

MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR JUNE 2009

Texada heritage keepers gather every Wednesday morning in the Van Anda museum for coffee and conversation. Discussion can become hot and heavy as we examine events of the past. The latest controversy surrounds the “honeymoon cottage” built in Van Anda in 1898 or so by Harry Treat for his bride. Bill Thompson’s history “Texada Island” contains a photo (see page 324) of the two story building that stands today on a hill above the Van Anda dock and identifies it as the “honeymoon cottage”. Our photo shows the same two story cottage but there is also a log cabin or cottage just below it at the head of the dock. The authors of “Texada” published by the Texada Centennial Committee speculated that the smaller cabin is in fact the honeymoon cottage and that the two story building was constructed later. We would welcome any thoughts that you may have on the subject.

Our curator Doug Paton and his daughter Laurie recently wound up their genealogical business and donated their material including their micro film reader to the Heritage Society. This material is comprehensive and includes the Vital Statistics of BC, World War Two Canadian Casualty Lists, Colonial Marriages, Aboriginal Records and other statistics. These are very valuable and the society wishes to thank Doug and Laurie for their generosity.

We have heard recently that there was a traveling dentist that visited this island back in the nineteen fifties or possibly the sixties. We would appreciate any memories that people may have of this.

We are pleased to announce that we have placed a new exhibit in the community hall. This one contains a selection of soft drink bottles that were gathered here on Texada and some information on the companies prominent in that business. Let us know if you have any suggestions for subjects that could be covered in these displays in the future.

Until next time take care of each other and remember to think and act green.

Norm MacLean

