JUNEAU-DOUGLAS CITY MUSEUM COLLECTING, PRESERVING AND INTERPRETING JUNEAU-DOUGLAS HISTORY AND CULTURE

PAST & PRESENT



VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2

May 2015



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church was the recipient of a 2014/15 grant to help with the publication costs of their updated book *The First One Hundred Years*.

JDCM 89.21.019

THE VALUE OF HISTORY: THE JUNEAU HISTORY GRANT

"History nurtures personal identity in an intercultural world. History enables people to discover their own place in the stories of their families, communities, and nation. They learn the stories of the many individuals and groups that have come before them and shaped the world in which they live. There are stories of freedom and equality, injustice and struggle, loss and achievement, and courage and triumph. Through these varied stories, they create systems of personal values that guide their approach to life and the relationships with others". —from the Value of History; Seven Ways It Is Essential, found at http://www.historyrelevance.com.

The Juneau History Grant is administered by the Juneau-Douglas City Museum and supports and encourages research, learning, dissemination, recording, and archiving of all types of information pertaining to the human history of the City and Borough of Juneau.

Applications for 2015/2016 grant projects are available at <u>http://www.juneau.org/library/</u><u>museum/grant.php</u> or a hard copy can be obtained from the City Museum. Applications must be delivered to the Museum or postmarked by Tuesday, June 30, 2015. For more information contact the Museum at 586-3572 or <u>marjorie.hamburger@juneau.org</u>.



FRIENDS OF THE JUNEAU-DOUGLAS CITY MUSEUM

Thank you for your continued stewardship and support of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum. I write today invigorated with a personal investigational drive following last night's FoJDCM lecture, *Mendenhall River Bridges*, with historian and previous FoJDCM President, Jim Geraghty. Sharing in the warm environment of the old Juneau Memorial Library, with a backdrop of the wildly popular annual 12X12 Community Art Exhibit, Mr. Geraghty connected the dots between the eleven individual bridges that have spanned the Mendenhall River and the corresponding development related to each of them.

While listening to Jim, the importance of facilitating the oration of our collective memory was undeniable and I was reminded of the role of the institutions that do so. Across the State, fifty museums and cultural centers share in the entrusted responsibility of guiding the present through knowledge and understanding of the past. The 29th State Legislature is considering a pair of companion bills which would establish a matching grant program for museums and cultural centers, similar to the successful library matching grant program, ensuring that our history has a home.

In encouragement of HB52 and SB61, FoJDCM drafted and adopted a Resolution of Support on March 17th, 2015.

Standing in solidarity with our cohorts across the State, we invite you to consider reaching out to your elected officials, in the Alaskan Spirit, and urging them to support our houses of

the past so that we may continue to call upon them in navigating the present and future.

Currently, House Bill 52, sponsored by Representative Herron, is in the House Education Committee, chaired by Representative Keller. Senate Bill 61, sponsored by Senator Stevens, is in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee, chaired by Senator Costello. You can learn more by visiting our website.

Remember to share your stories. Thank you,



Joel Probst, President

BECOME A FRIEND and receive benefits: www.juneaumuseumfriends.org

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MUSEUM EXHIBITS ON VIEW, MAY-SEPTEMBER 2015



Behind the Lens: Six Juneau Photographers

Featured photographers in Behind the Lens.

The City Museum's main summer 2015 exhibit is *Behind the Lens: Six Juneau Photographers*. This exhibit tells the stories of six commercial photographers who took up residence in Juneau: George Landerkin, Lloyd Winter, Percy Pond, Fred Ordway, Amy Lou Barney, and Joseph Alexander. These photographers were competitors, partners, or successors and together their work spans almost 100 years of Juneau's history (1891-1988). Along with being business owners and photographers, all were important members of the Juneau community. They each led fascinating lives which included scandal, community service, tragedy, adventure, and joy. For these reasons and more, this exhibit focuses on the people behind the lens, exploring their art, their businesses, and their personal lives.

Guests are invited to "join the ranks" of these photographers and the many others who have lived and worked in Juneau, by taking a photograph of themselves in our gallery and sharing it with us on Facebook using the hashtag #JDCMPhotographers. Props will be provided so that your photograph can be as unique as you are. Additionally, the exhibit also takes a look at history of

photography and the development process. The exhibit opens May 1st and runs through September 26th. We invite you to stop by and "meet" these six local photographers.

Who's Who: Portrait Identifications from the J. Alexander Collection

If you have "liked" the Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum's Facebook page, then you have already gotten a taste of this exhibit and hopefully you are as eager as we are to see more portraits from the Joseph Alexander Collections. This summer the walls of the Map Case Gallery will be covered with faces – 212 to be exact. All of these photographs are of people who lived in or came to Juneau in either 1960 or 1968 and had their portrait taken.

And all of them are in need of identification. That's where you come in. When visiting the Museum this summer, if you see someone you recognize, let us know. A binder is at the front desk for recording names and other information about the portraits.

Corresponding to this exhibit is our "Who's Who Wednesday" initiative which began in February on the FoJDCM's Facebook page. Each week one unidentified portrait is posted to the page. All these images are different than those that will be in the gallery. So far Who's Who Wednesday has been extremely successful and we plan to continue that momentum both online and here at the Museum. Thank you to all who have already identified portraits! If you haven't "liked" the Friend's Facebook page yet, now is the time to do so in order to keep up with these posts and other Museum activities.

As it is cataloged and scanned, the Joseph Alexander collection is being added to the Online Collections Database on the Museum's website, where you can browse all of our cataloged collections, <u>http://www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/v_exhibit/index.htm</u>.



<u>Picture Stitching</u>

Highlighting both history and young local talent, <u>Picture Stitching</u> is a fun exhibit featuring 13 composite photographs created by ten Juneau-Douglas High School students participating in a photography class through the school's Choosing Healthy Options in Cooperative Education (CHOICE) program. Each image combines a historical image of Juneau with a contemporary image taken either by a student or by the project's instructor, In-School Coordinator Doug Blanc. The results are beautiful and intricate images that serve as a reminder of the history all around us. The Museum is proud to feature the work of these motivated and creative students. The exhibit opens along with *Behind the Lens* and *Who's Who* on May 1 and will be on display through Sept. 26.

Composite photograph using JDCM 97.04.007 created by Mason Fowler and Mr. Blanc. Identifications left to right: Gabrielle Beelitz, Jon Clayton, Brayden Erickson, Major I. Goldstein, Tom Tompson, Chief Ray Huffman, Assistant Chief Ken Junge, Mr. Kay, Elisa Fabrello, Mason Fowler, and Jordan Erickson.



Section of a Who's Who wall panel.

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Satellite Exhibit: The Empty Chair and World War II in Juneau

This spring and summer on view at the Douglas Public Library is a smaller version of last year's Museum exhibit, The Empty Chair: The Forced Removal and Resettlement of Juneau's Japanese Community, 1941-1951. Five of the panels from that exhibit, telling the history of World War II in Juneau, the history of the Minidoka Internment Camp in Idaho, and the story of the Empty Chair, are installed along side World War II era items from the City Museum's permanent collection, including an Army canteen

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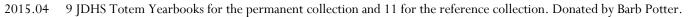
and a travel permit. This exhibit paired with a trip to the Empty Chair Memorial at Capital School Park is a great outing for you and your summer guests. Copies of Greg Chaney's documentary film, The Empty <u>Chair</u>, are still available in the Museum's gift shop. This satellite exhibit is currently on display in the lobby of the Douglas Library and will be up through September 2015.

To take a virtual tour of The Empty Chair exhibit, go to <u>http://</u> www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/exhibits/exhibit5/vexmain5.htm.

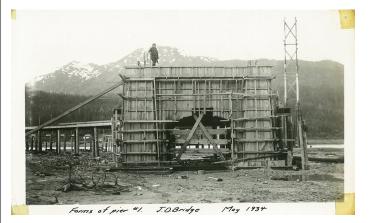
Left: Travel permit for Anna Webster, issued March 1944. Donated by Verna Carrigan, IDCM 90.58.38.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- 2015.01 Patsy Ann: Doggone Welcome print by Dianne Anderson. Museum Purchase.
- 2015.02 1959 First Issue Alaska's Statehood Envelope. Donated by Steve Marcus and Joyanne Bloom.
- 2015.03 Ghiglione Road Commission Scrapbook. Donated by Ann O'Keefe.



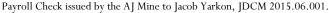
- 2015.05 9 Tourism Brochures. Donated by Sharon Baker.
- 2015.06 1 Payroll Check issued by the AJ Mine. Transfer from the Sheldon Museum & Cultural Center.
- Crondahl's Bed & Breakfast advertising card. Collected by Museum Staff. 2015.07
- Juneau ephemera. Donated by Renee Guerin. 2015.08
- 2015.09 Poster from the 52nd Annual Legislative Skits. Donated by Ross Soboleff.

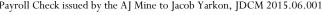


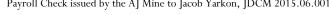
Above: Photograph of the Juneau-Douglas Bridge Construction in the Ghiglione Scrapbook.

At right: 9 JDHS Totem Yearbooks, JDCM 2015.04.001-2015.04.009









Juneau-Douglas High School .06 02-03 totem JUNEAU DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL YEAR IN REVIEW 2001-2002 91

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MUSEUM SHOP ARTIST ADAM DIMMITT: WORKS FOR SALE MAY-JULY



In 2013, "without any comprehensible motive", he says, Adam Dimmitt built from scratch a giant, robotic, metal cutting machine. Since then, he has been exploring the boundary between artistic value and the ability to make something infinitely reproducible. He asks himself, "If the parts of these pieces (I produce) are digitally reproducible, would a second piece constructed by a different pair of hands be the same piece? I think it's an important question because it alludes to another question we may face in the future: When I can upload the whole of my consciousness into the cloud, what will persist when my physical body expires?"

Adam is the Museum Shop's guest artist for May-July. He has been producing furnishings, mosaics, and signs and describes them in this way: "Recently I've been exploring software originally intended for a form of Origami called Pepakura which intended to facilitate the construction of 3D computer models from card stock. I've been

modifying the patterns and cutting and fabricating original models from sheet metal instead. The word Pepakura comes from the Japanese "Pepa Kurafuto" or "Paper Craft," but a kura is also a building where one stores a valuable commodity. Metaru is one word for metal in Japanese, hence the title of my exhibit. My MetaruKuras store light."

To take a peek at Adam's work, visit him on facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/AdamsBentMetal</u>. Then stop by on First Friday, May 1st, or anytime thereafter to view, or purchase, these unusual objects.

MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBER CHRISTINE & SUMMER INTERN HILARY

Hello everyone! I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you. My name is Christine Twete and I am the new Administrative Assistant for the Juneau-Douglas City Museum.

Originally from the wet town of Portland, Oregon, the rain in Juneau makes me feel at home. I first came to Juneau for the tourism season in 2013 wanting to experience the

beauty of Alaska. The summer was incredible and I was sad to return to Portland at season's end. So, last spring I came back and decided to make my residence here more permanent. Before coming to Juneau, I went to a small college in St. Petersburg, Florida. I studied International Business, concentrating on Marketing, and minored in Anthropology and French.

I am excited to bring my love of cultural anthropology and history to work. The Museum is a fantastic source of knowledge about Juneau's history and I am lucky to be part of something so valuable to the community. It is truly refreshing to come to work every day and be able to learn about the community where I live.

The volunteers and the staff have been incredibly welcoming and helpful as I settle into this new role. I can't wait to see what it has in store for me. My name is Hillary Neben and I am delighted to be the Juneau-Douglas City Museum's volunteer intern this summer. I can't wait to learn about Juneau's rich local history and cultural heritage as I begin my internship in May.

I am currently a Ph.D. student and Hagley fellow studying American History at the University of Delaware as well as a graduate



student in Museum Studies. This summer I will be finishing up the first year of my doctoral degree after completing a M.A. in the History of Women and Gender from New York University. My academic interests include technology, women, gender, industry, culture, and American capitalism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

My passion for teaching and public history inspired my interest in museums because of their important roles in preserving and interpreting history and culture. My experiences working as a graduate student in both the disciplines of History and Museum Studies have allowed me to think critically about the importance of material culture and the role of memory in historical writing. I am excited to utilize my knowledge of American history and historical research in service of the City Museum as I gain hands-on experience as a volunteer intern.

AN OVERVIEW OF MUSEUM PROGRAMMING, MAY-AUGUST

This summer the City Museum presents several opportunities for adults and children to get familiar with Juneau history and with significant people who have made an impact on our community.

Historic Downtown Walking Tours:

These happen every Tues., Wed. and Thurs., May— September, beginning at 1:30 pm, lasting an 1.5 hours and ending with teatime at the Alaska Capital Inn. We are also offering 2 evening opportunities in May, Sat. the 16th at 4 pm and Thurs. the 21st at 5:30 pm. New this year for the daytime tours—tickets can be purchased on-line through our website or the "Buy Tickets" page on the Juneau Arts & Humanities website, <u>www.jahc.org/coming-soon</u>. However, call or stop by to reserve a spot for the two evening walks.

Coffee & Collections on May 23rd: Remembering Zach Gordon

Saturday, May 23rd the Museum is delighted to be hosting a program remembering Zach Gordon, who championed teenagers for 34 years in Juneau and is responsible for the presence of the Teen Age Club (later renamed the Zach Gordon Youth Center). "I believe in teenagers...I believe in them because among a wide variety of reasons, they are gifted with so much to contribute to the rest of us...so much that is beautiful and wise." We will be hearing from people who knew him as well as people who have benefitted from his legacy, beginning at 10:30 am. Come to listen or to share your own stories of how Zach Gordon impacted your life.

Local Heroes Walking Tours for Families:

In partnership with the Juneau Public Libraries, whose summer reading theme is "Heroes", the Museum is offering 4 opportunities for families to take a downtown walking tour and hear stories of some of our local heroes, including China Joe, Cecilia Kuntz and Zach Gordon. The tours are free, but require pre-registration, are limited to 10 participants, and take place on the following Saturdays: 6/6, 6/27, 7/18 and 8/22. Call or check

Juneau Explorers Week in August

Stay tuned to our website or get on our electronic mailing list so that you are apprised of the details of the Juneau Explorer week, August 10-14. Children ages 6-11 can spend the week learning about their town and the people and creatures who live here as we explore the theme of "Water". This half-day program includes daily field trips and hands-on activities. Sign up for the entire week, or pick and choose the days, but there is a maximum of 15 children per day. Details soon on our website, and you can call 586-0966 with questions.

Above: Cecilia Kuntz Doll made by Mary Ellen Frank, JDCM 2010.33.001

StoryCorps @your library

The Juneau Public Library will collect stories by Alaska Natives about their educational experiences for an oral history project, sponsored by StoryCorps @ Your Library. Our library is one of 10 selected from more than 300 applicants across the nation for funding from StoryCorps, a nonprofit whose mission is to

promote an "understanding that everyone's story matters."

The StoryCorps' model provides people of all backgrounds and beliefs the opportunity to record, preserve and share their stories. Each week, millions of Americans listen to StoryCorps' award-winning broadcasts on NPR's Morning Edition. StoryCorps has also published three books of stories they have collected. For more information, or to listen to stories online, visit <u>storycorps.org</u>.

The Juneau project is an opportunity to collect perspectives from Alaska Natives about the U.S. educational system. Before applying for this grant for the project, librarian Andrea Hirsh and library program coordinator Beth Weigel sought advice from local Alaska Natives, including Sorrel Goodwin, a librarian at the Alaska State Library. Goodwin, who interviewed Alaska Natives on that same subject for a course at UAS in the mid-1990s, said most of the perspectives were largely negative, focusing on such ills as the degradation of Native cultures and languages, as well as physical and mental abuses.

"A lot of our parents' and grandparents' negative experiences in the American education system have been carried forward," Goodwin said in a recent Juneau Empire interview. "It created a sort of intergenerational post-traumatic stress in the ways that many of our people are either able to engage or not engage with the dominant society's system of educating people."

The City Museum will be one of a number of community partners on this project. If you are interested in getting involved as a volunteer to help recruit storytellers, to be interviewers, facilitators, and to advise the project coordinators on Alaska Native protocol and cultural sensitivity, please contact Beth Weigel at 586-0434.





Physical Address: 114 West 4th Street Juneau, AK 99801 <u>Mailing Address:</u> 155 South Seward Street Juneau, AK 99801 <u>Phone:</u> 907-586-3572 <u>Fax:</u> 907-586-4512

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT <u>WWW.JUNEAU.ORG/</u> MUSEUM

JDCM STAFF:

Jane Lindsey Director jane.lindsey@juneau.org 907-586-0968

Jodi DeBruyne

Curator of Collections & Exhibits jodi.debruyne@juneau.org 907-586-0965

Marjorie Hamburger

Curator of Public Programs marjorie.hamburger@juneau.org 907-586-0966

Christine Twete

Administrative Assistant <u>christine.twete@juneau.org</u> 907-586-0967

CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU

HOURS MAY—SEPTEMBER:

Mondays—Fridays: 9 am—6 pm Saturdays 10 am—4:30 pm Closed Sundays

NEW VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Thinking about summer plans? We are gearing up for the busy season at the Museum, and we'd love for you to help us out by volunteering your time and talents.

Joining our team is a great way to learn about Juneau's cultural community and local history. There are a variety of roles you can play, but we are in most need of help with Visitor Services which means greeting visitors, taking admissions, staffing the Museum store and answering visitor questions.

We provide training to ensure you feel comfortable in your role. After twenty hours of volunteering, a variety of benefits come your way including an annual pass to the Museum, free admission to for-pay events, and a 20% discount at the Museum Store.

If you are interested in learning more contact the Museum Administrative Assistant, Christine Twete.

JUNEAU-DOUGLAS CITY MUSEUM UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY

1

- FIRST FRIDAY RECEPTION: 3 NEW EXHIBITS, 4:30-7:00PM
- 2 VOLUNTEER SPRING TRAINING, 8:30-10:00AM
- 16 EVENING HISTORIC WALKING TOUR: 4:00-5:30PM
- 21 Evening Historic Walking Tour: 5:30-7:00pm
- 23 COFFEE & COLLECTIONS: REMEMBERING ZACH GORDON 10:30-12:00
- 25 CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

June

- 6 LOCAL HEROES WALKING TOUR, 10:00-11:30AM
- 27 LOCAL HEROES WALKING TOUR, 10:00-11:30AM
- 30 JUNEAU HISTORY GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE

July

4

- 3 Closed for Independence Day Holiday
 - Closed for Independence Day Holiday
- 18 LOCAL HEROES WALKING TOUR, 10:00-11:30AM

AUGUST

- 10-14 JUNEAU EXPLORERS: CHILDREN AGES 6-11 YEARS
- 22 LOCAL HEROES WALKING TOUR, 10:00-11:30AM

SEPTEMBER

- 7 CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY
- 24 LAST CRUISE SHIP IN
- 26 LAST DAY FOR SUMMER EXHIBITS

ADMISSION MAY through SEPTEMBER

\$6.00 General Admission (ages 13 and older)\$5.00 SeniorsFREE ages 12 and younger

ANNUAL PASS: Unlimited visits for pass holder & guest = \$25.00