

# Past & Present

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

Volume 13, Issue 1

January 2009

## 12 X 12 CALL for ENTRIES

12X12 is coming early this year, so be sure to start thinking *inside* the box now!

Entries for the 12X12 may be dropped off at the City Museum with a completed entry form and \$12.12 entry fee on **Thursday, January 29th, Friday, January 30th or Saturday, January 31st between Noon & 4:00 p.m.**

ALL entries MUST BE ready-to hang and be no smaller nor no greater than 12" x 12".

Artists of all ages and mediums are encouraged to submit an entry. One submission per artist please.

Entry forms are available at: [www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum](http://www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum) or at the Museum's front desk. For more information call 586-3572.

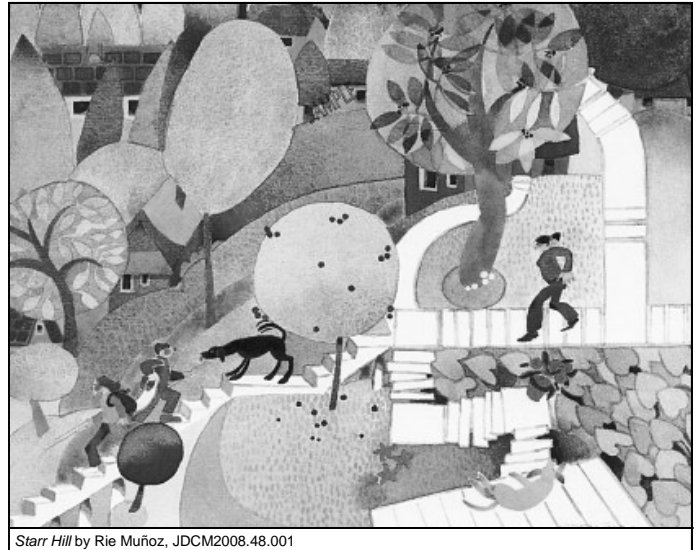
### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Celebrating Alaska's 50th</i>	2
<i>Winter/ Spring 2009 Programs &amp; Classes</i>	2
<i>Big Changes in the Basement</i>	3
<i>What Do Our Visitors Really Think? Visitor Survey Results In</i>	3
<i>From the Collections Corner</i>	5
<i>Recent Acquisitions</i>	5
<i>Events Calendar</i>	6

## Upcoming Exhibits Emphasize What it Means To Be in Juneau

In January 2009 we will be installing *Recent Acquisitions '06 - '08*. The exhibition is composed entirely of materials collected in 2006, 2007 and 2008. During that time period the Juneau-Douglas City Museum acquired over 150 new collections composed of over 2,000 catalog records. Some of these objects were purchased with Museum funds and some transferred from other organizations, but the great majority have been donated by people like you - *Thank you!*

The pieces you will see on exhibit are just a few of those new acquisitions. In all they are less than 3% of the materials we have collected in the last three years. They are not



Starr Hill by Rie Muñoz, JDCM2008.48.001

the "best" nor the "most interesting," rather they were chosen for exhibit because they represent a broad overview of the materials that have been put into the City's collection, and in some small way each and every piece represents the best of who we are as a community and as individuals.

In keeping with that theme, we are asking the public to participate, either in person or through an on-line survey to answer the question what does it mean to be in this place? Please see the Collections Corner article on page 5 for complete details.)

In February we will bring back *12 x 12* for the 5<sup>th</sup> year. This exhibit invites

artists of all ages to create original artwork. Entries are due by 4:00 p.m. Saturday, January 31st. The exhibit will run Friday, February 6th thru Saturday, February 28th.

In March we will open our summer exhibit. This show is focused on the history of basketball in the greater Juneau area. Guest Curator Sarah Asper-Smith is putting together a wonderful show that will combine history, basketball personalities from the past and some more recent stars, photos, and some really fun interactives. The opening of this exhibit is timed to coincide with the 62nd Gold Medal Tourney and will run through November 2009.



Krill Crazy by Rick Clair, JDCM2007.17.002

## Capital City Celebrations List of Events for Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Statehood



Raising the 49th Star Flag Over Juneau,  
JDCM97.02.001

**Anniversary Bash/ Dance**  
January 3, 2009, 8pm - 12am  
Centennial Building

**Fireworks Presentation**  
January 4th, Mendenhall Valley  
Sponsored by BP Alaska

**Eaglecrest 50th Anniversary  
Ski Celebration**  
February 28, 2009

**Battles of Fire and Water**  
Saturday, March 14

**Quilt Show**  
March 28, 2009

**Eight Stars of Gold**  
Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

**July 3<sup>RD</sup>**  
Ball games early in day ending  
with community fireworks over  
downtown Juneau.

**JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2009**  
9 a.m. reenactment of 1959 flag  
raising event held at the Juneau-  
Douglas City Museum

**For more info:**  
[juneaucebrate@yahoo.com](mailto:juneaucebrate@yahoo.com)

## City Museum Celebrates 50 years of Statehood 1959 - 2009

With the following 50<sup>th</sup> Statehood Celebrations Exhibits and Events

2009 will mark a special time in our history. The museum has been actively working on statehood celebrations through its ongoing participation in the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee as well as its work on exhibits and programs that highlight capital city and statehood history. Our Capital City exhibit features interactive kiosks with digital stories researched and written by Juneau middle school students on the following topics: Juneau's Capital, Juneau's Cultures, Quest for Statehood, and Elizabeth Peratrovich. As stories are being completed they are being installed in the exhibit. The museum will also have podcasts of poems written by Floyd Dryden students relating to statehood and Elizabeth Peratrovich.

In our video room we have the exhibit *Fun, Frolic &*



Raising the 49th Star Flag, JDCM88.30.007

*Fireworks: The 1959 Celebration.* This photo exhibit highlights the July 4<sup>th</sup> flag-raising and parade. Film footage shot by Clifford Swap of the 1959 parade is playing in the video room.

The Museum will honor the official raising of the statehood flag on July 4, 1959 with a historic reenactment and celebration fifty years later on July 4,

2009 at 9:00 am. We are proud to have a direct connection to statehood by our nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as the location of the official statehood flag raising. For more information on community wide 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations contact the museum or the local citizens group at

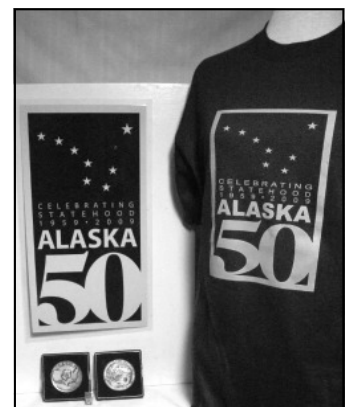
[juneaucebrates@yahoo.com](mailto:juneaucebrates@yahoo.com)

## Museum Gift Shop Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Statehood

In celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> year of Alaska statehood, the museum gift shop is pleased to have commemorative items for sale. We currently have pins, posters, and t-shirts that feature the blue and yellow Alaska 50 logo. We also have limited edition bronze medallions that are exact replicas of those authorized by the first state legislature in 1959, with the exception of the date, which reads "January 3, 1959-2009." The reverse side features the Seal of the

State of Alaska. Additionally, in 2009, the gift shop will sell visitor certificates with the governor's signature, which we hope will be great souvenirs of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for both tourists and locals. Come by the gift shop to check out these and other new items! We frequently have new additions to our selection of Juneau-related books, cards, classic children's toys, and one-of-a-kind donated items, which

benefit the Museum Acquisition Fund and the Juneau History Grant.



## Programs & Classes at the City Museum this Winter/ Spring

### Coffee & Collections Series continues...

Please join us each month for our Coffee & Collections series, highlighting our collections, exhibits and topics relating to the history of the Juneau area.

*Recent Acquisitions '06 - '08: What does it mean to be in this place?* with Curator of Collections & Exhibits Addison Field

Saturday, January 17th at 10:30 a.m.

*A New Way of Looking at History: A Review of the Cap City Digital Storytelling Project* with Curator of Public Programs Alysia McLain

Saturday, January 24th at 10:30 a.m.

*The Douglas Island Gun: Alaskan History Hiding in Plain Sight* with Mark Whitman

Saturday, February 28th at 10:30 a.m.

*History of Gold Medal* with Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff and members of the Juneau Lions Club

March TBA

Coffee for this program is provided by Heritage Coffee Company.

### Juneau Explorers-Spring Break



Due to the popularity of our summer youth program Juneau Explorers, we will be offering a spring version of the camp during the week of March 23 thru March 27, 2009.

The program will run Monday thru Friday, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. and include a variety of indoor and outdoor activities relating to Juneau's history, art & culture.

Details regarding the program, including registration forms will be available on the Museum's website beginning February 1st or contact the Museum at 586-3572.

### BOOK SIGNING

***Running Towards the Fires:***

***101 Years of the Juneau Volunteer Fire Department***

**with author Sandy Harbanuk**

**Friday, January 2nd, 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

### 12 X 12 Sculptural Found Object Art Class for 12 year olds

Using found objects, 12 twelve year-olds will create 12 X 12 artwork. This two hour class will take place at the Canvas Art Studio on **Sunday, January 25th at 12:12pm.** The finished work will be installed for the opening of the 12X12 exhibit on February 6th at the Museum.

To register contact the City Museum at 586-3572 or find information and registration forms on-line at [www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum](http://www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum).



### Are You in the Loop?

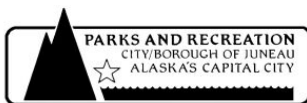
The City Museum has recently started publishing an e-flyer that goes out bi-weekly and keeps you up-to-date about upcoming programs, classes and exhibit openings.

If you are interested in receiving this e-flyer, please contact Curator of Public Programs Alysia McLain at [alysia\\_mclain@ci.juneau.ak.us](mailto:alysia_mclain@ci.juneau.ak.us) or by calling 586-3572.

## Big Changes in the Basement

We have begun work on our 2009 Grant-in-Aid project. This year we will be working downstairs in the basement. Over the next couple of months we will be setting up a new shelving system in the basement, and moving a lot of things around. We have already sealed, primed and painted the interior of an underutilized closet and will be moving inventory from the gift shop in there very soon. We moved the reference library into a more central location. We have begun to spruce up the old janitor's closet. Once that is cleaned up and has some new furniture we will move our reception storage into that room.

The next thing on our list is to make room in the west corner of the basement where we will install a new set of industrial shelving that will hold oversized objects from the permanent collection, such as mining and assaying materials and furniture. This is a big project with lots of small volunteer opportunities! We will have jobs moving objects, painting walls and floors, packing boxes and moving files. So if you would like to spend a morning volunteering in collections please let Addison know!



155 So. Seward St., Juneau, AK 99801 (907) 586(3300) ext. 226

## What do Our Visitor's Really Think?

The Museum recently completed an audience evaluation program offered by the American Association for State and Local History and managed by the Alaska State Museum's Field Services Office. The Museum took part in this audience survey as a member of the Alaska Managed Group. Addison E. Field, Curator of Collections and Exhibits attended two meetings facilitated by the Alaska Managed Group held at Museums Alaska in connection with this project and coordinated audience evaluations throughout the year to obtain a good cross-section of the Museum's visitors.

This project has given us the ability to take part in a systematic audience evaluation in connection

with other Alaskan museums and museum's nationwide. We were able to work with a specialist from the American Association for State and Local History to administer an evaluation tool used first and foremost used by museum's nationwide.

Secondarily, through the Alaska Managed Group, we were given the opportunity to work in a group to formulate and phrase questions on behalf of the Alaskan museum environment. Thirdly, our facility had the opportunity to craft three evaluation questions related specifically to our institution.

The project has given us a great deal of data that we can now use in strategic planning.

Understanding the results

of the survey and planning change will prove our biggest challenges.

The following evaluation results were the topic of a museum staff retreat a few weeks ago:

- Summer visitors have heard very little about the museum before coming to Juneau.
- Many visitors do not feel that they are walking away from our museum with a personal experience.
- Summer visitors have many high-quality cultural and historical attractions to choose from in Juneau.
- Respondents have problems getting to the museum. Winter visitors are aware of the museum and its programming



Basement remodel in-progress. Image of reorganized office area and reference library area.



## Recent Acquisitions

September - December 2007

2008.40	Historic Object Collection Gift of Michael J. Kirk	2008.492	Dan DeRoux Paintings Museum Purchase, AAI
2008.41	Juneau ABATE Patch Gift of Dan McCrummen	2008.50	Yearbooks and Dictionary Gift of Miki Pusich
2008.42	Northstar Riders Patch Gift of Terry Brenner	2008.51	New High School Collection Gift of Margo Waring
2008.43	Juneau Archival Collection Museum Purchase	2008.52	Paul Gardnier Sculpture Museum Purchase, AAI
2008.44	Bottle Collection Gift of Butch Carber	2008.53	Postcard Gift of Dick and Marie Kent
2008.45	Medical Bottle Gift of Sam Guthrie	2008.54	Photos, Centennial Materials Gift of Kim Kiefer
2008.46	Trevor Gong Salmon Fly Museum Purchase, AAI	2008.55	Outboard Motor Gift of Ken Imamura
2008.47	Salty Hanes Octopus Bag Museum Purchase, AAI	2008.56	Quilted Blankets Gift of the Collais Estate
2008.48	Rie Muñoz Watercolor Museum Purchase, AAI	2008.57	1930s Photos & Ephemera Gift of Gaylyn Bradley

## From the Collections Corner...

*What does it mean to be in this place?*

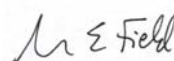
During a session at Museums Alaska this fall in Anchorage, the moderator asked this question to a group of museum professionals from all over the country. It really made me think about what it means to be from Alaska and from Juneau. I know what the answer to that question is to me. To me, this place (Juneau) means living with my family and raising our child in a beautiful, often brutal, challenging, rich environment where we are able to live in the manner we see fit, and take advantage of all the resources that such a rich place has to offer. But I had to ask myself: how would other people from Juneau answer this question? What would the public, our stakeholders, museum visitors, and you, say to this question?

So, what does it mean to be from Juneau? Here at the Museum this is not too metaphysical a question for us. Within these walls, as within the Juneau gold belt, we have a rich history in which various individuals and groups have shaped a unified story that demands we tell it!

As we look toward the future we would like to know your answer to this question. It is a question that goes to the very heart of our institutional being and the very soul of the community. And it will help us to define who we are in this time of change and uncertainty.

Please take a few moments to stop by the Museum during January to give us your answer to this question. Cards will be available at the reception desk or answer on-line at <http://www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/forms/survey/WDIM-survey.php>

Thank you,



Addison Field, Curator of Collections & Exhibits

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

**Past & Present**

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

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

Jane Lindsey, Director  
Jane\_Lindsey@ci.juneau.ak.us

Addison E. Field, Curator of Collections & Exhibits  
Addison\_Field@ci.juneau.ak.us

Alysia McLain, Curator of Public Programs  
Alysia\_McLain@ci.juneau.ak.us

Claire Imamura, Museum Administrative Assistant  
Claire\_Imamura@ci.juneau.ak.us

Melissa Gonzalez, Museum Intern  
Museum\_Intern@ci.juneau.ak.us

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Juneau, AK  
PERMIT NO.  
61

## CITY MUSEUM EVENTS CALENDAR

### January

- 1 First Friday public reception, *Recent Acquisitions '06 - '08* and Book Signing: *Running Towards the Fires: 101 Years of the Juneau Volunteer Fire Department* with author Sandy Harbanuk, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
- 12 New Museum Intern, Melissa Gonzalez's first day at the City Museum. *Welcome!*
- 17 Coffee & Collections Series: *Recent Acquisitions '06-'08: What does it mean to be in this place?* with Curator of Collections & Exhibits Addison Field, 10:30 a.m. at the City Museum.
- 24 Coffee & Collections Series: *A New Way of Looking at the Past: A review of the Digital Storytelling Project* with Curator of Public Programs Alysia McLain, 10:30 a.m. at the City Museum.
- 25 12X12 Sculptural Found Object Art Class with instructor MK MacNaughton, class will be held at the Canvas Art Studio 223 Seward St., from 12:12 p.m. to 2:12 p.m. Contact the City Museum at 586-3572 to register. Pre-registration & pre-payment required. Class size limited.
- 31 All entries for the upcoming 12 X 12 exhibit are **due by 4:00 pm.**

### February

- 6 First Friday public reception, 12 X 12 Community Art Installation, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
- 28 Coffee & Collections Series: *The Douglas Island Gun: Alaskan History Hiding in Plain Sight* with Mark Whitman. 10:30 a.m. at the City Museum. **All month** - 6" X 6" community art installation project, FREE Drop-In activity, Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### March

- 20 History of Basketball Exhibit opening 4:30-7:30 p.m.
- TBA Coffee & Collections Series: *The History of Gold Medal* with Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff & members of the Juneau Lions Club
- 23-27 Spring Break Explorers program for youth, details available February 1st.
- 30 Museum closed in observance of Seward's Day.

### April

- TBA SeaWeek for K/1
- TBA City Museum Volunteer Training
- TBA Tourguide Trainings
- 28 Parks & Recreation Volunteer Appreciation Event, TBA

