund.

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. All donations are greatly appreciated.



Train At Depot

This was a very familiar site in Black Diamond in the early years, but the train no longer runs. We would like to have pictures of the "Depot" in the early years, for our collection. This is our "Museum!" In the picture we can see the cargo door trim is painted white. We would like to see other views of the "Museum" in the early days. As we are painting our museum now, we would like to get some ideas of how it looked in the old days. Please let us know if you have any early photographs of the "Depot". We would like to obtain copies for our collection.

Thanks, BDHS

LADIES IDENTIFIED

In the July 2002 Newsletter we asked for identification to a photograph in the archives, #0000.12.01. The four lovely ladies are; from left to right, RENA BANCHERO, KATIE PAGANI, OPAL BAXTER and FRANCES HADLEY.

We also learned that Katie Pagani was born in the Historic Landmark Pagani Home, and the brother of Frances Hadley ran the Bakery at the time she worked there.

We still do not know the date or location of the photograph.

Thank you to Esther Vernarelli Babb and the other unknown contributors of this information. What we would do without members like you!!!

ARCHIVES WISH LIST

Enamel Plate & Cup and pair of handcuffs for the 'occupant' in the Museums Jail.

Senior Class 1943 BD High School, photographs & memorabilia. Quality copies okay.

Christmas memorabilia from your childhood. Handmade holiday card/s, ornament, etc.

Mannequins.

Senior Class photographs prior to 1931. Quality copies okay.

Marbles

FROM THE ARCHIVES

By JoAnne Matsumura

Our mission of Discovery, Preservation and Dissemination, along with our goal in exceeding your expectations, remains unchanged.

We are indeed grateful and our appreciation knows no bounds to the contributors to the Archives Preservation Fund. This funding is what supports our mission and is welcome in the spirit in which they are offered. The funds are in an interest bearing account and judiciously used.

As much as one may know about a community there is always something new to discover. In 1909 seventeen children from BD and Roslyn were admitted to the Washington Children's Home in Seattle. After the 1910 Lawson Mine disaster more children from BD were admitted to the 'Home'. These were times of hardship and this tells us the severity to those hardships. More information is being sought to learn who the children were.

To those of you who have read BLACK DIAMOND: MINING THE MEMORIES, may recall the meanderings of "Billy the Mug " and Joe Kraus through the various historians oral histories. In conversations with Carl Steiert and many others I have asked, Who is Billy the Mug? He had that ball team you know, and the saloon in Seattle. No answers came.

Recently while reading the Seattle Telegraph Newspaper of December 2, 1894, there upon the headline, "One Man put to sleep with a Beer Bottle" at the opening of Billy The Mugs, "Windsor Bar", on the SE Corner of Commercial and Main in Seattle. It was across the tracks from the C. & P.S. Railway Depot. Billy's surname still eludes us, so we'll keep mining the memories!

OH, you haven't read BLACK DIAMOND: MINING THE MEMORIES! We'd be happy to send you the book Don't miss out on reading the community's oral historians memories of Black Diamond, WA. Your check for \$20.00 includes sales tax and postage. You will find our address on Page 2.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

DONATIONS

Our heartfelt thanks to the following individuals for their gift donations of artifacts, photographs and family histories:

Doris Christensen-Coal dust carving of a coal bucket and coal

Don Camerini-Inkjet print of group of miners, 1914 Big Four Coal Mine, Cumberland, WA. Camerini family photo, circa 1922

Rick Zumek-Two plaques honoring Tom Zumek

Junette Larson-Doilies and first edition of Black Diamond: Mining the Memories

Donald Covey-Photo of Thomas & Elizabeth Gibbon Spaight, circa 1893. Also a family history booklet.

Conrad 'Coke' Roberts-1939 BD High School Varsity Basketball Team photo. Class of 1941 8th Grade Graduation Program, 1937.

Gordon & Conrad Roberts-BD Varsity letters, Service Club letter and Commencement Program, for class of 1939.

L. Carey-BD Senior Class photo of 1939.

Margaret Morganti Vernarelli-Oval framed photo of Romeo Vernarelli.

Steve & Dee Israel-Post card of the Green River Gorge.

Betty Martin-Photo of Selleck School students, circa 1921 or 1922, 6th & 7th graders.

Virginia Mills Tracy-BD Senior Class photo of 1941.

Unknown-Constitution, By Laws & Traditions of BD High School, 1939.

Beth Deady-Mrs. Stewart's bluing, 1933 'No-Drip' full bottle with wax top & cork

Henry DeLauro-Six Chambers Encyclopedia Books, circa 1890.

Ruth Mills Kerkes-Three photographs of the Mills family.

Bill Kombol-Palmer Coking Coal 50# and 100# coal sacks.

Helen Manowski-Photo of Lake 12 with diving board and two Washington Wonderland magazines. Jack Gaines-Badge Plate from N.P. Railroad Box Car.

Lou of North Bend, WA.,-Smoking Pipe and wash basin for our 'Occupant' in the Museums jail.

Nancy Baltazor-Inkjet print of Anton "Chick" Kravagna, Charles "Jazz/Casper" Kravagna, Vince Kravagna and Archie Eltz and other Miners, Muckers & Timbermen, Morning Mine, Mullan, Idaho, circa 1907.

Janice Goldsberry Ranton-Stained glass, "Coal Miner" crafted by Mary Rose Madden. "The Train" crafted by Mary is in the BD Elementary School. Ray Scott Sena-Halcon Coal Co., Trade Token, June 1910, for \$1.00, Insurance Credit System.

Bill & Betty Luke-Edger built by Darrell McCloud & used in the 'Rose Garden'. Also railroad artifacts.

Helen Bittner & Christine Lynch-Copy of photograph, snapshot of Al's Service Station, 1958.

IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

We are genuinely appreciative to the following individuals for their contributions.

Southeast Glass-Picture frame glass.

Bill Kombol, James & Emma Barber and Helen Manowski- Historical Newspaper clippings.

Bob Eaton-Labor Day Buttons & Programs.

Dennis Boxx-Smoked fish for the Thursday Crew lunch. It was so good! (Dennis you are welcome to join the Thursday cooks club!)

Clayton Mead-Refinished wooden seats in the caboose, made new easels and mannequin stands.

Shirley L. Wright-Copies of James J. Crow family history documents.

Helen Manowski-BDHS historical newsletters and Labor Day Program.

Phil Fowler-Inkjet prints of photos, July 4, 1925/1926 Parade.

Dee Israel-TLC & materials in preparing the 48 Star Flag for exhibit.

ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Be sure to attend our Annual Membership Meeting, on October 13, 2002. We will have our Elections for the 2002-2003 Board Members. The Nominating Committee has nominated the following:

President - Don Mason	Vice President - Darryl Buss
Secretary - Dee Israel	Treasurer - Clayton Mead
Director - Don Botts	Director - Howard Botts
Director - Jackie Buss	Director - Jackie Cedarholm
Director - Steve Israel	Director - JoAnne Matsumura
Director - Anna Morris	Director - Joe Zumek

Per our By-Laws, Nominations from the floor will be allowed, (with prior approval of the nominee). Directors must be members of the Society. Each member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote. The President/Owner/Principal/etc. of a business membership may be the company representative to vote. If that person is also an individual member he/she may only vote once.

For those of you who want to vote and cannot attend our election, notify us by e-mail, snail-mail or phone so we can send you an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots must be received by October 10th to be counted at the election. So don't delay!

SNIPPETS 'N SMIDGENS

Contributed by: JoAnne Matsumura

Did you know:

THAT-We extend to each of you our Best Wishes for a pleasant Holiday Season.

THAT-Thanksgiving was not always the 4th Thursday of November. Prior to 1941 it was the last Thursday in November. The 5th week of November created problems so congress passed a resolution for the 4th Thursday.

THAT-We send our Best Wishes to Clyde (Rip) M. Johnson and Margaret Roberts who are confined to their homes.

THAT-Our Secretary, Dee Israel is back 'to work' after a brief hospital stay. We sure missed her!

THAT-Elsie Parkin received the lifetime achievement award at the Labor Day celebrations.

THAT-Our Memorial Plaque Board honors the names of 329 individuals in perpetuity due to your generous gift donations. Thank You!!

THAT-Esther Franchini Vander Heyden, Ruby Favro Keeney and Lillian C. Tennio Widner may be the eldest living BD High School graduates, (class of 1926). Can anyone top it? And who might be the eldest living BD School attendee? If you know who they are please let us know. Call, E-Mail, or Snail Mail. Let us hear from you. Thank you!!

THAT-The roaming cows of BD must have smelled the wonderful aroma from the Roma Bakery. With a light wind blowing, cows can smell things from up to six miles away.

THAT-The "Russian Finnish Hall" of Lawson, WA., used the name *Russian* as the emigrating Finns had Russian passports until their independence in 1917.

THAT-Obtaining a photo of Dr. Wm. Frances McCormick still eludes us. We did discover that he served 12 years with the Pacific Coast Coal Co., and died at his home in BD on December 22, 1910.

PAROLEE BACK IN JAIL

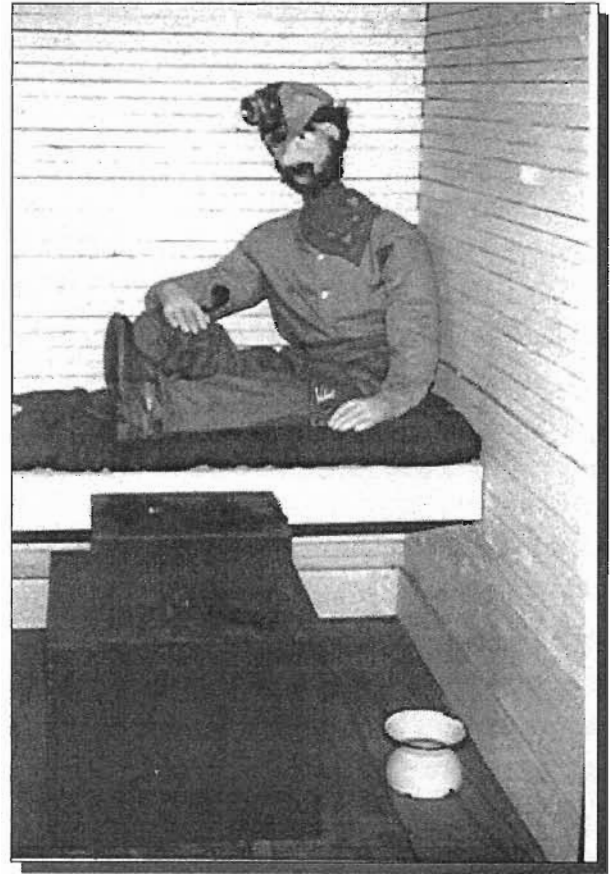
By: JoAnne Matsumura

He's been in the Slammer, a Jug, the Clink, the Cooler, the Calaboose and is now serving out a life sentence in the Black Diamond Museum's Jail. His 'room' is good size and Nat Pennacchi made his iron cell door a full length window so that he could see the goings on---on Railroad Avenue and Baker Street.

Our prisoner never has told us his real name, but he was helping "Tracy the Bandit" in 1902 to escape and was captured by authorities. The prisoner and Tracy frequented the Black Diamond area and it is said they lived in a cabin around Lake Sawyer. They frequented the Pool Hall and mingled and were well liked.

"Doc", his Parole Officer, thought it was time to honor his requests---after all the prisoner had been behav'n good over these past 20 years.

We cleaned up his 'room', clothes and bedroll. Gave him a good shampoo and shave. His miners hat and smoking pipe were returned to him and we got him some good tobacco. He was do'n good and behav'n, then, he got a little lippy with his parole officer, so back in the slammer he went. Maybe if we give him that enamel



wash basin, plate and cup, he'll quit holler'n.

The Museum's visiting children love "going in the Jail" and peering in at the 'occupant'. Many photographs have been taken of people standing on the porch with the Black Diamond Jail sign hovering above. "Was this a real jail?" they ask. Such Memories!!

Thanks to Mrs. Harp, Carl & Ann Steiert and the many people in 1980 and 1981 who helped make the Museum's Historic Jail a reality.

(Get "Caught" in Black Diamond)

Status

Of The Black Diamond Historical Society As of the Annual Meeting, Oct., 2002

By: Bill Luke, Past-President

Three years ago, when I was elected President of BDHS, and thus gave up the Editorship to someone else, I wrote a President's report about the future of the Black Diamond Historical Society. This article, and one intended for Vol. XXV, No. 1, Feb., 2000 were included in a letter in lieu of the May, 2000, issue, which was not produced due to a lack of an editor. The article was entitled, President's Report - July 2000; State of the Society and the Museum; Do We Have a Future? I received a letter from a Life Member stating dismay, hurt and anger at my report. It stated that my letter came on so strong as to infer NO ONE wanted to help or we COULD if we just put forth the effort, and that the Museum has lost many hard working volunteers and those who are older and not able to work as they once did. It was stated that my approach was to make people feel guilty for not getting involved. I apologize if my approach was interpreted in that way. In fact, I was pointing out that those who had originated the idea and started the Museum were no longer here and I was presenting a plea for the future. The plea for help is not unique to this organization, nor to this time. Our newsletters, since the beginning in 1976, have contained a same plea. All volunteers ARE respected whether in dollars, time or whatever way they can contribute! As I now review some writings from three years ago, and during the time since, I am surprised at the differences, and the bright outlook for the future of the Black Diamond Museum and Historical Society. I hope others will recognize the changes, the need for further volunteers, and will be part of the future. We always need more

people to be part of the rewarding experience. Here are some observations that I felt needed attention at that time:

1. Produce a quality Newsletter for our members
2. Find and have on file a Copy of the Articles of Incorporation
3. Review and update By-Laws (All members to have access to a copy!)
4. Conduct meetings of the Society by some standard such as Roberts Rules of Order
5. Board meetings to be held monthly
6. Quarterly meetings for all members to include refreshments, program, etc.
7. Nominations and elections to be held annually
8. More volunteers in all aspects of supporting the Museum
9. Accountability for: Membership list, Memorial Donations, Donated Items, Inventory
10. Name and title of person with authority and responsibility
11. Operations Manual to define duties and tasks

These items were accomplished during 1999-2000, except the Manual. Now, three years later, I am happy to report that we are in good shape financially, have accomplished many more things than those stated above, and are preparing for a successful future. We do have many new faces; but as always, more volunteers would always be appreciated. All of us on the Board encourage anyone and everyone to join us in preserving and presenting the history of Black Diamond. Two remaining items that I intend to bring before the upcoming Annual Meeting are to prepare a Mission Statement as to the purpose and

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goals for the Historical Society and the Museum and a Long Range Plan; and a Manual of duties. With these defined, with volunteers to perform the duties, and with continued contributions, I believe there is a bright future for our Museum. When my father-in-law, the late Charles Corlett, asked me, soon after I retired, if I could come down to help the Thursday crew because so few were left, I didn't realize how few were still able to continue the work of the Museum. At that time, Vivian Bainton, Editor and Secretary, was in poor health and not able to continue her excellent contributions. There was a problem even getting the Newsletter out. Several others had health problems or had recently passed away. However, even through the bleak times, our Museum has been well received and appreciated by our visitors, and our members of the Society have remained faithful. May it always remain so!

Bill Luke



TIMES PAST

By JoAnne Matsumura

BLACK DIAMOND, 100 Years Ago, 1902.

Coal was KING!!

Morgan Slope gets a Capell fan and enlarged Bunkers.

Black Diamond Mines took the lives of James Satoris, Geo. W. Cannon, Robert Olson and John Warner.

Eleven men lost their lives in the Lawson Mine Accident of October 1, 1902.

The Black Diamond school had 262 children and the precinct had 322 dwellings housing more than 333 families for an approximate population of 1,630.

The first electric iron is soon to be on the market.

BLACK DIAMOND, 75 Years ago, 1927.

Mine #11 is closed. The New BD Mine south of Renton was developed.

Seven men lost their lives in a major mine accident in Carbonado.

Sixteen hundred gallons of wine was seized on the Santi Ranch, near Morganville.

Swain & Co. Baseball Team is challenged by the Enumclaw Fire Dept. to a game. Proceeds go to Mississippi Flood Fund.

Income over \$1500 for 1926 required an Income Tax Return.

Penicillin discovered. First TV broadcast by WGY, N.Y.



Lake 12—
Summer Fun.
BDHS Catalog
#2002.57.03,
Helen
Manowski
collection.

BLACK DIAMOND, 50 Years ago, 1942.

The BD High School students begin preparations for the schools closure, and last graduation of the school, for the senior class of 1943.

BLACK DIAMOND, 25 Years ago, October 1977.

The BDHS is two years old and memberships is still \$2.00.

The Societies 1000 1978 Calendars were good sellers.

Rick & Winnie Redler with the "Silver Dollar Bar" at the Morganville Tavern is no more. It was stolen June 10th. Valued at \$8000.

Cindy Lynn Darby is crowned King County Dairy Princess.

Edie's Place featured "Homemade Wild Blackberry Pie".

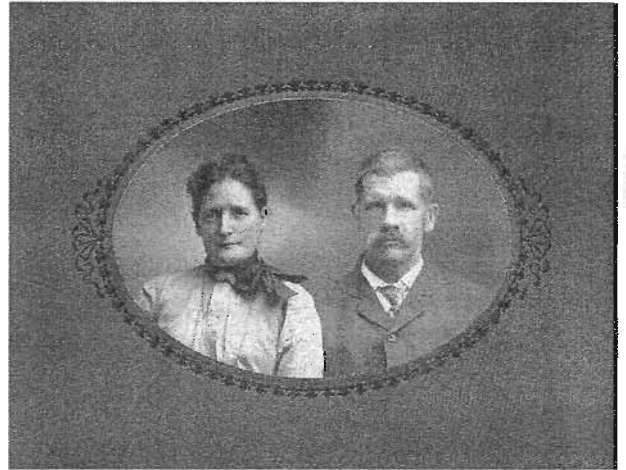
Pat & Teenie Sternig at the "BD, Econowash". Best Burgers at The Boondocks Sandwich Inn.



EARLY PIONEERS

By JoAnne Matsumura

(We are appreciative to Frank Grgurich for the loan of the personal journal of Elizabeth Ellen Brown Grgurich of which the following has been based.)



Elizabeth's grandparents Jane Ellen Ratclieff and Peter Brown were probably married in Canada and then lived in Detroit, Michigan. Peter Brown was a blacksmith in Detroit. His trade was mostly horse shoeing.

Later they moved to Colorado, where William, Henry and James were born. They were all named after their uncles. Henry was born September, 23, 1881, James Edwin in Gardner, Colorado, May 20, 1885 and Peter, January 14, 1887. Jessie Katherine was born August 31, 1883. Another brother had died in 1903 from an accidental gun shot, at the age of 15.

In November of 1890 they left Colorado by box car arriving in Wyoming and then left by railroad coach and headed for

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Palmer, Washington. Staying only two or three days then via a push car with their belongings they came on to Kangley, Washington. There had been a portal mill there. They made ties for the railroad and a few shacks were still there. The mill had been dismantled and moved to Helmlock, on the other side of Barnston. The mill was never used after moving from here.

The family lived in one of the portable mill shacks. Their first meal was Thanksgiving Day of 1890. The meal was boiled brown beans. James Brown remembered one family here by the name of Horn. The Brown family lingered on. He remembers oxen pulling the logs.

The Brown family had to live on the place for five years before homesteading. Homestead rights were given in 1896.

The Kangley mine was the first industry and running when the Brown family arrived. Quite a few houses in Kangley (Critegon, Maloy, Hogan, Peterson (store) with post office) and Caesar De Sarno. There was no school. The store and post office were located near the creek, in the vicinity of old Johnson house. Julius Klinder had a butcher shop near the track, where Bonneville crosses. Some cut timbers for the mines.

The Brown family started to live on the farm in November 1890. Surveyors were busy setting section lines. Awhile after the family settled. Peter Brown, the father, worked out on the railroad grades. He also continued working as a black-

smith and shoeing horses.

The Maple Valley wagon road went from Kangley to Maple Valley before the town of Ravensdale.

After 1896 Martin Miller, logged off the farm. He shipped the logs to Tacoma. The Brown family received around \$400.00 for stumpage, and owing half for groceries. Groceries were brought from Cumberland and from Durham. We carried them until the family owned a horse. To cross the Green River there was a foot bridge and when it washed out, planks were laid from rock to rock. From Kangley the only way out was by railroad and use of trails on either side of the railroad to Palmer. After the car bridge was built across the Green River it was then the county started a road towards KANGLEY There was no wagon roads towards Kanaskat until the county road was made.

The brown family left the homestead and lived in Enumclaw for about nine months, May 1896 to February 1897. Peter Brown tried blacksmithing on his own, but came back to farming in Kangley.

School was in Durham during the summer months. The teacher taught in North Bend the school term and then the Durham school, the three summer months. Mr. Williams was one of the school directors. The school teacher was Miss Berkman. James started school at the age of eight. William and Jessie had gone to school a little time in Colorado. Ed Pratt was the first teacher.

Selleck started to build the sawmill in 1909 and the post office was first in Kangley at the North-west Improvement Company mine store.

1895 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.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COAL MINE
INSPECTORS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER
31, 1895

by David Edmunds, Coal Mine Inspector,
First District

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE MINES

BLACK DIAMOND COAL COMPANY'S MINES

No. 2 Mine.— This mine has been finished. All the available coal was taken out, and the water is allowed to fill up in it to the level of the tunnel connecting it with the No. 14 mine. The main slope from the tunnel to the surface is maintained in good condition, so as to serve as an additional opening for No. 14.

No. 12 Mine.— This mine is closed down since the month of April. A fire occurred in the pump room which communicated with the slope and ignited the timbers. All the avenues leading from the surface were sealed, in order to extinguish the fire. It is thought that the fire is out, and the management contemplate opening it when the condition of the coal market warrants it.

No. 14 Mine.— Everything is kept in a good

condition. Ventilation and drainage are well attended to, as in fact are all the details pertaining to mining. The coal is taken out very clean from the area worked. What is left in is only the needful pillars between the lifts. This is a matter of great importance to the owners and operators of mines, also to the state.

New Slope.— This is a new mine that is being opened on section 11, township 21, range 6 east, about one-half a mile from No. 14. The slope is sunk 450 feet in rock. It is well timbered and is in first class condition. The boilers were regularly examined and reports filed.

LAWSON & COMPANY

Light Ash Mine.— This is a new mine that is being opened on section 13, township 21, range 6 east. It is a drift opening, driven in 250 feet. The coal is of a good quality and resembles the McKay seam of Franklin. No coal has yet been shipped.

OREGON IMPROVEMENT COMPANY'S MINES

Franklin McKay.— This mine was sealed up, owing to a fire that occurred in the slope October 14. The fire was caused by one of the employees igniting a gas blower. It has been reopened to the sixth level. A gang of men are retimbering it and putting it in condition to hoist coal. Prior to the fire taking place the mine was being put in good condition, especially the ventilation. The drainage was poor, but a new pump had arrived which would remedy it, but it had not been placed in the mine when the fire occurred.

Gem Mine.— This is a small mine, employing seven men. It is kept in a good condition.

No. 7 Mine.— This mine was closed down last year and allowed to fill up with water. The water was pumped out in November and the mine was being put in shape to work. New

boilers, engine and fan are being put in place. If the plans as drafted will be executed, it will be an extensive and safe mine.

FRANKLIN MINE EXPLOSION

An explosion of fire damp occurred between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 26th of June, when four persons were seriously burned and one fatally burned. The latter died from his injuries in two days. These men were employed in driving up the main slope from the seventh to the sixth level. The previous shift had fired two blasts before going home, and it is quite probable that the air passages had become impaired by the blasts so that an accumulation of fire damp occurred. The men that were to commence work went up into the slope with naked lamps, the leader having a safety lamp in his hand and a naked one in his cap, thus igniting the gas. These men were the victims of the folly of the leader, it being a rule to examine the place at the beginning of each shift with a safety lamp to ascertain if any fire damp was present. An excellent volume of air was found to be in circulation usually. When these men were taken out the foreman with several other men went into the place to repair it. Several gas blowers were found burning, which they succeeded in extinguishing. The foreman was warned by the other men that there were other blowers burning further up, but unheeding the warning he replaced a door that had been blown down, thus restoring the ventilation, when another explosion occurred, fatally injuring the foreman and slightly burning three others. It was evident that gas had accumulated at the face, and when the door was replaced and the air commenced circulating around the face the gas was removed and brought in contact with the burning blowers

and ignited. The action of the last party was as rash and careless as the first. They ought to have been positive that nothing was burning, and if there was it should have been extinguished before restoring the ventilation.

FRANKLIN MINE FIRE

A fire occurred on the morning of the 14th of October, when four men lost their lives. One of the men working in the main slope ignited a gas blower, the flame reaching the lumber and timber in the slope, causing it all to burn. The men were all notified to come out, and they reached the surface safely. Some of them after reaching the point where the fire was, remained to try to extinguish it, but their efforts were in vain. The smoke from it was escaping to the sixth level and was carried by the air current to the auxiliary slope to the seventh level, compelling the men to retreat. Two men were then sent up to the sixth level to shut the door on the gangway between both slopes, to prevent the smoke from being carried to the seventh level. They were unable to do this and were compelled to retreat to the surface.

The four men that lost their lives were warned by their fellow workmen not to go down the slope, but their warning was unheeded. They gave the signal to the engineer to lower them down. When the trip reached the bottom a large volume of smoke issued from the mouth of the slope. The engineer then determined to hoist the cars up, as it was impossible that anyone could live in the slope, but the cars were found to be empty. It was impossible for anyone to attempt to recover their bodies. The slope was sealed up, so as to prevent the fire from making further headway.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS

1. January 25 – Hudson Miles, Franklin; injured by a fall of coal.
2. June 27 – Wm. H. Cleaves, Charles Leander, W. P. Johnson, Chas. Johnson, Alf. Linguist and Gus Johnson, Franklin; burned by an explosion of fire damp.
3. August 27 – John Raymond, William Davies and Watkin Evans, Black Diamond No. 14; slightly burned by an explosion of fire damp.

FATAL ACCIDENTS, 1895

1. Wiley Hamer, age 52 years, single; killed by falling down a chute in Franklin mine. All were fatally injured by an explosion of fire damp in the Franklin mine June 27th:
 1. Park B. Robinson, mine foreman, age 35 years, married.
 2. Chas. Anderson, miner, age 25 years, single.
 3. R. M. Gibson, fireman, age 40 years, married.
 4. Philip Early, fireman, age 45 years, single.
 Were fatally injured by a boiler explosion at the Franklin mine October 4th:
 1. Hans Jenson, fire boss, age 28 years; fatally burned by an explosion of firedamp (CH₄) in Franklin mine November 9th.
 2. Evan J. Thomas, fire boss, age 52 years, married; fatally injured by being run over by a trip of cars in Mine 14, Black Diamond, November 13th.

<i>Name of mine</i>	<i>Inside</i>	<i>Outside</i>	
<i>Totals</i>			
Black Diamond No. 11	134	41	175
Black Diamond, new slope	12	8	20
Franklin, McKay }			
Franklin No. 7 }	186	69	255
Franklin, Gem }			

THE QUANTITY OF AIR MEASURED IN EACH MINE

<i>Name of mine</i>	<i>Cubic ft.</i>
<i>per min.</i>	
Black Diamond, No. 2	19,200
Black Diamond, No. 12	22,400
Black Diamond, No. 14	27,560
Franklin, south fan	18,500
Franklin, north fan	20,800

COAL MINED DURING THE YEAR 1895

<i>Name of company</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Black Diamond Coal Co.	115,028
Oregon Improvement Co. (Franklin)	70,584



This beautiful stained glass work of art is titled: "The Coal Miner" Handcrafted by Mary Rose Madden. BDHS #2002.51.01

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

Donations for _____ \$ _____

(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:

Rev. 10/01/01

ON THE GROUNDS

Oh My Gosh! We've Got Spots!

The Museum is undergoing a major change. We are getting a new paint job.

For a while, we had white spots. If you look now, we are back to normal - or better than normal!

Come and check us out!

We are "lookin' good!" The recent paint job is more than just "pleasing to the eye", we have also re-nailed the siding and caulked the cracks. The improvements are not only visual, but will also reduce heat loss during the winter!



Black Diamond Historical Society



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

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**Red check on label indicates
your membership is due.**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**

1:30 PM

Sunday Oct. 13

**Elections will be followed by
a hay ride to the John Henry
Mine, then back to the
Museum for chili.**

**MONTHLY BOARD
MEETINGS**

1:30 PM

**3rd Sunday
Of each month**

**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.**