

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS



2/14/2014

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at <http://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin>.

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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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our first ever themed issue of the Friday Bulletin. In this issue we are highlighting the Online With Libraries (OWL) Network, a group of over 90 Alaskan public libraries offering broadband internet, videoconferencing, up to date computers and digital literacy resources. More on the OWL project can be found at <http://library.alaska.gov/dev/owl.html>.

To date, the network has held over 1500 videoconferences. We define a videoconference as any video call longer than five minutes.

OWL: CONNECTING ALASKANS

LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY HELPS STUDENTS EXPLORE POST-GRAD OPTIONS

A recent KUCB story detailed how students in Unalaska are getting information on apprenticeship opportunities by having videoconferences with people who had field experience. The story, "Library Technology Helps Students Explore Post-Grad Options", appeared on 2/5/2014 and can be found at <http://kucb.org/news/article/library-technology-helps-students-explore-post-grad-options/>.

READING SHAKESPEARE TOGETHER: CRAIG, HAINES & KENAI

In a 2/7/2014 story titled "AK: Connecting" for Alaska Public Media, Margaret Friedenauer touches on the potential of OWL to connect different parts of the state:

William Shakespeare probably didn't have this mind when he imagined his plays being performed.

On a cold and dreary evening in Southeast Alaska, library patrons gather to read Shakespeare's Hamlet. *The catch? They aren't in the same room:*

"The news is brought that Hamlet has returned to Denmark...."

If it sounds like Craig Librarian Amy Marshall is on a Skype-like connection, that's because she is.

Marshall was physically in Craig, but joined online by people at the Haines and Kenai libraries using the Online With Libraries program, called OWL for short.

The article goes on to talk about several other aspects of OWL, including the ability to slash the cost of author visits to remote communities. Read more at <http://www.alaskapublic.org/2014/02/07/ak-connecting/>.

OWL PROJECT CONNECTS LIBRARIES STATEWIDE

Another Alaska Public Media item, appearing on 6/27/2013 and titled "OWL Project Connects Libraries Statewide" provided additional ways that OWL libraries have added to the life of Alaskans:

- In Craig, the kids write song lyrics; a Nashville musician puts them to music, and they jam together.
- The Juneau Library scheduled a virtual visit to the Royal Tyrrell Museum where kids got to see dinosaurs on display.
- Literary agents listen to book pitches from Bush village residents.
- Fishermen download e-books and audiobooks while in port.

- Rural villagers access equipment manual databases while repairing chain saws or snow machines.

Read more at <http://www.alaskapublic.org/2013/06/27/owl-project-connects-libraries-statewide/>.

ARCHIVED VIDEOCONFERENCES

When we have permission and believe an OWL videoconference will be of interest to others, we record it. All of our available archived videoconferences are listed at <http://library.alaska.gov/dev/owlArchives.html> in reverse chronological order. Here are some selected videoconferences by topic:

ALASKA NATIVE THEMED VIDEOCONFERENCES

[Kiligvak Hunter: A Story from Anaktuvuk Pass - January 31, 2014](#)

Presenter: Raymond Paneak, Ruth Rulland and Jeff Rasic

Length: 1 hour 10 minutes

Description: The Inupiat have lived in the North Slope since the beginning of time. They were even there hunting mammoths about 12,000 years ago! The Inupiat Heritage Center is opening a new exhibit to showcase the Inupiaq legend of hunting mammoths near Anaktuvuk Pass. Simon Paneak and Elijah Kakinya were two well-known story tellers who both have versions of this very legend. Their stories give cultural meaning and context to the Ice Age fossils that we are displaying from the Ikpikpak River. The Inupiat Heritage Center is honored to invite Raymond Paneak (Paneak's son) and Ruth Rulland (Kakinya's daughter) to share with the public the importance of oral history and memories of their fathers, the great story tellers themselves. Jeff Rasic, Archeologist from Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, has also been invited to talk about the prehistoric and modern use of mammoth ivory to make tools and sculptures.

[Beginning Lingit Language - January 30, 2014](#)

Presenter: Joanne Elsie Spud, Kaawjeil

Length: 58 minutes

Description: Beginning Lingit Language Instructor, Joanne Elsie Spud, Kaawjeil, will introduce easy words and commonly used phrases in a fun and easy learning atmosphere. If you are brave and want to try and say the words you can! But even if you are feeling a little shy, hearing the words and phrases is a very good introduction to the Lingit Language.

[Viewing Cultural Landscape through Tlingit Placenames: An Example from Chilkoot Village Site – February 13, 2013](#)

Presenter: Dr. Anastasia Wiley (SRS Corp, Haines, Alaska)

Length: 1 hour 43 minutes

Description: Discussion of Tlingit place names at a February 21, 2013 event at the Haines Public Library.

DAILY LIVING

[Radon in Alaska / We Can! - February 6, 2014](#)

Presenter: Julie Cascio, UAF Cooperative Extension

Length: 1 hour 22 minutes

Description: Two back to back programs from Julie Cascio of UAF Cooperative Extension. First part is on Radon safety and second part is on promoting activity and good eating habits in children.

[Paying Off Debt - November 5, 2013](#)

Presenter: Sarah Lewis, Alaska Cooperative Extension Service

Length: 57 minutes

Description: Sarah Lewis from the Cooperative Extension Service will give a presentation on ways to increase family and financial resilience through strategies for paying off debt; assessing "good" vs. "bad" debt, what to pay off first, managing credit card debt and planning a debt payoff schedule.

[Internet Safety for Families - August 29, 2013](#)

Presenter: Det. Shawn Phelps, Juneau Police Department

Length: 28 minutes

Description: Internet safety tips, including a discussion of risky behaviors and safety scenarios.

Supplementary material: [Alaska Internet Circle of Safety](#); [Internet Circle of Safety Resource links](#)

[Maintaining Your Fuel Oil Tank - May 2, 2013](#)

Presenter: Sarah Moore, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Length: 1 hour 5 minutes

Description: Sarah Moore of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation provides information on home fuel oil tanks.

OUTDOORS IN ALASKA

[Project WILD: Alaska Wildlife Curriculum - January 23, 2014](#)

Presenter: Tennie Bentz

Length: 1 hour 17 minutes

Description: Tennie Bentz (Dept. Fish & Game) shared information on conservation workshops, resources and the Project Wild curriculum. These workshops are fun, hands-on, interactive and designed to fit the needs of classroom teachers, environmental educators, para-professionals, parents, or community members.

[Seaweeds of Alaska - March 7, 2013](#)

Presenter: Mandy Lindeberg of NOAA's Auke Bay Laboratories

Length: 58 minutes

Description: Mandy Lindeberg of NOAA's Auke Bay Laboratories discusses seaweed commonly found in Alaska and tours viewers around her "Guide to Seaweeds of Alaska."

Supplementary material available at <http://www.seaweedssofaraska.com>

[Recreational Boating Safety – February 8, 2013](#)

Presenters: Mike Folkerts (US Coast Guard) and Deb Ylijoki (State of Alaska Boating Safety)

Length: 51 minutes

Description: Mike Folkerts, recreational boating specialist for the Coast Guard, will discuss safety equipment boaters are required to carry on board. Make sure your vessel is properly equipped with personal flotation devices, navigation lights and sound signals.

ALASKA KNOWLEDGE CENTER

Part of the original grant for OWL provided for the creation of digital literacy training and resources. Part of this aspect of OWL is the Alaska KnOWLedge Center, built by librarians Roz Goodman and Krystie Depue. It is a mix of links to preexisting resources and some tutorials created specifically for Alaskan audiences. The Center is linked from the main OWL page and can be found directly at <http://library.alaska.gov/dev/knowledge.html>.

KNOWLEDGE CENTER CAN HELP WITH PFD APPLICATIONS

The application period for the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend ends 3/31/2014. If you haven't filed yet, you might want to visit the Alaskan Essentials section of the Alaska KnOWLedge Center and check out these two tutorials:

- MyAlaska Tutorial (<http://library.alaska.gov/dev/knowledge/myAlaska.html>)
- 2014 PFD Application Links (http://library.alaska.gov/dev/OWL_PFDlinks.pdf)

When you're ready to apply, visit <http://pfd.alaska.gov/>.

CONNECTING WITH OWL

We hope that this special issue of the Friday Bulletin has helped you see how OWL is helping Alaskans statewide through their libraries. There are more stories and activities than we can fit in these pages. Here are some further links for exploration and for connecting with OWL staff and participating libraries:

- [Project Page](#)
- [Staff Contact Information](#)
- [Calendar of Upcoming Videoconferences](#)
- [Facebook Page](#)

Questions about the OWL project can be directed to OWL Network Coordinator Shane Southwick (Phone: 907.269.4611, Email: shane.southwick@alaska.gov)

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