

Date: June 29, 2022
To: Glenn Steckman, City Manager
From: Amy Phillips-Chan, Museum Director
CC: Bryant Hammond, City Clerk



RE: Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum Quarterly Report (April-June 2022)

MUSEUM SUMMARY

April 1 to June 29, 2022

- **Visitor Attendance: 446**
- **Museum Sales: \$1,074.94**
- **Classroom Visits: 5**
- **Indigenous Scholar and Artist Visits: 2**
- **Local Organization Visits: 1**
- **Museum Youth Programs: 3**
- **Museum Film Programs: 2**
- **New Acquisitions to the Museum Collection: 6**
- **New Exhibits: 1**

New Additions to the Collection

The Museum received and accessioned 6 acquisitions of historical items and contemporary artwork from April – June 2022.

- **2022.8 Durand:** Three paper bills of sale titled “Alaska Reindeer Service Bill of Sale” from Teller (2) and Nome (1) dated 1917 and 1919.
- **2022.9 Erickson:** Ryder Erickson. 2022. *Beauty Full Eskimo Haircare*. Watercolor on paper. 9 x 12 in.
- **2022.10 Bering Sea Paydirt:** "Eroica Paydirt" box with a 2lb bag of gold-laden sand and dirt from the Eroica dredge sluicibox, a certificate of authenticity signed by Emily Reidel, a glass vial to store your gold, and two vinyl stickers.
- **2022.11 Olanna:** Ken Libsourne. 2007. *Ivory Carvers*. Original watercolor painting. 20 x 24 in. Framed.
- **2022.12 Lean:** An olive-green wool uniform consisting of a jacket and pants worn by Clements Nicholas "Nick" Lean (1921-2010) who served in the US Military from 1944 to 1946.
- **2022.13 DePue:** One engraved walrus ivory cribbage board. One engraved walrus ivory letter opener. Two original editions of the “Egg Island Yellow Journal” printed aboard the S.S. “Ohio” at Egg Island, Alaska, June 20 and 21, 1900. Approximately 100 photographs of early Nome (c.1900-1905) of gold mining, the Nome Nugget newspaper, Wild Goose Railroad offices, family portraits, and street scenes.



Nome resident Charlie Lean donated a WWII military uniform worn by his father Clements Nicholas "Nick" Lean (1921-2010) to the Carrie McLain Museum in June 2022. CMMM 2022.12.1

Classroom Visits

- **Ms. Katie Bourdon** and her **2nd grade class** of students enjoyed a hands-on visit to the museum on May 13 and were able to explore the exhibit *Ron Senungetuk: A Retrospective* on its last day in Nome.
- **Ms. Meghan Topkok** and her **tribal management class** visited the museum on May 19 and enjoyed a behind the scenes tour of the collections lab and storage area.
- **Three 3rd grade classes** with a total of 56 visitors (3 teachers, 7 parents, and 46 students) visited the Richard Foster Building on May 20. Students enjoyed a picnic on the lawn and then rotated through the museum, library, and cultural center.



Top: 2nd Grade students hold up a woodblock by Karen Olanna, former student of Ron Senungetuk.

Center: Tribal Management students with their teacher Ms. Topkok in front of artwork housed in the museum.

Bottom: 3rd Grade students and their teacher Mr. Brown explore the topo map in the museum.

Indigenous Artist and Scholar Visits

- Artist **Sonya Kelliher-Combs** (Inupiaq/Athabascan) visited the museum with her family on May 24 to view her artwork in the museum collection.
- Chukotkan Indigenous leader and PhD candidate in anthropology **Eduard Zdor** visited the museum on June 14 to examine cultural heritage materials related to traditional ecological knowledge and sociocultural change. You can find out more about Eduard and the critical work he is doing with and for Chukotkan Indigenous people here: <https://www.uaf.edu/gradsc.../news-events/spotlight/zdor.php>



Artist Sonya Kelliher-Combs (far right) and family with her *Hair Portraits* in the museum.



Scholar Eduard Zdor examines a Chukotkan *yaranga* (house) model.

Nome Rotary Club

- The **Nome Rotary Club** enjoyed a field trip to the Carrie McLain Museum on May 11 with lunch in the Richard Foster Room followed by a tour of the museum including a behind-the-scenes look at the *Stronger Together* and IMLS Grant projects.



The Nome Rotary Club gathers for a group photo in the special exhibit gallery featuring the exhibit *Ron Senungetuk: A Retropsective*.

Museum Summer Youth Program 2022

The Carrie McLain Memorial Museum launched its summer youth program for 2022 on June 10. The free program runs for 6 weeks and is held every Friday from June 10 to July 15 from 10:30-11:30am at the Museum. Each week participants explore objects from the museum collection, read a summer-themed book together, and engage in a hands-on activity.

The museum summer youth program is advertised at the Richard Foster Building, through Facebook, Nome Announce, local radio stations, and posted on flyers around town. The **first 3 weeks** of programming have experienced robust attendance with a total of **60 participants**.

Week 1 (June 10) An enthusiastic group of young people examined a historic hand seeder from Pilgrim Hot Springs, decided what types of things should be planted in *Curious George Plants a Seed*, planted vegetable and herb seeds in cups out on the deck, and went for a nature walk in the sunshine.

Week 2 (June 17) Participants explored historic objects from the collection related to the Midnight Sun Festival, read *Sunshine Makes the Seasons*, created a model earth to explore the effects of the sun, and used sidewalk chalk to create cheerful summer-themed drawings outside the Richard Foster Building.

Week 3 (June 24) An inquisitive group of young people did some hands-on learning about ribbon seals, walrus, and bowhead whales with objects from the collection, read together *Splat the Cat: A Whale of a Tale*, and crafted colorful mosaics from beach pottery and sea glass.





NEW EXHIBIT: *Alaska's Suffrage Star*

The Museum is hosting a traveling exhibit organized by the Alaska State Museum titled ***Alaska's Suffrage Star*** from **June 6 to September 2, 2022**. *Alaska's Suffrage Star* shares the history of women's suffrage in Alaska, explaining how local and national activism helped Alaska women citizens achieve the vote in 1913. It features reproductions of historic photographs, illustrations, and political cartoons. A children's area inside the exhibit gallery features a learning activity about the women's suffrage movement.



Museum Films

The Museum launched a **free movie program** this summer that runs from June 22 to July 27. A free film is shown every Wednesday @ 1pm in the Richard Foster Room. Movie offerings include historic films from the collection as well as more recent productions by the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center.



JOIN US FOR...

FREE MOVIES!

AT THE **CARRIE M. MCLAIN MEMORIAL MUSEUM**
INSIDE THE **RICHARD FOSTER BUILDING**
100 WEST 7TH AVENUE, NOME, AK

DATE: EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM JUNE 22 TO JULY 27
TIME: 1:00 PM

June 22: On the Spring Ice. Walrus hunting in Gambell. 50 min
June 29: Material Traditions: Sculpting Ivory. Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center. 75 min
July 6: Knud Rasmussen, The Great Enchanter. Stories of the polar explorer. 60 min
July 13: Silent films of Nome, King Islanders dancing/boating, Reindeer herding. 49 min
July 20: Exploration Northwest. History of Nome's gold rush. 20 min
July 27: Material Traditions: Sewing Quilts. Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center. 78 min

**CARRIE M. MCLAIN
MUSEUM**

All Children Under 12 Must Be Accompanied by an Adult.
Thank you: Qoyaanat

CARRIE M. MCLAIN MEMORIAL MUSEUM
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