

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

2/3/2012

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: KATIE FEARER (PUBLIC SERVICES LIBRARIAN)



Like other Information Services librarians, I provide reference services to State agencies and to the public and serve as liaison to certain agencies. I also manage the library's serials collection, including most of the work related to the library's growing collection of online journals and research databases. This work ranges from negotiating license agreements to troubleshooting access problems. My public services duties include oversight of equipment, interlibrary loan, and other matters relating to the public face of the library. I work closely with two extraordinary staff members who make oversight of the periodicals and ILL work easy: Becky Orford, our Interlibrary Loan Assistant, and Shari Kitchen, our Periodicals Assistant.

ONLINE: 1902 MINERS AND SETTLERS GUIDE

The Alaska State Library Historical Collections has been very active in digitizing materials from their collection. From time to time we'd like to highlight the treasures they are making available online.

One such item is "A Guide for Alaska Miners, Settlers, and Tourists" published in 1902 under the auspices of the Valdez Chamber of Commerce. This 93 page guide is available at <http://vilda.alaska.edu/u/?cdmg21,14225> and features period photos and articles about Alaska focusing on the Copper River Valley.

This early Alaska booster publication had only been available in print in five libraries across the nation, including Yale University. Thanks to the efforts of the Historical Collections staff, this bit of history is now available to anyone with an internet collection.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALASKA INVENTORS DAY FEBRUARY 11

By Proclamation of Governor Sean Parnell, February 11th, the anniversary of the birth of Thomas Alva Edison, is Alaska Inventors Day. Below is the text of the proclamation, which should also become available at <http://gov.alaska.gov/parnell/press-room/proclamations.html/>.

Executive Proclamation by Governor Sean Parnell

WHEREAS, Alaskans are a people with a pioneering spirit who exhibit the traits of resourcefulness and endurance necessary for economic growth and innovation; and

WHEREAS, President George Washington signed the first Patent Act in 1790 to recognize the importance of technological innovation; and

WHEREAS, nationwide recognition of inventors was established by President Ronald Reagan in 1983 with a proclamation declaring February 11 to be National Inventors' Day; and

WHEREAS, the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, a bipartisan, bicameral bill, was signed into law on September 16, 2011, to expedite the patent process to encourage innovation, job creation, and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, patents awarded to Alaskans range from a vehicle escape tool, to an ocean oil spill and contaminated sea ice containment, separation, and removal system, to an audible fishing weight, a pin bone removal apparatus, and many more; and

WHEREAS, from 1976 to present, over 1,600 patents have been awarded to innovative Alaskans, and over 500 new patent applications from Alaskans have currently been submitted. In recent years, the top technology classifications for Alaska-based patents have involved wells, hydraulic and earth engineering, and electricity conductors and insulators; and

WHEREAS, February 11 is the anniversary of the birth of Thomas Alva Edison, a world renowned American inventor and holder of over 1,000 patents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim February 11, 2012 as:

Alaska Inventors Day

in Alaska, and ask all citizens to join me in honoring our inventors and recognizing the patent and trademark process that makes way for innovation and technological advancements benefiting our great state, nation, and the world.

Dated: February 1, 2012

ALASKA INVENTORS DAY EVENTS

At least some libraries will be celebrating Alaska Inventors Day, according to UAF Patents Librarian Judie Triplehorn, who shared this e-mail with us and asked us to share it with you:

Let's celebrate it by honoring our local Alaskan inventors.

As the patent and trademark librarian at the Alaska Patent and Trademark Resource Center, Geophysical Institute, Fairbanks, I am sending you and your Chamber of Commerce a list of the local inventors and their inventions. This list includes all the inventors from your city from 1976 to date. Check the telephone book to get their phone numbers.

Suggested library activities might be held Feb. 11 or later in the month:

- Library display
- Library program with inventors as speakers
- Newspaper article about inventors and their inventions
- Radio Interviews with inventors
- Brochures on patent filing (obtain from Alaska Patent and Trademark Resource Center)

In Fairbanks at the Geophysical Institute, we will be having a seminar with invited speakers from the business and economic development community, Machine and Electronic Shop tours, and a Meet Fairbanks Inventors program.

We are also organizing an Alaska Inventors Alliance which meets monthly at an Inventors Breakfast to discuss patent and related business issues. If your library would be interested in sponsoring a related organization, please contact me for details.

Please send any patent or trademark related questions to me at the Patent Trademark Resource Center.

If you have further questions, please contact me by phone 907-474-2636 (Tues. or Thurs.) or by email at patents@gi.alaska.edu.

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We're sure that Judie and the Alaska Inventors Alliance would be thrilled if museums and archives around the state wanted to join this inventive celebration.

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