



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Alaska State Historical Records Advisory Board Awards Amy Carney & Lee Poleske Certificates of Excellence

JUNEAU – On Oct. 10, the Alaska State Historical Records Advisory Board (ASHRAB) awarded Amy Carney and Lee Poleske archival Certificates of Excellence for their innovative *Bits of History* series of 5- to 7-minute historical videos covering all aspects of Seward, Alaska’s past. Carney is the Seward Community Library Museum Collections Coordinator, and Poleske is a local historian who has tirelessly volunteered to gather and share Seward’s history for all who care to listen.

Carney and Poleske used archival records including photographs, maps, newspapers, and 16mm archival video footage to produce 40 videos that are accessible on the Seward Library website and YouTube. Topics covered include the first Moscow to New York flight in 1929 with a stopover in Seward, the story of the Alaska state flag created by 13-year old Benny Benson of the Jesse Lee Mission School in 1927, and the 1928 Mt. Marathon race.

The ASHRAB members noted that this collection of historical vignettes is local history at its best and that the medium chosen enables the older generation to communicate with and pass on the torch of history to its successors.

The ASHRAB, coordinated by the State Archivist, is a 9-member Governor-appointed state board. The ASHRAB believes that the collection and preservation of historical records, Alaska’s priceless legacy, are fundamental to understanding our past and guiding our future. This was the ASHRAB’s second award.