

Patsy Ann, "Official Greeter of Juneau," 1939



Collection Name: Evelyn Butler and George Dale. Photographs, 1934-1982. ASL-PCA-306

Identifier: ASL-P306-0337

Title: "Patsy Ann" official greeter of all boats arriving in Juneau.

Description: Title from photographer's notes. Photographer's number 394x.

Creator: Dale, George Allan, 1900-

Contributors: Butler, Evelyn I.

Subject.TGM: Dogs
Cities & towns
Piers & wharves

Personal Name: Patsy Ann (Dog)

Location: Juneau (Alaska)

Region: Southeast Alaska

Time Period: 1913 to 1939
1939 to 1959

Date.original: 1939

Type: [Image \(Photographs\)](#)
[Image \(Portrait photographs\)](#)
Related Materials: <http://www.ccl.lib.ak.us/uhtbin/cgiirsi.exe/x/0/5?searchdata1=ocm53892208>
Ordering & Use: http://library.state.ak.us/vilda_rights.html
Holding Institution: Alaska State Library - Historical Collections, PO Box 110571, Juneau AK 99811-0571
<mailto:ASL.Historical@eed.state.ak.us>



Alaska State Library - Historical Collections

Collection Name: Mary Nan Gamble. Photographs, 1935-1945. ASL-PCA-270
Identifier: ASL-P270-056
Title: **The official greeter at Juneau.**
Description: Title taken from image.
Patsy Ann, English bull terrier.
From the official album of the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation Matanuska Colonization Project, 1935.

Creator: Geisman, Willis T.

More about Patsy Ann:

Long before an adorably ugly English bull terrier charmed America in *The Incredible Journey*, there was Patsy Ann, another bull terrier who was named Juneau's "Official Greeter" in 1934. Profoundly deaf from birth, Patsy Ann nonetheless had the uncanny ability to sense the arrival of ships at the city docks. What's more, some claimed that she knew which of the seven docks a cruise ship was bound. In the spirit of the old "Believe It or Not!" series, supporters cited the time there was a crowd of people standing at the wrong dock due to a misprint in the newspaper. Patsy Ann headed for the correct dock and staked her spot, casting occasional glances in the direction of the crowd, who eventually starting walking to Patsy Ann's dock when they saw the ship's intention.

Born October 12, 1929, in Portland, Oregon, Patsy Ann was a purebred puppy who came North by ship, intended for the twin daughters of a Juneau dentist named Dr. Keyser. But the Keyser home was not permanent. Next she moved in with the Dean Rice family, and again, that home was not permanent. Through the years, she became a citizen of Juneau at large, a personality known and loved by all. She roamed the streets and alleyways, visiting favorite places bars and hotel lobbies, and galvanizing into a trot toward Gastineau Channel whenever a ship's whistle blew, as if she could hear it. At the docks, she waited for the affectionate pets and food gifts, growing chubbier as the years went by. With the mayoral proclamation designating her Official Greeter, she also became exempt from dog-licensing laws. A favorite hangout for Patsy Ann was the Longshoremen's Hall.

Patsy Ann was one of the most-photographed dogs in the West, and tourists carried her story all over the country. If they didn't take her picture, then they could buy her image on a postcard in local shops. In 1935, Patsy Ann was photographed on the dock when the U.S. Army Transport *North Star* stopped in Juneau en route to Seward. Aboard was the first contingent of families bound for the Matanuska Valley and a new farming colony. Four years later, in 1939, local author Carl Burrows wrote a booklet about Patsy Ann that further heightened her growing celebrity.

She died at the Longshoremen's Hall on March 30, 1942, and received a burial at sea the next day. A large crowd gathered to honor her life and mourn her passing. Friends lowered her small coffin into Gastineau Channel.

Fifty years later, the "Friends of Patsy Ann" commissioned a bronze statue of the terrier for installation not far from where mourners said good-bye in 1942. Sculptor Anna Burke Harris worked from a 1939 life drawing of Patsy Ann by Josephine Crumrine, along with photographs taken during the 1930s by Trevor Davis. On July 3, 1992, following a lavish reception aboard the *Regal Princess*, the statue of Patsy Ann was unveiled at Patsy Ann Square along the waterfront. Memorialized in bronze, she remains in an ever-alert pose, looking out over the channel for inbound ships.

The statue of the friendly little dog draws crowds of cruise ship passengers who come to pet Patsy Ann, take a few pictures, and leave with a feeling of good will that she continues to instill. More than five decades after her passing, Patsy Ann remains the "Official Greeter of Juneau."

Links:

Juneau Library:

<http://www.juneau.lib.ak.us/community/history/patsy.htm>

Travel Juneau website includes a 1992 *Juneau Empire* story by Sherry Simpson:

<http://www.traveljuneau.com/discover/talk/detail.cfm?Article=8&List=6,2,8>

Dog stories on PBS website:

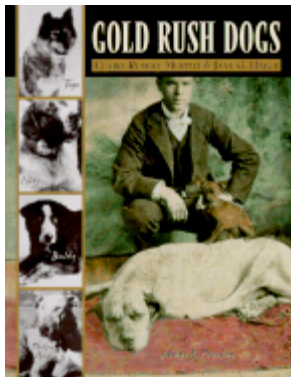
http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/woof/stories/story_03.html

Beverly Wood and Chris Wood, authors of *Dog Star*:

<http://www.patsyann.com/>

More reading:

Be sure to check for availability online through **your local library** catalog at <http://sled.alaska.edu/library.html>. For the statewide **Alaska Library Network** catalog, go to <http://sled.alaska.edu/library.html> and click on **ALNCat**.



Gold rush dogs /

Claire Rudolf **Murphy**; Jane G **Haigh**

2001

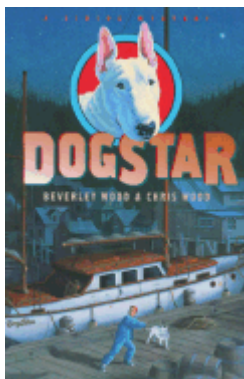
English Book 119 p. : ill. ; 23 cm.

Anchorage : Alaska Northwest Books, ; ISBN: 0882405349 (pbk. : alk. paper)

Libraries with Item:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Code</u>
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ

AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	CHUKCHI CONSOR LIBR	X\$4
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	JUNEAU PUB LIBR	Q2L
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KENAI PENINSULA COL, UAA	X@5
AK	KETCHIKAN PUB LIBR	Q2Z
AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V
AK	KOLIGANEK SCH	KOLIG
AK	KUSKOKWIM CONSORTIUM LIBR	XY7
AK	PETERSBURG PUB LIBR	Q2T
AK	SEWARD COMMUN LIBR	X@3
AK	SITKA SCH DIST	Q2Y
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	VALDEZ CONSORTIUM LIBR	X#2



Dogstar /

Beverley **Wood**; Chris **Wood**

2004

English Book : Fiction : Juvenile audience 309 p. ; 20 cm.

Vancouver : Raincoast Books, ; ISBN: 1551926385 :

Juneau, Alaska, 1932. This is where thirteen-year-old Jeff Beacon is stranded when his parents take him on an Alaskan cruise to help him get over the death of his beloved dog, Buddy. The problem is that Jeff is a twenty-first century kid, with a laptop computer and hightop sneakers. Why has he been transported in time to the Alaskan frontier? And how can he find his way home?...

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4

Patsy Ann /

Carl Burrows

1939

English Book 8 p. ; 22 cm.

[Juneau, AK] : Carl Burrows,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

Patsy Ann, queen of the waterfront and official greeter of the city of Juneau, 1930-1942 /

Laura Cecelia McCarley

1980

English Book [9] leaves : ill. ; 22 cm.

[Juneau, Alaska] : New Treadwell Publications,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

It takes a dog to raise a village :

true stories of remarkable canine vagabonds /

Ruth Gordon

2000

English Book 185 p. : ill. ; 20 cm.

Minocqua, Wis. : Willow Creek Press, ; ISBN: 1572233001

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$

The incredible journey.

Sheila Every Burnford; Carl Burger

1961 [1st ed.].

English Book : Fiction : Juvenile audience 145 p. illus. 22 cm.

Boston, Little, Brown

A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.

Libraries with Item:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Code</u>
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	ANDERSON SCH/COMMUN LIBR	X\$3
AK	CANTWELL SCH COMMUN LIBR	X#9
AK	CHUKCHI CONSOR LIBR	X\$4
AK	DENALI BOROUGH SCH DIST	X\$2
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	FORT RICHARDSON, POST LIBR	V90
AK	FORT WAINWRIGHT POST LIBR	V91
AK	GILSON JR HIGH SCH LIBR	G#L
AK	HAINES COOP LIBR	Q2R
AK	HERMON HUTCHENS ELEM SCH LIBR	HUR
AK	HOMER PUB LIBR	XY8
AK	JUNEAU PUB LIBR	Q2L
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCH DIST	Q4X
AK	KETCHIKAN PUB LIBR	Q2Z
AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V
AK	NENANA PUB LIBR	X\$6
AK	PALMER PUB LIBR	XZV
AK	PETERSBURG PUB LIBR	Q2T
AK	SEWARD COMMUN LIBR	X@3
AK	SHELDON JACKSON COL	Q2X
AK	SITKA SCH DIST	Q2Y
AK	TALKEETNA PUB LIBR	X@7
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	VALDEZ CONSORTIUM LIBR	X#2
AK	VALDEZ HIGH SCH LIBR	V9Z
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ
AK	WILLOW PUB LIBR	X#3

The incredible journey.

Sheila Every **Burnford**

1961

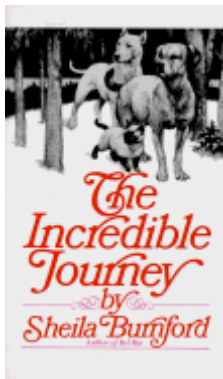
English Book : Fiction 145 p.

New York, Bantam Books,

A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALYESKA CENT SCH LIBR	Q2N
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	FORT WAINWRIGHT POST LIBR	V91
AK	NENANA PUB LIBR	X\$6
AK	SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCH DIST	Q3K



The incredible journey /

Sheila Every **Burnford**; Carl **Burger**

1996, 1988

English Book : Fiction : Juvenile audience 145 p. : ill. ; 18 cm.

New York : Bantam Doubleday Dell Books for Young Readers, ; ISBN: 0440226708 (pbk.) :

A doughty young Labrador retriever, a roguish bull terrier, and an indomitable Siamese cat set out through the Canadian wilderness to make their way home to the family they love.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	CHUKCHI CONSOR LIBR	X\$4

The incredible journey.

Sheila Every **Burnford**; Carl **Burger**

1990 **Bantam ed.**

English Book : Fiction : Juvenile audience 148 p. illus. 22 cm.

New York Bantam Books ; ISBN: 0553058746

A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	COLONY MIDDLE SCH LIBR	XZT
AK	KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCH DIST	Q4X

Visual Materials:

The incredible journey

Fletcher **Markle**; Sheila Every **Burnford**

1994, 1963

English Visual Material : Videorecording : VHS tape 1 videocassette (VHS) (80 min.) : sd., col. ; 1/2 in.

[United States] : Walt Disney Home Video ; [Burbank, Calif. : Distributed by Buena Vista Home Video, ; ISBN: 1558900470 :

A story about two dogs and a Siamese cat who traverse 200 miles of Canadian wilderness in their struggle to return to their former home and family.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V
AK	UNALASKA PUB LIBR	X@8

Homeward bound

the incredible journey /

Robert **Hays**; Kim **Greist**; Duwayne **Dunham**; Sheila Every **Burnford**

1993

English Visual Material : Videorecording : VHS tape 1 videocassette (84 min.) : sd., col. ; 1/2 in. Burbank, Calif. : Walt Disney Home Video : Distributed by Buena Vista Home Video, ; ISBN: 1558908013 :

A fun-loving bulldog, a wise old golden retriever, and a hilarious Siamese cat travel through the rugged Sierras in a search for their missing human family.

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AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	HOMER PUB LIBR	XY8
AK	ILISAGVIK COL, TUZZY CONSOR LIBR	X#7
AK	JUNEAU PUB LIBR	Q2L
AK	KETCHIKAN PUB LIBR	Q2Z
AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V
AK	KUSKOKWIM CONSORTIUM LIBR	XY7
AK	VALDEZ CONSORTIUM LIBR	X#2

Homeward bound II**lost in San Francisco /**

Robert **Hays**; Kim **Greist**; Michael J **Fox**; Sally **Field**; Ralph **Waite**; David R **Ellis**; Chris **Haulty**; Julie **Hickson**; Sheila Every **Burnford**

1996

English Visual Material : Videorecording : VHS tape 1 videocassette (89 min.) : sd., col. ; 1/2 in.
 Burbank, Calif. : Walt Disney Home Video : Distributed by Buena Vista Home Video, ; ISBN:
 0788804375

Three pets get separated from their owners and navigate the mean streets of San Francisco.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	CITY OF NOME	X\$7
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	FORT WAINWRIGHT POST LIBR	V91
AK	UNALASKA PUB LIBR	X@8

Archival Materials:**George family collection,**Michael **George**

1890s-1960s

English Archival Material 775 photographs : b&w, col.

The emphasis of this photograph collection is primarily Southeast Alaska and includes ship views and portraits of governors and other well-known Alaskans. Interior views of George's Gift Shop and Joe and Thelma George are included. The collection also includes some manuscript materials, newspaper clippings and correspondence, photograph captions, theater advertising, and publications, photographs of Sydney Laurence paintings and a plastic mat drawing by Florence Melewothuk. Photographers represented in the collection include Winter and Pond Co., Ed Andrews, Trevor Davis and others.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK