

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

3/30/2012

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at http://museums.state.ak.us/LAM/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: SANDY JOHNSTON (LIBRARY ASSISTANT II)



My name is Sandy Johnston and I became interested in Library Science in high school, where I spent an entire semester reorganizing the periodicals room. After moving to Juneau in 1985, I applied for a job as a clerk-typist III with the State Library. I started in Technical Services typing cards & pockets, maintaining holdings on WLN and, after we went to an online catalog with LIS, helped barcode all of the collections. I moved up to Library Assistant II and took on more responsibility for supervising the processing of materials and inputting catalog records, which were then reviewed by the catalogers before being

uploaded to WLN. I went on hiatus from 1994-2000 and was rehired in December 2000 as the Acquisitions person. I am now a Library Assistant II in the Historical Collections.

I am the lead for the processing team, the main contact for photo orders for the library and I staff the reference desk at least 3 shifts a week. I have worked in most sections of the library at one time or another. Seeing the library move from card catalogs and hand-typed pockets and cards to being able to scan and email materials and photos to people around the world has made for a very interesting career. One question from an interview sheet we have used that has stuck in my mind is: "The library is in a constant state of flux - how are you at dealing with constantly changing processes?" That pretty much sums up my time here- a career I wouldn't trade for anything.

SLAM BROCHURE AVAILABLE FROM PROJECT BLOG

A SLAM building project brochure has been posted to the design team blog at <http://alaskalamp.blogspot.com/2012/03/project-white-paper-march-2012.html>. The brochure features a short history of the project as well as a summary of statewide impacts the Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums made in 2011.

NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

OWL VIDEO CONFERENCING AT THE CRAIG AND ANCHOR POINT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

We received the following report from Amy Marshall from the Craig Public Library on two recent videoconferences held through the Alaska OWL videoconferencing network:

On March 20th, the Craig and Anchor Point Public Libraries participated in a Video Conference from the Mildred Kemper Art Museum in St. Louis, MO entitled "History, Heroes, and Symbolism: A Visual Analysis of George Caleb Bingham's Iconic Painting." The iconic painting of the title is "Daniel Boone Escorting Settlers Through The Cumberland Gap." Six participants in Craig and three in Anchor Point joined Allison Taylor from the museum to discuss the painting: the history, the iconography, the influences, and how propaganda influences art and vice versa. At the end, we all took part in a writing exercise and produced an Ekphrastic Poem. The whole experience was a great inaugural for our Alaska OWL Video Conferencing Equipment. The staff at Kemper Art and the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC) was fantastic.

Then, on March 23rd, at 9am, we had a Breakfast Club Video Conference entitled "The Final Voyage of LaSalle and *La Belle*." Produced and presented by a 7th grade class in Palacios, TX, this videoconference was targeted to the 3rd-5th grade range (and since it was Spring Break, I thought the timing perfect!). Adults came to the presentation as well, and the students in Texas did a wonderful job presenting the history and archaeology of the expedition and the shipwreck! The KC3 provider affiliated with CILC is always looking for more content, so if you thought video conferencing only worked one way, think again! The kids wanted to do their OWN videoconferences and make them available! What a bonus!

If you have not looked on the CILC website and checked out the available videoconferences, you should!

The CILC website that Amy mentioned can be found at <http://cilc.org>. To learn more about the OWL network, visit <http://library.alaska.gov/dev/owl.html>.

KENAI COMMUNITY LIBRARY DESIGN FEATURED IN JOURNALS

Mary Jo Joiner made us aware of two favorable mentions of design features of the Kenai Community Library:

The Kenai Community Library is showcased in the March/April 2012 issue of American Libraries and also online at <http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/librarydesign12>.

We were also featured in the December 15, 2011 architectural issue of Library Journal. <http://features.libraryjournal.com/architecture/library-buildings-2011/year-in-architecture-2011-fireside-chats/>

Major library journals agree: Kenai Community Library is awesome!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

NATIONAL MORTGAGE SETTLEMENT WEB SITE

Patrons and staff of your institutions may be interested in knowing about the web site for a 49-state National Mortgage Settlement, which offers free assistance for:

- Homeowners needing loan modifications now
- Borrowers who are current, but underwater
- Borrowers who lost their homes to foreclosure

The site may be found at <http://www.nationalmortgagesettlement.com>. Legal documents relating to the settlement itself and what the settling banks are still liable for can be found here.

The site asks that if someone is asked to pay for assistance under the National Mortgage Settlement, they should report those demands for payment to the authorities.

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