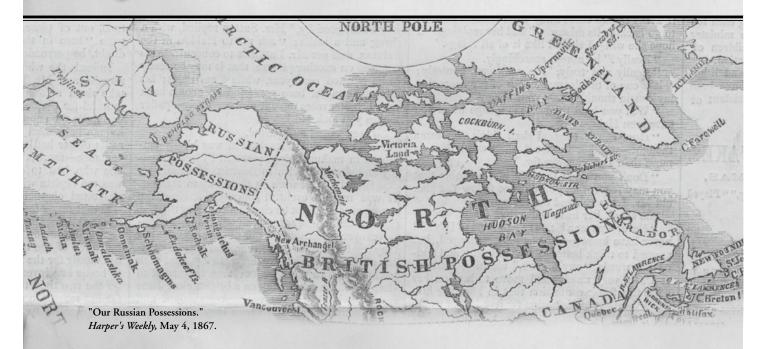
# Alaska History News

Volume 45, No. 1 Quarterly of the Alaska Historical Society Winter 2017



## Call for Papers: Exploring the Legacy of the Alaska Purchase

Alaska Historical Society Annual Conference September 27-30, 2017, Anchorage, Alaska

nce Alaska was known to the world as Russian America. All of that ended 150 years ago when William H. Seward and Edward de Stoeckl signed the treaty that ceded those Russian possessions to the United States. Since then Alaska has evolved from a military district, to a territory, and finally into the forty-ninth state of the United States. This year the Anchorage Museum is hosting the joint Alaska Historical Society/Museums Alaska annual conference. The AHS 2017 theme—Exploring the Legacy of the Alaska Purchase—invites reflections on how that moment charted a new destiny for Alaska. In particular the theme opens the door for indigenous perspectives on the meaning of this pivotal event. Please join us as we examine how Alaska's history unfolded, is unfolding, and may yet unfold since that day in 1867 when Czar Alexander II abandoned North America. Presentations on all topics of Alaska's history are welcome.

Our featured speaker will be Willie Hensley, author of *Fifty Miles from Tomorrow* and an Alaskan who shaped the state we live in today.

Proposals for papers, panels, and poster sessions are due May 1, 2017, and should be sent to Tim Troll, Program Chair, troll@gci.net. Also, more conference information can be found at the AHS website www. alaskahistoricalsociety.org.

## Message from the President:

The Alaska Historical Society and the history community in general lost a colleague and friend when John Haile Cloe passed away last December. John was on the Society's Board of Directors for the past four years and frequent presenter at the annual conferences. His work on Alaska's military history began in 1970 when he became the Alaska Air Command historian at Elmendorf Air Force Base. He wrote *Top Cover for America: The Air Force in Alaska* (1984) and *The Aleutian Warriors: A History of the 11<sup>th</sup> Air Force and Fleet Air Wing Four* (1990). Last year, John completed *Mission to the Kurils*, an account of operations carried out by American bombers against the Japanese using the Aleutian Islands as a launching pad. This is the first history written about this little-known chapter in the War of the Pacific. John will be missed.

I also would like to take this opportunity to introduce Erik Johnson, who will serve the rest of John's term on the Board of Directors. Erik is the National Park Service's historian at Denali National Park & Preserve. He is a native of Colorado where he attended the University of Colorado at Boulder before moving on to complete a master's degree at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, with a focus on public history and the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century American West. He is a fine fellow, so please join me in welcoming him.

Work has started to make the 2017 Alaska Historical Society/Museums Alaska Annual Meeting, to be held in Anchorage, a reality. Mark your calendars for September 27-30, and consider submitting a presentation proposal (or nudging your friends to do so). Student and beginning scholarship applications to cover registration and travel for two people are due in May.



February 11th was the first opportunity for Alaskans to see the original Emanual Leutze Signing of the Alaska Treaty painting in the state. It opened at the University of Alaska Museum of the North. It is now at the Anchorage Museum, and in October will be at the State Museum in Juneau.

This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Alaska Purchase, and the legacy of this pivotal event will be an important theme for the conference. Keep your eyes open for events to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> like the arrival of Emanuel Leutze's painting *Signing of the Alaska Treaty*, already exhibited at UAF's Museum of the North, and to be at the Anchorage Museum from March through September, and at the Alaska State Museum in October.

-Regards, Chris Allan

## -Anniversaries-

#### AHS CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

On a Saturday morning in November 1967, a few dozen Alaskans gathered at the Westward Hotel in Anchorage for what would be the first annual meeting of the Alaska Historical Society. Different groups of historically minded individuals had operated under that name as far back as 1889, but this gathering would prove to be the most durable. For fifty years, AHS has served Alaskans, museums, and local societies by striving to fulfill the mission that was established at that very first meeting:

"To encourage the preservation and utilization of Alaska's historic resources as a cultural, economic and educational asset; to provide communication between the existing historical societies within the state; and to serve as a cooperating agency with national, municipal, state, private and local organizations in an effort to accomplish these ends."

This September 27-30, the current generation of Alaska historians and museum professionals will gather at the annual meeting, again in Anchorage, to celebrate the organization's fiftieth anniversary. The program is being developed, and we hope to bring together past presidents, members, and even founders who have been involved in AHS over the years. We hope you will join us!

-Ross Coen, AHS 50th Anniversary Chair

### COMMEMORATING THE 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALASKA TREATY OF CESSION

Kenai Peninsula volunteers planning the April 2017 conference on the past 150 years of the area's history got a wonderful surprise in December. Long-lost films of the 1974 Kenai history conference were located, salvaged, and digitized. Credit goes to modern technology and the skilled staff at the Alaska State Library, Historical Collections in Juneau.

The footage has presentations by well-known, now deceased Kenai Peninsula leaders including Kenaitze linguist Peter Kalifornsky, Soldotna co-founder Dolly Farnsworth, and three-time borough mayor Stan Thompson. There are also talks by the late, prominent Alaska historians Morgan Sherwood and Claus Naske. Presenters still alive are James Kari, retired University of Alaska linguist, and Mother Victoria, now abbess of a Russian Orthodox monastery in California.

The 150 Years: Kenai Peninsula History Conference will be April 21-22 at the Kenai Peninsula College campus in Soldotna. It marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Alaska's purchase from Russia by the U.S.

Shana Loshbaugh, conference coordinator, went to the State Library, Archives and Museum in Juneau last September and looked for Kenai Peninsula information. The Historical Collections had a box of materials from the 1974 Kenai conference, including reel-to-reel, black and white videotapes Kenai Central High School students had made. Film specialist Damon Stuebner was concerned the videos were too old and frail to salvage, but offered to try using state-of-the-art processes. He succeeded in digitizing the tapes and mailed Loshbaugh DVDs with 8½ hours of presentations. The library donated them for the conference and want them to be available to the community after.

Loshbaugh is contacting surviving speakers and families of the deceased to tell them about the films and arrange to get copies for them. She plans to screen highlights from the tapes at the April conference. The State Library plans to post excerpts online via You Tube.

This windfall was a pleasant surprise right before Christmas, Loshbaugh said, a real gift to the community.

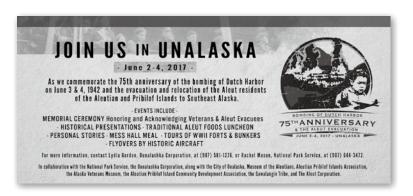
More information about the conference is available online at: http://kenaipeninsulahist.wixsite.com/conference or on Facebook at "150 Years: Kenai Peninsula History Conference." If you want to be on the event mailing list or have questions, contact Shana Loshbaugh at kenaipeninsulahistory@gmail.com or by phone at (907) 460-7554.

Governor Bill Walker declared 2017 a year of "history and heritage," and AHS members have been writing articles, giving lectures, and holding discussions with the public at events around the state. The AHS has a statewide *Calendar of Events* that is updated a few times a week with lectures, concerts, discussions, exhibits, and more--from the Kenai Peninsula to Washington, D.C. A highlight is the loan of the iconic painting by Emanuel Leutze, *The Signing of the Alaska Treaty*, from the Seward House Museum in Auburn, New York, that has been at the University of Alaska Museum of the North, and will be at the Anchorage Museum starting in March, then at the Alaska State Museum in October. On Seward's Day, March 30th, there will be a luncheon, reception, and concert in Washington, D.C. An exhibit of Alaska Native art opens this month at Sitka National Historical Park, and the Kenai Peninsula History Conference is in April.

The Alaska Historical Society is promoting events and fostering discussion on its social media feeds. Find us on Instagram (@ alaskahistoricalsociety), Twitter (@alaskahistorica), Facebook, and Tumblr. On the AHS website there is a resource library about the Treaty of Cession and life in Alaska in the 1860s with primary sources, news items, and a bibliography. Articles are in the works from AHS members. If you are interested in providing a short, well-researched article for the online library, please let us know.

—Anna Lee Hirschi, 150th Commemoration of the Treaty of Cession Project Director

## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WORLD WAR II COMMEMORATION: REMEMBERING THE BOMBING OF DUTCH HARBOR/UNALASKA AND ALEUT EVACUATION



On June 3, 1942, Japanese bombers hit Dutch Harbor. The Japanese did not find a runway and aircraft hangars, as they expected, but they did hit an Army barracks, killing 25 servicemen. The initial attack allowed the Japanese to gather information about locations of troops and anti-aircraft positions. They returned the next day with even more fighter planes and set fuel tanks on fire, sending clouds of thick black smoke skyward. That day they also bombed the Alaska Native Service Hospital, from which patients had been evacuated, and the S.S. *Northwestern*, being used for housing, damaging it so that it had to be retired.

Construction of the American military base at Dutch Harbor started in September 1940 when civilian construction workers arrived on the island. After the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the military expanded its Aleutian Islands fortifications, particularly at Unalaska.

Many years later, men and women stationed in the Aleutians during World War II have told their stories to National Park Service staff and others. Veterans and family members have provided many photos and other materials, and many can be found at https://www.nps.gov/aleu/index.htm.

Even before the attack on Dutch Harbor, the government had discussed evacuating the Aleut population (today known as Unangaŝ), ostensibly for their safety. Shortly after the attack, the government decided to relocate the people to Southeast Alaska, without knowing which specific sites would be used. The government officials sent ships to the villages to move the people from their homes.

The Unalaska people were the last to leave the islands for Southeast Alaska. On July 18, 1942, residents with more than one-eighth Native blood were given 24 hours to pack whatever they could carry. After a brief stay at the Wrangell Institute, they were taken to a dilapidated cannery at Burnett Inlet, where they lived for almost three years under poor conditions. Many became sick; some died. Upon return to Unalaska in April 1945, they found their homes vandalized and damaged by the servicemen. At least their church still stood, although it, too, had been broken into. This shameful history is told at the Aleutian WWII National Historic Area, operated in partnership by the Ounalashka Corporation and the National Park Service.

The historic area has two main themes: the World War II military campaign in the Aleutians, and the history and culture of the Unangax people, including their wartime experiences. This summer's commemorative event in Unalaska will tell both stories, recounted by those who were there in June 1942. The National Park Service and the Ounalashka Corporation, with the City of Unalaska, Museum of the Aleutians, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, the Alaska Veterans Museum, the Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association, the Qawalangin Tribe, and the Aleut Corporation are planning events for June 2–4 in Unalaska. There will be a memorial ceremony, historical presentations, personal stories, a mess hall meal, traditional Unangas foods luncheon, and a flyover by historical aircraft.

-Rachel Mason, rachel\_mason@nps.gov or (907) 644-3472

ALASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP is off to a good start in 2017! In January, the AHS welcomed six new members: Friends of Juneau-Douglas City Museum, Thomas Paul and Gina Spartz of Juneau, Ian Hartman of Anchorage, Willow Historical & Wildlife Foundation, and Allen Perkins of Crossville, TN. Seven individuals received gift memberships from AHS members: Lily Becker, San Francisco, CA; Dan Bittner, Brooklyn, NY, Jonathan Bittner and Bill Bittner of Anchorage, J. T. & Sarah Mohr of Kenilworth, IL, Varina Pickett of Midvale, ID, and Jay VanVeldhuizen of Mead, WA. We trust they will enjoy their membership with us. Six members renewed as Patrons: Tom Bundtzen of Fairbanks, Marilyn Knapp of Bellingham, WA, Tim Troll and Charlotte Fox of Anchorage, Arthur Petersen of Juneau, Allison Hoagland of Washington DC, and twelve individuals sent donations with their membership renewal.

Let this be a gentle reminder to renew your membership if you haven't already done so for 2017. Perhaps you would like to consider giving a gift membership to a school, organization, family or individual? 2017 promises to be an exciting year to be a member of Alaska Historical Society as we observe the **50th anniversary of our Society** and 150th Anniversary of the Alaska Treaty of Cession.

—Ruth Jolly Knapman, Membership Chair

## Notes from around the state

CAMP FIRE HALIBUT

Place halibut fillets on a sheet of heavy duty tin foil. Spread butter over the fish, then salt and pepper to taste. Add a pinch of garlic powder and lightly sprinkle 'season all salt' over the fish. Arrange sliced onion and orange over the fish, then pour a can of mushrooms (drained) over the fish. Cover with another piece of tin foil, seal the edges and place on a hot bed of coals. Let cook for about 10 minutes or until done. The halibut should be moist and "flaky."

Halibut, the "steak of the sea."

The **Tanana-Yukon Historical Society** is continuing its lecture series. In February, Russ

continuing its lecture series. In February, Russ Vanderlugt spoke about the December 1943 B-24 Liberator crash near the headwaters of the Charley River, sole survivor Lt. Leon Crane's 81-day walk back to civilization, the 1-52 Aviation Regiment recovery mission to the crash site in 2006, and a visit to the site and reconnaissance of Crane's route in February 2016. The March speaker is Don Gullickson who will talk about restoration of Tanana Valley Engine #1.

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Petersburg's Clausen Memorial Museum is a wealth of information. If you want to find out how to catch a halibut, rig a long-line, peel a shrimp, harvest a forest, set a fish trap, make lutefisk, and clean a salmon come to

the museum! You can walk past old cannery equipment, the Cape Decision lighthouse lens, a Tlingit canoe, salmon labels, and a recently installed Petersburg area fishery timeline. There are special programs

for adults and children throughout the year. Come check out what happened in Petersburg since incorporation in 1910, two years after the initial articles of incorporation were rejected because women had signed them.

•••

The Palmer Historical Society's motto is *Promote Preserve Protect*. With that motto in mind the society wants everyone to know they have the *Alaska Record* and *Matanuska Valley Record* available to read at the Colony House Museum, located at 316 E. Elmwood Ave. in Palmer.

I had a two-inch beard, black as coal; my hair was long and matted, covering my ears and coming down over my forehead almost to my eyes, so that I looked like some strange species of prehistoric man. I was dirty and sunburned and wind-burned, and my eyes stared back at me from the centers of two deep black circles.

—Lt. Leon Crane
Portrait by Clayton Knight.

A 1929 Swallow A/C was purchased by the **Pioneer Air Museum** in Fairbanks and delivered from Sacramento, California to Alaska via a DC-9. Thanks to all who helped move, load and unload it, including Jeff Cornett, Steve Lundeen, Eric Johannsen, Steve Heckman, Bill Green, and Lee Griffen.

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The **Alutiiq Museum** recently purchased 11 oil paintings by Native artists for its collection, discovered an unrecorded set of petroglyphs, and earned an institutional excellence award from the Association for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums. Wow!

\*

The Anchorage Museum's major 2017 exhibit, **Polar Bear Garden** opens March 3 and will close October 22. Among the items in the exhibit are a copy of the Alaska Treaty of Cession and the cancelled check paying for Alaska, both on loan from the National Archives.

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The Resurrection Bay Historical Society has and thanks its many volunteers: Louie Bencardino, Jackie and Keith Campbell, Bev and Willard Dunham, Linda Lasota, Dennis and Aleta McLain, Kerry Martin, Mark Luttrell, Jackie and Keith Campbell, Dolly Dieter, Colleen Kelly, Sue McClure, Maddi McGraw, Lee Poleske, Dona Walker and granddaughter. Dennis McLain is making a scale model of the SS *Dora* for the museum that is about 50% complete. He has started laying down the main deck and building the cabin.

\*

## Notes from around the state

History lives every day in each of us. It shapes the stories we tell ourselves, which shape the people we become.

—Mary Catharine Martin, managing editor, Capital City Weekly



The Cradle by Henry Sandham, from the monthly *The Century*, 1883.

Exciting news from the Juneau Empire,

"Southeast in Sepia" is the name for a new column in the Capital City Weekly. It is intended to share fascinating and varied histories of Southeast Alaska as related by historians around the region. Many know that Pat Roppel wrote more than 100 published columns on the history of Southeast Alaska, and the Juneau Empire hopes this series will continue her legacy. Karl Gurcke, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, wrote the first column about the April 3, 1898 avalanche on the Chilkoot Trail that killed more than 50 people. Mary Catharine Martin, Capital City Weekly managing editor writes, "History lives every day in each of us. It shapes the stories we tell ourselves, which shape the people we become. These histories aren't just fascinating because of the things we can learn about the people that came before us-struggles, disasters, hopes, crimes, battles, dreams-but for what they can tell us about ourselves."

\*

Three pioneers associated with placer mining, invention, mineral industry management, scientific inquiry, and public service were inducted last fall into the **Alaska Mining Hall of Fame**:

John Arthur Miscovich, born and raised in Flat, was a standout placer gold miner for most of his 96-year life. He was familiar with virtually all technologies used in the development of heavy mineral placers. He is perhaps even more remembered for his *Intelligent*, an automatic, high-pressure water monitor that has been deployed globally as a fire suppression device and used for various clean-up projects.

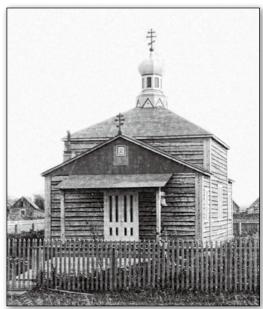
Cole Edwin McFarland worked with his father placer mining at Ophir in western Alaska. He began a career with Placer Development--later Placer Amex and ultimately Placer Dome U.S. Inc. Although his career spanned the globe, he was active in several management positions with coal mining in the Cook Inlet area, and hard rock exploration around Alaska. McFarland mentored many young professionals in mining.

Donald John Grybeck came to Fairbanks to study engineering at the University of Alaska. He worked at the Red Devil mercury mine near Sleetmute while pursuing his education. He earned a Ph.D. in economic geology from the Colorado School of Mines. After teaching at both schools, Don worked for the U.S.

Geological Survey for 25 years and was key in the establishment of the Alaska Resource Data File (ARDF) system.

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Craig, Alaska is home to the eldest Haida in Alaska and Canada, Fredrick George Hamilton Sr. just celebrated his 96th birthday. Fred is the son of George Hamilton who sold his saltery to the North Pacific Trading and Packing Company, which opened the first cannery in Alaska at Klawock, seven miles down the road from Craig. In other news from the community, the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 19 and the Craig Tribal Association hosted an Elizabeth Peratrovich luncheon for elders on February 16th. Elementary school students presented speeches, poetry and songs and ANS President Adeline de Castro read the state proclamation making February 16th Elizabeth Peratrovich Day in Alaska.



The earliest known photograph of the Holy Assumption Church, Kenai, prior to the belfry addition, circa 1910. Alaska State Library, Michael Z. Vinokouroff Photograph Collection, ASL-P243-2-013.

#### Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska

keeps working to preserve Alaska's Russian Orthodox churches and iconography. The group recently finished rehabilitation of the dome on **St. Nicholas Church** in Juneau. Work included restoring the ornate detail at the dome's base and gilding the dome in a brilliant gold leafing. The next phase is rehabilitation of the historic rectory. At the **Holy Assumption Church in** Kenai, a high-pressure mist fire suppression system was installed. The final phase of this church's restoration is replacement of the original roof, which has been leaking.

## Notes from around the state



#### **Eagle Historical Society and Museums**

President Pat Sanders and Director Donna Wesphal thanked the society's volunteers in their recent newsletter. They invite people to visit Eagle and take a tour of history with a society volunteer, walk along the Yukon River, and stay at the BLM campground. Sanders notes that dear departed friend Nellie Briggs remembered dances, special parties, showers and gatherings in Eagle by keeping her napkins from each one and writing the date, her escort, and about the event. These are an incredible history of social events in Eagle during the 1930s and 40s. Sanders is seeking funding for a display of the napkins.

The Cape Decision Lighthouse Society has a new president, Chris Brooks. Karen Lucas, founder and president for ten years passed the torch. The historic lighthouse is in a remote location and extreme environment, but this dedicated groups has persevered in maintaining it. To volunteer contact capedecisionlight@gmail.com or support them with money or gifts to help the group raise funds. AHS vice-president Rebecca Poulson donates a beautiful wood block print of the lighthouse to the organization. Check out their website at www. capedecisionlight.org.

Is your pickle jar full of coins? The **Chugiak-Eagle River Historical Society** is in a "pickle"--rent, insurance, and other expenses add up and donations are needed. P.O. Box 670573 Chugiak,

AK 99567, phone: 907 688-4706. They have 2017 calendars with historic photos and captions for sale for \$18, and a book on the community's history for \$10.

\*

Tundra Vision, spearheaded by Katie Ringsmuth, has programs on the last Thursday of each month at the Mountain View Public Library in Anchorage. Speakers have presented on the cultural consequences of the Katmai eruption, the cultural, political and environmental history of the Nike Site Summit, the study of natural history from a Native perspective, Russian and Native encounters in Cook Inlet, the influenza pandemic in Bristol Bay, and the cultural exchange in the Arctic told through the prism of whaler's sea shanties. The theme for this spring is Alaska and the Law, and the speaker's lineup includes historian Terrence Cole, the Anchorage Youth Court, professor Willie Hensley, attorney and First Lady of Anchorage Mara Kimmel, and the first woman on the Alaska Supreme Court, Justice Dana Fabe.

\*

The **Tongass Historical Society** announced that Anne Rittgers was awarded the First Annual Patricia Roppel Scholarship. Anne is a graduate student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks in the Arctic and Northern Studies Program and is specializing in Northern history. The \$5,000 award will be given annually to a student attending an accredited college and majoring in history.

## News & Information

Do you know of a photo of Henry Emmett Edwards, who was in Dawson, Ruby, and Fairbanks--and perhaps other places in Alaska--between 1898 and 1914? During those years he managed the McDonald Hotel, owned the Aurora Mine and built a dock there, owned and operated bars and gambling houses, explored opportunities to build railroads in the territory, married, divorced and remarried. After he left Alaska, Edwards lived in Utah and designed that state's seal. Ron Fox has seen photos of the interiors of bars and hotel lobbies, often with the proprietor, and is hoping one with Edwards might exist. If anyone has leads to help him, please email foxslc@aol.com.

Another request is from Leah Pileggi, Pittsburgh, PA: "In 2010, I took a tour of the Old Idaho Penitentiary in Boise. When the docent mentioned that the youngest prisoner there had been a 10-year old boy, I started doing research, and it led me to write *Prisoner 88*, a middle-grade historical novel that has been on three state reading lists. Folks at the Idaho Historical Society helped me with details that I wouldn't have found any other way. So I'm wondering if your members are aware of a boy or girl (ages 8-16) who did something amazing or surprising or heroic in Alaska's history that is another story just waiting to be written." If you have ideas, email leahpl@gmail.com.

## News & Information

It is sad to report the Washington group, the Alaska Yukon Pioneers, disbanded in December. Their monthly newsletter will be missed. Thanks Joyce Penmen, Ethel La Rose, George Parent, Lee Johnson, Priscilla Hudson, Bill Taylor and Richard Parent and others and AHS wishes you all the best. Notes can be sent to Joyce, 27833 85th Dr. NW, Stanwood, WA 98292, and Ethel, 1300 Linden Ave N. #712, Seattle, WA 98133-7585.

Museums Alaska has selected Della Hall as their new executive director. The organization has a new address, P.O. Box 80641, Fairbanks, AK 99708. Della takes over from Bianca Carpeneti, and her duties include managing the Collections Management Fund and Art Acquisition Fund that help museums around the state. Thanks Bianca; welcome Della.

**>>>** 

The **Alaska State Archives** has digitized and placed online documents related to the lives and work of Elizabeth and Roy Peratrovich who are acknowledged for their efforts to get the Alaska Territorial Legislature to pass an anti-discrimination act in 1945. The material is from Governor Ernest Gruening's papers and includes 65 pages of correspondence and documents. The material can be viewed at http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/ref/collection/cdmg41/id/973.

The 2017 Governor's Arts & Humanities Award honorees included several Alaska Historical Society friends and members at their ceremony in Juneau in late January. Bob Banghart of Juneau, Marilyn Davidson of Kodiak. Charlotte Fox of Anchorage, Lani Hotch of Haines, Kathleen Carlo Kendall of Fairbanks, Heather Lende of Haines, Lance Peterson of Homer, Robert Sparks of Kenai, and Shirley Mae Springer Staten of Anchorage, along with Alaska's new writer laureate Ernestine Hayes of Juneau deserved the recognition they received.



I was raised among White Americans. I have lived among them all of my life. I have been a student of their culture since before kindergarten. I speak their language, I know their history, I have studied their art and their heroes. One day I hope to become professor of White Studies.

—Ernestine Hayes Kaagwaantaan clan of the Eagle side of the Lingit nation

## Pick.Click.Give.

THE ALASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY is on the list for those applying for their Permanent Fund Dividend. Consider using the "Pick, Click, Give" to donate.

## **Alaska Historical Society**

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THE ALASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY is encouraging organizations and individuals to plan events and activities to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Alaska Treaty of Cession. The Society has created a calendar of events on its website. If you are planning or know of an event please send information about it to members@ alaskahistoricalsociety.org