

## MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR MAY 09

One of the more interesting characters out of Texada's past was Charles John Anderson, also known as the Lucky Swede. Charlie's luck does not derive from his time on Texada however but relates to his success as a prospector. Charlie went to the Yukon in 1898 and made his fortune from claims on the Eldorado and Bonanza creeks. In about 1900 Charlie went to San Francisco and invested his money in real estate. The storey is that he also invested in a dance hall girl giving her, her weight in gold when they parted ways.

All this came to an end in 1906 when the San Francisco earthquake destroyed his real estate holdings. Charlie came to Texada around 1920 and one report has him working as a "bull cook" for the Alberta Lumber Company in Gillies Bay at that time. He subsequently worked in mines here on Texada and in Britannia Mines for several years. Charlie spent the rest of his life on Texada dying in 1939 and he is buried in Woodlands Cemetery. Our picture today is of Charlie Anderson the Lucky Swede

We would be very interested in learning more about his life on Texada since he lived here for approximately 19 years. Please give us a call if you have any knowledge

We are saddened to report that Mary Alexander passed away recently in Victoria. Mary was a charter member of the Heritage Society and made a significant contribution, serving as the recording secretary on the original executive. Mary was the daughter of Dr. McCallum who retired to Texada in 1958 and continued to provide emergency medical care to island residents until his death in 1968

We are planning to develop a display in the museum featuring uniforms and artifacts from the various clubs and organizations that have existed here on Texada. Items from Guides, Scouts, and Brownies. Elks, Lions, Military, ball teams etc. etc. are welcome. Please contact Clarence Wood for more information.

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

Norm MacLean



Picture shows Charlie Anderson, the "Lucky Swede," (at left), who made millions and spent them in the old days of the north, having a jolly chat with Sheriff Charles Macdonald.