

Black Diamond Historical Society Newsletter

Museum Hours

Thursday	9 - 4
Sat & Sun (Summer)	12 - 4
Sat & Sun (Winter)	12 - 3

Printed Quarterly



July 2006

32627 Railroad Ave, PO Box 232, Black Diamond, WA 98010 360-886-2142 For special tours: 253-852-6763
museum@blackdiamondmuseum.org Visit our web site! blackdiamondmuseum.org

PICTURES OF THE PAST



From the Archive files of *Black Diamond: Mining The Memories* Page 163

This image is of the first Confirmation Class at St. Barbara's Catholic Church, July 15, 1917, that appears on Page 163 of the Society's book *Black Diamond: Mining The Memories*. We didn't have the names of the individuals available at the time the book was published. Through the courtesy of Reverend Charles Palluck, at St. Barbara's and his staff, the original hand written record of Reverend Anthony Hack, was located listing the names. We are appreciative of the opportunity to extract the names from the original record. The names are included in this issue.



The mission of the Black Diamond Historical Society shall be the discovery, preservation, and dissemination of the history of Black Diamond and environs, as it relates to King County and the State of Washington.

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.

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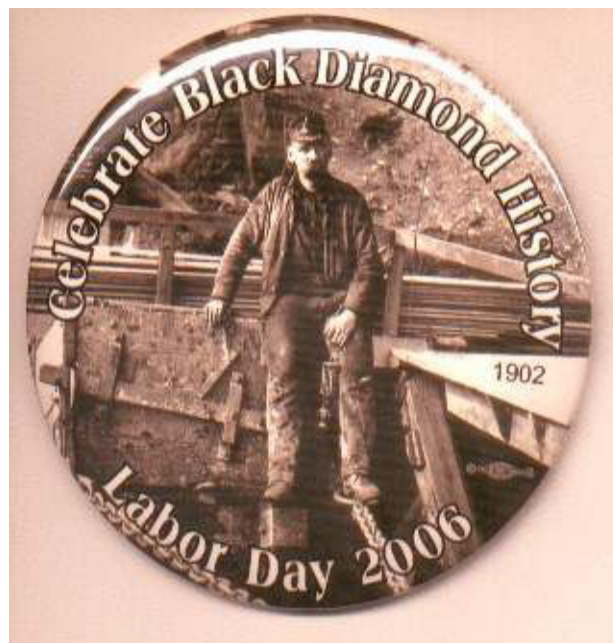
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Society Officers

President: Don Malgarini
Vice President: Darryl Buss
Secretary: Dee Israel
Treasurer: Clayton Mead

Board of Directors

Don "Doc" Botts, Howard Botts, Jackie Cedarholm, Steve Israel, Don Mason, JoAnne Matsumura, Anna Morris, Conrad "Coke" Roberts



Asahel Curtis Photo # 1057
Courtesy of Wa. State Historical Society

Labor day is coming!
Labor Day is coming!
Labor Day is coming!

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We thank 4Culture for the support that helps to keep us operating.

EDITOR'S REPORT
Steve Israel



I am lucky to have some great writers and contributors for the newsletter. I would never have the time to put together such a rich and diverse publication without them.

As usual, JoAnne has compiled a large part of the information in this issue. Frank Hammock did another outstanding job of articulating his view of an important event sponsored by the Black Diamond Historical Society, as he attended the Welsh Heritage Day Celebration. And Coke Roberts, our newest member of the Board of Directors, has submitted an article on the Black Diamond High School Gym.

I want to thank Doc and Dee for their submissions as well. I am always hesitant to start thanking everyone, in fear of leaving someone out, but I think I have my bases covered on this issue. If not, thank you too!

We are well into our physical year since the election of new Officers and Board Members. We are pleased at how things are going, many projects have taken shape and have moved forward on to completion. President Don Malgarini is doing a terrific job chairing the meetings and seeing jobs through. He is careful to make sure that no details are overlooked.

I have been enjoying the task of editing the newsletter for several years now, and I hope to be able to continue. For many volunteers though, burnout comes with the job. I have been working hard to balance things carefully. My personal life, professional life, social life, and so on.

As part of a balanced life, I am a competitive long distance runner, and have been for many years. I stay fit, and try to eat right. My latest venture for fitness and joy has been mountain climbing. There are no words for the sheer joy and excitement of the experience. When I am on the way into a wilderness area, or hanging off of a cliff, I think about how I would explain the feeling or the reason for doing it. There are no words for that. You could talk all around it, but never really hit the target unless you experience it yourself.

Is your life in balance? Are you volunteering enough? Only you can answer that.

Thank you, *Steve*

**CALENDAR DATES TO
REMEMBER**

JULY

- 4 - Independence Day**
- 7,8,9 - Miners Days**
- 16 - Board Meeting**

AUGUST

- 20 - Board Meeting**

SEPTEMBER

- 4 - Labor Day**
- 11 - Patriot Day**
- 17 - Board Meeting**

OCTOBER

- 9 - Columbus Day**
- 15 - Membership Meeting
BDHS Elections**
- ? - Crafts of the Past**
- 29 - Daylight Savings Ends**
- 31 - Halloween**

NOVEMBER

- 7 - Election Day**
- 11 - Veterans' Day**
- 19 - Board Meeting**
- 23 - Thanksgiving Day**

SECRETARY REPORT

By Dee Israel



ARCHIVES: Chair JoAnne Matsumura learned of many valuable records that the Catholic Church has. The Church Priest and staff gave her permission to transcribe historic information for the Museum's Archives. She has now transcribed the Cemetery Record Index, and the earliest baptismal book dating back to 1902. The second baptismal book index started in 1921 has also been transcribed, along with the names on their Memorial Board.

FACILITIES & GROUNDS: Chair Don Malgarini advises that the Plumbing committee went out for bids to replace the plastic pipes with copper, add a 50 gal. hot water tank, run copper water pipes for hot water to kitchen sink, restrooms, basement sink and hot & cold water pipes to shop washtub. Wetton's Plumbing of Enumclaw won the bid for this project. To put the hot water tank in the basement closet as planned; some electrical work needed to be done. Skagen Electric of Enumclaw was contracted to take care of that. This plumbing project has now been completed and is working. It's wonderful to now have hot water in the Museum.

A self-closing mechanism has been installed on the exterior kitchen/meeting room door, so it doesn't slam and rattle the artifacts.

Last fall Gino Picini dug up all the geraniums so they could be wintered-over. This spring he replanted all 106 along the street and around the buildings. Come by and see them, they are so beautiful. Thank you Gino.

Last winter the wooden guardrail on the street, outside the museum was damaged by an out of control vehicle. We have recently found out that the repair of this guardrail is the responsibility of the responsible party's insurance. At this time it is still unknown as to when the damage will be repaired.

A policy has now been written that states that no animals except service dogs will be allowed in the museum. With this in mind, we will also be hanging signs to that effect at the doors of the Museum.

GRANTS: At this time we are grateful to 4Culture for three grants that they have issued to us. **#11999004 (BD Cemetery Records):** Chair Steve Israel advised this grant was made available so we can make and have a picture of every grave marker in the Black Diamond Cemetery with a cross referenced database. These will then be made available to the public for a small processing fee. Steve advised that he is working on the final stages of this grant. **#105365H - HERITAGE FACILITIES** (purchase and installation of security system upgrade): This project will be started soon. **#106016H - HERITAGE SUSTAINED SUPPORT** has been approved for 2006 and for 2007. We will be sending in the invoice for 2006 payment by December 2006.

MEMBERSHIP: Chair Dee Israel advises we now have 285 memberships. President Malgarini invited Conrad (Coke) Roberts to fill the vacant position on the Board of Directors, left by Judy Hastings. We welcome Coke as a Director and as the Chair of the OUTREACH/EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE: Chair Steve Israel advised that Webmaster, Chris Lennick plans on updating the website soon. Watch for the update at www.blackdiamondmuseum.org

PROGRAMS: Chair Howard Botts advised that for our General Membership meeting on April 9th, we had two guest speakers; **Dr. Carver Gayton** (Director of the Northwest African American Museum of Seattle) and **Mrs. Esther Hall Mumford** (author and lecturer about African Americans in Washington State's coal mining communities). We hope you were able to attend this piece of "History of the Past". If you were unable to come, you missed a very informative lecture.



Welsh Heritage Day was a success. Steve Israel developed the advertising flyer. JoAnne Matsumura helped with decorating the museum. Dave & Jane

Jones were in charge of putting out the Welsh flags at the cemetery. Steve & Dee Israel gathered them up afterwards. Clayton Mead did a good job as M. C. “Coke” Roberts dressed as a miner and gave a great presentation. Anna Morris’ scones were tasty as usual. Don & Lynn Mason did a great job keeping the kitchen running smoothly. Carolyn Bell sold Welsh crafts. Some of the guests commented that they would have liked to have heard more Welsh music and suggested we have Welsh maps & flags for sale. Silk daffodils were handed out to the 89 people in attendance. Thanks to everyone that helped put this all together and make it a success.

Miners Days is coming up on July 7, 8 & 9. Our own Coke Roberts and Keith Watson are going to be involved with that project, as well as a chili cook off near the Union 76 gas station on highway 169.

Crafts of the Past/Memory Lane is being planned again for October. Beth VanBuskirk and Muriel Waldo are asking for help to get it organized. Please call the museum and volunteer.

Do you have any ideas of how to get more of our membership and the public to attend when we have special speakers and activities? Announcements and Newspaper advertisements do not seem to be enough. If you have any suggestions, please call 360-886-2142, or write P.O. Box 232, Black Diamond 98010 or e-mail museum@blackdiamondmuseum.org.

Our next scheduled Board Meeting will be held at **1:30 on Sunday, July 16, 2006.**

Our next scheduled Membership Meeting will be held at **1:30 on October 8, 2006.**

SALUTING OUR VOLUNTEERS

By Don Botts, Volunteer Coordinator

We welcome new and returning volunteers.
Without YOU there is no US!
We salute each of you!

◆ Loretta Dennis

“What we need is more delving into the recesses of better literature”. Annabele Milautz (Steiert).



GUESTS

By: Doc Botts

In **2006** during the months of **April, May & June** we had **743** visitors to the Museum. There were visitors from **13** States: Arizona,

California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Michigan, Montana, North Dakota, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Vermont and here in Washington. There were also people visiting from other places, such as Canada, France and Germany.

REMARKS MADE BY OUR GUESTS

Here are a few of the nice comments that were in our guest book this quarter:
Excellent, Wonderfully interesting, Great, This is good candy, Sweet, This place is awesome, What a collection of local history, Great Museum, Right on – I like, Well done museum, Very picturesque, Awesome, Loved it, Fun to see my husbands mothers graduation picture, Great talk, Great collection, neat to see the things I dug up in the museum, Very enjoyable, down stairs is creepy but I loved it, Excellent collection, Love the caboose – It’s awesome, Nice & interesting displays, Courteous & knowledgeable volunteers, Very nice, I liked it, Excellent displays, I found a few familiar names, excellent, I liked it, exceptional history, fabulous museum, It was fun, Very well arranged, Remarkable museum, Absolutely loved it, Very Cool, Neat to see the past, Thank you for this great treasure, Very interesting, Especially enjoyed seeing the portrait of John Davies & wife, Wonderful for family.

We wish to thank the following for their generous donations to the Black Diamond Historical Society.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial Donations were made:

IN MEMORY of **Leonard Flothe**, by Mr. & Mrs. Jerold Thompson.

IN MEMORY of **Robert Mann**, by Susan Hopkins, Emma Lindstrom and Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Linstrom

IN MEMORY of **Joan Moulden**, by Palmer Coking Coal Co.

IN MEMORY of **Betty Falk**, by Pauline Kombol and Palmer Coking Coal Co.

IN MEMORY of **Bud Simmons**, by Pauline Kombol and Palmer Coking Coal Co.

IN MEMORY of **Marjorie Berry**, by Mr. & Mrs. Walter Clark

IN MEMORY of **David Botts**, by Lois Estby and Donald Botts

IN MEMORY of **Harriet Emry**, by Muriel E. Waldo

IN MEMORY of **Carl Steiert**, by Beverly Blair

IN MEMORY of **Ann Steiert**, by Beverly Blair, Lynda Maks, Daryl & Norine McCauley, JoAnne Matsumura, Lois Estby, Donald Botts, Frank Grgurich Jr., Helen Manowski, Mrs. Lyle Bremmeyer, and Ed, Diane, Jason & Jake Gokey,

ADDITIONAL MONETARY DONATIONS

To the general fund

Carolyn Bell
Dr. & Mrs. Robert P. Sherwood
Bill Remick
Marshall D. Ponko

Louise Davies
Mr. & Mrs. Frank L. Roulst
Mr. & Mrs. William Bisyak
Gladys L. Pierotti
Henry DeLauro
Estate of Jane C. Gattavara
Tacoma Model T Ford Club
Randy and Patty Jorgensen
Douglas & JoAnne McCaughan

These donations are greatly appreciated. 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.

✧ THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES ✧

✧ Warren Berg
1923-2006

Formerly of Lake Sawyer

✧ Marjorie Ann Berry
1925-2006

Wife of Harry W. Berry

✧ David Botts
2006

Son of Paul & Gertrude Botts

✧ Marilyn J. Christiansen
1929-2006

Lake Sawyer resident 1946-1996

✧ Shirley V. Franz
1929-2006

Sister-in-law of
Dorothy Franz Corlett

✧ Terri L. Bryant Kingston
1946-2006

Daughter of William R. Bryant

✧ Rosemarie Kirschnick
1916-2006

Twin sister of Sophia B. Osborn
Born in Taylor, WA

☞ **TREASURES AND TRINKETS**

New Accessions and Acts of kindness
By JoAnne Matsumura, Archivist

- ◆ **MarciaLee Berg**-Nostalgic candy for the 'Confectionery'
- ◆ **Black Diamond Community Center**-Book, *Lake Sawyer Orthopedic Guild Favorite Recipes*
- ◆ **Howard Botts**-Booklets, cameras and medical books from the Estate of Dr. & Mrs. H. L. Botts, hand painted cup by Ann Milautz Steiert, old light bulb, stationery from BD, California
- ◆ **Paul Botts**-Historic soaps, cleansers, and two fossils
- ◆ **Dennis Boxx**-Fish for the Thursday crew
- ◆ **Buckley Historical Society**-Hanky from Andy's Diner, Black Diamond



- ◆ **Carolyn Christopher-Efanbee Doll**, circa 1920, photograph of Francis Bussey family, news clippings
- ◆ **Troy Deedy**-Geology and Classification map, 1912
- ◆ **Dan Drilevich**-Materials for quilt racks

- ◆ **Don & Joan Malgarini**-Washtub and stand for museum use
- ◆ **Don Mason**-Photographs of the Catholic Cemetery Gravestones
- ◆ **JoAnne Matsumura**-One box "Ball Dome Copper & White Enamel Lids #63" circa 1930s, two hand crank pencil sharpeners, armchair, Farman Brothers letter circa 1950
- ◆ **Clayton Mead**-Wooden nickels, insulator found in the earth, Coca-Cola bottle
- ◆ **Wayne & Linda Nachtsheim**-106 wintered over Geraniums
- ◆ **Palmer Coking Coal Co.**-Soap dish found in the earth on Ravensdale Road
- ◆ **Gino Picini**-Refurbishing a showcase that had a slight accident!
- ◆ **Gino Picini, Don Botts, and Keith Watson**-Planting the Geraniums. Beautiful!
- ◆ **Conrad 'Coke' Roberts**-1945 photograph, "On The Way Home", Book, *Pearl Harbor Extra*, Program; *Navy Yard War Bond Campaign, December 7, 1944*
- ◆ **George J. Rossman**-Hand crafted quilt racks
- ◆ **Joel Schroeder**-Found in the earth; early era beer mug, beer and wine bottle, tin cup, pieces of glass with markings
- ◆ **Beth Botts Van Buskirk and Muriel Botts Waldo**-Mannequin
- ◆ **Judy Petchnik Warrick**-News clipping about Dr. John N. MacIntosh pastor of the Black Diamond Presbyterian Church, 1973
- ◆ **Keith Watson**-One place setting of early era dishes, original signed BD High School letterheads, 1981 news clippings, flagpole Eagle mounts

Thank you one and all!

✧ **THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES** ✧ ✧

John Morgan Meneghini
1922-2006
First baby born in Morganville

✧ Linda Darlene Moore
1942-2006
Community member

✧ Leola Morgan
1918-2006
Wife of Hayden Morgan

✧ Dennis Petchnick
2006

✧ Jamie Renee Shara
1982-2006
BD Fire Department Volunteer
Daughter of Lori Gibbons

✧ Patricia "Pat" Stone Zeier
1934-2006
Raised in Ravensdale, WA

~

IN MEMORIAM

✧ Gone but not forgotten ✧

✧ **Betty Morris Falk**, was born Nina Elizabeth Morris Falk, on March 26, 1920 to Jack & Marie Morris. She passed away on April 16, 2006 in Kent, WA.

Betty was a Charter Member of the Society, having joined in 1976.

She spent her early childhood in the coal-mining town of Durham, WA, and later in Enumclaw, Washington. She was a graduate of the Enumclaw High School, Class of 1938.

She met and married Carl G. (Charlie) Falk after attending the University of Washington. They had five children.

Betty was an active and involved parent. She was a co-leader of the Kids-n-Kayuses 4-H horse club, the American Field service foreign exchange program, and she tutored for the Renton School District.

Charlie & Betty became active members of the Scandia Folk Dance Society, and participated in Elderhostel programs. Betty's interest in Genealogy took her to document several generations back, as she traveled and did extensive research.

Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Charlie, and daughters Nancy Falk, and Chris Aalto. She is survived by her son Carl David (Georgia) Falk, daughters Roberta Falk, and Janet (Mohammad) Abubakar. Also her siblings, Jack Morris, Evan Morris and Pauline Kombol.

✧ **Ann Carolyn Steiert** was born February 12, 1917 in Bowie, Colorado and passed away on June 11, 2006 in Enumclaw, WA. A graveside service was held at Greenwood Cemetery in Renton. A Celebration of Life was held at the Black Diamond Historical Museum on June 23, 2006. Our October issue will have further details.

The Black Diamond Historical Society expresses condolences to the families of the passing of their loved ones.



Concelia "Connie" (Vernarelli) Picini
Honored & Loved
June 11, 1904 - May 24, 2006

Lifetime member **Concelia Picini** (pictured left) was born Angela, Teresa, Maria, Consaglia Vernarelli on June 11, 1904, in Segundo, Colorado to Stefano and Elizabeth (Donato, Mancini) Vernarelli. She passed away May 24, 2006 at the Vilagio Adult Family Home in New Castle, WA.

Concelia's father, Stefano (a stone mason) came to the United States about 1901, with his brother Ercole (a blacksmith). (Stefano's wife and infant son Diodato remained in Italy). Stefano and Ercole headed for Segundo, Colorado to work at the coalmines. The name suggested it was an Italian populated town, which attracted them. On arriving they found few Italians, and probably did not like having the wages in scrip, instead of cash. Upon learning of Black Diamond, WA, they arrived there in 1902. Finding no employment, although it is reported Stefano did some work on the bakery oven, they returned to Segundo, roughly 20 miles west of Trinidad, Colorado. (Segundo means second mine in the area.

In 1903 the union miners went on strike, demanding an 8-hour workday, instead of 10-14 hours, and wages paid in cash as well as better accounting of their production. The union miners were subjected to intensified violence.

By this time Stefano's wife and child Diodato came to Segundo. On June 11, 1904, Concelia was born in what must have been terrible living conditions. Her father and his brother Ercole were targeted for violent treatment by the mine management because they were active union promoters. The family probably had to live in tents provided by the union outside of town. In December 1904 the family with Ercole fled Segundo and by train arrived in Black Diamond, WA on Christmas Eve.

Concelia's father worked for the mine for sometime, probably above ground only. In due time he developed a fruit and vegetable pedaling business. He had his own large garden, kept a horse, cow, chickens and pigs - all the usual farm life existence. He also had his own baking oven alongside his house below the Black Diamond Bakery, making bread to sell under the name of

Romeo Bakery. Her mother made cheese, mostly to sell, and bread, and grew many flowers in and outside the house. Concelia's delight was in going to school, but that was interrupted in her teens in order to care for her mother (who was often ill) and her infant brother Stevie.

Concelia met Thomas Picini who came to Canada coal fields from Abruzzi, Italy and then to Black Diamond after World War I working as a union miner. In 1921 Concelia at age 16 ½ married Thomas Picini. In a short time they had to leave Black Diamond (a company town) because of a strike by the miners. The miners lost the strike and they could no longer live in the company rented houses. They moved into Morganville where housing was provided for the striking miners. Ironically, it was sort of a repeat from when her family had to leave Segundo, Colorado!

Following the birth of their first child Gino in 1922, the family moved to Tacoma, WA (Rustin), where Thomas took a job at the ASARCO smelter. The house in Black Diamond (just below the bakery) that Concelia was raised in, is still occupied by a Vernarelli, the grandson of Esther Babb, the Greg and Kim (Schakel) Sambrano family.

By 1923 the family moved to Seattle, WA where Dan, Flavia and Tommy were born. The children attended schools in the Rainier Valley area-Brighton and Dunlap Grade schools and Franklin High School.

Being divorced in 1945, she lived singly having several places of residence in the south Rainier Valley area. The start of family get-togethers was at her small house, with a large yard, on Frontenac St. between Seward Park Ave. and Rainier Ave., much remembered by her grandchildren. Also recalled by all are the Christmas Eve celebrations at her apartment overlooking downtown Seattle and the new freeway. For around 25 years straight, with the growth of the family, it got to the point of standing room only, and from her kitchen, all were treated with pastries and pasta. She always had nice Christmas trimmings, and a book suitable for each person.

While her father probably had the most influence on her kitchen skills, her mother must have passed on her love of plants and flowers. Her apartment was a veritable garden. Outside her window she checked on the birds perching in trees and bushes. They probably would have liked to come inside! She liked framed artwork, phonograph records, and books - bookcases

were full of them. This was her source of advanced schooling.

Concelia was also a nanny employed by several, including Seattle Mayor Pomeroy. She also worked for Kline Galland Home on Seward Park Ave. She was a born caregiver and baby sitter. At a very young age she was entrusted to hold baby Edo Vanni, the great Seattle baseball player. Continuing to support herself she was employed by the Good Will Industry and a building janitorial service. She wanted to go into real estate sales, having bought and sold several houses in the Rainier Valley area. The requirement to drive a car proved not to be her thing and the venture was dropped.

Concelia enjoyed some traveling. She went on camping trips with the Flavia and Stan Meyer family. In the fall of 1989 she made a trip with Gino, wife Ruth, and Flavia by car to Segundo, Colorado; seeing the church she was baptized in, and the grocery store of that day, still in operation. With Flavia and her son Dale, she was privileged to make a trip to Hawaii at age 98.

Upon leaving her apartment at Hubbell Place she lived with her daughter Flavia in Federal Way for five years. Then on requiring more care she lived in each of the three adult homes that her grandson Dale Meyer, a nurse, had established and managed for six years. Dale closely monitored her diet and medication and once remarked "she is going to live to be 100!"

Through her 4 children there followed 16 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, and 6 great great grandchildren."Her children rise up and call her blessed."Proverbs 31:28.

She is pre-deceased by all her siblings, Diodato "Duda" and wife Gladys (Towers), James, Romeo, Stevie, and half brother Luigi Mancini; by sister Esther and husband Henry Babb, half sister Mary (Mancini) and husband Ercole Vernarelli and son Thomas Jr. and son-in-law Stanley Meyer and by granddaughters Elaine Picini, Nancy Picini, grandson Douglas Picini, great granddaughter Liz Picini.

Concelia had many interests, but was content with the simple things of life. She had a special concern for each one of the family. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church of Seattle and the Black Diamond Historical Society.

PICTURES OF THE PAST

“CONFIRMATION CLASS, 1917 CONFIRMED ON July 15, 1917, Anthony Hack, Paster”

The names are in the order as recorded in a book.

“Some of these are from Ravensdale, Hobart, and Taylor, including Black Diamond.”

(Picture on the front cover of this issue)

Amerlick, Annie	Koss, Anna	Petche, Bertha
Amerlick, L.	Lefcosky, Frank	Pennachi, Fernando
Babchanik, Jos.	Lawton, William	Plavec, Anna
Balint, John	Lefcosky, Clara	Potochnick, Mamie
Balmert, Rosseina	Lawton, Mary	Porenta, Mary
Balmert, Edda	Logar, Mary	Rudge, Daniel
Brcznik, Josephina	Lawton, Catherine	Rudge, John
Burkelza, Luise	Logar, Bertha	Rosinko, Susie
Callero, Lewis	Logar, Anna	Slapnick, Joseph
Callero, Ellen	Marckx, Hilary	Scott, William
DeWinter, Mrs. C.	Marckx, Edward	Scott, James
Drumel, Mary	Marckx, Regina	Scott, Alice
Drumel, (Sternik) Mary	Morozek, Stephen	Scott, Ruth
Draghi, Mary	Morozek, Stanley	Savage, Stanley
Donlan, Ellen	Malecky, Helen	Scott, Catherine
Favro, Mary	Malecky, Martha	Samek, Mary
Gallagher, Paul	Markus, Anna	Sempreoznik, Mary
Gallagher, Margaret	Markus, Helen	Savage, Stacia
Jasbec, Mary	Mykut, Joseph	Tekel, Andrew (Mr.)
Jones, Richard	Mriglot, Helen	Troyer, Frank
Jones, Margaret	Mlynar, Mary	Troyer, John
Jones, Genieveve	Minaglia, Mary	Troyer, Mary
Jones, William	Minaglia, Aurelia (Mrs. Evens)	Troyer, Emma
Kravagnia, Hubert	Plano, Enrico	Troyer, Elisabeth
Kravagnia, Anthony	Petche, Frank	Tully, Denis
Klansnic, Helen	Pugh, Anthony	Wisniski, Dora
Klansnic, Teresa	Pioli, Peter	Wisniski, Frances
Klansnic, Emly	Penoza, Joseph	Wilsko, Emily
Koss, Sophia	Petche, Fannie	

“The longest journey starts with the first step”. Evan Morris. (Maybe not the first to say this, but he said this none the less.)

SNIPPETS, AROUND TOWN

By JoAnne Matsumura

◆ **Association of King County Historical Organizations** will hold their annual picnic in Black Diamond on August 29, 2006.

◆ **Black Diamond Chapter of DeMolay** now in its sixth year has nearly 100 young boys age 12-21, and looking for more.

◆ **Black Diamond/Mountain View Fire Departments (District 44)** join forces. Mountain View Fire & Rescue will be Black Diamond's Fire Department. The Black Diamond name will continue to be visible.

◆ **Celebrate Black Diamond History** this Labor Day in Black Diamond, WA.

◆ **Linda Lewis Deicher** is a Reiki Master with the Wellness Center, a natural healing method.

◆ **From Old Country To Coal Country** by The Roslyn-Ronald-Cle Elum Heritage Club has recently been released.

◆ **From Smoke to Mist: An archeological study of Franklin, WA** by Gerald C. Hedlund and Mark A. Vernon, will soon be out of print. About a dozen copies still available at The Paper Tree, Green River Community College Bookstore, 253-931-3961.

◆ **Mr. & Mrs. Albert Guidetti** recently celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. BEST WISHES!!

◆ **Judy Hager** is back from California to her Thursday noon Front Desk Station as a Docent. We missed her!

◆ **Steve Israel** won 2nd place in his division at the Maple Valley Days Bear Run at Lake Wilderness Park on Sunday, June 11, 2006. Congratulations!!

◆ **Labor Day Buttons 2006**—features the Rope Rider, an unknown miner, photographed in 1902 at the Franklin mine. The photograph is featured in *Black Diamond: Mining The Memories*, Page 54. The buttons are selling for \$1.00. What a bargain! Get yours at the Museum Gift Shop.

◆ **Pauline Herbel Lane** remembers the DRUTZ ECK (pout corner) when she or her siblings were irritable and uncooperative. “The modern Time Out...some things never change”, she said.

◆ **Red Hat Ladies** from many Chapters have visited the Museum this year. All Chapters are welcome for our special tours of the Museum.

◆ **Purple Heart Recipients** or their families are asked to contact the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Museum, opening in November, and give them information, so that they can include the name of the Purple Heart Recipient in their Roll of Honor. The website address is http://nysparks.state.ny.us/heritage/purple_hrt.asp. The space is the underscore mark (_)

◆ **Rainbow Girls Laurel Assembly No. 144** celebrated their 50th Anniversary on April 30, 2006. If your daughter or someone you know was a member, please let us know. We would like to have the information for our Archives and future Newsletter articles. Thank you!

◆ **Conrad ‘Coke’ Roberts** gave a presentation on Black Diamond and Military history to the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc, Seattle Base, at the VFW Hall #2995, Bellevue, WA.

◆ **Conrad ‘Coke’ Roberts and Keith Watson** are giving their expertise to the Black Diamond Merchants Association for the up coming Miner Days celebration, July 7th, 8th & 9th.

◆ **Robert P. Sherwood** wrote to let us know that it was Dr. H. L. Botts who brought him into this world. He lost his father in 1938, at the age of 38.

◆ **Soup Ladies** become members of the Maple Valley Fire & Life Safety, Fire District #43. Member Ginger Senecal aka Mama Passarelli, heads the group.

◆ **David Sprau**—remembers selling train tickets for the Great Northern at Monroe in 1958 and at Kanaskat in the sixties. A ticket to the next station, Snohomish or Ravensdale cost about 12 cents.

◆ **Veterans** in the Black Diamond Cemetery roster is 25

◆ **Voice of the Valley**, May 16, 2006 issue, published two photographs with an article about Coal. One is the image of the 1954 First Aid Training Class for the Palmer Coking Coal Co., and Electric Hauling mine motor vehicle, as shown on page 51 of *Black Diamond: Mining The Memories*.

Got news? ↩ Send it so we can share it!

CROESO I GYMRU (Welcome to Wales)

By Frank Hammock © 2006

Cyfarchion (Greetings). It was nearing noon on Saturday, June 3rd 2006, and 73 degrees outside under a sunny and cloudless sky. People were beginning to wander into the Black Diamond Museum on Railroad Avenue in Black Diamond, WA for the 8th Annual Welsh Heritage Day festivities. Balloons adorned the wooden platform at this long ago Train Station where the trains have long since vanished and visitors now come by way of automobile.

Dressed in traditional Welsh garb with black hat, lace, a long dress and a bright red cape, **Ms. JoAnne Matsumura** greeted visitors with a smile and passed out artificial daffodils from a woven basket. This beautiful Welsh flower graciously dotted the interior of the museum with its familiar bright yellow color that spawned a joyful exchange of staff and visitors alike during this annual festive event and cast a magical atmosphere that prevailed throughout the afternoon.



Inside, visitors were met with an array of wonderful decorations and information that gave true spirit to the Welsh people, culture, and their way of life. Numerous tea towels of varying colors adorned the walls throughout the museum. One was of *Welsh Songs*, with such titles as “All Through the Night” (Ar Hyd Nos), “Men of Harlech” (Rhyfelgyrch Gwyr Harlech), and “The Ash Grove” (Llwyn On). A couple more rendered delightful prose of odes in the form of prayers — one from the *Miners of Wales* called “Cwm Rhondda,” while a neighboring towel summed up the blessed country in this way, entitled *My Country*:

*My country is beautiful, lovely and fair,
With flowers and woods and quarries there,
I dream of my country with castles on hills,
With dragons and leeks and daffodils.*

*Beneath the earth there is coal and gold,
We have mountains and lakes and cultures of old,
Our language and song rings over the Vales,
This wonderful country is known as Wales.*

Still more towels scattered strategically about shed precious glimpses to many delightful wonders of the Welsh culture. One gave tribute to the *Great Little Trains of Wales* in such places in the beloved country as Snowdon and Welsh Highland to the north, as well as Gwili Railway and Brecon Beacons to the south. A couple more paid tribute to the richness of the *Welsh language* (Yr Iaith Cymraeg) and the curious visitor learned that “Y cymraeg Ydyw’r iaith hynaf a leferir yn Ewrob heddiw” (Welsh is the oldest language in Europe).

Near the entrance inside, a couple of tables met the visitor with a few hand made delights for purchase such as Welsh language books and crafts (e.g. pin cushions, cards, lapel pins, canvas bags and more). In another room nearby, glass display cases were covered with informative documentation for the curious, such as Welsh newspapers, maps of Wales, travel books and guides, census documentation of Black Diamond from various years, 3-ring binders showing a collection of post cards of and from Wales, pamphlets about Welsh dress, recipes, and songs such as the Welsh National Anthem entitled “Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau” (Land of my Fathers). Much of it was free to the taking.



Mr. Malcolm Davies of Orting, WA paid a visit to the festivities sporting a tradition not often seen in the Pacific Northwest. He wore an authentic Welshman’s kilt which displayed the Welsh flag in the richness of color with its familiar red dragon surrounded by green and white. Mr. Davies, a

Welshman, originally hails from Cilcennin, in Midwestern Wales, where he obtained the kilt. He spoke of the Welshman who wear such traditional garb

to the highland games back in Wales and made mention of such games coming to nearby Enumclaw on the last weekend in July to the King County Fairgrounds for visitors and locals to enjoy.

Outside, Mr. Hank Barnes, assisted by Mr. Donald Botts of the Black Diamond Historical Society, raised the U.S. and Welsh flags on the flag pole in honor of the event.

Back inside, near the presentation room, a large tri-fold poster illuminated more culture of the Welsh and their presence in Washington State that has existed now for over a century. A large picture of a labor day picnic showing a large crowd dated circa 1911 adorned the top, followed by a variety of other ads, pictures, and articles throughout. Some addressed the events of the Northwest Welsh Association, articles told of St. David's Day concerts called "Eisteddfod", as well as the "sing gathering" (Gymanfa Ganu). A small note gave a familiar historical flavor that read, "In 1805 Meriwether Lewis was the first Welsh speaker of note to come to the Pacific Northwest. One of the directives of the 'Corps of Discovery' was to find the fabled welsh-speaking Indians." One can't help but wonder if they ever found them.

Soon, music played softly in the background keeping the crowd of between 50 and 70 mingling happily, as they continued to be captured by the timelessness of a country rich in heritage and culture that gave so much to the Black Diamond community as its largest nationality in those early mining days. Time soon slipped effortlessly into the presentations as the MC, Mr. Clayton Mead, led the audience through a few historical thoughts. He then introduced Mr. Don Malgarini, the Black Diamond Historical Society President and the Honorable Howard Botts, Mayor of Black Diamond. Both gentlemen shared their own humor and thoughts of the festivities and thanked everyone for coming. In between each speaking event, door prizes were awarded from tickets given to the visitors upon their initial arrival. Assisting the MC in this event was **Elisha Watkins**, a gracious young lassie who handed out the raffle tickets to visitors, dressed in traditional Welsh garb. The



various prizes given were boxes of chocolates (a favorite choice to the winners), lapel pins showing the Welsh flag, pens, a CD of Welsh music, maps of Wales and more.

Then, the highlight of the day came when Mr. **Conrad 'Coke' Roberts**, the guest speaker and long time

prior resident of Black Diamond, came out into the crowd clad in miners garb, including a hat, a miners light, a safety lamp, a lunch bucket, and a pick. He conveyed to the gathered audience a brief but colorful history of the Welsh and their humble beginnings in Black Diamond. He spoke of the Superintendent of Mines, Mr. Morgan Morgan, a Welshman, and the company town he managed with a population of over 3000 at the turn of the 20th century. "Morgan Morgan issued a ruling back then," he said, "that there would be only one of everything, such as a barber shop, saloon, and a church." From this Welshman of the past, a standard of living had been set throughout the community that not only ensured the survival of his fellow countrymen and their families, but other nationalities as well. He secured an important contribution to the coal boom that put the small town of Black Diamond on the map not only from coal production but also having the deepest sloped mine in North America. Mr. Roberts utilized large black and white pictures to display some of that local past and told a few stories that were fit for a campfire under a sea of stars.

Finally, two long anticipated prizes remained to

the waiting crowd. One was a large basket of old fashioned candies wrapped in plastic along with a framed trivet of an image of the Museum, a CD and a package of coal candy, won for a second





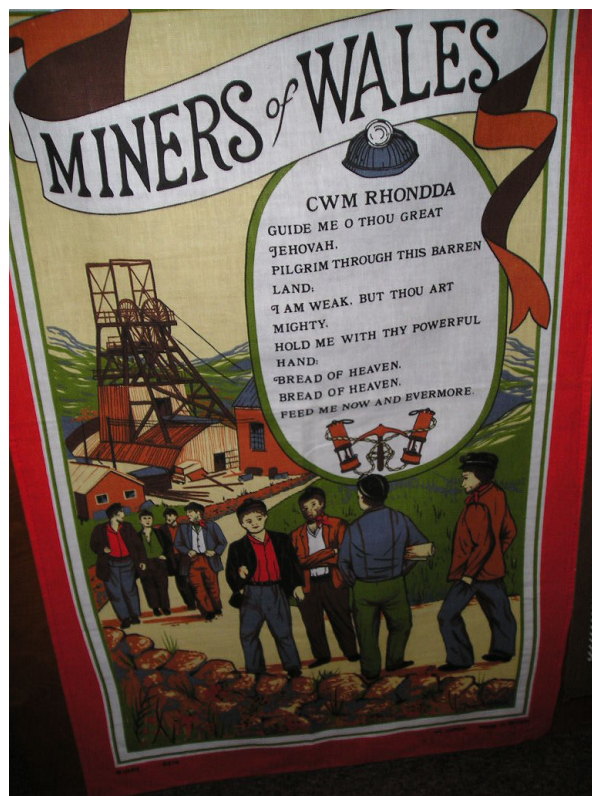
straight year by long time resident Mr. Evan Morris. The other, was a colorful platter/bowl combination fit for a football afternoon of chips and dip, won by another long time resident Mr. Joe Dal Santo.

Delightful and tasty refreshments eased the delightful afternoon in the kitchen with a variety of Welsh goodies such as the ever popular Welsh cakes (Pice Ar y Maen), as well as juices and coffee. In the background, a couple more tea towels hung silently on the back wall entitled *Welsh Fare* and *A Welsh Welcome*. They displayed the favorites of the Welsh palette with notes and recipes on various things such as Leeks and Leek Broth (Cawl Cennin), Welsh Rarebit (Caws Pobi), Faggots, Bara Brith, Laver, Cawl, Welsh Chicken (Ffowlin Cymreig), Cockle Pie (Pastai Gocos), and Snowdon Pudding (Pwddin Eryri).

At the end of the festivities, a satisfaction prevailed as a result of the rich culture that permeated the event and the day. A memorable tribute to the Welsh and their contribution to the history of Black Diamond laid forever embedded into the hearts and minds of the visitors. One was left with a feeling of desire deep within the soul to go to where the land of myth and music, literature and art, could only further fill the heart of a life of tradition and song that is ever more timeless than the curious mind could offer here in a land so far away. It was a splendid way to enjoy an afternoon at the 8th Annual Welsh Heritage Day, compliments of the many volunteers and the Black Diamond Historical Society. **Hwyl** (Good bye); **Dymuniadau gorau** (Best Wishes)

Please forgive any misspellings as they are entirely the error of the author and it is not my intention to offend anyone or any culture at all. I have spent a large part of my life enjoying the warmth and hospitality of other cultures in my 20 year tenure in the Navy and traveling the world and the last thing I want to do is get something as remarkably simple as "Welcome to Wales", incorrect — especially to the people of Wales. So, my humble apologies to anyone who recognizes this error.

Thank you for your kindness and support.
Frank Hammock



"Anything worth doing, is worth doing right."
My dad. And probably your dad too.

 **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS** 

To Society Members

By Dee Israel & JoAnne Matsumura

- ◆ Sherrie Acker-August 19th
- ◆ Dick Allen-September 6th
- ◆ Harry W. Berry-September 23rd
- ◆ Cindy Bess-September 5th
- ◆ Betty Blakeney-July 5th
- ◆ Donald Botts-August 18th
- ◆ Bill Bremmeyer-August 25th
- ◆ Don Camerini-July 27th
- ◆ Jackie Cedarholm-August 2nd
- ◆ Mary Chilcott-September 28th
- ◆ Carolyn Christopher-July 31st
- ◆ Leo Dal Santo-July 23rd
- ◆ Louise Davies-July 16th
- ◆ Brock Deady-August 20th
- ◆ Keith Deaver-July 6th
- ◆ Linda Deicher-July 18th
- ◆ Robert Doyer-July 4th
- ◆ Margaret Fowler-September 4th
- ◆ Norma Gumser-August 29th
- ◆ Judy Hastings-September 24th
- ◆ Mark Hasselbach-July 28th
- ◆ Nancy Hester-September 1st
- ◆ Pat Holmes-September 7th
- ◆ Dee Israel-August 4th
- ◆ Jean M. Kelly-July 6th
- ◆ Marilyn Kienke-August 18th
- ◆ Richard F. Koch-July 28th
- ◆ Bill Kombol-July 5th
- ◆ Dorothy Laird-September 27th
- ◆ Norm Hilde Leen-September 26th
- ◆ Bert J. Lombardini-July 22nd
- ◆ Don Lombardini-August 15th
- ◆ John Lynch-September 5th
- ◆ Lynda Maks-August 31st
- ◆ Don Malgarini-September 13th
- ◆ Joan Malgarini-August 14th
- ◆ Peter Malgarini-August 14th
- ◆ Sam Malgarini-September 21st
- ◆ Helen Manowski-August 1st
- ◆ Clayton Mead-July 29th
- ◆ Ted Myers-September 15th
- ◆ Leona Myers-August 17th
- ◆ Mrs. Chris Pieren-August 5th

- ◆ Conrad 'Coke' Roberts-July 26th
- ◆ Frank Roulst-August 23rd
- ◆ Eleanor Roulst-July 27th
- ◆ Lynnett Stevenson-July 25th
- ◆ Keith B. Timm, Jr.-August 6th
- ◆ Richard Toth-September 7th
- ◆ Beth Van Buskirk-August 30th
- ◆ Elsie Vandenberg-July 31st
- ◆ Carole Watkins-August 8th

HERITAGE DAY

In Celebration of the Welsh

By JoAnne Matsumura

The Society's Board of Directors takes this opportunity to thank those who helped make our Welsh Heritage Day a memorable and successful event.

The Society receives generous support from 4Culture, King County Lodging Tax revenues, and the City of Black Diamond, for which we gratefully appreciate.

To the Honorable Mayor Howard Botts for his message of welcome on behalf of the City of Black Diamond, WA, we express our sincere appreciation.

To Conrad 'Coke' Roberts, the coal miner who arrived dressed for the occasion, and inspired us with *Black Diamond's Welsh Heritage and How It Came To Be*, we express our heartfelt thanks.

We also attribute the success of this event to the following helping hands; Baker Street Books, Hank Barnes, Black Diamond Bakery, Black Diamond Community Center, Black Diamond Pizza & Deli, Carolyn Bell, Donald Botts, Darryl Buss, Jackie Cedarholm, *Enumclaw Courier-Herald*, Lois Thomas Estby, Frank Hammock, Steve & Dee Israel, Carol Jones, Jane Jones, Kathleen Kear, Leih's Gifts, Julia Level, Mama Passarelli's, Don & Joan Malgarini, *Maple Valley Reporter*, Don & Lynn Mason, JoAnne Matsumura, Louise McNally, Clayton & Nancy Mead, Anna Morris, Mt. Rainier Bank, Mtn. Magic Treasures, National Welsh-American Foundation, NINNAU Publications, Gerri Baker Parry, Puget Sound Welsh Association, Renton Historical Society, Smoke House & More, Don & Rebecca Spearman, Visit Wales.CO.UK, Wales International Center, NY, Carole Watkins, Elisha Watkins, Keith Watson, and Eileen Wyke. Diolch-Thank you, one and all!

INDEPENDENCE DAY

JULY 4th

THE AMERICAN FLAG

By JoAnne Matsumura

A new exhibit of three American Flags, 1912-1959, is in our High School Exhibit Room, created by Beth Botts Van Buskirk and Muriel Botts Waldo. The materials and assembly of the floor model exhibit are courtesy of Steve Israel and Clayton Mead. You are cordially invited to visit the Museum and see the new permanent exhibit.

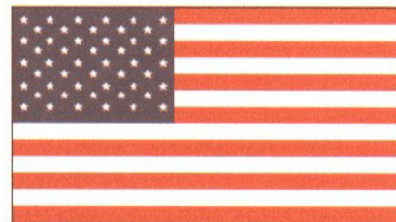
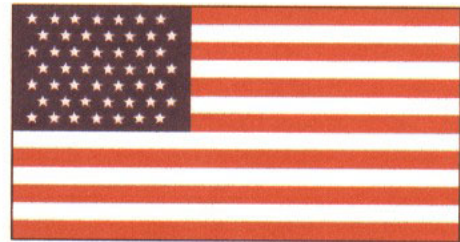
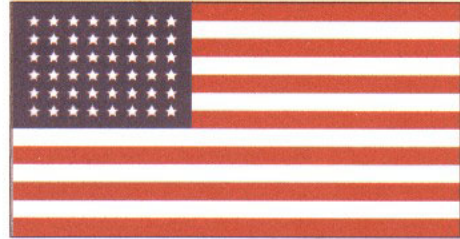
The 48 Star Flag is courtesy of an unknown donor. This flag previously graced the Country School Room Exhibit. Our 49 Star Flag is courtesy of Jeff & Carolyn Reed. And our 50 Star Flag is courtesy of Conrad 'Coke' Roberts.

On July 4, 1912, the U.S. flag grew to 48 stars with the addition of New Mexico (January 6, 1912) and Arizona (February 14, 1912). Executive Order of President Taft established the proportions of the flag and provided for the arrangement of the stars. This flag was official for 47 years, through two World Wars. Eight Presidents served under this flag beginning with William H. Taft, 1909, and ending with Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1961.

On January 3, 1959 Alaska was formally granted statehood placing the 49th star on our Flag. President Eisenhower provided for the arrangement of the stars. The first 49 star flag was made in the Army Quartermaster Depot at Philadelphia, and was used in the White House ceremony when President Eisenhower signed the proclamation admitting Alaska to the Union. After the ceremonies Senator Hugh Scott gave the flag to Senator Earnest Gruening of Alaska, who, in turn, delivered it to Governor William A. Egan to be flown over the state capitol at Juneau. The 49 Star flag was official for only one year, until July 4, 1960, when Hawaii achieved Statehood and the 50 Star flag was born. Later the 49 Star Flag was given to the Alaskan State Museum for preservation. President Eisenhower was the only President to serve under this flag. Some sources state that the flag was 'official' for about nine months.

On August 21, 1959 President Eisenhower provided for the arrangement of the stars of the 50

Star Flag. Hawaii was admitted as the 50th state on August 21, 1959. This 27th flag of the United States having nine presidents served under this flag, beginning with President Eisenhower.



BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS NONAGENARIANS

Society Members of the 90 plus young club, and still going strong!

- ◆ Arthur Ayers-July 11th
- ◆ Charles Kessner-September 27th
- ◆ Walter Riverside-August 9th
- ◆ Margaret Vernarelli-August 26th
- ◆ Lennie Witt-July 21st

Have you sent us your date of birth?
We love sending you greetings!

THE BLACK DIAMOND HIGH SCHOOL GYM

By Coke Roberts

When the Black Diamond High School was built in the early 1920's, there was no money available to build a gymnasium. This created a problem for the Black Diamond School District because the State Superintendent of Instruction required Physical Education to be part of the basic school curriculum. To meet the PE requirement the Pacific Coast Coal Company donated a meeting hall that had been built down at Mine 11 to house workers who did not go out on strike. The coal company that owned the land that made up Black Diamond kicked out of town, all the miners who went out on strike in 1920-21. The United Mine Workers Union with help from Tom Morgan built houses in Morgansville for the striking miners.

The coal company, after the strike was over, donated the meeting hall to the school district and it was moved from Mine 11 to the schoolyard next to the grade school. Lines for playing basketball were painted on the floor and baskets were put in place. There were no dressing rooms or restrooms in the hall. To change clothes or go to the restroom you could use the basement in the grade school, which was about 20 yards from the gym. The hall was barely big enough to practice in and the ceiling was so low it was almost impossible to take a long shot. Falling down often led to slivers in your knees.

It should be noted that Mr. Cobb's woodshop class under the direction of D. K. Porter laid the floor in the new gym. Mr. Porter was also the secretary of the school board.

Another interesting feature of the "new" gym was an electric scoreboard built by students Gordy Roberts and Tom Zumek. The design of the scoreboard was taken from an article in a Popular Science magazine. The boys built the scoreboard in Mr. Cobbs manual training class. Mr. Carnino, the school custodian, helped with the electrical work so the school board could be sure to meet the county electrical code. The electrical scoreboard was the only electrical scoreboard found in all of the other basketball



gyms in the Snoqualmie Basketball League. (You can see the scoreboard in the Black Diamond Museum.)

The first league basketball game was played in the new gym in October of 1939. On the team were Clyde Johnson, Gordy Roberts, Stan Celigoy, Tom Zumek, Glen Fredericksen, Coke Roberts and Fred Woods. Mr. Frank Hoagle was coach of the team. Don Botts was the team manager.

After the closing of the high school in 1943 the gym was used for community events. The gym was then owned by the Enumclaw School District as part of the deal to turn all Black Diamond School District property over to the Enumclaw District in 1944.

In 1991 the Enumclaw School District resolved to give the gym to the Black Diamond Community Center for a total of one dollar. With the vision of the Black Diamond Community Centers founding director, Dorothy Botts, and her husband Mayor Howard Botts, a plan was formed to move the gym to city property at 25511 Lawson Street, which is behind the old hospital. With grants from organizations in the state the gym was moved on February 12, 1992 at a cost of \$100,000. Throughout the years many improvements were added; heating, a new roof, rear deck, windows, and other projects for an additional \$90,000.

Plans are underway for the refurbished gym to be opened as a community recreation center in 2006.

WHO AM I?

This photograph was taken prior to April 27, 1911 in Franklin, WA. The miner on the right is Mat Pollari, father of member Richard McAninch. If you or someone you know can identify the miner on the left please contact the Society, by phone, e-mail or letter. Thank you!!!



WHAT YEAR AM I?

The Society needs the year of these two historic Labor Day photographs below. Can anyone help us with more information? Call, e-mail or send us a letter with any information that you have. THANK YOU!!



SEVEN WONDERS

By JoAnne Matsumura

- To See-The Museum's artifacts
- To Hear-The hometown stories
- To Smile-Greeting Museum visitors
- To Walk-In Historic Black Diamond
- To Laugh-At hometown jokes
- To Cry-At joyful news
- To Praise-Good works no mater who did them



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Date of Birth (Optional) _____

If this is a gift, who is it from?

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Donation	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Enclosed	\$ _____	

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**Black Diamond
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PO Box 232

Black Diamond, WA 98010

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For our records, on all checks please note purpose of check. (Dues, Donation, Memorial, etc.)

For Museum Use Only	Date	Initials	File
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IN THE MUSEUM

By JoAnne Matsumura

This beautiful wood quilt rack was designed and hand crafted by George J. Rossman, with the materials contributed by Dan Drilevich. The coverlet, contributed by Rosemary Koneske-Bigelow, depicts the symbolic stained glass windows in the new St. Barbara Church. The rack was designed specifically for this coverlet.

Thank you George, Dan and Rosemary for this lovely exhibit in our auditorium.





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

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**Annual Membership
Meeting**

**Sunday October 8th
1:30 PM**

**Come and join us for fun and food!
Elect your new officers!**

**MONTHLY BOARD
MEETINGS**

**1:30 PM
3rd Sunday of each month**

**The Black Diamond
Historical Society**

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

**The restoration and
maintenance 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 preserve your history.
Find out more by talking to one
of our volunteers.**