

# FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

3/23/2012

*This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at [http://museums.alaska.gov/LAM/about\\_lam/FridayBulletin.html](http://museums.alaska.gov/LAM/about_lam/FridayBulletin.html).*

*Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to [linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov) and may be edited for content and length if used.*

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## NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

### NEVA EGAN COLLECTION AT ALASKA HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Last Tuesday, the Alaska Historical Collections welcomed a donation from State Senator Dennis Egan and his wife Linda. They donated the papers and photographs of Senator Egan's mother Neva Egan who was wife to William "Bill" Egan, Alaska's first statehood governor. A finding aid to the collection is available at [http://library.state.ak.us/hist/hist\\_docs/finding\\_aids/MS265.pdf](http://library.state.ak.us/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/MS265.pdf).

Senator Egan wrote the following remarks about the event in his March 21, 2012 *Legislative Corner* newsletter:

My mother was a packrat. When she died, my wife Linda opened up all her boxes and tried to catalog everything. It got so overwhelming, she called state library and archives, and they offered to come over and help catalogue everything. The Neva Egan Papers & Photographs Collection is a potpourri of documents and photographs. You'll find in the collection a lot of personal letters that my dad would dictate and my mother would type. There were no secretaries back then, at least when they were home in Valdez and in Washington D.C. Actually; she had a [Smith-Corona typewriter](#). She loved it. She was a heck of a typist and a great school teacher. It is a real honor for my wife, Linda, and I to donate the artifacts of my mother to the citizens of Alaska and especially the state library in Juneau. Hopefully it will be in [SLAM](#) shortly. A big thanks to Jim Simard and Linda Thibodeau at the library in particular for helping make it happen. You can view the collection at the Alaska State Library & Historical Collections on the 8th floor of the State Office Building.

The event was also covered by the Juneau Empire in a March 22, 2012 staff report titled “Neva Egan Papers donated to state library” available at <http://juneauempire.com/art/2012-03-22/neva-egan-papers-donated-state-library>.

## **WHO WE ARE: GORDON BROWN (STATE RECORDS MANAGER)**

I am a foreigner from Scotland and I have been in the US since June 2010. I started my career in Records Management in 2002 at North Lanarkshire Council (which is just outside of Glasgow) where latterly I also served as their Archivist. I then became the Records Manager at the Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen. In both these positions I established corporate records management programs.

I started as the State Records Manager in January 2011. My task, other than to remember to use a z instead of an s and to stop extraneous u’s entering my words is to ensure that the State of Alaska is managing its records and information in accordance with federal and state law and State of Alaska policies. Essentially I am trying to help all State employees find their information when they need it.

There are a number of instruments that help with this task. The main one being records retention schedules (there are currently around 380 schedules to manage and keep up to date – a never ending task!) The Records & Information Management Service also oversees the process of State agencies transferring inactive records to records centers (over 15,000 boxes so far this year) and facilitates the process of destroying records (over 8,000 boxes so far this year) or transferring records with permanent historical value to the State Archives.

Learn more about the work that Gordon does for the Division and the State by visiting Records & Information Management Services at [http://archives.alaska.gov/records\\_management/records\\_management.html](http://archives.alaska.gov/records_management/records_management.html).

## **ALASKA DIGITAL ARCHIVES FEATURED IN MUSEUM WEB CHAT**

The State Library’s Jim Simard joined the State Museum’s Scott Carrlee on the March 2012 Museum Services Web Chat. The topic was the Alaska Digital Archives which Jim presented in some depth and took a number of questions from the audience of nineteen. The recording for that chat and many others can be found at <http://museums.alaska.gov/ASMChat.html>.

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**Linda Thibodeau, State Librarian and Director**

Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums - Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
PO 110571, Juneau, AK 99811-0571 - Tel: 465-2911 - Fax: 465-2151 - [linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov)