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SEAL OF THE STATE
STATE OF ALASKA

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT**

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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: January 31, 2013

A Month of Thursdays at the Alaska State Museum 2013 Andrew P. Kashevarof Memorial Lecture Series

JUNEAU – Enjoy a different a lecture every Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. February 14 through March 14 as the Alaska Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums presents the 2013 Andrew P. Kashevarof Memorial Lecture Series.

This weekly series features new research on a variety of topics drawn from the collections of the Alaska State Library, Archives and Museums, presented by LAM staff and visiting researchers. New or seldom-seen historical photos, documents, and artifacts will be brought out for special display in conjunction with each program. The lecture series is held annually in honor of A.P. Kashevarof, the first librarian and curator of the Alaska Historical Library and Museum, 1919-1940. Admission to the lectures is free; visitors are welcome to bring a lunch to eat during the presentation.

Alaska State Museum Curator of Collections Steve Henrikson kicks off the Kashevarof Winter Lecture Series on February 14 with *Alaska's Long-Lost Apollo 11 Moon Rock*. In 1973, a display containing moon rocks and a small Alaska Flag from the first manned mission to the moon went missing after a fire tore through the Transportation Branch of the Alaska State Museum in Anchorage. It finally surfaced in 2011 as the subject of an ownership dispute with the State of Alaska, which culminated in its return to the Alaska State Museum the following year. This presentation recounts the numerous twists in the case and puts the 4.5 billion year old rocks into historical context.

Other lectures are:

- February 21 – Larry Hibpshman, Archivist, Alaska State Archives
They Anointed Our Waters & Our Cup Runneth Over: Litigation Records from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill
Litigation associated with the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill involved thousands of people and spawned millions of documents. Larry Hibpshman, Director of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Litigation Records Appraisal and Processing Project, oversees the two-year effort to decide what to preserve and how to make it accessible. Hibpshman will describe the collection, this project, and what it means to people in Alaska.

- February 28 – Ellen Carrlee, Conservator, Alaska State Museums
Science and Ethics in the Care of Shipwreck Artifacts
The collection of the Alaska State Museum includes hundreds of artifacts from Alaskan shipwrecks. What conservation treatments are done to these artifacts and what are the ethics that guide those decisions? Iron, bone, rubber, leather, textiles and wood are among the materials treated, each with its own particular protocols. How do physics, chemistry and biology help the conservator determine the right choices when artifacts can start deteriorating the moment they come to the surface? What does the conservator do if artifacts begin deteriorating in the museum years later?
- March 7 – Sorrel Goodwin, Librarian, Alaska State Library Historical Collections
Cosmology of the Tlingit Longhouse
A look at the structure, meaning, and metaphysics of the Tlingit Longhouse as a self-contained “Universe” more than shelter and more than simple structure.
- March 14 – Dave McMahan, State Archaeologist, Office of History and Archaeology
Exploring the Archaeology of Alaska’s Colonial Russian Settlements
The close geographic and cultural links between Russia and Alaska, along with shared history during the colonial period, have been the catalyst for several important archaeological research projects over the last two decades. Archaeological information often provides details of daily life and sources of supply not found in the archival record. This talk explores some of the archaeological projects that been undertaken at colonial Russian sites, both in Alaska and Russia, and how these studies have influenced our understanding of life in Alaska’s Russian settlements.

Winter hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Discounted winter admission is \$3. Visitors 18 and under are admitted free of charge. An annual pass that allows unlimited visits to the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka is available for \$15. Assistance is available for visitors with special needs – please contact Visitor Services at 465-2901 before the visit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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