



Alaska Railroad Corporation News Release

DATE: October 10, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Stephenie Wheeler, (907) 265-2671, cell (907) 382-3327
or Tim Sullivan, (907) 265-2357, cell (907) 223-7372

Alaska Railroad sets annual print sale-and-sign events *90th Anniversary spurs Special Edition Print for Serious Collectors*

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The Alaska Railroad (ARRC) will release its 2014 annual poster/print at three public sale-and-signing events featuring artist Ray Gamradt who will sign the prints and posters. All events are 10 am to 2 pm.

- **ANCHORAGE: Saturday, November 30**, at the Anchorage Historic Depot (411 W. 1st Ave.)
- **TALKEETNA: Thursday, December 5**, at the Northern Susitna Institute (22510 Talkeetna Spur Road); held in conjunction with a *Hurricane Turn* train 50% off promotion (see AlaskaRailroad.com > Travel > Specials).
- **FAIRBANKS: Saturday, December 7**, at the Fairbanks Depot (1745 Johansen Expressway)



The 2014 artwork depicts the Hurricane Turn flag stop service.

Entitled *Iconic Alaskan*, the charcoal drawing depicts a bull moose and the summer *Hurricane Turn* train, which offers flag stop service between Talkeetna and Hurricane. “Alaska provides a wealth of inspiration begging to be captured, from abundant wildlife to incomparable landscapes, and I believe that firsthand experience is the only way to truly connect with the subject matter,” said Gamradt, who made several trips on the *Hurricane Train* and camped along the 66-mile route the past two summers. “This place has a distinct personality so often defined by a sense of wildness and remoteness, and moose are one of my favorite emblems of that wildness. While riding the train between the route’s looming ridges, the conductor informed me that this is one of the last surviving flag stop trains in North America, further contributing to an experience that is unmistakably Alaskan.”

The 2014 Alaska Railroad print (32” x 18.5”) costs \$55, posters (26” x 15.5”) cost \$30 and pins cost \$5. As part of the Alaska Railroad’s 90th Anniversary celebration, the 2014 artwork will be offered in a third format to accommodate the discerning preferences of serious art collectors. A special limited edition (100 maximum) Giclée museum grade print on acid-free paper with archival inks will be available for \$390. The larger (36” x 20.5”) special edition print can be ordered from the Alaska Railroad Gift Shop, in person at the Anchorage Depot, or by calling 1-800-544-0552 outside Anchorage; (907) 265-2326; or email Giftshop@akrr.com.

— more —



Alaska Railroad Corporation *News Release*

Railroad Releases 2014 Art Print

October 10, 2013

Page 2 of 2

During the Anchorage and Fairbanks events, the depot gift shops will be open to offer other items that feature the 2014 artwork (such as ornaments, mugs and coasters) along with other ARRC gifts and apparel. Following the signing events, prints, posters and pins will remain on sale at the Anchorage Historic Depot and the Fairbanks Depot, and may also be purchased online via the Alaska Railroad Gift Shop website at www.AlaskaRailroadGiftShop.com/. Samples of the gift shop items will be available at the Talkeetna event, where attendees can take advantage of an online ARRC Gift Shop special that provides free shipping for a limited time.

Gamradt works from his home-based studio in Anchorage (<http://raygamradtstudio.com/>) and his artwork is represented at Stephan Fine Art Gallery in the Hotel Captain Cook. Through the end of 2012 Gamradt was a bridge engineer working for an engineering firm in Anchorage. He hails from Montana, where he earned civil and structural engineering degrees from Montana State University in Bozeman.

“My current preferred medium of charcoal arose partly in response to my role as engineer. I began creating pencil drawings in college primarily as gifts. As the engineering courses persisted, the mathematics climbed steeper and the lines became straighter,” said Gamradt. “In defiance, I switched from working in pencil to working in charcoal, a rougher and coarser and blacker medium which offered an avenue away from the precision required of an engineer.”

Renowned artist John Van Zyle produced the first official Alaska Railroad painting in 1979. Since then, the annual tradition (except in 1984, when no painting was released) has evolved into a popular collector’s item.

More information about the Alaska Railroad’s annual art print program, including history and images of prints from the recent past, are available on the Alaska Railroad web site – www.AlaskaRailroad.com/Corporate - Click on COMMUNITY, then Annual Print Contest.

-end-

The ARRC is an Equal Opportunity Corporation. If you need special assistance (including language) in order to participate in any ARRC service, program, or activity, please contact the Alaska Railroad Corporation; P.O. Box 107500; Anchorage, AK 99510; Attention: Legal Department, zappasi@akrr.com, (907) 265-2461; via Alaska Relay Service for hearing impaired – dial 7 11 anywhere inside Alaska, OR dial toll-free from anywhere outside the state 1-800-770-8255 (voice); 1-800 770-8973 (TTY). Upon request, printed materials can be made available in alternate formats