



**MONTHLY MUSEUM REPORT
November/December 2011**

VISITOR NUMBERS	NOV.	DEC.	YEAR THROUGH DECEMBER	
Local Walk-in	19	43	Local Walk-in	1,946
Paying Walk-in	0	17	Paying Walk-in	4,433
Non-paying Walk-in	0	4	Non-paying Walk-in	736
Children local and non-local	2	3	Children local and non-local	253
With School Group	23	0	With School Group	320
Special Events at Museum	123	302	Special Events at Museum	1,825
Off-site Activity	0	0	Off-site Activity	102
In tours	0	0	In tours	202
Web Site Hits:	406	369	Web Site Hits:	9,122

VOLUNTEERS

Number:	18	18		
Total Hours:	77	56	Hours Year Total	2,749.25

ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS

- The **carpeting** is finally completed. The project took 2 months to the day. It is beautiful and blends in with the exhibits. Staff is still putting the offices back together. Exhibits in the Upper Gallery are being updated and enhanced.
- Jerrie will leave Haines on the afternoon ferry Friday, January 13 for 3-months. She will work for 2 ½ months at **Abydos, Egypt** where she has worked in the past, then take a 2-week vacation visiting family and friends in the Lower States. Blythe Carter will be acting director and will receive a 10% temporary increase. Jerrie will use annual leave and work on some projects for the museum recording 30 hours a week as long the leave lasts. The appropriation funds she isn't paid will provide additional hours for other staff members.
- Lisa Cudabeck Hart resigned as **part-time custodian**. Hannah Reeves accepted the position and began January 4th.
- **Eagle Festival** was held Wednesday November 9th – Sunday November 13th. The museum was open extended hours, from 1-6 pm throughout the celebration.
- The **Christmas Open House** was held Saturday December 10th from 1-4 pm. Decorating was delayed due to carpet installation but was up by the open house. We weren't able to find any train people available this year, disappointing many visitors. However, the crafts and ornaments were a hit. 302 children and adults attended.
- The Museum did slightly better at the holiday bazaars this year. However, overall visitation and sales in the Museum Store were down, perhaps due to being closed for carpeting and the weather.

UPCOMING EVENTS/PROJECTS:

- History Day Competition (Feb)
- Spring 2012 Community Photo Show (March 1 - 31)
- Jeopardy postponed (April)
- Volunteer Appreciation Party (May)



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EDUCATION

- Elsie Spud is back from visiting her first grandson and **Tlingit Language Class** began again on November 8th with a high attendance of 14 people. Among the attendees was Joe Hotch, a native speaker who graciously repeated phrases for us. Classes will be held in Klukwan at least once a month.
- On November 11 we had our **monthly trip from the 3rd grade class**. This time we looked at spruce root baskets and had a basic lesson on archaeology with reference to the Thorne River basket found in 1994.
- Objects were commissioned with funds from a **“Flight for Freedom” grant** from the American Bald Eagle Foundation. The objects were featured in “Harvest in the Chilkat Valley,” a family program on Saturday, November 12th and are now a permanent part of the Education Collection. They are:
 - Spruce Root Baskets and Supplies: Teri Rofkar sent us a small berry picking basket with a strawberry weave and woodworm pattern. She also included two partially woven baskets, a portion of “natural” spruce root, a root without bark, and root that has been split and is ready for weaving.
 - Halibut Hook: Alaska Indian Arts came through with a halibut hook and donated a carved wooden float to accompany the hook.
 - Halibut Model: As mentioned in last month’s report, Julie Folta donated an anatomically correct model of a halibut
 - Seasonal Display: Susannah constructed a geared display comparing western and Tlingit months
 - Knot Tying Display: Susannah constructed a display (with the help of Jim Shook) that shows several basic knots used aboard a ship.
- For the **Christmas Open House**, the Upper Gallery was decorated with a multitude of singing and dancing ornaments loaned by a board member along with miniatures displays featuring objects loaned by other board members. The miniatures were great fodder for museum scavenger hunts.
- Children’s activities featured face painting, snow painting, mini-wreath ornaments and mini-gingerbread houses.
- **Beginning in January**, Susannah will install in the children’s area a monthly object showcase with interesting items from the collections.

ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

Visits and queries in October:

- Correspondence with Karl Gurke re: identification of photographs of Dyea and Skagway in our collections
- Searched for school records for a genealogist from Metlakatla searching for her grandfather and great-uncle who attended the BIA school in Haines in the 1920s

EXHIBITS

- Upper Gallery exhibits are being reorganized and updated. Because there is not enough room to tell the entire history and culture of the area, staff is rotating artifacts and topics.



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