

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

12/2/2011

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at http://lam.alaska.gov/about_lam/FridayBulletin.html.

Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov and may be edited for content and length if used.

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NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

WHO WE ARE: SORREL GOODWIN (MUSEUM REGISTRAR)



I entered the museum world in 1995, and began my journey as a museum professional by beginning a NAGPRA research internship at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. For the last 15 years, I have been immersed in this field, which was a childhood dream, and have been fortunate enough to have worked for several of Chicago's most prestigious museums and research institutions, including the Field Museum of Natural History, The Chicago Historical Society, and the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian in Evanston, Illinois. I have worked in this capacity as a Collections Manager, Registrar, Exhibits Technician, Curatorial Assistant, Museum Educator, NAGPRA Specialist, and Researcher. I am currently the Museum Registrar at the Alaska State Museum and have served in this capacity for three years.

In addition to my extensive experience in the museum world, I was a professional Archivist for 5 years at the Sealaska Heritage Institute, and was responsible for organizing, cataloging, collecting, and managing Sealaska Heritage Institute's extensive paper, audio, video, digital, and ethnographic archives.

In September 2007, I was hired as the Museum Registrar at the Alaska State Museum. Under the general direction of the Chief Curator, I oversee the care, safety, storage, physical preservation and documentation of approximately 35,000 objects in the museum's permanent collections. I am responsible for coordinating all movement of artifacts including regional, national, and international shipping, customs and broker relations, as well as the documentation, care and safety of all collections entering, leaving, or being moved within the museum. This includes loans and traveling exhibitions. I act as the custodian of the essential legal records documenting all museum objects owned, borrowed or in the custody of the Alaska State Museum & Sheldon Jackson Museum.

SAM MCCLAIN RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH WATERCOLOR EXHIBIT

Where: Alaska State Library, 8th Floor State Office Building, Juneau

When: Month of December, Opening for First Friday, December 2nd, 2011 4-6 p.m.

Sam McClain (1919-1994) specialized in pen and ink drawings and watercolors. He was best known for this collection of watercolors, which represent Russian Orthodox Churches throughout the state of Alaska. Sam McClain painted this collection of watercolors as a way to preserve Alaska's Russian Orthodox Churches.

For more information about this watercolor exhibit, please contact Jim Simard james.simard@alaska.gov or Julie Niederhauser Julie.niederhauser@alaska.gov

NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

ANCHORAGE MUSEUM ACQUIRES WWII POW PHOTOS, LEGACY DOCUMENTS

We recently received this exciting news from the Anchorage Museum:

The Anchorage Museum has expanded its World War II holdings by acquiring the mementos of Etta Jones, an Alaskan who spent three years in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp.

A teacher and nurse, Jones worked in remote Alaska villages for 20 years alongside her husband, Foster. In 1941, they took their last assignment: Attu. On June 7, 1942, Japanese forces invaded the Aleutian Island of Attu. Jones was taken prisoner and held captive for 39 months. She suffered but survived, returning to the United States after the war and living in the Lower 48 until her death in 1965.

This new museum collection features Jones' unpublished manuscript chronicling her POW experience. The manuscript was the basis for *Last Letters from Attu*, published in 2009 by Jones' great-niece, Mary Breu.

The collection includes Jones' photographs, letters, and internment-related documents. There are Alaska Native baskets she packed in the one suitcase she was allowed to take to Japan. The collection also

includes handmade greeting cards and folk art Jones received from fellow prisoners as the women struggled to keep up morale.

Together, these objects and archival materials help tell the compelling story of Alaskans' experiences during World War II. The collection is available to the public for research and may be displayed in the Alaska History Gallery in the future.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONLINE "BEST OF 2011" BOOK LISTS

Music Blogger "Large-Hearted Boy" is on his fourth year of compiling book "Best of" lists. Some of the lists he's made note of so far are:

Amazon editors (best arts & photography books)
International Association of Culinary Professionals (cookbooks)
World Fantasy Awards (fantasy books)

He seems to have all of the usual suspects (Booklist, New York Time, School Library Journal, etc) as well.

See the full list at http://www.largeheartedboy.com/blog/archive/2011/11/online_best_of_7.html. (Hat tip to Savannah Lewis for this item.)

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