AkLA has established a scholarship program to support the education of librarians for Alaska's libraries, including school libraries. The stated purpose is to provide financial assistance to worthy students pursuing graduate studies in Library Science and to encourage graduates to return to Alaska to work in professional library positions. Preference is given to qualified applicants meeting the federal requirements of Alaska Native ethnicity.

Three scholarships of $4,000 each may be awarded: one for a Master’s Degree candidate, one for School Library Media Certification (the B. Jo Morse Scholarship), and a third from either category.

To be eligible for the scholarship, an applicant must be an Alaskan resident who:

* possesses a Bachelor's Degree or higher from an accredited college or university;

* is eligible for acceptance, or is currently enrolled, in a graduate program in Library and Information Science or School Library Media Certification, from a university program accredited by the American Library Association;

* is or will be a student during the academic year, semester, or academic quarter for which the scholarship is received; and makes a commitment to work...
Anchorage Public Library Celebrates Día de Muertos, the Day of the Dead

In late October, The Anchorage Public Library partnered with local small business, The Piñata Shop, to celebrate Mexican heritage with a special community program. Both the Loussac and Muldoon libraries held a piñata making class that included a short story reading as well as a craft. Participants designed and built miniature sugar skull piñatas to take home while learning about this cultural celebration.

Misty Rose Nesvick
Community Relations Manager
Anchorage Public Library

(Scholarships - Cont. from pg. 1)

in an Alaskan library for a minimum of one year after graduation as a paid employee or volunteer, or for two semesters for one semester's financial assistance. Completed applications must be received by January 15 of the award year.

If you are interested in applying, copies of the guidelines and application forms are available online at http://akla.org/scholarships/application-and-reference-forms/ If you have questions about graduate library studies or would like paper copies of the scholarship application, contact:

Julie Niederhauser
Alaska State Library
Public Library Coordinator
(907) 465-2916
Julie.niederhauser@alaska.gov

Alaska Scholarship Committee
Alaska State Library
P.O. Box 110571
Juneau, AK 99811-0571
(907) 465-2916
akla.scholarship@alaska.gov

Julie Niederhauser
Alaska State Library
Public Library Coordinator
(Día de Muertos - Cont. from pg. 2)

Pinata making

Day of the Dead Pinata Making
Get ready to celebrate Day of the Dead by creating a sugar skull inspired piñata.

Ages 8 to 12 only.
Saturday, October 20, 2-4pm @Muldoon Library
Friday October 26, 2-4pm @Loussac Library

Muldoon Boys

Anchorage Public Library
and The Pinata Shop

(Cont. on pg. 4)
Día de Muertos - Cont. from pg. 3

Loussac pinatas

Loussac collage

Muldoon group
Hanukkah in Alaska: Book of the Month

Barbara Brown’s children’s book, *Hanukkah in Alaska*, has been selected again as the November book for the PJ Library’s book-of-the-month distribution to children. The story—now in its third printing—has led a charmed life: in 2014, actress Molly Ephraim had it turned into a video for Storyline Online: [https://www.storylineonline.net/books/hanukkah-in-alaska/](https://www.storylineonline.net/books/hanukkah-in-alaska/) This new version will also be distributed in the U.K. so very slight changes were made in vocabulary.

Barbara is willing to do library visits and may be reached at holdthisthought@gmail.com

Blogging at [3rdthirds.blogspot.com](http://3rdthirds.blogspot.com)

Facebook: Our3rdThirds

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PJ Library is a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, a North American Jewish non-profit organization based in West Springfield, Massachusetts. It was created in December 2005 as a Jewish engagement and literacy program for Jewish and interfaith families with young children. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PJ_Library](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PJ_Library)
Grant Helps to Disperse the Learning that Occurs During Conferences

The Alaska State Library has instituted a CE grant requirement that we believe will help disperse the learning that occurs during conferences. Individuals who have been awarded a CE grant are now required to write a short (up to 250 words) *Newspoke* article about their conference attendance to share what’s been learned with the larger library community. We hope this requirement will provide attendees with an opportunity to stop and reflect back on their conference experiences and personally apply what they’ve learned.

*Julie Marie Niederhauser
Public Library Coordinator
Alaska State Library*

Quite a number of these CE write-ups were received. More may be published in the next issue of *Newspoke*.

The Value of Conference Attendance for Employees of Small Libraries

It’s a challenge to maintain a working relationship with library staff in remote communities. Though email and video conference meetings are useful tools, there are limitations. One-on-one visits to remote libraries are the most challenging due to the cost of air travel. Tuzzy Library has come to rely on the annual Alaska Library Conference to ensure that the staff in remote villages can meet each other and share in a common experience. Each time, the staff comes away with a little more insight about library services and, perhaps, inspiration to offer programs important to their communities.

Comments from this year’s attendees were best summarized by two of the participants: Eviqsiq Sears and Vera Gunderson.

Eviqsiq Sears: “I really enjoyed my trip. I got to know some of the librarians from across the North Slope. We shared ideas and differences between our libraries. My favorite sessions were *Summer Reading Program, Story Times with Bells & Whistles,* and *How to Woo Reluctant Teen Readers and Their Teachers.* This was my first AkLA, so I was kind of shy, but I did meet new people and shared interesting conversations. I gained a lot of resources and information from the exhibits and sessions.

*(Cont. on pg. 7)*
I received a Continuing Education Grant from the Alaska State Library to attend the 2018 Alaska Library Association Conference: Bridging the Gaps. I was able to travel to Anchorage from Thorne Bay on Prince of Wales Island for the four-day event. The chance to network with other library professionals in the state, as well as to visit a part of Alaska that I’d never been to, was invaluable. More importantly, I was able to learn new skills and ideas to bring back to my public library.

In the first session I attended: Connect with Your Community: How to Create a Virtual Library Tour led by Ruth Terry, Christie Ericson, and Lorelei Sterling, I learned tips and tricks on how to add a virtual tour to our library’s website. This will give specific information to our patrons about accessing our different collections and resources, as well as give people who are planning to move to or visit Thorne Bay a look at our library before they come. The speakers focused on use of PowerPoint and Google Slides to create the presentation, and included formatting tips and locations of creative photos to use in the slides.

At the AKLA Ignite Session, the Ketchikan Public Library discussed their Children’s Garden Project, in which my library is also participating. From this presentation I gained many programming ideas which my library will be using this summer once our garden is up and running!

Vera Gunderson: “My overall AkLA experience was great! AkLA is always a great opportunity, and I enjoy hearing other librarians' experiences, how they do things and how they run their libraries.”

Rita Anderson edited the comments from the attendees of these regional villages into one article.

Marie Kaveolook
Nancy Lumpkin
Rhoda Rexford
Eviqsig Sears
Vera Gunderson

How to Create a Virtual Library Tour

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Ashley Richardson
Thorne Bay
Prince of Wales Island

(Cont. on pg. 8)
What I learned at the Society of American Archivist
Digital Archives Specialist Bootcamp

The Society of American Archivists (SAA) Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) Certificate Program requires nine courses, two of which must be done in person. To aid in completion of in-person classes and get archivists started towards earning their certificate, SAA has been holding four-course bootcamps around the country. I attended four classes held at the University of Washington.

The first class, Arrangement and Description of Digital Records: Part I, taught us the difference between archiving physical records and digital records. While the principles behind archival arrangement and description are the same, the biggest difference is, because it is easy to copy files digitally, accessioned born-digital material should have one master copy in which no changes have been made and one working copy which the archivist will arrange, describe, and sanitize.

Arrangement and Description of Digital Records: Part II introduced us to various software that historical collections can use to create web formatted and accessible finding aids as well as software that can help us process and maintain born-digital collections.

Preserving Digital Archives taught us to write a Digital Preservation Policy. It will be important in the future, as more and more collections begin to come in to archives as born-digital, that we have written policies for accessioning and maintaining this material. I will now be able to advise writing a digitization preservation policy, updating our donation form, and guide procedures for working with born-digital material.

Finally, Digital Forensics for Archivists: Fundamentals was an eye opener into the type of sensitive data that archivists need to be aware that a donor could be handing over with born-digital information without realizing it. This is why written policies, sanitization of material for researchers without harming the original donation, and software to allow archivists to work more efficiently are all important.

Sara Bornstein
Librarian and Archivist
Alaska State Historical Collections Library and Archives
Juneau

(Cont. on pg. 9)
Conference Was a Huge Resource of Information

I hope that all AkLA attendees see this conference as the huge resource of information that I do! I am in my third year as an administrative librarian at a small library—which really means half (or less) time spent administratively—in addition to circulation, customer service, IT services, ILL, janitorial…. you get the picture. AkLA is the place where I try very hard to overcome my introverted self and meet librarians who have the knowledge and expertise to assist our library in being all that it can be.

This year I came home with Alaska on my mind. I attended a couple of sessions on developing our core Alaskana collection and had visited the water-damaged Alaska Room at Loussac Library. Our library is hoping to have a separate room for our Alaskana collection, and attending these sessions helped spark my imagination. I also came home with a desire to play with spreadsheets. Seriously. I will be experimenting with different eye-catching ways to share my statistics and data with others who very much care about the library but don’t necessarily care to read pages of numbers in a column.

I met some new librarians at this year’s conference and hope that I was able to share some tips and tricks or just general regional information that was of interest to them. I always enjoy the speakers that are brought in to inspire and teach us. Thank you to all of those who worked so hard to create such a huge gathering of intelligence! Those of us in villages that are far too small to host such a large conference really value AkLA. Thank you!

Bre Ohlson
Gustavus Public Library
Glacier Bay, Southeast Alaska

Attendance at the Conference Answered Many Questions

I applied for and received the 2018 Alaska State Library Continuing Education grant in order to attend the Evergreen International Conference which was held in St. Charles, MO. This conference is held annually for users and developers of the open source Evergreen ILS software, which Homer Public Library has been using since 2013.

This year marks a significant shift in the way Evergreen is used. Up until now, a traditional software client was downloaded to each computer which must match the version on the server. With the release of Evergreen 3.0, all actions are performed within an internet browser so there is no software to download. This means we can easily use tablets, smartphones, and just about any other internet-enabled device to run our ILS! While we’re still using the downloaded client here in Homer, it will soon only be supported for security updates so we’ll need to switch to the web-based client this year. While the objective was to create as similar an experience as possible, the web client requires a substantial amount of work on the back end to rewrite templates and test functionality. Some staff training will be required as well before we use the web client in production. The community has been preparing for this shift for a few

(Cont. on pg. 10)
years, but documentation is still lacking so I attended the conference armed with lists of questions—and returned with answers! The challenges of using an open source ILS are outweighed by the freedom it allows for customizations, the cost savings, and, of course, the support of the community. It amazes me what our passionate group can accomplish, and I look forward to working on Evergreen projects at Homer Public Library and with the community at large.

Thank you for making my travel to this conference possible!

Holly Brennan
Technology Specialist
Homer Public Library

ALSO, Homer Public Library was the featured library for the Evergreen Annual Report. You can link to that here: https://evergreen-ils.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Evergreen_Annual_Report_2017_web_version.pdf p. 11-12

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**Each Conference is Helpful In Its Own Way**

I have had the privilege of attending AkLA conferences for the past nine years now as the librarian for the Dillingham Public Library. Each conference is so helpful in its own way. The fact that the location of the conference is rotated each year, providing a different setting, is also beneficial. Because of this, I have been able to travel the state, meet other librarians, and see them in their own elements. Since this is a large state with remote access to many libraries, this opportunity has been very helpful in feeling “not so alone” as we are off the road system.

Also, the fact that scholarships are available to help with the tremendous cost of travel is a big plus in allowing us to attend these great Continuing Education experiences. This year’s conference was in Anchorage which let us experience many more vendors and local speakers. I appreciate the time talking to vendors at their exhibits and seeing what’s available nationwide. I was able to purchase resources and bring them home right away to be put to use.

The theme this year, “Bridging the Gaps,” was relevant to helping our libraries connect by networking with each other. Also, it helps us bridge the gaps within our own library as as we learned of other resources for our various programs. I was also pleased that my newly-hired library assistant was able to attend AkLA with me. It opened up new doors to her as she attended workshops, heard great speakers, and attended meetings. Thanks again for this wonderful opportunity the State of Alaska provides for training.

Sonja Marx, Librarian
Dillingham Public Library

(Cont. on pg. 11)
The AkLA Experience

I was nervous about the AkLA Conference, I'll admit it. I had been recently hired as the program coordinator in my hometown’s Community Library & Museum after being a stay at home mom for four years with our three children. Getting this job was a BIG deal for our family, and I was so thrilled to be serving my home town that had given so much to me while growing up there. I was certainly ready to be a community servant, but I was a bit apprehensive about representing my community in a room full of professionals.

During my first day at conference all my silly anxieties melted away immediately. I was not in a room of stiff professionals but, rather, in a welcoming space surrounded by peers. I not only got along with this group of intellectuals, I also left the AkLA Conference with a personal sense of awareness that this, this, is what I am supposed to do. I learned so much at the AkLA Conference, but the great sense of belonging after I left this new group of friends was what I treasure the most from the experience. I’m so thrilled that I am on a path that brings me such joy on a daily basis. Thank you for providing such a fulfilling experience.

H.B. Bardarson
Program Coordinator
Seward Community Library and Museum

2018 ALA Conference: Michelle Obama on the Importance of Reading

The 2018 American Library Association Annual Conference and Exhibition was an amazing experience. The main Auditorium Speakers were a diverse group of interesting and enthusiastic speakers. The conference began with a discussion with Michelle Obama which was moderated by Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden. Ms. Obama discussed her soon-to-be-released memoir entitled “Becoming.” In addition to some discussion about her years in the White House, Ms. Obama spoke about the importance of reading in her family and her love of libraries. Ms. Obama also spoke about the difficulties of juggling a career and raising a family and the importance of maintaining friendships and keeping up with your self-care.

I also really enjoyed the film screening of “The Public” starring Emilio Estevez. The film was followed by a question-and-answer session with Emilio Estevez and Ryan Dowd. The film explores the
relationship between the homeless and libraries. Ryan Dowd is the executive director of a homeless shelter in Illinois, and he trains organizations on how to use empathy-driven enforcement with homeless individuals.

In addition to these amazing speakers, I enjoyed a unique variety of library sessions. One of the sessions that caught my attention is: Family Engagement Initiative: Resources for Encouraging Families to be Active in their Children’s Learning and Development. During this session, they spoke about the Public Library Association’s initiative of supporting Family Engagement in libraries. As part of their initiative, they have put together an Ideabook called Libraries for Families. This book is available for free by going to the following address: [http://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives/familyengagement](http://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives/familyengagement)

I plan to use the information in this booklet to enhance our library work in the areas of leadership, engagement, and support services, which are the three areas that need to be enhanced in order to provide the outcome of increasing the quality of family engagement at libraries.

The outcomes summarized in the booklet that we will focus on include that libraries will increase outreach to underserved families and build family engagement pathways from early childhood through young adulthood. The families will improve their health, well-being, and positive parenting practices and increase their knowledge, skills, and confidence to support children’s learning. Children will be more prepared for school and experience positive interactions with their families.

Marguerite La Riviere, Director
Kegoayah Kozga Public Library
Nome

**ALA Conference—Great Opportunity for Overall Professional Development**

From the inspirational to the practical details of our everyday work, the ALA annual conference in New Orleans was a great opportunity for overall professional development.

It is hard to condense this overall experience to under 250 words, so I will highlight one session that I attended—a screening of the upcoming feature film “The Public,” with a Q&A with writer/director Emilio Estevez. To view this film in a room full of librarians and experience together a film addressing the many aspects of a public library and the basic human rights of often marginalized populations on the big screen was an emotional and powerful experience. I won’t give away too many details, as I’d encourage you all to see this when it is released (Nov 2018?), but do know that even though it takes place in a large urban library, it captures well some of the challenges, passion, and reasons that we strive to provide the services we do.

I appreciate the opportunity I had to attend this conference with the help of the grant funds. There were
I was able to attend the American Library Association annual conference in New Orleans this year using funds from a CE grant. While ALA can be overwhelming, this was one of the best I’ve ever attended. It was very valuable to meet with vendors, not only to see new products, but also to iron out issues we have with service.

The screening of the Emilio Estevez movie “The Public” was amazing. Please watch for its nationwide release sometime later this year. It is about a situation that arises in a public library with the homeless. Spoiler alert: the librarians are the heroes! Ryan Dowd, who wrote the book “The Librarian’s Guide to Homelessness,” and who did a day-long preconference at AkLA this year, mediated a session of Q&A after the showing of the movie.

PLA invited me to appear on a panel to talk about our experience with the inclusive internship initiative last summer. I spoke about the project our intern worked on and its continuation after she was gone. Our intern helped us set up a Raspberry Pi* project. We worked together to determine what equipment we needed and then purchased it. After she mastered using the Raspberry Pi, she also discovered something called Sonic Pi* which enabled her to channel her interest in music into our program.

We had an open house that featured everything raspberry for refreshments, including pie, and had 12 stations open for the public to play with. That was followed by a week of workshops to introduce young people to Raspberry Pi, how it works, and what it can do. Before the intern went off to college, she trained other staff to run our Raspberry Pi club, and it now meets monthly.

Some of the highlights in sessions included:

* Can I lose my job for that?
* Crisis communication plan: a tool all libraries need—presented by the Urban Library Council and featuring two libraries and how they handled tough issues that came to public attention. One was anticipation and fallout from Drag Queen story time and the other was a response to a shooting in the library.
* The opioid epidemic: How can my library help—featured speakers from Philadelphia, Denver,
Utah and Ohio. Two of these libraries dealt with deaths in the library. Another noted a 400% increase in opioid deaths in their community. They spoke about training with Narcan(R) and its impact on the library and community.

* Getting down to Business: This session talked about connecting the community with business resources including hosting an entrepreneur café and holding a small business boot camp during National Small Business Week

* Best practices for Library Video Marketing: This session offered practical tips on creating a video that has an impact.

And, of course the opening session with Michelle Obama and the closing session with Viola Davis.

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Mary Jo Joiner
Kenai Community Library

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Raspberry Pi teaches students programming and how to make graphics using Python.

Sonic Pi is an open-source programming environment, designed for creating new sounds with code in a live coding environment; it was developed by Dr. Sam Aaron at the University of Cambridge. He uses the software to perform live with his band.

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Do Fines for Overdues Create a Barrier to Library Access?

At the 2018 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans I had the opportunity to attend a panel conversation about how library patrons are impacted by fines for overdue materials. Panelists from libraries of many sizes from across the country shared their efforts to forgive or eliminate such charges. Several libraries have already eliminated late fees or adopted creative approaches to forgiving fines in order to ensure there is no financial barrier to access, particularly for low-income patrons.

This discussion offered a great deal of insight into the impact of local efforts to address these issues. As a result of attending this panel discussion, our library will continue to pursue elimination of overdue fines. We ceased charging fines on children's material in early 2018, and the library board will deliberate on extending this to all users in the fall of 2018. Access is essential to what we do, and removing fines will ensure there is no financial barrier to access. It will foster our role in the community as a community space, and foster inclusivity, good will, and collaboration.

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Tara Alcox
Borough Librarian
Petersburg Public Library

(Cont. on pg. 15)
Pacific Northwest Library Association 2018
Conference Take-aways

Here are a few of the highlights and insights I gleaned from my favorite sessions.

**Stem in a Box**
The presenter, Sarah Knox from the North Central Regional Library System in WA State, was excellent and provided hands-on time with many of their traveling STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) kits. You don’t need to be an expert—let the kids discover how to solve problems: “Don’t grab the mouse.” She provided a list ranking the kit materials by cost and another list ranking each kit by time/effort required to set up and run. If you’d like a copy of that list, email me: NevinKJ@muni.org

**imagineif Libraries Tour**
We toured three imagineif Libraries (Flathead County Library System) and saw how they reconfigured their spaces and physical collections to best accommodate their users at each location. WOW, what fabulous things can be done with spaces—large and small—to create an everyday maker experience for library visitors!! They have shifted to minimal “lean” work stations and roaming library experts. They’ve created “community engagement spaces” for rotating maker events. The children’s spaces are open and include lots of interactive playthings.

**Playwork in the Library – Presented by imagineif Libraries**
Everyone should watch the 15 minute YouTube video called “The Land” about Adventure Playgrounds. This is NOT something we can do in a library setting, but it is food for thought on how valuable unsupervised play is to a child’s development. YES, we want parents to be involved and play WITH their children WHEN INVITED, but some amazing things happen when children are allowed to play organically without direction from an adult.

**Your Library Within Your Community: Creating and Sustaining an Identity**
- Presenter Gavin Woltjer, Director of the Billings MT Library since 2016, is a dynamic speaker. If you ever get a chance to hear him speak, you’ll be inspired. He prefaced with this caveat, “What I’m sharing, worked FOR ME.” In general when trying to engage with your community, figure out the three or four things you do well and build upon those and remember that your library does not SET the community agenda, but it should REFLECT that agenda.
- He spoke of the idea of creating topophilia for your library—a feeling/bond of affection with a place. Is your library mission statement easy to remember? IF NOT, pare it down. Billings Public Library’s mission statement went from 26 words to ? (I went online to check and the short and punchy new mission statement has not yet changed on their website.)
2018 Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference
Mystic Lake Center  Prior Lake, MN

The annual Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM) Conference continues to help and inspire me in my work as a librarian. Because our library operates mainly on grant funding, I always look forward to attending sessions on grant writing, management, and project ideas so that we can strive to submit excellent grant applications and increase our knowledge of how to best manage them. We are also always looking for ideas to engage more with the youth, and this conference provided sessions with new ideas for programs to offer. Encouraging kids to start lifelong learning activities early in life is important and fits into our library’s mission of helping to preserve our Tlingit culture.

As always, our Tribal Archives Collections are always being added to, and by attending the sessions on language revitalization and preserving digital collections, I am reminded that technology is always changing and that soon the technology we currently have will become outdated; that we need to stay vigilant about this so our stories, histories, and culture do not get lost due to outdated technology. Thank you for your help in allowing me to attend this amazing conference; it is an invaluable resource.

Jamie A Katzeek
Library Co-Director
Klukwan Community and School Library

This is a post-apocalyptic review of “what went wrong” leading up to Zero Hour and a Robot War against humanity. Told to tell the harrowing put together in time the heroic deeds of come together and well as those who between life and in the style of World War Z, multiple narratives come together story of too many people with not quite enough information to prevent disaster. The book begins and ends in Alaska, with the few scrappy survivors using all their wits and resources to save each other. Appealing for sci-fi fans and survivalists as feel that going “off grid” might someday mean the difference death.

Rachel Ayers
Collection Development Librarian
Anchorage Public Library


Here is something that the left and the right can agree on: The Peoples Republic of Korea is a brutal police state led—and corrupted—by a family of egomania-1950s it sold itself to Koreans in Japan as Paradise on wa’s parents took him to North Korea when he was he only escaped 36 years later. Usually escape and end on an upbeat note. This one does not. Ishikawa retrieve any of his family, nor was he even able to save starving to death. He relates that his primary emotion shouldn’t wonder.

Larry Hibpshman
Kenai

I'm reading History of the Rain: a Novel by Niall Williams. Here's a passage that shows exactly why I love it and am telling everyone I know about it.

"I love the feel of a book. I love the touch and smell and sound of the pages. I love the handling. A book is a sensual thing. You sit curled in a chair with it or, like me, you take it to bed and it's, well,
enveloping. Weird I am. You either get it or you don’t. When my father first took me to Ennis Library, I went down among the shelves, and felt company, not only the company of the writers, but the readers too, because they had lifted and opened these books. The books were worn in a way they can only get worn by hands and eyes and minds; these were the literal original Facebooks, the books where faces had been, and I just loved it, the whole strange sense of being aboard a readership." (p. 62)

Susan Metcalfe
Dimond High School, Anchorage

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Alaskan Experience Corner

Submitted by Larry Hibpshman, Book Buzz Manager (Kenai)

But you too can submit to the Alaskan Experience column

I want to feature Hardscratch Press, a publisher that specializes in Alaskan experience books.

Jacqueline Ruth Benson Pels was born in Alaska and as a child experienced Alaskan life in Kenai, McGrath, Seward, and Unga, as well as evacuation with her mother and sister during the Second World War. Jackie’s mother, Ruth Lauritzen, was born on Unga Island in the first half of the 20th century and experienced an adventurous life over eight decades. Mrs. Pels’s first book, *Unga Island Girl*, documents her mother’s life.

Jackie established Hardscratch Press, named in honor of Hardscratch Farm, the family homestead of Unga’s step-father, Ralph Soberg. The company specializes in Alaskan books (with a few titles relating to California and to children). There now are 16 titles, many written by or about Jackie’s long-term Alaskan friends. I have read several, and they are always well-written, carefully edited, usually indexed, and constructed to last. A new book, Sandy Mazen’s *Kiyonuk: An Arctic Alaska Boyhood*, will be published shortly.

Attached is a bibliography of some Hardscratch Press publications. Although it lists several books as out of print, I can attest that good copies of most can be found regularly in Alaska’s very valuable used books stores:


*Bridging Alaska / From the Big Delta to the Kenai: A Personal Account of 30 years of Pioneer Bridge and Road Construction Throughout the 49th State. Mr. Soberg was chief engineer on the Sterling and Kenai Spur Highways, 1991. Ralph Soberg.


Sideways Rain: 20 Years of Medicine, Music, and Good-luck Landings in the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands of Alaska, 2012. Nancy Elliott Sydnam, M.D.

There’s a Freedom Here: My 100 years in Alaska. Mrs. Williams was daughter of a founding family of Seward, 2014. Patricia Ray Williams.

* = out of print
GENERAL GUIDELINES TO PUBLISHING IN NEWSPOKE

Alaska Library Association Newsletter

Not accepted: paid advertising; material intended to “sell; make a profit” rather than to “inform.” Submissions viewed as advertisements, unless item is of particular interest to Alaska, Alaskan patrons, libraries, or is submitted by an AkLA member.

Accepted: Alaskana—books, book reviews, or articles relating to, or of interest to, Alaskan librarians and/or their patrons. Informative material related to libraries and librarianship, especially in regard to Alaska.

Most anything submitted by AkLA members—reasonably tasteful, of appropriate length, “decently” well-written; author is willing to submit to possible editorial changes. This may include length, perhaps spellings, downsizing of convoluted sentences... (Editor will make every effort to let the author know of, and pre-approve, any significant changes before the material is published in Newspoke.)

Other—determined on an individual basis by “the committee” (defined as a group of at least three AkLA members).

If the Newspoke editor, or the individual submitting, has questions or concerns about any submission, the matter will be sent on to the Newspeke Committee.
ALASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle, WA                   Jan. 25-29, 2019
School Library Month                                  April 2019
National Library Week                                Apr. 7-13, 2019
National Library Workers Day                         Apr. 9, 2019
National Bookmobile Day                              Apr. 10, 2019
Medical Library Assn. Conf., Chicago, IL              May 3-8, 2019
Academic Library Advancement & Development, Louisville, KY  May 19-22, 2019
ALA Annual Conf., WA, DC                              Jun. 20-25, 2019