

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

6/26/2009

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CHIEF CURATOR RECRUITMENT EXTENDED

In an effort to get the widest possible pool of candidates to become the new Chief Curator at the Alaska State Museum, the recruitment period has been extended to 7/16/2009. If you have already applied, you do not need to reapply.

Here is an excerpt from the job listing:

The Alaska State Museums Chief Curator is responsible for the daily operation and administration of programs within the Alaska State Museums; the position provides leadership in coordinating, implementing and managing museum planning, development and activities statewide and for all operations of the State Museum in Juneau and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka.

Other responsibilities include

- * Development and expression of policy on heritage preservation;
- * Acquisitions funding;
- * Budget development and oversight;
- * Supervision of all museums staff;
- * Cooperative ventures with other institutions;
- * Environmental and physical safety of visitors, staff and collections.

The chief curator is a member of the leadership team of the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums in the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. As such, the chief curator participates in Division planning, budgeting and initiatives.

About the Alaska State Museums: This state educational agency (comprised of the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Jackson Museum) identifies, collects, preserves and exhibits Alaska's material and natural history and provides public access to services and collections of the Museums. The Alaska State Museums interpret and disseminate knowledge of the history of the state, its people, and its resources, and support others in these efforts. The Museums also assist and advise in the growth, development and excellence of other museums within Alaska.

For the full listing, please visit <http://workplace.alaska.gov>.

ELLEN CARRLEE, FLAG SLEUTH

Ellen Carrlee, Conservator at the Alaska State Museum recently documented her investigation into a flag reputed to have flown over Castle Hill in Sitka during the 1867 transfer of Alaska from Russia to the United States. Join her at <http://ellencarrlee.wordpress.com/2009/05/01/mystery-36-star-flag/> and see how the obvious answer is not always the right one.

SUE SHERIF, PICTURED

If you've never met Sue Sherif of our Anchorage office but wants to know what she looks like, take out the June/July 2009 issue of *American Libraries* and turn to page 19. She is the second person from the left in a group photo of author Walter Dean Myers and the Library Services to Children May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture committee.

IMLS/NEA ANNOUNCE MORE THAN \$3.7 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR THE BIG READ

The Institute of Museum and Library Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts awarded Big Read grants to 269 arts, culture, and science organizations, libraries, and municipalities on June 23. The communities and institutions will use the grants to host Big Read celebrations that bring communities together to read, discuss, and celebrate one of 30 selections from U.S. and world literature. The Sheldon Museum & Cultural Center, Inc. of Haines received an \$8,000 grant for their community to read *The Maltese Falcon*. This was the only Big Read grant awarded in Alaska this year. (Hat tip to Patience Frederiksen)

BARANOV MUSEUM ON FACEBOOK

Lately we've been discovering a number of Alaskan museums, libraries and archives experimenting with social media. Today we highlight the Baranov Museum in Kodiak. They have a Facebook page you can find at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kodiak-AK/Baranov-Museum/84148558587?ref=s>. It looks like a fairly popular presence with 243 facebook fans. On their fan page you can learn about new events, see museum photos and comment on items they post. You can also learn that Jennifer Dennis, the museum's summer intern was stranded in Anchorage for two days but supported by stranded Kodiakans.

If your institution has a social network/media presence to share with the rest of the state, please let us know here at the Friday Bulletin.

ALASKA DHSS ON FACEBOOK

Alaska state agencies are joining the Facebook bandwagon too. The Department of Health and Social Services started a page at the beginning of June 2009. Check it out at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Anchorage-AK/Alaska-Department-of-Health-and-Social-Services/99962144928?ref=nf>. The 169 AK DHSS fans are getting updates on the H1N1 Flu, new laws and have the opportunity to view videos produced by the Department. Some of their posts have fan comments. How do we know it's official? Because the footer of every DHSS page, including <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/>, has a link to the Facebook fan page.

UNCLE SAM WANTS YOUR INDEPENDENCE DAY PICS

The US government blog "GovGab" wants your help in celebrating our 233rd anniversary of our independence from Great Britain. In a post at http://blog.usa.gov/roller/govgab/entry/we_want_your_independence_day, the GovGab bloggers ask:

"With the Independence Day holiday approaching, USA.gov and GobiernoUSA.gov want to know, "How do you celebrate the Fourth of July?" Submit photos from your backyard BBQ, fireworks displays, baseball games, picnics, parades...whatever it is you do to celebrate Independence Day, we encourage you to share it.

Anyone 18 years or older, of any nationality, living in any country is welcome to submit pictures of their holiday experiences to our specially created Flickr group [<http://www.flickr.com/groups/4th-of-july-2009-usagov/>].

At the conclusion of the holiday weekend, selected photos will be posted on GovGab, along with special editor posts covering various 4th of July events."

HOW TO HANDLE YOUR RETIREMENT AND INVESTMENT FUNDS AFTER LOSING YOUR JOB

Public libraries can take advantage of financial and unemployment-related information developed by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and administered by ALA's Reference and User Services Association (RUSA). FINRA's Investor Alert, "Job Dislocation: Making Smart Financial Choices after a Job Loss," offers guidance and tips for the general public on maintaining financial stability during a period of unemployment.

Available online in English and Spanish at <http://www.finra.org/JobLossAlert>, the brochure is available to public libraries in the spirit of "Smart Investing @ your library," the ongoing grant initiative managed as a partnership between RUSA and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation. Printed copies in quantities of 25 or more are also available. (From Washington State Library Updates, June 25, 2009)

PLAGIARISTS GET CAUGHT, EVEN WIRED ONES

According to an item in LISNews at http://lisnews.org/chris_anderson_apologizes_plagiarizing_wikipedia, Chris Anderson, the editor of Wired magazine, copied portions of his forthcoming book, "Free: The Future of a Radical Price" from Wikipedia, without attribution. The plagiarism was caught by a reviewer for the Virginia Quarterly Review. It seems amazing that the editor of one of America's flagship magazines on internet topics didn't consider the possibility his work might be checked for plagiarism through internet searching. Tip for writers – if the editor of Wired can't get away with plagiarism, neither can you. Ironically, if Mr. Anderson had provided attribution, he would have been within his rights under Wikipedia's Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license. Although then he would have been required to share his book under the same terms.

IMPORTANCE OF BEING BIKE FRIENDLY

Are you seeing bicyclists coming to your library, archives or museum? They might be coming soon if they're not already. Stephen Abram of SirsiDynix recently noted that US sales of bicycles passed sales of automobiles in the first quarter of 2009 (2.6 million bicycles vs. 2.5 million cars)." His post at <http://stephenslighthouse.sirsidynix.com/archives/2009/05/bikes.html> offers the following advice for facilities looking to be bike friendly:

"Make sure your bike racks are in good shape. Do they look nice? Are they garbage free? DO you put as much thought into bikes as you do into car parking?"

If you have a favorite biking story at your library, archives, or museum, please let know and we'll review it for the Friday Bulletin.

"LIBRARIES TO THE RESCUE" PODCASTS FOCUS ON WHAT LIBRARIES ARE DOING TO HELP CITIZENS THROUGH THE ECONOMIC CRISIS

The Institute of Museum and Library announced the launch of the Libraries to the Rescue series of five podcast episodes. Each episode is 12-15 minutes long and is designed to share with libraries steps that other libraries have taken to help their communities during these hard times. The podcasts cover various topics, including how libraries are increasing access to information through virtual libraries, the importance of broadband access, and new partnerships between libraries and government agencies to help citizens access all types of assistance. The podcasts can be accessed 24/7 at: http://www.ims.gov/resources/podcasts_Jun09.shtm or through iTunes. IMLS has developed a list of related online resources for libraries, available at: http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/062409_list.shtm. (Hat tip to Patience Frederiksen)

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