

## MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2011

Last month we published a photo of a strange looking implement whose function was a mystery to us. Dave Symons dropped in and explained that it was a “grabber” used to extract red hot clinkers from a furnace. We think it could also have been used to extract hot pieces of limestone from a kiln, but that remains unproven.

We have reported several times that a new book on Texada was in the works. Heather Harbord is now giving her book a final editing and it should be on the market just in time for next Christmas. What a great present it will make.

Our photo this month is of Peter Kenny who can be found most Wednesday mornings telling stories (lies?) with the rest of us down at the Van Anda museum. It gives me great pleasure to announce that Peter will be taking over the writing of this column effective immediately.

Time has taken its toll on me and on my favourite editor (Peggy, my bride of 58 years) and we will be leaving the island shortly for the Comox Valley Seniors Village in Courtenay. We swore that the only way we would ever leave this island would be feet first but advancing age has a way of moderating ones ideas so it is with great regret that we feel compelled to make this move. However it has been a slice as they say and we will forever hold the memories of our 29 years here in our hearts and minds.

Keeping you all up to date on museum happenings and narrating snippets of island history has been a genuine pleasure. I have had a lot of help and I wish to thank the members of the Heritage Society particularly Doug Paton who has never failed in finding just the right photograph. I also want to thank my readers for their encouragement and I am sure that you will support Peter in the same manner. In the meantime take care of each other and remember to think and act green. Au revoir.

Norm MacLean

