

YOUR MUSEUM THIS SUMMER

Plan to visit Texada's unique historical museum this summer. Our hosts along with many community volunteers are eager to introduce you and your holiday guests to Texada's fabled past.

Relive Van Anda's gold rush days. A display of fascinating ore samples leads one to the realistic walk-through re-creation of the Little Billy mine.

View the vintage agricultural and logging equipment. Picture yourself wielding the formidable two-person chainsaw! Imagine the sound of the hammer ringing in our re-created blacksmith shop.

Reminisce about old school days in Miss Emily's 1900 one-room school display.

Search the photos to recall the early days of Texada's water transportation - from the steam-powered *Wood Nymph*, through the Union Steamships and the 5-car *Atrevida* to our beloved "NIP."

During this summer a NEW ADDITION to our historic displays will be introduced - a scale-model diorama of Texada's fabled Pocohontas Whisky Still painstakingly and accurately crafted by Charlotte Dawe.

In the 1920's the still produced 500 gallons of "moonshine" a week for almost 10 years before its discovery and police raid in 1928 (photo).

Charlotte's well-researched re-creation reveals a detailed cut-away view of the 3-storey interior - boilers, pumps, tanks, barrels. One is surprised by the complexity of the operation and the fact that the largest whisky still on the BC coast remained undetected for so long.

Charlotte cleverly used stir sticks, skewers and toothpicks for the wood construction. Coffee grounds serve as dirt while sawdust, baked and coloured, represents moss. Trees were fashioned from jute fibre and tinfoil.



Pay attention to the details - a 1920's newspaper (shrunk to appropriate scale), the whisky tins (cut from aluminum cans), a gun on the table (a shot was fired according to news reports) and shoe inserts made from old Texada maps (a clue that police noted at the time). Even the "Keep Out - Goat Farm" sign is true to history. Charlotte challenges viewers to discover the cat lurking around the building.

Charlotte's dedication to her project is just one example of the affection Texadans have for our history and our museum.

We welcome you this summer!

Opening Hours (July 1 to Sept 5):
Wednesdays 10am to 2pm
Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun and holiday Mondays :11am to 4pm

Peter Lock

Texada Island Heritage Society