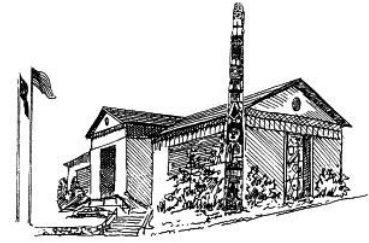


# PAST & PRESENT

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 2

MAY 2014



## MUSEUM JOINS LIBRARY; HELLO FROM OUR NEW DEPARTMENT



Help Our Libraries Grow  
button, 1980,  
JDCM 2008.32.001

This July, the Museum will transition from being part of the CBJ Parks & Recreation Department to the Library Department. We're excited about this merger. Libraries and museums share much in the way of mission and goals. We are both institutions of the mind. We seek to make available the opportunities and rewards of lifelong learning, cultural engagement, and shared community resources.

What are some of the changes you can expect to see with this new merger? Most visibly, we'll be sharing our programming expertise across departments. Our goals with programming are twofold: to increase awareness of the many resources available to the public at our libraries and museum, and also to inform, educate, and entertain. It's clear that much of what we currently do separately, we can do more effectively together.

Behind the scenes, we'll also be looking at what efficiencies we can gain in the "back of the house" – all of the administrative work that happens to keep things running. As we look at that work, we'll be asking ourselves question like, "Is it more efficient for this

task to be done centrally, or on location?" and looking for ways to streamline and gain capacity for public facing work.

As the regular readers of this newsletter no doubt already know, we have an outstanding staff and a very strong group of volunteers at our city museum. We're similarly fortunate at our libraries, and I think you'll be pleased with what these two groups come up with in the future, combined.

-Robert Barr, Director, Juneau Public Libraries

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## CAN I GET A WITNESS?

We are recruiting for new volunteers for our busy summer season! Volunteering at the City Museum can be fun, rewarding, stimulating and can expand your horizons. But don't take our word for it. Here are testimonials from some of our current volunteers:

*Many come to the JDCM not only to view the past but to ask about the Juneau present; especially why we live here and what brought us to Juneau. These "openers" create winsome dialogues that make volunteering at the Museum a genial way to give tourists, and you, a fun summer. In addition, as a volunteer benefit, one's knowledge of the history of the Juneau area is constantly enriched. —Hetty Barthel*

*I enjoy volunteering for the City Museum as a baker for First Fridays because it is an easy way to participate in something that helps the community while fitting into my busy schedule. I'm glad that this small role can*

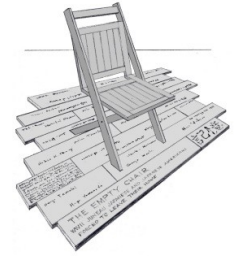
*contribute to an enjoyable and inviting experience of visiting the museum. — Regina Fallace*

*I volunteer at the City Museum because I enjoy meeting travelers from around the world. It's fun to hear their impressions of Juneau [and] to find out where they come from. I also like giving back to the community. — Barb Potter*

*Volunteering at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum provides me with a fun opportunity to gain valuable work experience and meet new people. It also gives me the chance to learn about and preserve a part of my own family's history, and helps me feel that I play a part in the narration of their lives. — Carly Varness*

If you would like to join this group of engaged community members, please contact Christina Bruce (see contact info on last page). There will be training happening in late May, just prior to the Museum reopening in June.

## UPCOMING EXHIBITS ARE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



The City Museum will have two temporary exhibits on display throughout the summer neither of which would have developed into what they are without the generous support and participation of the Juneau community, near and far. We want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped make these two shows possible by sharing your stories, photographs, objects, art and time. Thank you! Both of these exhibits run through October 26, 2014.

Artist Peter Reiquam's concept for the Empty Chair Memorial.

### The Empty Chair: The Forced Removal & Resettlement of Juneau's Japanese Community, 1941-1951

Over the past year, the Juneau-Douglas City Museum and the Empty Chair Committee have been working in partnership to tell the story of the eight Japanese families forcibly removed from Juneau and relocated to the Minidoka Internment Camp in Idaho during World War II and the impact this had on the Juneau community. The 'Empty Chair' refers to a seat left unfilled at the 1942 Juneau High School graduation ceremony in honor of class valedictorian John Tanaka, not present due to his internment. The families have provided personal stories and photographs for the exhibit, along with artifacts made while at Minidoka. To provide local historical context, Marie Darlin wrote a brief history of Juneau during WWII and filmmaker Greg Chaney has provided Juneau film footage from 1941-1951. Additionally, seven pieces of contemporary art by Fumi Matsumoto, a Juneau mixed-media artist whose family was also interned, will be on display. Visitors will be invited to fold a peace crane as a gesture of healing and hope.

City Museum Director Jane Lindsey says, "When I met with the Empty Chair committee two years ago to discuss their proposal for a commemorative sculpture, I knew a little bit about the Empty Chair story of John Tanaka through long-time Museum volunteer, Marie Darlin. It has been a privilege to work with these folks and Juneau residents on the exhibit to preserve this story and reflect on this piece of our history. The exhibit reaffirms that when we experience traumatic times, we can always find the quiet heroic humanity of those who work to balance the chaos we are in."

*The Empty Chair* will be on display in the Murray Gallery. A reception will be held at the City Museum on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 from 12:00-5:00 pm to correspond with the Empty Chair Memorial Dedication at Capital School Park at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Seward Streets.



Haruo "Ham" Kumasaka and Max Lewis Standing by Juneau Laundry Truck, 1940. Image courtesy of the Kumasaka Family.



*Auke Bay Sunset*, by Martha Morris.

### Outside My Window

Part of the City Museum's mission is to support and celebrate the creativity and skill of the Juneau community through exhibits featuring local artists. So when Judy Cole, a museum volunteer and member of the Capital City Quilt Guild, approached us with the idea of hosting a quilt show at the Museum, we thought it was a great way to highlight Juneau's vibrant fiber artist community and got to work planning the exhibit.

The result is a Juneau-themed community invitational quilt exhibit entitled: *Outside My Window*. While developed in conjunction with the Capital City Quilters, we welcomed submissions from any of Juneau's fiber artists. The theme of the exhibit challenged quilters to illustrate what they have seen or thought when looking outside the windows here in Juneau. Each quilt is accompanied by the artist's reflections on how life lived in Juneau served as inspiration for the work. City Museum Curator Jodi DeBruyne says, "Many of the quilts capture the beauty and diversity of the nature surrounding us every day. I think that this is a great summer exhibit for the Museum as it will illustrate to both locals and tourists why we are so lucky to call Juneau home." In total 21 artists or groups answered the call for submissions. The 27 quilts that will be on display are an array of sizes and showcase various techniques, media, colors and subjects.

*Outside My Window* will be on view in the Video Gallery and the Map Case Galleries as well as the hallway between the two galleries. An opening reception is scheduled for Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:00pm.

## MEET OUR NEW SUMMER INTERN

The Museum is once again thrilled to host a young, up-and-coming Museum professional for an internship this summer. Our experience as a hosting Museum has been a positive one; in fact that is how our Curator of Collections & Exhibits, Jodi DeBruyne, came to us originally. One huge support we have been able to offer interns is the use of a fully equipped cabin on Douglas Highway's bus line. This makes it possible for someone to consider coming here for a healthy length of time and we are fortunate to once again have use of the cabin. We asked Mark to say something about himself by way of introduction:

"My name is Mark Kavanaugh and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve as an intern at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, beginning the end of May. I am currently a graduate student, just finishing up my first year in the Master of Arts in Museum Studies program at New York University.



Mark Kavanaugh, JDCM summer intern

As a first year student, I've had a very good academic and practical introduction to the museum field, focusing on the historical and theoretical basis for museums, as well as the more everyday aspects of their administration. Thus far in my first year I have learned about conservation, legal issues affecting museums, collections management, challenges posed by contemporary art, and registration methods. I have also collaborated with my classmates on exhibition planning and "creating" a hypothetical museum of our own.

I have extended my practical museum education by interning at two smaller New York institutions—Fraunces Tavern Museum and the New York Transit Museum, both of which focus on local history. My personal professional interests include museum registration, new media art, exhibition installation, and museums and armed conflict."

## CLASSROOMS ENGAGE WITH JUNEAU HISTORY & ART DURING 2013-14

Since the start of the school year in September, over 700 students have come to the Museum or to a Museum program as part of a class visit. While the majority of classes were from Juneau, students came from other parts of Southeast as well as from communities much further north. Here is a synopsis of the types of visits and activities that happened this year at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum.

Class visits related to exhibits: The Dale DeArmond exhibit was one focus for some classes that came to make their own books after viewing *From Long Ago*, DeArmond's handmade book of her hat print series. High school classes particularly enjoyed the exhibits of this year's solo artists Dan Fruits, Toby Harbanuk and MK MacNaughton.

Research Visits: Several middle school classes came to make use of the Museum's archives and reference collection as well as to learn about on-line resources like Digital Bob as they gathered material for studies about gold mining, Alaska statehood, salmon and important people in Juneau's history.

Self guided visits: A variety of classes came to peruse our galleries, watch our video *Juneau, City Built on Gold*, and/or to enjoy the Hands-On Mining room. Many of them opted to take a scavenger hunt as a way to direct their experience.

Class visits from outside of Juneau: Students and teachers from Klukwan, Anchorage, as well as participants in the statewide Student Government conference hosted by Juneau-Douglas High School came to the Museum to learn about their capital city.

Sea Week: The Museum was once again a community partner for the school district's "Sea/River Week Program", this time hosting 5th grade classes on an urban hike tracing the original shoreline of downtown Juneau.

Looking ahead the Museum is making plans for classes to visit *The Empty Chair* exhibit and Memorial, getting our collection database on-line for use outside of the Museum building and developing history kits on a variety of Juneau-related topics to be available to loan to teachers for use in their classrooms. If you are an educator with ideas about how the Museum can support your curriculum and learning goals, please share your thoughts with our Curator of Public Programs, Marjie Hamburger.



Elizabeth Agnew's 5th grade Harborview class poses during their Sea Week walking tour of Juneau's original shoreline.

## TEN REASONS TO SHOP AT THE CITY MUSEUM



1. Many of the items in the gift shop are created and/or produced by Juneau artists and artisans.
2. Buying local helps support our town's economy.
3. You can find unique gifts that you won't get anywhere else, including copper spoons designed by Amos Wallace.
4. Items such as magnets and art cards feature images from our collections. You can only get them here.
5. You can get a 20% discount (if you are a member of the Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum or a volunteer).
6. While you're here you can take a spin through the galleries and learn something new.
7. You can enjoy our new, climate-controlled environment while shopping.
8. Stock up early! Christmas is only 7 (6,5,4,3 . . .) months away. And then there are all those birthdays . . .
9. You can dash in from the SOB (Capitol Building, Court House, Spam Can) on your lunch hour and still have 50 minutes left for eating.
10. Visitors tell us we have the nicest bathrooms in town.

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS



Large Steel Wrench, JDCM 2014.01.042.

2014.01 Mining Artifacts from the Last Chance Basin, transfer/  
long-term loan return from ASM

2014.02 Kennedy Street Centennial Portrait, photograph by  
Ron Klein, donated by Claire Richardson

2014.03 Archives from Felix Grey and Romer Derr, donated by  
Chiska Derr

2014.04 Dean Williams' Ski Trophies and Cabin Blueprint,  
donated by Gordon Williams

2014.05 1979 Juneau Tourist Map, donated by Dana Mifflin

2014.06 Photograph Slide Collection, c. 1960-1970, donated by  
John and Barbara Dadd Shaffer

2014.07 Two Octopus Bags by Shgen George. Purchase of this  
artwork has been made possible through the generous support of  
the Rasmuson Foundation.

2014.08 *Alaskan Devil Jungle* by Toby Harbanuk. Purchase of this  
artwork has been made possible through the generous support of  
the Rasmuson Foundation.

2014.09 *Armor* by MK MacNaughton. Purchase of this artwork  
has been made possible through the generous support of the  
Rasmuson Foundation.

2014.10 1987 Town Portrait, photograph by Ron Klein,  
donated by Amy Lujan



*Keet Gweili*, by ShgenDooTan George, 2013.  
JDCM 2014.07.002. Purchase of this artwork made possible  
through the generous support of the Rasmuson Foundation.

## FRIENDS MATTER

The Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum have so far successfully renewed and signed up 100 members for 2014, but they seek even more friends. New membership continues to be encouraged and there still are copies of Richard Carstensen's book, Natural History of Juneau Trails, available to folks who join or renew at the \$75/ Fellow level or above. This incentive is in addition to the other benefits which include an annual Museum pass for a member and a guest and a 20% discount at the Museum's gift shop.

All members are eligible to serve on the Board of Directors and can consider being part of the leadership team that works with the dedicated staff at this dynamic history and art institution.

Goals for the Friends in 2014 include continued support of Museum receptions and the e-flyer subscription; working towards a fundraising goal of \$5000; growing the membership base; and developing and enhancing alliances with other history and cultural groups.

Being a Museum Friend assists with



*Bill Dunn & friends at the park, JDCM 2005.47.001*

their mission of fostering among the diverse audiences in Juneau an awareness of our city's cultural heritage, values, and thriving community memory. For more information on membership and the FoJDCM, visit [www.juneaufriends.org](http://www.juneaufriends.org).



## THE PENULTIMATE HEATING, VENTILATION & HUMIDITY UPDATE

Soon, one of the Museum's biggest and longest outstanding facility needs will be complete. These last eight years, we have spent much time working on facility upgrades including patching and painting outside the building; upgrading galleries with new paint and carpet; upgrading incandescent lights to energy-efficient LED lighting; re-configuring our growing collections storage area for efficient, safe, storage; re-tiling and painting bathrooms; reconfiguring our reception area and gift shop; and providing more pedestrian room for viewing the Four Story Totem pole.

But, HVAC has been a long time coming. Could this be the last heating and ventilation article written? We hope so.

It is exciting that with the completion of this project we will realize specialized care of our nationally significant Juneau and Douglas history collections; provide comfort for visitors and staff; preserve the exterior integrity of our historic building while repurposing it as a working museum; and increase energy efficiency with reasonable, on-going, maintenance care. Below are the highlights for one more stroll down memory lane and our mechanical systems journey:

- 1990: "The building renovation should be completed as expeditiously as possible to insure proper environmental and storage conditions..." Museum Assessment Report for the Juneau-Douglas City Museum.
- 1992: "The Museum should complete insulating, and begin for the eventual incorporation of a proper HVAC system

within the building," Conservation Assessment Program Survey of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum.

- 1997: "The building is totally without climate control..." Collections Management Assessment Final Report.
- 2003: The Museum's Environmental Data Logger reports average June temperature in mining gallery of 77 degrees.
- 2005: The Environmental Data Logger reports monthly average, March-August, at the front desk and in the mining gallery of temperatures of 80 degrees or more.
- 2006: "It is strongly recommended by MRV and our design team that the critically-needed mechanical work be undertaken in any minimum future upgrade..." CBJ funded Facility Remodel Assessment by MRV Architects.
- 2010: The City & Borough of Juneau commits to matching heating and ventilation funded upgrades as Museum Director, Jane Lindsey pursues grant funding.
- 2012: The Museum is awarded \$275,000 from the National Endowment of Humanities for preservation of nationally significant collection of Juneau-Douglas history with the installation of ventilation system.
- May 2014: Staging begins for the removal of our 1951 oil-fired boiler and the installation of energy-efficient electric air-source heat pumps, a humidity system, and energy efficient windows in the upstairs office.



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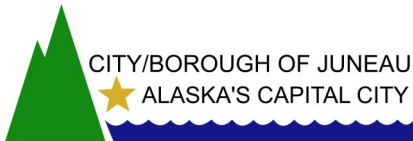
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# JUNEAU-DOUGLAS CITY MUSEUM UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

## MAY

**NOTE: THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DURING THIS MONTH DUE TO THE INSTALLATION OF OUR NEW VENTILATION SYSTEM, HOWEVER THERE IS SOME OFF-SITE PROGRAMMING TAKING PLACE.**

23 HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR, 5:30 PM, \$25  
ADULTS, \$20 CHILDREN

27 HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR, 5:30 PM

30 MINING 101 LECTURE WITH MIKE SATRE, CENTENNIAL HALL,  
7:00 PM, \$10 ADULTS, \$7 SENIORS & CHILDREN

31 TENTATIVE DATE FOR VOLUNTEER TRAINING, 9-11 AM, HOUSE  
OF WICKERSHAM

## JUNE

2 THE MUSEUM REOPENS TO THE PUBLIC

13 PUBLIC RECEPTION FOR *OUTSIDE MY WINDOW*, 4:30-7:00 PM

30 JUNEAU HISTORY GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE

## JULY

12 EMPTY CHAIR RECEPTION AT THE MUSEUM: 12:00-5:00 PM

12 EMPTY CHAIR MEMORIAL DEDICATION: CAPITAL PARK, 2:00 PM

## AUGUST

11-15 JUNEAU EXPLORERS CAMP, 12:30-5:00 PM



*S.S. Queen at Juneau's first dock, 1893, JDCM 2005.06.278*

### HOURS—JUNE through SEPTEMBER:

Monday through Friday 9 am-6 pm

Saturday & Sunday 10 am-4:30 pm

(Note: Anticipated CBJ budget cuts may reduce hours beginning July 1.)

### ADMISSION—Through SEPTEMBER:

**\$6.00** ages 13 and older

**\$5.00** Seniors

**FREE** ages 12 and younger

### ANNUAL PASS:

\$25 Unlimited visits for pass holder and guest

### BECOME A FRIEND:

And receive Museum benefits.

Visit [www.juneaumuseumfriends.org](http://www.juneaumuseumfriends.org) for more details.

