

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THE NEW "LITTLE BILLY" MINE

On July 1 the Texada Museum is pleased to invite one and all to the unveiling and opening of our own Little Billy mine! The official dedication at 11 am will be followed by tea and coffee. Museum doors open at 10:30 am.

Experience the mystery and enchantment of an old Texada mine. Venture carefully into the darkness, past the tool crib and powder magazine, past the ore chute and waiting ore cart until the bottomless shaft blocks any further exploration. Be careful not to tip over the honey bucket!

Thanks to a year of hard work by Lorrie Pirart with help from many who donated materials and labour our Little Billy mine is a memorable experience in itself.

Other exciting new exhibits include John Kee's Chinese shop and a tribute to Texada's 1898 teacher, Emily Raper.

Our popular Clarence Wood Room features vignettes of Texada's past (blacksmith shop, livery stable, chain saw collection) while the pioneer household's "modern" amenities (wash tubs, cookstove, sad irons, etc) are on display in the adjoining room. Be on the lookout for less-prominent displays as well, such as our collection of old cameras or the display of vintage light bulbs!

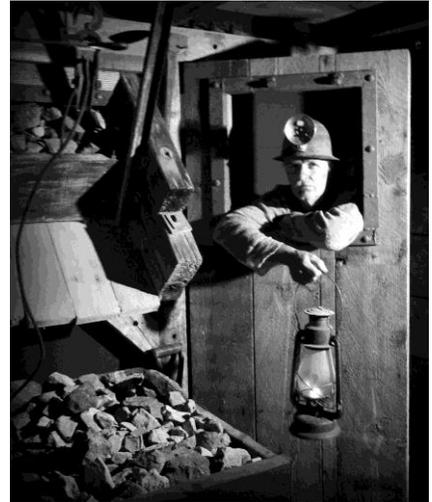
Thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers the Texada Museum is open to all. From the students who host summer visitors to the people who accession, catalogue, photograph and display donations (Donna Lechner, Brenda Rairie, Lynn Schroeder, Joyce Sparks) your museum is a first-class operation.

On-going plans include finishing the entrance facade as well as the creation of an old-time schoolroom with adjacent "theatre" (thanks to Brenda Rairie). Dave Rairie is working on extending our storage areas and upgrading the gift shop and washroom facilities.

In the future we hope to relocate the large outdoor equipment from Blubber Bay to Van Anda. We are currently working with the Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department to protect and display their 1942 Fargo fire engine. In addition our school liaison programme has continued with weekly visits to classrooms.

We have had a busy year!

Your museum is open this summer 11am to 3pm Thursdays through Sundays. We look forward to seeing you and your summer guests.



Peter Lock

Texada Island Heritage Society