

# THE SQUAMISH HISTORIAN

## The Newsletter of the Squamish Historical Society

Volume No. 4 Issue No. 1 Summer 2009

### News and Notes

We are saddened to learn about the death of Bob Armstrong at the age of 90. He was the eldest son of Minnie Armstrong (b. Rae)

who was one year old when she came to the Squamish Valley in 1889. Bob married Hazel Midnight and they had three daughters, Darlene, Roberta and Valerie. He worked for Merrill & Ring Logging, served overseas in WWII, and then worked for many years for the PGE/BC Railway.

He was known for his cheerful, outgoing personality and was an enthusiastic member of local choirs. Bob was involved in the Squamish Credit Union, the Branch 70 Seniors Association, the Legion and the Railway Heritage Park.

Bob was one of our local historians and he produced a slide show of our history and last presented this collection of old photographs in the mid 1990s at the Squamish Public Library. He gave his collection of slides to Lesley Keith, his niece, and member of the SHS executive, who used many of the images in her PowerPoint presentation given at the Brackendale Art Gallery, Hilltop House and the Manor.

Well known B.C. crime novelist William Deverell will be coming to Squamish to meet with the SHS and Squamish Nation elders to discuss his upcoming novel set in the area. Mr. Deverell's acclaimed first novel *Needles* won the Seal Award and drew on his experience as a lawyer. He has published numerous works of fiction and non-fiction



including *A Life on Trial*, *April Fool* and *Snow Job*.

The SHS is pleased to announce that we have recently received a Squamish community grant to help furnish our permanent facility at the Wilkie House

and to purchase the equipment and resources required to promote the history of the region. Our first membership meeting of the season is Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the Sea to Sky Hotel in the Garibaldi Estates as the Tantalus Senior Centre is now closed. Diane Mitchell from the BC Museum of Mining will be our guest speaker to talk to us about the next steps for our growing archival collection.

The clock on Cleveland Avenue, funded by the Rotary Club in the 1980s, has been donated to the Squamish Historical Society. It will be put on permanent display at our new location outside the Wilkie building at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park.



### Upcoming Events

As usual we will be hosting a booth at the Brackendale Fall Fair to show off Lefty Goldsmith's kitchen gadgets and our photographic heritage display. The fair takes place on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 5 pm. If you don't have time to volunteer, make sure to come down to the Fair

to check it out. The SHS will also have a table at the Community Day registration at the Brennan Park Recreation Centre on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm, where we will be signing up new members. If anyone is available to help out that day, please let us know.

# SQUAMISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Fall Film Presentations

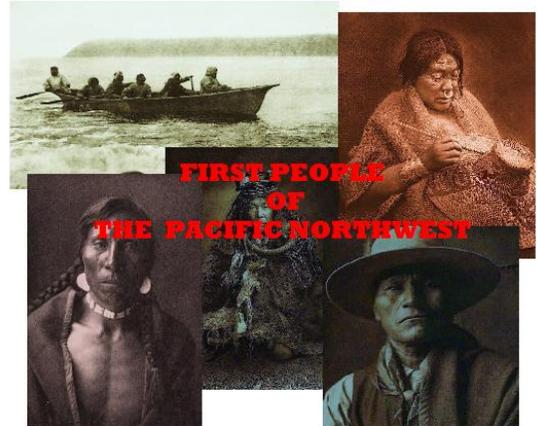
The Squamish Historical Society presents  
**VANCOUVER  
 CITY REFLECTIONS**



This 53 minute film, produced by the Vancouver Historical Society, is based on the earliest known surviving footage of Vancouver, shot in 1907 by William Harbeck from the front platform of a streetcar as it made its way through the streets of downtown and the West End. It includes footage of the same route in 2007 and news items from 1907, interviews with film and streetcar historians, and more on the intriguing life of filmmaker William Harbeck, who perished on the *Titanic*.

**Saturday, Sept. 26**  
**@the Squamish Adventure Centre**  
**Three showings: 12:30/2:00/3:30**  
**Admission by donation**

THE SQUAMISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 presents



**FIRST PEOPLE  
 OF  
 THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST**

An original Squamish Historical Society production based on selected images of Indigenous People from the State of Washington, British Columbia, and the coast of Alaska, photographed by Edward S. Curtis between 1896 and 1930, during his epic documentary journey across North America.

**Saturday, Nov. 21**  
**@ The Squamish Adventure Centre**  
**Two showings: 12:30/2:30**  
**Admission by donation**

The Squamish Historical Society  
 presents

**SQUAMISH NATION  
 STORIES FROM THE HEART**



This new production opens a window on the lives of our local First Nation community from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present through archival and original family photos and personal reminiscences.

**Saturday, Nov. 21 @ the Squamish Adventure Centre**  
**Two showings: 1:00 / 3:00 pm**  
**Admission by donation**

**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](mailto:info@squamishhistory).

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