

Past & Present

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

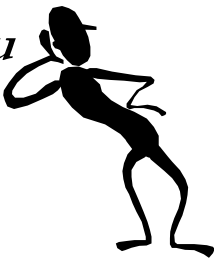
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*Are you
in the
Loop?*



We hope you enjoy our first “e” version of *Past & Present*! We will continue to release our newsletter in September, January and May.

If you wish to keep more up-to-date on Museum happenings, please “*subscribe to news*” which can be found on at: www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum or subscribe to our monthly e-flyer by emailing Alysia at

Alysia_McLain@ci.juneau.ak.us or by calling 586-3572.

Fall Exhibits at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum



Carlos Boozer poses in front of his silhouette in the Hoop Time exhibit at a reception following the dedication of the Zach Gordon Youth Center basketball court on August 6th.

Hoop Time: Gastineau Channel Basketball Through the Years continues to be a success!

Even Carlos Boozer visited the museum to check out the exhibit and pose in front of his silhouette painted on the wall.

And don't miss your chance to check out the *Hoop Time* audio tours when you visit. Hear stories about legendary slam dunks, championship

games and the lasting effect that traveling between communities had on players, teams and host families.

In November, we will install a small exhibit on the *USS Juneau CL-52* in our Audio-Visual Gallery. Entitled *Only Ten Survived*, this exhibit was curated by Glenn Smith, the Mayor of Orrstown, Pennsylvania, who is a retired naval officer and stamp collector. The exhibit includes stamps and envelopes that tell the story of the *USS Juneau* in the Battle of Guadalcanal, her loss, and the search for survivors. The philatelic materials put together by Mr. Smith will be supplemented with objects and other materials from the Juneau-



Thimbleberry Blossom (unfinished)
by Salty Hanes

Douglas City Museum permanent collection .

In December we will exhibit solo artists Salty Hanes and Sara Lee. The artists have very different styles, but they are linked by a common thread, literally. Hanes' specializes in beadwork and Lee works in fibers and felt.

Beads are Hanes' passion. The December exhibition

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Detail of *Halibut & Hook*, by Sara Lee.

Button Up and Head-on Over

Put on your overcoat, dig out your hat, scarf, gloves and extra-tuffs, and grab your umbrella; because free winter admission is back at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum! It is well worth braving fall and winter weather for our lively schedule of art exhibits, Coffee and Collections lecture series, our ever popular hands-on room, and our unique and interesting gift shop. Free Winter Admission is made possible by the continuing generosity of the following community members:

October:

Don and Alma Harris

November

In Memory of Harold O. Fossum

December

Robert and Michelle Storer

January

In Memory of Harold O. Fossum

February

Gastineau Channel Historical Society

March

Robert and Michelle Storer

April

Robert and Michelle Storer

If you are interested in becoming a free winter admission sponsor, please contact Museum Director, Jane Lindsey at 586-3572.

Thank you Free Winter Admission Sponsors!

Aiming for Improvement... Facility Upgrades Continue

Last year, with the help of an Alaska State Museum grant-in-aid, the museum successfully relocated, cleaned, painted, and re-organized our basement area. We then erected storage racks with dust covers to fit oversized collections in a dedicated area of our basement.

Recently, we were awarded another grant-in-aid which will increase capacity to collect and store additional photographic and archival materials and clear space in our dedicated collection storage unit for future collections storage. This project will shore up dedicated space for 4900 archival collection items and will retrofit the basement with a water alarm system. Additionally, the grant will fund a contractor to move the materials and improve storage solutions for the collection. The timing could not be better with the recent donation by the Juneau Volunteer Fire Department of 22 notebooks and 6 ledgers comprised of photographs, historical documents, meeting minutes, rosters, letters, correspondence, receipts, and newspaper clippings from local papers about fires and firefighter activities.

Additionally, this last year, through the capital improvement process, the Museum was awarded new gallery lighting. We



Curator of Collections & Exhibits, Addison Field replaces an incandescent bulb in the *Politics, Personalities & Power* gallery with a new LED bulb.

have replaced all of our incandescent bulbs with cooler, energy efficient LED bulbs. Soon, we will replace track and lighting controls. This is one of our most crucial projects as the museum's ventilation system is inferior, and temperatures in the galleries during our warm summer days in July were in excess of 80 degrees. Such high temperatures are unacceptable for objects on exhibit and extremely warm temperatures deter visitation. This project will help decrease and stabilize gallery temperatures by three to five degrees while we continue to work toward retrofitting the building with an affordable and appropriate ventilation system.

The Museum was also awarded Passenger fee

funds for the demolition and installation of new entrance steps and the installation of sitting benches. This project will offer crucial visitor services at an important juncture in the walking visitor's journey through Juneau.

For more information on facility upgrades at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum and how you can help, please contact Museum

Director, Jane Lindsey at 586-3572 or by email: Jane_Lindsey@ci.juneau.ak.us.

Volunteers On View:



City Museum volunteers panning for gold on the AG Mill & Mine Tour.

A big thank you to all of our fantastic volunteers for their friendly, helpful service this summer! We especially appreciate our volunteers during the busy summer months and our visitors do too! Many of them mention how tickled they are to meet and talk with long-time local folks, and our volunteers' expertise in local culture and history is absolutely invaluable!

We will congratulate volunteers who have reached new achievement levels at our Volunteer Holiday Potluck in December.

We look forward to highlighting individual volunteers and their special contributions to the museum in future issues of the newsletter. For this first installment of Volunteers On View, we are pleased to welcome new volunteers to the museum:

Caroline Cave has been an excellent resource for us. As the Greens Creek Health & Safety Manager, she is uniquely positioned to give us advice on mining history and disaster planning, as well as being a cheerful presence in the reception area on Sundays.

Lynette Cole has been a great help to us since last winter. She has thrilled us with her first-hand knowledge of Belle (Goldstein) Simpson and the Nugget Shop. We enjoy her enthusiasm for local history and her great rapport with our visitors.

Patty Winegar extended her local volunteerism to include the museum after retiring last fall from Harborview School, where she worked as a kindergarten and first-grade teacher. We appreciate her calm presence and easy-going nature at the reception desk.

Bill Zack joined us this summer, and instantly brightened up the museum with his funny stories, enthusiasm, and good humor. Zack formerly served as the Chief Ranger for Alaska State Parks in Haines. We look forward to his input on next summer's special exhibit on ravens and eagles.

We would love you to join us as a museum volunteer! For more information, visit: <http://www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/volunteers.php>, call Claire at 586-3572, or send an email to: Claire_Imamura@ci.juneau.ak.us.

Gift Shop Gold!

Get them while you can! The [Museum Store](#) received two generous donations this summer. Local author Rich Ritter donated several copies of *Heart of Abigail*, his new historical fiction book about life in Treadwell, and all proceeds go to the Juneau History Grant Fund. We also received a very generous donation of rare, out-of-print books from Bob & Phyllis Davis of LapCat Publications. The donation included two titles by Bob about his adventures as an aviator in the 1970s, Nancy Ferrell's book *Early Years of Juneau*, and two Dale DeArmond titles, *Raven Charm* and *The True Story of the Discovery of Gold on Bonanza Creek*. We have a limited quantity and they're sure not to last long, so stop by the gift shop today! While you're here, pick up your 50 Years of Statehood merchandise before it's gone! The Museum Store has limited quantities of pins, posters, medallions, t-shirts, and visitor certificates still available.



Some new arrivals at the Museum Store.

Coming soon: Museum Store End-of-Season Sale! The sale will begin at 9 am on Friday, September 5, just in time for Labor Day weekend, and will last until the end of September. The sale will feature 20% discounts on select items, including classic Juneau books, cards, tin toys, and many other vintage items. It's a great time to get some unique gifts at sale prices! Although admission to the museum is \$4 until the end of September, browsing the gift shop is always free!

Coffee & Collections

Series Returns



Northern Light Presbyterian Church
JDCM 2002.12.002

The History of the Log Cabin Church

with Jim Geraghty

Saturday, Oct. 24, 10:30am

Historian Jim Geraghty will present a pictorial history of the iconic image of a log steeple that distinguished Juneau's mining camp.

The USS Juneau

with Commander Kyle Kaker,
United States Navy

November TBA

On July 4, 1976, the *USS Juneau* arrived in Juneau, Alaska with a complement of Marines from 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division as part of the United States' Bicentennial celebrations. Commander Kyle Kaker will discuss his experiences aboard the *USS JUNEAU* (LPD-10) and what it was like to be in Juneau during the bicentennial.

The Heart of Abigail

with Rich Ritter

Saturday, Dec. 12, 10:30am

Author Rich Ritter will talk about the research for his recent book *The Heart of Abigail*; a harrowing tale of a young nurse who travels from Edinburgh, Scotland to Alaska in 1899 to work at St. Ann's Hospital in Douglas during the height of the great gold mines.

Coffee for this program is generously provided by Heritage Coffee Company.

Exhibits cont. from page 1:

will focus around the theme of light and color. Hanes' work will include gemstone jewelry, beaded bags, moccasins, gloves, and an octopus bag, designed from Alaskan seaweeds. The exhibit will also feature a retrospective of 12 to 15 pairs of moccasins she has made over the past 20 years.

Sara Lee is an artist, biologist & historical interpreter. Lee uses the medium of felted wool to explore personal and cultural history. Exhibited works will range from large functional furnishings to wearable clothing, to smaller decorative wall pieces such as *Halibut and Hook* (See image on page 1) which depicts a present day halibut contemplating an artifact from the past. Other sculptures will reference such historical themes as totem poles, octopus bags, and a fish trap quite similar to the Montana Creek Fish Trap displayed at the Museum.

In addition to their combined exhibition, Hanes & Lee will be offering workshops on beading and felting in December, so be on the look out for details later this fall!



A young girl & boy practicing proper brushing & flossing techniques with one of the interactives from *Mouth Power*.

To see a complete list of solo artists and all upcoming exhibits, please visit: www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/new.

February may seem like a long ways off, but it brings such an exciting exhibit, we just have to mention it in the fall newsletter! *Mouth Power*, a traveling exhibit from the Dr. Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry, will be on exhibit at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum February - April 2010. This dynamic exhibit will feature a variety of hands-on elements that teach kids (and adults) about healthy oral hygiene and proper dental care.

In conjunction with the

opening of *Mouth Power*, the Museum is currently looking for a dentist or dental historian who might be interested in presenting the history of dentistry in Juneau and/or the fascinating evolution of (*cringe*) dental instruments.

Please contact Alysia at 586-0966 if you or a dentist you know might be interested!

Poetry Podcasts: Check out the newest addition to the *Politics, Personalities & Power* gallery: Poetry podcasts on *The Quest for Statehood* and *Civil Rights in Alaska* were created by 7th grade students at Floyd Dryden Middle School in conjunction with the Capital City Phase 3: Digital Storytelling project.

The Podcasts are available for listening at the Museum and on-line at:

<http://www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/StatehoodCelebration.php>

Recent Acquisitions *April - September 2009*



Image of Juneau Ice-field taken by Toby Harbanuk. Museum Purchase. JDCM 2009.21.

2009.15	Historic Photographs, Gift of Mark Kirchhoff	2009.22	50 th Celebration Photographs Gift of Marie Darlin
2009.16	Photo Postcards Gift of the Carrie McLain Museum	2009.23	Photo Postcards, Gift of Sharon Baker
2009.17	Historic Photographs Gift of Dee Longenbaugh	2009.24	Historic Photographs, Gift of Vivian Lovaas
2009.18	Wool Mackinaw Coat Gift of Charles Benedict	2009.25	Decorative Art Tray Gift of Candy Waugaman
2009.19	Juneau Firefighters Collection Gift of the Juneau Volunteer Firefighters Association	2009.26	Skaggs & Ingalls Stroller Gift of Scott & Ellen Carrlee
2009.20	Original TOE Cartoons, Museum Purchase	2009.27	50 th Celebration Lanyard Transfer from Legislative Affairs, State of Alaska
2009.21	Ice-field Photographs by Toby Harbanuk Museum Purchase	2009.28	Reck Family Photographs Gift of Coralie A. Greenhow
		2009.29	Soap Box Derby Collection Gift of LeRoy West Jr.
		2009.30	Historic Household Materials Gift of Thom Cunningham
		2009.31	Statehood Medal, Gift of Mike Kirk

From the Collections Corner...

Well, we finished work on our Large Object Storage project! Thanks to everyone who helped us rearrange the basement, build mounts, move objects, paint and everything else! Now we are going to embark on the next phase of our basement and collections upgrades this fall! We received funding from an Alaska State Museum Grant-in-aid to improve our archival storage. Starting in October, we will be purchasing and installing a new set of storage shelves that are designed to accommodate archival boxes. We are going to install the shelves in the collections processing room. Then over the course of the winter Brenda Wright will be helping us to transfer our archival and historical photo collections out of the compactor storage unit and into the new shelving. This will provide numerous benefits, but most importantly it will allow us to more efficiently utilize the rapidly filling storage space in the basement. Additionally, it will free up 56 linear feet of space in the compactor storage unit, which can then be used for collection and storage of objects.

There is an added benefit, in that we are planning to install a water alarm system in the basement. In light of recent events here in the capital city, in which we have all seen the destruction water can do to historical collections; I for one am anxious to get the water alarms up and running!

Mr E Field

Addison Field
Curator of Collections & Exhibits