

MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR JULY 08

Some time ago I mused about Jack Leslie and the ship models that he made in his humble dwelling in Clam Bay. Our photo today is of him inside his home with several of his creations. We have received nine of his models from the Sunshine Coast Museum in Gibsons. They are restructuring their collections and decided these models should be returned to where they were designed and built. We are very grateful to have them and will be displaying them both in the Blubber Bay Museum and in our new branch in Van Anda. The models are of sailing ships such as the Santa Maria and HMS Bounty. The detail in these models is incredible and speaks volumes for his patience and skill. Jack served under sail in the Royal Navy as a boy and later was a logger and fisherman here on the West coast.

The Blubber Bay museum will be open for the July first long weekend from Saturday 28 June to Tuesday 1 July inclusive from 11 AM to 3 PM. Subsequent openings will be co-ordinated with the Van Anda museum and will be advised later. We welcome our new museum attendant Dylan Gable and would welcome a second one if anyone is interested.

On 23 May we were privileged to have Berdine Jonker from the BC Heritage Branch visit to speak to us about the Community Heritage Planning Program. We will institute this program in order to better protect our heritage on the island.

Work on the new museum in the old school in Van Anda is going ahead. It will be opened on 12 July as part of the Van Anda Day celebrations. Please plan to come dressed in period costume and enjoy the Powell River Pipe Band, the costume parade, entertainment in the school gymnasium, tooney tours, walking tours, refreshments, and the opportunity to meet with old friends. Van Anda was a busy and vibrant mining town one hundred plus years ago. Let's try and recreate that atmosphere.

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

Norm MacLean

