

Past & Present

Juneau-Douglas City Museum: Collecting, preserving and interpreting Juneau-Douglas history and culture

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January 2008

CITY MUSEUM WEBSITE GETS A NEW LOOK!

The City Museum's website has a new look, thanks to CBJ webmaster Pat McGonegal.

Please check out the updated site, and new features, including highlights of upcoming exhibits, classes & programs under "City Museum News" and subscribe to our RSS feed (Really Simple Syndication) for the most up-to-date information on what's coming up at the museum.

An RSS feed is a popular way for notifying users of updates to content at their favorite websites, blogs or internet TV channels.

City Museum events are just a click away!

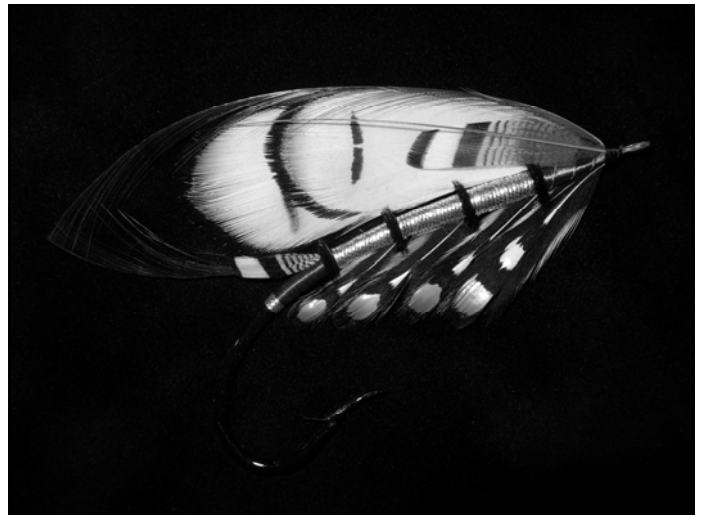
www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum

Films, Feet and Flies at the City Museum

Our winter film series continues with archived film festivals from the Juneau Underground Motion Picture Society (JUMP). The series concludes in April with the summer 2005 festival. Films run continuously in the Audiovisual Gallery 10am - 4pm Tuesdays-Saturdays.

If you appreciate this type of community programming please show your support by attending one of our exhibit openings, which coincide with the monthly First Friday events!

The Museum would also like to extend a special thanks to Pat Race and all the folks down at Lucid Reverie for making this program possible!



The Evening Star, by April solo artist Trevor Gong.

In March the Museum will be kicking off the opening of our *new* temporary gallery with the annual 12X12 community art installation.

Now in its fourth season, the 12X12 has become an annual draw for artists of all ages to think and create *inside* the box. With the display flexibility of this new gallery, the Museum encourages artists to think about 12 X 12 X 12 pieces as well.

Entries forms are available on our website and at the front desk. Completed entries may be dropped off on **Thursday, February 28, Friday, February 29, or Saturday, March 1.**

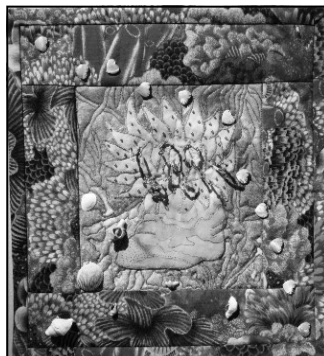
The exhibit opens Friday, March 7th with an opening reception from 4:30-7:30pm and runs through Wednesday, March 26th.

In April, the City Museum welcomes solo artist Trevor Gong and the *Art of Salmon Flies*. Gong brings over twenty years of experience of fly tying to present a vibrant collection of artistic Atlantic salmon flies. An opening reception will be held on Friday, April 4th, from 4:30-7:30pm. The exhibit runs through Saturday, April 26th.

Stop in this season and check out our new space!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Changes at City Museum</i>	2
<i>Updates on Totem pole Restoration & Visitor Surveys Project</i>	2
<i>Juneau History Grant</i>	3
<i>12X12 Collaborative Class</i>	3
<i>China Joe Presentation</i>	4
<i>From the Collections Corner</i>	4
<i>Recent Acquisitions</i>	5
<i>Events Calendar</i>	6



Past 12X12 entry from 2006:
The Anemone Is Not the Enemy,
by Stephanie L. Hall

Four Story Totem Pole Restoration Receives Praise

We are anxiously awaiting a change in weather so that we can start our restoration project on the Four Story totem pole! The Juneau-Douglas City Museum's sustained efforts to maintain the City's totem poles received a nice article of support in the Alaska State Museum's most recent publication of the *Bulletin*, by being named a "success story." This restoration of the Four Story Pole will be the third such project undertaken by the Museum since 2003, and is sponsored by Juneau Rotary and by the Alaska State Museum grant-in-aid program.

Visitor Survey Update

Our Visitor Survey Project has begun and the first round of visitor surveying is well under way! We received our American Association for State and Local History questionnaire in early December and we have 58 filled out so far, which is about half way to our goal. We need 125 by March 15th. This round of testing is focused on getting input from our year round residents. If you aren't able to get in and take the questionnaire this winter, take heart! The second round of testing will start on May 1 and run through June 30., focusing on feedback from our summertime visitors.

Have you filled out your survey yet?

CHANGE AT THE CITY MUSEUM?

"Change is the law of life and those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."

—John F. Kennedy

Those of you that have been up for a visit lately may be asking yourselves, "What is going on at the City Museum?" As we take down cases, put away mining objects, fire department hats, photos and badges; we are hearing sighs of relief and groans of uncertainty. Change is never easy.

Minch Ritter and Voelckers (MRV) Architects was hired in early 2007 to assist the City and Borough of Juneau to analyze needs and propose improvements to the Juneau-Douglas City Museum. The MRV design team included LORD Cultural Resources for museum planning expertise, Murray and Associates for mechanical engineering, Alaska Cultural Resources for museum operational issues, and Gorman Engineers for electrical engineering. The CBJ organized the project to extend through schematic design with the goal of identifying building deficiencies by setting general priorities for implementation and estimating costs for those upgrades.

Primary issues identified by the design team focused on mechanical system deficiencies; building overheating and lack of ventilation; space deficiencies



The old mining gallery transforming into the new temporary gallery.

for collections storage; space limitations; lighting problems and lack of parking and limited street presence.

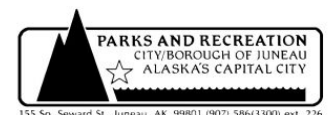
As we took a new look at our building and how it is used, it became clear to us that changes were in order. Our temporary gallery, which brings in the bulk of our visitors was in a cramped back gallery, and a majority of our permanent exhibits had been up for just about twenty years.

This information coupled with the fact that our upcoming summer exhibit on Juneau Biker Culture needs a large space to exhibit the communities prized Harleys and vintage bikes, we realized that now was the time to relocate our temporary gallery, create space for public programs, and take a new look at how we interpret our diverse Juneau cultures.

With a focus on personal stories, hands-on interac-

tives, and layers of information, including an expanding on-line web history presence, we will continue to interpret our unique Native cultures, our incredible and monumental mining history, capital city stories and controversies, and our lively arts and cultural proclivities.

Meanwhile, if you find that you are longing for the painting of Joe Juneau or Richard Harris or the array of elegant mining balances, and carbide lamps just give us a call and we will bring you down to collections to see the object again. After all, we are a museum and if it is in our collection, you can be sure it will be taken care of, and in the future, it is bound to come out again.



Juneau History Grant Now Accepting Applications

Every January the Juneau-Douglas City Museum begins soliciting applications for the Juneau History Grant.

In 1980 Juneau Centennial Committee set up the Juneau Centennial Scholarship Fund with the intent of awarding scholarships to Juneau-Douglas High School students for the preparation and dissemination of historical papers on a variety of Juneau topics. Due to a lack of applicants, in 1991 the school district turned over management of the fund to the City Museum.

In 1992 the Museum established the Juneau History Grant committee and

awarded its first applicants.

Each year up to \$2,500 is available to be divided among successful applicants. Individuals and/or groups may apply for up to \$1,000 to assist with a project that furthers research, enhances documentation or increases accessibility to the history of the Juneau-Douglas area.

The 2007/08 recipients include an archival compilation of the history of Juneau-Douglas High School Basketball submitted by Mike Grummett, Chairman of the Basketball History Committee; The *Best Cook of the Week Cookbook* by Anne Castle and a

publication by Sandy Harbanuk entitled *Running Toward the Fires: The First 100 Years of the Juneau Volunteer Fire Department*. All projects are well underway and, each in their own way, will be invaluable additions to our community's historical resources.

Applications for the 2008/09 Juneau History Grant are currently available at the at www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/ or at the Museum's front desk. All applications must be post-marked or hand-delivered to the Juneau-Douglas City Museum by **4:00 p.m on Monday, June 16, 2008.**

The finished projects will become the property of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum; however, copyright will remain with the author (s).

All successful 2008/09 projects must be completed by **May 31, 2009.**

For more information visit our website or call 586.3572.



Mona Lisa by Bugaco Amarelo, from www.megamonalisa.com, author

12 X 12 Collaborative Class

In addition to our regular 12X12 entries the Museum has teamed up with the Canvas Art Studio to offer youth ages 7-13 an opportunity to create a group installation for the 12X12 exhibit.

Using oil pastel, pencil, pen, acrylic and watercolor paints, 12 participants will each create one square foot of artwork with a photo of their face in an Andy Warhol inspired collaborative piece.

The class will take place at the Canvas Art Studio on **Sunday, February 24 from 1-4pm** with instructor MK MacNaughton. The artwork will be installed along with regular submissions for the 12X12 exhibit opening on March 7th from 4:30-7:30pm.

Cost for the class is, of course, \$12.12. For more information and registration forms visit our website: www.juneau.org/parksrec/museum or call 586.3572.

Please Note:

Registration forms to participate in the regular 12X12 community art installation are available on the Museum website and at the front desk.

February Coffee & Collections presentation honors China Joe and in his honor, helps out the Southeast Food Bank



Street in Juneau.

Main Street, Juneau, Alaska circa. 1881. JDCM 2007.29.019

Beginning with a family heirloom that sparked his interest in Chinese culture, Mark Whitman became intrigued with Chew Chung Thui, better known as “China Joe”, shortly after he moved to Juneau over 25 years ago. In 1992, Whitman and Brett Dillingham received

a Juneau-History grant to research and write a play about the life of China Joe. Since then Whitman has “continued to fill in the pieces,” sifting through manuscripts and pouring over historic photos, including the above Museum photograph from the recently acquired Schmitz

collection, which shows China Joe’s log cabin and bakery.

Whitman’s presentation will be an in-depth look at China Joe’s life and the golden rule, by which he lived. “Do what you would like others to do to you”. Living by this rule, China Joe, also known as “Joe the Baker” was viewed as a friend and benefactor of the prospectors during the early days of the gold rush.

China Joe died of heart failure on May 18, 1917 at the age of 87.

In addition to the presentation, Museum volunteer Connie Munro has spear-headed a solicitation for self-organized fundraisers in China Joe’s honor for the Southeast Food Bank.

With the assistance of Joyce

Kitka and City Museum staff, Munro has helped a number of individuals and organizations collect contributions for the Food Bank.

Donations will be presented to the Southeast Food Bank following Whitman’s presentation.

The FREE presentation will be held on **Saturday, February 2nd, at 10am** at the City Museum located at the corner of 4th and Main St. For more information about this program or how to donate in honor of China Joe, call 586.3572.

From the Collections Corner...

Wow! What a first year! It was a lot of fun to be here this year! We had all sorts of new and exciting objects coming into the collection. On top of that, we had the opportunity to put some of those new objects onto exhibit already! If you haven’t had a chance to stop by and look, we installed a new mining diorama. The diorama’s focus is on the US Bureau of Mines’ assay lab that ran at Mayflower Island from the early 1950s to the mid-1990s, but it includes objects from several different mines in the Juneau area.

In 2008 we are looking forward to putting another group of objects that haven’t been out of collections storage, on to exhibit as we shift our mining exhibits into the history gallery. It’s a very dynamic and fun time! Thanks to everyone who has helped shepherd me along this year.

On the collecting front, we have an exhibit about basketball planned for 2009. So we are looking for objects related to basketball in Juneau that we can include in the exhibit. If you have any old uniforms, balls, shoes, awards, photos or other memorabilia, please contact me about the possibility of donating it, or loaning it to the museum for the duration of the show! Exhibits like this are always so much more meaningful when the community gets a chance to participate!

- Addison Field

Curator of Collections & Exhibits

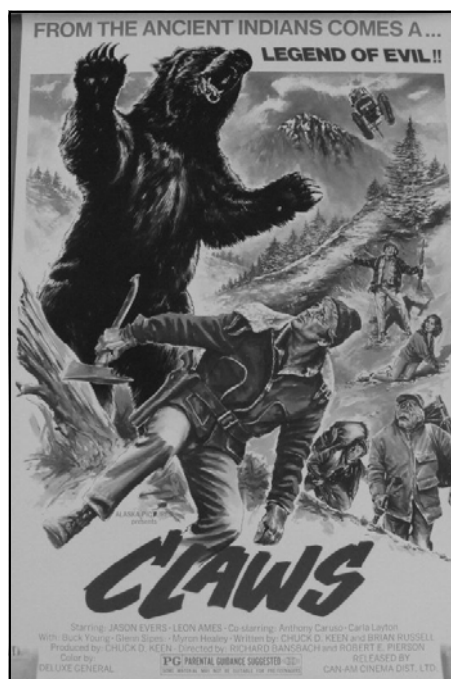
Recent Acquisitions - September - December 2007



Winter & Pond postcard of "Franklin St. Juneau, Alaska on a winter night". Donated by Bernice Schick. JDCM 2007.42.001

- 2007.30 Historic Photos and Ephemera,
Gift of Jim Wilcox
- 2007.31 Photos of Treadwell,
Gift of Kathleen J. Whitson
- 2007.32 Photos of Pauline Washington,
Gift of Karen Boddy
- 2007.33 Flag and Photo of the USS Juneau,
Gift of Timothee J. Foss
- 2007.34 Food Can and Revolver,
Gift of Catherine Alter
- 2007.35 Frances Davis Painting,
Gift of Ursula Spannagel
- 2007.36 Ledgers from Behrends Store,
Gift of Kathleen Taylor
- 2007.37 American Homes Magazine,
Gift of Jim Geraghty
- 2007.38 Film Poster Collection,
Gift of Karen Keen
- 2007.39 Coasters from Mike's Place,
Gift of Dennis Harris
- 2007.40 Aerial Photo of Auk Bay,
Gift of Leo Jones
- 2007.41 2007 Salmon Derby Button,
Gift of Dan Beason
- 2007.42 Winter & Pond Postcards,
Gift of Bernice M. Shick
- 2007.43 Pan Am Playing Cards,
Gift of Jean Kline

- 2007.44 Acid Bottle,
Gift of Willette Janes
- 2007.45 Early 20th Century Clothing,
Gift of Martha Stey
- 2007.46 Juneau Photo Postcards,
Gift of the Juneau Chamber of
Commerce
- 2007.47 Scouting Memorabilia,
Gift of Joan Harju
- 2007.48 Spoon,
Gift of Addison & Frances Field
- 2007.49 Filipino Community Collection
Gift of Filipino Community Inc.
- 2007.50 *Scribers & The Juneau What*,
Gift of Lyle Krueger



Claws film poster, recent acquisition from Karen Keen. JDCM 2007.38.04

- 2007.51 Icefield Research Project Materials,
Gift of Jay Crondahl
- 2007.52 Juneau Business' Ephemera,
Gift of Art & Carolyn Peterson
- 2007.53 Juneau Objects and Ephemera,
Gift of Katherine Shaw
- 2007.54 Icefield Research Project Photos,
Gift of Shaun P. McMahon

Juneau-Douglas City Museum
155 South Seward Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801

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Newsletter of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, located downtown at the corner of Fourth and Main Streets in Alaska's Capital City.

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Visit us on the web
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parksrec/museum/](http://www.juneau.org/parksrec/museum/)

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CITY MUSEUM EVENTS CALENDAR

February

- 1 First Friday public reception, reruns of the Spring 2004 JUMP Society Film Festival, 4:30-7:30pm.
- 2 Coffee & Collections Series presentation by Mark Whitman, *China Joe*, at 10am.
- 24 12X12 Collaborative class for youth 7-13 with instructor MK MacNaughton, at the Canvas Art Studio, 1-4pm. Cost \$12.12.
- 28 & 29 Entries for the annual 12X12 may be dropped off at the Museum between Noon - 4pm. Registration forms available at the front desk and on-line at www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum

March

- 1 All entries for the upcoming 12 X 12 exhibit are **due by 4:00 pm**.
 - 7 First Friday public reception, *12 X 12 Community Art Installation*, 4:30-7:30 pm.
 - 17-21 Juneau Explorers Spring Break program, look for details in late February!
 - 24 Museum closed in observance of Seward's Day.
 - 26 12X12 exhibit closes. Artwork may be picked up Thursday, March 27, Friday, March 28 or Saturday, March 29 between Noon - 4pm.
- All month - 6" X 6" community art installation project, FREE Drop-In program, Noon-4:00pm.

April

- 6 First Friday public reception, Art of Salmon Flies by Trevor Gong, 4:30-7:30pm. Exhibit runs April 6-26.
- TBA SeaWeek for 1st graders
- TBA Tourguide Trainings
- 26 City Museum Volunteer Training, TBA.

