

MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR SEPTEMBER06

The summer is rapidly coming to a close and it is time to examine the museum operation for the summer. We had about 250 visitors this year, which is down a little from previous years, which probably reflects the overall reduction in tourism and general economic activity. Our new displays were however received with interest and enthusiasm for which we are grateful.

The museum will close on the long weekend in September and I want to express our thanks to Chelsea Robertson for a job well done as our museum attendant during July and August. Good luck in your future studies Chelsea.

One of our most interesting acquisitions over the past few months is the black doctors bag that belonged to Dr Kay Garner who passed away late last year. Dr Garner established the medical clinic for Texada Mines and served as its first doctor before retiring here on the island. She served our community well and she will always be remembered. Our thanks to Frances and Bernard Garner who donated the bag together with a number of medical books from Kay's private collection.

In case you thought you had invented all forms of summer fun here is a picture of early surf boarding taken in Blubber Bay. The BC Cement operation can be seen in the background. The style of bathing suit would suggest the thirties or perhaps even the twenties.

We are contemplating museum plans for the coming fall and winter period. We have already outgrown our facility so not all artifacts can be shown at any one time. One solution is to establish displays in other locations such as the Community Hall where we now have a showcase. We hope to have displays in the school and in the new banking facility, which is on the drawing board.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in the museum. Keep an eye out for a Heritage Society meeting in the near future. Don't forget to visit our web site at texadaheritagesociety.com. In the meantime please take care of each other.

Norm MacLean

