

## MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR JULY 2009

Summer is with us again and we plan to have the museums open beginning Thursday 2 July, Thursday through Sunday from 11 AM to 3 PM. We are proud of our exhibits so bring your guests for a visit.

Davie Bay has been in the local news recently because of the plans by Lehigh cement to build a limestone loading facility there.

In the early 1920's the Devaney family purchased 200 acres which faced on the lagoon that lies just behind the small island where the loading facility will be installed. Maggie Taylor ( nee Devaney) was a small child when the family settled there and lived there until she was married and moved away at the age of 18. Maggie, who passed away in 2008, recorded six hours of reminiscences of her life on Texada and donated those tapes together with some family photographs to our museum. Life was hard for this family since Mr. Devaney worked in Vancouver. The family with seven children had to learn to be very self sufficient. They were isolated from the rest of Texada but maintained a connection with the outside world through Lasqueti. Mr. Devaney kept his family supplied with the basics by shipping supplies to False Bay which lies on the south west shore of Lasqueti. Maggie tells of rowing from Davie Bay around the west end of Lasqueti to False Bay to pick up stores left there by the coastal steamer service. Maggie states that life was so busy that they had no time to be lonely and that loneliness came later when she moved to Vancouver. Education was intermittent and conducted through correspondence courses from Victoria. Maggie tells of building rock walls around extensive gardens near the lagoon. Our photo today shows one of the children standing on the beach below their home. A stone wall can be seen running from one side of the photo to the other. Only traces of these stone walls can be seen today.

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

Norm MacLean

