

JOHN TRIGG ESTER LIBRARY



www.esterlibrary.org

**ANNUAL REPORT
2012-2013**

Mission

The John Trigg Ester Library is a home-grown community library that provides a welcoming and intellectually stimulating environment where community members can meet and share ideas and information. The library strives to instill a love of reading and learning, to showcase Ester-area history and culture and to provide resources that will enrich the whole community.

Letter From the President

It's hard not to be filled with pride in our little community. We have accomplished great things together. While it seems like our end goal lies just as far away as ever, the truth is we have never been closer to achieving it, nor have we ever accomplished so much along the way to get there.

This year we saw the greatest advancement in our ability to serve the community yet. We were graciously gifted the Clausen Cabin and grounds. With this gift we are able to expand our children's section, provide meeting space, move our office into the village, expand all our services and better fulfill our mission. The cabin has deep meaning for so many in the community. It now belongs to Ester and Ester's children and with the right care and maintenance it will for generations to come. Our gratitude cannot be measured, nor adequately put into words, but shall ring in the laughter of children for years to come.

We also made great progress on the new library grounds. Thanks to the hard work of Stanley Rogers for his Eagle Scout project, with the support of Jeff Rogers and Troop 92, we completed our composting outhouse next to the Ida Lane Gazebo on Village Road. Many volunteers also came to assist with planting and landscaping parties at the gazebo and Clausen Cabin and helped to water and maintain the grounds in both locations throughout the hot dry summer. Beautiful work everyone. Thank you.

I cannot overstate how hard the JTEL board has been working this last year in our mission to provide literary, cultural, educational and entertainment services to our community. Hundreds, even thousands of volunteer hours each have been donated in service of this mission—and in the never-ending quest to fund our operations and save for our new building. Without the benefit of paid staff or an executive director, the board handles both the day-to-day operations and needs of the library and the long-term vision and management of the organization, all while coordinating fundraising and outreach program events. It's a lot of work, and I encourage you to take a moment to thank the board volunteers past and present for their hard work and dedication. But this is an unsustainable situation, and the biggest challenge for the new board to take on will be finding and funding regular staff to keep our operations moving and to bring the library into its next era of service.

But let us not dwell on what we have left to do. Instead join me on a journey through these next few pages to celebrate all that we have done this year, the memories we have created, and the work we have done for the betterment of the community. This is Ester's library, and we are proud.

Sincerely,
Monique Musick
JTEL President 2011-2013

John Trigg Ester Library Timeline

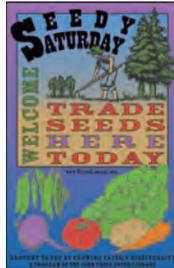
November 2012–October 2013

board retreat & committee reorganization

library lecture:
Kayt Sunwood on
Alaska Women's
Suffrage



cooperative
book sale
\$67



annual
meeting
2012

Seedy
Saturday #1

Seedy
Saturday #2

Food Day



Seedy
Saturday #3

library lecture:
Bernard Coakley
on Arctic Ocean
Exploration and
Measurement

Community Revenue
Sharing funds
\$9,533 for FY2013

library lecture:
Sine Anahita on Blackface
Performance in Alaska and
the Pacific Northwest

- educational programs
- organization & construction
- fundraising & grants



donation of Ansgar &
Ida Clausen's cabin
\$118,000 value

membership recruitment &

November
2012

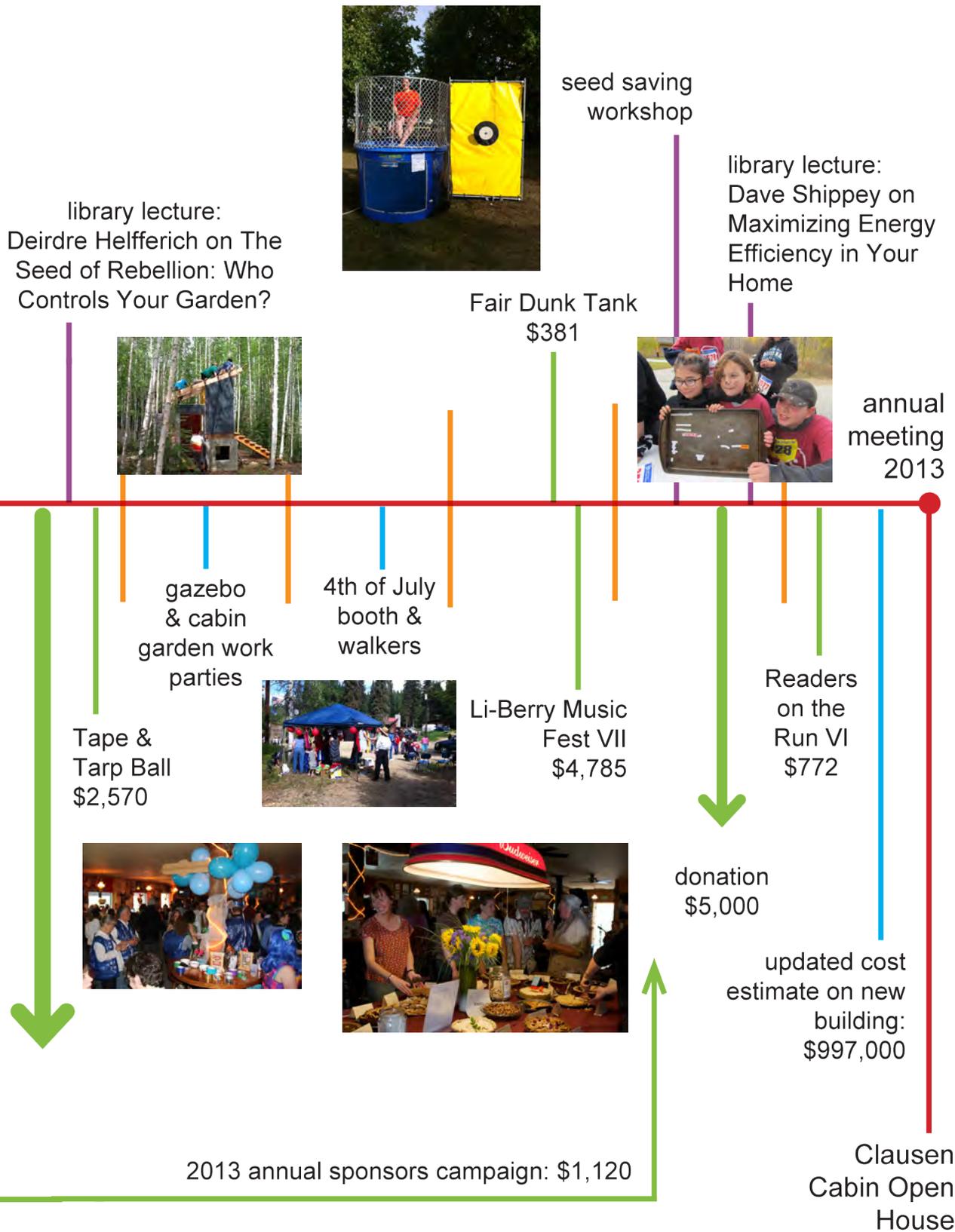
December
2012

January
2013

February
2013

March
2013

April
2013



retention campaign

May 2013 June 2013 July 2013 August 2013 September 2013 October 2013

Celebrating Our New Space



JOHN TRIGG ESTER LIBRARY

3618 Main Street, Ester, Alaska

RUTH JASPER CHILDRENS ROOM

GROWING ESTER'S BIODIVERSITY SEED LIBRARY

CLAUSEN ESTER COLLECTION



www.esterlibrary.org

Meeting space Coffee Service Children's Collection Seed Library Gardening Ester and Alaska

Ansgar & Ida Clausen Cabin

August 20th is Ester's only national holiday: Ansgar Clausen's birthday. This year, a local trust enabled the JTEL "to give back to the community" what had always been a part of it in spirit: the Clausen Cabin, outbuildings, and grounds now belong to the library. The cabin will house the library's children's, gardening, cooking, homesteading, Alaskana, and seed collections, in honor of the Clausens and of Ray and Lynn Kulp, who purchased the house from the Clausen estate and continued their spirit of community openness.

About the Clausens:

Ansgar Clausen and his wife, Ida, were longtime residents of Ester, known for their gardens, generosity, and entertaining. Ida Lane was the stage name for Eleanor Loback Garwood, a talented jazz musician, piano player, and singer in the Malemute Saloon variety show—indeed, she helped to write the show. She was a superb cook, and wrote and published a cookbook. Several of her recipes are still distributed by the Cooperative Extension Service.

Ansgar, an engineer and miner and employee of the Fairbanks Exploration Company, was a dragline crew-member and Cat operator, and helped move Dragline No. 6 to Sheep Creek in the winter of 1957-1958. (An audio interview with Ansgar Clausen is available at the Rasmuson Library about working for the FE Company.) He was known for his gardening, fondness for storytelling and tall tales, and cabinet of whiskey for himself and his many visitors and friends. He and Ida dated for many years but did not marry until 1974, the year this cabin was built.

To find out more about the Clausens and the history of the cabin, please see our webpage: www.esterlibrary.org/about/current-facilities/clausen-cabin/

Program Overview for FY 2013



A library's programs help bring in volunteers and make it come alive. The JTEL has two established programs and one recently accepted program proposal. The library's programs are overseen by the Programs Committee.

Ester Old Time Music Society, proposal accepted 2013

This is a music program focused on traditional folk music from many different cultures, and including the following features: weekly music jams, tunes and techniques workshops, online resources for musicians, a bound music sheet collection, and performance opportunities.

GEB



GROWING ESTER'S BIODIVERSITY
a program of the John Trigg Ester Library

Growing Ester's Biodiversity, est. 2012

The GEB functions as a lending and educational program using seeds, and this year was very successful, bringing in many more members, donations, and public awareness than the first.

During FY 2013, the GEB program:

- participated in the October 24, 2012 UAF Food Day event
- hosted three seed swaps (~60 attendees)
- presented one library lecture on seed and variety patenting, "The Seed of Rebellion: Who Controls Your Garden?" May 22, 2013, by Deirdre Helfferich (16 attendees)
- held its first seedsaving workshop, "How to Save Seeds from Your Favorite Tomato!" Sept. 14, 2013 (11 attendees)

Information generated for the lecture and workshop are posted on the website.

Library Lecture Series, est. 2009

The Library Lecture Series is an all-volunteer educational program held during the winter. The lecture series features a variety of speakers and topics and is generally held on the third Wednesday of the month, at 7 pm at Hartung Hall.

JOHN TRIGG ESTER LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES
* PRESENTS *

Igor Pasternak Sveta Yamin-Pasternak

7pm
TUESDAY
OCTOBER 22ND

AT
HARTUNG
HALL

ON
MAIN
STREET

IN
DOWNTOWN
ESTER

**OUR MOST INTIMATE SECRETS:
...The Mushroom Hunt**
around Ester and Other Parts of the World

MORE INFO?
TREY SIMMONS
907.388.6338
PACOTREY@
GMAIL.COM

Humans and mushrooms have a complicated relationship, involving turbulent transitions from love to death, from mutual destruction to co-evolution. As an artist and anthropologist passionate about the Third Hunt, we try to make a learning opportunity of every encounter with chefs, vendors, artists, scientists, and fellow foragers whose knowledge sheds light on the study of ethnomycology - beliefs and practices surrounding mushrooms. This talk will highlight our findings in this field and on the trails in different parts of the world, including Ester, Alaska.

THE ESTER LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES FOCUSES ON WRITERS, ARTISTS, ADVENTURERS, SCHOLARS, ENTREPRENEURS, MUSICIANS, CRAFTSPEOPLE, AND OTHER COLORFUL CHARACTERS FROM, VISITING, OR OF INTEREST TO ESTER
* ADMISSION IS FREE, ALTHOUGH DONATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED - AND VERY MUCH APPRECIATED *

FAIRBANKS
PARKS HIGHWAY
NENANA
OLD NENANA HIGHWAY
MAIN STREET

Membership

In the past year, the GiftWorks software was set up to compile a database of members past and present. GiftWorks was used to keep the membership updated with information about library events and activities through e-mails and letters. We increased membership by more than 100% and were able to create lists of current and expired memberships, volunteers and donors. All annual memberships are due for renewal each October. The GiftWorks software has been extremely helpful in tracking membership and improving our ability to communicate with members and supporters.

Please Join Us! JTEL Annual Membership Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
E-Mail _____

JTEL Membership Dues

Date: _____
Amount: \$ _____
Check or Cash

Pay what you will! It takes the support of the whole community to create a positive, nurturing place for all. A donation of any amount is a valuable investment in your Ester community library, but the minimum membership fee \$10. Please make checks payable to JTEL.

BEYOND BOOKS

Your contributions help us build and nurture:

- A multi-use community center
- Local history and art
- Resources for students, parents, and small businesses
- Modern technology and communications tools
- A showcase of green building and sustainability

JOHN TRIGG ESTER LIBRARY



Follow our progress on our blog or website and join us on Facebook!
www.esterlibrary.org esterlibrary.blogspot.com

Membership is open to any person for a modest annual fee, due at the Annual Meeting (at present this fee is \$10). The library strives to serve a wide range of interests, ages, and perspectives, having something for everyone. This includes maintaining a collection of films and books for young readers; large-print books; audiobooks; titles in a range of foreign and Native languages; works by and for the GLBT community; works on religion, philosophy, and metaphysics; history, biography, and memoirs; natural history, contemporary issues, political science, and humor; graphic novels and cartoon collections; a polar regions collection (including Alaska-themed fiction as well as nonfiction); puzzles and games; and a reference section ranging from travel books and dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, health books, cookbooks, and craft, trade, and art how-to books. Members are solicited to join at library lectures and fundraising events, and through the Web sites, online catalog, and Facebook page.

Marketing

Many thanks go to Putt Clark for the JTEL logo. Her artwork captures many of the underlying values of the organization regarding community, literacy, nature and the joy of reading. The logo has added greatly to our outreach and marketing efforts and has been incorporated into signs for our facilities, business cards, and brochures and will continue to form the underlying style for future publications and materials.

Construction

Volunteers have been vital to the organization, and construction is one of the strongest examples of this. The outhouse and compost system next to the gazebo was completed as part of Stanley Rogers Eagle Scout project under the direction of the board. Many people helped on this project, but special thanks go to Jeff Rogers for his leadership and organization.

Electrical work inside the library was completed by Todd Hoener. A motion sensor light has been added to make the library more welcoming in the dark and to better illuminate the back row. This project makes the library safer and more welcoming.

A large number of construction projects remain on the current needs list for the Clausen Cabin in order to open the space for public use. Skilled construction labor, design work and other building expertise is one of the library's greatest needs, especially as we get closer toward our goal of building a new facility for the John Trigg Ester Library. Project management and oversight is critical to JTEL's continuing success.

Save our windows! Donate to this project online at:
<http://igg.me/at/JTELglass/x/3536734>
Indiegogo Capital Campaign

In 2010 Denise Akert donated six handmade stained glass windows to the John Trigg Ester Library for use in the Ida Lane Clausen gazebo.

During the spring of 2012 vandals shot out five of the windows with BB guns.

Replacement windows have been created, but we do not want to install them without the proper safeguards to prevent this from happening again.

What We Need

Clear lexan covering both sides of the window will allow the beautiful windows to be enjoyed while providing protection.

The old windows need to be removed, new frames built and the windows installed with the lexan on both sides. The parts and labor remaining will cost \$1,000. The replacement stained glass has already been purchased and completed.

JTEL Volunteer Acknowledgements

Volunteers are essential to the operation of the library and its events. This year, our board members and other volunteers put in more than 4,000 hours doing everything from watering plants to writing grant proposals. Thank you!

Donations and Volunteers:

Amy Williamson & Frank Therrell: special thanks for their continued sponsorship of the library

Jeff, Stanley, and Oliver Rogers and Troop 92 boy scouts for the amazing collaboration to complete the amazing composting outhouse & build the toolshed

Deborah Chesnut and the Four Winds Foundation for the generous donation of their library collection.
Sine Anahita

Carey Brink for significant investments of time and help with membership

Amy Cameron

Judie and Don Triplehorn

Chris Guinn

Total Toyo

Doug Carroll and Hillary Schaefer for their continued support during events and the occasional meeting

Ed Rouleau

Mindy Gallagher

Ruth Barsedt and her three boys for garden work, yard maintenance, and making duct tape items

Hans Mölders for setting up lots of things (and so much more!)

- Denise Akert
- Don Cameron
- Mike Carney
- Bernard Coakley
- Columbo
- April Crosby & Merritt Helfferich
- Roy & Andrea Earnest
- Peter Flint
- Melinda Harris
- Vaughn & Erich Hoefler
- Todd Hoener
- John Hoyle
- Darshan (Andrew) Hunt
- Bruce & Ann Jamieson
- Mike Kenoke
- Lorna & George Lounsbury and their horses
- Debbie Mathews at Expressions in Glass
- Jimmy Miller
- Michelle and Esme Peschke
- Lindsay Rowles
- Phil Rulon
- Sherri Schleiter
- Dave Shippey
- Jamie Smith
- Tobben Spurkland
- Liz Talbot
- Nancy Therrell
- Shannan Turner and her three kids
- Blyss Vere
- Kurt Wold

2013 Annual Sponsors:

- Gold Hill
- Gulliver's Books
- Judy Stauffer
- Taylor's Gold-n-Stones
- Tolovana Hot Springs
- Water Wagon

Donors:

- Goldstream Sports
- Beaver Sports
- Dave Parks, Grassroots Guitar
- Calypso Farm
- Everything Auto
- Gold Hill
- The Annex
- The Blue Loon
- McRoy & Blackburn, Publishers
- Ester Republic Press

Bands at the Fundraisers:

- Rock Bottom Stompers
- Steve Brown and the Bailers
- Josh Bennett, SRS
- Frosty Bottom Boys
- Mike Stackhouse
- Ptarmigan
- White Alice
- Ester Jelly Jam
- Sarah Garland & Seth Danielson
- Magnetik North
- unSupervised
- White Mountain String Band
- Porch Ruckus
- Zingaro Roots
- ET Barnette String Band
- The Waterhaulers
- Headbolt Heaters

Pie Makers:

- Amy Cameron
- Carey Brink

- Christina Baker
- Cristina Pagano
- Danielle Schlobohm
- Deirdre Helfferich
- Denise Akert
- Jan Ohmstede
- Jill Seymore
- Lorna Lounsbury
- Lyric Botutinski
- Michelle Peschke
- Nancy Burnham
- Nicky Eiseman
- Phyllis Morrow
- Rita Butteri
- Ruth Barnedt
- Sally Andersen
- Sine Anahita
- Kayt Sunwood
- Sonya Montenegro
- Susan Willsrud
- Amal Ajmi

Emcee and Judges:

- Tom Zimmer
- Trey Simmons
- Duke Brady
- Emily Decker

Board Members:

- Monique Musick: President & Construction
- Deirdre Helfferich: Vice President & Fundraising
- Nancy Burnham: Treasurer & Events
- Jan Ohmstede: Secretary & Membership
- Kayt Sunwood: Collections & LiBerry Festival
- Molly Rettig: Readers on the Run
- Rena Flint: Tape and Tarp Ball
- Carla Helfferich: Grants
- Trey Simmons: Lecture series

And all our members and anyone we may have overlooked by mistake!

John Trigg Ester Library, Inc.
Profit & Loss
 October 2012 through September 2013

The John Trigg Ester Library is a federally recognized nonprofit organization; as such all revenue is re-invested into activities that support the mission of the organization. The John Trigg Ester Library is officially recognized as a nonprofit in the State of Alaska. The Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation are filed with the State of Alaska in accordance with state laws. The John Trigg Ester Library is recognized in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as a charitable organization under section 170.

	Oct '12 - Sep 13
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
product sales	31.00
Cookbook Sales	187.50
Direct Public Support	
Membership dues	2,302.00
paypal	28.83
Corporate Contributions	100.00
Fundraisers	8,346.15
Individ, Business Contributions	450.00
Ruth Long donation	100.00
Shelf Sponsor	450.00
Direct Public Support - Other	5,353.00
Total Direct Public Support	17,129.98
Direct State/Borough Support	9,533.00
Investments	
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	117.97
Total Investments	117.97
Other Types of Income	
Miscellaneous Revenue	36.75
Reimbursed Expenses	20.00
Total Other Types of Income	56.75
Total Income	27,056.20
Expense	
Business Expenses	41.28
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	175.00
Total Contract Services	175.00
Facilities and Equipment	
Outhouse and Shed	823.62
Heating Fuel	1,421.08
Main St cabin	2,200.00
Gazebo Maint. Repairs	1,567.50
Rent, Parking, Utilities	4,899.44
Total Facilities and Equipment	10,911.64
Fundraiser Expenses	
T-shirts	100.00
Fundraiser Expenses - Other	580.40
Total Fundraiser Expenses	680.40
Hale and Associates	561.00
Operations	
Dues	30.00
Fees	
Bank fee	18.00
Fees - Other	447.86
Total Fees	465.86
Post Office Box Rent	78.00
Postage, Mailing Service	46.02
Printing and Copying	138.53
Property Tax	2,728.96
Supplies	175.90
Total Operations	3,663.27
Other Types of Expenses	
Other Costs	40.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	40.00
Total Expense	16,072.59
Net Ordinary Income	10,983.61
Net Income	10,983.61

John Trigg Ester Library, Inc.
Balance Sheet
As of October 1, 2013

	Oct 1, 13
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Denali Checking S6	6,681.09
Denali Savings S1	53,566.46
Total Checking/Savings	60,247.55
Total Current Assets	60,247.55
Fixed Assets	
Trailer	4,000.00
Furniture and Equipment	7,300.00
JTEL Building	
Clausen Cabin	118,000.00
Building design	63,365.00
Gazebo	3,000.00
JTEL Building - Other	1,063.00
Total JTEL Building	185,428.00
JTEL Land	11,700.00
Library Collection	35,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	243,428.00
Other Assets	
Endowment	2,976.61
Gulliver's Used Book Credit	1,033.96
Total Other Assets	4,010.57
TOTAL ASSETS	307,686.12
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	171,623.99
Unrestricted Net Assets	135,434.72
Total Equity	307,686.12
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	307,686.12

Grant Report

In FY 2013, the JTEL contacted the following:

FY 2013 Community Revenue Sharing Funds, \$9,533 (received)

Fairbanks Rollergirls Bout Proceeds Share (declined, but invited to apply next year)

The Berry Trust (undergoing hostile takeover; did not respond to attempts to contact)

the Paul Allen Foundation (declined, invited to try another year because they were concentrating only on parts of Oregon and Washington for 2013. They have in the past supported Alaska programs/projects and anticipate doing so in the future.)

The 1st National Bank of Alaska, \$5,000 application for the endowment (pending)

A letter of inquiry to the MJ Murdock Charitable Trust requesting funds for our capital campaign has been sent and we are awaiting reply.



Come browse the library ! We're in the heart of "downtown Ester", next to the Golden Eagle.

Search Our Books:

www.librarything.com/catalog/esterlibrarian

Find the current schedule of events and programs on our blog ,
our website and on our Facebook page.

<http://esterlibrary.blogspot.com>

www.esterlibrary.org