



FEBRUARY MEETING

Our speaker for the February 23rd program meeting will be Don Waite, who is working on a book about British Columbia and Yukon gold hunters. He will talk about the logistics of getting gold nuggets or fragments out of the ground, and delivering them to a smelter. Don will show vintage photos from mining operations in the Yukon and Klondike, as well as BC mines in Rossland, the Cariboo, Barkerville and the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Don Waite will also speak of the challenges of obtaining good quality original photographs, and learning the stories associated with them. It is not always easy to get them into the right chronological order. His meticulous work makes for first class images from the past.

The program will be at 7:30 on February 23, at St. Andrew's Heritage Hall, 22279 116th Ave. For more information, call the Maple Ridge Museum at 604-463-5331

AGM & POTLUCK SUPPER

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on March 22 at St. Andrew's Heritage Church Hall. We will gather at 6:30pm for our potluck supper followed by our meeting and election of directors. If you know of any potential members, please bring them along to meet the members and find out about our operation. Our annual report will be available for distribution.

Please contact Val or Allison at the museum to let us know if you can bring a sweet or a savoury dish to the gathering. There will also be a sign-up sheet at the February member's meeting. Please remember that you need to bring your own dishes and cutlery and any serving implements required for your dish.

MUSIC ON THE WHARF



The Maple Ridge Historical Society is seeking musical groups to submit applications to perform at the Music on the Wharf Concert Series: July 9, 23 and August 13 and 27, 2012.

Music on the Wharf Concert Series is a unique performance opportunity held on the Port Haney Wharf. In its 16th year, the concert series is well established and well attended. The Maple Ridge Historical Society is looking for musical groups to fill out this year's roster.

Visit mapleridgemuseum.org for full details on submission guidelines.

ON DISPLAY



Until May the temporary gallery at the Maple Ridge Museum will have a recycling exhibit on display, which has been co-curated with the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society. Here are a few artifacts from the “recycling” and “upcycling” portion of the display.



Mr. Al Bowen of Bowen & Associates, Coquitlam, busy appraising at last year's Heritage Tea.

HERITAGE TEA

Saturday, April 14th 1:00-4:00 pm

Tea Admission \$7

Tea & Appraisal \$15

Seniors Activity Centre 12150- 224th Street

The 20th annual Heritage Tea is just around the corner! This event is a reunion that allows members of the community to reconnect with those that have left, and it is a great way to enjoy a cup of tea, snack on some of the delicious treats, while taking in good conversation and viewing the displays.

After the success of last year's appraisal, we will be having antique appraiser Al Bowen back to look at your treasures. Admission for the Tea and Appraisal is \$15, which allows you to bring in two items, and tickets can be purchased at the door on the day of the event. There is limited space for the appraisal, so tickets will be given on a first come first serve basis for this part of the event.

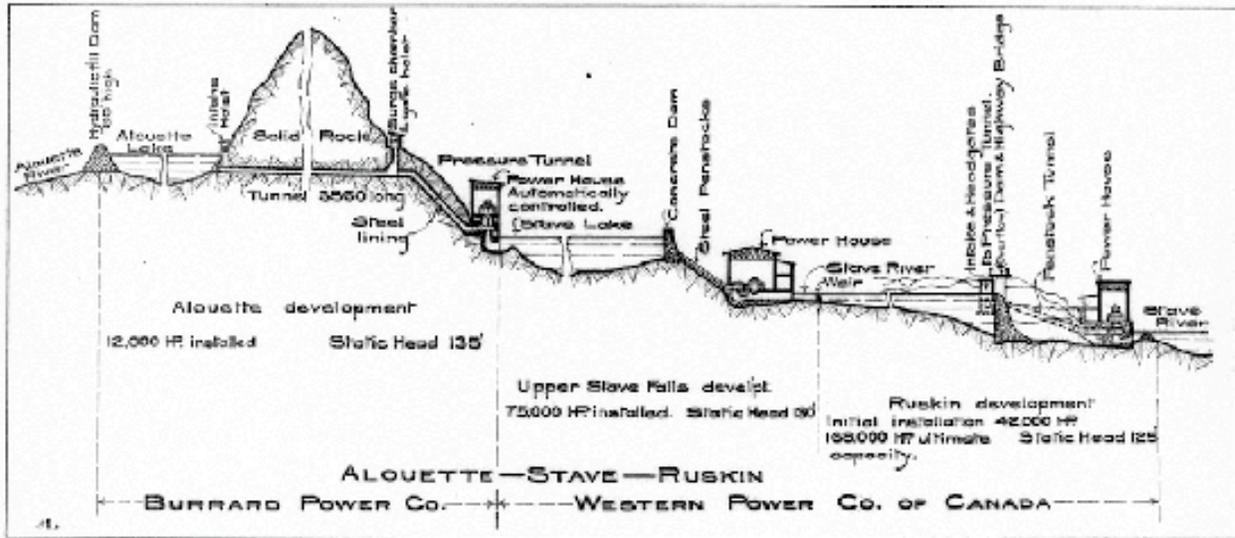
Please contact Allison at 604-463-5311 or mrmuseum@gmail.com for more details.

STRANGE, BUT TRUE

Val has been asked to do a presentation at the library for Senior's Week in June and their theme this year is “Strange, But True”.

If you have any local stories that fill that bill, please contact Val at the museum at 604-463-5311 or mrmuseum@gmail.com. She's looking for inspiration!





OUR HISTORY IN POWER

In the earliest days of exploration in the Ruskin area of Maple Ridge, two resources stood out – the massive trees and the equally massive potential for power production on the Stave River. Development of a generator that could work with hydraulic power sources had occurred in the 1870s. The first generating plant was built in Britain in 1878 with others soon to follow in the US and Canada. So from the earliest days of settlement, the lower Stave stood out as having a regional power source potential.

It wasn't until 1911 that the means to get the necessary supplies to the dam site was developed by the Western Canada Power Company. They constructed the world's shortest chartered railway to take men and materials from Ruskin to the site of the first dam on the outlet of Stave Lake. Writing in 1912, consulting engineer John R. Freeman reported to the Canadian licensing bureau that the Stave dam was a most excellent construction and that its "imperishable character" would require little maintenance.

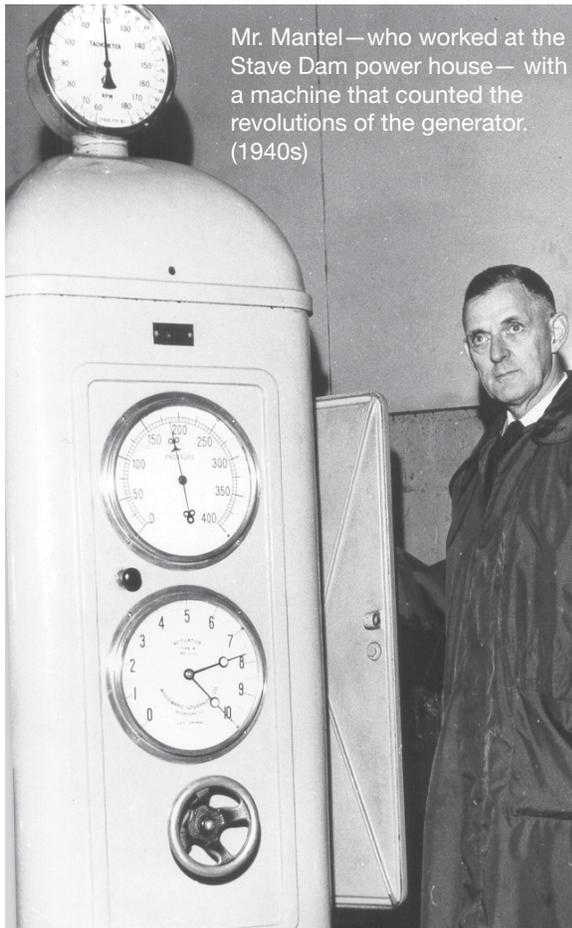
Freeman had also examined the "Lower Site" which was 4 miles downstream, leaving enough room for an "equalizing reservoir" or, as we know it, "Hayward Lake". Hayward Lake was named after the first chief engineer and general manager R. F. Hayward who was with the project from 1910.

Before the Ruskin Plant could be built, however, the game changed when the young BC Electric Company acquired the assets of the American "Western Canada Power Company." Rather than develop a dam and power house of their own at Alouette, the new plan was to tunnel between Alouette and Stave Lake with a power house at the Stave end of the tunnel to take advantage of the 43m drop between the lakes. The Alouette dam and tunnel were completed by 1926 and the company moved on to construct the Ruskin Dam and powerhouse, creating Alouette and Hayward Lakes and three opportunities to generate power from the same water.

This year's Heritage Canada theme is "The Heritage of Power," so all across the country Canadians will be learning more about how we have kept the lights on over the last 100 years or so. The Maple Ridge Museum has a large display in the library foyer cases about our dams and the people who built them. —Val Patenaude

HERITAGE AWARDS 2012

The annual Community Heritage Commission awards will be given out at a gathering on Wednesday, February 22, at St. Andrew's Heritage Church Hall at 7:30 pm. Musical entertainment by the Lava Lights and refreshments will be provided at a reception following the award ceremony.



Mr. Mantel— who worked at the Stave Dam power house— with a machine that counted the revolutions of the generator. (1940s)

WE CALL IT HANEY!!



The Haney Facebook group continues to grow and now stands at 1225 members. Its members are enthusiastically sharing memories and old school photos. They are also making plans to produce some merchandise options like bumper stickers and T-shirts so that people can proudly display their affiliation. We hope they'll have some ready in time for this year's Heritage Tea. If you haven't checked out the group yet, you'll need a Facebook account and then search for "We Call it HANEY!!".

One of the latest community projects for the Facebook group is to identify the history of the building in the middle background of this image. In 1956, it was divided between a jeweller and TV repair shop. Today it is the Subway on 224th. But what was it originally?

WATCH THIS !!

The DARS diorama will appear on "Exciting Hobbies" on Shaw channel 4 airing February 24th at 3:00, 6:00 8:00, and 10:00 pm

DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or E-Mail: ras1@uniserve.com

