

## Museum Musings for August 07

We are very pleased to report that our Blubber Bay Centennial Celebration, commemorating one hundred years of continuous limestone mining in Blubber Bay, was a great success. The weather was kind and many pictures were taken. A slide show was put together by Ken Barton, and shown at the Sandcastle pancake breakfast. Hopefully we will be including some of them on our website [texadaheritagesociety.com](http://texadaheritagesociety.com). Space limitations are such that I can only mention each part of the program briefly as follows;

1. The Clansman Pipe Band from Powell River marched-in followed by all those who had worn costumes hopefully representative of 1907 or thereabouts. Please see the photo below. Costumes were judged by Gail Kirk and prizes awarded to Doug Paton and Mary Gussman whose photo appears below.
2. Ted Thomson, manager of the Blubber Bay Quarry, welcomed the crowd, as did Ken Barton president of the Texada Heritage Society. Our MP Blair Wilson addressed us all briefly. Our MLA Nicholas Simons was also in attendance.
3. Free hot dogs and pop were made available to all, compliments of Ashgrove Cement, served by Carol Robertson and Huguette Paton.
4. A bus tour of the quarry operations operated by Ashgrove Cement was available for just a toonie hence the name "Toonie Tours".
5. The museum was open all day with emphasis on the special Blubber Bay historical display housed in the "jail". This little building, at the rear of the museum was, in fact, used as a jail for a year or two in the mid fifties. No information seems to be available on who might have been housed there.
6. A silent auction was organised and conducted by Nora Hughes and was a great success.
7. The Clansman Pipe Band also played a very enjoyable concert followed by the Powell River Community Band. We are indebted to them both for participating in our celebration.
8. A kiddies sport program was carried out by Monica Garvin and the Girl Guides.
9. Two continuously running slide shows of historical photographs put together by Doug Paton were on display all day. Thanks to Shaw TV for the loan of a monitor.
10. The day culminated with the cutting of a huge birthday cake compliments of Ashgrove Cement.

What added greatly to the day was the opportunity to visit with old friends. One time residents of Blubber Bay who were in attendance included Jean Williamson, nee Weisman, who spoke to the crowd, Randy Yip, Ben Nicholas, and Albert Thacker who once occupied the house now containing the museum. Others seen in the crowd were Alex, Tony and Gladys Fielkowich, Bill Kucharsky, Bill Williams, Jessie Parsons, nee Diggon, Harold and Robbie Diggon and Marion(Gladys)Wildin, nee Diggon, and Cory Takarabi. I apologise for any that I have missed. It was a busy day.

The proceeds from all the activities were donated to the Texada Heritage Society and together with a \$500.00 donation from Ashgrove Cement realised about \$2000.00 for the society for which we are very grateful. Congratulations and thanks are due to Carol Robertson and Doug Paton who together organised this event.

From all accounts people very much enjoyed the day and many expressed the wish that we should not have to wait 100 years for another such party. We will do our best to make that wish come true.

Until the next time take care of each other and think green.

Norm MacLean.



Doug Paton and Mary Gussman – Costume Winners

