

THE SQUAMISH HISTORIAN

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Squamish Pioneers

Our guest speaker at the most recent SHS meeting was Ellen Grant, the granddaughter of Henry (Harry) and Annie Judd, a pioneering couple who settled in Brackendale in the late 19th century.

Ellen's story was energetic and full of details about the daily routines of a large family that included two sons and eight daughters.

Ellen revealed that the Judd's first-born son was afflicted with asthma and required considerable care. During one episode, the Judds loaded their ailing child into a canoe and paddled down the entire length of Howe Sound to seek medical attention in Vancouver.

Some time later, during the worldwide flu epidemic, Annie Judd and her second son Willy both came down with the Spanish Flu, and although Willy died, Annie survived the ordeal.

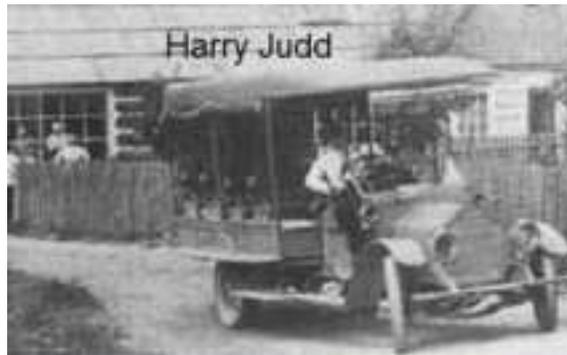
Harry Judd was an enterprising man who built his own homestead and owned the first automobile and radio in the area. Besides clearing the land for farming, he started the first stage and freight service and in 1911 inaugurated a bus service in Squamish consisting of a truck with rows of seats for passengers.

In the meantime Annie Judd baked, cooked, made preserves, knitted and sewed clothes for her children. She exchanged produce for credit at the local store. Long before the concept of organic food and free-range live-stock became popular she grew vegetables, and raised chickens, pigs and



rabbits. Her baked beans, soups, and stews were legendary. She also helped deliver babies and was instrumental in establishing the Brackendale Women's Institute.

After the original Judd homestead burned to the ground, a new building was constructed on the same site with the help of neighbours. That



home met a similar fiery fate in 1916 but was quickly replaced by a third house. The new residence, complete with the rescued piano from the old structure and a billiard table, soon became a hangout for local males intent on wooing the eight

Judd girls as they were growing up.

The Judds were a very sociable family and their house became a centre for entertainment, dancing and games, lasting well into the wee hours of the morning. When he figured it was time for the guests to leave, Harry Judd took up the fiddle and played "Good Night Ladies" to signal an end to the evening's festivities.

Besides working hard around the homestead, the children occupied themselves with a variety of games and activities including the construction of a mini village complete with playhouses, a bakeshop and a hotel.

Ellen Grant remains connected to her ancestors through photos, memorabilia and her vivid recollection of the compelling Judd family saga. But there is also a strong physical connection with her heritage because Ellen and

her husband reside on a parcel of land adjacent to the large field by the pond, where Annie Judd did the family's washing many years ago.

Ellen attributes her own fulfilling and prosperous life to her grandparents, who passed their strong values of self-sufficiency, resiliency and hard work onto their children and grandchildren. She says Harry Judd gave her roots, and Annie Judd provided the wings.

Forestry Centre Update

Plans for the Forestry Centre are in full swing and a Forestry Centre Society has been formed to work in conjunction with the SHS to expedite this important undertaking.



Eric Anderson has been delegated to coordinate a discussion about the Forestry Centre building design and materials issues, and he will collate the input received. According to Eric, "Our Sea-to-Sky Forestry Centre project is a huge undertaking, that will involve many deliberations and diverse collaborations during coming months."

He plans to send out "backgrounders" about each of the following topics to start the discussion process:

01- The forest as our starting point

- 02 - Using small diameter and round log building style
- 03 - A story from the Nagano Olympics
- 04 - The Squamish wood processing industry
- 05 - A forest centre project in Switzerland
- 06 - New ideas for building products using low-grade lumber
- 07 - Wood structures on the Blind Channel waterfront
- 08 - Forest centre design from the inside out
- 09 - The building façade
- 10 - Wood fuel systems
- 11 - Innovative designs

During the coming weeks the task of assembling a "Design Brief" for discussion with professional architects will take place.

Forestry Centre Society director, Mike Wallace, is working to organize a joint meeting of the Squamish Historical Society and the FCS to be held sometime in early July. He intends to invite a few "high-powered" guests to solicit their support for the project.

News and Notes

Our website has been updated and continues to draw considerable attention from SHS members and the public at large. One of the major initiatives, as we head into the summer, is to interview seniors in the community with the goal of publishing a book containing stories and photos of their lives in Squamish. The Society is also proposing to re-cut the popular 1942-58 logging-related Squamish film with narration from local foresters.

If anyone has Woodfibre/mill photos or other materials of local archival interest, they are encouraged to contact Astrid Anderson at 892-3342 or c/o Eric Anderson: se_anderson@telus.net

THE SQUAMISH HISTORIAN is published by the Squamish Historical Society.

Our purpose is to collect, preserve, document and showcase the history and artefacts of the community of Squamish and surrounding areas. Our Email address is: info@squamishhistory.ca

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