

The Counting Cord



Summer 2021

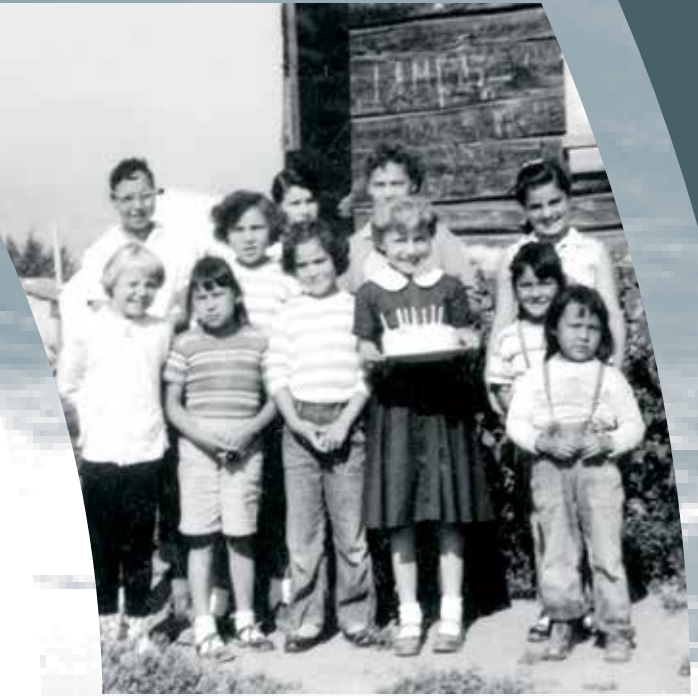
Special Edition

Contents

Values Focus:
Nanuset -
Our History

04

The Counting's Core



06

A Note From the Council Chair

07

A Sovereign Nation

Tribe Celebrates Constitution's 50th Anniversary

10

Past and Present:

Tribal Member Photos



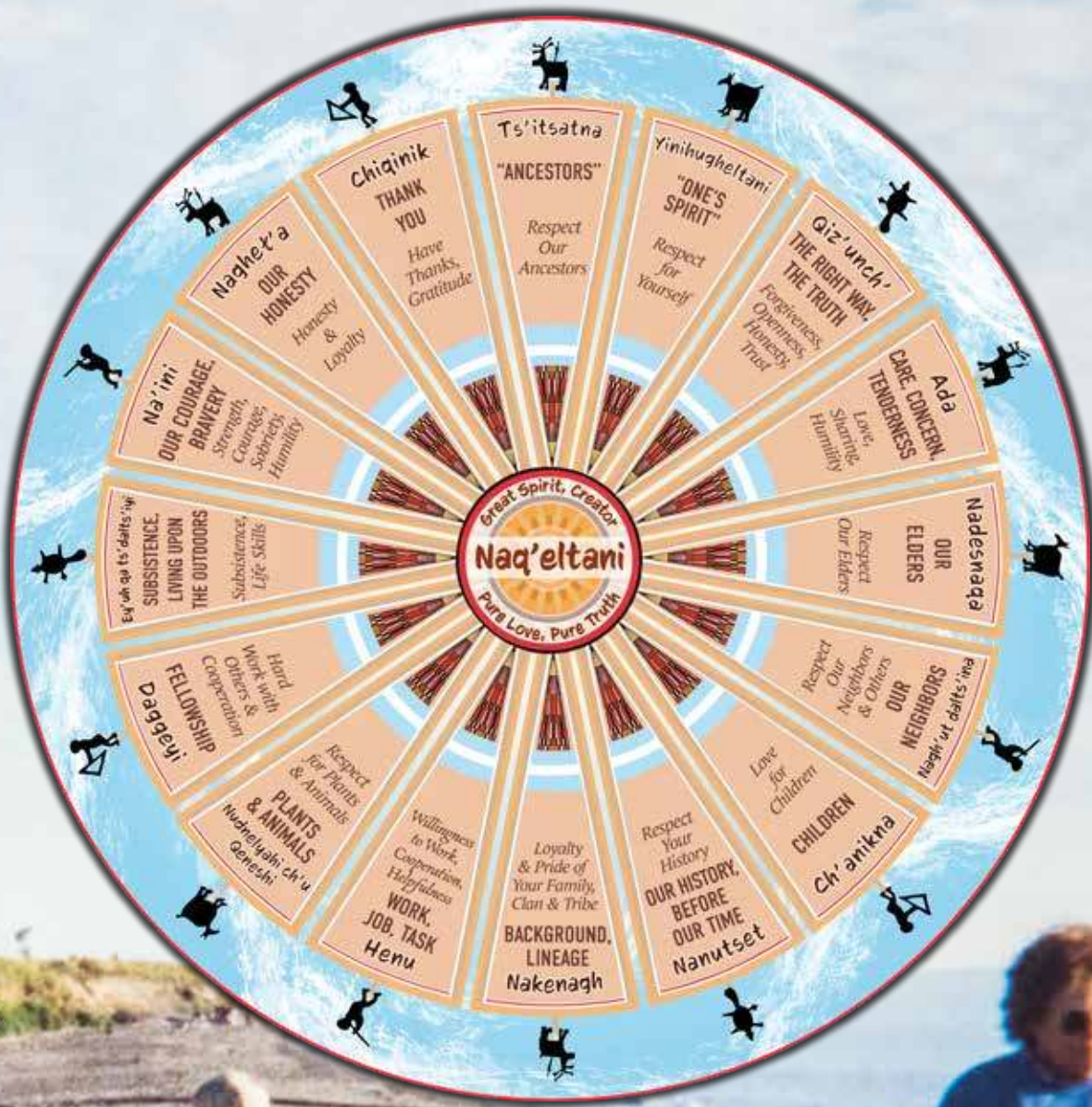
63

Directory

Namuset | Our History

Our history provides us with a connection to our roots. A connection to place and to our culture helps us understand how traditional values are still relevant in the modern world. Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina have inhabited Yaghanen, the Good Land, since time immemorial. Understanding our history helps "to assure Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever."





Yaghali du?

50 years. It's a blink of an eye in the long history of the Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina, but it represents a significant milestone for the Kenaitze Indian Tribe.

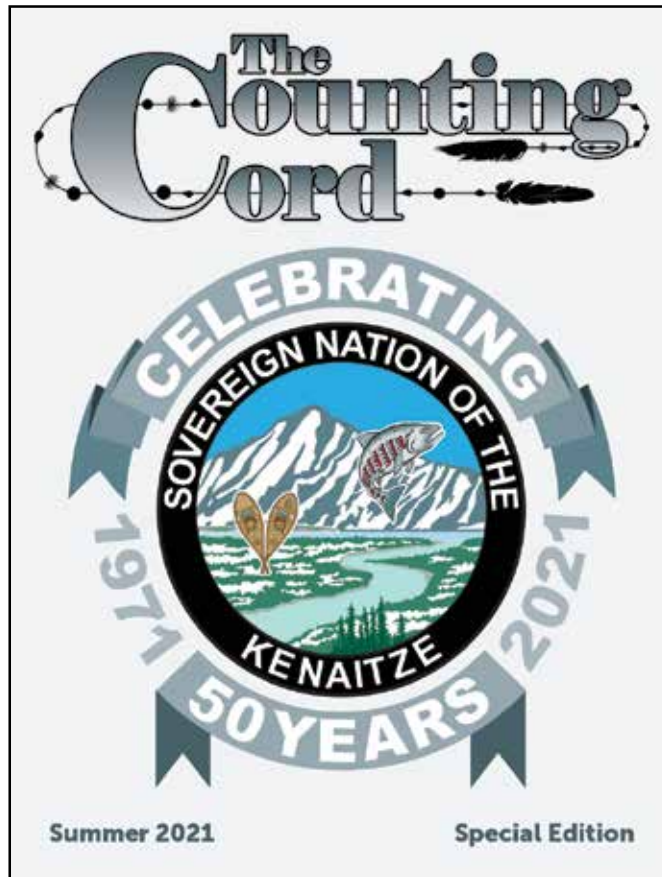
As the Tribe began planning for this edition of the Counting Cord, we put out a request to Tribal Members to share photos. We have been overwhelmed by your response. We received more than 300 submissions, many of which you will find on the pages of this edition.

Anniversaries, like the one we're celebrating, give us the opportunity to reflect on our past. The Kenaitze Indian Tribe has come a long way since our Constitution was adopted in 1971. What started as just a few employees working out of donated trailers has grown to an organization with almost 300 employees providing services to more than 4,000 un'ina, those who come to us, from state-of-the-art facilities such as the Dena'ina Wellness Center and the soon-to-be-completed Kahtnuht'ana Duhdeldiht Campus.

As we look back, we also have the opportunity to look forward, and think about how we can shape the next 50 years. How do we continue to meet the challenges of today, and prepare for the challenges we'll face in the future?

I don't know if all those who worked to adopt our Constitution and win federal recognition could have imagined the services that the Tribe is able to provide today. But I am grateful for all of their work. Their efforts laid the foundation "To assure Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever."

Duk'idli, respectfully,
Bernadine Atchison
Tribal Council Chair



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SOVEREIGN NATION

Tribe Celebrates Constitution's 50th Anniversary

"We, a group of Kenaitze Indians residing principally within the Kenai Peninsula Borough; in the State of Alaska, having a common bond of association and interests, in order to promote our security and social welfare, and advance and protect our common interest as the descendants of the aboriginal Indians within the Kenai Peninsula, do establish this constitution by authority of the Act of June 18, 1934, (48 Stat. 984) as amended by the Act of May 1, 1936, (49 Stat. 1250)."

*– Preamble to the original Constitution
of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe*

With those words as its original preamble, the Constitution of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe was adopted on Aug. 1, 1971.

Adeline Chaffin, who as a member of the Election Board signed the Certificate of Adoption, said it is important to have the Tribe's rights and by-laws written down.

"That's the only way it was going to work. You can't start something and not have a constitution," Chaffin said in a recent interview. "The constitution tells you your rights."

Three other signatures appear on the Certificate of Adoption: Election Board Chair Rika Murphy; Election Board Member Alida Bayes; and Roy Peratrovich, then the Regional Superintendent for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



First Annual General Council Meeting, 1970

The document was officially adopted by the Tribe, with a vote of 79 in favor and zero against. The Tribe's Constitution laid out the rules governing Tribal Membership, duties of the Tribal Council, the Tribe's powers and authority, and rules for Tribal elections.

It was the second vote on the Constitution taken by what was to become the Sovereign Nation of the Kenaitze. The Constitution and By-laws were ratified by a vote of 113 in favor and seven against on Feb. 25, 1971, with the Certificate of Adoption signed by Emil Dolchok. The Constitution was sent to the Secretary of the Interior for approval, which came from Assistant Secretary of the

'It was very interesting and exciting to get tribal status. It was a new thing. We were just a bunch of people living in Kenai, but we knew we were Indians. It gave us something where we all belonged.'

– Evelyn Boulette, Tribal Elder

Interior Harrison Loesch on June 21, 1971.

Adoption of the Constitution – and the federal government recognition that came with it – was the result of a long process, with many people contributing, Chaffin said.

"They worked and worked," said Evelyn Boulette, whose uncle,

George Miller Jr., was involved with the effort. "It was very interesting and exciting to get tribal status. It was a new thing. We were just a bunch of people living in Kenai, but we knew we were Indians. It gave us something where we all belonged. ... It was our right to have tribal status. It gave us a name."

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe was first organized as a political entity in 1962, with Murphy as the first recognized chief. Hazel Felton, Murphy's daughter, described her mother as "a gentle soul," and said "she was one of the movers and shakers."

Other "movers and shakers" included Harry Mann, Dolchok, Mary Nissen, Pauline March and Alexander Wilson. Many of the contributions to organize the Tribe were made by women.

When the Tribe first organized, Alaska had only been a state for three years. Among the biggest concerns for those involved in organizing the Tribe were hunting and fishing rights for Alaska Native people. The Alaska Statehood Act authorized the state to select more than 100 million acres of "vacant, unappropriated, unreserved" land, and included provisions to recognize land rights "which may



Tribal Members pick salmon from the Tribe's net at Waterfront in 1989, the first year of the educational fishery.

be held by any Indians, Eskimos, or Aleuts."

The state began making its land selections, often in traditional hunting and fishing areas and before many Alaska Native land claims had been settled. Throughout the 1960s, Alaska Native communities began to organize to better advocate

for the rights of Alaska Native people.

Boulette said that fishing and hunting rights drove the effort to organize as a tribe and to seek federal recognition.

"That was our lifestyle," Boulette said.

Linda Ross, whose father was Harry Mann, has many happy memories of growing up living that lifestyle. She grew up in a house overlooking the Kenai River.

"The bluff wasn't like it is today – you could run up and down. We would walk on the beach, and get hooligan just below the house," Ross said. "... My dad hunted every year. We always had moose meat, and king salmon every year."

Ross and her four sisters, Harriet Seibert, Patricia Mann, Eleanor Wood and Bernice Crandall, helped their father with the family's fishing site. He had a tractor to help with the nets, and she said he taught her how to drive it when she was just 10 or 11 years old.



Pauline and Clarence March prepare for a moose hunt. Fishing and hunting rights helped drive the effort to organize as a tribe.

"It was wonderful living on the beach all summer," Ross said.

Chaffin said there was a sense of common purpose among those working on the Constitution and federal recognition. Land rights and hunting and fishing rights were a big part of the conversation, but so was what it meant to be a Tribe, and what the Tribe should meet about.

"We would talk about what the people needed," Chaffin said.

The Constitution process included several years of correspondence between the Tribe and the federal government. Boulette remembers her uncle going to Washington, D.C., to advocate for tribal status.

Boulette said she's not sure if those who helped win tribal status realized the far-reaching effects it might have.

"I don't know if they were thinking ahead ... but as they were working on it, they could see how it would benefit the people," Boulette said. "It was interesting to me to listen to my uncle, and the pride they had in getting it, that this would be a Tribe for our people. They were working for something for everyone, all of us here in Kenai."

Tribal Elder Clare Swan returned to Kenai in 1973. She said that at the time, even though the Constitution had been adopted, there was still a great deal of work to do. The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, passed in 1975, gave tribes the authority to contract with the federal government to operate programs to serve tribal members – but the Kenaitze Indian Tribe had yet to establish any programs.

'Our Constitution says that we have jurisdiction over all of our Tribal Members. That's how we protect them, and we take that very seriously.'

*– Mary Ann Mills,
Tribal Council
Vice Chair*

Swan recalls having to go to Anchorage for things like health care. Other organizations were receiving funds to provide services for Kenaitze Tribal Members. On one of those trips with her sister, Rita Smagge, they decided it was time for the Tribe to provide services of its own.

"We were a tribe just bumping along – we had to go to Anchorage for everything," Swan said. "My sister said one day, 'Why don't we contract for this?'"

Swan said there was a steep learning curve, but that it was the right thing to do.

"That's the best time to do something – when you don't know how to do it, but you know it has to be done," Swan said.

The Tribe's first health clinic was opened in the late 1970s in space on the former Wildwood Air Force Station, which had been transferred to the Kenai Natives Association in the early 1970s.

Another important development for the Tribe was the establishment



Tribal Council Secretary Liisia Blizzard signs the agreement creating the joint-jurisdiction Henu Community Wellness Court in 2016 with Kenaitze Chief Judge Kim Sweet, Kenai Superior Court Judge Anna Moran, Alaska Attorney General Jahna Lindemuth and Alaska Court System Deputy Director Doug Wooliver. The court is one of just a few joint-jurisdiction courts in the country.



The Dena'ina Wellness Center and surrounding Kahtnuht'ana Qayah (Village) continue to grow to meet the Tribe's needs.

of the Tribal Court in 1986. Current Tribal Council Vice Chair Mary Ann Mills helped with the process of establishing the court and writing the court code.

"Our Constitution says that we have jurisdiction over all of our Tribal Members. That's how we protect them, and we take that very seriously," Mills said.

Mills said child protection was one of the main reasons to establish a Tribal Court. She said that when children were taken into state custody, it became almost impossible for the Tribe to keep track of them.

The Tribe, with help from Alaska Legal Services, wrote its own statutes. Mills said the Tribal Court is based on the Tribe's traditional values.

"As long as we follow our values, we do well," Mills said.

In 2016, the Tribe entered into a partnership with the Alaska Court System to provide a joint-

jurisdiction therapeutic court. Mills said the Tribe's traditional values have served participants in the Henu Community Wellness Court well, too. The Henu Court serves people who face charges related to substance use. The court focuses on sobriety and healing.

"It is an example of good changes to the judicial system in Alaska," said Mills, noting that the Henu Court has maintained a zero recidivism rate. "Our traditional values work for not only our people, but for all people"

Today, the Constitution continues to serve as the foundation for self-government. In fact, Chaffin said, the process hasn't changed in 50 years as the Tribal Council seeks to address the needs of the Tribe.

"It is a good document, and it got us to where we are today," said Tribal Council Chair Bernadine Atchison. "It created our relationship with the federal

government, recognizing us as a sovereign nation."

The Constitution has been amended twice, in 1997 and 2019.

The changes adopted on June 16, 1997, made any lineal descendant of a base enrollee "who has a common bond or close association with the Kenaitze Indian Tribe" eligible for Tribal Membership. The amendment removed the requirement that they "be of at least one-quarter Kenaitze Indian blood."

Amendments adopted on Feb. 28, 2019, removed the requirement that the Secretary of the Interior approve future changes to the Constitution. The changes provide for the Tribal Council or Tribal Membership to call for a vote to amend the Constitution.

Atchison, whose grandmother was Rika Murphy, said there could be changes to the Constitution in the future, and that the Tribe's Constitution Committee is

working on ideas to bring to the Tribal Council and to the Tribe's citizens for approval.

Atchison said changes might include a bill of rights that focuses on individual rights of Tribal Members, and expanding the Tribal Council from seven to nine members.

She would also like to see the document include more of the Dena'ina language.

The Constitution will evolve as changes are needed for the Tribe to fulfill its mission, "to assure Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever."

Tribal Elder Coby Wilson was on the Kenai Natives Association Board of Directors at the time that the Tribe adopted the Constitution. He said he's amazed at the progress the Tribe has made over the past 50 years, and appreciates the work that made what's happening now possible.

"I'm really amazed, just in the last couple of years, you look at the clinic and how it's grown," Wilson said, referring to the Dena'ina Wellness Center, which opened in 2014.

Federal recognition gives the Tribe the ability to negotiate with the Indian Health Service. The Tribe is able to manage the services it provides to best meet the needs of Tribal Members and the community.

From its start at Wildwood, the Tribe's health clinic eventually moved into Kenai, where medical and dental services were provided in a small office building.

In 2011, the Tribe entered into a joint venture agreement with the

'When we were recognized as a Tribe, it opened up doors. Now it's up to us to recognize those doors are there. If you can keep moving forward and developing partnerships, then you're able to expand and reach more people.'

*– Bernadine Atchison,
Tribal Council Chair*

Indian Health Service to build the Dena'ina Wellness Center in Old Town Kenai.

Diana Zirul, Tribal Council Treasurer and Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina Health Board Chair, noted that the success of the compact with the federal government not only made medical and dental services available locally, but provided for behavioral health, optometry and wellness services such as the gym for Tribal Members.

Atchison said the ability to form partnerships has opened many doors for the Tribe.

The Tribe is also able to compact with local, state and federal governments to deliver programs and services for Alaska Native and American Indian

people. The Tribe's Constitution authorizes the Tribal Council "to consult, negotiate, or contract with federal, state, and/or local governments and others on behalf of the Tribe."

"When we were recognized as a Tribe, it opened up doors. Now it's up to us to recognize those doors are there," Atchison said. "If you can keep moving forward and developing partnerships, then you're able to expand and reach more people."

Atchison cited relationships with Chugach National Forest and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District that have helped the Tribe with its Susten archaeology program. The Tribe also has had a seat at the table as a stakeholder for planning of the Sterling Highway Cooper Landing Bypass project, which led to funding for an archaeologist and cultural observers.

"If we have good relationships, we can find ways to get the resources we need," Atchison said.

Other Tribal services benefitting from the Tribe's relationship with the federal government include Transportation, which was launched with a Federal Transit Administration grant in 2015 and has grown to include a fleet of more than 40 vehicles.

Construction on the new Kahtnuht'ana Duhdeldiht Campus is scheduled to be complete in March 2022, and is funded in large part with federal grants.

"I'm really excited about us getting into that building, and helping our kids learn and grow," said Ross, who had a tour recently as a



Sonya Ivanoff and Joel Isaak, Language Institute Coordinator, work together on a Dena'ina language story in 2020. An education campus, now under construction, will soon support the Tribe's expanding cultural curriculum.

'The thing I hope for is to bring younger people into things in the Tribe. Younger people need to be involved. The future of the Tribe is theirs. The older people set the stage – they have to carry on.'

– Evelyn Boulette, Tribal Elder

member of the Tribe's Education committee. "I'm hoping that we will be able to be involved as Elders and as Tribal people, for them to know more about their heritage and what it's like to be a Tribal Member. Those are things that are meaningful to me."

Atchison said that with federal recognition in the early 1970s Summer 2021

came the realization that steps needed to be taken to preserve Dena'ina language and culture. Vera Tschoepel, Frances Lindgren and Charlotte Korpinen formed Dena'ina Quenegha'ne Queedatl', the Dena'ina Language Society. They worked with Kenaitze Tribal Members Peter Kalifornsky, Bertha Monfor, Fedosia Sacaloff, and

others to preserve the language. Meetings took place in people's homes.

"Now here we are, building our own school and getting ready to hire a Dena'ina language director," Atchison said. "We've come a long way, teaching our language in college and, pretty soon, teaching in our own education campus."

Boulette said she hopes to see the next generation of Tribal Members continue the work to move the Tribe forward.

"The thing I hope for is to bring younger people into things in the Tribe," Boulette said. "Younger people need to be involved. The future of the Tribe is theirs. The older people set the stage – they have to carry on."

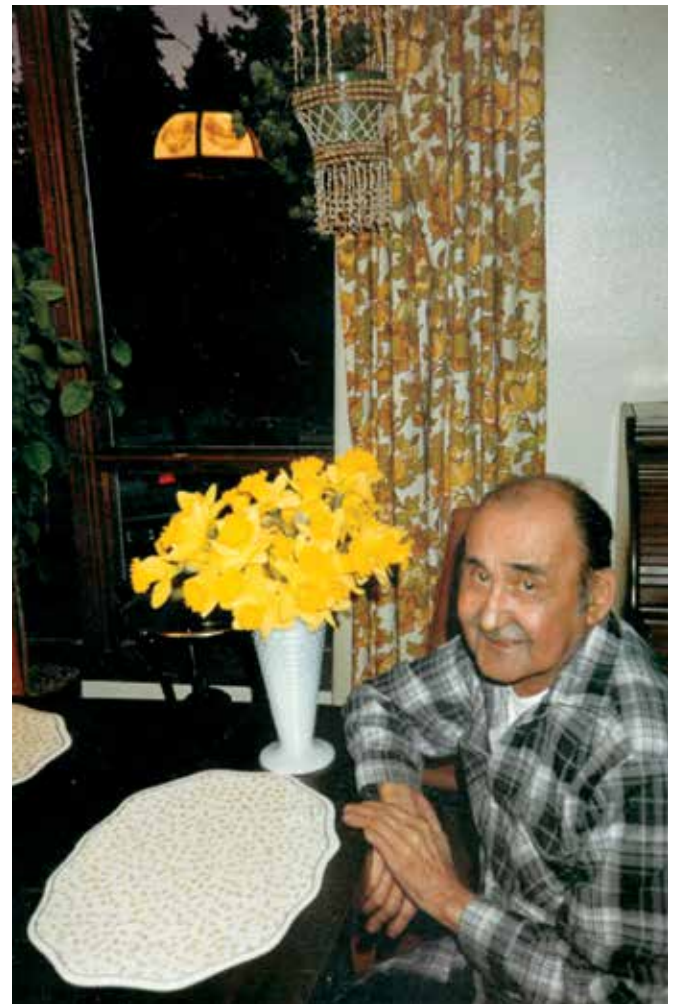


Past and Present: Tribal Member Photos

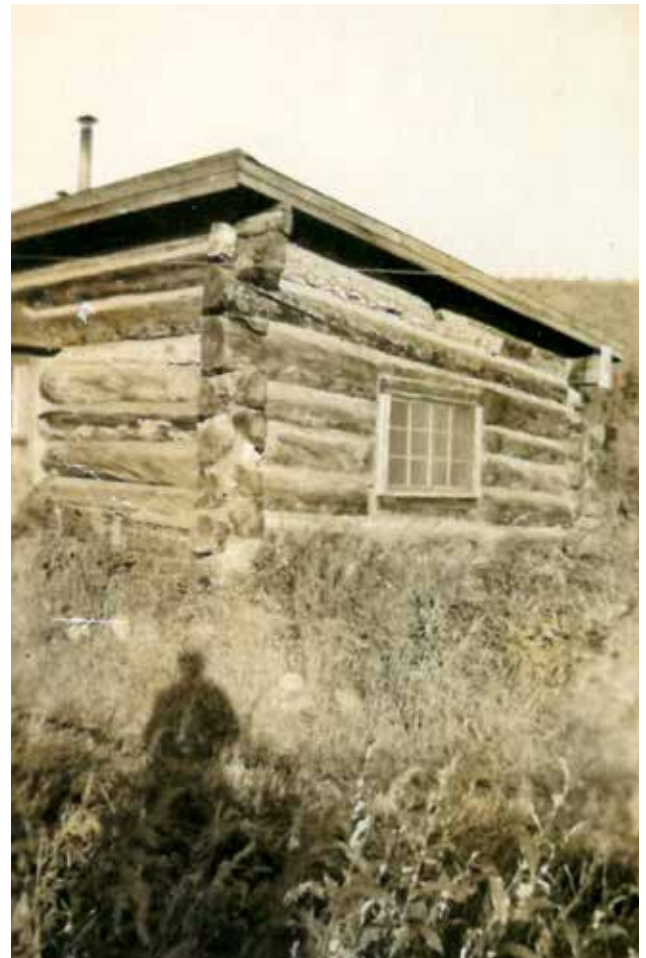


Top left: Julia (Oskolkoff) Mann on a hunting trip.
Top right: Pauline March, Alisa Brown and Neisa Korpinen on the Homer Spit in 1974.
Above: The Mills family: Michelle, John, Bill, Oscar, and Mary Ann.
Above right: The dock at Libby's cannery, early 1966-67.
Right: Mack Dolchok and Ronald Dolchok Sr. in 2001.





Top left: Mary Ellen Doolittle, Laura Jean Wallace, Mary Ann (Nissen) Tweedy, and Chicky Juliussen.
Top right: Linda Ross, Bernice Crandall, and Harriet Seibert at an Elders Valentine's party.
Above left: Olga Juliussen.
Above: Allen Mann.
Left: Rose Wheeler, Bonnie Juliussen, and Louise Rhodes.



Top left: Cyle Charbonneau fishing for Elders' food security on the Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina.

Top right: Jasmine Koster fishing at the Tribe's net.

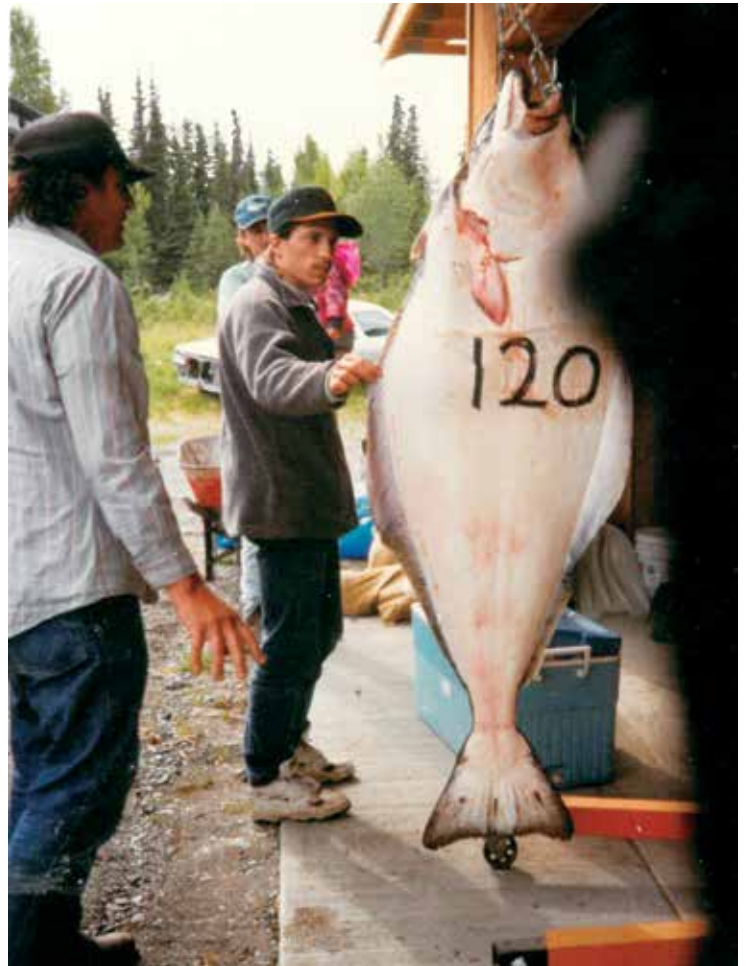
Above left: Alisa Garrigues fishing the net in June 2001.

Above right: Alison Jones.

Right: Old Kenai.



Top left: Nancy Danieloff, right, feeds a moose calf she found in the late 1930s or early 40s with help from her aunt Luquitia Austin. Nancy cared for the moose until Fish and Game found out and took it away. Nancy lived with her aunt and uncle Billy, a trapper, at Susitna Station.
Top right: Kitchen staff at King George at Wildwood: Pauline March (middle), and Carol Dolan (right).
Above left: Peter Kalifornsky with great nephew Nick Sacaloff in about 1989.
Above: Siblings Helen Dolchok, Mack Dolchok, and Antone Dolchok in 1975.
Left: Alexander "Ike" Johansen and Emil Dolchok clean fish at the smoke house on Ames Road.

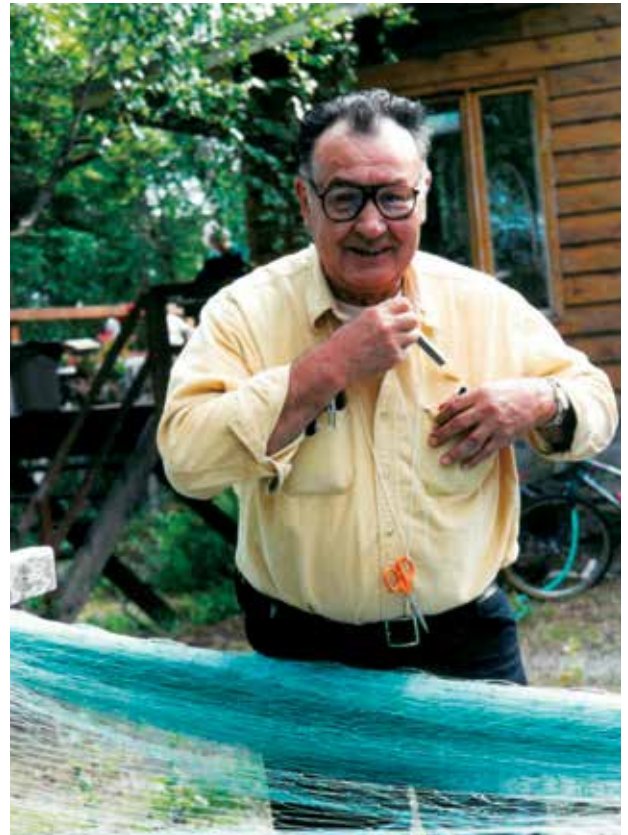


Top left: Katrina (Dolchok) Jacuk, Mack Dolchok, Charlene Juliussen, and Evelyn Dolchok in the early 1970s.

Top right: John Holland with a 120-pound halibut.

Above: Allen Mann, Hazel Showalter, Virginia Hunter, and Hilma Showalter in the late 1940s in Old Kenai where the Senior Center is by the Kenai Bible Chapel.

Right: Sergei Ivanoff and Lydia Ivanoff Dolchok.



Top left: Elders on their way to go berry picking in Seldovia, August 1997.

Top right: James Showalter Sr.

Above left: David Wilson and Herman Hermansen.

Above: Alexander "Ike" Johansen.

Left: At the cannery in Kenai.



Top left: Alison Jones.
Top middle: Kevin Brown smoking strips in June 2011.
Top right: Josephine Jones.
Above: Virginia Hunter, Mary Ellen and Laura Jean.
 This house is where Dr. McCarthy's office is now.
Right: Mary Ann Mills with a king salmon in the 1990s.



Top left: Barbara (Crosley) Cargill, Mary Ann (Crosley) Mills, Bonnie (Crosley) Gesh, and Bobbie Oskolkoff.

Top right: Early 1940s cannery bunk house. The child pictured is Virginia Hunter.

Above left: Brothers Mack Dolchok and Emil Dolchok in the 1990s.

Above: Virginia Hunter and Jerry Atchison.

Left: Monfor's old house, where the American Legion is now.



Top left: Elders Rose Wheeler, Louise Rhodes, Willa Fulton and Ernie Jordan on the boat ride to Seldovia for an Elders berry picking trip, August 1997.

Top right: Ervin "Buddy" Witbro.

Middle left: Bob and Willa Fulton, Christmas 1999.

Above: Mack Dolchok with nephew Ronald Dolchok Sr. in 2002.

Right: Joyce Wilford (Wilson), at right, at the cannery in Kenai.



Top left: Laura Jean Wallace.
Top right: Alida Bayes helping youth from the Kenaitze Fish Camp put the net back in the water, 1995.
Middle right: Archie Minkler at the Elders 1999 Christmas Party at Fort Kenai.
Left: Virginia Mann with Laura Jean.
Above: The Mann family home on the bluff in Kenai.



Top left: Clare and Bunny Swan.

Top middle: Curlene Louise (Harker) Frostad, at left.

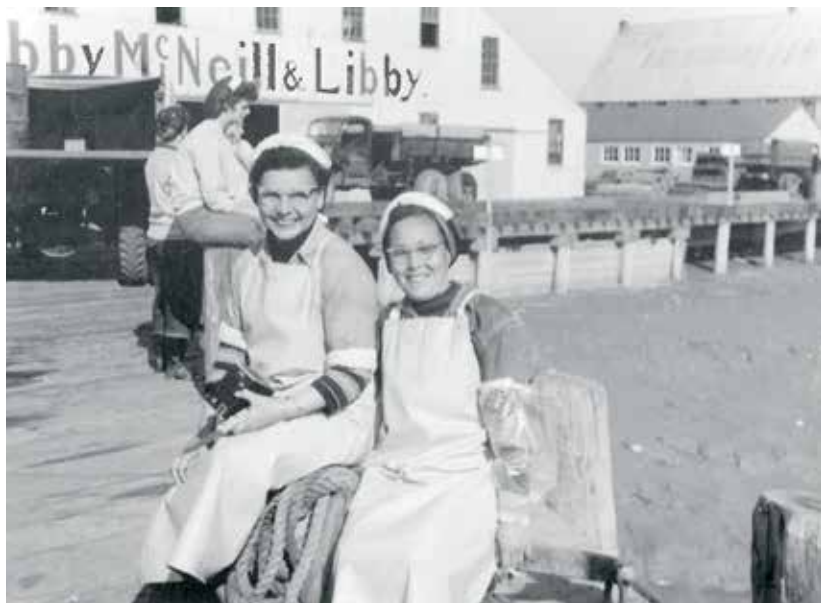
Top right: Joe and Mary Oskolkoff.

Above: Liisia Blizzard at an Elders dinner, Fort Kenay, May 17, 1992.

Above right: Harry Mann starting the smokehouse.

Right: Youth holding a king salmon caught in the educational fishery net, 1995.





Top left: Siblings Mack Dolchok, Marie (Dolchok) Decker, Alec Dolchok, Emil Dolchok, and Helen Dolchok in the 1970s.

Top right: Jerry Brown smoking salmon in June 2011.

Left: Diana Zirul and Wayne D. Wilson Jr. at President Donald Trump's Inauguration.

Above: Rika (Mann) Murphy and Julia (Oskolkoff) Mann at "mug-up" on Libby dock, circa 1965.



Above: Virginia Hunter.

Top right: Bonnie Juliussen, Mary Lou Bottorff and Rita Smagge at the educational fishery during the 2000 Potlatch weekend.

Above right: Elizabeth Wilson, second from left, with Paul, Rudy, Bobby and one of the family's girls.

Right: School children including: Judy Juliussen, Larry Sanders, Virginia Hunter, Virginia Monfor, Alec Wik, James Segura, Harriet Mann, Dorris Wilson and Dougie Sanders, 1940s.





Top left: Pauline March, Elsie Consiel, Francis Pederson, Charlotte (March) Korpinen, Rika Murphy, Helene Daughter and Diana Blohm (in front).

Top right: Alice Hedberg Brown, born in Kenai in 1912.

Above left: Pulling in the net at the educational fishery, August 1989.

Above: Herman Lindgren teaching youth how to mend a net at Kenaitze Fish Camp, 1995.

Left: James Showalter teaching Liisia Blizzard and Elsie Maillelle to mend a net during fish camp, 1995.



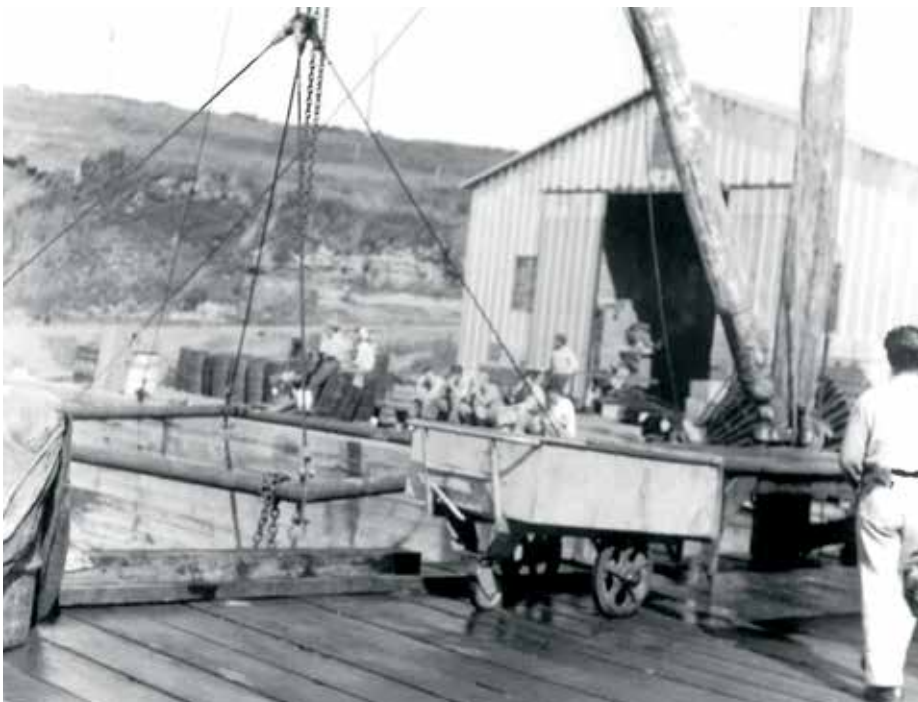
Top left: Danielle Mills with salmon strips in 1997.

Top middle: Mack Dolchok with daughter Katrina (Dolchok) Jacuk in 2001.

Top right: Allen Mann, standing in front of his mother's house in Old Kenai, 1930-40s.

Above: John Monfor.

Right: Julia Mann, Rika Murphy, and Allen Mann.



Top left: Old Kenai. 1960s.
Top right: Boat working the commercial fishery.
Middle left: September 1998 moose hunt.
Middle right: Old Kenai.
Above: Virginia Wolf and her brother Thomas Stroman.
Left: On the cannery dock in Kenai.



Top Left: Patti Blohm waiting to smoke some kings.

Top right: Howard Wilson.

Above: Pauline (Wilson) March.

Above right: Leona (March) Blohm, Diana Zirul, and Charlotte (March) Korpinen process fish.

Right: Fedora Pererson and Elizabeth (Demidoff) March process fish.





Top left: Leona (March) Blohm.
Top right: Diana Zirul and Alan Blohm with a 57-pound king salmon in 2000.
Bottom left: Diana Zirul, Jené Redman, Jim Zirul, Lové Hendriks, and Scarlet Charbonneau process fish.
Bottom right: Diana Zirul and Chelsea Hendriks fillet salmon at the Tribal Fishery.



Top left: George Hunter on board Fair Days.

Top middle: June Gagnon.

Top right: Fiona Miller.

Above: Gene (Hunter) Smagge.

Above right: Eleanor Mann, Hazel Doolittle, Mary Ellen Doolittle, Laura Jean Wallace, and Bernice Mann at the Monfor house.

Right: At the Tribal fishery in 1991.



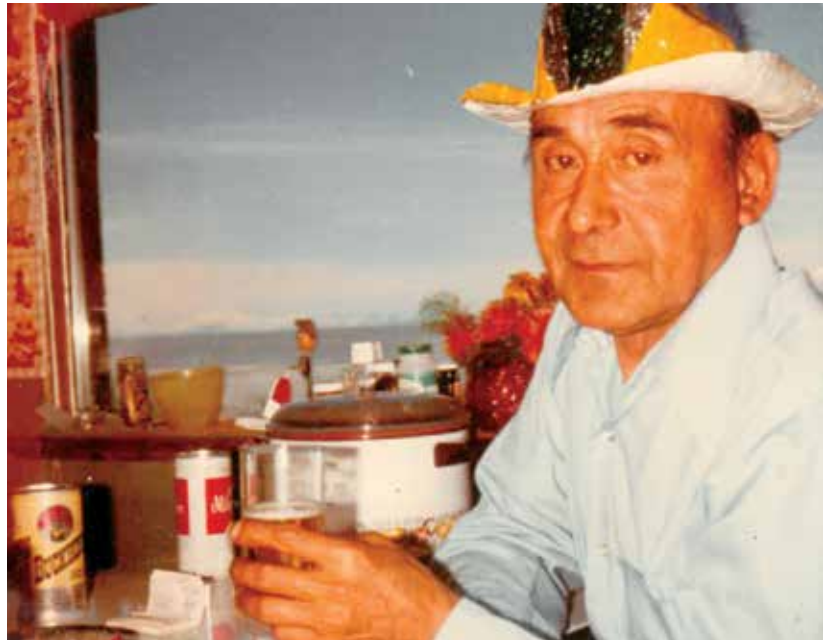
Top left: Kenaitze drummers performing at the educational fishery over the 2000 Potlatch weekend.

Top right: Mary Ellen Israelson and Hazel Felton.

Above left: Jennifer Showalter Yeoman, Ward Showalter Sr., James Showalter Jr., James Showalter Sr.

Above Right: Alida Bayes helping pull the net in at the educational fishery in 1995.

Left: Nadia and Paul Walluk, 2004.



Top left: Louise Rhodes and family, Christmas 1999.

Top right: Allen Mann.

Above left: Receiving fish at the cannery in Kenai.

Above right: Alexandra "Sasha" Lindgren giving a speech during the 2000 Pottlatch weekend at the Soldotna Sports Center.

Right: Youth pulling in the net during the 2000 Pottlatch weekend.





Top left: Julia Mann, at left, Caroline Baktuit, fourth from left, and Caroline Johansen.

Top right: George Hunter and Rika Murphy.

Above right: Bonnie Juliussen, Mary Lou Bottorff, and Rita Smagge enjoying the beach during the 2000 Potlach weekend.

Left: Josephine Jones.



Top left: Bill Segura on the Kenai beach in 1990.

Top right: Clare Swan stands in front of the Alaska Territorial School. It was located where the Kenai Art Guild is now.

Above: Little white house where Grandma Mann and Virginia Hunter lived in the 1950s.

Above right: Bernice Crandall.

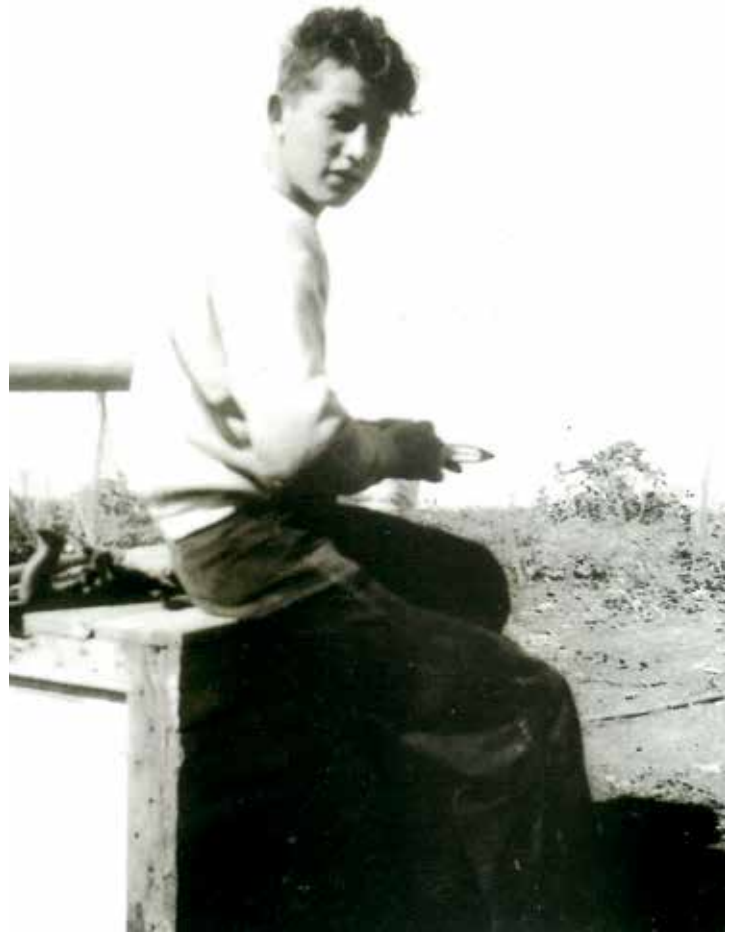
Right: Ronald Dolchok Sr., Marie (Dolchok) Decker, Marcia (Shaishnikoff) Dolchok, Maggie Dolchok, Mack Dolchok in 2001.



Top left: Logan Wik, Jessica Crump, Sasha Jackson and Jake Kooly.
Top right: Pauline, Clarence, Leona, and Charlotte March in front of their family home.
Above left: Olivia Jamrosa at Waterfront in the 1990s.
Above: Fish trap along the North Road.
Left: Rika Murphy working at the cannery, early 1950s.



Top left: Rita Smagge and Mary Ann Tweedy, Christmas 1999.
Top right: Violet Sanders, Evelyn Baktuit, and Mildred Kooly.
Above: A day on the water: Julia Mann, right.
Middle right: Harry Mann, Mel Cole and Alan Ross hunting at Twin Lake.
Right: James Showalter Sr., Jennifer Showalter Yeoman, and James Showalter Jr., November 1974.



Top left: Elders on Fox Island during a Kenai Fjords Trip.

Top right: Gordon Baktuit mending nets, late 1940s to 50s.

Above left: Carol Pederson at Ella Morey's House, 1956.

Above: 2000 Potlatch.

Left: Susan Wells holds a king at the 1996 educational fishery.



Top: Linda Mann, Patsy Mann, and Laura Jean Wallace.

Top right: Connie Wilson, Hazel Felton and Kevin Whitley at the educational fishery.

Above: Drum performances during an Elders dinner at Fort Kenay on May 17, 1992.

Above right: Youth cook salmon at the educational fishery, 1989.

Bottom right: Youth pulling in the net during the 2000 Potlatch weekend.





Top left: Dancing and drum lessons at the educational fishery, 1989.

Top right: Adeline Chaffin and Alida Bayes, signers of the original Constitution of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, pictured in 2018.

Above left: Bonnie Juliussen, Albert Baktuit, James Showalter, and Diana Zirul at the purchase of Waterfront property on July 17, 1996.

Above: Rika Murphy moose hunting.

Left: Pulling in the net at the educational fishery, August 1989.



Top left: Scarlet Charbonneau learning how to scrape the backbones of salmon for that extra special treat.

Top right: Mack Dolchok at the Tribal net in 2019 with grandchildren Ben, Nick, and Andrea Jacuk.

Above left: Virginia Hunter, mid-1940s at the cannery.

Above right: Brothers Alec Dolchok, Mack Dolchok, and Emil Dolchok in 1980.

Right: The dock at Libby's cannery, early 1966-67.



Top left: Wilson's and Mann's Fourth of July celebration, early 1950s.
Top right: Jake Kooly teaches Noah Pearson how to fillet a salmon at the Tribal fishery.
Above left: 50th Anniversary of Britton and Mary Crosley in 1985, with their children. Left to right, Britton Crosley Jr., Mary Ann Mills, Mary Crosley, Britton Crosley Sr., Bonnie Gesh, and LaVae Gillis.
Above: Cyle and Scarlet Charbonneau at the Kenaitze Easter egg hunt.
Left: Siblings Marie (Dolchok) Decker and Mack Dolchok in 2016.



Top left: David Segura showing youth how to pick fish from a net at the educational fishery, 1995.

Top right: At the cannery in Kenai.

Above: Fiocla Wilson, Elsie Maillelle, Mary Ann Tweedy, Willa Fulton, Herman Lindgren and Joyce (Wilson) Wilford, Dec. 12, 1997.

Right: George Hunter Sr., Jesse Lee home, 1947.



Top left: Frances Lindgren and Rika Hunter.
Top right: Bill Segura and Esther Segura, 2000 Potlatch.
Above left: Educational fishery, 1989.
Above: Joyce (Wilson) Wilford at the cannery in Kenai.
Left: Fiona (Mishakoff) Miller, Ephim Baktuit, Allen Mann, Elsie (Sanders) Consiel, Nikoloshka and Mary Nessin, and Mary Ann Tweedy with visiting Russian Orthodox priests.



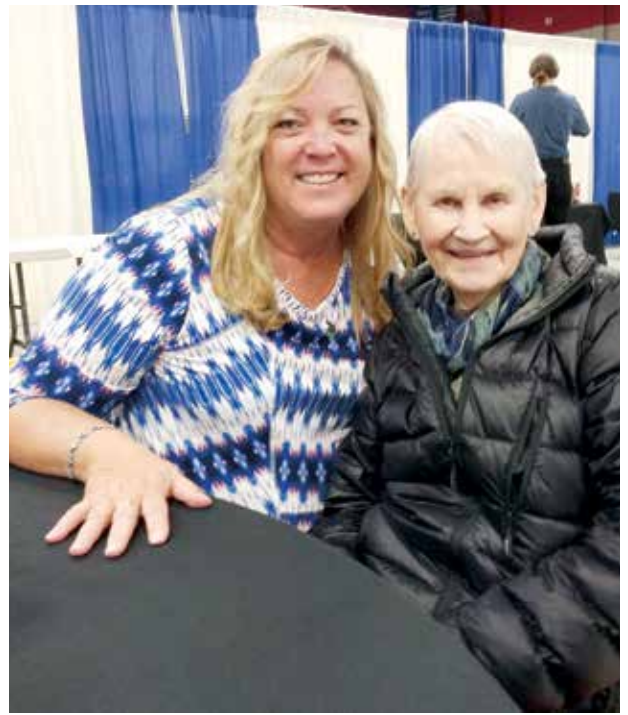
Top left: Lee (March) Blohm, circa 1936.

Top right: Auntie Olga Juliussen and Mack Dolchok in the early 1970s.

Above right: The first Kenai librarians.

Above: Sarge Kvasnikoff.

Right: This house stood where the American Legion is today.



Top left: Fishing vessels in the Kenai River near the cannery.

Top right: Diana Zirul and Dorothy E. Hermansen.

Above left: Frances Lindgren.

Above: Bonnie Juliussen and granddaughter Jessica Crump.

Left: Brothers Eugene Juliussen Sr. and Mike Juliussen holding a king salmon caught at the educational fishery in 1996.



Top left: Robert Peterson.

Top right: Dancing and drum lessons at the educational fishery, 1989.

Above: Paul P. Karaffa.

Above right: Liisia Blizzard fishing at the mouth of the Kenai River, June 15, 1989.

Right: Elsie Sanders, Rika Mann, and Virginia.



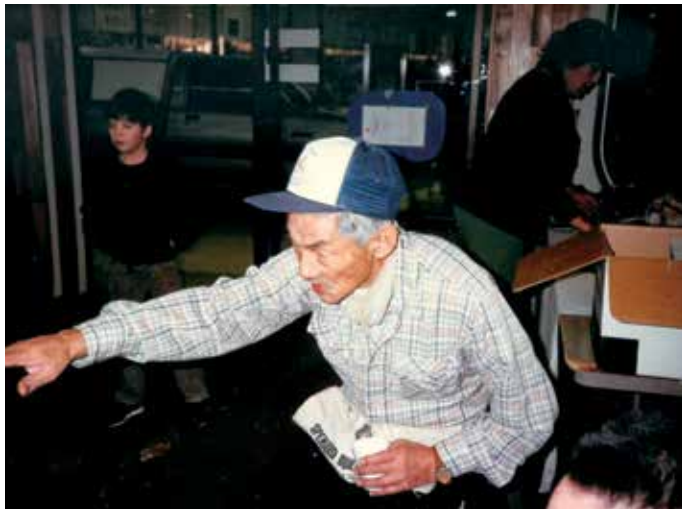
Top left: *Liisia Blizzard.*

Top right: *Margie Jordan, Virginia Monfor, Edna Linderman, and Fiocla Wilson, at an Elders Christmas party at Fort Kenay, 1999.*

Above left: *Canning fish.*

Above: *Beatrice Petterson.*

Left: *Pauline (Wilson) March, center, with Eleanor (Mann) Wood, Linda (Mann) Ross, Bernice (Mann) Crandall, and Harriet (Mann) Seibert in Kenai.*



Top left: Peter Kalifornsky giving direction on building a skin boat. No nails were used. It was made in the traditional way.

Top right: Working on Fort Kenay, March 1969.

Above: Mary Kvasnikoff Crosley, 1915-2007, pictured in 1935.

Above right: Kristi Cada with Kevin, Russell and James Brown (brothers) and Ron Naanes (cousin) at Waterfront in 2004.

Right: Lori Nelkie, Diana Zirul, Jake Kooly, and Chelsea Hendriks at the educational fishery.



Top left: Marina Miller.
Top right: Elders drumming during an Elders dinner at Fort Kenay.
Above: Sergei Pederoff, left.
Far left: Julia Wilson and Joyce (Wilson) Wilford fishing at Birch Island during the summer solstice, June 21, 1989.
Left: Tribal Elder Eva Lorenzo.



Top left: Angel in fish.
Top right: Alex Shadura.
Above: Elsie Sanders.
Above right: Bonnie Juliussen at the purchase of Waterfront property, July 17, 1996.
Bottom right: Marie Sanders, Joe and John Consiel, and Alida (Petersen) Bayes.





Top left: Ralph U. Petterson
Top right: Herman Lindgren in June 1960.
Above left: Herman Lindgren teaching youth how to mend a net at Kenaitze Fish Camp, 1995.
Above right: Caption not available.
Left: Vera Wilson and Maggie (Wilson) Dolchok.



Top left: At the cannery in Kenai.
Top right: June Gagnon. Dec. 17, 1997.
Above: Caption not available.
Above right: Caption not available.
Right: Kenai Territorial School, 1940s.





Top left: Emil, Antone, Mack, Alec, Allen, and Maria Dolchok in 1965.

Top right: Jerry Brown and his sister Elva Corliss smoking salmon strips in June 2001.

Above left: Maria Sweepy and Mary Ann Tweedy.

Above: Lovè Hendriks learning how to scrape the backbone of salmon for that extra special treat.

Left: Francis Lindgren and Rika Murphy in front of a lighthouse on the bluff that was lost to the 1964 earthquake.



Top left: Unidentified, Carolina Johansen, Francis Pederson and Julia Mann

Top right: Rika Murphy at the cannery in Kenai.

Above: Alfred Ivanoff, Gene Smagge, Walter Chulin, and George Hunter.

Above right: Mary Ellen Gibson, Bernice Crandall, Hazel Felton, and other Elders with fish at CITC camp.

Right: Youth holding a king salmon caught in the educational fishery during the 2000 Potlatch Weekend.





Top left: Laura Jean.
Top right: Marisa and Jana Garrigues September 12, 2003.
Above left: Julia Mann and Caroline Johansen.
Above: James Showalter and Nadia Walluk, about 2002.
Left: The 1987 Tribal Council. Front row: Bernadine Atchison, John Brown, and Mary Ann Mills. Back row: June Gagnon, Rita Smagge, Cora Sacaloff, and Jake Ivanoff.



Top left: *Fiocla Wilson enjoying the warm fire at the educational fishery during the 2000 Potlatch weekend.*

Top right: *Ephem Baktuit.*

Above: *Playing on the bluff, 1930s.*

Above right: *Bonnie Juliussen showing off the new salad bar at the old Tyotkas Elder Center.*

Right: *George Miller and Jerry Brown in 1975.*



*Top left: Elsie and Joe Consiel and Grace Cole.
Top right: Caption not available.
Above left: Tug of war at the educational fishery during the 2000 Potlatch.
Above: A fish scow in the Kenai River.
Left: Youth at the Kenaitze Fish Camp cleaning fish caught at the educational fishery, 1995.*



Top left: Jeff Shaw at the Tribal fishery.
Top right: Holy Assumption of the Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Church in Kenai.
Above: Coby Wilson.
Above right: Left to right: Laura Jean Carpenter, Norm Nautt, Rita Smagge, John Brown, Kenaitze secretary.
Right: Mack Dolchok with grandkids Ben Jacuk, Andrea Jacuk, Nick Jacuk in 2001.

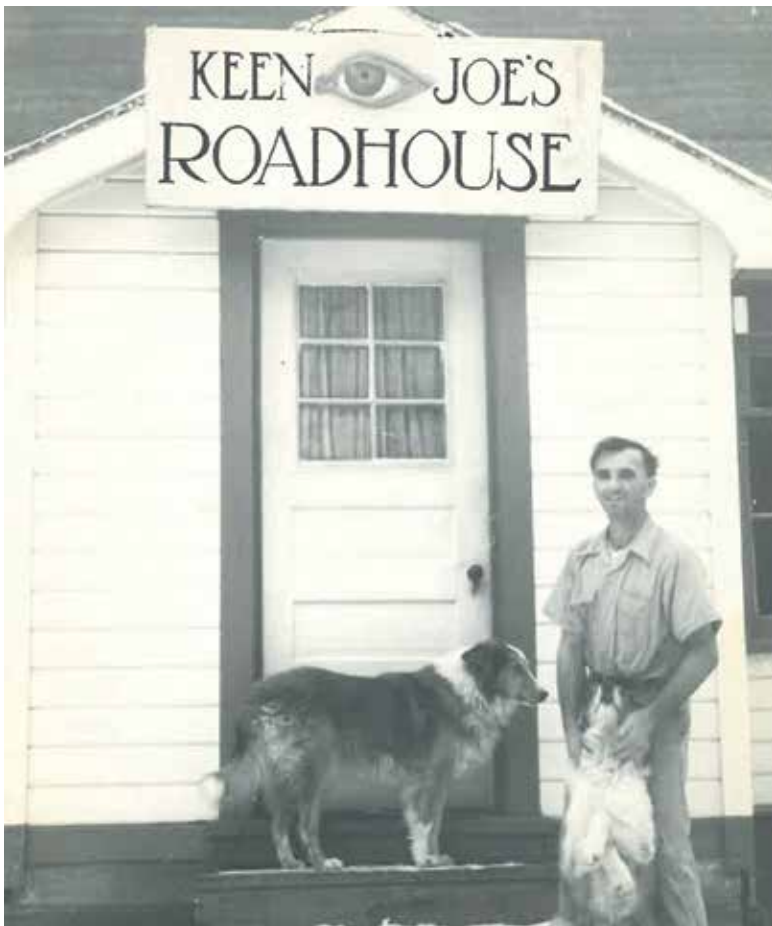


Top left: The dock at Libby's cannery, early 1966-67.

Top right: Dena'ina skin boat with John Brown and Jake Ivanoff.

Above: A cabin down from the Bay Arms Apartments where fishermen stored their gear, 1960s.

Left: Julia Mann and Caroline Johansen cutting fish at the cannery.



Top left: Eleanor Mann, Gloria Wik, Laura Wallace, and Patsy Mann.

Top right: Drumming and singing at an Elders dinner, Fort Kenai, May 17, 1992.

Above: Joe "Kenai Joe" Consiel.

Upper middle right: Nikoloshka and Mary Nissen and Mary Anne (Nissen) Tweedy.

Lower middle right: Hazel Felton and Craig Bock, CITC fish camp.

Bottom right: Birthday girl Linda Mann, and, left to right, Bernice Mann, Mary Ellen, Hazel Doolittle, Patty Mann, Harriet Mann, Sharon, Sister Hunter, and Laura Jean Wallace.





Top left: Liz and Joe Consiel.
Top right: James Showalter Sr. and Paul Walluk, 2005.
Middle right: Auntie Pederson.
Right: Rita Smagge, Fiocla Wilson, Olga Juliussen, and Louise Rhodes at the opening of Chuda Kuya Drum.
Above: Alaska Purchase Centennial Parade, October 1967.



Top left: Mack Dolchok with grandson Ben Jacuk in 2001.

Top right: Harry James Mann and his brother Allen Marvin Mann on a hunting trip with Harry's dog Kenai.

Above: Shelly Becker and Bonnie Juliussen making yummy fried bread.

Middle right: Charlotte (March) Korpinen; Howard Wilson, CIRI Shareholder of the year; and Leona (March) Blohm.

Right: Dennis Crandall and Steve Perrizo, 1996.



Top left: Picking scow traps.

Above: Laura Green.

Middle left: Elders staff, including Bonnie Juliussen, Scott Juliussen, and David Segura.

Left: Accountant Elsie Maillelle.



Top left: On the beach near the cannery.
Top right: Morris Miller, Ella (Miller) Baktuit and Obie Dolchok.
Far left: Mack Dolchok and one of his brothers
Left: Rika Murphy and Allen Mann.

Chiqinik! Thank you!

Chiqinik, thank you, to everyone who shared photos. Photos have been published with the best quality available, and information for photo captions was provided by those submitting the photos. We appreciate all of your contributions to celebrate the history of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe.

Addresses and Phone Numbers



Administration Building
150 N. Willow St., Kenai
907-335-7200



Dena'ina Wellness Center
508 Upland St., Kenai
907-335-7500



**Yaghanen Youth
& Community Education**
33105 K-B Dr., Soldotna
907-335-7290



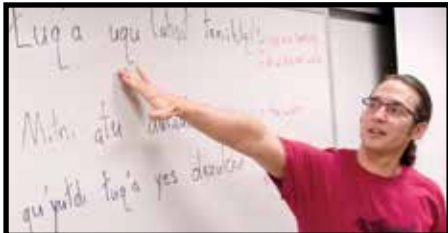
**Chuq'eya Qenq'a
Birch Tree House – Behavioral Health**
510 Upland St., Kenai
907-335-7300



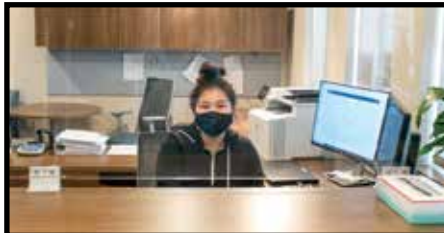
Early Childhood Center
130 N. Willow St., Kenai
907-335-7260



Na'ini Family and Social Services
1001 Mission Ave., Kenai
907-335-7600



**Dena'ina Language
Institute**
1001 Mission Ave., Kenai
907-335-7667



**Kenaitze/Salamatof Tribally
Designated Housing**
1001 Mission Ave., Kenai
907-335-7200



Qiz'unch' Tribal Court
508 Upland St., Kenai
907-335-7219



Tyotkas Elder Center
1000 Mission Ave., Kenai
907-335-7280



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