

The Year is 1915



Black Diamond Historical Society

Volume 39, No. 4 Fall 2015

◆ BULLETIN ◆

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**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 12**

*Snow, Rain or Shine,
The Frolic
Shall Commence!*

BD Museum: (360) 886-2142



Santa at the Bakery for photos

Join us at the Historical District along Railroad Ave. as we celebrate a little Hometown Christmas in Black Diamond. Bring the family down and enjoy the activities, vote on your favorite snowman/elf/tree, sit a spell with Santa, enjoy a hay ride, listen to the Carolers and enjoy a children's story. Hot chocolate and cider will be served along with popcorn and cookies.



8-4 Black Diamond Elem. PTA Bazaar
10-4 on Railroad Ave.:

- Pictures with Santa (BYOC)
- Story Telling - Museum
- Carolers & Children's Choir
- Hot Kettle Corn
- Hayrides
- Roasted Chestnuts
- Christmas Gift Painting
- Wreath Making



Join us at the Historical District along Railroad Ave. as we celebrate a little Hometown Christmas in Black Diamond. Bring the family down and enjoy the activities, vote on your favorite snowman/elf/tree, sit a spell with Santa, enjoy a hay ride, listen to the Carolers and enjoy a children's story. Hot chocolate and cider will be served along with popcorn and cookies.

Frosty along Railroad Ave.





BULLETIN

The mission of the Black Diamond Historical Society shall be the discover, 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© (3) organization. (TIN 51-0170304).

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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.
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Www.blackdiamondhistory.wordpress.com
Www.twitter.com/BD_History

HOURS

Thursday, 9am to 4pm
Saturday & Sunday, 12 to 3pm. (winter)
12-4 pm (summer)



In the year 1915

For the past year and a half we have enjoyed the adventures of Mike Miller in “100 years Ago” a fictional account of historical facts written by our fearless President Keith Watson. Bearing that in mind, I decided to find additional facts and photos from that same year to enhance our understanding of 100 years ago!

Not all the information is from our area as in the ‘Forgotten Boilers’ article I found on a website concerning copper mining. Our friend

A MESSAGE from the EDITOR



**LEIH
MULVIHILL**

Mike’s job is to work in the boiler room, a hot, tough, dirty job, so I went in search of boilers of that era. The author Mike Forgrave has taken some amazing pictures of boilers left after abandoned mills have long since rotted away, further putting into perspective the hardships our ancestors faced.

Most of the pictures I found were steamship boiler pictures or boilers from the United Kingdom that have been well preserved and restored over the years. However, I finally stumbled across a picture of a boiler from 1915 and it’s an impressive one.

Enjoy your journey through 1915!

*Your Faithful Editor,
Leih Mulvihill
leih023@gmail.com*

**Share your family photos!
And a short story about it.**

Email a PDF or jpeg to leih023@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

July 13, 2015 We enjoy the newsletter and appreciate all the hard work you all do to keep us informed about Black Diamonds past. *Margaret and Fred Brown (Margaret Henry) Bellevue, WA*

Date Unknown. I enjoyed being ‘home’ for the Miner’s Day Celebration. Very well coordinated and fun! Thank you for keeping Black Diamond alive! *Marilyn A. Kienke*

Presidents Message : Fall 2015

Hope you all had a wonderful summer. Your Historical Society has been busy the last several months. The volunteers have stepped up to the plate once more and delivered quality performances at the museum and during special events like Miners Day and Labor Day. The weather had a role in both events but it seemed that we had more visitors to our city than ever before. Much interest was given to the restored fire truck that

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT



KEITH
WATSON

was in the Labor Day Parade and has been featured at the museum on both events as well as on favorable weather weekends. A national magazine wants to picture it in living color photo for their publication. People have a keen interest in the Coal Miners' Honor Garden and we hear favorable comments about everything in and out of the museum.

We need volunteers to help with the painting prep work for the caboose. And we still need greeters for the weekends. The hours are from 12 to 3 during the fall and winter and all we require is a smile and greeting. Three hours a month is not a lot to ask and it is fun to meet people from all over the United States and the World. Try us and see if you like it – phone 360

-886-0778 to sign up for a great time.

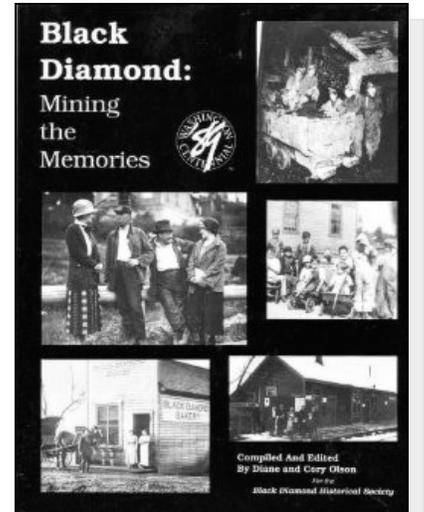
This newsletter, the Bulletin, has been a vehicle to keep our membership informed and tell stories from the past. It would be nice if you could send some of your stories to the Editor – Leih Mulvihill at PO Box 232 Black Diamond WA 98010. Our former Editor Ken Jensen is very active for the Museum with a blog at:

www.blackdiamondhistory.wordpress.com where you can find all kinds of historical information. Please take an opportunity to open up the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BlackDiamondHistory.

It is full of items of interest that changes daily. I think you will be surprised at what you can learn. One of our members also has a very informative Web page that is constantly surprising us with interesting articles. His name is Craig Goodwin and he is a City Council Member with his site being: www.blackdiamondnow.com. Another site of historical interest is: www.historylink.com which is an on line encyclopedia of Washington State. If you are into Twitter try www.twitter.com/BD_History.

We are offering a real bargain for Christmas Gifts and it is the history book of Black Diamond: "Black Diamond. Mining the Memories" in its 4th printing for \$20 with free mailing. The book was compiled and edited by Diane and Cory Olson and took six years to complete with over 50 oral interviews hearing the stories from people who were, for the most part, 70 to 100 years old who had vivid memories in 1988 of how it was and how Black Diamond came to

be. We owe a lot to the Olson's who transcribed the interview tapes ending up with 700 pages and then they had to select the stories that were unique to Black Diamond. The book is 236 pages, measures 8 1/2 x 11 inches, with great illustrations and many historical pictures.



The chapters show you details of; **The Town, The Immigrants, The Railroad, The Miners, The Company Town, The People, Community Services, The Company, and our sister town Franklin.** It is a great read and a hard book to put down.

Mark your calendars for Saturday Dec. 12th for the Home Town Christmas Event. We will be holding an Open House at the Museum and the merchants on Railroad Avenue will be doing the same thing. Featured will be Hay Rides, Carolers, Music, an outdoor tree, Mr. & Mrs. Santa, and story tellers for the kids. The Open House will feature homemade goodies and coffee, hot chocolate, and punch. It's hard to believe that this year is coming to an end, it has gone by so fast, and I would like to thank you

(Continued on page 4)

Presidents Message: Fall 2015 cont.

all for being so supportive of your Historical Society. We are dedicated to keeping our History alive.

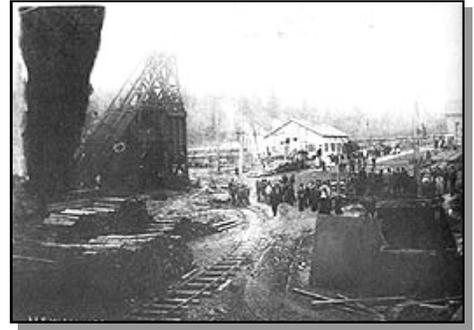
Labor Day Awards

Black Diamonds Citizen of the Year 2015 went to Steve Israel - Steve is a BDHS Board Member; former Board President and Editor of the Newsletter; an all

around good guy! Congratulations Steve!

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and have a very Happy New Year.

~Keith Watson
kcwdoc@comcast.net



Ravensdale 1915



Town Celebrations Hugely Popular By Keith Watson



Miners Day 2015 was very well attended with steady crowds all day long. The day started out with our 5K race up and down Lawson Hill organized by Tori Hall Ammons who is the owner of Black Bear Outpost in Black Diamond.

Thanks' goes to the Enumclaw High School Cross County Racing students who helped with the logistics of the race. We had a hot air balloon ride located in the school play field that was sponsored by the John L. Scott real estate. Their people set up the whole thing and organized the ride that people really enjoyed. Great fun for people on Railroad Ave. who visited the merchants, and vendors, ate at the Bakery, Meat store, Food Truck, Deli, and Eagles.

There were activities for kids sponsored by the Black Diamond Community Center and the donut eating contest for various ages. Over all the day went by very

quickly with an outstanding 1930's Fashion show, sponsored by The Dazzled Dame. Vendors were doing their things, a dunk tank, that the scouts ran, the chalk out that drew a lot of would be artists into action. The volunteers who did three separate street plays were well received with laughter and applause. It takes an enormous number of hours by volunteers to make this event happen. We are always looking for people to step up and join the Miners Day committee fun.

Contact number is 360-886-0778 to join that fun.

Labor Day was just as exciting as Miners Day but it was a 3 day event. The Museum docent couple Shawn and Melissa Oglesbee ran the show with Melissa being the director and Shawn being the security plus. They were outstanding and of course had a lot of help from many people who volunteered to work and organize.

One of those volunteers was Gomer Evans who worked on refurbishing the Green River Queen Float and ended up driving it in the

parade. He also ran the movie night show on Saturday in the school play field along with the help of his great grandchildren. It's amazing what can be done with this type of event.

Across the street from the Museum is the Eagles parking lot and it and adjacent properties were filled with close to 200 antique and custom cars. The whole school play field was loaded with vendor booths and kids rides along with many live music groups who did a bang-up job.

The parade was filled with all kinds of floats, groups, cars, and the Black Diamond Museums restored fire truck who got the 2nd place award. It featured Joe Androsko driving a load of kids and adults on top of the fire truck.

Many people, we lost count, visited the museum and found us to be very interesting. They looked and admired the fire truck and their kids visited the locomotive and caboos and of course rang the locomotives bell and tooted the whistle.





Santa Rides Again



The Black Diamond Historical Society in conjunction with the Mountain View Fire District 44 is bringing back the Christmas Fire Truck with Santa! Santa and the Fire Trucks will be visiting local neighborhoods for a food drive to benefit the Black Diamond Community Center.

Because of safety concerns they are only able to enter neighborhoods where fire trucks can be maneuvered in a safe manner. They cannot go down cul-de-sacs or narrow lanes because the safety clearances are not large enough.

If you live in one of the neighborhoods not listed, please feel free to bring your food donation to local drop off centers; The Black Diamond Bakery, The Museum, The Black Diamond Community Center, Columbia Bank, City Hall and Black Diamond Elementary. The tentative schedule is as follows and may change due to unforeseen conditions. Flyers will be handed out a couple of weeks earlier to homeowners associations with instructions.

Tentative Schedule

- 10:00 am Eagle Creek & Sunny Lane
- 11:00 am Rainier View
- 12:00 am Lawson Hills
- 1:00 pm Morgan Creek
- 2:00 pm Diamond Glen

The Emergency Food Bank Needs-

- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Jam
- Pasta
- Boxed Spuds
- Canned Chili
- Canned Stew
- Canned Chicken
- Tooth Paste
- Tooth Brushes

Please check expiration dates!
NO cake mixes or frosting please.

Holiday FOOD DRIVE



Family Photo From Last Issue

1974 Labor Day Parade

“Black Diamond Coal
Rush (or) Bust”

L-r is Steve Thompson, Sarah Thompson (Yount), Will Thompson and Kari Parkinson (Christianson).

Children were the center of the Labor Day Parade. After the parade they went to the ball field to collect 50 cents. They then had peanuts, popcorn, ice cream and played all the games. May tried to climb a Greased Pole. A fun time for all! *Submitted by Sue Thompson*

100 Years Ago

The Mike Miller Story - continued

(A fictional account based on Historical facts)

Chapter 6

by Keith Watson



Castle. The station master is very proud to be employed by the Railroad which he informed me has 55.3 miles of track which included all main line, branches and sidings. He also told me it owned 11 standard gauge locomotives, 9 passenger cars and 491 freight cars which includes coal cars. So the passenger train service from the station at foot of Wash-

nian's by the thousands with much loss of life. It sounds like Germany is bombing England with bombs dropped from air ships. I do hope my girl friend, who lives in Plymouth England, is safe and not harmed but I haven't heard from her in many months.

Mike Miller here in 1915 – As you know from past letters I am working for the Pacific Coast Coal Company at mine 11 in Black Diamond. One of my chores is to man the many boilers that produce steam to the steam engines connected to generator's that produce direct current electricity to the mines lights, water pumps, and machinery that's required in and above the mine. That same system also is the source of electricity to the buildings and dwellings in town.

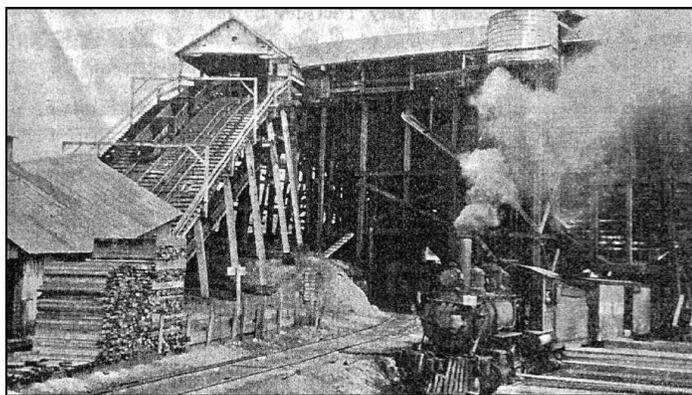
What I would really like to work in is a locomotive and I've contacted the train depot station master and he indicated that the Columbia Puget Sound Railroad has changed ownership and will be renamed, in

1916, the Pacific Coast Railroad. It is owned by the Pacific Coast Company which also owns the Pacific Coast Coal Company.

The Pacific Coast Company owns and operates a fleet of

ington Street on Railroad Avenue in Seattle to Maple Valley has scheduled 2 eastward and 2 westward trips a day and 1 carded for Sunday operation. One mixed train daily was for each of the Branch operations to Taylor, New Castle, and Black Diamond. The coal only trains are even more numerous.

I read that the war in Europe is horrible with German submarine's using unrestricted warfare on civilian ships. The British Passenger Liner Lusitania was sunk with the loss of over 1200 people. The



Mine 11 with Train

steam ships, 4 railroad lines, owns Black Diamond, Franklin, and New

Germans are using poison gas on their enemy's and the Turks are deporting Arme-



Lawson General Store moved to Railroad Ave.

I am so glad I'm in the United States and in Black Diamond. You can walk to the most wonderful spots, close by, such as the Green River Gorge at Franklin where you can fish or swim and have a picnic. Lake 12 and 14 are nearby for fishing or swimming and the woods offer a great chance for a good hunt. If you like the outdoors this is the place to be with many trails in the woods. The people in Black Diamond are from all over the world and they have wonderful food combinations and know how to try to blend in with the towns people.

I recently walked up to the area of the Lawson mine and saw some of the remains of that community. There was an explosion 5 years ago that killed many miners

Continued on page 8

100 YRS *Continued from page 7*

and closed the mine. My understanding is the decision of the company was to close the mine and move the company store down to the street where the train depot is located and move the company houses down to be closer to the center of town. I would have liked to see how the store was moved because it is so large. The store, I'm assuming, has floors that are not level due to the move. Some people refer to the houses that were moved as the red houses because most of were painted red as compared to the rest of town who did not paint theirs leaving them a natural cedar grey color.

The changes in town are always happening. The area across the street from the train depot was all cleaned up after the fire that de-

stroyed the business buildings including the hotel I was staying in at the time. The plans are to build a very large u shaped hotel with 67 rooms and plan to have it opened in 1917. There are lots of hotels in town where miners can room, clean-up, and be served a meal. They are full most of the time with either single miners or miners who have yet to bring their families from the old country. Where else could one find such a diverse place with people of all nationalities, languages, and cultures? It is an ongoing experience to learn about their origins and find

out how different they are from me and to try and be as understanding and helpful as possible. I know what it is like to arrive from another country and try to blend in with the towns people.

Continued in next issue



The Company Store

By Ann Steiert

Originally published in the BDHS newsletter, February 1994



The Lawson Store before it was moved.

In almost every story that is written about early company towns such as coal and lumbering towns there is a mention of the company store. The one in Black Diamond was a very real part of the life of its citizens.

The first store was located near where the bakery stands now.

It was unlucky enough to burn down in 1907. **Duda Vernarelli** told us of the excitement on the day that came to pass. He said people went into the burning building and grabbed anything they could.

He said that for weeks after it was over people would be asking one another if they had a mate to a shoe that they had picked up and trying to match goods.

After a couple of years the company decided to move a large building from the top of Lawson Hill down to the spot on Railroad Avenue. This was a big task consid-

ering the narrow road and the equipment available in those times.

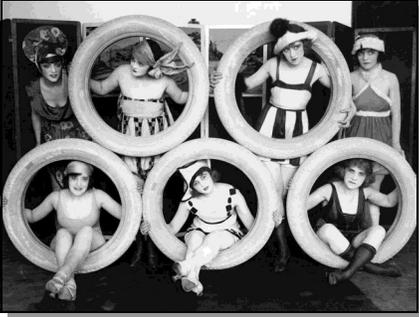
They used horses and a windlass and rollers to bring it down to its resting place. Here it was set on its foundation and eventually a portion was added on to be used as a storage space.



Lawson Store after the move

1915

- The year is 1915 “One hundred years ago ”. What a difference a century makes! Here are some statistics for the Year 1915:



Bathing Beauties 1915

- The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.
- Fuel for cars was sold in drug stores only.
- Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.
- Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone. The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.
- The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year.
- A dentist \$2,500 per year.
- A veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year.
- And, a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
- More than 95 percent of all births took place at home.
- Ninety percent of all Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION! Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND the government as substandard."
- Sugar cost four cents a pound.
- Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.
- Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.
- Most women only washed their hair once a month, And, used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
- Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people

from entering into their country for any reason.

- The Boston Red Sox beat the Philadelphia Phillies in the World Series, 4 games to 1.
- The Five leading causes of death were:
 1. Pneumonia and influenza
 2. Tuberculosis
 3. Diarrhea
 4. Heart disease
 5. Stroke
- The American flag had 45 stars ...
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was only 30.
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.
- There was neither a Mother's Day nor a Father's Day.
- Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write.



Learning to can food. In 1915

- And, only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at local corner drugstores. Back then pharmacists said, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach, bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health!" (Shocking?)
- Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help...
- There were about 230 reported™ murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A. !

Now we can forward this to someone else without typing it again, from there, it will be sent to others all over the WORLD all in a matter of seconds!
It is impossible to imagine what it may be like in another 100 years.



The Liberty Bell Visits Seattle 1915



Charlie Chapman in "His New Job" Silent Movies



1915 Day Fashions

PHONE MAIN 5106

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Houdini in Seattle Oct 1915

All the News That's Fit to Print

The New York Times.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1915—TWENTY-FOUR PAGES

TITANIA SUNK BY A SUBMARINE, PROBABLY 1,260 DEAD; TWICE TORPEDOED OFF IRISH COAST; SINKS IN 15 MINUTE

CAPT. TURNER SAVED, FROHMAN AND VANDERBILT MISS WASHINGTON BELIEVES THAT A GRAVE CRISIS IS AT

Headline 1915



Maynard & Marion 1915



Skaters on Lake 12 in 1915



Halloween Costume 1915



Picnic on the beach below Magnolia Bluff 1915



Les Vampires (1915): Silent Film, Vampires Girls

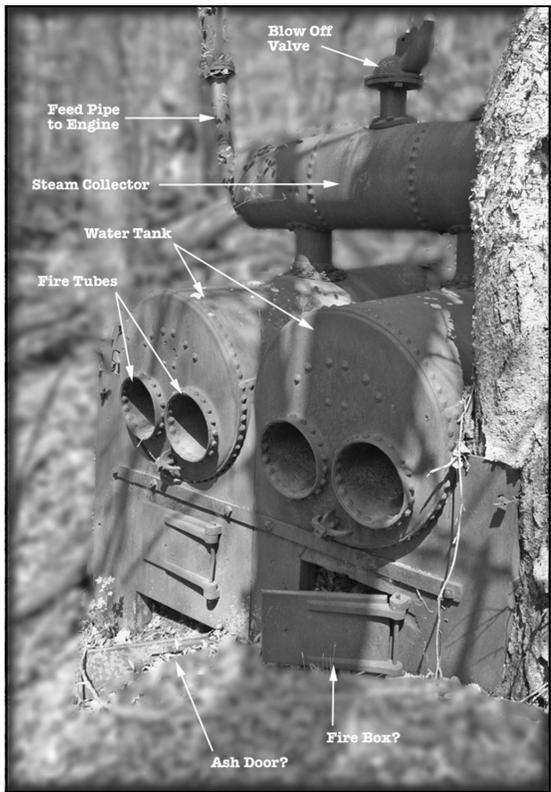


The Forgotten Boilers

<http://www.coppercountryexplorer.com/2012/12/the-forgotten-boilers/>

By Mike Forgrave

These iron cauldrons provided the life blood of mill, producing the steam necessary to power the mill's stamps and other equipment. Commonly at the time this mill was built these boilers would have been of a simple Cornish design, and much later would



have taken the form of a fully enclosed type utilized primarily in locomotives. The ones seen here look to be an intermediate model known as a Lancaster boiler, identifiable by the presence of the pair of open-ended tubes cut-

ting through the boiler's center.

These fire tubes would have carried the hot gasses through the center of the water tank, helping to heat the water and convert it to steam. Typically these tubes would have also served as the fire box, where coal or wood would have been burned to produce the necessary heat to create steam. However, these particular tubes don't seem to be large enough for that purpose, as they only stretch about a foot in diameter. Here it looked as if the fire box was built outside of the boilers themselves, sitting just below the bottom of this picture.

The set-up of the boilers here is quite typical of what you would find elsewhere across the region. This is the power plant for any mine, and contains four main components. The first is the boilers themselves, or more specifically the iron tubes containing the water which will be turned to steam. Below



them lies the second component, the heat source or fire box. Both the fire box and water tanks would be incased in brick lined sarcophagus, where the heated gases from the fire box could fully envelope the tank and more efficiently heat up the water. Once heated, the steam would

rise up into the fourth component, the steam collector.

The steam engines required a constant and steady supply of steam, something the boilers themselves could not deliver. To remedy this, a holding tank is placed atop the boilers in which steam from those boilers is fed. The tank serves as a type of capacity, storing the steam and releasing it steadily and uniformly to the adjacent engine. The pipe in the foreground would feed the engine, while the mushroom shaped pipe atop the tank was the tank's blow-off valve.

As more and more steam entered the collector the pressure inside would rise. Normally this pressure would be utilized to move the steam out of the tank and to the steam engine, but if the pressure got too high it would be released through this valve automatically.



Those high pressures the boilers would undergo required some pretty heavy duty materials and construction techniques – as can easily be viewed here where the steam collector is attached to the boiler.

It's amazing it is still here at all considering how important all this iron would have been during one of the several wars that have occurred since the mill's abandonment. More impressive still, is that fact that not only has these boilers survived but so too have the rest of the machinery that once accompanied the Carp Lake's old mill.

Mines utilized two basic types of boilers. The first was a stationary type, and would have been bolted down inside a boiler house. These boilers produced steam for use by the mines many steam engines such as hoists or compressors. The second type

Donations

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



We wish to thank the following for their generous donations during the 3rd quarter of 2015 to the Black Diamond Historical Society.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF:

Margaret Evans White, by Joe & Eileen Zumek
Keith Timm Sr., by Byron & Janie Parkinson, Palmer Coking Coal, and Joe & Eileen Zumek

DIGITAL SCANNER FUND DONATION MADE BY:

Fred & Margaret Brown

EDUCATION FUND

Lake 12 Association

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS MADE BY:

Don & Carmel Camerini
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Gloria Thompson

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The marriage of Gino and Hilda Picini by:

Jim & Catherine Boon
Steve & Dee Israel

NEWSLETTER FUND DONATIONS MADE BY:

Gil & Marlene Bortleson
Sue Dringle
Nils & Lois Ladderud
Beverly Prkacin Read



**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.

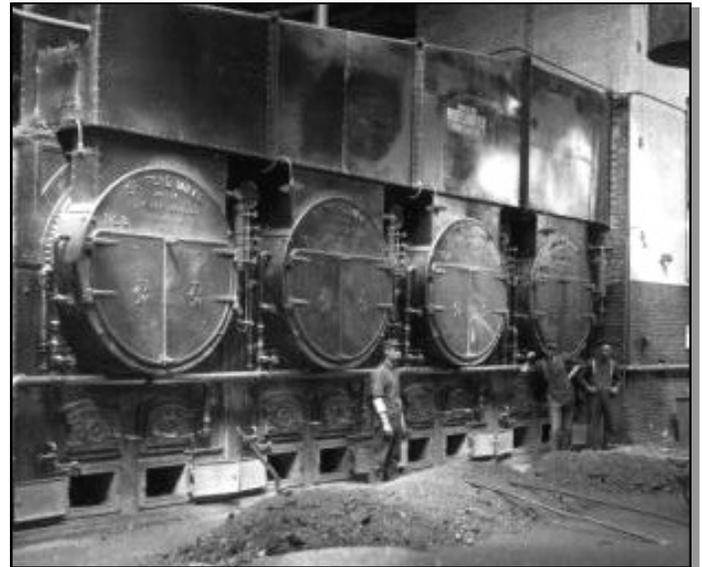
was the locomotive boiler, used to produce steam for use by a railroad engine. These are boilers from the Central Mine, left amazingly intact in the mine's old boiler house. These were probably installed in the 1860's,

These boilers are first-generation technology known as tube or cylinder boilers. These boilers were actually two separate parts, placed together in a brick-lined "oven". Coal or wood fires stoked in lower fire boxes would heat the inside of the "oven" and in turn the



iron cylinders of water set within them.

<http://www.coppercountryexplorer.com/2009/07/the-boiler/>



Title: Boiler Room, Sanford Mills, ca. 1915 **Creator:** Spinney, Charles **Creation Date:** circa 1915 **Subject Date:** circa 1915 **Town:** Sanford **County:** York **State:** ME **Contributed by** [Sanford Historical Committee](http://SanfordHistoricalCommittee)
<https://www.mainememory.net/artifact/21428>

Black Diamond-area mines - Mine 11

an excerpt from an article published May 19, 2013

<https://blackdiamondhistory.wordpress.com/2013/05/19/black-diamond-area-mines/>

by Black Diamond History

Mine 11 was located west of Hwy. 169 in back of the now shopping center. It was started in 1896 and operated until 1927.

It was also referred to as the New Mine and Morgan Slope. It was a very deep mine going down 6,000 feet when it was closed. It was reputed to be the deepest slope coal mine in the world. It had a 20 degree pitch. It was 2,200 feet to the surface at the 12th level and 1,500 feet below sea level.

It was a dangerous mine to work in. There was a condition called "bumps," which was when the floor raised and the roof came down. It was like a small earthquake. It was caused by atmospheric pressure and became worse as they went deeper. Whenever a bump occurred it was felt in town. Everyone who had a relative at work was very concerned until they found out what happened.

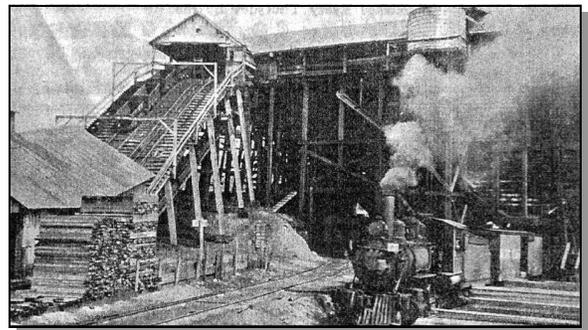
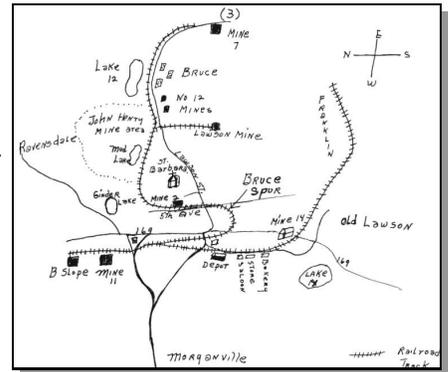
A special fear was felt when the mine whistle blew, which was

the signal that meant a casualty. It was alleged that during the strike inexperienced miners were brought in and the seams robbed without taking precautions to timber properly. This added to the instability of the workings. Many men were injured.

There were many miners working at Mine 11. At times its main shift had as many as 500 men when it was at its peak.

It covered quite a bit of ground. It had 8 steam boilers which produced electricity for the town. The charge to the miners was 50¢ a "drop." Some of the old-timers still laugh about the number of extension cords that were purchased.

The Black Diamond Mining Company sold the mine to the Pacific Coast Coal Co. in 1904. It



was reputed to have been the best producer of coal that the PCCC ever owned. The best in King County.

Ravensdale Mining Disaster 100 years ago.

The Ravensdale coal mine exploded on the afternoon of Nov. 16, 1915. Thirty four men were trapped and only three were found alive. Earlier 100 men had been sent home because of some problems in the mine, thus saving many men. It was felt that the mine owners were negligent in their operating of the mine. The mine was closed after the disaster and Ravensdale's population of over 400 miners lost their jobs and moved away. The Ravensdale community is still a very vibrant lot and has installed interpretive signs detailing the history of Ravensdale.

Join Regan Dunn at a ceremony commemorating the 100th Anniversary to be held on Monday, November 16th at 11am, at the Gracie Hansen Community Center.

Event Invitation

100th Anniversary of the Ravensdale Mine Disaster

What Ceremony Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Ravensdale Coal Mining Disaster and Dedication of the Ravensdale History Trail Interpretive Signs

Where Gracie Hansen Community Center
27132 SE Ravensdale PI

When Monday, November 16th at 11 a.m.

On November 16th, 1915, at 1:25 p.m., one of the worst mining disasters in the State of Washington occurred when an explosion ripped apart the Ravensdale No. 1 mine, killing 31 miners. Following the explosion, the mine was shut down, most of the town was dismantled and Ravensdale nearly ceased to exist.

Background photo Ravensdale No. 1 Mine Tippet, ca. 1912; from Washington Geological Survey, Bulletin No. 3, The Coal Fields of King County, by George Watkins Evans, 1912.

Obituaries



KEITH BYRON TIMM, SR. 1924-2015

Lifetime Society member, Keith Byron Timm, Sr., passed away August 1, 2015, at the age of 91. Keith was born to Reynold Frederick Timm (1894-1955) and Helen Adeline (Bragg) Timm (1900-1977), in Tilden, Nebraska on March 9, 1924. He was the middle child out of seven children, having three older brothers and three younger sisters. The family left Nebraska in 1936 and settled in Selleck, Washington, moving on to Enumclaw in 1939, Keith graduating from high school there.

Keith joined the U.S. Army in 1943, seeing combat in Normandy and Utah Beach. He was awarded a total of five Battle Stars. After the war, he returned home and started his own dump truck business, contracting coal delivery from the mines to Palmer Coke & Coal in Black Diamond. Keith sold his business and then drove truck for Gordon Molden & Sons until he retired in 1986. Keith married Lorraine Gibson in 1946 and had one daughter, Donna Elaine, and one son, Keith, Jr.

Throughout his work life, Keith was very involved in the Black Diamond Fire Department, devoted for 26 years. He was the Fire Chief for the last 8 years of his service. Keith embraced his Black Diamond

community and exemplified his leadership at the department with charm, wit and steadfastness. He was made for the job and the fellowship that followed, making lifelong friends. A full circle moment was had before his death, when he took a ride in the newly restored 1947 fire truck with Joe Androsko (photo captured for posterity & symbolic moment!).

Keith was preceded in death by his parents, all three brothers, two sisters, his first wife, Lorraine and his last wife, Sara Koch, who died in 2005. He is survived by his children, Elaine and Keith, Jr.; one granddaughter, Trina Novlan (Greg), and two great grandsons, Gunnar and Gerik Novlan, all of Olympia; also three step-daughters, Linda Melewski (Butch), Teri Rees (Ed), Karen Nichols (Kevin) and one step-son, Kurt Greenbaum.

Keith always had a story and a smile and it was a treat when he came by the museum. He was a one of a kind guy, greatly missed by his family and friends.



The Housewife's Friend: 1915

"Kitchen Appliance." A three-burner Alcohol Utilities stove with griddle and toaster circa 1915. [View full size.](http://www.shorpy.com/node/3844) National Photo Company Collection. <http://www.shorpy.com/node/3844>



Be Our Guest

By Dee Israel

1400

Number of guests
visiting the
museum during the
third quarter of
2015

There were visitors from **19 States**: Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah; as well as Washington. There were also people visiting from other Countries, such as Canada, China, Germany, Japan & Korea.

Comments

Fine exhibit – especially the early x-ray equip.
Awesome little museum
Excellent, as always
Learned a lot today
We come every year – Love it
Thanks for the tour

Very friendly staff
Amazingly interesting
Wonderful museum
Neat place to browse
Very impressive museum
It's like you go back in time

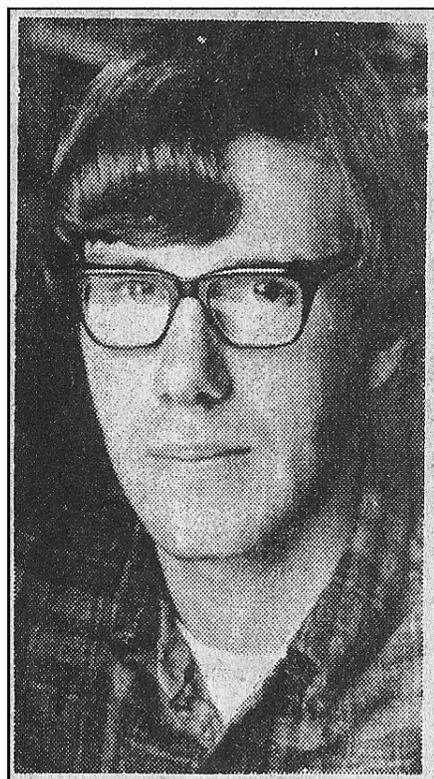
Cool & awesome
This is a beautiful place
Pretty enlightening history
Very informative & interesting
Love this town & museum



Share your Family Photos!



Answers
in
the
next
issue!



Who is this and what was his role
In Black Diamond?

Who do you think these delightful children are?



Membership and Renewal Form (Renewals due August 1st each year)



Date _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Day Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Eve Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Date of Birth (Optional) _____

If this is a gift, who is it from? _____

BDHS Membership Fees

Annual Individual	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Annual Family	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Annual Business	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifetime Individual	\$200.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifetime Family	\$300.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newsletter Fund Donation	\$ _____	
Other Donation	\$ _____	
Total Enclosed	_____	

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Renewal

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Ck # _____

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Mail to:
**Black Diamond
Historical Society
PO Box 232**

BDHS is a 501(c)(3) Non Profit Organization (TIN 51-0170304)

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

(Museum Use Only) Referred by: _____ Date: _____ Posted by: _____ Date: _____ (rev. _____)

WELCOME NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

By Dee Israel, Temp Membership

The Black Diamond Historical Society now has 312 memberships. We are pleased to announce that during this quarter of 2015 we have acquired the following new memberships:

- Ron Healy
- S.E. Shipley
- Myra Shukis
- Elaine Slizus
- Judy Thompson
- Pauline Von Ruden

WELCOME!

We would like to thank the following members for renewing their membership this quarter:

- Susan Theilken Askey
- Lee E. Bossom
- Jim & Cathy Bradley
- Don & Carmel Camerini
- Diane Dal Santo
- Lois Darby
- Robert Dobson
- Sue Dringle
- Carolyn Henderson
- Virgil J. Holman
- Jerrine Hope
- Richard & Lori Hoyt
- Daniel & Jennifer Hutson
- Steve Jones
- Marilyn Donati Kienke

- Gerald & Nancy Kuzaro
- Nils & Lois Ladderud
- Virginia Lindstrom
- Pete & Dahni Logar
- Janet Lombardini
- Don & Joan Malgarini
- Frank Manowski
- Dave & Janet McCrindle
- Dennis & Julianne McNeeley
- Hazella Peterson
- Lloyd & Carol Qally
- Beverly Prkacin Read
- Robert Richter
- Dan & Kathi Shay
- M. L. Shukis
- Mike & Cyndi Smith
- Gloria Thompson
- Dave & Sue Watson
- Chris & Raeann Webb
- Fred & Patty Weston
- Fran Wold
- Southport Land and Commercial Co.

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome!



BULLETIN

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Black Diamond Historical Society/Museum

40th Year Anniversary is in 2016

What kind of a celebration should we have? Please send emails to the Bulletin Editor, leih023@gmail.com with ideas.



Black Diamond Historical Society

