

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

1/21/2011

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WHAT'S IN THE ARCHIVES: COMMUNITY JUDICIAL RECORDS

Larry Hibpshman's tour by Friday Bulletin of the Alaska State Archives concludes with a look at the Territorial courts records available at the State Archives.

The 1st Organic Act established a single Territorial District Court for all Alaska in 1884. In 1900 three judicial divisions were created & a fourth was established later. Until Statehood & the 1963 borough system, nearly every local activity was managed by the local courts, especially the U.S. Commissioners who often acted like justices of the peace.

Here is a selection of records ~ from the original all-Alaska Division & all four of the later divisions ~ that deal directly with issues in local communities:

- Commissioner reports Circle, Eagle, Haines, Kodiak, Rampart, St. Michael, Unalaska & Unga 1895-1900
- District Court Mining locations & mining district organization minutes for Harris, Kodiak, Nome, Nunivak, Sitka, Valdez, White River, Wrangell 1898-1899
- District Clerk criminal docket; 1884-1960
- 1st Division Yakutat Commissioner Probate-Phoebe Weir 1904-1936
- 2nd Division Cape Nome Commissioner civil, criminal & probate dockets, journals, case files, orders; 1948-1950
- 2nd Division Ketchikan District Attorney, docket 1925-1927
- 3rd Division Unga Commissioner: leases 1886-1913
- 4th Division Courthouse-Jail plans, Colfoot, Eagle, Fairbanks, Nushagak, Rampart, Circle, Unalaska, Valdez 1900-1907

NEW MILITARY BLOGS

Last month a number of blogs were announced by the US military, including the ones below:

- Army Technology Live - <http://armytechnology.armylive.dodlive.mil> - The official blog of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. Learn about Army initiatives and the work the Army technology team does to make our warfighters safer and more effective.
- Navy Live - <http://navylive.dodlive.mil> - The official blog of the United States Navy.
- PEO Soldier Live - <http://peosoldier.armylive.dodlive.mil> - The Program Executive Office (PEO) is the Army acquisition agency responsible for everything a Soldier wears or carries.
- Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific Blog - <http://spawarpacific.blogspot.com> - Stay up to date with the Navy's premier research, development, test, and evaluation laboratory.
- VAntage Point - <http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage> - The official blog of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

ASM PUBLISHES E-BULLETIN

Congratulations to Scott Carrlee for masterminding the publication of the Alaska State Museum's Bulletin #36, its first in electronic format, including many great photos. We are quite excited about the possibilities of this format. Here is the Table of Contents with links to the full articles:

- **Ask ASM:** [Question: We have a large painting that has fine construction dust on the front of it. How do you recommend cleaning the dust off? Thanks.](#)
- **Shaking the Money Tree:** [Grants, Grants, and More Grants.](#)
- **Spotlight on Grant in Aid:** [The Tanana Valley Railroad Museum](#)
- **ASM on the Road:** [Seward Museum Assessment](#)
- **Alaska Museums in the News:** [The Port Alexander Museum Grand Opening](#)
- **Professional Development/Training Opportunities:** [Online museum classes etc.](#)
- **Lamp Light:** [What's new with the Alaska State Library Archives and Museum Building Project](#)
- **Alaska Museum Day Film Reminder:** [The Alaska State Museum will be organizing an Alaska Museum Day celebration on May 14, 2011.](#)
- **Standard in Excellence Program (StEPs):** [You have heard about it, now is the time to sign up. This is the flagship standards program from the American Association for State and Local History \(AASLH\).](#)
- **Professional Time Wasting on the Web:** [Who knew there was so much stuff out there?](#)

The most current version of the ASM Bulletin can be found at <http://museumbulletin.wordpress.com>. Past issues of the ASM Bulletin can be found at <http://www.museums.state.ak.us/Bulletin/bulletin.html>

GUYS AND GALS READ RULES!

Here is a report from Greg Hill, director of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Library, on the library's very popular and successful Guys Read program, and its new and growing corollary, Gals Read. The FNSB Library's Guys Read program begins its 6th season next week, still experiencing near 100% voluntary attendance by 4th grade boys at every public elementary school in the borough. Guys Read now uses document cameras to project the pages from the well-illustrated, boy-friendly books while volunteer readers use laser pointers to show where they're reading. Doing this at lunchtime has proven effective at holding even the most reluctant reader's attention. Having great books helps, and most of the program's books make each school library's top ten book lists annually.

Last year's pilot Gals Read Program has expanded from 3 to 10 schools, and with a few modifications, follows the Guys Read model. The girls' books are a bit more nuanced, and so each of the program's four books are read from at two separate presentations. For the boys, eight books are read from (one at each presentation) since a wider net is being cast to capture the boy's interests.

Using Skype, authors of two of the books will present live readings at the program wrap-up parties held at the main public library. *Mouse Guard* author/illustrator David Petersen will read a new story for the boys, and so will Mark Crilley, author/illustrator of *Akiko and the Planet Smoo*.

The Guys Read Manual has been updated and recompiled and is available for free online at <http://fnsblibrary.org/GuysReadManual.pdf>.

Contact Greg Hill at Noel Wien Library to receive the latest list of books or to learn more about the program.

E-READER ADVICE

Becky Heil, librarian at [Carnegie-Stout Public Library](#), Dubuque, Iowa, and president-elect of the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) has shared something she put together for her library about e-readers.

It's aimed at those who have e-reading devices and are disappointed not to be able to check out library books. The most interesting part is a list of places where you can get free eBooks, but it also includes a few articles about the technology and some reviews of particular sites. Find the guide at <http://carnegiestout.blogspot.com/2011/01/free-resources-for-your-e-reader.html>.

FREE TEACHING RESOURCES ONLINE

Children's literature, rocketry, engineering, artists, government, boomtowns, consumers, and conservation are the focus of new resources at FREE, the website that makes it easier to find teaching and learning resources from the federal government: <http://www.free.ed.gov/>. Here are a few:

ArtBabble.org is an online community that features videos about art and artists. It includes a range of videos from the National Gallery of Art -- interviews with artists, explorations of works (six videos on Vermeer's "Woman Holding a Balance"), and quirky, fun pieces. http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=2182

Our Government describes how the federal government works. Topics include the three branches (executive, legislative, judicial), the Constitution, federal agencies and commissions, elections and voting, and state and local governments.

http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=2183

Southern Nevada: The Boomtown Years provides more than 1500 primary documents, photos, and maps that tell the story of southern Nevada's boom towns (in the late 19th and early 20th centuries). Special sections focus on mines and the railroad. Business records and newspaper articles are included, along with suggested learning activities

http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=2181

You Are Here provides lessons on advertising, marketing, scams, protecting personal information, and other consumer concepts. Visit the virtual mall to learn about business competition, supply and demand, mergers and monopolies, and the history of the Federal Trade Commission.

http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=2179

International Children's Digital Library aims to make the best in children's literature from around the world available free on the web. It includes nearly 5,000 books in over 50 languages in a child-friendly format for reading online. Search books by language, award winning titles, and more.

http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=2187

Engineering Design for Human Exploration: Energy and Power helps students learn a 12-step engineering design process as they solve problems associated with traveling to and living on the moon. http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=2185

NASA Education Rocketry is a website devoted to learning about rockets. There's a beginner's guide to rockets, a pictorial history of rockets, an index of rocket topics (including math and science fundamentals), and more. It offers interactive features, including one on "building a rocket."

http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=2186

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides publications about conserving natural resources. Search for publications by topic -- water, soil, plants, and more.

http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=2178

AKLA: SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

The AkLA conference is in just a few weeks! The annual Silent Auction is soliciting items to be sold to help fund the AkLA scholarship program, which supports those seeking MLIS degrees. The auction is a highlight of the conference.

If you can donate items, please call or email auction organizers [Carol Hedlin](mailto:Carol.Hedlin@alaska.gov) (907-796-6016) or [Linda Thibodeau](mailto:Linda.Thibodeau@alaska.gov) (907-465-2911) to let them know what to expect. You can also mail items to Linda Thibodeau, Alaska State Library, P.O. Box 110571 Juneau, AK 99811-0571.

Thanks for your generosity! We look forward to seeing you at the auction.

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