

MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR THE APRIL 2010

Donations to the museum keep trickling in and we are always glad to receive new "old" material. One of the latest items of interest are the minutes of a club that existed here on the island from 1956 to about 1965.

"Allemande left with your left hand and do sa do to your partners all" Not perhaps an authentic square dance call but similar calls were echoing through the Blubber Bay Community Hall in October 1956 as the Texada Island Square Dance Club began its fall season. Our photo today is of their lapel pin which is a very modern design of plastic 2 ¼ inches by 2 ½ inches with a strip across the bottom for ones name. Interestingly the first minutes dated Saturday October 16 1956 carried the title "Lime Dusters Square Dance Club". As the club originated in Blubber Bay this was a very apt title since the production of lime rock can be a very dusty operation. These minutes are dated October 6, 1956 but reference is made to 'Mr Burditt', the retiring president, so the club existed before that. The last minutes we have are dated November 20 1965 however a dance and election of officers was scheduled for November 27 at Blubber Bay so it appears we may be missing some. We would very much appreciate any information including stories, pictures, music, costumes and any memorabilia you may have. This club had as many as 44 members at one time and some of those members are still with us including Peggy Atkinson and Bob Wells.

In 1960 the name was changed to the Texada Square Dance Club and for a number of years dances were alternated between Blubber Bay, Van Anda and Gillies Bay. The group was very active and in addition to its regular square dances organised other festivities related to New Years, Halloween, Easter, and even Sadie Hawkins Day. Remember Lil Abner and Hamus Alabamus?

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

Norm MacLean

