

## MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR MAY 07

Spring is sprung and the grass is riz, and we have lots of birds at our feeders today, April 20, including American Goldfinch. We saw two osprey fishing late this afternoon. Activities at the museum are picking up as well as we continue to prepare for the 100th year celebration of mining at the Blubber Bay Quarry. Remember to keep Saturday the 30th of June open.

We wish to thank Marion Little who is now residing in Powell River for the many artifacts she kindly donated to the museum recently. These items reflect the many years that she and her late husband Joe lived on Texada and include items from the McLeod family whose roots run very far back on this island

Monday the ninth of April 2007 was the ninetieth anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge when the Canadian Corps of some one hundred thousand men fought together for the first time during World War I. The Corps was successful in occupying the ridge which the British and the French armies had failed to do. The battle is credited with helping Canada to become recognized as a nation on the worlds stage. It was however costly as 3598 men lost their lives. One of these was Private Tom Raper who was the son of James and Kate Raper of Van Anda. We have mounted a small display in the Seniors Centre featuring a photo of Tom Raper against the Red Ensign under which he served. In a previous musings we mentioned that we had discovered that early editions of the Nanaimo Free Press carried stories of prospectors coming to Texada from Nanaimo. We now have the editions from the papers inception in 1874 up to 1890 on microfiche which we will be reading with great interest. We will report on our findings in subsequent musings.

Our photo this month is of four long time members and supporters of the museum who recently were awarded lifetime memberships in the Old Age Pensioners Association. Congratulations to Mary Gussman, Peggy Atkinson, Margaret Woodhead and Sigrid Olson

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

Norm MacLean

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.463 / Virus Database: 269.5.5/769 - Release Date: 4/19/2007 5:56 PM