

Past & Present

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

Volume 13, Issue 2

May 2009

Celebrate

Juneau Museum Day!

Saturday, May 16th Noon-5pm

Activities for the whole family!

Free shuttle available!

Enjoy a fun filled day of activities celebrating the rich art, history, and cultures of Juneau at the City Museum, Alaska State Museum, House of Wickersham, Last Chance Mining Museum, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, with support from Friends of the Alaska State Museum Gift Shop, and The Canvas art studio.

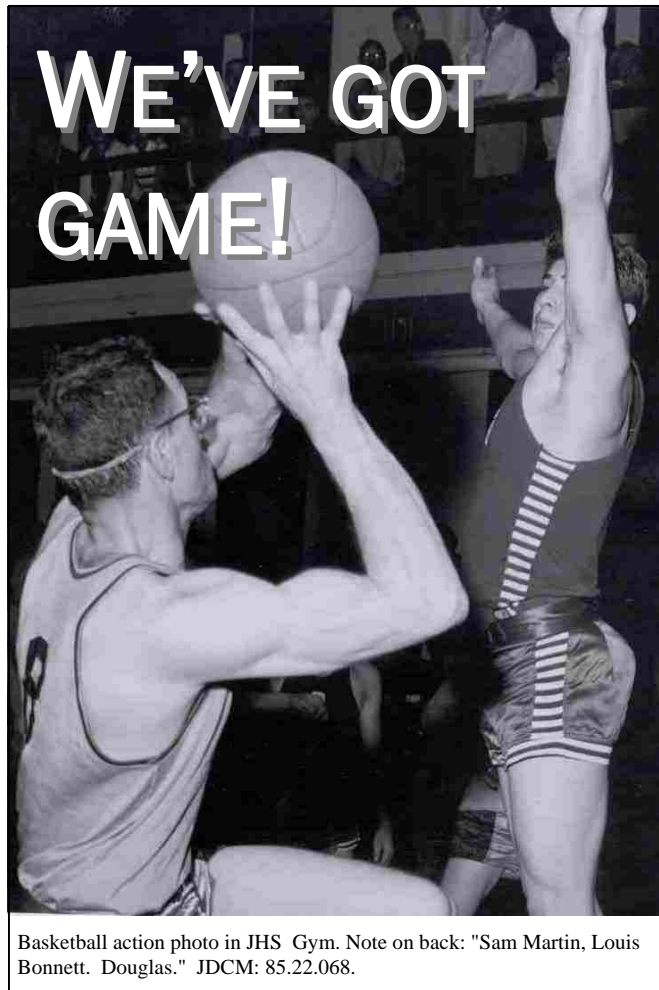
At the City Museum:

- Stand in Carlos Boozer's footprints!
- Make your own pennant
- Shoot some hoops
- *Free* Historic Walking Tour at 1:30pm
- Delicious refreshments
- New audio tours

Hope to see you there!

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Basketball action photo in JHS Gym. Note on back: "Sam Martin, Louis Bonnett. Douglas." JDCM: 85.22.068.

Featuring memorable players, fans, coaches, mascots, uniforms and even Carlos Boozer's shoes, *HOOP TIME: Gastineau Channel Basketball Through the Years* chronicles the rousing rivalries played out on the court between Juneau and Douglas and other Southeast Alaska communities.

With the first "organized" game recorded in 1903,

basketball is an integral part of Juneau's history for both men and women. The sport developed as a game that could be played indoors in a small space during the winter, which in many ways is ideal for Southeast Alaska's climate!

Inspired by a Juneau History Grant project submitted by the Basketball History Committee, this action packed exhibit looks at the sportsmanship of basketball

in the Juneau area. The exhibit also highlights the 63 year history of the Gold Medal Tournament including the role of the Juneau Lions Club and the continued impact the tournament has had on the communities of Southeast Alaska.

"When the Museum read the Juneau History grant proposal from the ad hoc "basketball committee" group, we realized that the research they were undertaking was a perfect fit for an exhibit on the history of basketball in Juneau." says Museum Director Jane Lindsey. Similarly, the Lions Club had "63 years of files, photos, stories and programs detailing Gold Medal and ball teams from all over Southeast Alaska." It was another perfect fit. "The exhibit also includes information on the local Ordway tournament sponsored yearly by the City and Borough of Juneau's Parks and Recreation Department, and the town's most recent basketball star, Carlos Boozer - There is no doubt about it, this town loves basketball!"

The exhibit opened in conjunction with the 63th Gold Medal Basketball Tournament in March and will run through November 21, 2009

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



July 3RD, 2009

Ball games early in day ending with community fireworks over downtown Juneau.

Tentative Community Picnic to be held in Douglas along with a presentation of the new Douglas bandstand.

Free BBQ at Marine Park in conjunction with JAHC's Concerts in the Park, 5:30p.m.

The Diamonds at Centennial Hall, 7:30pm. Tickets available at Hearthside.

JULY 4TH, 2009

Reenactment of 1959 flag raising event held at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, 9a.m.

Juneau Parade begins at Noon

Douglas Parade begins at 3p.m.

For more info:

juneaucelebrates@yahoo.com

CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF STATEHOOD

JULY 4th RE-RAISING OF THE 49th STAR FLAG

On July 4, 1959 the entire community of Juneau stood together with delegates from each of the 48 United States, and special guests at the Veterans Memorial Building to witness the official raising of the 49th star flag. This momentous and long awaited occasion symbolized the determined efforts of Alaskans to earn a proper space in the Union.

As early as 1916, Alaska began looking towards statehood, but it would be a long and difficult road to see that dream become a reality. After 92 years of territorial status and nearly 43 years of fighting for statehood, Alaska was admitted to the Union.

"There was never any feeling that we would not succeed," says George Rogers, a consultant at the Constitutional Convention, which was held in Fairbanks in November 1955 - four years before Alaska was granted statehood.

On January 3, 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the statehood proclamation making Alaska the 49th state in the Union. It was the first state since Ari-



Raising the 49th Star Flag, JDCM88.30.007

zona in 1912 to be admitted to the Union.

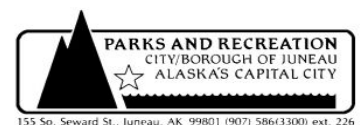
On the festive day of the official raising of the 49th star flag, "Juneau broke loose in jubilant celebration...as the addition of the 49th star to the American Flag occasioned a festive round of parades, fireworks, parties and Independence Day ceremonies," - *Juneau Daily Empire*. It was a celebration that spanned beyond the boundaries of Juneau, to the entire territory, with bonfires and festivities held through out the new state.

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of Alaska Statehood, the City and Borough of Juneau and the Juneau-Douglas City Museum will host a 50th Anniversary of Alaska State-

hood Celebration, including a re-enactment of the official raising of the 49th star flag and Ringing of the Bell ceremony and singing the Alaska flag song.

The event will take place on July 4, 2009 at 9:00a.m. at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, located at the corner of 4th and Main St. Juneau, Alaska. The ceremony is open to the public. Let's make this 50th anniversary celebration as jubilant as the 1959 celebration!

For program details call 586-3572 or visit: www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum



GOT HISTORY?



Everyone's got it, so come share yours with visitors as a summer reception volunteer at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum! Volunteers typically spend 2-3 hours a week chatting with visitors, accepting admissions, selling gift shop items, and interpreting the museum and Juneau history. The warmth and friendliness of our volunteers is one of the trademarks of the City Museum, and we want you to be a part of that!

For more information or to shadow a current volunteer, please contact Claire at 586-3572 or claire_imamura@ci.juneau.ak.us.

Your Pass to History Awaits!

Support your local City museum this summer by purchasing an annual pass! Your ticket to history, an annual pass provides the pass-holder and one guest unlimited visits to the unlimited visits to the Museum now thru December 31, 2009. Stop in and check out *HOOP TIME: Gastineau Channel Basketball Through the Years*, audio tours, digital story kiosks, *Fun, Frolic and Fireworks: July 4, 1959 celebration*, our hands-on history room, and our video *Juneau: City Built on Gold*. Stop by the Museum today to get your pass or call 586-3572. Annual passes are \$15. Don't forget youth 18 and under are free, so enjoy the City Museum with your whole family!

Museum Gift Shop Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Statehood

Check out our selection of items commemorating 50 years of Alaskan statehood! We have medallions, t-shirts, pins, posters, and visitor certificates signed by the Governor!



Books, toys, & posters oh my!



Get ready for summer with hiking maps and trail guides from the Museum Store! We are fortunate to be surrounded by great hiking trails in Juneau, but many of us hike the trails without realizing the fantastic histories behind them. Hike into history with *In the Miners' Footsteps*, a neat compilation of mining trail guides, pick up the Treadwell and Perseverance trail guides, or head out with an old standby like 90 Short Walks. Stay hydrated on the trail and show your support for the City Museum with an aluminum water bottle featuring a 4-story totem pole design. Don't forget your bear spray!

Also, to complement our summer exhibit *Hoop Time: Gastineau Channel Basketball through the Years*, we have tin basketball players, as well as many other classic toys. This year our collection of Juneau books is enhanced by the additions of *Running Toward the Fires*, a Juneau History Grant project by Sandy Harbanuk, the ever-popular *Fiddlehead Cookbook*, and for kids, *Salmon Princess* and *Totem Tale*, two beautifully illustrated picture books.



For more Juneau-related items and gift ideas, check out our new Museum Store website at www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/MuseumStore.php. It features only a sliver of the fascinating items we carry in the Museum Store, so be sure to stop by your local museum to see the whole pie!

Listen up!

HOOP TIME AUDIO TOURS

Recorded interview segments on Mp3 players are NOW available!



As you walk through the gallery, hear stories about legendary slam dunks, championship games and the lasting effect that traveling between communities had on players, teams and host families.

PODCAST POEMS

Coming soon!

Podcast poems created by Floyd Dryden students in Ms. Gifford's 2007/08 Language Arts classes.

Juneau History Grant Applications Available Now!

Let us help you dig a little deeper into Juneau history! Apply for a Juneau History Grant today! Applications are currently being accepted at the Museum. All applications must be post-marked or hand-delivered to the Museum by **4:00p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2009.**

Applications are available at the Museum's front desk or on-line at: www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/grant.php.

For more info. contact Alysia at 586-3572 or at

Alysia_McLain@ci.juneau.ak.us

Facility Upgrades Continue at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum

"Good fortune is what happens when opportunity meets with planning"

- Thomas Alva Edison

With the Juneau-Douglas City Museum's facility remodel planning document in hand, museum staff have been working diligently to improve our facility inside and out.

The remodel plan completed in 2007 by MRV Architects as the lead team, LORD Cultural Resources for museum planning; Murray and Associates for mechanical engineering; Alaska Cultural Resources for museum operational issues, Gorman Engineers for electrical engineering; and museum staff and volunteers focused on the building's ability to function as a working museum.

Built in 1951 as a library, it is no surprise that mechanical system deficiencies, particularly building overheating and lack of ventilation were of the greatest concern. Space deficiencies for collections storage and exhibit issues were also addressed. Lighting problems, lack of parking, limited street presence or "draw" and relatively high operating expenses due to energy



New storage area for large objects.

inefficiency were also identified.

With schematic drawings in hand, last year, museum staff, along with CBJ building maintenance, re-carpeted and repainted the Leslie Murray gallery to provide a larger temporary exhibit space that could also be used for sit-down public programs. Staff wrote and was awarded an Alaska State Museum Grant-in-Aid to upgrade basement collections storage.

This year, through the capital improvement process, the museum was awarded new gallery lighting. This project will enhance our lighting capability for exhibits and reduce facility overheating caused by incandescent bulbs. As we approach the summer months, with advice from

Haight and Associates Engineering Consultants, the museum will immediately replace incandescent bulbs with cooler, energy efficient LED bulbs. In the fall we will replace track and lighting controls.

Additionally the museum was awarded passenger fee funds for the demolition and installation of new entrance steps and the installation of sitting benches for visitors. These upgrades will provide significant improvement to Museum operations and offer crucial visitors services like benches and easy access to the building at an important juncture in the walking visitor's journey through Juneau.

Our goal is to keep the buildings integrity and offer a high quality museum experience.

Recent Acquisitions *January - April 2009*



Workingman's Hand by Ella Bentley Beaded Art,
Rasmuson Art Acquisition Purchase, JDCM2009.13.001

2009.01 *Alaska Capitals* T-Shirt

Gift of Joe Sears

2009.02 Soboleff Centurion Collection

Gift of Ross Soboleff & Jane Lindsey

2009.03 Winchester Model 90 Rifle

Gift of Mike Blackwell

2009.04 Presidential Campaign Ephemera

Gift of Frances Field

2009.05 Bottles from Telephone Hill

CBJ Transfer

2009.06 Mendenhall Glacier Panoramic

Museum Purchase

2009.07 Historic Photo & Ephemera Collection

Gift of Jim Geraghty

2009.08 *USS Juneau* Photo & Pennant

CBJ Transfer

2009.09 Presidential Campaign Ephemera

Gift of Lydia Mills

2009.10 Belle Blue Campaign Print

In Memory of Emma Widmark

2009.11 Winter & Pond Studio Chair

Gift of Renda Heimbigner

2009.12 Fish Trap Photo Collection

Gift of Johan Dybdahl

2009.13 *Workingman's Hand* by Ella Bentley

Rasmuson Art Acquisition Purchase

2009.14 *USS Juneau* Collection

Gift of Steve & Jean Sztuk

From the Collections Corner...

What a winter! There have been lots of changes down here in the basement! We completely rearranged about three-quarters of the basement! There is now a room for public programs food preparation, which allows us to keep food and beverages contained in one area and away from collections! There is also a room dedicated to gift shop storage. In April we cleaned, rearranged and installed new carpet in the office and collections processing room!

We also installed a new storage system for large objects. This entailed clearing the west end of the basement, cleaning, painting and erecting a new shelving system. Then we remounted and relocated over 100 objects to the new shelves. Now we have plenty of space to grow again! Thank you to everyone who helped with this project.

We are still in the process of reorganizing and sorting out things. One of our on-going projects is to label the books in the reference library. We need to find a dewey number and affix a spine label to each of the 3,000 books in our reference library! We also need to paint the floor and to build a custom table for the matte cutter. So if you have a few hours a week and would like to spend some time helping out in collections, please feel free to get in touch with us!

A. E. Field

Addison Field

Curator of Collections & Exhibits

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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
[www.juneau.org/
parkrec/museum/](http://www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/)

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CITY MUSEUM EVENTS CALENDAR

May

16 Juneau Museum Day - A fun-filled day of activities at the City Museum, Alaska State Museum, House of Wickersham, Last Chance Mining Museum, St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, Friends of the Alaska State Museum Gift Shop on Seward St. and the Canvas Art Studio. Noon - 5p.m. Free shuttle available.

June

1 Solo Artist Applications for Fall 2010/Winter 2011 available at the City Museum and online at www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum

15 Juneau History Grant applications DUE by 4p.m. See page 4 for details.

July

3 Capital City Celebration events through out the day. See page 2 for more information.

4 *50th Anniversary of Alaska Statehood Celebration and Re-Raising of the 49th Star Flag.* Ceremony begins at 9a.m. at the City Museum.

TBA Annual JCVB & JDCM volunteer summer get-together

August

10 - 14 Juneau Explorers Week program, Monday - Friday, Noon - 4p.m. Look for information in June!

17 Solo Artist Applications DUE for the Fall 2010/ Winter 2011 season.

