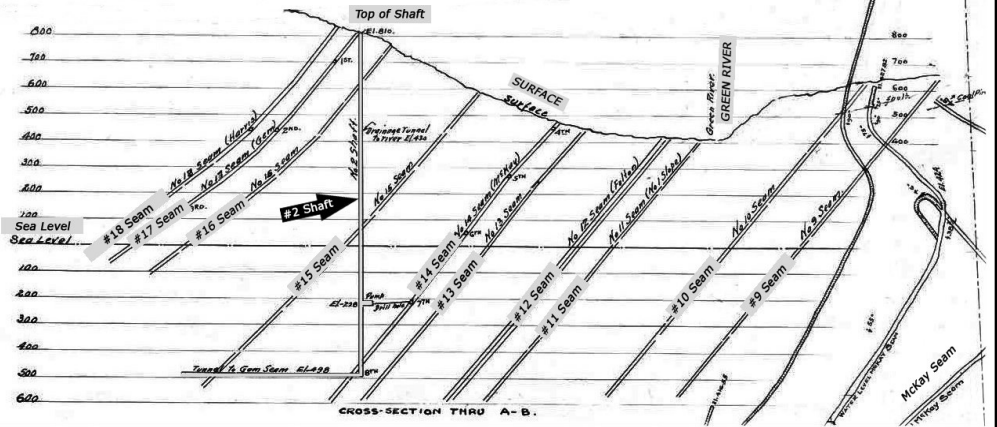


FRANKLIN MINE TOURS

Saturday, March 7th & April 4th.

Meet at the Museum at 10 am for a short safety meeting and then caravan to the coal mining town site. We go rain or shine. Be prepared to walk up hill for about 2 miles and dress for weather.

Franklin Shaft (in relation to various coal seams)



NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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FRANKLIN SHAFT

BY WILLIAM KOMBOL

One the highlights of the Saturday walking tours of Franklin is the dramatic opening to the Franklin shaft, which reached a depth of about 1,300 feet below the ground's surface, before eventual abandonment. There a person can stand upon the metal grate peering into darkness and imagining what it took to dig this vertical hole 120 years ago.

In the fall of 1900, Pacific Coast Coal Co. commenced ambitious plans to sink an 11' x 18' rectangular column to access more coal in the Franklin field. They called it Franklin No. 2 shaft. Its purpose was to intersect various coal seams at ever lower depths allowing an expansion of production. The company's intent was to make their Franklin mines one of the biggest producers in the state. A detailed description of the planned intersecting tunnels and connections was provided in the 1902 report by the State Inspector of Coal Mines, C.F. Owens.

The above cross section shows the shaft's relation to the No. 9 through No. 18 coal seams of the Franklin series. There are 18 in total. The No. 14 (McKay) had historically been the biggest producer

Continued on page 6

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020

1 PM - 3 PM



*photo caption on page 2



NEWSLETTER

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.

Black Diamond Bulletin is published quarterly by and for the members of the Black Diamond Historical Society. The society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. (TIN51-0170304).

PRESIDENT Keith Watson
VICE PRESIDENT Shawn Oglesbee
SECRETARY Laurie Evans
TREASURER Sherrie Evans

DIRECTORS

Gomer Evans, Jr.
Rosemary Konoske-Bigelow
Greg Lichty
Don Mason
Elsie Parkin
Susie Thompson
David Watson
Sue Watson

MEMBERSHIP Laurie Evans
EDITOR Leih Mulvihill
FEATURE WRITER William Kombol
PHOTOGRAPHER Bob Dobson

ARTICLES

Black diamond bulletin invites articles for publication. Articles may be edited for style, length, and clarity. Please contact the society if you wish to submit an article, at, museum@blackdiamondmuseum.org

CONTACT

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P.O. Box 232
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PHONE 360-886-2142

E-MAIL museum@blackdiamondmuseum.org

WEB

www.blackdiamondmuseum.org
www.facebook.com/BlackDiamondHistory
www.blackdiamondhistory.wordpress.com
www.twitter.com/BD_History

HOURS

Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 12 to 3 p.m. (winter);
12 to 4 p.m. (summer)

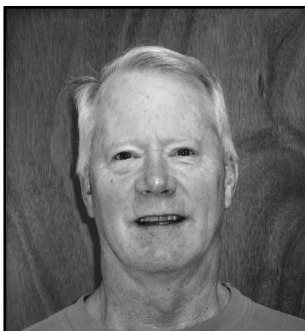
Welcome New Board Members!

Meet Susann (Sue) Watson!



Sue was born and raised in Seattle. At the age of 12 (1956), my parents bought a cabin on Lake 12. Since then, I have spent every summer at Lake 12. I have seen lots of changes in Black Diamond. I have been a volunteer at the museum for the past 2 years. I am married to Dave who has been a volunteer for many years. We have 3 children, 10 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. I am looking forward to being on the board.

Meet Greg Lichty!



I was born and raised in Kent, WA. When I was young, I had a tube-type short wave radio I got from my grandfather in South Dakota. I used to ride my bicycle to the General Market on Roberts Dr. (in Black Diamond) with my paper sack of tubes and there was a tube checker there at the Market where I could check which ones needed replacement. One day I came in to do some checking and found they had started to charge \$.03 to check a tube. That ended my bike rides to the Market. But, later on, I would drive my car to Morganville to get a beer at the Silver Dollar (Morganville) Tavern.

Since then, I've always enjoyed driving to the town and finally went to visit the museum and quickly became interested in learning/ understanding/passing on the history of Black Diamond.

Newsletters – after a board discussion and consultation with our printing company, it has been decided it would be financially helpful to change our distribution from quarterly to three times a year. Therefore, newsletters will be distributed in March, June, and October. In addition, we continually update the website and our Facebook page with lots of information and articles for your interest.

Front Page photo caption: *Pcc-K301 – A side view showing the vertical Franklin No. 2 Shaft in relation to the various coal seams each pitching at slightly different angles – Feb. 1918. From the Palmer Coking Coal mine map collection, Dept. of Natural Resources – Geology & Earth Resources division.*

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: WINTER 2020

Hello and welcome to our museum newsletter.

NEW DECADE

Welcome to a new decade. As you know the Black Diamond Historical Society has been operating the Museum for 43 years with volunteers. We are a 501

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT

C (3) non-profit Corporation that does not charge a fee to the public for any of our activities.



**KEITH
WATSON**

We thank the City of Black Diamond and 4Culture of King County for their generous support. We are thankful for donations from the public and membership for their support in helping us keep history alive.

LAST DECADE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Our wonderful volunteers have accomplished much in the last decade.

Here are some of the projects that occurred: restored the fire siren, purchased (for \$10) and cosmetically restored a locomotive (kids and adults love to toot the whistle and ring the bell).

Reskinned the caboose, replaced the damaged flag pole, restored Black Diamonds Firetruck, and replaced the wood board walk with looks like wood cement,

Created the Coal Miners' Honor Garden complete with a life size bronze coal miners statue, 30' granite honor wall, granite benches, and paver bricks,

Painted the exterior of museum and out buildings, rebuilt the coal car, installed a large screen smart TV, and created an archivist work room.

Installed new flooring in the office and kitchen areas, rebuilt the front porch, installed glass entrance door, and installed glass in the front door.

Revamped and improved many displays, created new displays, improved a lot of display signage, painted many of the interior walls and floors, installed lights inside many of the glass cabinet displays, and installed LED light fixtures in the building.

Created a wonderful park like garden, started digitizing many photos and documents, reorganized the office procedures, and installed a 24/7 TV security system.

Hosted Welsh Day, Miners Day, School Reunion, Hometown Christmas, and trips to the coal mining town of Franklin, hosted 3rd grade class students from the elementary school as well as other students of all ages. Hosted book signings, special programs, and informational meetings with 4Culture.

SAD LOSS

We are sorry to report that one of our favorite people passed away. His name is Mike Chilcott who volunteered at the museum and specialized in painting walls, trim, floors, and exterior of the museum. He also was a great fix it guy and loved by all of us. He grew up in Black Diamond going to school here and was fine athlete. We knew him a very fine man who always had a smile and a good word for everybody. He worked part time at the Smoked Meat and More located next to the Bakery. He will be remembered by all.

SAFE

Some time ago a large safe was donated to the museum by the Zumek family. The safe was originally in the Pacific Coast Company Store and when that building was taken over the Zumek brothers it was used in their grocery and meat market. We have not been able to open it, but on Feb. 6th a Master Safe Technician, Jeff Snope from Northwest Safe, volunteered to open the safe. He worked long and hard and was able to open it finding some old documents but no money. Some of the volunteers who remember the safe were able to watch Jeff do his specialty. Thanks Jeff.

Presidents Message

Cont. from previous page

BOARD AND OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

At the last General Membership meeting we had an election of officers and board members. Here are the results: President – Keith Watson, Vice President – Shawn Oglesbee, Secretary – Laurie Evans, Treasurer – Sherrie Evans, Board members: Gomer Evans, Rosemary Konoske-Bigalow, Greg Lichty, Don Mason, Elsie Parkin, Susie Thompson, Dave Watson, and Susann (Sue) Watson. Congratulations to all these wonderful volunteers.

FRANKLIN TOURS

The dates for the Franklin Tours are Saturday March 7th and April 4th meeting at the museum at 10AM for a short safety meeting and then caravan to the coal mining town site. We go rain or shine and be prepared to walk up hill for about 2 miles perhaps in the mud.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Please plan to attend the General Membership meeting in the museum on Sunday April 26th at 1PM. Take a tour of the museum to see the new improvements and meet you board members. Some of the items you might want to look at are the Hearst lanterns, the Honor Roll scroll, Mrs. Davies ice cream cone dispenser, new signs inside and out, the changing historical digital display units, and the new displays on the lower level. Lots to see and please let us know how we are doing.

HOT WATER

In our goal to save energy we have removed a fifty-gallon hot water tank and replaced it with a tankless water unit. This move is saving money and energy allowing us additional space for display on the lower level.

NEWSLETTER CHANGE

The number of pages devoted to the newsletters each year has been forty-eight with twelve pages each issue four times a year. The board of Directors has voted to keep the total at forty-eight pages but to publish it 3 times a year

with sixteen pages each issue keeping the total of pages the same at forty-eight pages saving printing and postage.

BLACK DIAMOND ELEMENTARY

Black Diamond Elementary are known as the “Miners” but have not had a mascot. That is about to change; the new mascot is “Franklin Fox” named after the coal mining town of Franklin which is Black Diamond’s sister town. We host the 3rd grade classes each year at the museum and then take them on a tour of Franklin. The kids, parents, and teachers remember this touch of history the rest of their lives. We will have more on Franklin Fox in the next Newsletter.

HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS

Started as an event seven years ago by Judy Watson, who wanted to have a wholesome event for children and their families, it has grown over the years and is a great success. Please see some of the photos from this year’s event. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this possible and for the Mayor Benson, Mike Nelson School Superintendent, and BD Elementary Principal Tim Lee who kicked off the event this year. A special thanks to Sherrie Evans who chaired the Hometown committee last December. Lots of hard work by everybody – Thank You!

*Keith Watson,
BDHS President*



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.



HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS

PHOTOS BY BOB DOBSON



Frosty Greets the Guests!



Hay Wagon Rides!



Restored Firetruck on Display!



Santa Helping Wishes Come True!



Story Time Inside The Museum!



Wreath Making at the Eagles!

FRANKLIN SHAFT *By William Kombol*

Continued from page 1 of the best quality coal. However, the No. 11 (opened in 1900); No. 12 (Fulton); No. 13 (Big Dirty) and No. 17 (Gem) were all sources of coal with varying degrees of importance. In later years the No. 10 coal seam would be mined extensively. Its 1971 closure and the accompanying demolition of a wooden bridge over the Green River marked it as the last underground mine in Franklin.

A wooden derrick had been constructed around the shaft to facilitate this huge undertaking. In addition a wooden scaffold divided into two sections followed the progress downward. That internal framework provided a system, akin to side-by-side elevator shafts. One side was used for transporting miners into and out of the hole. The other for removing excavated material.



Pcc222 – The Franklin Shaft on Feb. 19, 1902. This Curtis & Romans image #1060 comes courtesy of the Washington State Historical Society in Tacoma

hard labor of drilling and blasting through shear bedrock was performed. The shot rock was hauled bucket by bucket to the surface and disposed nearby. In total, nearly 10,000 cubic yards of bedrock was excavated

to construct the shaft.

Tragically, digging the shaft resulted in the deaths of at least five miners:

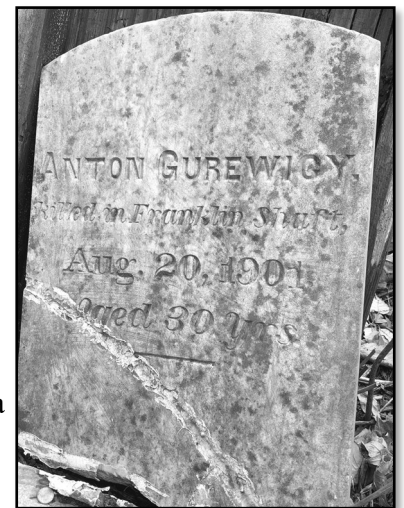
Feb. 19, 1901 – John Callon who fell to the bottom while in the act of getting out of the bucket;

May 16, 1901 – Frank Sean, was in charge of the shift and attempted to ride to the surface on a loaded bucket, which was in violation of a strict rule. After the bucket had started, he took hold of the loose bell wire which pulled him over and caused the bucket to rebound. Sean fell about 35 feet receiving injuries resulting in his death the next day;

Aug. 20, 1901 – Anton Gurewicy (spelled Garauisz in some records) was working in the bottom of the shaft when a piece of timber came loose from its fastening and fell 28 feet striking the top of Anton's head, fracturing and crushing his skull. Gurewicy's headstone can be found in the Franklin cemetery a short trail walk south from the shaft;

July 9, 1902 – George W. Cannon, a 24 year old, pump tender who slipped from a ladder when going from the 2nd to 3rd pump station falling 175 feet and killing him instantly.

Aug. 21, 1902 – John Warner, age 35 died when a rock battered his head. The rock that hit him must have fallen from the bucket of material



Anton Gurewicy – The headstone of Anton Gurewicy in the Franklin cemetery, Jan. 1, 2020.

heading to the surface. The bucket was reported to have been loaded too full.

Previous reporting suggested the shaft claimed the life of Thomas Dennis. A Seattle Times article claimed he fell down an air shaft in the Franklin mines on the morning of March 19, 1902. However, no record had been found of his death, either in the King County death index or the 1901-1902 biennial report by the State Inspector of Coal Mines. If Thomas Dennis was indeed a fatality, it's more likely his death was not at the Franklin Shaft, but into an air circulating duct at a related mine.



FH413 – Bill Kombol standing atop the Franklin Shaft, Jan. 1, 2020. Photo by Jennifer Kombol.

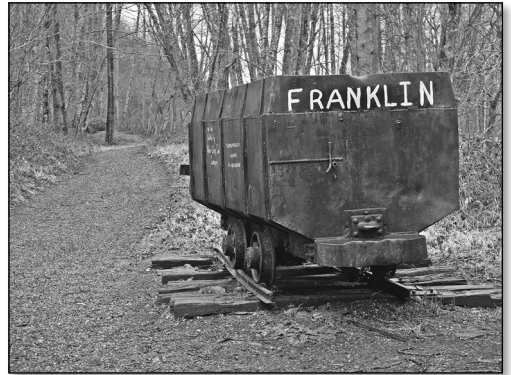
What's said of 'best-laid plans of mice and men which often go awry' is doubly true in a coal mine. The shaft was completed in 1903, but ironically never used as intended. After abandonment the shaft was covered with large timber to prevent access. In the 1950s, railroad iron was added above the rotting timber. During those efforts a rusting 'Danger' sign with warnings in 16 different

languages was found by Jack Kombol and now hangs in the museum.

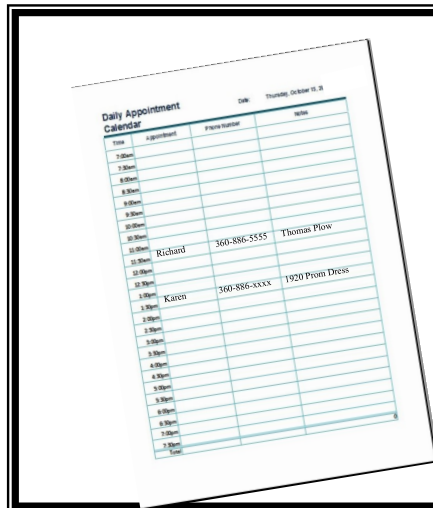
The property where the shaft is located was part of a 258-acre land sale to Washington State Parks in 1973. That acquisition was one of the first to con-

serve large swaths of the 14-mile Green River Gorge stretching from Palmer-Kanaskat to Flaming Geyser with anchor parks on each end. In 1984, the Office of Surface Mining installed the heavy-duty wire screen encased in concrete and surrounded by guard rails to secure the opening yet still allow safe viewing. A bronze plaque embedded in concrete presents a brief history.

On the first Saturdays of March and April, the Black Diamond Historical Society conducts annual walking tours of the historic coal mining town of Franklin. If interested, meet at the Black Diamond Museum, 32627 Railroad Avenue to sign up and hear an orientation. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather as the tour goes on rain or shine.



FH400 – The coal car at Franklin, a stopping point on the annual walking tours. Photo by Robert Dobson.



People who wish to donate artifacts need to make an appointment with Dave Watson to look at the items.

253 857 7048

swatsondc@gmail.com

Please come on a Thursday after making an appointment with Dave to examine the items.



BLACK DIAMOND'S COAL CARS By Bill Kombol



Coal Car at Triangle Park-1962 – The coal car and assembled volunteers at its dedication in May 1962. Photo from the Enumclaw Courier-Herald.

Following Black Diamond's incorporation in 1959, community leaders hoped to instill civic pride by highlighting the town's coal mining roots. In early 1962, a group of volunteers supported by the Lions Club, created the wooden coal car monument located at the intersection of Highway 169 and Roberts Drive on land owned by Palmer Coking Coal Company (Palmer). Most of the volunteers were once coal miners. The featured cart was donated by the Ed Johnson Coal Company and painted white with black lettering. That original effort was headed by Jules Dal Santo. Others who helped included Archie Eltz, Gomer Evans, Darrel McCloud, Louis Zumek, and Frank Zumek.

On May 30, 1962, the coal car located on the triangle-shaped property was dedicated. Shown kneeling from left are: Keith Timm Sr., James Vernarelli, Howard Botts, Ernest Richardson, George Savicke, Roy Darby, and Ted Barner. Standing from left are: Walter Mislenski, John Birchall, Mike Sogura, Domenico Geminiani, Fred L. Roberts, Tom Wieltschnig, Joe Bertelli, Joe Dal Santo Sr., Tony Signani, R.W. Boyovich, Frank Costi, and Henry Hawthorne. This photo appeared on the front page of the Enumclaw Courier-Herald.

In 1975, Palmer donated the parcel where the coal car had been placed to the City of Black Diamond. The site was surveyed by Louie Zumek and intended for a park and picnic area. On Zumek's survey map it's called the Miner's Memorial site.

On one occasion that coal

car was completely destroyed by a wayward automobile, yet restored by Gerald

Gauthier Sr.

The wooden

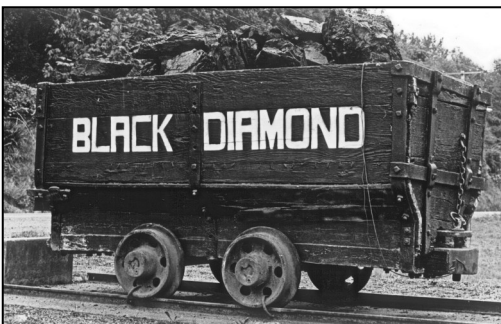
coal car appearing in the

nearby April 1977 photo may be Gauthier's restoration.

At another point, the coal car colors were reversed as seen in the October 1982 photo of that same wooden mine car filled with lumps of coal. That photo

was taken just after the 100th anniversary marking Black Diamond's centennial.

However in May 1990, a trailer pulled by an asphalt truck smashed into the coal



Pcc199 – The coal car at Miners Memorial park in October 1982. Photo from PCC archives.

car. Historical Society members including Ted Barner, Donald Botts, Bob Burdick, Bob Eaton, Martin Moore, Al Shay, and Carl Steiert rebuilt the splintered wreck from scratch using treated lumber so it would last longer. A wheeler loader from Palmer moved the car from the museum and positioned it back in place. Traditionally, large chunks called lump coal were placed in the cart. But so many were stolen by treasure-seekers and those heating



Pcc422 – The coal car at Miners Memorial park in April 1977. Photo from PCC archives.



BDCC#1 – Photo of coal car at Miners Memorial park in 2020. Photo by Robert Dobson.

Continued from previous page with coal, they were later replaced by smaller pieces called stoker coal.



BDCC#10 – One of four coal cars marking the entrances to Black Diamond. Photo by Robert Dobson.

In 2002, Dan Dal Santo, the City’s utilities supervisor and nephew to Jules Dal Santo, spearheaded efforts to install four more coal cars one at each of the four main road entrances into the City:

- At the north city limits on SR 169;
- At the south city limits on SR 169;

- At the intersection of S.E. 288th St. and 216th Ave. S.E., 1,000 feet north of the Lake Sawyer Store; and
- On Roberts Drive near the Ten Trails development (note: this coal car has been temporarily displaced by Goodfellow Bros. during sidewalk improvements along Roberts Drive. The City is still trying to determine where it should be relocated.)

The iconic coal car at the Miner’s Memorial site on SR 169 may once again need to be moved as traffic improvement plans call for a new roundabout to replace the awkward triangular intersection. Whether the treasured coal car is placed in the middle of the future roundabout (though State rules may disfavor such distractions) or on adjacent property set aside for stormwater treatment and historical interpretation is still to be decided.

What’s not in dispute are the historical roots of the town carved out of the wilderness which grew into a city that’s still prides itself as “Black Diamond.”



CRACKING OPEN A SAFE *Photos by Ron Heusser*



To Witness Event: Front row L to R Howard Botts - Gomer Evans - Elsie Parkin - Back row L to R Dennis Richardson - Joe Androsko - Mike Parkin - Jim O'Rourke



On Feb. 6th a Master Safe Technician, Jeff Snope from Northwest Safe, volunteered to open the safe. He worked long and hard and was able to open it finding some old documents but no money. Some of the volunteers who remember the safe were able to watch Jeff do his specialty. Thanks Jeff.



OUR CONNECTION TO SCHOOLS

By Keith Watson



*Mike Nelson,
Superintendent of Enumclaw Schools*

As part of our primary mission at the Black Diamond Historical Society, we strive to continue and strengthen our connections with our location schools and education programs. We are truly blessed with the connection we have here with the Enumclaw School District which includes the Black Diamond Elementary School.

Enumclaw Superintendent of Schools, Mike Nelson has been very supportive of our programs and we have learned that he also has a special connection with Black Diamond. His grandfather, Dario Capponi, came to the United States and after a time in Pennsylvania came to Black Diamond to work in the coal mines because he had a contact here who helped him get a job. Not long after he sent for his wife, Maria Broggi and they were married here. After a time they purchased a farm in the Krain area, as did many other Italian families who immigrated here.

Mike's grandfather developed lung cancer, although unknown if it was related to mining, and he passed 8 years before Mike was born. His grandmother also passed within months of his grandfather's death. Although Mike never lived in Black Diamond, his uncle Louie Capponi resided in a home right on the ball park, bordering the school playgrounds. Mike recalls how easy it was to access the fields before the fences were put up! He also remembers how special Labor Days were and his favorite events were the three-

legged race and finding coins in the hay, a tradition that has carried on to this day. Mike also recalls buying special sausage at the store (most likely that of Frank Zumek).

When Mike became Superintendent in Enumclaw, one of his personal goals was to see a new Black Diamond Elementary school constructed before it was needed for growth. He wanted the historical site to be honored first and is grateful beyond words that it became a reality.

Mike appreciates our work and notes: "The Society provides the Black Diamond community 'a richness of story' about Black Diamond from the past. Our Black Diamond Elementary students love being able to walk to the museum."

The Society does host the third-grade classes each year for a full tour of the museum and its artifacts. It is a day that our volunteers look forward to annually. As the new school was built, we were also asked to provide artifacts for a special display in the building that will be rotated annually.

Recently Mike participated as a host for our Hometown Christmas event and presented the high school diploma to Joe Zumek in a special ceremony. He was also awarded the Superintendent of the Year! We are especially proud of Mike, the school community and appreciate their continued support and involvement with the Society and the museum activities.

We also have groups from other area schools visit the museum and/or participate in events including students from Enumclaw and Kent who volunteer for Miners' Day and Hometown Christmas activities; and Tori Ammons who brings the Auburn High School class here annually for an education tour. We encourage any teacher, school program or other programs to contact us if they are interested in learning more about the history of Black Diamond.



"NEWSPAPERS IN THE ROUGH" - Somebody has figured out that a two-cent twenty-four page newspaper represents a block of wood two inches high, three inches wide and four inches long. With the help of a paper mill, a cord of wood informs 9,000 homes of the day's news." *From the Pacific Coast Bulletin of October 22, 1925 Page 6, submitted by Joanne Matsumura.*



Black Diamond Historical Society/Museum



Supported by 4CULTURE, the City of Black Diamond, and donations as a 501c3 IRS #51-0170304 nonprofit corporation

◇ Keeping History Alive in the Black Diamond Museum and Coal Miners Honor Garden ◇

Location: 32627 Railroad Ave (PO Box 232), Black Diamond, WA 98010

Phone: 360-886-2142 email: museum@blackdiamondmuseum.org

2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date(s)	Event	Location/Time
January 1-3	Museum Closed for Holidays (Reopen Jan 4)	Museum
February 11	Newsletter Deadline	Submit to Leih Mulvihill
March 7	Franklin Tour 10 am – 3 pm	Meet @ Museum @ 10 am
April 4	Franklin Tour 10 am – 3 pm	Meet @ Museum @ 10 am
April 26	General Membership Meeting	Museum @ 1:00 pm
May 11	Newsletter Deadline	Submit to Leih Mulvihill
June 3	Black Diamond All School Reunion	@ Black Diamond Eagles 11:00 am - 3 pm
June 6	Welsh Heritage Day	@ Museum 1:00 pm
July 11	Miner's Day	Railroad Ave 9 m – 4 pm
September 5-7	Labor Day Celebration in Black Diamond - parade is Monday, Sept. 7, 10 am (starts on south end of Highway 169)	Museum open all 3 days. Labor Day Festivities in Ball Park & @ Eagles – Car Show
September 11	Newsletter Deadline	Submit to Leih Mulvihill
September 19	“Pasta Palooza” - fundraiser for Hometown Christmas	@ Eagles 4:00 to 9:00 pm
October 17-18	Model Train Show	Ravensdale-Gracie Hansen Building
October 25	General Membership Meeting	Museum @ 1:00 pm
December 4	Black Diamond Community Center Tree Lighting with Santa	BD Community Center 5 pm
December 5	Enumclaw Christmas Parade	Downtown Enumclaw
December 12	Hometown Christmas	Railroad Ave (Bakery, Smoke House, Antique Store, Museum, Eagles) 10 am- 3 pm
December 14 - January 6	Museum Closed for Holidays	

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020
1 PM - 3 PM

Obituaries



Michael Eric Chilcott
December 21, 1950 - December 17, 2019

Michael Eric Chilcott was born in Renton, WA on December 21, 1950 and passed peacefully amongst his family on December 17, 2019.

He was a life-time resident of Black Diamond. He attended school in Black Diamond and Enumclaw, where he garnered quite the reputation as an athlete. Known as “Rocket Man” you did not dare to steal home plate if he was in the field – you would definitely be out! To many he was also known as “Chili” – which seemed to bring a big smile to his face. He loved all sports but particularly baseball, basketball and golf. He earned a basketball scholarship to attend Green River.

Mike retired from PACCAR in Renton. In his retirement he worked around town as a painter and handyman and then part-time for the Smoke House and More, where he made and served up many delectable items, along with that big smile of his. For the past two years Mike has also volunteered at the Black Diamond Museum. He was the resident “paint and fix-it shop” guy.

His contributions were many including painting of the interior walls and floors, installing new kitchen flooring, hanging photos and artifacts, moving items, painting of the exterior of the building and the out-buildings and general maintenance with a very long list. More importantly, Mike shared his knowledge of the history of Black Diamond. We were always amazed at the historical information he shared with us.

Mike is well-remembered for his kindness and for being an incredibly honest and humble man. He is preceded in death by his parents Jack and Mary Chilcott, brothers Jerry and Dick, and survived by his sister Patti Chilcott Diambri of Kent.



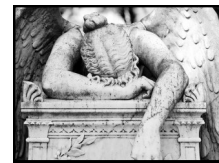
Steven Ross Parkin
Nov 15, 1956 - Nov 25, 2019

Steven Ross Parkin died Nov. 25, 2019, at his home in Black Diamond. He was 63. Known as “Boze” or “Caveman,” he was born Nov. 15, 1956, in Auburn, Washington, to Billie Parkin Jr. and Elsie Parkin. He graduated from Enumclaw High School in 1975 and went on to work as a logger, heavy equipment operator and taxidermist. He enjoyed playing softball, hunting, flat-track racing and barbecuing for friends and family.

He is survived by his mother, Elsie Parkin of Black Diamond; daughters Lindsay Hobert (Nathan) of Enumclaw and Randi Blackburn (Rob) of Carbonado; brothers Mike Parkin of Black Diamond and David Parkin (Jackie) of Lake Tapps; and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father Billie Parkin Jr.

Memorial Services will be held after the New Year. The date is to be determined and will be posted on the Weeks’ Funeral Home website, www.weeksfuneralhomes.com.

Memorial donations may be made to the Black Diamond Community Center, P.O. Box 480, Black Diamond, WA 98010.



Beth Hogel Van Buskirk
Aug 30, 1920 - Nov 28, 2019

Beth Hogel Van Buskirk was born on August 30, 1920, in Caldwell, Idaho. She passed away in Auburn, Washington on November 28, 2019, at the age of 99. She was a resident of the Enumclaw, Washington area for over 50 years. She leaves behind her son, Robert Van Buskirk (Enumclaw, WA) and daughter, Bonnie Ryan (Auburn, WA).



Lynne Mae Bonnell
Feb 11, 1923 - October 7, 2019

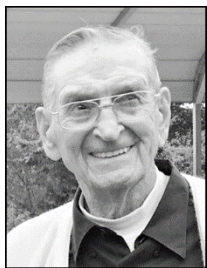
Lynne Mae Bonnell, born February 11, 1923, passed away on October 7, 2019, at 96 years of age. She was one of nine children born

in Black Diamond, WA, to Alice Mae (Hughes) Evans and Gomer Evans.

She was preceded in death by her husband Walter Bonnell and son David Bonnell. She is survived by 1 brother, Gomer Evans; 3 daughters: Patricia Weaver, Carrie Clendenin, and Debra Bonnell; 7 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and 9 great-great grandchildren.

She also leaves behind her beloved bowlers from the Admiral Robinson Senior League for which she was secretary for the past 19+ years. The league will now be called Lynne Bonnell's Senior League in her honor. Lynne was the rock of her family and loved them fiercely, as well as strangers. You never knew who would be at the holiday table as she would find someone sitting at the bus stop and bring them home so they had a warm meal and people to spend time with.

A celebration of life will be held at the American Legion, 47 Fifth Avenue, Chula Vista, CA, on November 9, 2019, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 pm.



David Richard Evan
July 14, 1924 - Sept 14, 2019

David Richard Evans, 95, passed away on September 14, 2019 at his daughter's home. He was born July 14, 1924 in Black Diamond, WA to Alice Mae Hughes Evans and Gomer Evans.

Dave was the middle child of nine. Only one survives him, Gomer Evans Jr. of Black Diamond, WA. David quit high school his senior year to work in the coal mines of Black Diamond to help support the family. He worked in the mines until his induction into the Army, 18 May 1943.

He served with valor and conviction in the 182nd Infantry Regiment American Division mostly in the South Pacific including the Northern Solomon's and Southern Philippines. Dave's medals included the

Purple Heart and *Bronze Star*. After his discharge, he returned to his home and coal mining when he met Marie West, who he married on June 1, 1948.

After a logging injury and with the encouragement of his brother Jim, they moved to Marysville, WA in August 1957 with their two children, Diana and David. He began working for PJ Anderson Construction operating heavy equipment. He was part of the work force creating Interstate 5 from Mt. Vernon to Seattle. Dave was considered one of the best operators around and received side jobs from The Nile Golf Course and Seattle King Dome. He retired from construction in 1986.

Dave will be greatly missed by his family: daughter, Diana Reistad; son-in-law, Rogers Reistad; his seven granddaughters, Stefanie (Dan) Schwartz, Angela Reistad (Chad Taylor), Stacey Nyman (Josh Laitala), Erika McClosky, Michele (Craig) Walbridge, Ashley (James) Losey, Courtney (Andy) Reece, Misty Reistad; 16 great-grandchildren.

Dave was preceded in death by his wife, Marie; son, David Timothy Evans; daughter-in-law, Cindy Evans; great-grandson, Landon McClosky; sisters, Muriel, Margaret, Lynne, Debby, Barbara; brothers, Jim, Tom; nephew, Jim Charles Evans.

There was a Celebration of Dave's Life, Saturday, October 26, 2019, in Black Diamond at the Masonic Lodge from 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, Dave requested donations be made to Alzheimer's, Breast Cancer, Heart Disease, Veterans, Providence Hospice, or to any organization helping others who can't help themselves. A very special thanks to Providence Hospice & Home Care, especially to our team; Tami, Brittany, Patti, Lisa and to Right at Home, in home care, Suzanne and Michelle.



DONATIONS

We wish to thank the following for their generous donations during the 3rd quarter of 2019 to the Black Diamond Historical Society.



CULTURE
KING COUNTY LODGING TAX

MEMORIAL DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF:

Barbara (Evans) Allen

Rosemary Konoske-Bigelow

Beth VanBuskirk

Judy Young

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Palmer Coking Coal

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Laurie Evans

Roger & Diana Reistad

Lynne (Evans) Bonnell

Jack & Susie Thompson

Sherrie Evans

Gomer Evans

Rosemary Konoske-Bigelow

Laurie Evans

Mike Chilcott

Doug & Alison Stern

Sherrie Evans

Dee Israel

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Dave & Janet McCrindle

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Marie Evans

Mark & Debby Campbell

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Sherrie Evans

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*Thank you, City of Black
Diamond for the
Operations support!*

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.



NEW MEMBERS!

By Laurie Evans, Membership Chairman



The Black Diamond Historical Society now has 298 members, as of January 31, 2020. We are pleased to announce that during the period September 20, 2019, through January 31, 2020, we have acquired the following new members:

Individual:

Carol Carlson,
Jonathan Evans,

Jim Kuhuski,
Greg Lichty,
Janet Lombardini,
Jamie Martinez,
Ian Nitsche,
Allan Persyn,
Diana Reistad,
Cathy Ulin,
Pat Weaver

Family:

Joe & Denise Pomata,
Dennis & Lorraine Richardson,

Scott & Caryn Sandwith

Business:

Black Diamond Dentistry,
Lake Sawyer Grocery,
Rainier Towing,
Royal Towing, Inc.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! We are so happy to have you.



***MISSING MEMBERS! Was it something we did?
We don't want to lose you, please send in your renewal today!***

Bonnie Bingham & family
James Carey
Brenda Everson
Joan Newman
Dorothy Sleigh
Black Gold Coffee

Barry Blaisdell
Donna Carey
John Goodfellow
Jim O'Rourke
James & Rebecca Teeters

Donna Bortko
Ralph Dockham
Cliff Johnson
Frank & Juanita Rinehart
Pauline VonRuden

Lori Bowman-Hoyt
Thomas & Mary Ehlis
Mary Kennedy
Fran Wold



1062

*Number of guests for
the period September 20, 2019, to January 31, 2020*

2019-2020

Be Our Guest

by Laurie Evans

Visitors from Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, Ohio, Oregon, Minnesota, Montana, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Eastern and Western Washington. We even had visitors from very far – India and Norway!!

C o m m e n t s

"So fun to check out."

"Fantastic place! Very welcoming."

"Very, very interesting."

"A wonderfully kept museum and in charges are passionate about the museum."

"Thanks for the information and we enjoyed."

"Thank you for all the wonderful information."

"Thank you so much! It was fun!"

"I love history! This was lovely."

"Great experience! We will be back."





NEWSLETTER

Black Diamond Historical Society
PO BOX 232 * Black Diamond, WA
98010-0232

Address Service Requested



Do you like Black Diamond history?

Come join the fun on Facebook, Twitter, our blog and our website!

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www.blackdiamondhistory.wordpress.com

www.blackdiamondmuseum.org

And make sure to tell your friends, too.

Renewals due January 1st of each year.

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Washington

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(Renewals due January 1 of each year)

Date _____

Name(s) _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Date of Birth (optional) _____

Gift? If so, who is it to/from? _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Annual Membership Fees

Individual	\$ 20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family	\$ 30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifetime – Individual	\$200.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifetime – Family	\$300.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

~~Donations~~

Newsletter Fund \$ _____

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Make checks payable to:
BDHS

Mailing address:
Black Diamond Historical
Society
P.O. Box 232
Black Diamond, WA 98010

BDHS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (TIN 51-0170304)

(For museum use only) Referred by _____ Date _____ Posted by _____ Date _____ rev.

For individuals only. Business membership forms can be found on our website or by contacting the museum.