

MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR JAN 09

Here is the final report for 2008 which turned out to be a rather eventful year in many ways. In our small museum world it was a very gratifying year. We developed a second museum in the Van Anda School and celebrated BC's 150th birthday there in July. We now have our head office there including the archives and the main storage facility our museum in Blubber Bay was open four afternoons a week all summer under the excellent care of Dylan Gable. We will continue to maintain and develop that facility.

Throughout October and November we conducted the 'My Island-My Home-My History' program for a class of 16 students from the Van Anda school. For two hours once a week we introduced the students to various aspects of island history including logging, mining, agriculture etc. This was conducted on the ground as much as possible using island folk as facilitators. We thank the following for their assistance; Bob Duker, Doug Paton, Charlie Boulet, Herb Staaf, Pete Stiles, Peter Kenny, Peter Lock, Betty Wilson from Sliammon, Jane Waterman, Dave Murphy and Heather Stephen. Primarily we congratulate Clarence Wood who designed, developed and supervised the entire program. We also want to thank Carol Brown, the principal of the Van Anda Elementary School, for her whole hearted support.

At the conclusion of the program the class mounted a fine display of photographs and their hand written "critiques" in the hall of the museum. You are invited to come and view this display together with the rest of the museum any Wednesday morning from ten to noon.

Our photo today is of Clarence and Carol standing by the bus awaiting the arrival of the kids.

As you read this Christmas is behind us and a rather uncertain New Year is before us. The Heritage Society and the Texada Museums celebrate our past which was at times very uncertain indeed but our society survives and I believe that we should remain optimistic about our future.

In the meantime take care of each other and remember to think and act green.

Norm MacLean

