

2014 Keynote Speaker Announced!

Jan Seidler Ramirez

September 11 Memorial Museum

We are thrilled to announce Dr. Jan Ramirez from the [National September 11 Memorial Museum](#) as our keynote speaker in Seward, informing our theme of interpreting events that change the course of communities.

2014 Conference Theme - *Milestones: Interpreting Events that Change the Course of Communities*

Museums often preserve and share the impact of community changing events – from the tragic to the triumphant. We collect objects, record accounts, and share stories. On the 50th anniversary of the Great Alaska Earthquake and the 25th anniversary of the EXXON-Valdez Oil Spill, the 2014 Museums Alaska conference will explore the opportunities and challenges museums face in commemorating such community milestones.

Jan Seidler Ramirez is Chief Curator and Vice President of

Collections for the National September 11 Memorial and Museum in New York City. Under her guidance over the past 8 years, the Memorial Museum's collection has grown to include many thousands of objects, artworks, photographs, films, oral histories and audio artifacts, architectural relics, and other evidentiary materials relevant to 9/11.

Immediately prior to her 2006 appointment, she worked as a consulting curator to the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, which was spearheading renewal plans for the destroyed 16-acres of the World Trade Center. Previously, she served as Vice President and Museum Director at the New-York Historical Society, where she played a major role in developing that institution's 20th century collecting program and its History Responds initiative, a series of exhibitions, public programs, and collection acquisition efforts focused on the 9/11 attacks in their broad



Dr. Jan Seidler Ramirez, 9/11 Museum

historical context.

In her career Ramirez has held curatorial, interpretation, collections development and senior administrative posts at museums in Boston and New York, including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Hudson River Museum and the Museum of the City of New York. She also has taught and lectured on American and arts, and material culture at colleges, institutions and conferences across the country, served on the boards of various museums and non-profit cultural/educational organizations, and authored numerous publications relating to American arts and cultural history. A graduate of Dartmouth College, Jan earned her Ph.D. in American Studies at Boston University.

M

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New Board Member	2
President's Message	3
Grant Awards	4
Statewide News	4-13
Traveling Exhibits on Offer	6-7
New Museum Legislation	13
Contact	14



**Museums Alaska
Executive Director,
Heather Beggs**

*We welcome all
Museums Alaska
members for
Board membership*

Director's Note

Happy spring, everyone! We've had a busy winter at Museums Alaska with a successful advocacy fly-in to Juneau in January, a new bill to pave the way for museum construction grants from the State of Alaska, and continued strategic planning for the future of the organization.

In this issue you'll see more awards from the new Collections Management Fund — we've secured funding for three more years of this important new grant, thanks to Rasmuson Foundation. We're

also excited to work on a ten-year retrospective exhibition of the Art Acquisition Fund with former Board member, Sven Haakanson.

Wait, there's more! The program and host committees have been hard at work creating an amazing conference lineup for Seward this fall. You've read the front page headline on our keynote speaker from New York's newest museum (opening May 21st) and we can't wait to hear her contributions to our theme, interpreting catalytic events.

We are also forming new connections with other state museum associations and sharing best practices. The first convening in almost 20 years of the state groups occurred in March, attended by Jane Lindsey, Vice President, and myself. Watch the website for updates to resources for museums and cultural centers, based on our contacts and research.

We're glad you're with us as we move forward!

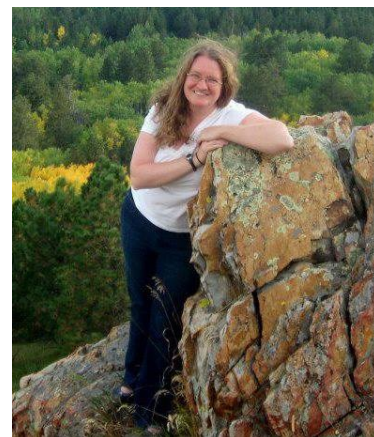
Heather

Welcome to the Board!

Hayley Chambers, Curator of Collections at the Sitka Historical Society and Museum joined the Museums Alaska Board of Directors in April, filling the vacated seat of Sorrel Goodwin.

Welcome, Hayley!

We welcome all Museums Alaska members for Board membership through the nominations process, beginning this summer, with elections at the Annual Meeting in Seward. The Board is actively working on a five-year strategic plan for Museums Alaska and is engaged throughout the year on committees. Consider joining the Board!



INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY

JOURNÉE INTERNATIONALE DES MUSÉES

DÍA INTERNACIONAL DE LOS MUSEOS



**18
MAY
MAI
MAYO
2014**

Click above for Press Kit on International Museum Day 2014

President's Message

The lengthening and warmer days tell us summer and our busy tourist-based season is about to start. Trees are leafing out and tour busses and motor homes are dotting our roads. It makes the deep dark cold of winter hard to remember, and yet, this has been a wonderfully productive and motivating few months for Alaskan museums.

January saw the first ever CHAMP Legislative Fly-In to Juneau where a corps of your fellow Museums Alaska members gathered together with representatives of other non-profit organizations to talk to Alaskan Legislators about the needs facing our groups. As a first-time legislature visitor, on my first trip to Juneau, I was nervous and bewildered about the whole process. But with the leadership of our Advocacy Committee chairperson, Jane Lindsey, and a contingent of fellow Museums Alaska members, I was able to move beyond that nervousness, deliver a presentation at the Lunch 'n Learn, and visit a couple of legislators from Fairbanks. Sharing the Jubilee Cabin at the Shrine of St. Therese outside of Juneau, participants bonded over late-night games of Trivial Pursuit '80s Edition and long drives in the dark. We supported each other's community needs, and learned about each

other's strengths. We shouted our support of Patty Relay, Valdez Museum & Historical Archive, who received a Governor's Award for the Humanities. And best of all, as you'll read on page 13, we were able to solicit the support of Bethel's Bob Herron to sponsor a bill addressing our capital project needs across the state.

We wish to extend our thanks to Sorrel Goodwin for his years of service on the board of directors. Sorrel resigned his seat this March, and we are sad to see him go. But we are happy to report that Hayley Chambers of Sitka has accepted an appointment to take his place. Please take a moment to welcome Hayley.

As you'll read, your board and committees of members have been very busy preparing for an exciting annual meeting in Seward. Remember to use our conference hashtag, **#AHSMA2014** as you start tweeting and posting comments on Facebook in anticipation! Have a great summer and see you in Seward!

Angela Linn, Museums Alaska President

"As a first-time legislature visitor, on my first trip to Juneau, I was nervous and bewildered about the whole process."

Seward hosts 2014 conference!

Save the date! The annual MA/AHS joint conference will be in Seward this year, **October 1-4, 2014**.

Registration will be online soon...

Book your room and arrange travel NOW!

Details on the conference website:

www.resbayhistorical.org



Check out the Spring 2013 Network for great photos of Seward's new Community Library Museum building at <http://museumsalaska.org/2013/05/17/spring-2013-network/>

Museums Alaska Grants in 2014

Museums Alaska is pleased to administer two funds for the Rasmuson Foundation: the Art Acquisition Fund and the Collections Management Fund. Each have two grant cycles during the year. First cycle awards are listed here. Apply for the next cycle [online](#) (Collections Management Fund) or by contacting [Michael Hawfield](#) (Art Acquisition Fund).



partnership



DEADLINES:

Art Acquisition Fund—**August 15, 2014**

Collections Management Fund—**September 30, 2014**

ART ACQUISITION AWARDS:

Alaska State Museums	\$5,800
Alutiq Museum	\$2,490
American Bald Eagle Foundation	\$7,500
Anchorage Museum	\$11,950
Cordova Museum	\$1,750
Hammer Museum	\$4,600
Juneau-Douglas City Museum	\$5,900
Sheldon Museum	\$6,000
Sheldon Jackson Museum (ASM)	\$2,500

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT AWARDS:

Alaska Aviation Museum	\$4,680
Alaska Museum of Science & Nature	\$2,700
Alaska State Museum	\$3,750
Bristol Bay Historical Society	\$9,860
Cordova Museum	\$2,700
Friends of the Tanana Valley RR	\$2,781
Kodiak Historical Society	\$2,819
Sheldon Jackson Museum	\$2,614

Alaska Veterans Museum salutes Col. Mary Louise (Milligan) Rasmuson

Thursday, June 26th

Col. Suellyn Wright Novak

Come hear about a real glass ceiling breaker, before we even knew that term! When Mary Louise was passed over for a lesser qualified candidate for the Superintendent of her School District because she was female, she showed them by joining the Army. In 1942 she joined the first class of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, taking training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. She would rise through the ranks to become the fifth Director of the Women's Army Corps. Her uniforms, photos, scrapbooks, swagger stick and more detail her military service to our nation. Also playing will be clips from her oral history collected by AVM in June 2008. A portrait done for AVM by world-renowned portrait artist Michael G. Reagan will be prominently featured. This display will debut June 26th at our event: 333 W 4th Ave, Anchorage.

Environmental Responsibility & Sustainability: Museums as Leaders

Zachary R. Jones, Sealaska Heritage Institute

Museums have the opportunity to fulfill a diversity of educational roles, including the ability serve as examples of environmental responsibility. This notion was recently encouraged in the March/April 2014 issue of AAM's *Museum Magazine*, which focused on "Greening the Museum." As noted in scholarship, misconceptions persist about the actual costs and practical options for museums to apply environmentally responsive practices, but every repository can take sequential actions along a continuum that result in cost savings, greater sustainability, and that respect our climate and planet.

Although few museums have a trove of funding lying in wait for the purchase of upgrades to their building or the opportunity to build a new environmentally responsive facility, repositories and their practices can improve over a continuum. This can occur with the initiative of administrations and museum staff, especially as the two work together.

In an ideal situation when a new repository is being planned, administrations can arrange for a new facility to pursue LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification, a green building certification program that recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices.¹ With the high prices of heating, electric-

ity, and other bills museums must pay, planning to reduce these amounts from the beginning is a fiscal advantage in the long run. Repositories in Alaska have taken this step, such as the Sealaska Heritage Institute in Juneau, which is pursuing LEED Gold Certification for its new facility, the Walter Soboleff Center. Additional options for facility design, remodel, climate control management, policy development, and everyday practices have been examined by scholars.² This work provides museum professionals with a roadmap.

Greening the museum can occur at various levels within an institution. Various museum professionals have found ways to apply environmentally responsive practices to their daily work. Conservators and curators have documented methods for substituting expensive and toxic conservation supplies for those which are less harmful to the environment and cost effective.³ Museum exhibit teams have also documented new ways to install exhibits, reduce post-exhibit waste, and recycle effort.⁴

While an immediate incentive for museums that apply green practices is the realized cost savings, being environmentally responsive is also being ethically responsive; thinking about how our actions today can affect the world tomorrow. Museums can be leaders in demonstrating the importance and viability of sustainable practices and respecting the environment.

"Museums can be leaders in demonstrating the importance and viability of sustainable practices and respecting the environment."

1. Paul Pearson, "A Children's Museum Goes Green: The Path to LEED Certification," *ASTC Dimensions* (Nov./Dec. 2003): 6-7.

2. See Sarah S. Brophy and Elizabeth Whyllie, *The Green Museum: A Primer on Environmental Practice* (New York: Altamira Press, 2008).

3. Jia-sun Tsang, R. Scott Schmidt, and Chris Hollshwander, "Conservation Meets Sustainability: Recycling Wooden Exhibit Cases," *WAAC Newsletter* 35, no. 2 (May 2013): 18-20; Sarah Staniforth, "Sustainability and Collections," *Getty Conservation Institute Newsletter* 26, no. 1 (Spring 2011): 12-14; Patricia Silence, "How are US Conservators Going Green? Results of Polling AIC Members," *Studies in Conservation* 55 (2010): 159-163; and Michael C. Henry, "From the Outside In: Preventative Conservation, Sustainability and Environmental Management," *Getty Conservation Institute Newsletter* 22, no. 1 (2007): 4-9.

4. Jonathan Katz, "Sustainability & Specimen Display: A Conflict of Program?" *Exhibitionist* (Spring 2010): 66-69; Greg Belew, Kathy Gustafson-Hilton, Sharon Handy, and Lyn Wood, "Splinters from Green Materials: Conversations about the Frictions of Green Exhibition Design," *Exhibitionist* (Spring 2010): 54-64; Tim McNeil, "Adaptation, Mitigation, Innovation: Greening the Exhibition Experience," *Exhibitionist* (Spring 2009): 26-27; Jessica Wilcox, "OMSI Green Exhibit Certification: A Cost-saving Tool for the Exhibition Field," *Exhibitionist* (Spring 2009): 14-20; Brenda Baker, "Green Exhibitions in Children's Museums: Setting the Bar Higher," *Exhibitionist* (Spring 2009): 58-64; and John W. Jacobsen, "From Red Dinosaurs to Green Exhibitions," *Exhibitionist* (Spring 2009): 6-12.

Traveling Exhibit Opportunities Abound!

Communities, Disaster and Change

The Valdez Museum has been hard at work curating a traveling exhibit commemorating the Good Friday Earthquake and the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (see article on next page). Contact them if you want to get on the tour!

Art Acquisition Fund Retrospective

Museums Alaska, Rasmuson Foundation and guest curator Sven Haakanson are planning a ten-year retrospective exhibition and compiling a traveling catalogue on the collections that were purchased through the Art Acquisition Fund. We plan to highlight approximately 50 works selected from the list of objects acquired from each institution over the life of the program. The traveling exhibition will go to approximately five communities across Alaska starting in 2016.

Sven is currently soliciting interested venues and art selections from institutions that have participated in the program over the last decade.

Contact Sven Haakanson Jr.

Email: svenh@uw.edu

Subject line: Arts-A-Fund Retro

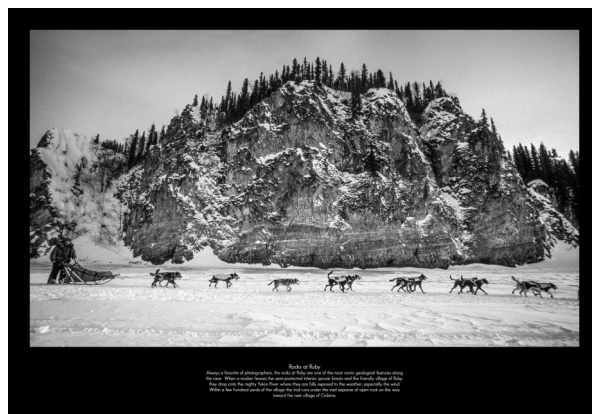


Jeff Schultz Iditarod Photography

A collection of Jeff Schultz photography from this year's Iditarod reception is available to be curated into a traveling exhibition if there is an interested institution. Jeff Schultz has been the official Iditarod photographer for 35 years. Contact [Heather](#) at Museums Alaska if you are interested in pursuing this project or learning more about the opportunity.

Strung Up and Reconfigured: Puppetry in Haines and Beyond

The Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center in Haines just completed an amazing puppet exhibit, "Strung Up and Reconfigured: Puppetry in Haines and Beyond." We have over 100 puppeteers in Haines who are constructing and collecting hundreds of puppets. We were thinking about making this into a traveling show. If your museum is interested, contact [Helen Alten, Director](#).



The Valdez Museum Commemorates the Good Friday Earthquake and the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

This year is shaping up to be a big one for the Valdez Museum. 2014 marks the fifty-year anniversary of the Good Friday Earthquake, the record-breaking, 9.2-magnitude quake that necessitated the relocation of the entire town to its present site, about 4 miles away. The commemoration of this tragic event, which resulted in 32 lives lost from Valdez, has prompted the museum to work with the City of Valdez and other organizations to facilitate a series of events throughout the year.

Beginning in March, to coincide with the March 27th anniversary date, the museum’s Remembering Old Valdez Exhibit, at 436 S. Hazelet Avenue, has been open to the public for additional hours of operation. The extended season provides extra opportunities for the public to see all that ROVE has to offer. Remembering Old Valdez features the museum’s award-winning documentary “Between the Glacier and the Sea,” telling the story of Valdez’s Gold Rush and earthquake history. The centerpiece to the attraction is a 1:20 scale model of Valdez as it appeared in 1963 – one year before the quake – accompanied by photographs and an interpretive booklet. Other highlights include a touch-screen kiosk featuring personal interviews with earthquake survivors, a furnished section of an Old Town house, and exhibits about Valdez’s firefighting history.

March 2014 also includes the unveiling of the museum’s newest permanent upgrade, “A Moving Experience: A Look Back at the Good Friday Earthquake.” Funded in part by the City of Valdez and Rasmuson Foundation, this upgrade to the museum’s earthquake exhibit at its main site features an all-new look at the experience of the earthquake and its effects on Valdez, featuring rarely-seen artifacts and photographs from the museum’s collection. The opening of the exhibit coincided with the Pioneers of Alaska annual earthquake memorial, and included remarks from Mayor David Cobb, Governor Sean Parnell, a video greeting from Senator Mark Begich, and a reading by Valdez poet Marie Blood.

The summer of 2014 includes a traveling temporary exhibition. Entitled “Communities, Disaster & Change,” the exhibition provides a twist on the earthquake commemoration through its connection with other communities and other disasters. Funded in part by the Western States Arts Federation, the City of Valdez, Rasmuson Foundation, and Alyeska Pipeline

Service Co., “Communities, Disaster and Change,” features artwork in a variety of media by 28 of Alaska’s finest artists. Reacting to the theme of how artists and communities relate to their own experience with natural disasters, the exhibit will be accompanied by a full-color catalogue.

“Communities, Disaster and Change” will be on display at the Valdez Museum from May 2 to September 7, 2014, before touring to six different locations. The schedule is:

2014	
May 2 – September 9	Valdez Museum
September 15 – October 18	Pratt Museum
November 1 – January 2, 2014	Cordova Museum
2015	
January 9 – February 23	Well St. Art Company Fairbanks, AK
March 2 – June 30	Windward Community College Kaneohe, HI
July 11 – September 26	Coos Bay Art Museum Coos Bay, OR
October 6 – December 15	Juneau-Douglas City Museum

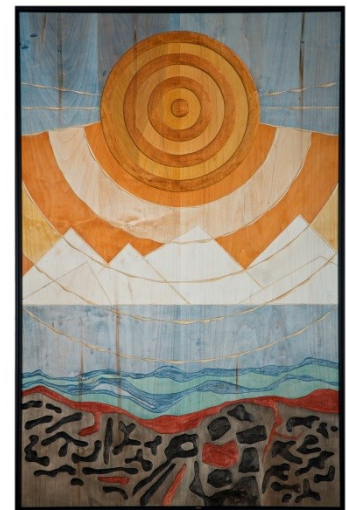
“The exhibition provides a twist on the earthquake commemoration through its connection with other communities and other disasters.”

Throughout the year, the Museum’s education and public programs department will be creating new educational tools and improved interpretive models that teach about the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake and its impact on Valdez, AK. The activities will promote a better understanding of Old Town, its origin and dynamic history, for Valdez K-12 school children and a wider array of multi-generational learners. They will demonstrate the science of earthquakes and tsunamis in general, and in particular, the nature of the local tsunami and earthquake that had an impact on

Old Town and changed the history of Valdez.



Rachelle Dowdy



Ron Senungetuk

Weaving Through History

Amy Steffian
Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository

Grass, spruce root, and baleen are among the stars of a new exhibit opening at Kodiak's Alutiiq Museum in May. *Inartalicirpet – Our Weaving Ways* highlights Alutiiq uses of natural fibers, from the distant past to the present. The exhibit tracks the history of Alutiiq weaving. It considers how the weaving arts have been passed down in the Kodiak region, and how recent efforts to study historic Alaskan basketry are contributing to their revitalization.

The project was inspired by a 2010 trip to St. Petersburg, Russia, led by former museum director Dr. Sven Haakanson, Jr. with Alutiiq artists Melissa Berns, Coral Chernoff, Vickie Era, June Pardue, and Elizabeth Peterson. The weavers toured two museums examining woven objects from the Aleutian Islands, Alaska Peninsula, and Kodiak collected by eighteenth and nineteenth centuries Russian traders. The weavers will be featured in the exhibit with examples of their artwork inspired by the study of ancestral objects.

Produced with generous funding from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, the exhibit will be on display in Kodiak for three years. Over the course of the show, the museum plans to add hands-on weav-

ing and knot tying activities to the displays and host a series of workshops on the stages of basket making from picking and curing grass, to making a basket.

"We want people to understand that weaving is alive in the Alutiiq community and give our audience a chance to personally explore the art as part of this show," says Dr. Alisha Drabek, the museum's executive director and the exhibit's curator. "Weaving is a holistic art that touches so many aspects of life — livelihood, healing, identity, meditation, and connections to our past. Practicing it helps you understand the skill our ancestors had in making everything from containers to clothing out of our natural materials."

An exhibit guidebook highlighting ancestral Unangan and Alutiiq weavings in the collection of the Russian Museum of Ethnography is a part of the project and will be available this summer. The booklet will share profiles of the weavers, Alutiiq language terms related to weaving, and photographs of the historic weavings that inspired the show.

"Weaving is a holistic art that touches so many aspects of life — livelihood, healing, identity, meditation, and connections to our past."

OPENING
 May 2014

Inartalicirpet *Our Weaving Ways*

The Alutiiq Museum presents a new exhibit to celebrate the renewal of Alutiiq weaving traditions, inspiration for contemporary weavers, and the chain of knowledge that continues to grow.

Three Inducted into Alaska Aviation Hall of Fame

Jarod Hoogland, Collections and Exhibits Alaska Aviation Museum

The Alaska Aviation Museum inducted three new members to the Alaska Aviation Hall of Fame in 2014. These awards go to aviators and others who have shaped and guided the aviation industry in Alaska, impacting not only their own industry, but the growth and maturing of the state itself. This year's honorees are:

Bill English - Bill English was born in 1923 in Coldfoot, Alaska. A pioneer of his time, Bill English was the first Alaska Native commercial pilot, first Native to earn an airline transport rating and first Native to be designated as an FAA pilot examiner. He flew for Wien Airlines for 37 years, transitioning from pioneer bush pilot to modern-day jet pilot. He continued to contribute to his community, serving on various community boards and co-founding the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics.

F. Atlee Dodge - F. Atlee Dodge was born in 1922 in Lovingson, Virginia. In 1941 he enlisted in the Army Air Corps, serving as flight engineer, crew chief and gunner on B-24 bombers. Following his military career, he worked as an aircraft mechanic for various companies in Washington. He moved his family to Alaska in 1957 to work for Pacific Northern Air. In the 1960s he started F. Atlee Dodge Aircraft Services, gaining a reputation as "Mr. Super Cub" for his many inventive aircraft modifications. He was a brilliant engineer, inventor, innovator, pilot and businessman.

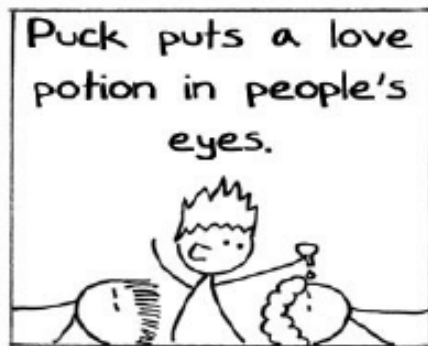


Jack Peck - Jack Peck was born in 1915 in Exeter, California. In the 1930s Peck partnered with Wyman Rice to form Peck and Rice Airways, primarily flying out of Anchorage and Bethel. In 1947 he signed on as Chief Pilot for Al Jones Flying Service. He also served as Chief Pilot for Alaska Airlines in the 1950s. He then started and operated Alaska Aeronautical Industries (AAI) until the 1970s, when he was appointed to Anchorage International Airport Manager by Governor Egan. Peck had a sterling reputation as an accomplished airman and as a careful, dedicated pilot.

A Wide and Universal Stage

The Fairbanks Community/Dog Mushing Museum was proud to be the home site of the Bard-A-Thon XV April 19-27. For 15 years the Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre has presented a marathon reading of all of the plays and sonnets by William Shakespeare. For the first time, the Dog Mushing Gallery at the museum was the "wide and universal stage" for this community event. We moved historic dog sleds, interpretive panels, and display cases, to make room for this 9-day, 24-hours a day, epic event!

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (in 3 Panels)



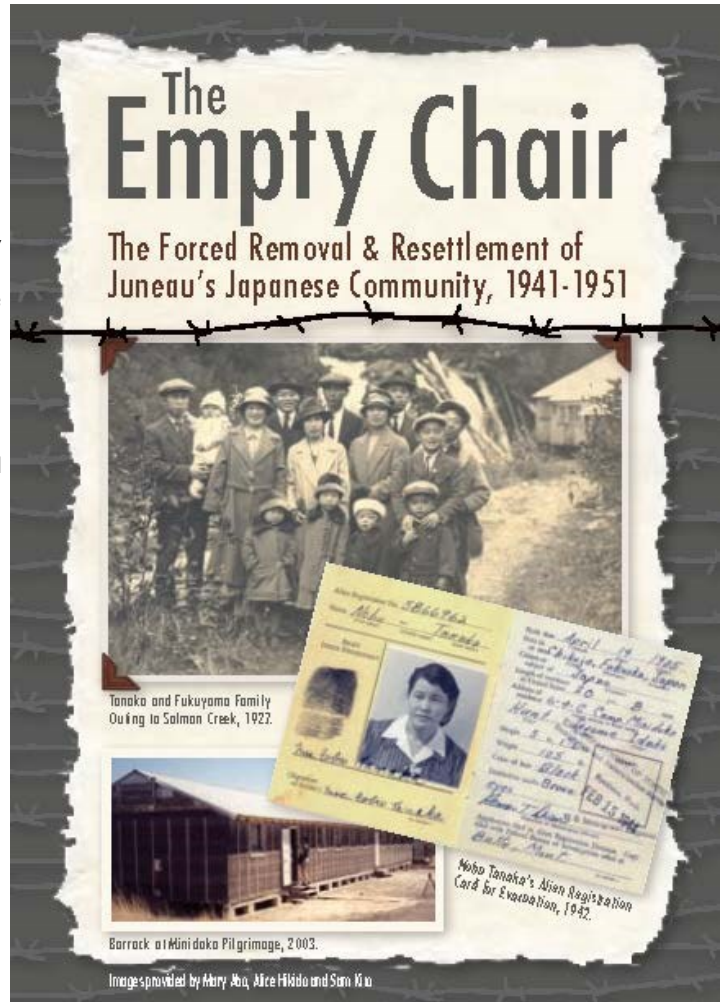
©2014 Mya Gosling

www.goodticklebrain.com

The Empty Chair: The Forced Removal and Resettlement of Juneau's Japanese Community

Juneau-Douglas City Museum's Curator of Collections & Exhibits, Jodi DeBruyne, and Director, Jane Lindsey, and members of the Empty Chair Project Committee, Mary Tanaka Abo most particularly, collaborated on an exhibit on display at the City Museum this summer and fall. **The Empty Chair** shares the stories of Japanese-American families who were evacuated from Juneau during World War II. The exhibit opens at the Museum this summer and runs through October 26, 2014, in conjunction with the installation of the Empty Chair Memorial in Capital School Park in July.

In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 which required all Americans with Japanese heritage to be removed from their homes and transported to and held in internment camps. Juneau residents watched with confusion and grief as their neighbors were forced to leave and travel to Minidoka Relocation Center located in Idaho. Most residents could not believe their Juneau neighbors were enemies of the United States and watched over homes and businesses while their neighbors were gone.



The "Empty Chair" refers to a seat left unfilled at the 1942 Juneau High School graduation ceremony. "Amidst this furor (of the evacuation of Japanese-Americans), a decision was made to hold a special graduation ceremony for Juneau High School's 1942 Valedictorian, John Tanaka. Subsequently, when his class graduated in June, 1942, an empty, wooden folding chair was left to symbolize John's absence, and by extension, an entire community of Japanese and Japanese-Americans," states the Empty Chair Project at www.emptychairproject.wordpress.com. Visit this website to learn more about this sad time in our history and the work that has been done to "honor those Juneau Japanese who were interned during the war as well as to recognize the loyal Juneau friends who welcomed them home and helped them pick up their lives again."

The Empty Chair Memorial Sculpture is a bronze chair resting on boards reminiscent of the gym floor and etched with names of the locally interned. Designed by Seattle artist Peter Reiquam, the memorial is the first of its kind in Alaska and is slated to be dedicated on July 12, 2014 at Capital School Park, with a reception from 12-5 pm hosted by the Juneau-Douglas City Museum. Many members of the families whose history is represented will be in attendance.

Alaska State Museum Promotes Field

Addison Field has been promoted to Chief Curator of the Alaska State Museum in Juneau. Field replaces Robert Banghart, who was appointed Deputy Director of Libraries, Archives and Museums in 2013.

Field began his Alaska museum career in 2004 at the reception desk of the museum he now will be managing. After a year at the Alaska State Museum, he spent two years as Director of the Sheldon Museum & Cultural Center in Haines. He returned to Juneau in 2007 to work as the Curator of Collections & Exhibits for the Juneau-Douglas City Museum.

In October 2012, Field took the position of Registrar at the Alaska State Museum, where he has been working primarily on coordinating the move of the museum's 32,000 objects to the nearly completed collections vault in the SLAM facility currently under construction in downtown Juneau.

Field has a bachelor of arts degree in history from the Virginia Military Institute and a master of fine



arts degree in museum studies from The George Washington University.

For a 2012 interview with Addison Field in the Alaska State Museum Bulletin, [click here](#).

“Every position I’ve had has been a positive learning experience and I’ve met so many wonderful people along the way...”

Alutiiq Museum Welcomes Three New Staff Members to its Team

Frank Peterson joined the Alutiiq Museum in the fall of 2013 as Director of Operations. He oversees the daily administration of museum finances, facilities, and personnel. Frank holds two associates degrees from the University of Alaska in business and accounting. He is both a tribal and community leader, serving on the Shun’aq Tribal Council and as a Kodiak Island Borough Assembly member.

In January, 2014, Cristina Faiella became the Alutiiq Museum’s gallery manager. She oversees the museum store, leads tours, supports local artists, develops store products and events, and acts as a member of the museum exhibits team. Raised in New York City, Cristina’s career interests are in leisure management. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in sports and entertainment management from Barry University, with a minor in marketing.

Brian Fraley is the Alutiiq Museum’s new Communications Director. He oversees promotion of the museum. He leads marketing and advertising, manages social media, and acts as press liaison. He also completes graphic design projects for exhibits, publications, and marketing and supports the museum’s community and membership outreach efforts. Brian, a graduate of Kodiak High School, earned an AA in Visual Communications and Graphic Design from the Art Institute of Seattle and has two decades of design and marketing experience. He joined the museum’s team in January, 2014.

Museums Alaska works on Museum Construction Bill

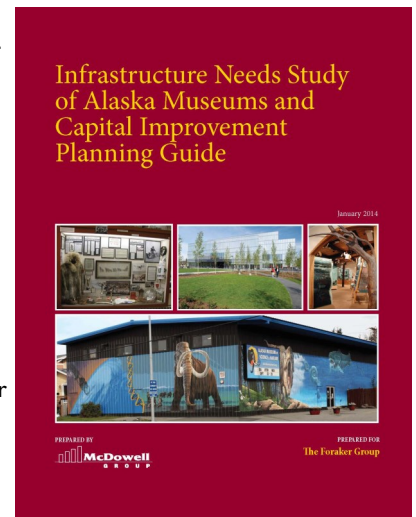
During the recent legislative session Museums Alaska launched efforts to create a major matching grant program within the State of Alaska to fund capital projects for museums and cultural centers statewide. Representative Bob Herron of Bethel sponsored House Bill 333 and the Museums Alaska Advocacy Committee worked with the sponsor to support the effort. Eva Malvich, a constituent of Rep. Herron's, gave testimony on the bill in Juneau while she was down helping out for a week with the Alaska State Museum packing. Many other Museums Alaska members testified from around the state, supporting our case for a predictable funding mechanism for museum renovation, expansion and construction.

The Museums Alaska Board of Directors has listened to the many concerns of museums around the state that struggle to fund capital improvement projects at their institutions. To secure state funds they must go through the political process of district discretionary funding by their legislators. Libraries in the state have benefitted from a major matching grant program for the last seven years, with \$50 million awarded to build 14 new libraries statewide. A ranking system in addition to a grant application process provides a structure that Museums Alaska hopes to build on in creating a similar program for museums.

A study prepared by the McDowell Group for the Foraker Group in January 2014 reports that three-quarters of 53 museums contacted anticipate a need for major capital improvements in the next five years. With many museums housed in Centennial buildings, often they lack the necessary systems to safely maintain collections.

In conjunction with the Juneau Fly-In, Museums Alaska members began the process of educating legislators on our specialized needs. The bill was granted an informational hearing in the House Education Committee at the end of the session and Museums Alaska will continue to work with the sponsor's office and the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums over the interim to plan for introduction of a new bill in the next legislative session.

Stay tuned for updates on how you can participate to help support this effort that will benefit all institutions in the state.



Fairbanks Community/Dog Mushing Museum

Makes Headlines

Diane Fleeks

The Fairbanks Community/Dog Mushing Museum (FCM) was pleased to present a special exhibition for the 2014 Arctic Winter Games, March 7- 26, 2014, held in Fairbanks. The Arctic Winter Games is a biennial Olympics-style sporting event for over 5,000 athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators from across the Circumpolar North. The FCM's exhibit: "Arctic Winter Games: Then and Now" featured personal momentos including parkas, medals, flags, and pins from former athletes, donations from the 2014 International Arctic Winter Games organization, and historic photos from the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner.



Front Page, Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, March 7, 2014
Fairbanks Community Museum President Bob Eley, Vice President Diane Fleeks set up exhibition for Arctic Winter Games



The Statewide Museum Association

PO Box 3004
Homer, AK 99603
907.306.3409

director@museumsalaska.org

**Renew your membership today at
museumsalaska.org/membership**

We couldn't do it without you!

Board of Directors 2014

Angela Linn, President	Fairbanks
Jane Lindsey, Vice President	Juneau
Amy Russell-Jamgochian, Treasurer	Nome
Michele Miller, Secretary	Homer
Hayley Chambers	Sitka
Molly Conley	Anchorage
Jackie Fernandez	Sitka
Andrew Goldstein	Valdez
Eva Malvich	Bethel

Executive Director

Heather Beggs Homer



**YOU CAN HELP MUSEUMS ALASKA EARN DONATIONS
BY SHOPPING WITH YOUR FRED MEYER REWARDS CARD**

Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Museums Alaska at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number **93662**

We earned almost \$60 in the first quarter of 2014 with only four households signed up. Let's add a few more!

