



HOA Valdez



SEPT. 24-27, 2025

MEN'S IGLOO #7 & WOMEN'S IGLOO #2

SEPT. 24-27, 2025



“THEY CAME FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES!”

Hosts: Valdez Women's Igloo #2

Valdez Men's Igloo #7

MINUTE BOOK

Thank you, Valdez Pioneers for hosting the 2025 Grand Igloo Convention!



2025-2026 Grand Igloo Officers

Front Row L-R: Libby Dalton Slane (Recorder), Ruth Benson (2nd VP), Randy Kockritz (3 Yr. Trustee), Rodger Hopp (1st VP), Lew Tobin (President), Diane Barnett (2 Yr Trustee), Debbie Dauphinais (Treasurer), Brad Austin (Inner Guard)
Back Row L-R: Ken Odsather (Historian), Jim Plaquet (1 Yr Trustee), Lorinda Kassner (Chaplain), Dawn Campbell (Secretary), Jeremiah "Doc" Myers (Sgt. at Arms), Virginia Calloway (1 Yr. Trustee), George Lounsbury (2 Yr. Trustee), Ken Pysz (3 Yr Trustee)



Past Grand Presidents

Front Row L-R: Edward Barber, Troxell Hebert, Don Burt, Virginia Calloway, George Lounsbury, Fred Thornsteinson
Back Row L-R: Wes Perkins, James Casement, Virgil Campbell, Steve Searles, James Rhodes, Ken Pysz

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SEPTEMBER 25, 2025 THURSDAY MORNING Called to order 9:13

GP Steve asked for the roll call of Grand Officers.

ROLL CALL 24

GP Steve asked PGP Fred to read CA 25-01

PGP FRED read the proposed amendment.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT 25-26

CA 25-01 27-29

“And if there are any questions, I would prefer for a delegate at large handle those questions. This is the first reading.”

Someone: “I have a question regarding where it says it's a committed relationship. What does that mean?”

Diane Pederson-Anchorage: “Mr. President, I’m going to transfer my authority to our Constitution and Bylaws committee chairperson, who is Pat Barber, who will answer any questions.”

PGP Fred: So, if there are any questions related to the amendment, we will have Pat Barber come up

PGP Fred: The question is, what is the definition of an exclusively committed relationship? Is that correct?

GP Steve: David Church and Wes Perkins will bring mikes to each speaker.

Pat Barber-Anchorage: “I think in the portion that is proposed, we added it to the first paragraph that Fred read and now exists in the Constitution. And this is going to be an additional paragraph. It says an unmarried person in an exclusively committed relationship with a member of a good standing. We had this happen in our lodge a couple of times where there were a couple of older people that were widowed and they wanted to or they were good friends. But they wanted to get married, but it would have changed their financial situation to the point that they could not do that. So, they were just significant others. They were just a couple that lived together, but were not married. Now, have I answered that or do you want me to help with something more? Is that an answer or a part of something of that?”

Gordon Severson-Anchorage/McCarthy: “I have a comment about that. In my job as a bailiff in the Alaska Court System, jurors asked what the legal definition of reasonable. And the answer is there is no legal definition. That's whatever you think is reasonable. It's reasonable. And that I would say would well apply to this. So, some people are in a committed relationship. At the age of most Pioneers, they know what it means, and we all know what it means, and that would be adequate.”

PGP Fred: “I think probably he should be with a membership committee that reviews applications and would be well able to probably determine what it means. And that would be determined what that relationship might be.”

Pat Barber: “There is a lady in the back that has a question. “

Person: “Yes, it goes further than that. Okay, that’s that one situation. Now, the other situation where they're not married, you have a guy in a woman and they're just literally with each other. So, we're going to set a different morality standard here and say, well, we accept you because you're committed in a relationship. What do we do then? Who makes the judgement?”

PGP Fred: “I think it's going to be pretty hard to define a committed relationship myself. I think that a committed relationship could probably occur within a couple weeks. It could be a couple months. It could be a long-term situation. I think maybe the mechanics of how this works might have to be tweaked a little bit so that we can work with it if this is what it's fighting.”

Person: "Okay, thank you."

GP Steve: "You know, your membership committee in your local Igloo the members have to have sponsors to come in. And that will be up to your membership committee then to read that application, make that determination about the relationship on a global level, and they can do it better at a local level than we can at this group here. And, you know, let them evaluate it."

Pat Barber: "I think why Anchorage brought this forward and it's stated in the whereas is that we are all having trouble getting members. And some of these rules, applied years ago, before the women became an Igloo and had a 30-year residency of their own, where we could join our husbands or girls could join on the fathers. Well, this is broadening that a boy can join on his mother who is now in a Igloo or whatever. But it's just a starting point at least for us to think about ways that we could broaden our requirements that maybe could include a few more people, for whatever that's worth. So, we've tossed it out for your consideration with that in mind."

PGP Fred: "Okay, sure. And there are, you know, significant features of this amendment that would be to allow members of an exclusively committed relationship to join on their relationship with a fully qualified member of Pioneers. It also allows children, age 17 and up, to be members, which is not currently provided for. And, you'll see, one other important thing on the tip of my tongue and now it slipped away. Anyway, we will be discussing this again on Saturday. So, consider what your questions might be, whether concerns are regarding the amendment."

Wynola Possenti-Fairbanks: "I realize that the purpose is to get more members. I think it sounds incredibly complicated and maybe it really isn't, but it kind of sounds bad. "And the thing that I think is important to do is to remember is that all organizations are seeming to have trouble getting members. I think that's a bigger issue that's out there. So, why dilute what it means to belong to Pioneers just to get more bodies, because other organizations are having the same problems. I think it's just something that's more of a societal problem right now. So, I just sort of have to think about."

PGP Fred: "Okay, I remember the other thing that was a point of concern that's been expressed to me as the committee reviewed this." That was the fact that this proposal extended all the privileges of the Pioneers of Alaska to these new spousal people but we still require preliminaries to have 20 years of membership before they had those privileges, which was a concern of some people." From personal experience, I think we should close this and let people deliberate and decide how they wish to vote, whether the support or not support this amendment."

Cheryl Seese-Seward: "So, as I understand in this resolution, we're not changing the length of time for a member to apply to Pioneers, this is only for significant others?"

PGP Fred: "Correct."

Cheryl Seese: "And how long does that significant other have to be in a relationship?"

PGP Fred: "You have to be a resident for 5 years; there's no definition of an exclusively committed relationship."

Cheryl Seese: "You can be talking about three or four?"

PGP Fred: "Sure. That's why I asked the members who submitted the proposal to explain this, because I don't have a relation. Per se, it's a pretty nebulous concept. It's just a person who has feelings for somebody. They wish to live together and be partners." It's kind of a difficult situation to explain. I think the Grand President

made that pretty clear when he said that the local membership committees are probably better at determining this and trying to legislate it from the Grand Igloo level. And if I can kind of close off this discussion today.”

Person: He stated If it's going to be delegated to the possibility of local Igloo, well, you may have to keep it in the family theme.

Pat Barber: Pat commented that the bulk of contention is regarding significant others. “A couple of these things we are trying to reinstall what used to be in the constitution. Girls could join under their dads. Now, we were auxiliary so that they could join under an Igloo. So only girls could do this, not sons. I had friends, sir, that years and years and years ago, joined on their fathers. I joined on my husband the minute he hit 30 years, his folks paid his dues and his initiation fee, and he joined. And I had already lived here more than the requirement of five years. So, they gave me my dues and initiation fee for my birthday. And we were able to join 55 years ago. And those were active rules long before we became members 55 years ago. So those two, we're just trying to re-instate if it'll broaden our membership.” “And that's why that was added. But that sounds like that's what the problem here is with everybody. So, for whatever that's worth, the others used to exist.”

GT Debbie: “Fred, can I make a comment?”

PGP Fred: “Debbie, go ahead.”

GT Debbie: “The lady up in the top row, said something mentioned morally. One of the Igloos that I'm in, one of the things, one of our members was adamant, that her voice be heard because she felt that we were a better class of people and that it was morally wrong. I don't have a problem with significant others. And doing research on our people, members have done a whole lot worse than live together.”

PGP Fred: “Okay, thank you. And we'll be closing the discussion here. I would like to just throw one more thing out that I was about to say before we have some additional questions. From personal experience in Igloo 6, we have had several members of the men's Igloo become married to women who were not residents of Alaska.” He stated that they can't become members of the Igloo and this created significant problems them. “And this caused some of our members to actually leave the Igloo because they couldn't attend with their wives. My contention is that the spousal definition as it exists today is wrong and that if you become married to someone that that person automatically should partner and should automatically become a member. So, if it were to me, I would either amend this proposed amendment or submit a future amendment that would modify these spousal designations so that the situation wouldn't occur. I'll just leave you with that thought. We will be bringing it up again Saturday and we'll have a vote. I did want to mention that the Constitution and Bylaws committee did review this proposed amendment and found that it was consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Grand Igloo.”

“The second thing, I received is a resolution from the Trustees yesterday. I haven't had a **Resolution 30** chance to discuss this with the other member of the committee who is here, Wanda. I wasn't expecting to be first out of the bag this morning as it wasn't on the schedule. I'd like to discuss the proposed amendment, the proposed resolution. The Grand Igloo Trustees presented a resolution regarding the disposition of the dies used for minting the Grand Igloo convention medallions. The resolution proposes that the medallion die be permanently defaced to prevent them from producing more medallions as that would devalue the existing medallions value because they are rarer item now and would decrease in value if there were more to be minted. So, what they were proposing is that the dies be permanently defaced and the defaced die be offered to be returned to the Igloo that sponsors that particular die for them to maintain care of it or if the Igloo did

not want to maintain the die, it could be disposed of in a manner to be determined by the trustees. And that the trustees provide the membership a report of the disposition of each one of the dies, whether it was a defaced and destroyed or defaced and returned to the Igloo or whatever disposition may occur. A resolution normally, only one of the needs to be read once, voted on, but I think that you can maybe have a chance to think about this for a little bit. And so, we'll all bring this back up on Saturday. And this would be the first reading for the proposed resolution as well. And that would give me a chance to confer with my committee to make what I just said is proper. If not I'm sure I will be told.

So, while I still have the floor I'm here, I'm looking down at Norma. And Norma is an amazingly lady. Aren't you 102 years old now? "(applause!) Maybe we'll see you out on the dance floor. (applause!) Okay, that will cover the report and a little extra."

GP Steve: "Thank you, Fred. Okay, the next order of business. Let me read this here. This is from our parliamentarian for this business sessions here and it's on Roberts Rules of Orders, which we're going to try to follow, as much as we can as I herd cats in order to get it going." He mentioned that the chair or the president is in charge of the proceedings and will call on a speaker to obtain the floor in order to speak. He asked that we stand and be recognized, identify yourself and your Igloo and state your purpose. Wait for a second to speak to your proposed motion. A second isn't needed to obtain the floor. "The person making the motion is privileged to speak to the motion before others. During debate, no person is entitled to the floor to speak a second time on the same motion as long as there are other members who have not yet spoken on the motion. If at any time the member thinks the rules of order have been violated or a discussion is not relevant to the motion, a member can make a point of order which is privileged and does not require a second. So, having said that, when you want to make the motion, please stand, be recognized and we'll go from there. We're trying to cut down the hollering round-out of room. Let's try to adhere to that as much as we can. And when we're doing that, a lot of these reports, we're going to hold the motion to approve the reports to the end and consolidate them all into one motion. And if there's a discrepancy or something on one of the reports, we'll have to bring it out at that time and we can bring it up and vote on it separately. But I don't think of what we're going to need to do with that. Alright, so next up is the minutes of the 2024 convention. So, at this time, they've been sent-out and hopefully you have a chance to look at them. So, are there any changes or corrections to be made for the 2024 convention minutes?" **Gene Hanson moved to accept the minutes."**

PGP Fred: I have a correction to the 2024 minutes. The first two pages of the Juneau Pioneers Igloos 6 report may be missing.

GP Steve: "Alright, are they available?" "Dawn, do you have those pages of that report?"

GS Dawn: "I'm sure I have them but for some reason, I didn't catch that one.

PGP Fred: "Maybe we can come up with those reports pages and turn into the secretary."

GP Steve: "Okay, thank you. Any other changes or corrections or additions to the minutes? "Okay, now I'm going to ask for a motion to accept the corrected minutes for the 2024 minutes. Gene Hanson moved to accept the minutes as corrected; Lew Tobin seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

GP Steve: “Okay, we're going to go into the reports now. And we're going to hold off on the motions to approve until the reports are done. So, we're going to start with the President's report. Is Libby in the room? Joanie?”

GP Report 31-33

While they are getting ready, Dawn can you give us your report?

GS Report 34-35

GP Steve: “Grand Recorder Libby, can you give us your report?”

GR Report 36-39

Joanie.”

G Trustee Joan: “I have a question for the Grand Recorder. Libby, how many years has it been, when was the last year Sitka turned in an annual report to the Grand Igloo? Do you know?”

GR Libby: “Yes, 2021

G Trustee Joan: “2021 was the last time?”

GR Libby: “Yes”.

G Trustee Joan: “And they haven't since?”

GR Libby: “Yes.”

GP Steve: “Grand Treasurer Debbie, can you give your report please?”

GT Report 40-46

Can I ask someone for a motion to accept the reports? PGP James Rhodes, Ketchikan so moved; Bill Chace, Fairbanks Igloo 4 seconded motion; motion passed unanimously. He asked for any announcements.

PGP Wes Perkins: He talked about the Pathfinder and mentioned Gordon Severson in an article in it and who turned 95 years old.

We were reminded of raffle tickets and silent auction. Gene Hanson told a story about raffle for a steer. GP Steve shared his part of the steer story. Grand Trustee Grand Trustee Jim Plaquet talked about this year's medallion and there are still plenty for sale.

GP Steve: “Let's take about a 15-minute break and then we will wrap up this morning's session.”

GP Steve: (10:45am) Called the session back to order. “Well start out with the Grand Historian's Report.”

G Historian Ruth: “Yesterday sitting in the hall, one of our Pioneers from Ketchikan did some research on the Craig Igloo and I have a nice report and am going to put it with my report to go for the minutes of this convention so you will have access to this information. Thank you very much.”

G HISTORIAN 47-48

CRAIG IGLOO 30 HISTORY 49-55

PGP Steve: “Past Grand President Jim Casement, Grand Igloo Foundation Report.”

PGP Jim Casement:

GI Foundation Report 56

“With our good investment strategy, we will, with the good investment strategy that we have adopted, this will develop into a premier historical preservation. “ “Thank you.”

GP Steve: “Thank you, Jim. So, we're going to move into the Igloo reports and when I first looked at this, None. Actually, put my glasses on and it was Nome. Since Nome is Igloo #1, it's a fitting place to start. Next will be Fairbanks, Juneau, Cordova, and Seward.”

Nome: MI President/ WI Secretary: 1st VP Lew:

Nome Report 57

“Good morning or is it morning or evening? Good morning to you all.” Lew said they had planned to have a crab feast when GP Steve arrived for installation but the crabs didn't make it.

GP Steve: “Fairbanks is up next.”

Tim Beck: “Good morning, everybody.” He apologized for the beeping from his glucose monitor that everyone thought was a cell phone going off.

Fairbanks MI 4 Report 58

Fairbanks WI 8 President: Erika Miller:

Fairbanks WI 8 Report 59-60

PGP George Lounsbury: I’m George Lounsbury and president of the Pioneers Museum and I’ll make it short. We had a great year.”

Fairbanks Pioneer Museum Report 61

GP Steve: “Thank you, George. Is Juneau ready?”

Juneau Presidents: G Trustee Brad Austin & Karen Bonnett Petersen:

Juneau Report 62-63

“I’m Brad Austin president of men’s Igloo and with me is Karen Bonnett Petersen president of WI. And before we get started on our report, I wanted to thank the Valdez Igloos for hosting the convention this year. It’s given me a chance to see another beautiful community that I hadn’t visited before. Thank you.”

GP Steve: “Now we’ve heard a few reports and now can we have a motion to accept the Igloo reports?”

PGP Don Burt moved to accept the reports; Gene Hanson seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

“Ok, now we are going to break for lunch. We didn’t quite get through everything so we’ll have to come back after lunch, not very long. We just have a few more reports to get through and that’s going to wrap up today’s agenda and we’ll get out of here in the afternoon.” He told us Mike Day from SERVS will be the guest speaker at lunch. **Thursday Morning session adjourned at 11:30am**

Thursday afternoon session called to order at 1:23pm.

GP Steve: We’re going to get on here with a couple of Igloo reports. Is Cordova ready for theirs?”

Cordova: MI President: Max Wiese: Max talked about the Cordova Igloos having a hard time obtaining insurance like what Nome Igloos are going through for their building.

Cordova Report 64-65

GP Steve: “Thank you, Max. Seward, are you ready for your report?”

Seward Presidents: Randy Kockritz and Cheryl Seese:

Seward Report 66-67

GP Steve: “Thank you, Randy and Cheryl. **Could I get a motion to approve these Igloo reports?”**

Virgil Campbell moved to accept the reports; Susie Martin seconded the motion; motion passed

unanimously. “And that’s going to conclude the reports for today. Things are moving along really really well, thank you for that. We’re going to do a little new business here. Jim, you want to come up here and talk about your idea for a committee and the 50th (anniversary of the pipeline)? Mike Day was talking here at lunch and the pipeline and how it’s coming up on 50 years of the pipeline and oil flowing and Jim has an idea that the Pioneers can get involved on the 50th celebration of the oil flowing.”

Jim Plaquet: “So, anyway yesterday at the officer’s meeting we talked about doing something with the Grand Igloo for the 50th anniversary of the Trans Alaska Pipeline in August 2027. We could have a committee and I would chair it and get input from every Igloo on the committee. So, if your Igloo is interested in doing something to celebrate the biggest thing that ever happened to Alaska, get a hold of me and we will start talking. We have a whole year until the next convention to decide what we want to do. There’s already a couple of ideas I’ve already heard about. One of them is “Pipeline Trivia” brought to you by the Pioneers of Alaska. How many workers worked on the Trans Alaska Pipeline? The answer is 70,000.” This could be our radio ads. “It is going to be a big anniversary for Alaska and the Pioneers of Alaska should be involved with that. So, just let me know. I’d like to have one person from each Igloo on the committee. When you bring it to the convention next year, we can decide how to celebrate.”

GP Steve: "Thanks you, Jim. I'm sure the 50th is going to be a big deal in town here too. Well, we're kind of ahead of schedule. So, does anyone have any announcements?"

Ruby Church talked about losing her cane. Joan mentioned the membership committee meeting when the session closes today. Dawn and Libby will be meeting with secretaries, presidents and other officers after session closes in the break room. Libby said there will be a credentials committee tomorrow at 8:00am in the hallway. **Thursday afternoon session closed at 1:49pm.**

Friday morning session called to order at 9:05am.

GP Steve: He told everyone that Virgil wanted to remind us to silence our cell phones. "I want to go through a couple of thank yous. The booklet that you all have been reading turned out very well it was kind of a family affair. Tom and Lois Gilson and their daughter Keriann put the booklet together for us and I think it turned out really really well. There's one other thank you on the booklet that we didn't see it through, well sort of. Back in 1975, Harry Crews wrote an article in Playboy Magazine, "Going Down in Valdez". When it came out, it was a big deal in Valdez of course. "He thought it would be neat to put a copy of the article in the convention booklet. Virgil Campbell found a copy of the magazine with that article and sent it to Valdez Igloos. They thought it would be a little bit too racy for the booklet. He thanked Virgil for tracking it down. "So, we're going back into some reports and first on my list, Fred with the Nominations Committee Report. We will not need a second at this time for the Nominations Committee Report

PGP Fred:

Nominations Committee Report 68

He asked for any nominations from the floor four times. No nominations from the floor. "Ok, Grand President, this slate of nominations will be read again on Saturday and voted upon."

GP Steve: "Thank you, Fred. We're going into Igloo reports with Anchorage, Ketchikan and Kodiak as the first three. Again, let's hold off on the motions to accept till we get through the reports and then we will have a motion at the end. Is Anchorage ready? On these reports, it can be 15-20 pages I don't care. Let's keep our oral report down to five minutes."

Anchorage: David Barnett- MI 15 Historian and Diane Pederson WI President: **Anchorage Report 69-70**

GP Steve: "Next up will be Ketchikan, then Kodiak. Is there someone going to read Wrangell's?"

GS Dawn: "Yes. I have theirs. They were the first one to send in their president's Igloo report."

GP Steve: "And you will be reading it?"

GS Dawn: "Yes, I have it on my computer."

Ketchikan PGP Jim Rhodes for President Rich Andrew:

Ketchikan MI Report 71

Ketchikan WI Hilary Koch:

Ketchikan WI Report 72

Ketchikan Pioneer Way Assn Report 73-74

GP Steve: Talked about what well worthy project the Ketchikan Pioneer Hall restoration is.

"Kodiak, are you ready for your report? Then we have Wrangell and is there a report for Sitka?"

GS Dawn: "None turned in."

GP Steve: "Petersburg?"

GS Dawn: "I haven't seen one from them."

GP Steve: "Dawn will do Wrangell's and then Palmer."

Kodiak Lloyd Shandley for MI President J. Alan Seale:

Kodiak Report 75-77

He introduced himself as current Historian and 1/3 president and mentioned that Al Seale is currently running for mayor and couldn't make it to the convention. "The last thing I'd like to talk about is **Kodiak is highly interested in holding the convention in 2026. (big applause)**

GP Steve: "Dawn, did you write that down?"

GS Dawn: "Oh, it's in bold letters!"

Lloyd Shandley: "Like I told the club, everybody wants to do this, right. Then you gotta help. So, looking for help on that. I guess we'll have discussions on that tomorrow but looking forward to bringing everybody to Kodiak and having a wonderful convention."

GP Steve: "Thank you for that."

Wrangell WI 15- Gayle Gross, Secretary: Dawn read their report.

Wrangell WI 15 Report 78

GP Steve: "Thank you Dawn. I saw Palmer working their way up here then it will be Homer, followed by Delta Junction."

Palmer Presidents: Don Benson & Ruby Church

Palmer Report 79

Ruby Church: Mentioned that the women and men do most of their things together but the men don't know it."

Don Benson: "I'd also like to add the Fairbanks King and Queen sent us a very nice card and I thank them for that."

GP Steve: "Ok, Homer, are you ready? And after Homer will be Delta Junction followed by Valdez."

Homer Presidents: PGP Don Burt & Marie Walker: PGP Don read the report.

Homer Report 80-81

GP Steve: "Thank you, Don. We have three Igloo reports to do yet. Do you want to take a break or go on? We'll take 10 minutes."

10:00 break.

10:15 Back in session

It was mentioned that today is Doc Myers 77th birthday so everyone sang Happy Birthday.

GP Steve: "Ok, we're back to our Igloo reports. Delta Junction, Valdez, and McCarthy."

Delta Junction: Nat Good MI 35 President

Delta Junction MI Report 82

Flower Cole WI 19 President

Delta Junction WI Report 83-84

GP Steve talked about attending the Delta Stampede and what a good time it was.

Valdez: Tom Gilson MI 7 President: He mentioned his wife, president of Valdez WI 2 is in the audience and her not wanting to come up to speak. He turned in their Igloos request to combine Igloos. **Valdez Report 85**

McCarthy: Laurie Hege, Secretary: Gordon Severson talked about being a joint **McCarthy Report 86-87** with Anchorage and McCarthy and he is surprised more Pioneers don't join McCarthy as a joint Igloo. Gordon was presented a poster by Ruth, Joan, and Laurie thanking him for all his services as a bailiff, being in charge of the state's Civil Defense and his work helping Alaska get up and running when it became a state.

GP Steve: He talked about being at McCarthy for their installation and had a good time. "Well, that concluded our Igloo reports. I would like to ask for a motion to accept the reports." **Motion to accept reports: Motion was made by Wes Perkins-Nome; second by Tim Beck, FBKS; motion passed unanimously.**

GP Steve: "Kinda springing this here a little bit and I don't know if he has much to say on it or not, but when I was up at Delta this year Troxell approached me with an idea. And I think it's really a good idea. I don't know how to do it because I just don't do those things. His idea was to have everyone at this gathering,

the stampede, and everywhere we're all taking pictures that you would like to share. So, Troxell's idea was to share them on the internet where you could download your pictures off your phone or whatever you have them on and they will be stored – where I don't know." He talked about a group he is with that uses a drop box to share things. He is hoping someone would step up and see this through.

PGP Virgil: "So, one of our members from Seward, he's a member that you never see at a meeting but is always there when anyone else needs anything. I'm not going to say his name because he asked me not to. He's a disabled Vet and he spends his summers up in Delta Junction. He's built him a place up there and he's going to be a member in Delta also. But he asked me if I would, present something to someone there in Delta who has stepped up and helped the disabled veterans. The last few years they held a moose hunt up there. You have to be 100% disabled combat veteran." He asked Ruth Benson to come up to the stage and he presented her with a certificate. Ruth talked about all the baked goods the Delta gals did. Virgil read the certificate.

RUTH'S CERTIFICATE 88

GP Steve: Has another certificate to present. "This is for a couple of Pioneers and is really astronomical. Pat and Ed Barber. They have been to every Pioneer convention since 1973. Over half a century in Pioneers. Pat and Ed, would you please come up here.

BARBER'S CERTIFICATE 89

PGP Ed: "I was initiated in 1970. My grandmother had been a member of the Valdez auxiliary and when they moved to Anchorage in 1917, she joined as an associate member, as so to speak, the Anchorage auxiliary. But she always didn't want to give up her membership from Valdez. That really meant a lot with her. Of course, when she joined, she joined under her husband, my grandfather. At that time had gone up the Chilkoot Trail, as she had done, so she joined him under him later she transferred her membership to Anchorage. She was a president in Anchorage in 1940 and then my mother was a president there and Pat was a president so we had three generations of presidents in the Auxiliary. And then what was kind of special to me was, we're not like some families we don't produce that fast. But anyway, I was able to initiate my son about a year or so ago and I had a pin that my grandmother's second husband had and he gave it to my dad and dad gave it to me. So, I gave it to my son Nels when I initiated a couple years ago or so. So, that was kind of special. We've been involved in the Pioneers for a long and it made a really great deal to my grandmother, as Pat mentioned, that she made sure I joined as soon as I could, the Igloo, the men's Igloo. Pat joined on my membership at that time. You had to have five years residency in the state of Alaska and she joined on me and has been very active." He talked about the Bob and Betty Hoffman of Fairbanks going through a similar situation, as well as Ed and Vi Johnson. "The important thing, I felt at least at that time, you have an active member and then the spouse could then become a member. Then you had two very active people that would remain in the organization for a long period of time. Whereas if you didn't allow that, quite often at least in our instance, it would be the male and he would kind of loose interest because his wife couldn't participate. So, in anyway, rules have changed since that time. When we first joined, your spouse could join on you or your daughter could join on her dad or grandfather's. So, we have been very active. I am involved in the building in Anchorage and that's a real challenge. It's an older building and I guess it's not that old. It was built with earthquake money in '65 and '67. When you have a restaurant on the first floor, which actually under rights the building. You've got lots of problems. You've got water and just age. Well, this is a surprise to us, and we certainly appreciate it. Anyway, thanks again."

Pat Barber: "I would like to say something since we're in Valdez. Ed's mother was born in Valdez. The family, grandparents to us, started in Juneau then Valdez and of course Anchorage didn't exist yet. But I've always

been upset because Ed's dad should have been born in Valdez but I guess his dad was worried about some issues so she went outside to have him, and it should have been Valdez."

GP Steve: Stated someone was going to speak on the Nation Builder's website. Brad stated they would do it right after lunch. He asked for announcements or good of the order.

Wes Perkins talked about the size of his smoke house and his recipe for his smoked fish and about the last four years Nome has had a disastrous fish run. He talked about fishing in Kenai and how much fun it was. **Gene Hanson** told a joke about a lady wanting surgery and was financially challenged. Then he talked about A vacant lot that once was home to a Standard Station with a car wash. He said this was where the story occurred about the eagle that grabbed the Chihuahua.

GP Steve: Gave a shout out to the City of Valdez and the Civic Center staff and reminded royalty to sign in for royalty march tonight.

Erika Miller: She read a Yukon tribute to Robert Service about what kind a place is our Alaska.

GP Steve: Reminded delegates to be here promptly at 1:00pm for roll call. Lunch will be in the Civic Center with guest speaker past Governor Bill Walker.

BROKE FOR LUNCH 11:22am.

1:02pm FRIDAY AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION RECONVENED

GP Steve: "We'll do the roll call of delegates."

GR Libby: Libby did the roll call of delegates.

GP Steve: Asked the folks from Juneau to do the Nation Builders presentation.

Brad Austin and Dorene Lorenz: It has been a tool for 20 years. It is a tool to help Pioneers connect and communicate and have a feeling of belonging. This site would be easier for people to find out current info on how to join and the what current rules are. They talked about the annual report form and complications. Some Igloos don't have printers or scanners. This website could make these things easier. They compared logging into the website similar to logging into Amazon account and navigating it. They mentioned anyone that is struggling with the site has children or grandchildren to assist them. Juneau developed templates for Igloos to use. They showed a video on all the steps used to access the site. Can send out an email blast to keep members informed of events and you can see who opened it or not. You can see who to call or follow up if they didn't get the information. Members can update their own information and keep contact info current. Mailing list can be organized into categories. This site offers something simpler and quicker to reach members. Juneau hosts movie night and Dorene mentioned Brad's performance in the "Proposal".

Dorene Lorenz: In an answer to a previous question, the site allows photo sharing. You can make comments and tag people in the photos, and download them. They are set up in folders and even chronologically. This site is specifically made for non-profits and has tools for fundraising. There is an event managing tool and you can link sales to your bank account and treasurers can pull reports from this info. With this higher level there is better security. There will be separate members only sections with dedicated protocols. You can set who has access to these. There are areas only the Grand Igloo can access.

Cheryl Seese- Seward: "So, are you proposing this takes over the existing website or supplements it?"

Dorene: "We are proposing the GI purchase this. It is \$160 a month. The GI can transition over time for this to be their website or they can keep their current website. With the GI being the umbrella for this site, each Igloo can use it for \$9 a month. Each Igloo can post social media events."

Karen Bonnett Peterson: Uses this site for credit and debit card payments. Members can pay their dues and make donations on the site. They use the site to keep track of their financials. She asked if videos can be closed captioned.

Dorene: Replied yes and the It's a good tool for members to check on their due's status.

Question: maybe Susan Gibson: Are there any trans actual fees per payment?

Dorene: It is up to each Igloo who they choose to use for payment processing. It's set up for us to get a better non-profit rate. There is an ap on the site that allows those transactions to go for free and there is an option for the member to pay extra to cover that fee or an Igloo can factor that fee into the cost.

G 1st VP Lew: "What's the next step?"

Dorene: Stated we would need a motion from the floor and have it pass. Then the communications committee and Juneau Igloos would work with the GI to see if they want to use the site for themselves. Nation Builder will populate the file your Igloo gives them. You don't have to be an expert. The site can be of help for generational members.

Joan: "If you have your application uploaded, or your biographical information, who has access to look at that?" "

Dorene: "It would be monitored within the Nation that we follow the same protocols that are given for media. And that is if you are a live person, your information is your business. So that would go in the membership section and no one would have access to it except membership." Each Igloo could determine which members this is. This site may help people track down their deceased members of an Igloo. It would make it easier to access this rather than going to an individual Igloo to research, using the Igloo and Grand Igloo guidelines.

Person: "I have a comment. I'm a professional web developer. I developed a website for the Fairbanks Igloos." She said it wasn't her field of dreams; the public came to it but never the members. As a result, they did away with the website.

PGP Fred: Asked if there was a cost to each Igloo other than the \$160 monthly cost to the Grand Igloo.

Dorene: Replied yes, \$9 a month.

Someone: Wanted to know the storage capacity of the \$9 plan.

Dorene: Replied, I think about a trilobite, or rather a Tetro bite. And up to 100,00 names

Diane Pederson: "Do we have any idea how many people check the Grand Igloo site?"

Dorene: Replied no, but Dawn would have that info. Dawn told her she doesn't have that info the webmaster may have that.

Diane: "I was just wondering if it was worth the investment or not based on the number of people that use the website. "

Dorene: Stated it does not matter how many people are using the website that says it is a good idea. She said we need to meet the needs of our constituents' others need to know we exist, where to find us, when the Igloos meet and when the activities are, and meet our mission of sharing our history. We can share our stories and photographs.

Susan: Stated in order to accomplish those tasks, there has to be constant info being provided from members.

Dorene: If a member moves, they can go in and update their address. If there was a group photo, others can go and tag who is in the photo to help preserve history and then find which Igloo they were in and their story.

Brad: Said it is a lot easier to post to Nation Builders than a regular website as you don't go through an outside webmaster. Juneau has past presidents, their calendar, etc. on their site. It's a month-by-month contract. It

allows for a more robust security for the site. Juneau would help any subordinate Igloos that wanted to use it to get started, and there are tutorials and templates.

Person: Stated that there seems to be several levels that each Igloo can choose.

Dorene: Said yes, there are several levels of privacy. A person can fill out an application with the sponsor names, have it go to the membership committee. Then the secretary goes in to see if the application is approved, clicks to say they are a member and then that member is allowed into the Igloo's private area.

Ken: Talked about not wanting his info available to others as he has been scammed before.

Dorene: Said the Nation Builders was chosen for its security and your Igloo chooses what info gets seen and by whom.

Cheryl Seese- Seward: Asked for clarification on the fees and set up costs.

Dorene: Replied there isn't a setup fee, just monthly costs \$160 GI and each Igloo \$9

Someone: Asked what would happen if the GI didn't want to pay for the site anymore what happens with the info, then.

Dorene: Each subordinate Igloo would have to decide what route to go. Currently Juneau pays \$40 a month but this does not give them all the options they would like to have like they would if the GI pays the \$160 a month.

Someone: Asked if someone changes their address, who is going to update that?

Brad: Brad said if Juneau sends out emails and someone's doesn't get delivered, they know to check into current info it will show who received the email and who opened it and will kick back a notice of this. A member can unsubscribe from events, etc. He said it is a very simple platform.

Karen Bonnett Peterson: Mentioned we need younger members who know more of this technology

Someone: Asked regarding personal security if each person has their own account within their Igloo and have several up to four alternatives of identification, like sending me a code. This would block bots from accessing account and scammers.

PGP Fred: "Grand President, Fred Thorsteinson, MI #6, I'd like to make a motion that the Pioneers of Alaska, Grand Igloo fund the development of the Nation Builders platform-based website." PGP Troxel MI #35 seconded the motion;

GP Steve: "The motion is to have the Grand Igloo proceed with paying the fees and opening up the Nation Builder to the Igloos and then the Igloos will be responsible for their fees and what happens from there on."

"We have had a really good presentation on this so we shouldn't need any discussion so I want to jump right in on this. All those in favor."

Someone: Asked if the Igloos were required to participate

PGP Fred: "The motion was to have the Grand Igloo fund the Nation Builders website and does not require the subordinate Igloos to enter that."

Ruth Benson: "I'd like to see this tabled until the Communication Committee can actually do some work."

GP Steve: "Rodger, how do we work the table? (Rodger replied no second required). If we don't vote on it today it's another year down the road, we're kicking this can down the road. This is something we can vote on and like they told us in the presentation, there is no contract. If we decide we don't want to do this, we can pull the plug on it. If we vote for this and approve it, and then six months down the road now this isn't working, we can pull the plug on it."

Rodger: “We can have a definite table and be brought up today, tomorrow, next week, next year, whenever. But an indefinite table will allow us a temporary pause to reflect on this whether we want to proceed on this.”

GP Steve: “Ruth, did you hear Rodger there?” (Ruth replied she didn’t hear) “He said with an indefinite table we can bring it back up again. Will the Communications Committee be ready to make a recommendation tomorrow on this?”

Ruth: “If I can get my committee together. But I’m not in charge of this until this coming year.”

GP Steve: “We’ll go ahead and table this and we can decide tomorrow. Will that work? Ok, we’ll table this until tomorrow and they will tell us what they think tomorrow. All those in favor of tabling this motion until tomorrow? Any opposed? I think the ayes have it so we will deal with it tomorrow. Ok, we have a photograph up here on the screen (picture of a snow plane).

PGP Troxel: This was taken here in Valdez. Don Burt rebuilt this and it was built by Al Clayton Sr. in I believe 1939.

PGP Don: “Al Clayton Sr. built this snow plane in 1939 when he was living in Salcha. Which is between Delta and Fairbanks. He used it on the Copper River quite a while. Then they moved the family to Anchor Point and Homer and it sat in his back yard for about 40 years. And then I saw it one time and he asked me, he knew I rebuilt cars, so he asked me if I would rebuild this so he could put it on display in Wasilla. So, I spent almost two years rebuilding this completely and now that’s where it’s at in the Transportation Museum at Wasilla.”

GP Steve: “So, next up. We’ll wait till the reports are done then ask for a motion to accept. Is Marie Walker here to give the Audit Report? After that we will have Communications.” Dawn said she has the Audit Report.

GS Dawn read the Audit Report from **Marie Walker- Homer WI President:**

AUDIT REPORT 90

GP Steve: “Thank you Dawn. Lew, are you ready for the Communications Report? Then Libby you’ll be up next with the Credentials Report”

G1st VP Lew: The communications committee has been really confused for a while. Way back in Juneau, I was told it was your turn to chair the Communications chair. So, I did that. He gave me some information, I talked to people, and I gave a presentation. I did a presentation about John Carter, the founding father of the Juneau Pioneers. Then last year they said it’s your turn to chair; you should be Communications director. And that caught me off guard, and I didn’t deal with that year. This year, I was told I was Communications director on the website. Then it changed. Halfway through it they had a different Communications director picked out. And I never did get the website to where I could open any emails. I sent emails to myself through the website and I couldn’t even get the person that might have answered it then to call me back to tell me what has been going on. So, I’m very much thinking this new program would help tremendously. And if I’m still considered Communications director after three years or chair, I would say, meet with me after this meeting. Meet with me and the Communications Committee and vote to push this forward, one way or another. I think we ought to vote on it as a group not as Communications.” “And there’s the Historical Committee which happened the same way. I’ve been three years on the Archives and Historical Committee, because that was where my point on the chairs. And then I did a couple of them and I was going to do this one and then all of a sudden, the website changed and Rodger Hopp became the one. I had a whole program picked out on the 1907, the first meeting of the Pioneers minutes and how they developed this whole thing. And I had worked on that then all of a sudden Rodger became chairman so I gave him my permission to Rodger.” He said if Rodger gave a presentation, then we would be through. GP Steve said Rodger wasn’t up yet. He said in three years he has

not been able to access the GI email and they messed up the password somewhere. He said we need a new website that we can work on.

GP Steve: “So, I don’t know where we are with that.” He talked about when he was Communications chair and all the interesting emails that came in. Most of them you didn’t have to deal with yourself, rather forwarded to Igloos. He said it was very rewarding.

GT Libby: “I was copied on three of those Communications Committee requests from people.” One was from Fairbanks, one from Anchorage and one was from outside of Alaska. “I was able to find information on two out of those three communications requests really easily very quickly and I haven’t yet showed my findings to the Communications Committee because I’ve been busy doing other things like this job. But I was quite successful going up to the recorder’s office, the archives, at the University of Alaska, and pulling up that information. And one thing led to another and I was able to get the archivist at the Pioneer Museum to do some more research on the Nenana Igloo that I didn’t have access to. So, I’m ready, willing, and able to help to on these communications if I can get a copy in the future, thank you.”

GP Steve: “Linda can probably attest that she got several of these requests over the years.” He said it is up to whoever is checking our emails to get them off to the proper people and there are only a few you have to deal with yourself and then there are some scams too.

1st VP Lew: Lew stated the last Communications Committee members were: himself as chair, Nick Nugent, Wanda Huber, Jim Casement, Flower Cole, Jim Gifford, and Rachel Stark. He contacted all of them when he was looking for communications people, found about half didn’t know they were on the committee. So, after this meeting, they will meet and have another meeting of the Communication Committee.

GP Steve: Stated that it seems trivial but that it is in our mission statement to maintain the names and roles of the people and it is very important that we do this. “Libby, are you ready for credentials?”

GR Libby:

CREDENTIALS REPORT 91-92

Libby explained the Grand Recorder’s process of counting delegates by going over all the credentials and those attending. We are up by only one more vote from last year There are 75% of the of the 218 possible delegates present for the whole state and she thought that was a good percentage. “It’s very important that everyone that wants to be a delegate at the Grand Igloo convention each year to have their credentials and bring them with them. And have them signed, witnessed, and sealed. And I’ll try to do a good job next year of emailing the presidents of the Igloos and the secretaries of the Igloos to remind everybody coming to the convention that is a delegate, you have to have your credentials with them and they have to be signed, and sealed. We did a pretty good job this year. Thank you very much.”

GP Steve: “Next up we have Rodger Hopp with Historical and Archives and he will be followed up will be Erika Miller with Generations Report.”

GT Debbie: “One thing I noticed that was kind of an interesting thing, it doesn’t impact our numbers or anything. Palmer women’s Igloo has three women who are all in the same family, three generations, they’re all voting delegates this year. Sara Page, Jeannette Perdue, and Norma Christiansen, down here in front.”

2nd VP Rodger: “I discovered quite by accident as well that I was the chairman of the Historical and Archives Committee. Lew was kind enough to send the information he was working on when he thought he was and informed me, no, it was me. So, he transferred the information to me and it concerned the first meeting of the Pioneers February 7, 1907.

HISTORICAL & ARCHIVES 93-96

GP Steve: “Thank you. Next will be Erika Miller with Generations, followed by Historian Ruth, and Joan can give the Trustees Report and report on Delta Stampede.”

Erika Miller: GENERATIONS REPORT: “Dawn, I’m sorry, I have no report. But I do have comments and that should qualify as the Generations Report. For one, I didn’t do much this whole year, but there is a reason. I’m president of women’s Igloo #8; I had no idea how much work it was. My other, on my own, obsession is also to come up with all the names of Igloo members. I’m also doing graves, cemeteries, and to be perfectly honest, I’d rather do that than anything else. It’s an obsession, it’s not even a hobby, it’s really sick. So, let me tell you, I found this piece of paper, somewhere. The head is cut off; the bottom is cut off. It does explain how to fill out generations form, Ruth Knapman and Judy Weimer. **Nowhere** does it say some files should in some location in a file drawer the Pioneer Hall in Fairbanks. But that’s where I have it. And since I accepted the position, even though I’m slow, forgive me, I will have it done by next convention. That drawer will be empty. I have decided on a plan of attack. I have helpers that have offered to help me and we will get it done. It will get it done. I made some notes to make sure I didn’t forget anything. Because it clearly tells you here have new members fill out a generation form and make another copy. And it does say one goes to the Grand Recorder to be attached to their application and one stays with the Igloo to be attached to their application. So that was the way it was from the beginning. That’s the way it should be. Anything connected with you goes to your application. So, how that file drawer came into being is beyond me. But it will be empty, I promise, by the next convention. And the reason I have to apologize for being so late -I’ve been very busy and recently life has thrown me a few lemons and I don’t know how I’m going to deal with that. But like I said, I’ll get to it. “

GP Steve: “Thank you, Erika and thank you for your work. It is important to us, for sure. Ruth and Joanie will give the Delta Stampede Report then we’ll continue with her Medallion Report. Vision is not here. Is there someone giving the report for Patents and Emblems?” Dawn has a copy to read. “Here’s Ruth and Joanie.”

Ruth: “Delta Stampede was the 20th and 21st of June, was really really hot, sunny of course but you never know what you’re going to get. The first thing we did was the cemetery gate dedication which we have been waiting four years, Troxel? And I ran into Ron Lester at the grocery store and said Hey Ron, we’ve got to get this done. And next thing I know here comes the gate committee and boom bang boom here we go. And then one of our high school recipients of our scholarships, was called by his grandfather, who is Ron Lester, and said could you please help paint this gate. Within two or three days, that gate was painted. And if you saw the picture that Delta put out, of how technical need is. Pioneers of Alaska is in gold and you can see it half a mile away on either side. The poor city has Rest Haven and Love on their gate in emerald green and you cannot see it, it’s sad. And also, the columbarium got dedicated that day and is welcome to Pioneers all over the state. We’re still working as the cemetery committee to get it so we know the rules of what it is going to be for everybody that’s going to be put in there as for the cremations. We also had our King and Queen coronation, which was Troxel and myself. We did our memorial service, the old memorial service, the original one. And then we also did the initiation by the original initiation form where you go around the campfire. Which to me would be awesome if the Igloos could meet outside every summer. Because the first one we did six people and this one we did two. And people really like it, the audience even gets involved, cheering the people going around the fire. We did a 50/50 each day. Delta didn’t think we could do it the first year but this year they were all on board- Lets go- Lets go- Lets go! It was a really good time. And then Miss Joan doing her field games and Jackie added the moose turd flipping into cups. Then we added some crazy stuff and they all had fun. And we ate lots of great food. Seward salmon, Delta buffalo, brats, all the sides you can imagine. And then we had an incident happen.

Virgil and Dawn had to leave early so they left some stuff behind. He gets up to Glennallen and he looks in the back of their truck and his tall chairs are missing And Dawn had to look over at him and say, you fool, you left them in Delta! Any get togethers I've found, I even got to go to McCarthy this summer, to me anytime you reunite the Pioneers it's one good time.

Joan: "Especially if it is outdoors. Since doing stampedes, I think this was the ninth, and you put them outside, you put a bunch of Pioneers and you don't keep it a secret, don't make it closed. It's open to anybody that happens by and if they want to come see what is going on. You invite them in, you feed them, we're going to tell you our story, they're going to tell us your story, and things happen. It's been a wonderful thing. Delta's membership in both Igloos have increased as a direct result from doing those stampedes. And the one in McCarthy, there's a new Igloo in McCarthy as a result of doing those stampedes. This is a good thing and it involves getting people outside. And it is good for all of us to and we need to do it not just for ourselves but to invite others to come and have a good time. People want to attach themselves to people having fun."

DELTA STAMPEDE 97-104

Jim Plaquet:

MEDALLION 105

He mentioned the medallions would make a great gift to recognize someone in your Igloo.

GP Steve: "Wanda, can you give us the Pathfinder Report?"

Wanda Huber:

PATHFINDER 106

She mentioned that PGP Don Burt would like two rosters from each Igloo.

GP Steve: "Thank you, Wanda. Dawn is going to give us the Emblems Report and go right into the Snider Park Report.

GS Dawn: for PGS Vision Money Patents & Emblems Chair:

PATENTS & EMBLEMS 107

PGP Virgil: "Which emblem is it that's due?"

Dawn: "the Women's pin with the forget-me-nots."

GP Steve: "You said this would need to be voted on at this convention?"

Dawn: Stated that the committee did not see any reason to renew this trademark and it would save us money. And there was no evidence of anyone using that emblem.

GP Steve: "Linda."

PG Recorder Linda: "What is the cost to renew the women's trademark? I'd hate to see somebody else snatching it. It's been around since 1913."

Fred: "The cost to renew the trademark is \$500.

GP Steve: "Is that paid historically by the Grand Igloo?" Answer was, yes.

Jackie Nelson-Delta WI 19: "First of all, I really think we should keep that one and would it be appropriate to make a motion at this time that we do keep it and not get rid of the women's forget-me-not.

GP Steve: "Correct me if I'm wrong, but to keep it and renew it we don't need a motion for that. Doesn't it automatically go through?" (answer was yes)

GP Steve: "So, we haven't made a motion to do away with it. So, as long as we don't get one of those in the next 37 seconds then we keep it. Snider Park report is up next"

Dawn: Read it for Chair Caleb Aldeman.

SNIDER PARK 108

GP Steve: "thanks for bringing up my oversight. Next up will be the Membership Committee Report.

Joan: Co-Chair Membership Committee:

MEMBERSHIP 109-110

She stated that the work for the committee is done through the year via email and then at the convention.

If anyone would like to be on the committee, please let her know

GP Steve: "Next up will be Pam Lambert with the Travel Report."

Pam Lambert: Chair of Travel Committee:

TRAVEL 111-112

She has a friend that will make a tutorial to assist Pioneers to sign up with ATMOS.

Pam Lambert's phone: 907-460-8457 email: fks708@gmail.com

GP Steve: "I believe that is the last of the reports for today. So, can I get a motion to accept the reports?"

Ken Odsather-Anchorage made the motion to accept the reports; Gene Hanson-Fairbanks Mi 4 seconded motion: motion passed.

GP Steve: I have a couple of announcements and then I'll do good of the order." Bill Chace has a 1923 Model T Depot Hack station wagon for sale and reminded royalty to sign up for the ball tonight.

Diane Pedeson: She asked Virgill to come to the stage. She presented Virgil with a giant flask from the Anchorage men's and women's Igloos. She said it was something he always wanted. He mentioned that two people are filling out applications for the Valdez Pioneers. One is working at the hotel and the other lives in Valdez.

Jim Casement said he forgot to mention Erika Miller is also a GI Foundation member and Troxel from Delta has also helped a lot. He talked about hiring Gene Hanson for the BS meter for the convention and he hopes to have an official Gene Hanson BS Meter Box at the next convention for the Grand President.

Wanda read about parents having to explain the Birds & the Bees to their children.

GP Steve: "I think we have covered all of today's business so we will be adjourned."

FRIDAY 9-26-2025 AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION ADJOURNED 3:25pm

SATURDAY 9-27-2025 MORNING BUSINESS SESSION CALLED TO ORDER 9:06am

GP Steve: "Ok, we will get started today with any unfinished business. And we do have a motion that was tabled yesterday, Dawn, can you read that?"

GT Debbie: "Jim Casement, I have that information you were asking for."

GP Steve: "Well if Dawn can't find that, the motion was to have the Grand Igloo go ahead and start with that Nation Building website and the other Igloos can tag onto. If I remember right, it was \$160 and \$9 a month for individual Igloos. The Communications Committee did meet to discuss the motion and whether or not we should. And they could not come to a census. They wanted to pass it off to the Grand officers and let them deal with it. Which I don't think we should do that. We have a motion on the floor that we have to deal with and I think we should just go ahead and vote on it.

1st VP Lew: "Now, the Communication Committee did meet and after consideration we recommend that we set aside the table motion and ask for a vote with no more discussion."

GP Steve: "Well, that was their recommendation. I just have one more quick thing to add on it. We are not **signing a contract** with this. If we decide to go forward with this, do it, and three four five six months down the road, la year down the road, if it's not working, it's not doing us any good, we just cancel it. But I think security again, there are some benefits to it, there are some thoughts and concerns. A lot of that deal had to deal with and personal security. I would not worry about that. They've got the firewalls; they've got the security in place. If you have a driver's license, your information is out there. If you get a PFD, your information is out there. If you vote, your information is out there. Myself, my personal feeling, I don't think there are hackers around the world that are looking to get into the Pioneers site and start looking for stuff."

Cheryl Seese-Seward: “President Searles, can you make clear that each Igloo has the option of opting into its uses or not and we are in charge of our own Igloo?”

GP Steve: “That is my understanding. There is no requirement from the Grand Igloo or anyone else or an individual Igloo to start a Nation Building website. None at all.”

Cheryl Seese: “And also, each Igloo is the administrator **of** their own site. Nobody else is doing that. It’s each of us that administer.”

GP Steve: “That’s the way I understand it. And again, with our Igloo we don’t have a 5th grade or 6th grader in there that knows computers. But the way it was explained. Myself, I hate websites. They try to make them fancy and pretty and everything. I don’t give a hoot about that. Make it user friendly. And if it’s user friendly we can do it. Everything we have to do; you have to get over the internet. And our city’s website is terrible. I can’t find anything on it. But other websites, yeah, they work.”

Sue Nugent-Fbks WI #8: “Call a vote.”

GP Steve: “Ok, so all those in favor of adapting this Nation Building website.” He asked all for and all opposed and stated the Ayes have it.

GR Libby: “I didn’t get to ask this question. What if you only get one Igloo or two Igloos that are using it and the rest of the Igloos don’t sign up, are we going to have to pay for this thing for the whole year?”

GP Steve: “No. No, we’re not paying for a year. At any time, it can be canceled. If it aint working, people aren’t using it, it can be canceled. There is no contract. That’s the way it was explained to me. There is no contract.”

GT Debbie: “Who’s going to make that decision?”

GP Steve: “Yeah, I don’t know. One year, close it. It’s under \$2000 for a year. In Kodiak next year. Anyway, the motion carried so it won’t come up until February next year, not February but the convention next year. I congratulate you guys on actually passing something. Is there any other unfinished business? The day before, the day before or the day before that? Linda”

PGR Linda: Linda said she was very concerned regarding the women’s pin trademark and was not sure if we had voted to renew it and she felt very strongly that we should renew it. And that the trustees already set a budget. We have had that trademark since 1912 or 1913.

GP Steve: “What she was referring to is the patents and emblems that we have, three-four-five of them. You have to renew that patent every ten years.

There was some discussion on the renewal and it will need to be decided on at this convention as it may be too late by next convention and it was included in this year’s budget for \$500.

GP Steve: “Thank you, Linda for clarification on all of this. That’s not something we have to act on at this time. So, that patent for the emblem **will** be renewed for ten years. Do we have any other unfinished business? So, at this time we’ll bring up Fred Thorsteinson from the Nominations Committee.”

PGP Fred: “Good morning, everyone. Have a good time last night? I know I did. Ok, so this is going to be the second reading of the report of the Nominating Committee to the 108th Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska Convention.

NOMINATIONS 68

GP Steve: “Having heard this year’s list of candidates for this years officers. Are there any nominations from the floor? Are there any nominations from the floor? Third and final time, are there any nominations from the floor?”

Susan Gibson- WI #8: “I’d like to nominate Joan Skilbred for President.”

GP Steve: "Ok, we have a nomination from the floor for the office of president." Motion was seconded by Diane Kaiser- WI #6 Juneau.

Joan: "Hold it, you have to ask me if I accept."

GP Steve: "Do you accept?"

Joan: "Yes, I do."

GP Steve: "So, this is how it's going to work. We're going to give the candidates a couple minutes to talk to you all and then we'll break into a caucus for a little bit and you can discuss this amongst yourselves and then we will have a secret ballot. And the way that will work so we will have some ballots made up, have them sitting here, a little bucket on each side. With a highlighter, you take a ballot out of the center and highlight the name on that ballot that you want to vote for and drop it in that bucket. That's the way this will work. And we're relying on everyone's integrity and that to not go through the line three, four or five times."

GT Debbie: "And these are only delegates?"

GP Steve: "No, it's an open floor."?"

Someone: "How do we vote proxies?"

GP Steve: "This is going to be a floor vote. And the reason we are doing the floor vote is most of the proxies are not here. The votes are by proxy which gives one person way too many votes. We want one vote per member. So, that's why we're not doing a proxy vote on this. It's going to be a vote of the members here at this convention. Ok, Lew and Joanie, you want to come up here."

Pat Barber: "Are we going to caucus?"

GP Steve: "After the candidates speak. Yes, we'll take a short break for a caucus. You can break into your Igloos; you can all kind of mill amongst yourselves, however you want to do it. I don't care. It's not a delegate vote so it's about individual thoughts and feelings."

1st VP Lew: "Fortunately they told me about this a day early so I had some time to figure this out. Welcome to the club. I feel I've made a number of positive commitments and contributions to the Pioneers. I helped refrain some of the questions that they struggle with and worked to help keep us on track for a better Alaska. My view of how to explain the Pioneers is not as the forward part of the conquering army, but more as homesteader becoming one with the country and working to build everyone and everything up in it. I've been a Pioneer for at least 20 years. I've been working up the chairs for about 12 years. I think I served well in each of my positions along the way and brought a unique understanding, help refrain the questions the Pioneers are facing currently and helped keep the idea of the Pioneers strong within us and around us. I am proud of what I've done with the Pioneers, helping to further their goals of bettering everything in Alaska. Now, I'm not like the second lieutenant people asking everyone to follow me over the hill to fight in the battle. I kind of use Virgil as an example of that. I admire those people and I admire Virgil too for being able to do that. But that's not me. I'm the one homesteader that comes to set up permanent camping in the communities and help people survive and enjoy it when they are there. I think we should be blending into the community, not telling them how it should be done."

Today has been a great transition for me. As all the time I was growing up, I was encouraged not to stand out in front, not to be the lightning pole and drag everyone into it my way. But more build a consensus and bring everyone together through questions and support so we can come to a solution everyone believes in. And this helps everyone move together towards our goals.

Joanie is a hard worker with good ideas. But I feel her impatience is pushing, pushing limits. We differ in philosophy and style. I have learned quite a bit working up through the chairs and getting to know all the people involved and how they approach things. There are lot of smart very capable people in the Pioneers. And just being around them has changed my approach to things many times as I work in my life and in the Pioneers. I think it's made me a better person.

You've heard the preamble of the first Pioneers constitution yesterday. The original Pioneers knew what they were doing when they built our systems to form leadership within the groups they were working with. It seems strange to have this last-minute coup from a member who's already moving up in the system and just can't wait. She'd have been here in three to five years if she just waited the way the way the rest of us did. Impatience is not always a virtue. And then to wait until the last day to bring this up after 12 years of watching me grow and go through the system. That's a strange approach. Like most of us, I've suffered physically and mentally living here for the last 50 years. But I think I've grown morally through staying in Alaska. In my history, I've been employee of the year on some jobs and been fired from others. But I've continued and grown through it all. It's given me a broad background and helped me understand what a number of others have been going through. Starting from New York City, I learned to hunt, fish, and even trap almost from scratch when I got to Alaska. But I enjoyed it. And after looking over a lot of places, I moved to Nome and I've stayed there the last 50 years even after I retired because I like it better than any other place I've lived. I came to Alaska and to Nome broke. And I set down roots, grew up a second time here and enjoyed that too. In my mind, I've succeeded. Among other things I've been shipwrecked and left for dead more than once, but still came back and I'm still happy with my life. I don't know how you transfer this to other people to use it to grow our organization but at least I'm trying to inspire them through my actions. I don't feel the need to tell people to follow me or us as Pioneers. I just got to be me and let them choose how they want to be accepted. I'm not the only one like this in Nome or Alaska or the Pioneers, I think. And I think it brings people to the Pioneers. I believe we have done a number of instances in the Grand Igloo and become a better organization through it. We need to lead through example, demonstrations, and support. I know the smaller cities are probably different than Fairbanks and Anchorage. We generally know most of the people in our towns and villages, or at least get to know them within the first year. During the summer subsistence season most of our members are still out riding or gathering food. They are out on long trips to camp not back and forth. And more are going outside over the winter for months at a time. I don't have any grand scheme for the Igloos on the road. I trust them to know they need. I have been concentrating on getting and keeping Nome strong. I don't think catching tom cod through the ice or muktuk martinis would go over in most of very well in most of our Igloos. But if I see anything I think I can use in our Nome Igloo from what I've gained from you, I'll bring it back and we'll try it. And I would be happy to show you tom cod or muktuk martinis if you want to. Just call me before I get there, I may need to bring supplies. For the past couple of years most of my energy has gone to building up Nome Igloos and repairing problems we have had. I enjoy this new road system but I can't go to the road very often. I can't afford it financially or time wise. I know I'm not very connected to the big cities currently but I will work on it. I will do my best to bring innovation and energy you can use and share. Energy is appropriate when I come to your Igloos. I intend to work hard, pay attention to details and bring us along and improvement this year. Thank you."

Joan: "I'm going to share with you that this is one of the scariest things I have done in my life. This is like getting married. So, it's a little unusual, I will admit that. Some of you are probably asking why, does she think she's qualified to do this. And I feel that I am very qualified. I'm the only elected president in my Igloo to serve two times. I have a lot of experience. I have been secretary in my Igloo. I have moved up to trustees. I did Inner Guard yesterday. Thank you, Doc. I have helped with the other officers. I've written a lot of their reports. I've led the Medallions Committee for two years and I've turned that over to Jim Plaquet so that you don't have the same person to always be in charge. I've done the Membership Committee for a number of years. I've taken a lot of pride in the work that we've done. Some of it's successful and some of it, not so much but to keep getting in there and swinging. What I'd like to do if you elect me as Grand President, the first thing I would do is after installation of officers, I would call a meeting of the Grand Officers. So, that we'll have time to go over what everybody's job is, everybody knows what they are doing so there's no confusion later. And part of my job as president is to check up on them and also check up on committees to make sure that they are working together as committees and that they have everything they need to do the job. And over the course of the year check I'd have to check in with them. That's one thing that would be a little different if I were president. And so, I'll hope you'll vote for me."

PGP Wes: He asked if there would be any discussion on this.

GP Steve: "This starts our caucus period now. Everyone's voice needs to be heard." "Again, it's unprecedented. This is new. Everybody's voice needs to be heard on this."

PGP Wes: Wes talked about Lew's involvement in the Nome community including the fire department. Also about all the years Lew spent working up through the Grand Igloo chairs, how this would divide the Pioneers and the future of the Nome Igloos.

Dorene Lorenz- Juneau WI #6: "I don't have a statement Mr. President; I have a statement. It's a technical one. If we vote for Joanie, does Lew stay in line and he'll be the next person in line to be considered as the next president. If we vote for Lew does Joanie lose her place in the chairs?"

GP Steve: "Joanie has already relinquished her position as she is not even on the list of candidates that was read. Her name was not read. She has withdrawn her name from the progression up through the chairs. So, that's already done. And I'm sorry to say, that no, if Lew loses this election since he's going into the highest chair and from there you go to become a Past Grand President. So he can't become a Past Grand if he was not a Grand."

PGP Fred: "To answer the question, I believe that the Nominating Committee has the purview to nominate anyone who's qualified to be a Grand Officer and that can be anyone at any time. So, a person that's not elected today would not be precluded from being renominated."

PGP Ed: "Well, the Nominating Committee would have the authority to nominate any person for any of the various positions. And today we would elect whoever and they would serve the next year. The Nominating Committee could review it and all the persons interested in the various positions in the Grand Igloo."

Joyce Chase-WI #8: "I have a question. I want to clarify that this is a delegate only vote, correct?"

GP Steve: "No. It's not. It's an open floor vote. Ok, so the way this is going to work is down here in front, there's a small little bucket there. In there are some slips of paper that have two names on them. Take one of those and go to one of these other buckets on the sides here, take a highlight marker and highlight the one name that you want to vote for and just drop your ticket in the bucket there. For those of you that have mobility issues, let us know and we will bring a clipboard and a pen, I don't have another highlighter, and just

circle the name on the paper. For those of you that want to vote from your seat, let us know and someone will come to you and a ballot sheet.” He was asked about groups caucusing. “Well, this time was an open caucus. If you want to break into little groups, let’s go ahead and do that then. Let’s take 15-20 minutes, 20-minute max. Ok, we’re going to vote at 10:00.” Igloos met to caucus.

GP Steve: “We’re going back to business here. I’m going to turn this over to the Nominations Committee here, Fred Thorsteinson.

PGP Fred: “So, here we are going to have the reading of the nominees for Grand Igloo officers for 2026. We just held the election for the Grand President’s position. That issue is resolved and I will read the slate of officers.” He read the previous slate of officers with the same nominations previously presented, with Lew as Grand President. **“Grand President, on behalf of the Nominating committee I move this slate of officers for the 2026 Grand Igloo for unanimous consent.”**

GP Steve: “We have a motion and a second by Pat Barber from Anchorage.”

PGR Linda: “Call for the question.”

GP Steve: Asked all for and any opposed (none); **“Ok, motion carries.** Ok, we have a slate of officers.”

Ok, our next order of business, Fred is going to read again Resolution CA 25-01.”

PGP Fred: “This is going to be the second reading for the constitutional amendment CA 25-01 presented to the 108th Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska convention.” He read CA 25-01.” I propose we have a motion to approve this amendment.” **PGP Wes-Nome Men’s Igloo #1 moved we accept CA 25-01; G1st VP Lew Tobin Igloo #1 seconded motion;** “Ok, is there any further discussion on this amendment?” We’re going to try to limit the discussion as we’re running up against the time crunch.”

Sue Nugent – Fairbanks WI #8: “And, I have some concerns about this. The first one being, you have 17–20-year-olds and it does not specify if they are living in Alaska, it doesn’t specify what’s going to happen to them when they turn 21. And also, by doing this, and I know there was some talk on the proposal about dues that may be left to the Igloos but right now let’s look at the categories that we have for membership. We have 10. We have the regular membership with the strictest of requirements; the spousal and I’m to understand they’re going to be grandfathered in but they’ll have full rights instead of just being able to vote in their little Igloo, like previously. And there is the proposed. It doesn’t address conversion to regular membership of the 20-year residency mark, or no residency requirement for children or grandchildren. No provisions for what happens to a child or grandchild after the age of 20 because they do not meet other membership requirements. And then we also have the honorary, life, veteran, regular clearance card, spousal clearance card, and none of those pay per capita tax nor dues. So, I think this needs to be sent back to the Membership Committee to review some of the errors in this and possibly table this until next year. I also have a chart if somebody wants to see these details”

Person: She asked if a non-delegate member was able to speak on the motion. (GP Steve replied, yes, absolutely.) She brought up our mission statement and how does our residency pertain to our membership and why there is a residency requirement at all.

GP Steve: “That’s a whole different topic and doesn’t pertain to this resolution. This does not change the residency requirement or membership. This changes the spousal membership, not the regular membership. That’s a whole different topic and that is something that needs to be brought up and needs to be addressed but that is not in this resolution here. “(Someone brought up that an amendment could be made to the

amendment.) Steve mentioned we would not be able to come up with a perfect solution to the amendment today as it will take more time. Someone else said an amendment could be made at this time.)

GP Steve: “We have a motion on the floor to table this amendment and that would table this until next year. It’s not going to happen this year.” **“Let’s just go ahead and vote on the table of the motion. All those in favor of tabling this motion until next convention in Kodiak next year, say Aye. All opposed; motion carried.**

This closes the discussion on this resolution and it can go back to committee and be done with next year.

PGP Fred: “Ok, we have one more issue to deal with the Constitution and By Laws Committee. And that is the resolution that was submitted by the trustees regarding the dissolution of dies.” He re-read the Resolution 25-01. **PGP Wes- Nome MI #1 moved to accept the resolution; PGP Jim Rhodes-Ketchikan seconded the motion.** There was some discussion about keeping the annual design for each Igloo that hosted the convention.

The dies will be defaced and could be returned to the home convention Igloo. **Dorene Lorenz- Juneau** stated she would like to make an amendment to the resolution that we send this to the trustees and the trustees make this determination as that is their job. PGP Fred stated that this is the trustee’s resolution. It was explained that the back side of the medallion is not part of the resolution as it is the Grand Igloo logo.

Sue Nugent- Fairbanks WI #8 called for the question. “Ok, let’s have a show of hands for the motion; looks like we have a majority so the resolution passes.”

GP Steve: “Next up will be first year Trustee to give the Trustees Report.”

TRUSTEES 113-116

Jim Plaquet and Joan Skilbred presented the report.

GP Steve: “Do we have a motion to accept the trustees report? Tim Beck – Igloo 4 Fairbanks so moved; PGR Linda Conley- Fairbanks Igloo WI 8 seconded the motion; motion passed.

GP Steve: “The last thing on our agenda is upcoming conventions and Doc was gone the first couple of days and we wanted to hear from Kodiak so the rest of the folks from Kodiak said “Let’s do a convention.”

Doc said it will be the same weekend in September 24-26th, 2026. He is expecting stories from each Igloo to put into the convention book so everyone can have a “brag sheet”. Lloyd Shandly will be the chairperson

PGP Ed Barber said Anchorage Igloos would host the 2027 Convention!

2026 CONVENTION WILL BE IN KODIAK THE 24TH-26TH

2027 CONVENTION WILL BE IN ANCHORAGE

GP Steve: “Well, that pretty much concludes our business for this 2025 Grand Igloo Convention.”

We’ll meet back here at 1:00 to wrap up this convention and have the installation of officers and then we will have our Memorial Service.

MEMORIAL SERVICE 117-120

THE 2025 VALDEZ CONVENTION ADJOURNED ABOUT 11:35AM.

CURRENT Grand Officers PG Presidents ROLL CALL 2025 Convention

CURRENT GRAND OFFICE HELD	NAME	GRAND OFFICER PRESENT		GRAND OFFICER'S SPOUSE	SPOUSE PRESENT
Grand President	Steven Searles	X		Karen	
Grand 1st V President	Charles Lew Tobin	X			
Grand 2nd V President	Roger Hopp	X		Pam	
Grand Historian	Ruth Benson	X			
Grand Chaplain	Ken Odsather	X		Gay	
Grand Recorder	Libby Dalton Slane	X		Danny	
Grand Secretary	Dawn Campbell	X		PGP Virgil	
Grand Treasurer	Debbie Dauphinais	X		Paul	
Grand Sgt. At Arms	Lorinda Kassner	X		Dan	
Grand Inner Guard	Doc (Jerimiah) Meyer	ARRIVING LATE		Kris	
Grand 1 Year Trustee	Joan Skilbred	X			
Grand 1 Year Trustee	Fred Thorsteinsen	X			
Grand 2 Year Trustee	Brad Austin	X			
Grand 2 Year Trustee	Virginia Calloway	X		Roger	
Grand 3 Year Trustee	Jim Plaquet	X		Jan	
Grand 3 Year Trustee	George Lounsbury	X			
PAST GRAND PRESIDENTS	ROLL CALL				
YEAR AS PRESIDENT	NAME	PRESENT		SPOUSE	SPOUSE PRESENT
1990	Edward Barber	X		Pat	X
1998	Bert Sharp				
1999	David Wells			Tanya	
2002	Larry Bivins			Karen	
2003	Mike Race			Lori	
2005	Wesley Perkins	X		Terrie	
2008	Ed Johnson			Vila	
2009	Frank McGilvary			D.A.	
2010	Al Clayton Jr.			Beth	
2013	Troxell Herbert	X			
2014	James Rhodes	X			
2015	Fred Thorsteinsen	X			
2016	Ken Pysz	X			
2018	James Casement	X			
2019-2020	Virginia Calloway	X		Roger	
2022	Virgil Campbell	X		G Sec Dawn	X
2023	George Lounsbury	X			
2024	Don Burt	X		PG Secretary Vision Money	

September 25, 2025

Constitution and By Laws Committee Report to the 108th Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska Convention.

Grand President and Fellow Pioneers

Committee Members:

Fred Thorsteinson Men's Igloo 6 Chair

Randy Frank Men's Igloo 4 Fairbanks

Irene Gallion Women's Igloo 6 Juneau

Wanda Huber Women's Igloo 8 Fairbanks

Barbara Thomas Women's Igloo 31 Palmer

Fran Lombardo Men's Igloo 11 Palmer

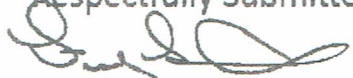
The Constitution and By Laws Committee reviewed proposed constitutional amendment 25-01 that was submitted by Men's Igloo #15 and Women's Igloo #4 to change the status of membership qualifications for the Pioneers of Alaska.

The proposed amendment would change the requirements for spousal membership by including persons in an exclusively committed relationship with a member in good standing and children and grandchildren of members in good standing who are 17 or older in eligibility for membership. These members would be entitled to full rights and privileges of current members. Current spousal members would be grandfathered as full members with all rights and privileges.

The committee reviewed the proposed amendment and determined that it is consistent with the Grand Igloo Constitution and By Laws. The proposed amendment is attached.

The Grand Trustees submitted a Resolution regarding the disposition of dies used for minting the Grand Igloo Convention medallions. The resolution proposes that the medallion dies be permanently defaced to preclude them from making more medallions and that the dies be returned to igloos or disposed of in a manner prescribed by the Trustees. The resolution was reviewed by the Board of Directors at the annual Grand Officers meeting on September 24, 2025 and the Board recommends approval. The proposed resolution is attached.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Fred Thorsteinson', written in a cursive style.

Fred Thorsteinson Chair

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Grand Igloo,
Pioneers of Alaska to change the current status of Membership qualifications.

WHEREAS almost every Igloo statewide is losing members, having trouble bringing in new members, and/or have many of their existing members being inactive, and

WHEREAS prior to the women's auxiliaries becoming Igloos; women could join on their husbands and girls could join on their fathers, and

WHEREAS the Spousal Designation Option is too restrictive for those truly interested in joining and being active, and

WHEREAS there are members in Men's and Women's and Combined Igloos who have lost their spouses and remarried people who do not meet the 20-year residency currently required, and

WHEREAS there are some relationships where marriage will drastically affect the member's income so the couple live together permanently as Significant Others.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

At the end of Article III Membership, Section 1, the following paragraph be added (underscored) as follows:

ARTICLE III... MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligible for membership are men and women of good moral character who are citizens of the United States of America; who are legal residents of Alaska and have been physically domiciled residents in the Territory/State for at least seven months of each of the twenty accumulative years required for membership; and who have been physically domiciled in the State at least seven months immediately before submitting their application.

Any man or woman who has lived in Alaska for 5 years who is married to a member in good standing, or is an unmarried person in an exclusively committed relationship with a member in good standing is eligible for membership. Children and grandchildren, between the ages of 17 and 20, of members in good standing are eligible for membership. Newly initiated individuals will be afforded the full rights and privileges of current members. Members that are currently Spousal Designation members will be grandfathered-in as full members with all rights and privileges.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That Article III Membership, Section 5 Spousal Designation Option be eliminated (shown crossed out below) in its entirety as follows:

ARTICLE III ... MEMBERSHIP

Section 5: Spousal Designation Options:

~~A Subordinate Igloo may choose to offer Spousal Designation at the local level, provided their membership has approved the concept and set forth defining provisions in the Bylaws or Standing Rules. Those eligible to apply under this provision are spouses of qualified members of either Igloo, who have at least 5 but less than 20 years residence in Alaska, and are at least 20 years of age. They may attend regular meetings however; they shall not hold office or be delegates at the conventions of the grand Igloo. They shall not be entitled to vote, except on strictly local issues, which do not affect the Grand Igloo or other Subordinate Igloos. Those Subordinate Igloos adopting the Spousal designation option may~~

~~assess dues however they will not be subject to Grand Igloo per capita taxes. Except for provisions set forth in this Section, Subordinate Igloos may confer other privileges, restrictions or responsibilities.~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

Under Article III Membership, all subsequent Section numbers be changed appropriately, e.g., Section 6 becomes Section 5; Section 7 becomes Section 6; etc. etc. [Section 6, 5, Honorary Members; Section 7, 6, Veteran Members; Section 8, 7, Dual Membership; Section 9, 8, Roll Numbers.]

Voted on affirmatively at our January 7, 2025 meetings in Anchorage, AK



Al Clayton, Jr., President
Anchorage Men's Igloo #15



Diane Pederson, President
Anchorage Women's Igloo #4

Pioneers of Alaska Grand Igloo

Official Resolution

WHEREAS In 2023 Oxford Assaying & Refining declined producing any more Grand Igloo Convention Medallions for the Grand Igloo through their subsidiary company Oxford Mint. The Grand Igloo Medallion Committee subsequently began working with the Silver Towne Mint that same year and have continued with them ever since.

WHEREAS in part of the changeover between Oxford and Silver Towne Mints, Oxford Assaying & Refining shipped a box of 15 old medallion dies back to the medallion committee who put them into the care of the Grand Trustees.

WHEREAS The Grand Igloo Trustees had previously stored the dies in the Grand Igloo's safe deposit box. At the 2024 Convention in Cordova the delegates voted to have the safe deposit box closed and the documents therein moved to be stored in the Grand Recorder's Office at UAF.

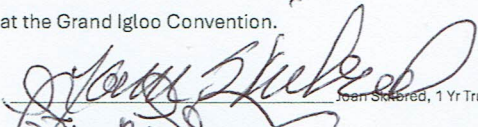
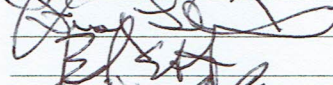
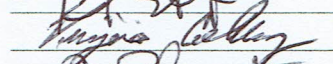
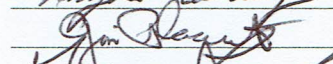
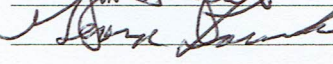
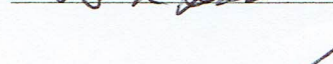
WHEREAS the medallion committee compiled the following list after consulting with Alaska Rare Coins in Fairbanks regarding the value of medallions and the industry standards surrounding the manufacture of these commemorative coins.

- 1 - The value of existing medallions is tied to rarity. That means no more of them can be produced without devaluing the original medallions.
- 2 - Most mints have a minimum order of 100 medallions, a few will go as low as 50, but we were not able to find any that would agree to produce a lower number than that. The Silver Town Mint has a 50-item production minimum.
- 3 - The 15 dies are all dated showing their specific convention year, so they would not be usable for a future convention.
- 4 - If dies are stored by individual Igloos, there is no guarantee they will not be used in the future, and the Grand Igloo would not have a way to make sure they are stored safely by each Igloo throughout the ensuing years.
- 5 - If a die was stolen, it could be used to produce medallions for profit. Sadly, that would **NOT** be in violation of the Grand Igloo copyright because the images on the various convention dies are comprised of convention specific artwork and not the official logo of the Pioneers of Alaska.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Grand Igloo Trustees shall

- 1- Permanently deface the medallion dies, so they cannot be used to make more medallions.
- 2- Dispose of the defaced dies and offer them back to the Igloos that want them, with the rest of them being disposed of in a manner decided upon by a vote of the Trustees.
- 3- The Grand Trustees shall issue a signed letter of destruction for the 15 dies, to the Medallion Committee and for the Trustee documents, to help ensure the future rarity values of the medallions produced from those 15 dies that were defaced.

Enacted this 27th day of September 2025 at the Grand Igloo Convention.


Joan Sodered, 1 Yr Trustee

Fred Thorseinson 1 Yr Trustee

Brad Austin 2 Yr Trustee

Virginia Calloway 2 Yr Trustee

Jim Plaquet 3 Yr Trustee

George Lounsbury 3 Yr Trustee

GRAND IGLOO
PIONEERS OF ALASKA
ORGANIZED AUGUST 4, 1908



OFFICE OF THE GRAND PRESIDENT

First off, I want to say what an honor and privilege it has been to serve as Grand President. When I joined the pioneers, I never imagined that I would achieve this, the highest office in this organization. It is something that I will be proud of for the rest of my life. Thank you all for giving me this opportunity. And I want to thank my wife Karen, she was not able to travel with me on all the installation tour, and it seemed like whenever she stayed home it did nothing but snow.

My term in office started out slowly, I didn't have a clue of what was going on. Warrants and recipients started coming in and it's like ok what do I do with this? Dawn and Debbie explained the process to me and things went pretty well from there. I believe that everyone got paid that was supposed to. And if they didn't, tough it's the next guys problem now.

Next up was the installation tour. Started out driving to Homer where we had a terrific dinner pot luck style, with installation after. The next day myself and several others made the trip to Seward for another great dinner and installation. The next day, that's when things got interesting. Had to get to Palmer. Weather moved in overnight, but that wasn't going to stop me. I took off and a little ways down the road Virgil called to check on my progress. I had just gone through Moose Pass, he explained that

its only 30 miles to Moose Pass and that I had left Seward nearly 2 hours ago. I responded with, yeah, its kinda crappy driving conditions today. I figured it would get better at the Y, it didn't. I did make to Palmer and again a great dinner and installation. Then it was off to Kodiak. I was looking forward to the Kodiak trip, I had been there once in Jr. High but had not been back since, and was looking forward to seeing some of the sights. Didn't happen, flight was delayed out of Anchorage, Doc picked me up, dropped me at the hotel, picked me up a little later. Went to the Elks lodge again a very nice dinner, installation and back to the hotel and the airport first thing the following morning.

Drove home to Valdez, picked up Karen and off to Fairbanks we went. Dinner and installation and a stop at a local distillery for an Apple Cider Mule, very tasty. From Fairbanks it was off to Delta for what was supposed to be installation and dinner. Dinner really smelled good but that was as close as Karen, and I got to dinner. Looking at the forecast for Thompson Pass we decided that we had better skip dinner and head for home, good call. It was fine all the way to around 35 mile and then the snow and wind really started. We had zero visibility until we got just about the bottom of the pass. Drove more looking out the side windows then out the front windshield. Still not sure how we made it without hitting the ditch, tall snowbanks I guess. DOT did closed the road shortly after we went through.

Because we left Delta a day early I got to spend an extra day at home. Back to Anchorage for another fine dinner and installation. Now this is where Pam Lambert really picked up her game because the next 8 or so days were a whirlwind of travel and hotels. Anchorage, Cordova, Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, Wrangel, Petersburg, and back to Anchorage. I never once had to sleep on the floor of an airport terminal. Thank you Pam.

I took the next couple of months off from the installation tour for a well-deserved rest and headed for Arizona with Karen and the Gilson's, Tom and Lois. Returning to Alaska end of April it was back on the road. Next stop Nome, Lew picked me up and gave me the grand tour. Talk about history, Nome has it. I really enjoy reading about the mining history of Alaska and Nome certainly has it. Thank you, Lew and the Nome pioneers. The last stop was McCarthy, this was during the annual trip to Al Claytons Daryaire. A fine way to bring the installation tour to a close.

Also over the summer Karen and I along with some other pioneers from Valdez made the trip to Delta for the solstice stampede. Tell you what, don't matter where you go in this great state the pioneers know how to put on a feed. There were some games, a 4 wheeler tour and terrific bug free weather. Thanks Delta.

So, this convention will bring my term as your president to a close, it has been great. I want to thank all the people who worked to put this convention together, especially the Valdez Pioneers, we're not a large group, but they put in the time and effort and I really want to thank them all.

Next years convention, its not on the official agenda until Saturday, but please be thinking about it if you have not already done so. As everyone in the Valdez Igloos can attest to, its really no big deal.

Respectively submitted Steve Searles, Grand President 2025

GRAND IGLOO
PIONEERS OF ALASKA
ORGANIZED AUGUST 4, 1908



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

108th Grand Igloo Convention
September 25-27, 2025
Valdez, Alaska

Greetings fellow Pioneers!

First off, I wish to thank the Valdez Pioneers for hosting this year's convention! It is wonderful to be back here for another Convention.

I truly appreciate the Igloos that helped keep my Igloo contacts updated. This is one of the hardest and time-consuming tasks I have. It would be a great help if your Igloos obtain a generic email so I don't have to keep updating all the contact lists so often. Several Igloos have already done so, and I GREATLY appreciate that! I encourage all of you to check into the Grand Igloo website from time to time to look for any needed updates. I handle the website updates except for the calendar and that is done by Jim Gifford from the Valdez Igloo. Please contact me with any merchandise orders. This information can be found on the GI website after membership sign in, Merchandise tab.

This year I sent out the paperwork for combining Igloos to Delta Junction and Kodiak! I wish them the best of luck in obtaining their Combined Igloo status!

Thank you to all the Igloos that worked so hard to turn in your Annual Reports on time. This gives the Grand Recorder and myself more time to prepare the convention paperwork. In January, please email me your lists of nominated officers and their contact info as soon as possible.

Since there is a bit of confusion when new officers don't have enough information to fill out various forms, Grand Recorder Libby and myself will be holding a meeting for such matters. We will aim for Thursday evening, but will announce a definite time and day, later. This is primarily for secretaries and presidents, but open to other Igloo officers. **Please** do not hesitate to ask GR Libby or myself for assistance.

GRAND IGLOO
PIONEERS OF ALASKA

ORGANIZED AUGUST 4, 1908



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I answered about 100 emails from our Grand Igloo website, some were at least a year old. By not having these emails dealt with in a timely manner, our organization looks like we are not interested or don't care. I did create a generic email address that can be passed down to each 1st Grand Vice President as they chair the Communications Committee. It would be beneficial to the Igloo to have the Nominating Committee inform newly nominated Pioneers of what the various duties are as they rise through the chairs as we cannot assume they read about these duties in the constitution.

I thank everyone for being understanding as I continue to learn this job. There were big shoes to fill and with your help, I will continue to learn.

Sincerely,

Dawn Campbell

GRAND IGLOO
PIONEERS OF ALASKA
ORGANIZED AUGUST 4, 1908



OFFICE OF THE GRAND RECORDER

GRAND RECORDER'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GRAND IGLOO
PIONEERS OF ALASKA - SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2025 - VALDEZ, ALASKA

Grand President Steve, Past Grand Presidents, fellow Grand Officers and all Pioneer Members,

Good morning everyone. This is the 117th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska in Nome. And this is my first annual report to you as your Grand Recorder. Thank you for your support during my first year as your Recorder and thank you for the privilege of serving in this office.

The 2024 Annual Reports started arriving in early January and most were received by the March 15, 2025 deadline. As of this date I have not received the 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 Annual Reports from the Sitka Men's Igloo #22 and Sitka Women's Igloo #12.

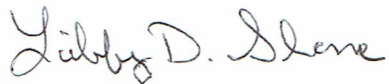
Based on the 29 Annual Reports I have received for the year ending December 31, 2024, we took in 119 new members by initiation, 1 by affiliation, and 6 reinstated for a total increase of membership of 126. Sadly we lost 131 by death and 50 were stricken from the rolls for a total decrease of 181. This leaves the Grand Igloo a total membership of 3,115 pioneers. Last year our membership totaled 3,173. Our membership has decreased by 58 pioneers over the past year.

The largest numbered Igloos are Anchorage Men's Igloo #15 with 271 men and Fairbanks Women's Igloo #8 with 429 women. The smallest Igloos are Palmer's Men's Igloo #31 with 30 men and Nome Women's Igloo #1 with 47. I have attached a chart to this report which shows the membership statistics for each Igloo based on the 2024 Annual Reports.

Thank you to all the secretaries for their timely reports. And thank you for making sure the complete address and informational data is on all applications for membership. Please encourage applicants to write a good biography including family information on their application. The original application and any membership updates should be mailed to the Grand Recorder in Fairbanks for the archives.

I have enjoyed my first year working as your Grand Recorder. I really appreciate Linda Conley who has been such a valuable resource to me and helped me learn this position. And thank you to Dawn Campbell, our Grand Secretary, who is also a great resource and always willing to help. Finally, I've enjoyed getting to know many of you through our communications and appreciate the work you do for your Igloos. I look forward to working with you in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Libby D. Slane". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Respectfully submitted," text.

Libby Dalton Slane

Grand Recorder

Attachment (1)

ANNUAL REPORTS RECAPITULATION FOR 2025 CONVENTION BASED ON 2024 ANNUAL REPORTS												
Igloo # and Name	Members	Initiated	Affiliated	Reinstated	Total Increase	Less Withdrawals	Less Transfers	Less Stricken	Less Deceased	Total Members		
M.I. #1 - Nome	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43		
W.I. #1 - Nome	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	47		
M.I. #4 - Fairbanks	280	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	269		
W.I. #8 - Fairbanks	447	4	1	2	7	0	1	0	24	429		
M.I. #6 - Juneau	109	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	106		
W.I. #6 - Juneau	140	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	4	141		
M.I. #7 - Valdez	50	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	49		
W.I. #2 - Valdez	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	48		
M.I. #9 - Seward	81	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	1	87		
W.I. #9 - Seward	93	10	0	0	10	0	0	0	1	102		
M.I. #15 - Anchorage	271	10	0	1	11	0	0	0	11	271		
W.I. #4 - Anchorage	289	8	0	1	9	0	0	10	11	277		
M.I. #16 - Ketchikan	68	4	0	0	4	0	0	1	5	66		
W.I. #7 - Ketchikan	121	13	0	0	13	0	0	0	7	127		
M.I. #18 - Kodiak	52	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	2	50		
W.I. #17 - Kodiak	64	6	0	0	6	0	0	1	8	61		
M.I. #19 - Cordova	112	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	114		
W.I. #5 - Cordova	104	10	0	0	10	0	0	0	1	113		
M.I. #21 - Wrangell	31	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	33		
W.I. #15 - Wrangell	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53		
M.I. #26 - Petersburg	69	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	70		
W.I. #10 - Petersburg	78	7	0	0	7	0	0	1	1	83		
M.I. #31 - Palmer	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	7	30		
W.I. #11 - Palmer	88	1	0	0	1	0	0	15	7	67		
M.I. #32 - Homer	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	32		
W.I. #14 - Homer	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	57		
M.I. #35-Delta Junction	57	5	0	2	7	0	0	0	4	60		
W.I. #19-Delta Junction	67	6	0	0	6	0	0	0	4	69		
McCarthy Igloo	37	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	40		

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GRAND IGLOO
PIONEERS OF ALASKA
ORGANIZED AUGUST 4, 1908



Grand Treasurer's Report

September 25, 2025

Grand President Searles, Past Grand Presidents, fellow Grand Officers, and all Pioneers:

It is such a pleasure to be Valdez, enjoying our time with the bunnies languishing in the liquid sunshine.

As of August 31, 2025, the financial assets of the Grand Igloo, which fall within my responsibility are:

1. The Grand Igloo checking account at First National Bank Alaska (FNBA), with a balance of \$86,561.51, there were two outstanding checks #1897 and #1902, totaling \$149.00 to DS:PS. They have both cleared as of September 5, 2025.
2. The Certificate of Deposit at Global Credit Union has a balance of \$89,733.22. It currently is earning 4.07% and matures on March 9, 2027.

These two accounts have a grand total of \$176,145.73. This is a net increase of \$250.54 from August 31, 2024.

A portion of the grand total mentioned above is set aside for specific uses:

1. The Medallion/Pathfinder fund is \$25,378.63. This is a net decrease of \$3,217.17 from August 2024. Pathfinder expenses, medallion costs, including Square credit card charges and all medallion income is taken into account, to calculate this figure.
2. The Legislative fund has \$101,682.49. This is an increase of \$4,990.62. Per Capita Tax was received, and there were no expenditures.

The combined total of the Medallion/Pathfinder fund and the Legislative fund, there is a total of \$127,061.12 is set aside as allocated or restricted funds. This leaves the Grand Igloo with \$49,084.61 available for general use.

Between September 1, 2024 and August 31, 2025, I paid 31 warrants with a total amount of \$23,828.80. We also had three items that paid out which did not have warrants during this same period:

1. Square credit card charges totaling \$22,62, which are directly related to the sales of medallions,
2. Reissue of a lost check to DS:PS for \$12.50 which was listed in last year's report, the warrant was issued in that fiscal year, and
3. First National Bank Alaska charged \$135.25 for new check stock. By changing the style of our checks, we saved \$80.

There were 13 invoices issued by Grand Secretary, Dawn Campbell, which totaled \$1,977.70. However, the total funds deposited were \$24,249.71. The difference between invoiced and received money came from medallion sales, per capita taxes, accrued interest from both FNBA and Global FCU, as well as a duplicate payment on an invoice. A warrant and check have been issued already in this new fiscal year to refund that duplicate payment.

I have approached the Grand Trustees regarding transferring a portion of the funds from the FNBA checking account into another CD at Global FCU. The reasoning behind this request is that our checking account with FNBA is 49% of our funds and only accrued \$87 in 12 months. The Global FCU CD is 51% of our funds, and accrued \$4,216 in the same time period.

I have prepared the four reports that are normally submitted to the Grand Secretary each year. There is a Cash Assets Summary, a Checking Account Summary, and the Warrants and Invoice Logs which are joint effort reports - the Grand Secretary generates them from work that she does, and then the Grand Treasurer completes them with either checks which are written or deposits made. If anyone would like to see the financial reports which are being submitted with this report, please let me know and I'll get a copy to you.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Dauphinais
Grand Treasurer

Pioneers of Alaska
Grand Igloo

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Pioneers of Alaska, Grand Igloo
Annual Report for the Period of September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025
Checking Account Summary
as of September 25, 2025

Check book balance 9/1/2024:			\$90,378.01			
Income:						
Charters		0.00				
Donation		0.00				
Items Sold - Merchandise (includes jewelry)		\$2,083.35				
Medallions Sold (includes a donation)		\$2,825.00				
Per Capita Tax - General Fund		\$9,981.38				
Per Capita Tax - Legislative Fund		\$4,990.62				
Per Capita Tax - overpayment		\$66.00				
FNBA Interest Earned		\$87.32				
FNBA NSF & Fee		\$0.00				
Total Income:			\$20,033.67			
Expenses:						
FNBA NSF & Fee		\$0.00				
Charter Expenses		\$0.00				
Convention Expenses		\$4,161.69				
Website Expense		\$849.00				
Equipment Expense		\$0.00				
General Expenses:						
Retirement Gift for Grand Recorder		\$425.00				
Check Stock for GI		\$135.25				
Square Expense		\$22.62				
Void & Reissue from FY24 - ck1855		\$12.50				
PGP Pin Engraving		\$46.13				
Liability Insurance - Snider Park		\$1,471.00				
Improvements - Snider Park		\$0.00				
Medallions Expense		\$4,519.55				
Merchandise Expense		\$1,781.85				
Merchandise Return Expense		\$0.00				
Minutes Books Expense		\$587.34				
Office Supplies Expense		\$0.00				
Officer Stipend Expense		\$3,000.00				
Pathfinder Expenses		\$1,500.00				
Per Capita Tax -Refund Overpayment		\$66.00				
Postage & Delivery Expense		\$159.45				
President's Convention Expense		\$1,796.44				
President's Installation Expense		\$3,315.35				
Safe Deposit Box Expense		\$150.00				
Trademark Expense		\$0.00				
Total Expenses			\$23,999.17			
Bank Statement as of 8/31/2025:				\$86,561.51		
Outstanding Checks/Reconciling Items:						
Cleared 9/5/2025 Ck #1897	DS:PS		\$99.00			
Cleared 9/5/2025 ck #1902	DS:PS		\$50.00			
Check Book Balance as of 8/31/2025:			\$86,412.51	\$86,412.51		

Pioneers of Alaska, Grand Igloo
FY2025 Warrants Log
September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025

WARRANT #	DATE	TO	ADDRESS	FOR	AMOUNT	Ck Issued	Ck Date
1	10/3/2024	GEORGE LOUNSBURY		GIFT FOR LINDA CONLEY	\$ 425.00	1868	10/4/2024
2	10/11/2024	Pioneer Pathfinder	124 Carlyle Way Fairbanks, AK 99709	FY2025 Pathfinder budget-Wanda H	\$ 1,500.00	1869	11/20/2024
3	10/11/2024	DAWN CAMPBELL	27546 SEWARD HWY SEWARD 99664	2024 CONVENTION TRAVEL	\$ 1,403.67	1870	10/25/2024
4	10/18/2024	DON BURT	PO BOX 910 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	2024 CONVENTION TRAVEL	\$ 1,796.44	1871	10/25/2024
5	10/18/2024	DEBEIE DAUPHINAIS	965 SHELLY AVE HOMER AK 99603	2024 CONVENTION TRAVEL	\$ 1,774.92	1872	10/25/2024
6	10/22/2024	DAWN CAMPBELL	27546 SEWARD HWY SEWARD 99664	50 3" SHOULDER PATCHES	\$ 182.11	1873	10/25/2024
7	10/27/2024	LINDA CONLEY	PO BOX 10523 FAIRBANKS 99710	2024 CONVENTION LODGING	\$ 983.10	1874	11/15/2024
8	10/27/2024	THE NEEDLE WORKS / FIVE STAR PATCHES	9511 BIG HORN WAY LITTLETON, CO 80125	10" PATCHES 1DZ @ ANCH/FBKS	\$ 698.95	1875	11/15/2024
9	11/13/2024	DS:PS	36910 CHINUINA Dr Kenai, AK 99611	Website updates: GI Contacts, Merchandise, Pathfinder, Combined Igloo Forms	\$ 137.50	1876	11/15/2024
10	11/21/2024	FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA	PO BOX 100720 ANCHORAGE, AK 99510-0720	SAFE DEPOSIT RENT 11-21-2024 TO 11-21-2025	\$ 150.00	1877	11/24/2024
11	12/11/2024	DS:PS	36910 CHINUINA Dr Kenai, AK 99611	WEBSITE UPDATES post Convention	\$ 337.50	1878	11/24/2024
12	12/17/2024	UAA COPY & PRINT CENTER HERNIDON	3211 PROVIDENCE DR ANCHORAGE, AK 99508	45 COPIES 2024 CONVENTION MINUTE BOOKS	\$ 587.34	1879	12/18/2024
13	1/17/2025	RECOGNITION	PO BOX 1843 STATESVILLE, NC 28687	4 YEAR SWINGS, 15 WOMEN'S PINS	\$ 900.79	1880	1/20/2025
14	1/19/2025	DS:PS	36910 CHINUINA Dr Kenai, AK 99611	POST "19&21 MINUTES & ADDRESS UPDA	\$ 25.00	1881	1/20/2025
15	2/8/2025	DAWN CAMPBELL	27546 SEWARD HWY SEWARD, 99664	POSTAGE FOR 2022-2024 MINUTE BOOKS AND MERCHANDISE	\$ 159.45	1884	3/16/2025
16	3/8/2025	PAM LAMBERT	4385 Bishop Circle Fairbanks, AK 99709 Sundance RV Resort Space 808 1703 N Thornton Road Casa Grande, Arizona 85122	2025 GP INSTALLATION TOUR EXP	\$ 563.33	1882	3/10/2025
17	3/8/2025	STEVE SEARLES	2025 GP INSTALLATION TOUR EXPENSES		\$ 2,378.72	1883	3/10/2025
18	3/14/2025	DS:PS	36910 CHINUINA Dr Kenai, AK 99611	UPDATE GI FOUNDATION INFO	\$ 37.50	1885	3/17/2025
19	3/19/2025	CORDOVA WI #5	PO BOX 335 CORDOVA, AK 99574	REFUND ON ANNUAL REPORT	\$ 66.00	1887	4/3/2025
20	3/29/2025	SILVERTOWNE MINT	PO BOX 28 WINCHESTER, IN 47394	2025 MEDALLIONS	\$ 4,519.55	1886	4/2/2025
21	4/24/2025	DS:PS	36910 CHINUINA Dr Kenai, AK 99611	UPLOAD GP INSTALLATION PICTURES	\$ 137.50	1888	4/26/2025
22	4/26/2025	COMBS INSURANCE	341 S. Alaska Street Palmer, Alaska 99645	2025-2026 GI INSURANCE BROKER FEE	\$ 300.00	1889	4/28/2025
23	4/26/2025	W American Insur Co / Minico Insurance Agcy	341 S. Alaska Street Palmer, Alaska 99645	5-2-2025-2026 GI LIABILITY POLICY	\$ 1,171.00	1890 & 1891	4/28/2025
				2025 FY SUBTOTAL	\$ 20,255.37	**	

** Checks 1892, 1893, 1894 were pre-stamped REORDER VOID.

Pioneers of Alaska, Grand Igloo

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Pioneers of Alaska, Grand Igloo
FY2025 Invoice Log
September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025

#	DATE	INV #	IGLOO	PERSON ORDERING	ITEM DESCRIPTION	PRICE	SHIPPING	TOTAL OWED	PAYMENT RECEIVED
1	9/30/2024	3585	FAIRBANKS MI 4	BILL CHACE	PATCHES 10 EA 10" & 3"	\$ 260.00		\$ 260.00	11/25/2024
2	10/11/2024	3586	SEWARD IGLOOS 9	DONA WALKER	5-WOMENS PINS, 5 MENS PINS	\$ 350.00		\$ 350.00	6/9/2025
3	11/23/2024	3587	VALDEZ MI 7	LON RAKE	10 MENS BI-1 PINS	\$ 150.00	\$ 5.40	\$ 155.40	12/17/2024
4	11/23/2024	3588	SEWARD IGLOOS 9	DONA WALKER	W WA-3 WOMENS PINS 10 BI-1 MENS PINS	\$ 315.00		\$ 315.00	12/19/2024
5	11/24/2024	3589	PALMER MI 31	GEORGE STROTHER	3 MENS BI-1 PINS	\$ 45.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 46.50	12/2/2024
6	1/22/2025	3590	PALMER WI 11	FRANCINE STROTHER	24 YEAR SWING	\$ 40.00	\$ -	\$ 40.00	2/10/2025
7	1/22/2025	3591	WRANGELL WI 15	GAYLE GROSS	24 YEAR SWING	\$ 40.00	\$ -	\$ 40.00	2/7/2025
8	1/22/2025	3592	DELTA JUNCT WI 19	DAWN FRAZIER	200 Member & 24 Life cards, WA-3 PIN	\$ 95.00	\$ 10.65	\$ 105.65	3/20/2025
		3592	DUPLICATE PAYMENT RECEIVED					\$ 105.65	6/23/2025
9	1/22/2025	3593	SEWARD IGLOOS 9	DONA WALKER	5-WA-3 PINS; 24 SWING, GAVEL	\$ 340.00	\$ -	\$ 340.00	2/7/2025
10	1/22/2025	3594	PALMER MI 31	KEN PYSZ	4 RECEIPT BOOKS	\$ 24.00		\$ 24.00	2/4/2025
11	4/3/2025	3595	FAIRBANKS WI 8	ERIKA MILLER	3" PATCH	\$ 250.00	\$ 15.15	\$ 265.15	4/14/2025
12	5/28/2025	3596	MCCARTHY IGLOO	LAURIE HEGE	100 MEMBERHIP CARDS	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ 10.00	6/2/2025
13	5/28/2025	3597	SEWARD IGLOOS 9	DONA WALKER	25 LIFETIME & 25 VETERAN CARDS	\$ 26.00	\$ -	\$ 26.00	6/9/2025
14									
15					Money Received			\$ 2,083.35	
16									
17					Refund Request - See FY2026 Warrant # 4			\$ 105.65	
18									
19					Total Invoices Written in FY2025			\$ 1,977.70	
20									
21									

2025 Grand Historian Report

Survey of Igloo Charters Conducted by Grand Historian Ruth Benson

In August of 2025, I began working to compile a record regarding the charters for our various Igloos within the Pioneers of Alaska. Using the contact information supplied by the Grand Secretary, I set about contacting each Igloo, all 31 of them, to inquire if they had their charter and where it was kept. The results were quite interesting to say the least.

Out of 31 Igloos contacted, 8 of them had no idea if they even had a charter. Some of them never called back despite leaving messages to do so. Three Igloos no longer have their original charters.

Thankfully a lot of our Igloos have taken care of their charters and have them on display at their Igloo meetings and special events. Two Igloos have their charters on display in museums. One keeps theirs in a safe deposit box. Four Igloos have theirs on display in Senior Centers, and six more keep theirs at a member's house, while another six have them on the walls of their Igloo Lodge buildings. And finally, four Igloos keep theirs in storage lockers or closets.

Many of the Igloos surveyed have their charters at their Igloo meetings. All of those that have their charters do use them for special occasions such as funerals.

So out of 31 active Igloos, 20 of them have their original charters and know where they are. This means 11 Igloos no longer have their charters, or they can't find them.

I am including a copy of the chart I made with the information I was able to get along with the last known name and phone numbers so that future Grand Historians can follow up and update this information. If we keep track of it, the remaining charters will be in less danger of being lost because no one can remember where they are kept.

I would like to also encourage our Igloo Historians to work on keeping a record of where your charters, application, and business records are kept and to update it each year. This concludes my report.

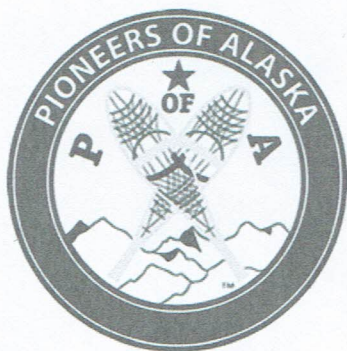
Sincerely,



Ruth Benson, Pioneers of Alaska Grand Historian

2025 Igloo Charter Survey Compiled by Grand Historian Ruth Benson

No.	Igloo	Yes/No	Charter Location	Contact	Number	Secondary Contact	Number
1	Nome Men	?	Unknown, historical items moved after flood stored in connex	Lew Tobin	907-443-5549		
1	Nome Women	?	Unknown if ever existed	Lew Tobin	907-443-5549		
4	Fairbanks	Yes	Displayed on wall of Fairbanks Pioneer Museum & at meetings	Tim Beck	907-322-4410	Jim Plaquet	907-388-6063
8	Fairbanks	Yes	Kept in safe deposit box, copy displayed at meetings	Erika Miller	907-378-2419	Georgia Berry	907-230-0650
6	Juneau	Yes	Kept at Fred Thorstenson's house	Brad Austin	907-321-8262	Fred Thorstenson	
6	Juneau	No	It was lost when it was taken in for repairs	Dorene Lorenz	907-360-8815		
7	Valdez	Yes	Displayed on wall of Valdez Senior Center	Tom Gilson	907-835-4431	Steve Seartles	907-835-3577
2	Valdez	Yes	Displayed on wall of Valdez Senior Center	Karen Seartles	907-835-3577		
9	Seward	Yes	Kept at Virgil & Dawn Campbell's house, used at events	Randy Kockritz	907-441-2157		
9	Seward	Yes	Kept at Virgil & Dawn Campbell's house, used at events	Dawn Campbell	907-362-1465		
15	Anchorage	?	Possibly displayed on wall of Anchorage Igloo ? Left mssgs no reply	Roger Storrs	907-388-4768	Al Clayton	907-250-1649
4	Anchorage	Yes	Displayed on the wall of the Anchorage Igloo	Diane Pederson	907-272-7188	Carol Storrs	907-250-0864
16	Ketchikan	Yes	Displayed on wall at Ketchikan Igloo	Jim Rhodes	907-225-5389	David Doyon	
7	Ketchikan	Yes	Displayed on wall at Ketchikan Igloo	Hillary Koch	907-254-2685		
18	Kodiak	?	Called three numbers left messages, no response	Julie Bonney	907-539-2309	Al's Cell	907-250-4706
17	Kodiak	?	Don't know, possibly in storage at a past member's house, will look into it	Julie Bonney	907-539-2309		
19	Cordova	Yes	Displayed on wall at Cordova Igloo, was in fire, hard to read	Max Wiese	907-831-9130		
5	Cordova	Yes	Displayed on wall at Cordova Igloo	Cece Wiese	907-424-3667		
21	Wrangell	Yes	In the care of the Igloo Historian	Bruce Eagle	907-874-2497	Lorna Arndt	
15	Wrangell	?	Cathy has? original, not used? Possibly stored by a past member	Susan Wise Eagle	907-874-2497		
22	Sitka	No	Waiting on replacement charter from the Grand Igloo	Joe Murray	907-888-9629		
12	Sitka	No	Waiting on replacement charter from the Grand Igloo	Joe Murray	907-888-9629		
26	Petersburg	?	Phone was always busy	Douge Welde	907-772-3183		
10	Petersburg	?	Did not know, treasurer was supposed to call back, never did.	Margaret Newlen	907-224-5396	Cathy (treasurer)	907-650-7355
31	Palmer	Yes	Displayed at the Mat-Su Senior Center	Don Benson	907-707-9273		
11	Palmer	Yes	Displayed at the Mat-Su Senior Center	Debbie Dauphinais	907-299-8813		
32	Homer	Yes	Kept in storage locker, brought out for Igloo Events	Don Burt	907-299-5113		
14	Homer	Yes	Kept in storage locker, brought out for Igloo Events	Marie Walker	907-299-7111		
35	Delta	Yes	Kept in the supply closet at the Senior Center, used for funerals	Nat Good	907-388-3754		
19	Delta	Yes	Kept in the supply closet at the Senior Center, used for funerals	Flower Cole	907-803-0880		
	McCarthy Igloo	Yes	Displayed in the McCarthy Museum	Michelle Raven	907-715-1540	Grandma Pat	907-460-1974



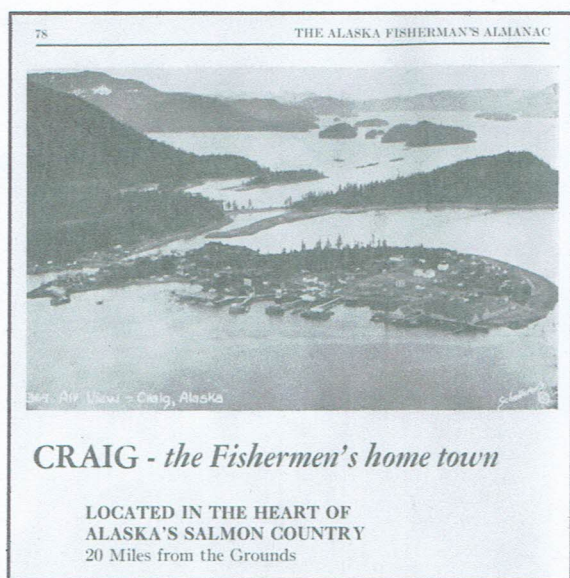
THE KETCHIKAN PIONEERS, IGLOO 16, RESEARCH ON THE HISTORY OF CRAIG IGLOO 30.

AS RECORDED, AT THE TIME, BY ALASKAN
NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHED INFORMATION FROM
ALASKA SOURCES.

PIONEERS OF ALASKA

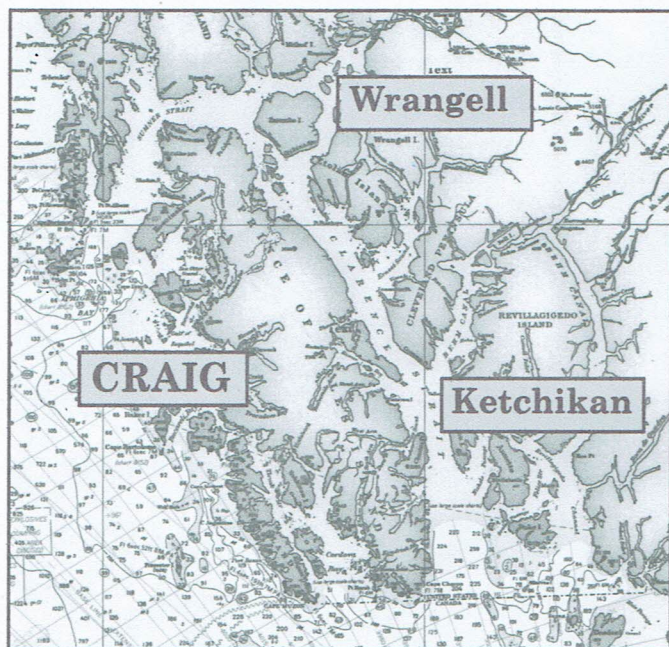
CRAIG IGLOO 30

CHRONICLING HISTORY



Craig: village, pop. 273, on Craig and Prince of Wales Islands at S end of Klawak Inlet, 60 miles NW of Ketchikan, Alexander Archipelago; 55° 28' 30" N, 133° 09' 00" W; BGN 1944; Variant: Craig City, Craig Millar, Fish Egg. Originally named "Fish Egg" for nearby Fish Egg Island, the name was changed to "Craig Millar" for a cannery owner (Alaska Sportsman, 1962, no. 12, p. 28). The present name was adopted in 1912 when a post office was established (Ricks, 1965, p. 15). On March 1, 1922, Craig was incorporated. In 1939, with a population of 231, Craig had a salmon cannery, a sawmill and a Customs Office serving as a port of clearance for vessels traveling from British Columbia to the United States (Colby, 1939, p. 145).

DICTIONARY OF ALASKA PLACE NAMES
By Donald J. Orth. 1971. Paper 567.



TO: Grand Historian, Pioneers of Alaska.

At your request: We have found some references and information about Pioneers of Alaska, CRAIG IGLOO #30.

Craig, a small coastal community on the western shore of Prince of Wales Island in Southeast Alaska, was founded in the early 20th century as a hub for the burgeoning commercial fishing industry. Incorporated in 1922 as a second-class city in the Alaska Territory, it quickly grew due to the abundance of salmon in nearby waters. The 1930s marked a pivotal decade for Craig's development, driven by economic booms in fishing amid the Great Depression, which drew settlers seeking opportunity in Alaska's remote frontiers. While Craig's population remained modest (around a few hundred residents), the era saw an influx of "pioneers"—primarily fishermen, cannery workers, and their families—who established the town's enduring identity as a fishing outpost.

The Pioneers of Alaska Craig Igloo #30 was Chartered on March 1, 1932.

For many years the Southeast Alaska Communities and their Pioneer Igloos did a "Fund Raising" for the folks in the Pioneer Home in Sitka (and later included "inmates" at the Goddard Hot Springs). The Local newspapers, especially the Wrangell Sentinel would publish the 'thank you' letters from the Home as well as the totals raised. The effort was organized and conducted by the Gross (Theaters) Christmas drive.

The first direct mention of the CRAIG IGLOO #30 was in 1934 as contributors to the Drive.

HISTORICAL NOTE: When the Pioneer Home was first opened, applications required "sponsorship" and in those days membership in the various Organizations by Alaska senior citizens was conveyed by a note or other notice that the individual seeking to go into the Home was a bona-fide Alaskan. The Pioneers of Alaska often offered motions of support to confirm an applicant's legitimacy. In some file or attic somewhere in Alaska are the records of Craig Pioneers whose applications to the Pioneer Home were confirmed by Craig Igloo 30, We are sure that those records did exist but they are yet to be found.

Here are the reports of the notes and notices as they appeared in the newspapers of the time. These are short EXTRACTS from larger articles containing information relevant to the history of the Pioneers of Alaska, Igloo 30, Craig, Alaska.

Wrangell Sentinel (Wrangell, Alaska), January 5, 1928.

CASH CHRISTMAS PRESENT PIONEERS' TOTALED \$797.50

The old fellows at the Pioneers Home at Sitka received a cash, Christmas present of \$797.50 as the result of the donations made at the free picture shows given at midnight at the several southeastern Alaskan towns on December 17. The donations from the several towns participating in the drive were as follows:

Douglas, \$52.50:

Haines, \$10.00:

Craig, \$41.35:

Wrangell, \$58.55:

Sitka, \$27.35:

Ketchikan, \$60.50;

Juneau matinee, \$96.45;

additional collections, \$420.80;

Skagway, \$13.00;

Petersburg, 117.00,

Making a total of \$797.50.

Wrangell Sentinel (Wrangell, Alaska), January 3, 1929.

J. W. Pritchett, Publisher, The Wrangell Sentinel, Wrangell, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the inmates of the Alaska Pioneers' Home, we wish to extend our appreciation for the splendid work you and the people of Wrangell did in helping to raise such a huge Christmas fund for the old boys of the Home through the Gross Christmas drive. The Wrangell people certainly were generous and if you would convey our thanks to your citizens through the columns of the Sentinel it would be greatly appreciated.

Individuals in the Home from Craig:

J. F. Hurley, Craig.

A. M. Tibbitts, Craig.

Wrangell sentinel (Wrangell, Alaska), January 3, 1929.

Individuals in the Home from Craig:

J. F. Hurley, Craig. Pioneer Home.

THE DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 1930.

LIBERAL GIFTS CAUSE OLD MEN TO GIVE THANKS

Residents of Pioneers' Home Had Big Time-Extend Profound Thanks.

W. D. Gross, originator and chief booster for the Christmas fund for the residents of the Pioneers' Home at Sitka, has received a letter from

Superintendent Kettleson, written at the request of the Pioneers in which they tell of the glorious Christmas celebration they had and extend their sincere thanks for it to Mr. Gross and all others who contributed to it.

Individuals in the Home from Craig:

Ole Peterson, Craig;

A. M. Tibbett, Craig:

Nome nugget (Nome, Alaska), January 24, 1931.

Peterson, O. B. D., Craig, (resident of the Pioneer Home in Sitka.)

Wrangell Sentinel (Wrangell, Alaska), July 22, 1932.

A. L. Brown, resident of Alaska since 1902 and of Craig since 1912, died in that city on July 9. Mr. Brown was a member of the Alaska Pioneers and the Moose Lodge Craig and had been an active member of the city council. For some years he was mayor of Craig. He is survived by his widow, one daughter, a son, two brothers and five sisters. Interment was at Craig with Rev. Faulkner delivering the funeral sermon.

THE DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17, 1934.

PIONEER HOME INMATES ENJOY YULE DINNER

Territorial Wards Receive \$7.25 in Cash from Fund as Present

By EILER HANSEN, SITKA, Alaska, Jan. 12.—(Special Correspondence) - Christmas for the Pioneers is what their friends make it. The men in the Home are past the age of production, of earning and of creating, but even as they gave in the years when they were able, so are they now entitled to receive when age and infirmity has left them dependent upon the kindness of others for the joys that may come into their lives.

Additional contributions were:

..... Craig Igloo No. 30. \$50:

Bohm, John, Craig; (resident of the Pioneer Home in Sitka.)

Brady, John, Craig: "

Peterson, Ole, Craig; "

THE DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE, MONDAY, FEB. 19, 1934.

FIRE AT CRAIG BURNS RECORDS

Former Court House and Customs Office Destroyed Saturday.

Fire last Saturday destroyed the former Court House and Customs Office at Craig, according to advices received in Juneau Saturday night. All municipal and Chamber of Commerce records since the incorporation of Craig in 1920 were destroyed.

A volunteer bucket brigade saved the other buildings nearby.

The building was owned by H. S. Bagley.

Wrangell sentinel (Wrangell, Alaska), February 1, 1935.

PIONEERS HOME CHRISTMAS By Eiler Hansen, Superintendent. After all the planning and high hopes, because of unforeseen delays in obtaining equipment, it was found impossible to move into the new Home for the holidays. But the Old Boys made the best of a bad deal just like they have had to do so many times in the past. Everything possible was done to make their Christmas pleasant and they all seemed to be grateful and appreciative. However, the employees and management can only do so much. We can decorate their quarters, put up Christmas trees and give them an excellent dinner.....

.... The Pioneers sincerely thank each and everyone that helped to make their Christmas so pleasant. I render herewith an account of the money received and its distribution.

Accounting of Pioneers Home Christmas Fund Contributions Collections by W. D. Gross:

Douglas\$ 14.00 Juneau 427.00 Ketchikan 157.00 Petersburg 110.50 Sitka 71.65 Wrangell 18.50

\$ 798.00.

..... Anchorage Igloo No. 15 25.00 Anchorage Auxiliary Igloo No. 4 25.00 Cordova Igloo No. 19 . 25.00 CRAIG IGLOO NO. 30, 70.00, Fairbanks Igloo No. 4 25.00 Alaska Weekly

278.50 Tacoma Sourdough Club 10.00 Sam Shucklin Co. 5.00.....

Daily Alaska empire (Juneau, Alaska), January 15, 1935.

REP. A.P. WALKER OF CRAIG, HERE ON N'WESTERN

Legislator Expresses Interest in Progressive Laws for Territory

Representative Arthur P. Walker, fisherman from Craig, Alaska, was a Juneau arrival on the steamer Northwestern to begin his first term as a Territorial Legislator. "I am opposed to fish traps and to herring reduction plants, and am sincerely interested in any progressive legislation that will help the recovery program in the Territory," Mr. Walker said today. Born in Hanford, California, in 1887, Rep. Walker came to Alaska in 1905 and has engaged in the fishing industry for approximately 20 years, with the exception of his service in the United States Army during the World War. He is a member of the Pioneers of Alaska, and is Past President of that organization, Igloo No. 30, Craig; other organizations to which he belongs are the Moose Lodge, No. 1206 of which he is Past Dictator and the Alaska Trollers Association of which he is now Vice President.

Rep. Walker was educated in the public schools of California but gave up the formal education of schools for the more practical education of life itself, at the

age of fourteen. Since then he has worked on farms, public works, and engaged in mining, lumbering, teaming and prospecting as well as the fishing industry to which he has devoted the greater part of his adult life.

"I am extremely glad to be here and am looking forward with interest to my legislative experience." Rep, Walker declared. He is staying at the Gastineau Hotel.

THE DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE, FRIDAY, FEB. 15, 1935.

GRAND IGLOO OF PIONEERS HOLDS FIRST SESSION

Delegates Seated from 19 Branches Yesterday at Odd Fellows' Hall

Juneau, voting as proxy.) Wrangell, Igloo No. 21.-L. M. Churchill, (Fred Moeser, Ketchikan, voting as proxy.) Bethel, Igloo 'No. 29.—No delegate elected, (L. C. Hess, Fairbanks, voting as proxy.) CRAIG, IGLOO NO. 30.—A. P. WALKER (PRESENT.) Nenana, Igloo No. 17.-D. S. Smalley and George W. Hick (L. C. Hess, Fairbanks, voting as proxy.)

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau, Alaska), February 16, 1935

MORE THAN 40 ON ROUND-TRIP RUN TO SITKA

Northland Leaves Early This Morning Carrying Gay Throng.

With more than 40, Territorial legislators, delegates of the Pioneers of Alaska Grand Igloo convention, and just plain Juneau citizens aboard for a gala roundtrip excursion to Sitka, the Northland left Femmer's Dock for the Baranof Island city at 4 o'clock this morning.

Legislators On Inspection To inspect the newly-constructed Pioneers' Home at Sitka, many senators and representatives of the Twelfth Territorial Legislature are making the trip. The senators are: Henry Roden, Juneau; John F. Devine, Nome; James R. Campbell, Anchorage; Mr. and Mrs. Luther C. Hess, Fairbanks; and John B. Powers, Eagle. Representatives who are making the trip follow: A. P. WALKER, CRAIG; J. F. Baronovich, Ketchikan; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Green, Hyder; Mr. and Mrs. Garnet W. Martin, Nome; A. M. Chamberlin, Deering; Howard Lyng, Nome; J. S. Hofman, Seward;

Nome Daily Nugget (Nome, Alaska), April 2, 1935.

Deaths in the Pioneers Home during 1934 were:

John Brady, Craig.

Ted Carlson, Craig.

O. B. D. Peterson, Craig.

Wrangell Sentinel (Wrangell, Alaska), February 1, 1935

PIONEERS' HOME CHRISTMAS

Accounting of Pioneer Home Christmas Fund Contributions Collections by W.

D. Gross:

..... Craig Igloo No. 30. \$70,00

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau, Alaska), January 6, 1936

PIONEERS AT SITKA HOME ARE THANKFUL

Superintendent Hansen Makes Report on Christmas Fund

The first Christmas in the new Pioneers' Home at Sitka was a memorable one, according to advices received by The Empire from Eile Hansen, Superintendent. "Many of the men told me it was the best Christmas they could remember, writes Mr. Hansen in making a full report on the Christmas fund sponsored by W. D. Gross.

Craig Igloo No. 30, \$70.00

In Pioneer Home: Sewell, John R., Craig.

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau, Alaska), January 13, 1938.

PIONEER FUND ACCOUNT MADE

Eiler Hansen Gives Statement on Christmas Contributions to Pioneers

Eiler Hansen, Superintendent of the Pioneer's Home at Sitka, has submitted the following accounting of the Pioneers' Home Christmas fund which explains itself fully, and also makes suggestions:

On behalf of the pioneers. thank everyone that contributed to their Christmas Fund. It was a generous and thoughtful act. To nearly all of my 182 men, it is the only cash they have for an entire year. Anyone that could witness the expressions of sincere gratitude of the recipients of this money would feel that their gift was worth while.....

..... Craig Igloo No. 30. \$50.00.

Researched and compiled by Bob Thomas and Mike Cruise of the Pioneers of Alaska, Ketchikan, Igloo 16.

To date this is the information we can find about the Pioneers of Alaska, Craig, Igloo 30.

September, 2025.

GRAND IGLOO FOUNDATION REPORT 2025 PIONEERS OF ALASKA CONVENTION

The vision and our strategic plan that we adopted for the Foundation has worked out well. Our investment funds which are managed by Alaska Wealth Advisors, located in Anchorage, have produced income for us. The fund principal is growing and is meeting our expectations to further our primary mission of preserving the history of our State of Alaska.

This year we had four requests for financial assistance to preserve and promote this history. Of the four, one was approved and the other three were deferred for further action. These deferred projects were ones that met our Foundation's requirements for approval but lacked the necessary documentation, invoices, on the specific spending of the funding. This is needed to ensure funds were spent properly, particularly for projects that have been completed and we provide reimbursement.

The projects include. Plexiglass purchase for the protection of historic photos on display in the Cordova Igloo. Cordova Igloos #19 and #5. \$500. Approved. The deferred projects awaiting the required documentation are: Cleaning and framing the charters of four inactive Igloos to be displayed in the Pioneer Museum at Fairbanks. \$2000 The wood stature carving of a Alaska prospector to be displayed at the Museum in Fairbanks. \$2000 Both requested by Pioneer Memorial Park, Fairbanks. Historical Pioneer Home Cemetery Sign to be erected at the Cemetery, in Sitka. \$5100 Sitka Pioneers Home Auxiliary.

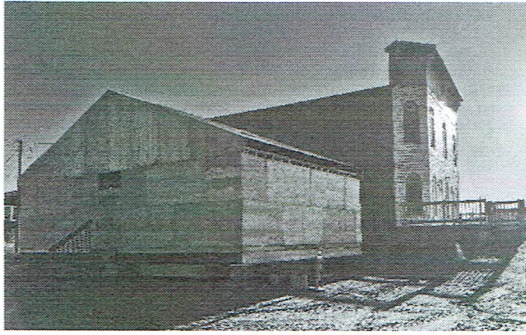
The fund principal amount now stands at \$883,881. Last years earnings were \$44,991, unrealized gains.

So ,the Foundation is on solid footing and is a work in progress and will evolve into a real important and vital preservation asset for Alaska. We will get er done, this will happen, it is our destiny . We will make this happen. Our direction is set but the details may vary somewhat to meet the changing needs of historical preservation.

Hats off to the founders of this Foundation and to those who served on the early board of directors. There are two I know of who are present at this convention and they are Ruby Church and Troxell Hebert. To these Pioneers, your dream continues, your vision lives on. Thank you for what you began. Historical preservation will advance in Alaska due to what you started in 2004.

Our board members are: Jim Casement, Al Clayton, Virginia Calloway, Fred Thorsteinson, Wes Perkins Dawn Campbell, Flower Cole, Erika Miller.

Thank you.



Igloo #1 Nome Grand Convention Report

Sept. 2025

This year we completed the remodeling and reconstruction of the Pioneer Igloo. The last projects were to put crash bar doors that open outward on all exits, as per the regulations for public buildings. Wes Perkins worked on the outside of the building, painting the fuel tank. Lew just finished mowing the front lawn. The place looks good, inside and out! We have been holding monthly meetings with both igloos, although we decided against full potluck and have opted for an alternating theme of hors d'oeuvres on month and desserts the next.

In June, we got our Liability Insurance worked out (thanks to Mary Reader's efforts) and joined into a partnership with the Nome Lions club to help pay for the continuing expenses (they pay a yearly sum that pays for Utilities and Fuel, mainly). As part of this partnership we will be putting a Nome Lions sign somewhere on the front of the building in the future.

We have also resurrected our Temporary Leasing Contracts. We are leasing at the same daily rate as the city does for the Mini-convention Center or Old St. Joe's (but have a much nicer and WARMER building). Our first new dally lease happened in August, when the city leased the building for a Public Town Meeting with Graphite One. It was very crowded, but all went well, as far as I can tell. The Lions are also holding their club meetings at the igloo.

We couldn't find a company that would give us reasonable Property Insurance because we no longer have a daily presence in the igloo. The Igloo is checked weekly by a number of Pioneers, but that wasn't good enough for any insurance companies.

The High School Senior Scholarships we gave out last May have all been sent to the colleges of our recipients. The \$1,000 scholarships this year were given to:

Luke Hansen
Steve Lopez

Kara Johanson
Loren Kingstrom
Orson Hoogendorn

The first weeks in September our closest neighbor to the west began building three duplexes in the lot he bought. He has one duplex framed up already and a second pad in place. He is planning to convert the only original building on the property into the third duplex. He is planning to put false fronts on the buildings and use a western theme. It will give us close neighbors.

We were fortunate in that we had no deaths in either the men's or women's igloo this year, but we also had no new members in either.

181 lost
58 lost, then
gained



Pioneers of Alaska Fairbanks Men's Igloo No. 4 2025 Report to Grand Igloo Convention

2025 has been very busy for the men of Igloo No. 4. We worked with the Fairbanks Women's Igloo to put on all our regular events throughout the course of the year. We would also like to give our gratitude to Women's Igloo No. 8 led by President Erika Miller, for all their hard work and cooperation to help make the Fairbanks Igloos events successful. We could not do it without them.

We helped to put on our usual annual events with the Women's Igloo this year. They were the Installation of Officers, Regent's Coronation, Birch Hill Cemetery cleanup, the Bocce Tournament, Pedro Monument Rededication, Golden Day's Regent's Tea and Mug-Up dinner, Golden Days Parade, Fall BBQ and our Christmas party. All of those events were successful ones, and we were proud to have done our part with the Women's Igloo.

After the 2024 Cordova Convention Men's Igloo No. 4 helped to put on the first ever Alaska Day Bonfire event on October 18th. The event took place at the Pedro Monument wayside on a beautiful sunny cold day. We had three fires going, tons of tasty hot food and lots of fun. There were folks driving by who stopped in and enjoyed our food and learning about the Pioneers of Alaska. We even had a lady stop in who was from Botswana. Everyone enjoyed it so much that we are planning to keep it as an annual event to help recruit attention for the Pioneers and ultimately to gain new members for our Fairbanks Igloos.

In January we hosted a big dinner along with the Women's Igloo in honor of Grand President Steve Searles and his lovely wife Karen when they came to town for our Installation Ceremonies. It was held at the Turtle Club and most of the Igloo officers and our local Grand officers were in attendance. It got a little noisy, but everyone had a great time together.

March was Coronation and our King Regent, Larry Colp, has done a great job representing our Igloo along with his wife, Queen Regent Annie Colp. They have been a bright spot in our 2025 season.

Our annual Roll Call Dinner was very well attended, and we were happy to have seven members who were 90 years or older there. This is a big event for our men, and we get to see many of those who don't usually attend business meetings.

For the Fairbanks Pioneer Museum, our Trustees did the annual appointments of our members to serve on the Pioneer Museum board of directors, and we also provided the labor to get many of the museum's various maintenance and projects completed during the past year. The museum relies heavily on the support of our Fairbanks Igloos for its operations, and we are always happy to help with that worthy effort.

A survey was completed of a piece of property our Igloo owns near Circle City, Alaska. We have owned the parcel for many years but had never gotten a survey done before. This was an important accomplishment for our Igloo this year.

We also voted to donate \$1,000 to help restore the Riverboat Nenana, which is the centerpiece of Pioneer Park.

The Fairbanks Igloos are still working on attracting new members by passing out brochures, doing historical programs, and advertising the Pioneers of Alaska at all our events during the year. We are looking forward to the upcoming year and hope to see all of you again at the 2026 Grand Igloo Convention.

Sincerely,

Tim Beck President Igloo No. 4, Pioneers of Alaska

Presidents letter to Grand Igloo Convention, Valdez, September 2025

Hello Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents and Pioneer Delegates:

Women's Igloo #8 meet on the 1st Monday of each month, separately from the men. From November through April we also have a potluck and a presentation (mostly historical) on the 3d Monday.- Guests to the potluck and presentation are always welcome.

The Joint Activities Committee (JAC) meets on the 3d Monday of each month, and consists of all the officers of Igloo 8 and Igloo 4, plus Igloo members who want to attend. The items discussed are joint events such as Mug Up and Golden Days Parade.

Women's Igloo #8 officers were installed Friday, January 17 in Fairbanks by Grand President Steven Searles.

The next day, Saturday, January 18, we traveled to Delta Junction for the installation of officers for Igloo 19 and 35.

In March, our King and Queen Regents, Larry and Annie Colp, were coronated with cake and goodies being served. Again, this event is open to the public.

In April, we held our annual roll call dinner. The theme was "patriatism" and John Wayne, Mr. America, was the guest speaker and I was the MC. Past Grand President Frank McGilvary and DA's grand daughters entertained us by singing "Alaska, Tis of Thee" to the tune of "My country, 'Tis of Thee" and they also sang the National Anthem. (The girls are members of the Northland Youth Choir and later traveled to Austin Texas for competition where they sang the Alaska Flag Song at the Capitol Building.)

In May, Jay Ramros of Pike's Waterfront Lodge, hosted again the Bocci Ball Tournament for us and Annie Colp won the trophy for the 3d time in a row - defeating at the last minute Gene Hansen.

We also had a Birch Hill cemetery cleanup in May.

Several members attended the Delta Junction Soltice in June hosted by both Delta Igloos. I won a prize for throwing bison manure (and yes, it was dry) into a container.

Our King and queen Regent and other Pioneers attended the colony days in Palmer in June.

In July, Pioneers attended the McCarthy Stampede.

Our Regents Tea , during Golden Days celebration, open to the public, was held at Pike's Waterfront Lodge and was heavily attended. The Golden Days dress-up fashion show was a hit. The winners received a prize.

That same day, in the evening, Pioneers from both Igloos attended the Mug-Jup with over 100 members attending. I was asked to draw the winning ticket for the 50/50 raffle and guess what? I drew my own ticket and walked away with \$750!

The next day, Igloo #4 president, Tim Beck, drove the 1901 Ford in the Golden Days annual parade with me as his passenger,. Our float, the Lavelle Young had Pioneer "floozy" waving to the crowd and Jay Schikora, as Capt. Adams was at the helm.

The next day, many Pioneers and others took part in the Pedro Monument re-dedication. Traditionally, coffee and donuts were served. Our guest speaker was George Lounsbury.

Our annual fish fry and barbeque in August was also heavily attended. The men grilled the salmon, bison burgers and brats. Side dishes and dessert were provided by the Women.

I hereby invite all Pioneers to attend any of our events and meetings. We would enjoy visiting with you.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Miller
President, Women's Igloo #8

Fairbanks Pioneer Museum

2025 Convention Report

- Received the Explore Fairbanks Aurora Award for Outstanding Representation and Promotion of Fairbanks History to local tourists.
- We received from the University of Alaska Fairbanks four Igloo charters from Bethel, Candle, Wiseman, and St. Michael, which we had framed and put on display in the Museum's Hall.
- We commissioned a "Prospector" statue from the local Chainsaw Chic artist and have it on permanent display in front of our museum.
- Mike Dalton donated the iron name plate from the Yukon River hovercraft barge. We mounted it along with pictures and historical information on the museum's outside wall.
- Tim Beck donated a refurbished historic Dray Wagon to the Pioneer Museum, which is on display in the Park, and by next summer will have a protective shed roof next summer.
- The Museum continues to provide Sunday tours to Gondwana Ecotours and their aurora-seeking tourist.
- In September, the Museum helped sponsor 400 India military representatives from Fort Wainwright visiting Fairbanks.
- The Museum continues to take part in all of Pioneer Park's events throughout the year. Our next event will be Trick or Treat Town, which usually sees over a thousand costumed trick-or-treaters in an afternoon.

Georgia Berry
(907) 230-0650
North Pole, AK 99705

MENS AND WOMENS IGLOO #6 JUNEAU ALASKA CONVENTION REPORT 2025 IN VALDEZ

Due to the declining numbers of members, we have formed a committee to explore the consolidation of the mens and womens igloos into one Juneau Igloo. We have set aside a fund to engage a legal assistance, after we have drafted everything up, to make sure that we are compliant with the constitution of the Grand Igloo.

We have purchased a sound system so that all members will be able to hear at the meetings. There are microphones and speakers set on each table that members can speak into the microphones and hear through the speakers. There is a sound board that coordinates all the speakers and microphones that is set up by a sound technician so it can be easily operated by members in the future. We are waiting for the tiny clip-on microphones that can be attached to the president or speaker of the program to come in from Amazon.

We continue to offer Zoom for those members that are not able to attend in person. Sometimes Sitka Pioneer members have joined in via Zoom.

We purchased a heated garage for storage of our records, sound equipment, decorations and extra Pioneer items that we need for our meetings, or conventions. We decided that this would be a good investment in our safety as our prior storage unit was up a long flight of metal stairs with a railing that was failing.

Movie Nights are held monthly featuring films with Alaskan theme or filmed in Alaska. These events provide a fun and engaging way for members to connect and discuss our culture and see historical Juneau on its finest.

Forth of July parade float was a four-wheeler that had a cut out of a sled dog running on either side of the wheeler and towing a trailer that was designed as a dog sled. Our King and Queen (Brad Austin and Barbara Potter) rode in the "sled". Received lots of cheers from the crowds!

We awarded five scholarship this year at \$2000 each. President Karen mentioned that her parents had graduated from Douglas High School, she had graduated from Juneau Douglas High School, and her daughter had graduated from Thunder Mountain High School, it is interesting that Juneau is now back to being a one high school town. Such changes in 3 generations!

We are leading a community led initiative for a proposed installation of a Lone Sailor Statue to honor the men and women who have served in the United States Sea Service. This process has involved the Tlingit and Haida Central Council and the City of Juneau and presents an opportunity for Juneau to embrace a symbol that unites rather than divides and pays tribute not just to service but to shared stewardship, sacrifice and story. This will be an ongoing project that will be carefully worked through with the US Navy Memorial Agreement.

We had a successful collaboration with the Sons of Norway in our annual summer picnic at Sandy Beach. POA provided the hot dogs and hamburgers and the rest of the members

brought lots of food. There was even a live band that showed up later! Beautiful sunny day and the picnic cabin overflowed with folks... some I have never seen before!

We had our King and Queen Regent Tea at the Juneau Pioneers Home where we were able to include those Pioneers residents that once belonged to the Igloo. Some just enjoyed the cake but many were appreciative of being included.

We had a Stay at Home Tea that brought in some funds and members enjoyed receiving a card with a poem and a tea bag in the mail.

At our October meeting our members dressed up and we had prizes for costumes. At the December meeting we had the ugly sweater contest and we also had a postal auction where we raised and donated the monies to support breakfast at the schools.

We provide programs before the meetings as a fun educational program for the members.

At Gold Rush Days we hosted the excavator fund raising monies at the Gold Rush Event on June 14-15. Was a hit with the kids and we made over \$900 dollars. We also sold many of our Gastineau Channel Memories Books and Pioneer Cook Books. We made a few dollars with Fred signing some of them!

We are in our third annual Wood Stacking Contest where we have contestants showing off their wood stacking abilities. The history and stories of the different ways to preserve wood over the winters are mentioned in our website as well as the winners get bragging rights and prizes. Our newest member came to us this way!

Respectively submitted by

Brad Austin and Karen Bonnett Petersen
Presidents of Men's and Women's Igloo #6 Juneau Alaska

Convention 2025 report Valdez, AK

Cordova Igloos #19 and # 5

Cordova Igloos continue to participate in the annual Iceworm Festival parade, and after the parade, host the ice cream feed at the Igloo for the community, the ice cream supplied by a local grocery store. Pioneer members remember when they were young and on the receiving side for the bowls of ice cream.

The spring Pie Social coordinates with the early May Shorebird Festival. Whole pies are available in the parking lot, tailgating style, while coffee and slices of pie are available inside the Igloo. This is the primary fundraiser for our continuing education and music camp scholarships. Members of the community, plus many out-of-town visitors, enjoy the variety of pies, the historic photos on display, and are generous in support of the endeavor.

We hosted an informational table during the Chamber's Fourth of July celebration and this year we served root beer floats.



Year-round monthly meetings are held to keep all members informed and allow their input on issues, plus social gatherings allow us to keep up on everyone's activities and interests.

Potlucks give us the opportunity to try new dishes or share favorite recipes; members of both Igloos have some great cooking skills. The St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner put on by the men is great for getting folks out. Our summer picnic at Skater's Cabin is well attended. The Christmas Party, complete with turkey dinner, Tom and Jerry's, and the Gift exchange, is not to be missed.

Another popular Fuel Raffle was held to support ongoing insurance expenses for the Igloo. Everyone could use a gift card for home heating or vehicle fuel. We may be gaining a reputation for selling on the sidewalk uptown...tickets, that is.

The Ed Zeine Kid's Fishing contest registered over 120 children and 50+ fish weighed, record numbers, as the event keeps growing. Several organizations join to offer t-shirts, hot dogs and treats, and prizes for each age group.

The Igloo is a popular site for other annual festivals and community events, the Salmon Jam and Salmon Run dinner, Fungus Festival dinner, Cordova Historical Society dinner, retirement celebrations, and in great demand, for Christmas parties. The Salmon Marketing Association brings celebrated chefs to Cordova, and the Igloo kitchen, to create their interpretations of how to cook and present salmon.

The Igloo is offered free of charge to the high school as a venue for Homecoming and other school events, and to the Boy Scouts for their meetings.

A new endeavor initiated this fall was a Yard Cleanup Day for elderly members of the community. Residents of an area were contacted and offered help disposing of larger items; the City was very supportive and provided dumpsters. Numerous Pioneers showed up and the elderly folks were greatly appreciative of the assistance. It is something to definitely include on next year's calendar.

* During the annual Salmon Jam Festival in July, we hosted a book signing event with three local authors.

Maintenance on the Igloo is ongoing... floors were refinished this summer, the downstairs entry floor repaired, light bulbs changed. More photos of early Cordova were framed and hung...almost a small museum now.

As in any small community, our members donate their leadership, organization and creative talents in many ways by being involved in other organizations...Cordova Arts and Pageants, Quilting Guild, Scouting activities, Hospital Auxiliary, Cordova Trap and Gun club. We are thankful for the many talented members of our Igloos and the cooperative spirit which benefits many activities and the community.



Pioneers of Alaska
Igloos #9
PO Box 571
Seward, AK 99664
poasewardmw9@gmail.com

"Greetings Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents, King & Queen Regents, and all our Brother and Sister Pioneers representing Igloos from all over Alaska!

We are Seward Igloos #9 2025 presidents, Randy Kockritz and Cheryl Seese. It is an honor to come before you at this year's 2025 Grand Igloo Convention here in beautiful Valdez.

A lot happens from September to September in our Igloos, besides our monthly meetings. Last year the 2024 Cordova Grand Igloo Convention was fantastic! Cordova Igloos did a great job transporting and coordinating the different convention events. Everything ran like clockwork. We had 11 happy members attend!

We honored our Brothers and Sisters that have served. We are blessed to have several Veterans in our organization!

Amongst all her other duties our own Grand Secretary Dawn Cambell and Sue Ward drew up cemetery policies!

We gave a total of \$9,750 to 12 different organizations! In addition to this being good will it generates a positive awareness of our Igloos and for the whole organization of Pioneers. Many of our Sister Pioneers made Christmas breads for our annual event and several Pioneers delivered them to seniors from Seward to Cooper Landing. We held our second annual Christmas Party white elephant gift giving theme. You never know whether to dread or positively anticipate what gift you will go home with. It was a blast!

We held our installation dinner at the beautiful Seward Resort. Grand President Steve Searles officiated. He shared some great stories. We were happy to have many Pioneers from Anchorage and Homer join us. We put on quite a spread! Virgil's friend Tripp bought the pork and Virgil made a fancy, gorgeous and tasty pork loin roll!!! Resurrection Bay Seafoods donated 50# of fish! It was delicious. Tripp also donated money for lots of "refreshments". Our members provided yummy appetizers, sides, and desserts. Randy Kockritz (MI President) and Susie Martin (treasurer) were crowned King and Queen Regents. Corresponding Secretary Dona Walker, PGP Virgil and Recording Secretary Dawn were presented handmade quilts from the community in recognition for their contributions to the community. The next morning, our traveling Pioneers had to drive through slushy snowy unplowed roads. We served a nice breakfast to local and visiting Pioneers. Some of our Pioneer visitors waited in town for the roads to be cleared. We are so grateful to all our Brother and Sister Pioneers for attending! It makes it a lot more fun! King and Queen Regents Randy and Susie, donated \$200.00 for the dinner.

Our King and Queen Regents rode in the Fur Rondy Parade in Anchorage while Virgil, Dawn, and Ozzie volunteered, once again, to help with the Anchorage Igloos' pancake feed.

We donated \$500.00 to the Seward School Hot Lunch Program. We ended up awarding five scholarships of \$3,500 each. If the sixth applicant enrolls at a later date, the same monies will be awarded then. For Memorial Day weekend we placed Alaska flags at our cemetery. Once again, we had a float in the Seward 4th of July parade. We purchased a lot of candy and Randy, Susie, Virgil and Dawn donated another \$200 for more candy. There were a LOT of happy kids, and we even had a little candy left after the parade was over!

King Regent Randy, PGP Virgil, and GS Dawn took in the Palmer "Colony Days Parade" and that evening's famous wonderful steak feed at Snider Park. This was put on by the Palmer Igloos. PGP Virgil rode on the Palmer Pioneer's float. Virgil, Dawn, and our King and Queen Regents also attended the Golden Days Celebration in Fairbanks and rode on the Fairbanks Igloos float and antique cars in the Parade. This was only the second time our royalty took in their festivities in about 25 or more years!

For the 4th of July, our King and Queen Regents Randy & Susie rode on the float along several of our Pioneers, PGP Virgil as driver, and last but not least was Brother Frank Lombardo from Palmer. We threw gobs and gobs of candy out to all the kids! In addition to the Igloos' money for candy, Randy, Susie, Virgil and Dawn donated \$200.00 for more candy.

We purchased grave markers for the unmarked graves. Dawn has been working on identifying the locations for the markers. We enjoyed another fantastic picnic in Moose Pass. Randy and Ozzie were a lot of help for the setup. Tripp donated a whole pig which was smoked by "Firebrand." The whole pig was all laid out flat and was an impressive sight to behold! Additionally, we had two turkeys that Virgil smoked. All the dishes were potluck and like the meat, were super yummy. We had a good turnout with fellow Pioneers, family, friends and a lot of fun. Lots of prizes were handed out.

Since the last convention, we lost eight Brothers and Sisters who reached the end of their earthly trails, gained 13 new members and finished up with a net gain of five members. We continue to try to keep our monthly meetings fun, not real formal, and enjoy the comradery.

Respectively submitted,

Randy Kockritz
Men's Igloo #9 President

Cheryl Seese
Women's Igloo #9 President

September 26, 2025

Nominating Committee Report to the 108th Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska Convention.

Grand President Searles and Fellow Pioneers

Committee Members:

Fred Thorsteinson Men's Igloo 6 Chair

Ed Barber Anchorage

David Church Palmer

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for the Grand Igloo for 2026.

President	Lew Tobin	Nome
1 st Vice President	Roger Hopp	Fairbanks
2 nd Vice President	Ruth Benson	Delta Junction
Historian	Ken Odsather	Anchorage
Chaplain	Lorinda Kassner	Juneau
Sergeant at Arms	Jeremiah "Doc" Meyers	Kodiak
Inner Guard	Brad Austin	Juneau
1-Year Trustee	Virginia Calloway	Juneau
1 Year Trustee	Jim Plaquet	Fairbanks
2 Year Trustee	George Lounsbury	Fairbanks
2 Year Trustee	Diane Barnett	Anchorage
3 Year Trustee	Ken Pysz	Palmer
3 Year Trustee	Randy Kockritz	Seward
Recorder	Libby Dalton	Fairbanks
Secretary	Dawn Campbell	Seward
Treasurer	Debbie Dauphinais	Homer

Grand President, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, I move this slate of officers for the 2026 Grand Igloo.

Respectfully Submitted



Fred Thorsteinson

Chair Nominating Committee

**PIONEERS OF ALASKA 2025 PRESIDENTS' REPORT
ANCHORAGE WOMEN'S IGLOO #4 AND MEN'S INGLOO #15
108TH GRAND IGLOO CONVENTION
VALDEZ, ALASKA
SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2025**

Mr. Grand President, Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents, and fellow Pioneers:

It's great to be back in Valdez and we want to thank Men's Igloo #7 and Women's Igloo #2 for hosting the convention this year.

After the fun convention in Cordova we headed back home with our new Copper River fleece gear and went straight to work planning for our annual Harvest Dinner for members and guests in November. The women decorate the tables and every table is a masterpiece when they are finished. We cater Humpy's to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for us which means we can all enjoy the meal at the same time. Sue Baxter, with her great organizational skills, once again marshaled her troops, to make the dinner a success.

Our annual children's and adults' Christmas parties were held in December. David and Diane Barnett along with Edna Resari chaired the fun event for the children who, along with their families, were entertained with crafts, goodies, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus who handed out gifts. David, Diane, and Edna, with help from a merry band of elves made sure all was ready and each child had a personalized gift. Two weeks later the Igloos' Officers hosted the Adult's Christmas Party, and it was time for the adults to have fun and enjoy a catered prime rib dinner.

January brought Grand President Steve to our town for installation of officers on January 21. After the Installation we announced our 2025 King and Queen Regents. Our 2024 King and Queen Regents, Jerry Wolf and Gerene Tuttle, agreed to remain as regents for another year. Unfortunately, King Jerry passed away the end of August.

February found us preparing for our annual Pancake Breakfast held every year during the Fur Rendezvous. We always have a huge turnout for this event with many returning every year. It's a lot of work for the members but also fun visiting with everyone.

This year's Fun Night, chaired by Shawneen Conover and Amie Haakenson, had a 1940's theme and was styled after the USO shows of the War years. There were performances, a costume contest and best of all a band featuring five young men who played music from the 40's. Our own Gordon Severson, who served in the Army in the 40's and 50's and beyond, looked pretty dapper in one of his dress military uniforms.

Women's Igloo #4 participates in the monthly birthday party for the residents of the Anchorage Pioneer Home with cards, cake and a gift for one man and one woman. We want to thank Edna Resari for chairing this event and the ladies that assist her.

In May, members of Women's Igloo #4 host a Strawberry Festival at the Anchorage Pioneer Home chaired by Carol Storrs. Strawberry shortcake and ice cream were served, and the Irish Dance Academy delighted the residents with their music, energy and lively moves.

Women's Igloo #4 gave out six \$2,000.00 graduates of the Anchorage school who are descendants of Pioneers. We also donated \$500 to four charities voted on by the membership. This year the donations went to AWAIC, Salvation Army, Hospice, and Dollars for Dogs.

Our Igloos help with the spring cleanup of Snider Park and work with the Palmer Igloos to host the Snider Park Grand Igloo picnic in June. Speaking of cleanup, Men's and Women's Igloo members gathered in the Pioneer Section for the annual cleanup in preparation for the Memorial Day service on May 26. On Memorial Day flags are placed on each Pioneer grave site and we honor the deceased members that have reached the end of the trail since last Memorial Day at our service.

Igloo #4 initiated 14 new members and lost eight since the 2024 convention. Igloo #15 initiated 1 new members and lost 9.

Respectfully submitted,

David Barnett for Roger Storrs

David Barnett

Roger Storrs, President

Anchorage Men's Igloo #15

Diane Pederson

Diane Pederson, President

Anchorage Women's Igloo #4



Ketchikan Pioneers of Alaska Women's Igloo #7!
Annual Report for the Grand Convention, 2025.

It has been another busy and productive year. We hosted the Grand President at the Hall on January 26th and installed officers for the year.

All year long we attend and provide cakes and support at the Pioneer Home for the monthly birthday party held at the Home. We also have a spring and fall tea at the Pioneer Home and all residents are invited to attend.

We have had joint meetings with Igloo 16 about every other month and had several joint potluck dinners throughout the year.

In February we always honor native rights leader Elizabeth Peratrovich on the 16th with an ad in the Ketchikan Daily News. Part of our mission is to collect and preserve the literature and incidents of Alaska's history.

For International Women's History month in March Treasurer Michele Zerbetz Scott, with help from Historian Randy Scott, wrote a 3 part newspaper article about our local sister and past president, Kay Andrew. These articles are very well received every year!

Ketchikan Pioneer Way Association, our 501c3 organization which raises money for the restoration of Pioneer Hall had 2 major fund raisers this past year. In October we had an Alaska Day Art Auction and in February a 'Bootleggers Ball' party and fund raiser with dancing, food, a bar, and silent auction. We are in the middle of planning for the second annual Alaska Day Auction.

We held an open house in December, a History Lives Here trivia walk/run in April to raise awareness for local history and provide for a fun, family oriented event. The Pioneers had another open house during the city wide Art Walk on May 2nd. Also in May, we held our traditional memorial service at the Bayview Cemetery.

This year was our 3rd for having a booth at the annual Blueberry Arts Festival. September 14th will be our 2nd annual Flower Show and Zucchini weigh in at the Hall. Come on down and join us!

We continue to hold 2 bake sales a year and an annual garage sale to raise money for maintenance and operations of the hall. Many members from both the men's and women's Igloos helped make them very successful this year! Proceeds are also used for our scholarship fund. This year we awarded money to 3 college bound students for a total of \$3,000.00.

Thanks to men's Igloo #16 member and Historian Randy Scott, we have an active website. Please visit www.ketchikanpioneersofalaska.org. Now that we have a 501c3 status, we can accept donations on line that are tax exempt. And we have a QR code on business cards that links viewers to our website.

We completed Phase 4 of the restoration work on Pioneer Hall. We now have a brand new foundation! We have raised \$200,000 of the \$770,000 needed for the next phase. Thank you to all who have supported us in this huge endeavor! You are truly appreciated.

Respectfully, Hilary Koch, President Ketchikan Igloo #7

IGLOO PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
PIONEERS OF ALASKA
MEN'S IGLOO 16

September 2025

Brother Grand President, Past Grand Presidents, Grand Officers, and Brother and Sister Pioneers:

The year started out with installation of officers officiated by Grand President Steve Searles at our Pioneer Hall followed by an installation dinner. PGP Jim Rhodes met, toured and sent Steve on his way to Wrangell.

Since last convention; Men's Igloo 16 has lost Brothers Kenneth J. Kiffer, Paul Perry, Larry Peterson, C. Wilbur Smith, William Tatsuda, Larry K. Tillotson, and Doug Vig due to death. Accordingly, we now have 61 members.

We held joint meetings with Igloo7 about every other month. We also combined several meetings with fun pot lucks.

We participated in the following events with our Igloo7 sisters since the last Grand Igloo Convention:

- Art Auction October 26, 2024 to raise money for the Hall renovation.
- Open House December 6, 2024 which increased community awareness.
- Bootleggers Ball Feb 22 to raise money for the Hall renovation, increase public awareness, and have some fun!
- History Lives Here Fun Run April 27 which increased community awareness.
- Open House May 2 which increased community awareness.
- We held a traditional Memorial Service and roll call of the deceased at Bay View cemetery. PGP Jim Rhodes and Sister President Hillary Koch organized the service.
- Had a booth in the Ketchikan Blueberry Arts Festival on August 2. We raised some money and increased community awareness.

We awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to local high school students to help with continuing education.

We completed Phase 4 task 1 (foundation stabilization) work on Pioneer Hall.

Our next project is completing the rest of the Phase 4 tasks which include more hazardous material abatement, insertion of an interior beam to keep the second floor from falling on us during meetings, work on the exterior walls, installation of new windows, and a new roof. We have raised \$200,000 of the \$770,000 needed for this work. Future grant possibilities are looking very grim with the loss of all Federal grant funds and State grants funded by the Feds for the foreseeable future.

I will close this report by thanking all of those who have supported the Ketchikan Igloos in our endeavor to renovate our Pioneer Hall. Your assistance has greatly helped us accomplish what we have achieved to date.

Respectively submitted.



Rich Andrew President MI 16

*Judged 4th July Parade
Flower Show - Open House*

Ketchikan Pioneer Way Association, a 501C3 organization
U.S. Customs House/Pioneer Hall Restoration Report
Prepared for the Grand Igloo Convention, 2025

Since last year's report to the Grant Igloo Convention, Ketchikan Pioneers have been busy. What happened with restoration in 2024? During 2024 and spring of 2025, the foundation stabilization was completed. This effort cost approximately \$150,000.00, using \$90,000.00 in grant funds and \$60,000.00 in matching funds. The Hall is on bedrock and now it is securely strapped down. We are now moving forward with the building exterior, including a new roof and returning the windows.

A little history lesson first.....As many of you know, the Ketchikan Pioneer Hall is one of only three such Halls remaining in Alaska, making it an important piece of Alaska history worth restoring and preserving. Well, additional research about the building has revealed it is even more valuable. As mentioned in prior reports, the Hall was originally built in 1900 to house the U.S. Customs House operations that were located at Mary Island. Ships had to anchor off the Island and liter in to report to the Customs officials. A campaign was started to move the operation to Ketchikan....a newly incorporated town with a couple hundred people- the number varies depending on who is talking. After much back and forth by the territorial and U.S. government officials and the advocacy of Ketchikan businessmen, the customs operations were moved to Ketchikan and took up residence at 314 Pioneer Alley. The move of the customs operations was "hailed with great joy, saving time for all steamers having business at the Custom House" as reported in the Douglas Island News of February 21, 1900.

The existing dock was expanded and ships could tie up. Steps (still in existence) led the way to the top of a small hill where the Customs House was situated. A humongous flagpole and flag were installed, making the U.S. Customs House easily visible from the water.

What makes the Hall even more special is discovering that our Hall is one of only three circa 1900 U.S. Customs Houses still in existence in Alaska. And, it is the ONLY building standing in its current location and actively used as a community center. Anyone know where the other two are? Ehey are at Eagle and Skagway where they are museums that were moved to their current locations.

Armed with this knowledge, we are charging forward with our fund raising and restoration efforts. Up next is the completion of Phase 4- which includes a new roof, some interior beams to keep the floor from falling and reinstalling windows!

Fund raising is a necessary part of our efforts, initially to serve as matching funds for grants. However, if any of you have been noticing, state and federal funding sources have pretty much shut down. We have relied on grants from the National Parks Service funds. This money has virtually dried up.

So, we are turning our attention to private resources and more individual contacts for raising funds. Our Special Events Committee is holding two major fundraising events the Alaskana Auction and Social, and the Bootlegger's Ball. Both events were well received in Ketchikan last year, raising \$30,000.00. The Igloos conducted a 100% Drive of the membership. This event raised over \$78,000.00. from 64% of the members.

Because of the extreme circumstances regarding grant funding, we are preparing to launch three more campaigns, one which is asking for the support of the Igloos and their members of Pioneers of Alaska. We have some handy cards so you can make a donation today. Later in October, we will be sending a special mailing to each Igloo that can be shared with the membership. If everyone chips in, we can raise the funds needed to complete Phase 4. We need \$770,000.00. We have \$240,000.00 in hand, and \$30,000.00 coming in from Special Events. That leaves \$500,000.00 to raise! We can do it with your help.

We can't wait to hold an upcoming Grant Igloo Convention in our newly restored U.S. Customs House/Pioneer Hall!

Submitted by Michele Zerbetz Scott, KPWA Treasurer and Project Lead

**Greetings to all at the Grand Igloo from the Kodiak Igloo!
We are excited to have delegates representing us in Valdez
this year and hope all the activities, business and fellowship
with fellow Pioneers goes well and your convention is a
GRAND SUCCESS!**

The Kodiak Igloo has its meetings on the second Thursday of each month following an Executive Board meeting the last Saturday of the previous month. Since the last convention in 2024 the regular meetings have been well attended with 25-55 members attending each monthly general meeting. The holiday dinners and the annual banquet in January were the best attended. We had a Thanksgiving feast with all the fixings in November and in December we had a gift exchange for Christmas. At the January meeting, with the Grand Igloo president in attendance swearing in our new officers, the prime rib dinner was enjoyed by the largest crowd of the year. This year (2025) we took June and July off from monthly meetings to enjoy the Kodiak summer and get in as much sunshine as possible.

Our Igloo officers and committees have stayed busy, and they make regular reports at the general meetings. The financial health of the Kodiak is strong and in good shape and we thank Joyce Gregory, our treasurer, for all her work keeping that in tip-top shape. Mike Ronstat is our recording secretary, and he is dedicated to enshrining all our Igloo minutes fastidiously and to the best of his talent.

Scholarship committee- updates the members on our scholarship winners and their progress in school when they receive communications from the recipients

Sunshine committee- regular reports on members needing a pick-me-up of flowers, cards or candy or all three facing hardships in their daily lives. The split the pot sales from each monthly meeting are split between the Sunshine committee and the winners with some months reaching over 120 dollars for each.

Program committee- the officers have been acting as the program committee at the executive board meetings each month to get presenters to our monthly meetings. This year we had presentations from the Kodiak Senior Center, the

local Alutiiq Museum and members sharing their own Alaskan stories and memories.

The Igloo meetings are always full of laughter and good conversations with fellow Pioneers and the social time is good for everyone. There are always leftovers for the taking at the end of the meetings and desserts galore to be shared.

The Pioneers of Alaska Kodiak Igloo had its new officers installed at the January meeting. Al Seale was elected President for the first time. Diana Fogler is the vice-president this year and has filled in with experience and leadership when the president has been absent.

Scholarships were awarded to four recipients after both our fall and spring raffles this year. Pioneers volunteered their time and efforts and pitched in their own ticket purchases to sell all of the 600 tickets available for each raffle. Ticket sales at the local Safeway entrance were a fun way to spread the word about the Kodiak Igloo and the Pioneers of Alaska and recruitment efforts. Our committee chair for the scholarship committee Kate Loewen is stepping back from that position this next cycle of scholarships and Kendra Lococo has decided to take over the responsibility of the committee chairmanship. We thank Kate for her dedication and work over the last years to make sure our scholarships have been properly awarded and doing all the groundwork to make them a success.

Every year the Kodiak Igloo takes part in both the Crab-fest parade and the Fourth of July parade. This year the weather was agreeable for both events and the Kodiak Pioneers threw as many beads into the crowds as possible to spread the joy. Carlile Transportation donated the freight for the beads from Tacoma to Kodiak this year and we thanked their donation committee with an official letter from Sharon Major our communications secretary.

In the past season of meetings for the Kodiak Igloo there have been ten new Pioneer members added to our roster.

The Pioneers Kodiak Igloo also had some losses this season, our memorial list includes the names of seven Pioneers who have gone on before the rest of us here, but whose personalities and presence will live on with the rest of us.

In the coming year we look forward to completing our

requirements for the combination of the Kodiak Igloos officially and moving forward with a new name and seal. The Kodiak Igloo has been operating as this type of entity for a few years now and it will be good and proper to have it all finished officially with the organization and Grand Igloo. We thank the officers of the Grand Igloo for their help and patience as we have worked through this process. We are also volunteering and working towards hosting the Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska Convention in 2026. It sounds like a great opportunity to show what Kodiak can do and we look forward to hosting.

Respectfully submitted

J. Alan Seale, Kodiak Igloo President

Wrangell Igloo #15 President's Report 2025

Our regular monthly meetings run from September through May, taking a break during the summer months. We moved our meetings from the Senior Center, which has been condemned but is still open, to the Presbyterian Church.

All current officers were re-elected. Our Historian position remains vacant after the retirement of Olga Norris. The Grand President Steve Searles installed officers in January at a potluck dinner held at the Sourdough Lodge, including our traditional blind postal auction. We presented the Grand President with several Wrangell-centric gifts.

Homemade Christmas treats were shared with the residents of the Senior Apartments.

We lost one clearance member this past year.

Our annual picnic at Shoemaker Bay at the end of July with the men's igloo was attended by approximately 40 members and guests.

**Palmer Men's Igloo #31 and Women's Igloo #11
Presidents' Report – September, 2025**

Thank you, Valdez, for hosting this year's convention!

Palmer's Igloos, since the convention in Cordova, have been involved in our regular activities which have dwindled down to mostly regular meetings and a few summer activities.

We had a Christmas Party in December with the Women's Igloo President's Choice donation going to the Colony House Museum.

Our installation was held in January with Grand President Steve Searles presiding. The American Legion Post in Palmer offered up their building, with Jeanette Perdue and her crew doing the cooking.

In April, we were notified that we had 2 weeks to clear out all our stuff from the storage locker in Palmer and find a new destination for it. We had already discussed getting all our records together, and as ours were scattered in different places, it was a good time to do something about it. We asked Grand President Steve if we could use a portion of the conex at Snider Park since we had no storage facilities of our own, and he agreed to it. Many hands make for an easier job and we were able to empty the storage unit within 2 hours – George & Francine Strother, Denny Hamann, David Church, Frank Lombardo, Cathy Cottle, Norma Christiansen, Kathy Odsather, Debbie Dauphinais, and some others that I'm sure I've missed were sure helpful! We were able to empty the old storage unit, and fill the new storage unit that George & Francine Strother had been able to find. Cathy Cottle stored boxes of records in her garage until we could get things moved into the conex at Snider Park. Debbie Dauphinais started collecting and sorting out all our old records, getting them digitized and in chronological order. The men dealt with moving the heavy stuff (as usual). Denny Hamann found a couple more file cabinets and with a little pushing and shoving, the conex fit all the file cabinets! Photo albums, grand president documents – some from Harold Stephan and some from Louis Odsather were included, Igloo goodies have started filling those cabinets. It's interesting to watch what was going on each year in our Igloos with minutes, newspaper clippings, photos, programs both local and statewide, annual reports, convention books and minutes, etc all being filed in chronological order. Individual member information is being collected as well and will go into them a little at a time as newspaper searches are completed. We are grateful to have the opportunity to use a safe, dry, waterproof storage unit.

May, Palmer and Anchorage Igloos helped clean up Snider Park. The men did the heavy lifting while the women folk kept them fed! This always helps to get the park ready for future events. Although this is Grand Igloo property, Palmer and Anchorage Igloos carry the bulk of the load in managing and maintaining it.

June brought the Colony Day Weekend with a parade and a float. The float was provided by David Church. King and Queen Regents from around the state had the opportunity to ride and make themselves known!

Later that same day, Palmer Men's Igloo held their annual Stampede Dinner – ribeye steaks and all the fixings!

The very next day, as usual, was Snider Park's All-Alaska Picnic. It's a Grand Igloo function, hosted by Palmer and Anchorage Igloos. The weather was just okay. There were 74 people in attendance, from Homer, Seward, Delta Junction, Fairbanks, Palmer and Anchorage. Norma Aldefer was front and center at the sign-in table – I don't know how many years she's been handling that job, but she's a well-trained participant! It's always a bit chaotic and this year was no different. Welcomes went out to all current and past Grand Presidents and Grand Officers, and King & Queen Regents in attendance.

The Women's Igloo initiated 4 new members, 4 passed away, and 13 were dropped or stricken. The Men's Igloo initiated 1 new member, 5 passed away, and 9 were dropped or stricken.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruby Church

Presidents Report 2025

Igloos 32 and 14 Homer

Grand President, Past Grand Presidents, Grand Officers, and fellow Pioneers,

Alaskan summers are always short, but 2025 kinda went like this:

Marrrrrrrch Aaaaaaapril MayJuneJulyAugust! And here we are in September again.

Homer actually had a pretty nice year weather wise, but it has been a tough one health wise for many of our members. Most of us managed to stay on this side of the grass, but with limited energy to be very productive.

During the Winter a committee was formed to review and revise our Igloo Standing Rules in an effort to make running meetings more efficient. Changing the rules regarding calculating quorums was needed to conduct business meetings as the attendance dwindles.

Heavy rains in November caused flooding in the storage facility we rent for our records. Fortunately while organizing the records Debbie had everything put on shelves and in plastic totes, so damage was minimal. Mainly..... a couple of those "too nice to toss" cardboard boxes! You know the kind? Right.

It does serve as a reminder to all of us with storage units.

We managed to get through our installation with no tsunami warnings this year and also managed to have the two warnings this summer canceled with no waves. Good weather blessed our July picnic and it was well attended.

10 of the smaller cruise ships stopped in Homer this summer. With many coming into port on the Mondays of our meeting, this offered Past Grand President/Igloo President Don the opportunity to direct more than the usual meetings as Women's President Marie was greeting visitors at the Visitor Center or being a tour guide for Premier Bus Company.

Keeping up the flower garden at the Bay Crest scenic turn out kept Lorraine and her volunteers busy again this summer. The beautiful Pioneer sign has now been stored for the Winter.

Past Grand President Don is on a mission to collect books printed by Igloos and Pioneers to get them into the libraries of all the Pioneer Homes around the State. Let him know if your Igloo can be of help with this wonderful project.

Best wishes for a wonderful convention. Homer meetings are held on the second Monday of the month from September to May. Come join us.

Marie Walker, President Igloo #14

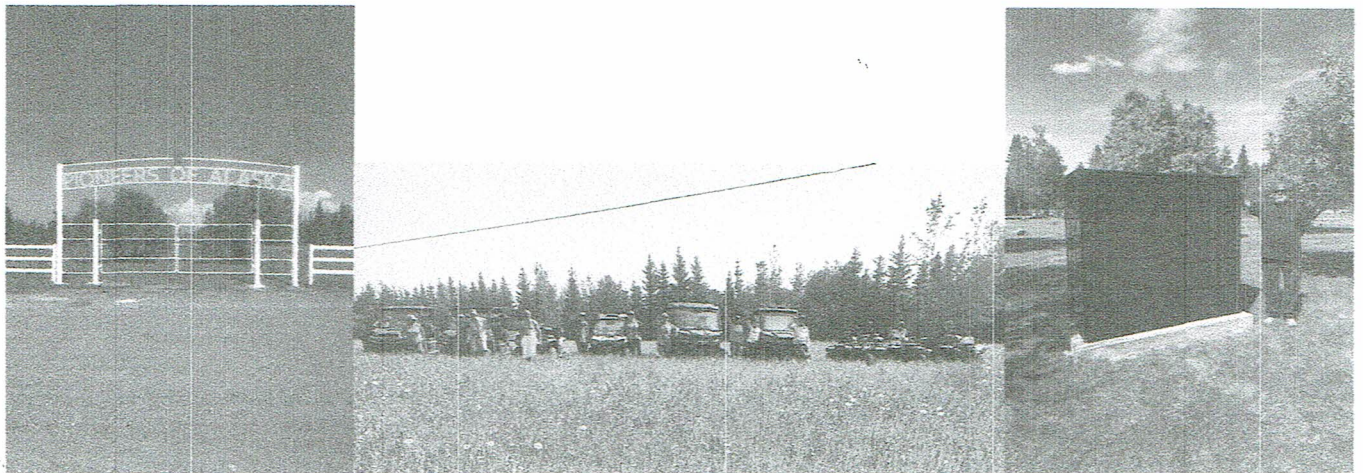


Don Bett, President Igloo #32



1. The Solstice Stampede is being independently reported by Ruth Benson and Joanie Skilbred. However, I will add information on the Delta Bison Range tour done as a part of the Stampede. This year the bison were early in arrival on the range and several small herds of bison were encountered, much to the delight of the participants. I thank George and Totsie Pursey, Cher Good and Kaelin and Cathy Mahnke for assisting me with this tour. The picture below shows most of the participants in the Bison Range/Hadjdukovich Creek tour. I am currently considering doing an independent Pioneer 2026 tour the last week in June as the bison should be on the bison range in greater numbers and give more photo ops. If there is enough interest in it this it will happen.
2. The new gate for the Delta **Pioneers of Alaska Cemetery** was completed this year. A big thanks to the efforts of Troxell Hebert (assisted by Ron Lester and Chuck Creamer) who gave us a conclusion to this project. Mike Murphy passed away prior to its completion so unfortunately he did not see the final results of a project he had spent so much time and effort working on. There is a picture below of the new entrance gate for Delta's Pioneer Cemetery. We also had a scholarship recipient help paint the letters for the sign.
3. Another project was brought to completion by Kaelin Mahnke, as he spearheaded the efforts to provide a **Columbarium** for the Pioneer Cemetery. Special credit is also given to Chuck Creamer, who transported the columbarium from the lower 48 to Delta Junction on his trailer, providing a significant monetary saving! Kaelin, seen below with the columbarium, also created the concrete pad on which the columbarium stands.

Respectfully, Nat Good, President





DELTA PIONEERS WOMEN'S IGLOO #19 & MEN'S IGLOO #35



JOINT 2025 CONVENTION PRESIDENT'S REPORT

September 25, 2025

Greetings Grand President, Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents, fellow delegates and Pioneers. Since the 2024 Convention in Cordova, we have been quite busy enjoying Pioneer life in beautiful Delta Junction. Some of our activities included:

January 18, 2025 OFFICER INSTALLATION: An excellent representation of 59 Pioneers & guests were present. 36 from Delta, 18 from Fairbanks, 3 from Seward & 2 from Valdez to join us for Delta's officer installation. These folks included, Special guests, Grand President, Steve Stearle & his wife Karen & numerous other Grand Offices.

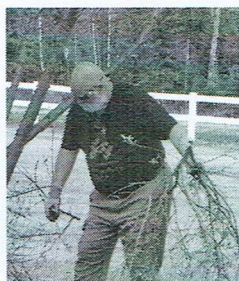
At the conclusion, a delicious roast beef or cornish game hen dinner was served by the Pioneer Moose Lodge members Vicky & Hawley Zachgo with assistance from DHS senior students.



February : We sent a Letter of Support to the City of Delta Junction for the Rasmuson Foundation Grant Request to Upgrade the Delta Jct. Community Center / Senior Lounge to Meet ADA Standards

April : Our Scholarship Committee held Delta HS applicant interviews on 4/28/25 and awarded (2) \$1,000 scholarships.

May 17th: Cemetery Clean-Up



Garage/Vendor Sales began in the Spring and continued thru the Summer & Fall, netting us many community donations and a steady minimum income of \$200 per sale thanks to the numerous volunteer hours of the committee and our 3-day night security provided by Chair Ruth Benson.

Our Delta Queen Regent, Ruth Benson & King Regent, Troxell Hebert attended the Golden Days Events in full royal regalia & our 2nd Delta Stampede.

Our joint Finance Committee, chaired by Troxell Hebert, has been meeting **throughout the Summer** to comply with the financial obligations required to Combine Igloos.

August 8-10, We organized the coverage of both ticket gates for all hours of the Deltana Fair which netted us \$1,800.

MEMBERSHIP: In 2025, we have added (3) new members to WI#19 & (2) new members to MI#35 with one member from MI#35 reaching the end of his Earthly Trail.

Where are your CHARTERS? Thanks to our WI#19 VP, Ruth Benson, we have submitted an electronic copy of each of our charters, MI#35 & WI#19 to our Grand Recorder, Libby Dalton-Slane & Grand Secretary, Dawn Campbell with a copy stored with our electronic and paper records.

Thanks Valdez Men's Igloo #7 & Women's Igloo #2 for a wonderful 108th Grand Convention!

Respectfully Submitted, *Flower Cole*, President WI#19

Pioneers of Alaska
Men's Igloo No. 7 & Women's Igloo No. 2
Valdez, Alaska 99686

September 26, 2025

2025 Activity Report

Hello again. Last year I gave this report in Cordova. I spoke of our shrinking membership base and the need for us in 2025 to seek out new members, or in a few short years we may not exist. I wish I had good news to report. I don't! We in Valdez are at the rim of the canyon staring into the abyss.

Although our two organizations have added 5 members this year through initiations, we have a net loss due to deaths and drops for non-payment of dues. At present, Men's Igloo #7 has 46 members and Women's Igloo #2 have 51. Both organizations had over 80 members a decade ago.

But the tale of the tape is that the men have 9 actively engaged members and the women 10 actively engaged members. At our annual election time these 9 and 10 member's trade offices. No one wants to be secretary as that office shoulders most of the work. Mostly absent from our two organizations is an entire generation...that age group of 40 to 60 years of age. Those born between 1965 and 1985 seems like a lost generation to us. What can we do about all of this? Probably not much! We have a sense that other igloos may have similar issues. We are planning on combining our two organizations with the approval of the Grand Igloo. We have been doing this in practice since our organizations were re-instituted in 1971...that is holding joint meetings and acting as one body.

At our September 9th meeting we agreed to combine our two organizations in a unanimous vote. A transition committee has been formed. Do we think this will save the pioneers from disappearing in Valdez? We do not. We think that this will delay the inevitable for a few years. Pioneering in Valdez went dark from about 1935 to 1971. It will no doubt happen again. If, in the future, a group of Valdez citizens become interested in its community and its history again, perhaps they will be able to re-join the Pioneers of Alaska...if that organization still exists.

Now...for our year in review. Our organizations met monthly all year long to approve plans for this years convention. A group of 12 met several times from May until the convention to do the planning detail work. Those individuals can be found in the "thank you" letter on the last page of our booklet.

We held two major public events this past year. In November, at the Pioneer Night-At-The-Museum, Dan Gilson gave a slide show and talk entitled "Fires, Floods, and Fiendish Foes: A Pioneer Townsite Destined to Die." On March 27th we held our annual Earthquake Memorial remembrance at the John Kelsey Dock with assistance from the Valdez Museum.

Other activities included "flagging" our deceased pioneer members graves on Memorial Day, our annual picnic in June, participation at the McCarthy Cemetery Clean-Up, the Delta Stampede, and steak night at Snider Park.

And finally, on a personal note, I want to recognize the passing of a former Valdez Men's #7 president...my brother Kevin Gilson.

Thank you,



Tom Gilson
Men's President
Valdez, Igloo #7



Lois Gilson
Women's President
Valdez Igloo #2

September 26, 2025
108th Grand Igloo Convention
Valdez, AK

McCarthy Igloo Report presented by Laurie Hege and assisted by Gordon Severson

Good Morning from the McCarthy Igloo

I am Laurie Hege Secretary

And this is Gordon Severson, Sgt. of Arms

Greetings Grand President Searles, Past Grand Presidents, All Grand Officers and fellow Pioneers.

Our Summer Expedition was held at Al Clayton's Meadow and was combined with the RAF Fly-In. The weather caused some issues for pilots incoming but they still outnumbered our Pioneers. We have at least 5 McCarthy Pioneers that are also pilots and many AK Pioneers also have a history with Aviation. We had an impromptu combo zoom/in person meeting due to pouring rain. Our meeting was timed for 1 hour and went completely off agenda. It became a get acquainted experience with some Zoom and some present. We had some very helpful input regarding community fund raising and projects. The entire event became a fun combination with food donations from the Delta Igloo-Buffalo Burgers, Fresh Salmon and Seafood from Cordova and Seward and too much else to mention. Even the pilots brought in their generous favorites..... A couple of pilots from Germany and another couple from Australia were in the mix. They were unbelievable in sharing their experiences in aviation. The German gents donated \$200.00 to the McCarthy Pioneers as an expression of gratitude. Also the Delta Junction Igloo donated 1/2 of the funds from their Igloo that they earned from their Buffalo Burgers. The leftovers were also donated to the McCarthy Igloo and Community. Past President Don Burt left a large bag of candy for the children of McCarthy. They have been dispersed between 2 churches and some remaining at Laurie Hege's home. A ceremony and

clean up was done at the McCarthy Cemetery. The museum and Kennicott were also popular visitors sites. Transportation to the Kennicott Cemetery cleanup prohibited the Pioneers from accomplishing a clean up there so that is in the planning for next summer. Our new McCarthy Pioneer Officers were approved and two of us were installed: Pat Proden as President, and Laurie Hege as Secretary. Then Patrick Proden did an initiation for our one new member. This showed our McCarthy Igloo as an increase of 1 for the year and a 0 loss for a total of 41 members. Thank you the Valdez Igloo for hosting us this year. This is a fantastic convention and a job well done!

A surprise presentation was done for Gordon Severson: Organized by Laurie Hege and Secret Accomplices Joannie Skillbred, Libby Dalton, and Dawn Campbell. Ruth Benson from the Delta Igloo stood also to assist with the presentation. It was a beautiful poster outlining Gordon's 2 column front page story from the Anchorage Daily News about his services as a Bailiff and his incredible Alaskan History. Gordon took the micro-phone with grace and gratitude. He asked Laurie to say some more closing words. For once, Laurie was speechless-Except to Thank Don Burt, Past Grand President for the candy for the McCarthy Children and to ask for special appreciation to the Secretaries for their unmatched hard work for the Pioneers of Alaska.

PIONEERS of ALASKA



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Presented to Ruth Benson & the Delta Women's Igloo on this 26th day of September, 2025
For their support of the Annual Wounded Warriors Hunt at Delta Jct., Alaska.
Their work to help feed the disabled combat veterans each fall is commendable.



Steve Searles

Steve Searles Grand President of the Pioneers of Alaska

Dawn Campbell

Dawn Campbell Grand Secretary of the Pioneers of Alaska



ECCE NOVUM ASTRUM

PIONEERS of ALASKA



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

*Presented to Ed and Pat Barber on this 26th day of September, 2025
For their years of dedicated commitment and service to the Pioneers of Alaska, and for their half
century record of continuous attendance at every Grand Igloo Convention since 1973.*



Steve Searles

Steve Searles Grand President of the Pioneers of Alaska

Dawn Campbell

Dawn Campbell Grand Secretary of the Pioneers of Alaska



ECCE NOVUM ASTRUM

September 8, 2025

Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska

2025 Audit Committee Report

Grand President, Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents, and fellow Pioneers,

The Grand Igloo Audit Committee has examined the financial records of the Grand Igloo for the last year. This examination consisted of reviewing the income and the expenses of the Grand Igloo. We have reviewed the invoice logs and accompanying receipts, deposit slips, warrants and logs, checks and bank statements. We find the Grand Treasurer books to be accurate and complete.

We commend our Grand Treasurer for her excellent service and thank her for her continued efforts in keeping the financial records in good order.

I would also like to thank the members of the Audit Committee for their service.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "E. Marie Walker".

E. Marie Walker, Chairman

Grand Igloo Audit Committee

Women's Igloo #14, Homer

GRAND IGLOO
PIONEERS OF ALASKA

ORGANIZED AUGUST 4, 1908



OFFICE OF THE GRAND RECORDER

VOTING MEMBERS FOR THE 108TH PIONEERS OF ALASKA

GRAND IGLOO CONVENTION - VALDEZ, ALASKA

SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2025

	<u>POSSIBLE</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Grand Igloo Officers	16	<u>16</u>
Past Grand Igloo Presidents	18	<u>11</u>
Igloo Delegates (Includes Igloo Presidents & Delegates-at-Large)**	<u>184</u>	<u>137</u>
Totals	218	<u>164</u>

We, the undersigned members of your Credential Committee, find the 2024 report correct as presented.

Libby Dalton Slane, Chair (Fairbanks)

Libby D. Slane

Vision Money (Homer)

Jim Plaquet (Fairbanks)

Diane Barnett

Diane Barnett (Anchorage)

Linda Conley (Fairbanks)

Linda E. Conley

** 3 Igloo Presidents are also Grand Officers or Past Grand Presidents and vote as Grand Officers rather than as Igloo Presidents. The total possible Igloo Delegates vote includes Sitka M.I. #22 and W.I. #12 although they have not filed their Annual Reports for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

GRAND IGLOO PIONEERS OF ALASKA - CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT YEAR 2025

IGLOO #	NAME	President	Del@Lg	Delegates	TOTAL	# Regis.	Proxies	Strength
M.I. #1	Nome	(G.O.) 0	1	2	3	0	3	3
W.I. #1	Nome	1	1	2	4	2	1	3
M.I. #4	Fairbanks	1	1	11	13	6	6	12
W.I. #8	Fairbanks	1	1	17	19	12	7	19
M.I. #6	Juneau	(G.O.) 0	1	4	5	2	3	5
W.I. #6	Juneau	1	1	6	8	3	5	8
M.I. #7	Valdez	1	1	2	4	3	0	3
W.I. #2	Valdez	1	1	2	4	4	0	4
M.I. #9	Seward	1	1	3	5	4	0	4
W.I. #9	Seward	1	1	4	6	5	0	5
M.I. #15	Anchorage	1	1	11	13	5	7	12
W.I. #4	Anchorage	1	1	11	13	8	3	11
M.I. #16	Ketchikan	1	1	3	5	0	3	3
W.I. #7	Ketchikan	1	1	5	7	3	4	7
M.I. #18	Kodiak	1	1	2	4	1	0	1
W.I. #17	Kodiak	1	1	2	4	1	0	1
M.I. #19	Cordova	1	1	5	7	1	6	7
W.I. #5	Cordova	1	1	5	7	1	6	7
M.I. #21	Wrangell	1	1	1	3	0	0	0
W.I. #15	Wrangell	1	1	2	4	0	0	0
M.I. #22	Sitka	1	1	2	4	0	0	0
W.I. #12	Sitka	1	1	3	5	0	0	0
M.I. #26	Petersburg	1	1	3	5	0	0	0
W.I. #10	Petersburg	1	1	3	5	0	0	0
M.I. #31	Palmer	1	1	1	3	2	1	3
W.I. #11	Palmer	1	1	3	5	5	0	5
M.I. #32	Homer	(PGO) 0	1	1	2	0	2	2
W.I. #14	Homer	1	1	2	4	0	2	2
M.I. #35	Delta Junction	1	1	2	4	1	3	4
W.I. #19	Delta Junction	1	1	3	5	3	2	5
McCarthy Combined Igloo		1	1	2	4	1	0	1
TOTALS		28	31	125	184	73	64	137

Preliminary Meeting of Pioneers of Alaska

February 7th, 1907

Dr. A. McDonald published a call to interested persons in the Nome papers, to meet at the office of Dr. Chase and Dr. Southworth in the Nome Bank building, on February 7th, 1907, at 9pm. 28 folks showed up to help establish this grand organization. (see attached list) After temporary officers were elected, a motion was made by J.J. Chambers & 2nd by Frank Aldrich, that "only men of good moral character, who were present in Alaska prior to Jan1st, 1899, and who's interests since such time, had been dominantly identified with Alaska, should be eligible to membership in the society to be organized". A committee was appointed to draw up Constitution and By-Laws.

Motion is made to adjourn until February 14th, 1907, at 8pm. It was at that meeting that the report of the committee on the constitution was read and the address written by the temporary secretary, Conrad Siem, be adopted as a preamble to the Constitution.

1907 Pioneers of Alaska Preamble To The Constitution and By-Laws

When we came to Alaska, when we blazed the trails through her splendid and primeval forests, or seated beside our campfires, at the base of her grand and glorious mountains, when we drifted gently down her quiet and magnificent streams, or cruised along her many wide and beautiful bays and inlets of her majestic shore line, when we had gathered in winter quarters and were impressed with the grandeur of her arctic winter, we had dreams. Some of our dreams, have since become great realities, others are realizing the themselves around every day, but we are still dreaming.

It is high time that we awake to the fact that we have rights in the land of our discovery and that we owe duties to the land of our peaceful conquest. We revealed to the world the souls of Alaska's treasures and we drew upon ourselves and opened wide the gates to the tidal wave of humanity. It was but natural that we became engulfed in the flood, that we were carried along in the breaking crest of the wave and crestfallen, were scattered throughout our land. Since then, the tides of humanity have ebbed and flowed in Alaska, they have been steadily adding to her fullness, so that today the rising waters are threatening to efface much that has become dear to us and much that will be precious to our children.

It is therefore highly opportune that the Pioneers have rallied, and are gathering themselves, are coming again to the front. Alaska is calling them to *keep* the memories of her early struggles. Alaska needs them to lead and pave the way for her greater future.

When man, in his search for wider freedom, goes into voluntary exile, and enters the wilderness, he becomes weaned from sordid desires, by his closer communion with nature and he soon outgrows the petty prejudices and the narrow view of his former surroundings. He is made a better man, by imbibing directly from nature's breast, the grand principles of humanity. This wise nature nurses the Pioneer, and fits him to be the leader, who without bias and prejudice, can determine what is best for the new commonwealth.

Alaska is about to enter the era of her *development*, when she might adopt rightful measures, and when she shall create permanent institutions. At such times it will behoove the Pioneers to meet in solemn councils, diligently to review existing conditions, and earnestly to deliberate on their country's welfare and needs. They will fearlessly suppress what is harmful, they will strongly uphold what is right. The future happiness of Alaska is largely depending on their honest determinations.

We have in Washington, D.C. a strong and honest executive, who is earnestly endeavoring to form for himself a truthful conception of Alaska and her needs, so that he may rightly determine legislation. He is addressed by many men who are only seeking to further their own little and selfish ends. Let the Pioneers of Alaska become a source of truthful information.

The men who sacrificed home and home ties to open up Alaska will not shrink from sacrificing where her welfare is concerned. There are prevailing amongst us, many contentions, and we are surrounded by strife which are hindering the better development of our country. It is our duty to search for, and to establish harmonious conditions. Let the Pioneers of Alaska be high minded arbiters who with malice toward none, and with charity for all, shall seek to maintain rightful and fruitful peace. Let us therefore reunite ourselves in fraternal bonds, for our own and our country's greater good. Let us solemnly pledge ourselves to gather and preserve the relics and early history of Alaska for the benefit of our children, and the future state, to hold out a protecting and lifting arm for the natives, whose frugal fare, we often used to share in earlier days. To deliberate earnestly, and to work unselfishly, for the betterment of Alaska, and her social, political, and economic institutions. Let us so behave ourselves that our badge shall become a true badge of honor and that our word and council shall be respected throughout the land.

We propose to institute a roll of honor to perpetuate to fame, the names of men who have rendered and who shall render eminent services for Alaska and her institutions. We further propose that we annually celebrate the birthday of "Seward" and further, that the bust of this great statesman, whose foresightedness saved Alaska for our union, shall forever occupy the place of honor in our council chambers, so that by looking up at him we shall be steadily reminded of our high resolution, not let perish from the earth, but to plant firmly, and to uphold strongly in Alaska, our great American institutions. Like he stood besides his great chief, in the days of our severest trial, so shall Alaska stand by the Union. Such are the pledges and such is the spirit of the Pioneers of Alaska.

This Book is written for the purpose of taking
an account of facts and occurrences pertaining
to Igloo No. 1. the Society of Pioneers of Alaska
and the Territory of Alaska

Organization of Igloo No. 1. Pioneers of Alaska

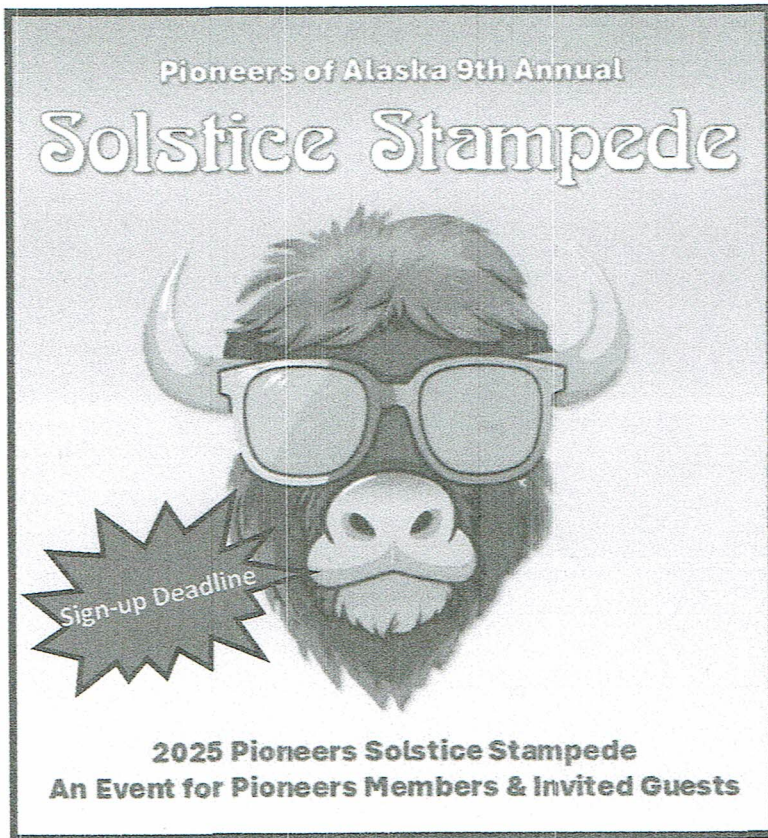
minutes of the preliminary meeting of Pioneers of Alaska held on Feb. 7th 1907 at 9 P.M.
in the office of Dr. Chase + Dr. Southworth Home. Bank Building

In answer to the call published in the Home papers by Dr. A. Macdonald the following
Pioneers of Alaska, met in the offices of Dr. Chase + Southworth in the Home. Bank. Bldg.
in Home. Alaska. on Feb. 7th 1907. at 9 P.M. viz.

Dr. A. Macdonald.
F. E. Spolase
John. H. Edwards
W. D. ang. Chase
Frank. A. Aldrich
M. W. Kimball
archie. Mitchell
C. B. Owen
J. L. Pederson
F. H. Crain
James. L. Kennedy
H. J. Harding
Robert. B. Benson
John. L. Reed

A. C. Craig
Wm. J. Perkins
George. A. Diamond
George. R. Gardner
Warren. Nelson
R. B. Milroy
Thomas. A. Hanson
W. B. Nash
James. H. Cain
J. J. Chambers
Wm. Thompson
Conrad. Lien
D. H. Watt
F. H. Nagel.

Pack Up and Get Ready!



Our Final Update!

The Stampede is coming up fast and this update will have some important information regarding the schedule, what to bring etc.

If you have any questions or concerns you can always call or text Joanie at 907-687-0930 or email to skilbred@gci.net

Joanie will be contacting you in the next couple of days for what extra items we will need you to bring.

ATV Tour

For those that signed up for the ATV Tour here is what you need to bring:

Helmet or Hat
Dust Mask or Bandana
Gloves
Jacket
Food & Water

Nat, Cher, Kaelen, Cathy, George and Tot-sie are going to be your guides and they have a fun trip planned for you.

Lately the buffalo have been hanging around the area you will be travelling through, so keep those fingers crossed!

Reminders:

This is a bring your own chair and beverages event!

Attending this event is at your own risk. The ATV tour is also at your own risk.

Members of the Delta Igloos, the Pioneers of Alaska, and Joan Skilbred are not responsible for accidents or injury that might occur during the Delta Solstice Stampede.

Thurs June 19th – Sun June 22nd

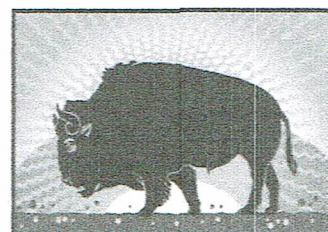
Attendees Roster

Delta	Mary Woodbury
Fairbanks	Joan Skilbred
Delta	Troxel Hebert
Delta	Vel Wager
Delta	Samuel Wager
Delta	Genie Permenter
Delta	Ruth Benson
Delta	Ruth Benson Guest
Fairbanks	Larry Colp
Fairbanks	Annie Colp
Fairbanks	Michael Heintz
Valdez	Steve Searles
Valdez	Karen Searles
Fairbanks	George Lounsbury
Valdez	Tom Gilson
Valdez	Lois Gilson
Valdez	Don Koklich
Valdez	Suzie Koklich
Fairbanks	Rachel Stark
Fairbanks	Jeremy Stark
Fairbanks	Georgia Berry
Fairbanks	Wanda Huber
Fairbanks	Halyna Herning
Fairbanks	Joanne White
Fairbanks	Jim Plaquet
Fairbanks	Jan Plaquet
Fairbanks	Don Ilgenfritz
Fairbanks	Linda Ilgenfritz

Delta	George Pursey
Delta	Totsie Pursey
Delta	Don Frazier
Delta	Dawn Frazier
Delta	Nat Good
Delta	Cher Good
Delta	Flower Cole
Delta	Kaelin Mahnke
Delta	Cathy Mahnke
Fairbanks	Erika Miller
Fairbanks	Michelle Murt
Fairbanks	Libby Dalton-Slane
Fairbanks	Boone Slane
Fairbanks	Wynola Possenti
Delta	Jackie Nelson
Delta	Pedro
Delta	Jessica Smith
Delta	Nat Good Jr.
Wasilla	Ginger Baim
Fairbanks	Jay Schikora

ATV Tour Roster

Larry Colp
Annie Colp
Micheal Heintz
Libby Dalton-Slane
Boone Slane
Tom Gilson
Lois Gilson
Don Koklich
Suzie Koklich
Steve Searles
Karen Searles
Lon Rake
Sandra Rake



WARNING:

This trip is focused on outdoor experiences.

Be prepared to use outhouses, walk on unlevel rocky surfaces, and the nearest hospital is 100 miles away in Fairbanks.

There will be walking to and from some of our events, along with some standing as well.

All those participating in the event will be expected to manage

Pets Notice



Due to issues at past stampedes that include food theft by pets, dog fights, and even someone being bitten,
we ask that you please leave you pet at home.
We want everyone to have a nice time without the worry of multiple pets marauding through the crowd.

If you bring a pet, you will be asked to keep it in your car.

While we are in Delta, we will have an exciting array of Pioneer events we hope you will choose to participate in:

What to Bring

For your personal items we would like to remind you about the following; Jacket, hat, sunglasses, bug dope, medications, beverages, chairs etc. Also please bring side dishes for the 2 potluck dinners, and your beverages & snacks.

Thursday June 19th

Attendees will be arriving, and dinner will be on your own. There are a few places to eat in Delta or you can whip up your own at your camp or lodging of choice.

There will be plenty of lies traded at the campfire, and we welcome any and all new lies you might want to share about being an Alaskan. Favorite topics include hunting, fishing, winter, and drinking to name a few.

Friday June 20th

Pancake Breakfast

We will be offering a pancake breakfast from 8:00 am until 10:00 am at the Pioneer Park pavilion

Pioneer Projects

Dedication of Delta Cemetery
New Pioneer Gate
& Pioneer Columbarium 10:30 am

We will be participating in the ribbon cutting for the new Pioneer upgrades to the Delta Cemetery.

Sullivan Open House 1 pm to 3 pm

There will be food and fee tours at the Sullivan Roadhouse Historic Museum. You can also feel free to take in a few other sights around Delta too.

Happy Hour

At the Trophy Lodge 2pm to 4 pm

Belly up to the bar and have great fun breaking in a fresh crop of young bartenders trying to keep up with the thirsty and noisy Pioneers! Don't forget to bring tip money!

Delta Igloos 38th Anniversary Celebration

Potluck Dinner 5 pm

There will be salmon & ribs with a potluck for the side dishes and desserts.

Ladies Skillet Toss

The ladies will compete for a coveted prize by tossing a skillet in the field. This is a fun event to watch and participate in. Ladies dust off your best lightweight throwing skillet! *(No cast iron or similar heavy skillets will be allowed, we don't want anyone getting hurt.)*

Men's Snowshoe Batting Practice

The men will vie for the big prize by batting at a ball with a snowshoe. We will supply the snowshoes and even let them choose the right or left, which everyone they think will give them a competitive edge.

Delta Nugget Toss

Toss your nuggets into the cups and win great prizes. The big winner will also be awarded with a great trophy.

Chip Throw

Chuck Chips into the field to compete for some great prizes. The big winner will also be awarded with a great trophy.

50/50 Drawing

You could be a winner of this fundraiser for the Delta Igloos. Tickets will be sold during the day with the drawing happening at 8:00 pm at Pioneer Pavilion.

The Delta liar's club will also be in session during the evening events in the Pavilion.

**50/50 DRAWING
DOOR PRIZES
ATV TOUR
PIONEER FUN**



Saturday June 21st

Pancake Breakfast

We will be offering a pancake breakfast from 8:00 am until 10:00 am at the Pioneer Park Pavilion.

Pioneer ATV/UTV Tour 9:00 am

Nat Good is leading a grand tour via ATV's through the bison fields to the historic Hadjukovich Creek and return. Bring an ATV and join them for this fun ride that will feature a few stops to learn some local history. *You will need to sign up in advance with Joan for this event.*

Delta Pioneers Memorial Service 3pm

The memorial service will honor the Delta Pioneers who have passed on using the historic original Pioneer Memorial Service from 1920.

Potluck Dinner 5pm

We will be eating dinner at the Delta Pioneer Pavilion, and getting ready for the evening's entertainment. The potluck dinner will feature buffalo burgers & hotdogs courtesy of the Delta Igloos.

Grand President's Opening of Events & Introductions

Grand President Steve Searles will be officiating and will open our evening of Pioneer Fun.

Delta Pioneer Regents Coronation

We will be crowning a new set of Pioneer King and Queen Regents!

Original 1920 Pioneer Initiation Ceremony

We will be officially initiating a few new members to the Delta Igloos using the original Pioneer Ceremony which includes a campfire, falling into a glacier and being rescued by the Pioneers.

50/50 Drawing

You could be a winner of this fundraiser for the Delta Igloos. Tickets will be sold during the day with the drawing happening at 8:00 pm at Pioneer Pavilion.

Get Ready, Time to Herd Up!

Pioneers & Pilots & Sun, Oh My!

McCarthy Expedition



A Pioneers of Alaska Adventure Event

Fellow McCarthy Adventurers.

This update contains more information about the drive between Chitina and McCarthy, the schedule of events, potluck dinner information, and some very important instructions for those planning on staying at Clayton's Dairy-Air, affectionately known as the "herd."

Currently we have signed up Pioneers, guests of Pioneers, and a few pilots. This means we will have between 45 and 50 Alaskans celebrating at McCarthy with us, and also taking into consideration there are usually a few event crashers that may not have taken the time to sign up.

Because we have a lot of attendees, and a lot going on, we ask that you read this information carefully. We are making every effort to keep you as informed as possible, for our upcoming adventure.

Let Joan know if you need anything or have any questions, she is always there to help you get the information you need.

You can contact her at:
skilbred@gci.net or 907-687-0930.

FYI:

Attendees are expected to be able to care for themselves and to have what they need to comfortably participate in this event.

It is important to remember you will have to take care of your own food needs for breakfast, lunch, Friday night dinner, and snacks.

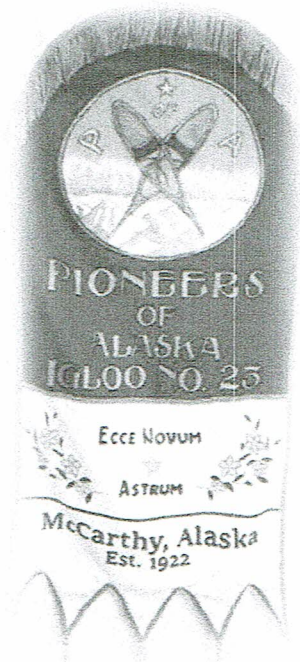
McCarthy does have a couple of eateries if you want to go the easy route.

There will be two nights of potluck dinners on Saturday & Sunday. We encourage you to contribute to it by bringing side dishes to share for those two nights.

Joan will be supplying the salmon and ribs for Saturday night, and on Sunday we will have buffalo burgers and brats from the Delta Igloos of the Pioneers of Alaska.

You will also need to bring any needed serving utensils for your potluck side dishes.

Joan will also be contacting you regarding a couple of incidental items to bring as well.



Time to pack up and get ready!

For more information or to signup,
please contact Joan Skilbred at 907-687-0930 or skilbred@gci.net

Friday July 11th - Monday July 14th

Important Notices

The property owners in the area around the airstrip have asked us to please stay off the airstrip and the surrounding access roads. The maps included show the access we are authorized to use to get to Clayton's Dairy-Aire Meadow and any use of other roads or driving on the edge of the airstrip is not authorized.

We are the guests of the Dairy-Aire, but not the rest of the neighborhood, so please respect the rights of the other property owners to enjoy their property in peace and quiet, without buzzing ATV's or oth-

er vehicles kickup up dust and making noise.

We want folks to remember the Pioneers in a good way and not as bunch of noisy trespassers! Stick to the red arrow path on the last two pages of this brochure!



Important message from Al Clayton:

- 1) Everyone top of fuel in Glenallen, Kenny Lake or Chitina;
- 2) Everyone bring their own folding chairs, water, coolers;
- 3) Everyone be prepared to haul out their own trash;
- 4) There are 4 large picnic tables for the main cooking area.
- 5)

Al's Wish List:

- 1) A couple more folding tables
- 2) 12 x 12 or so canopy

If you have one of these please bring it.

Communications

As usual, if you are going to a remote Alaskan Community, be prepared to not have the use of your cell phone. Chitina and McCarthy both have 4G coverage by Copper Valley Telecom. If you have a Verizon phone, you will have service as well. All others are out of luck. Many of the lodging businesses offer free wi-fi to their customers. If you are camping at the Dairy-Aire, you will be having so much fun, you won't need your phone or an internet connection.

Physical Limitations & Health Issues

WARNING: This trip is focused on outdoor experiences.

Be prepared to use outhouses, walk on unlevel rocky surfaces, and there are no hospitals or other medical facilities in the area. There will be lots of walking to and from some of our events, and some standing as well.

We will assume all those participating will manage their own health needs and risks while on this trip.

Tons of Fun Under the Midnight Sun!

We will have a few contests with great prizes this year!

Pancake Flipping Contest
Ladies Skillet Tossing Contest
Snowshoe Batting Practice
Famous Chip Toss

You can't win if you don't play!

**CONTESTS
& PRIZES!**

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

There are many folks in McCarthy along with the staff of the Wrangell St. Elias National Park who have done a lot to make this event possible for all of us.

While at the McCarthy Stampede, you will be seeing a lot of these kind hearted folks who volunteered to give rides, tours, special rates, travel access and even cooking all of us breakfast on Wednesday morning.

They have opened their hearts to us and let's be sure to show them your appreciation by saying thank you and by giving generous tips and donations.

Also remember to be respectful of their property and rules.

Hosts, Al & Beth Clayton

McCarthy Museum Board & Staff

Wrangell St. Elias National Park Staff

Neil Darish

The McCarthy Igloo

And several other McCarthy residents.



Tentative Events Schedule

Friends, Pioneers and Aviators: *Aviators in black, Pioneers in blue.*

This is an invitation and reminder of details on our upcoming Aviators and Pioneers of Alaska fly-out/drive-out to Fireweed (OAK8) near McCarthy set for July 11-14, 2025.

Directions for those coming over the road are in the attachments. Pilots, please announce intentions on 122.9 for landing at "Fireweed" which appears on FAA chart as (OAK8). Elevation is 1250 feet, packed gravel surface with 2000 feet between the orange cones marking the preferred northern end of the airstrip. Runways 01-19. Right traffic for 01. Unless otherwise instructed, park at the south end of the strip with nose pointed NW. For noise abatement on departures to the south on 19, turn left (east) toward the Kennicott River as soon as able. Call me if you plan to fly in and I will share more local information.

Flight-see to your heart's content and on Saturday join the work party improving a bush strip on National Park Service land.

The itinerary:

Friday, July 11

0800 – 1400 Hosts Al Clayton, Ray Huot and Stef Goza get Gladys the bus, picnic tables, BBQs and the buildings/systems up and running

1400 – 1800 Ray Huot monitoring 122.9 on a hand held helps inbound landing traffic park at south end of strip and Al Clayton gets people and gear from strip to meadow for camping or other lodging

1800 – 1815 Safety briefing for optional Saturday mission with NPS to airstrip nearby

1815 – 2200 Potluck dinner at fire-pit

All Day- Pioneers arriving.

Saturday, July 12

0700 – 0900 Pancake breakfast and picnic lunch preparation at the firepit/grill (Al will supply the pancake batter, potluck additions to the breakfast menu welcome)

0830 - 0845 Pancake flipping competition (pan only, no flippers allowed)

0900 – 0915 Additional instructions and flight plan briefing for work crew outbound to NPS strip; discussion of Pioneer cemetery restoration and local historic attractions for those staying in McCarthy/Kennicott

0930 – 1030 Ray controls outbound flights and shuttle between Fireweed and NPS Strip.

1030 – 1530 volunteers at airstrip and trail improvement (bring work gloves/clothes, safety glasses and limb nippers)

1530 – 1730 return shuttle to Fireweed

10:00 am to Noon- Pioneers work in Kennicott or McCarthy Cemeteries.

Noon to 1:00 pm- Pioneers lunch on your own.

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm - Pioneers happy hour on the deck at the Golden. Work will also be done touching up the paint on the Pioneer Milepost sign.

1800 – 1930 Potluck dinner at Dairy-Aire fire-pit with tall tales, embellishments and outright lies

1900 – 1930 Planning meeting for additional RAF, IFFR, 180/185, EAA Chapter 42 activities for 2024 and 2025

7:30 pm—Pioneers to conduct historic initiation ceremony for the McCarthy Igloo.

Continued onto the next page.

Tentative Events Schedule

Sunday, July 13

0700 – 0900 Pancake breakfast and picnic lunch preparation at the firepit/grill (AI will supply the pancake batter, potluck additions to the breakfast menu welcome)

0830 - 0845 Pancake flipping competition (pan only, no flippers allowed)

0900 - 2400 Weather reserve day for fly out and work-party on airstrip. Free day to hike and explore McCarthy and Kennicott.

5:00 pm to 5:30 pm – McCarthy Pioneers Officer Installation Ceremony around the campfire.

1800 – 1930 Potluck dinner at Dairy-Aire fire-pit with tall tales, embellishments and outright lies

After Dinner- Pioneer Field Games:

Ladies Skillet Toss – Ladies bring your own skillets. (No cast iron allowed for safety reasons.) Decorate them or leave them dirty, either way, this is your big chance to have some fun and win a great prize!

Men's Snowshoe Batting Practice – Fellas step up to the plate and get a homer using a snowshoe as the bat. We will supply the snowshoes and the ball. Batter Up!

Nugget Toss – Test your skill flinging nuggets. This is a real crowd pleaser and there is a nice trophy along with a great prize for the winner.

Monday, July 14

0700 – 0900 Pancake breakfast and picnic lunch preparation at the firepit/grill (AI will supply the pancake batter, potluck additions to the breakfast menu welcome)

0830 - 0845 Pancake flipping competition (pan only, no flippers allowed)

0900 – 1500 Wind up, clean up, and depart the pattern.

Of Interest to Pilots on Floats:

Mike Collins of Cordova is the owner of the beautiful property with the grass strip which parallels the road at the west end of Long Lake, 20 miles west of my place at Fireweed Strip. He has kindly given permission for float planes involved in this effort to park at his two docks and the beach there at the west end of the lake near his cabins and the grass airstrip. Operations are at your own risk, of course. If you radio us on 122.9, I am sure we will have someone on wheels who can come over, pick you up from the grass strip at Long Lake, so you can enjoy McCarthy and Kennicott with us, and shuttle you back in the evening so you can watch over your parked planes.

It would be essential to know you are coming on floats so we can plan for and time a wheel shuttle.

From everyone, I would appreciate an RSVP in advance of July 8. Hit reply all so that Beth can help me keep track of the potential size of the group. I rarely check email while in McCarthy so don't ask questions at the last minute.

Pilots-- Email, Call or text me at 9072501649 and let me know. If you do not want to camp, email me now and I can provide several other options for accommodations at B&Bs and Lodges.

Pioneers – Contact Joan Skilbred at 907-687-0930 or skilbred @gci.net by July 9th to sign up or ask questions.

Look forward to seeing you there! Safe Travels. My cell phone sometimes works in McCarthy (907-250-1649).

Thanks, AI

Grand Igloo Medallion Committee 2025 Convention Report

September 26, 2025

Fellow Pioneers,

This year's Medallion Committee consists of Dorothy Wamsley of Valdez, Joan Skilbred of Fairbanks and it is chaired by Jim Plaquet of Fairbanks.

Special thanks to the Valdez Igloos for this year's design. They did a marvelous job!

Our committee again ordered this year's medallions through the Silver Towne Mint in Indiana. We have been exceptionally pleased with the service they have offered us.

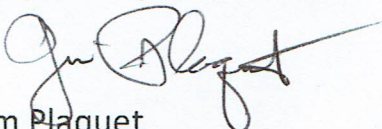
This year we ordered 65 medallions: 50 were gold enhanced and 10 were silver. Both types can be purchased by any Pioneer.

Our number ordered this year was based on the past several years' orders and sales records. So far, we have sold 10 silver and 40 gold. The goal being to sell all our medallions at this convention.

Also noteworthy for this year is a minting chart, that we are including with each medallion that shows how many of that type were minted in the past, thus creating a provenance record for future valuations. Because in most years since 2014 there have been less than 100 created for each year, these medallions will be considered rare in the future, thus increasing their value. You will want to save that little piece of paper with your medallion collection.

The selling price this year was \$70 for silver medallions, and \$90 for the gold-enhanced ones. The profits from the medallions go towards subsidizing the Pathfinder, which is the Grand Igloo's official quarterly newsletter. Also, one silver medallion goes to the Grand Igloo Medallion collection.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Plaquet

2025 Grand Igloo Medallion Committee Chair

Joan Skilbred – Dorothy Wamsley

PIONEERS OF ALASKA
109th GRAND IGLOO CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 2025

Mr. Grand President, Grand Officers, Past-Grand Presidents, and Fellow Pioneers:

I am sure there are many of you wondering when *The Pathfinder* come into being? Here is a short timeline of the Pathfinder Publications. In:

- **1919** – *The Pathfinder* began its publication in Valdez as the official monthly journal of the Pioneers of Alaska. It served as a statewide communication link, recording igloo activities, conventions, memorials, and pioneer history.
- **July 1922** – The title changed to *The Pathfinder of Alaska* (Volume 3, Number 8) to reflect its broader role as the voice of the Igloo across the territory.
- **1926** – Last known issues of *The Pathfinder of Alaska* were published. Though short-lived, the journal preserves valuable records of early 20th-century Alaska and the Pioneer movement.
- **1996** – The Pioneers of Alaska revived the tradition of a statewide publication with the launch of the *Alaska Pioneer Pathfinder*, issued quarterly as the organization's official newsletter.
- **2025** – The *Alaska Pioneer Pathfinder* celebrated 30 years of continuous publication, carrying forward the mission of preserving Alaska's history and uniting members statewide.

If you are new and unfamiliar with *The Pathfinder*, it is a Grand Igloo Newsletter which is published four times a year. It is for and about the Pioneer Igloos, special Pioneer events, historical items and a little humor thrown in. It costs \$5.00 a year for a paper newsletter, and \$2.50 per year for a '.pdf' newsletter, both of which are a real bargain. If you are not subscribing, we encourage you to start now. It can also be found on the Grand Igloo Website.

It has been our honor to be serve you for the last two years. We try to make this publication for, and about, all the Pioneers, and we strive to make it interesting, informative, and entertaining. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please let us know what you would like to see included

Balance Forward:	\$3,046.73
Income:	\$ 255.00
Expenses:	<u>\$1,409.19</u>
Ending Balance:	<u>\$1,892.54</u>

The Pathfinder is subsidized by the Medallion Fund, so thank you for buying all those medallions. This year, as last year, we are requesting \$1,500.00 for the 2025 budget to help cover the increased cost of printing.

Respectfully submitted,


Wanda A. Huber, Chair

Flower Cole

David and Diane Barnett

EMBLEMS AND TRADEMARKS COMMITTEE REPORT
108th GRAND IGLOO CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2025

Grand President Steve, Grand Officers, and fellow Pioneers,

The Emblems and Trademark committee members are:

Karen Searles WI 2, Valdez;
Dawn Campbell WI 9, Seward;
Libby Dalton-Slane WI 8, Fairbanks;
Vision Money WI 14, Homer, Chair.

The Emblems and Trademarks committee met via e-mail in early September.

Our emblems have not changed. All four of our trademarks are current.

Our Women's Igloo emblem trademark (forget-me-not wreath) is up for renewal in 2026.

The renewal due date is before our next convention, so we should decide at this convention if we want to renew this trademark.

This committee unanimously recommends that we do not renew this trademark.

Our trademarks and due dates are as follows:

The Women's Igloo emblem is due 9-27-2026;
The Crossed Snowshoes with sunray background is due 11-10-2027
The Man pulling Sled is due 2-16-2028;
The Crossed Snowshoes is due 9-30-2031.

Respectfully submitted,

Vision A

Vision Money
Chair, Emblems and Trademarks Committee

The Grand Igloo's
Snider Park 2025
by: Mr. Caleb Aldeman

9/22/25

All Igloo's wish to thank Hini & Alce Snider for their Park, it is a true gem for all of us Pioneers.

I want to personally thank Mr & Mrs. Jim Wilson, again this year for all their help. Additionally, I wish to thank George & Fran Strother (Bill) and Rulay Church, David Church and Debbie Daughline church; and Denny Harmon who helped cut the grass.

Much thanks to Mayor Glenda Ledford and Council woman Cathy Cottle for the newly paved road into Snider Park, Bert Cottle would be pleased to see this.

Clean up in May was fun and made the grass cutting a pleasure. We had a fine Grand Igloo picnic and many Igloo's were able to attend. The Palmer Igloo Steak feed was a great success thanks to many, especilla Don and Sharon Benson; I came in skinny and left a little fatter! Virgil and Dawn Cambell were a huge help and OZZY too.

We made money beyond expenses with our gasoline bill for that new riding mower, that needs reimbursed

Caleb F. Aldeman
Snider Park

Grand Igloo Membership Committee

2025 Annual Report to the Grand Igloo

Lew Tobin, Nome – Committee Co-Chair
Joan Skilbred, Fairbanks—Co-Chair
Ruth Benson, Delta Junction

Marie Walker, Homer
Jerimiah Myers, Kodiak
Diane Barnett, Anchorage

September 26, 2025

Fellow Pioneers,

We the Grand Igloo Membership Committee comprised of pioneers from many Igloos both small and large, have met and diligently worked on issues regarding dwindling membership numbers within the Pioneers of Alaska.

Currently we are collectively losing about 150 members per year. Most of this loss is due to the aging of our membership and deaths. There is not much we can do to minimize that kind of annual loss. What we can do is work to offset some of those losses with new members.

After reviewing the past 10 years of membership numbers that were reported by the Grand Recorder, we can see a few interesting trends emerging. Several of our Igloos have shown losses in member numbers during the past decade, while others seem to be flourishing.

The Seward, Cordova, Petersburg, Delta and McCarthy Igloos are all gaining members, while the rest of the Igloos seem to be struggling, some of them showing significant losses each year during the past decade. Why is that?

These successful Igloos are active. They also make every effort to recruit new members and offer a welcoming response when those new members show up. They have not done anything fancy, but they did make the effort to improve, and that effort is clearly seen in their annual membership numbers.

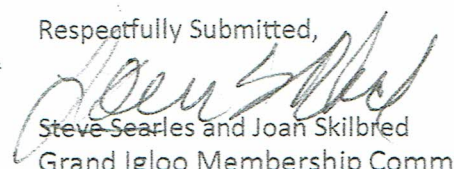
We strongly encourage all of you to make the extra effort to engage in friendly recruitment of those you meet in your community. A friendly invite to an Igloo event, or just telling them about how much fun you have had as a Pioneer is all it takes. Also please remember that you have to be an active Igloo to be successful.

The combining of Igloos will help to make some Igloos function better, we feel this option is a step in the right direction.

The further lowering of the residency requirement has been requested by many members, and we are open to hearing further discussion from the members of various Igloos on that topic. There seems to be some strong support for that kind of change, but we want to hear from more of you before we propose taking further action on it.

We also welcome any ideas on improving membership from any of you.

Respectfully Submitted,



Steve Searles and Joan Skilbred
Grand Igloo Membership Committee Co-Chairs

2025 Ideas List for New Member Recruitment

Our contact information is located in the members only part of the Grand Igloo website.

The following items are recommendations for the next year by the Grand Igloo Membership Committee:

- 1.) We encourage all Igloos to meet regularly and throughout the entire year. We feel regular year-round meetings keep everyone together, is better for the conducting of business and give more opportunities to bring in new members.
- 2.) Consider any new member initiated into an Igloo as that Igloos most precious asset. Treat them in a warm and welcoming way and encouraging them to participate by asking them to help out.
- 3.) Alaska Day and Seward's Day are State holidays, and there is no competition from other groups celebrating those days in most communities. Plan on holding a fun public event to celebrate these holidays, and use it to recruit new members while building public awareness in the community about the Pioneers of Alaska. Alaska Day is on October 18th this year. Host an Alaska Day dinner celebrating the transfer of Alaska from Russia to the United States. You could also do a bonfire event to mark this important historic holiday and attract attention.
- 4.) Go out and have fun together as an Igloo doing new things. If people in your community see you having a good time doing something new, they naturally will want to be a part of it. You could have a group meet at a local restaurants and recite their favorite Alaskan poems or stories. Host a public bonfire where you act out the Cremation of Sam McGee, or have a fire-side Alaskan survival storytelling contest.
- 5.) Host a bingo, family feud, a scavenger hunt, or some other game night that is open to the public. Don't forget to jazz it up with a Pioneer theme. You could also sponsor a sourdough bread, stew, or chili contest. Make cheesy homemade trophies with a pioneer theme as prizes.
- 6.) Organize a day trip for the members of your Igloos. You could take a train ride, tour a local facility, go on a picnic to a fun berry picking spot, go visit a neighboring community, attend a sporting event as a group, host an ice cream social at a local school and get to know the kids who will be future Pioneers.
- 7.) Work with a hotel or other related tour group and arrange a "Meet a Pioneer" event once a week at a local venue. Tourists can have the chance to visit with real Pioneers and ask them about being an Alaska and a member of the Pioneers of Alaska. This could be done in a bar, hotel or park, anywhere tourists go.
- 8.) Participate by having a booth at local fairs, bazaars, or other community events that share goods and information.
- 9.) Have an auto parade through your town. Decorate the cars, and make lots of noise and don't forget to have a tailgate afterparty at the end. Advertise it in your community and see what happens.
- 10.) Work on creating and placing historical markers or monuments or other historical displays within your community. Consider erecting a sign marking mileage from your Igloo to other Igloos within Alaska. Putting the sign in a prominent place will be a great photo opportunity for residents and visitors alike.
- 11.) Give a lapel pin to members who bring in another member. If someone brings in 4 new members, they will have 4 new pins to wear.

2025 Travel Report
Pioneers of Alaska Grand Igloo Convention
Valdez, Alaska
September 26, 2025

Good afternoon Grand Igloo President Steve, past Grand Presidents and all fellow Pioneers!

In January 2025, Grand Igloo President, Steve Searles, began his subordinate igloo installation tour around the state. He, and sometimes his lovely wife, Karen, drove to those Igloos that are connected to our road system and flew to the other Igloos that are not connected by the road system.

Fortunately, due to the miles donated by **John Gillen** of Men's Igloo #4 in Fairbanks to Easy Biz last year, we were able to use 60,000 of those miles for **all** of Steve's air travel. From the 172,380 miles Mr. Gillen originally donated, we have 112,380 donated miles left. In our Grand Igloo Easy Biz account, as of September 17, we have 28,499 miles.

Therefore we have **140,879 miles** total for the next Grand Igloo president's air travel. I want to extend a sincere thank you to **all** of you who have signed up for Easy Biz. Thank you! Thank you!

Warning! Easy Biz is now defunct. Atmos is replacing Easy Biz. **Atmos** is the new combined loyalty programs for Alaska Airlines and Hawaiian Airlines. If you were signed up for Easy Biz then your account should **automatically** transfer all your data and miles to Atmos. These miles will now be referred to as your "rewards". From **all** the questions I have asked, it appears to be much the same as Easy Biz, except some

people have had to change passwords. You will sign into your account if you are using your miles to pay for the trip. Find a letter in the oval at the top right next to menu oval. Click on the letter. (Mine is P for Pam). Now book your travel. IF YOU ARE PAYING for your trip, please click on the letter in the oval and a box will drop down with your account number and miles. Please go to the large blue oval that says "Switch to Business Account". This is where you will book your travel. Yes, you will still get all your mileage (rewards) when you pay for your trip AND the Pioneers of Alaska Grand Igloo will receive credit for the dollar amount you spent.

I am **hoping** that anyone who paid for their Alaska Airline travel here to Valdez remembered to book their tickets by choosing the EasyBiz option so the Grand Igloo will get those miles to use for future Grand Igloo President's air travel! Please, help us continue to build up these miles!

If you are **not** a member of the old EasyBiz program, AND you are willing to help us build up our miles, then PLEASE, come and see me before you leave this convention. This program is a free and easy way we can help the Grand Igloo pay for the costly price of air travel around our great state. You will **NOT** lose **ANY** of your miles. The dollar amount you pay for your tickets will be given to our Grand Igloo in the form of miles. You spend \$5 and we get 5 miles. You will **continue** to add to your own miles...we don't take **ANY** of those!

Respectfully submitted by,
Pam Lambert. 907-460-8457 fbks708@gmail.com
Atmos for Business Primary Administrator

Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska

2025 Report of Grand Trustees to the Grand Igloo Convention

September 26, 2025

Fellow Pioneers,

The Grand Igloo Trustees, in accordance with the Grand Igloo Constitution and Bylaws elected by a majority voted 1yr Trustee Joan Skilbred to serve as the Trustees Committee Chair. During the course of the year, she organized and conducted the activities and digital meetings of the Grand Trustees.

We worked with the Grand Treasurer to complete a budget for the upcoming year based upon the actual expenditures over the past 5 years.

We set the fees for the upcoming year for new Igloo charters at \$350, replacement charters at \$150 and combined Igloo certificates at \$100.

We included the Snider Park history report with the items from the safe deposit box. A copy of that history is available for your viewing at this convention and later it will be given to the Snider Park Committee.

We were successful working with the Alaska & Polar Regions Archives, to obtain the original charters for Candle, Bethel & Nenana. We worked with the Fairbanks Pioneer Museum to have them conserved and put on public display next to the St. Michael Banner in the lobby of the Fairbanks Pioneer Museum.

The 15 past convention's medallion dies were removed from the Grand Igloo Safe Deposit Box by Joan Skilbred and Debbie Dauphinais. They are now here at this convention awaiting a decision by the delegates regarding their disposition. We have submitted a Resolution for your consideration.

We have met and discussed a list of items we will be working on to further improve the documentation of our assets over the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Grand Igloo Trustees

1 yr. – Fred Thorsteinson & Joan Skilbred

2yr. – Virginia Calloway & Brad Austin

3 yr. – George Lounsbury & Jim Plaquet

Grand Trustees Asset Report for the 2025 Convention

September 26, 2025

Fellow Pioneers,

Your Trustees have listed the following assets owned by the Grand Igloo:

The Grand Igloo funds are held in the checking account at the First National Bank of Alaska, and a Certificate of Deposit is held at the Global Credit Union. The current balances are given in the Grand Treasurer's report.

The records managed by the Grand Recorder including annual reports, member applications, and other associated records including some memorabilia are kept in the Grand Recorder's Office located in the Alaska & Polar Regions Archives, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The copyright documents are located in a file folder dedicated to the Grand Trustees that is kept in the Grand Recorder's Office at UAF.

The historic business records of the Grand Igloo are held at the Alaska State Library in the Archives division. Several boxes of historical Grand Igloo business records are currently being stored by Trustee Joan Skilbred, and the more recent records are kept by the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Seal is in the possession of the Grand Secretary, the Grand Officer's badges are in the possession of the Grand Recorder, and the Grand Igloo gavel is in the possession of the Grand President.

There are other items, such as stationery, membership pins, cards, etc. These are in the possession of the Grand Secretary and are accounted for in her report.

The commemorative Copper River Railroad Spike is in the possession of Past Grand President, Al Clayton, and is displayed on his fireplace mantel.

The 16 dies from past medallions returned by the Oxford Mint are currently with us here awaiting a decision by the delegates about what to do with them.

The Grand Igloo owns real property in Wasilla, Alaska. This is commonly known as Sider Park. It is comprised of 15 lots, and its current value is tax exempt, and it is appraised by the Matanuska Susitna Borough. The appraised value is in the Snider Park report. The Snider Park Committee has its own checking account, and it is not part of the general funds managed by the Grand Treasurer. The Trustees have researched the Grand Igloo records regarding the donation of this property along with copies of the deed that are now kept in the Trustees Folder in the Grand Recorder's Office at UAF.

The St. Michael Igloo Banner is on long-term display at the Fairbanks Pioneer Museum, in Fairbanks, Alaska.

The historic charters for Candle, Bethel, and Nenana have been reframed with acid free materials and are now on public display at the Fairbanks Pioneer Museum.

The Pathfinder Committee has equipment, business records & past issues in the care of the Pathfinder committee Chair. This committee has its own checking account, that it is not part of the general funds managed by the Grand Treasurer.

The medallions display collection, business records, and associated accessories are in possession of the Medallions Committee Chair.

There is an assortment of computers, printers and filing cabinets in the possession of the Grand Secretary, Grand Recorder and other Grand Officers. Other items and their locations appear in specific reports given by other officers and committee chairpersons. Some obsolete items may be discarded, and some members are using their personal equipment to conduct Igloo business. The proposed budget includes a line item to support the purchase of specific items and upgrades as needed.

Also attached to this report is the Fiscal Year Budget for 2025-2026 that was prepared by the Grand Igloo Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Thorsteinson & Joan Skilbred 1 yr. Grand Trustees
Virginia Calloway & Brad Austin 2 Yr Grand Trustees
George Lounsbury & Jim Plaquet 3 Yr Grand Trustees

Grand Igloo Financial Budget

Prepared annually by the Grand Trustees, approved by a vote of the delegates.

Account Balances

Ckng Acct balance - at end of Fiscal Year
CD balance - at end of Fiscal Year

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Ckng Acct balance - at end of Fiscal Year	87,807.00	92,084.16	90,365.46	86,412.51
CD balance - at end of Fiscal Year	81,323.40	81,994.22	85,517.18	89,733.22

Income:

	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Actuals	FY2023 Actuals	FY2024 Actuals	FY2025 Actuals	FY2025 Budget	FY2026 Budget
Items sold	3,013.65	1,902.75	1,489.20	3,167.44	2,009.55	2,083.35	2,050.00	2,050.00
Items sold - prepaid	-	-	-	45.00	-	-	-	-
Charters	-	-	-	300.00	-	-	200.00	200.00
Medallions Sold	4,732.60	-	2,330.00	4,640.00	3,750.00	2,825.00	2,800.00	2,800.00 5,200.00
Per Capita Tax - General Fund	13,204.00	12,908.00	11,504.00	11,517.76	10,312.00	9,981.38	9,500.00	9,500.00
Per Capita Tax - Legislative Fund	6,602.00	6,454.00	5,752.00	5,750.24	5,156.00	4,990.62	4,500.00	4,500.00
FNBA Interest Earned	30.53	22.13	25.76	66.33	94.19	87.32	90.00	80.00
CD Int - Alaska USA Fed Credit L	1,184.38	1,054.26	504.45	670.88	4,079.83	4,216.04	4,000.00	4,000.00
Misc.	-	55.48	1,230.87	1,525.80	105.00	-	500.00	500.00
Overpymt of Per Capita	-	-	-	-	-	66.00	-	-
Total Income:	28,767.16	22,396.62	22,836.28	27,683.45	25,506.57	24,249.71	23,640.00	23,640.00 <i>26,130.00</i>

Expenses:

	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Actuals	FY2023 Actuals	FY2024 Actuals	FY2025 Actuals	FY2025 Budget	FY2026 Budget
Attorney Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Charges	12.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NSF & Bank Fee	-	-	-	122.00	-	-	-	-
CPA Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charter General Expenses	-	-	-	67.41	83.58	-	200.00	200.00
Checks	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00	50.00
Convention Expenses	2,325.70	-	1,791.11	3,905.29	2,046.51	135.25	2,000.00	3,190.00
Convention Minutes	3,320.08	-	-	-	-	4,161.69	-	-
Website	1,106.42	1,423.60	586.50	874.00	1,515.90	849.00	1,800.00	2,000.00
Webpage Brochure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing/Reproduction	42.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FICA & Medicare	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flowers, Gifts, Donations	-	-	-	-	-	425.00	-	-
General Expenses:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

For our convention reports, Fiscal Years FY run Sept 1 of one year to Aug 31 of the next year.

The Fiscal "Year" is always represented by the year that January falls in.

Grand Igloo Financial Budget

Prepared annually by the Grand Trustees, approved by a vote of the delegates.

Filing Fee - Corporate Document	25.00	-	50.00	25.00	55.00	-	60.00	60.00
Nat'l Christmas Tree Ornament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Internet Expenses	400.00	600.00	550.00	50.00	-	-	-	-
Framing Expense	-	2.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Historical Archives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tax, Business Fed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liability Insurance	809.00	885.00	957.00	1,237.00	1,407.00	1,471.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Medallion Expense	4,715.50	-	2,980.50	6,853.13	2,766.44	4,519.55	3,000.00	5,000.00
Merchandise Expense	3,310.03	1,470.35	-	2,003.50	653.30	1,781.85	700.00	1,500.00
Merchandise Returned Expense	-	-	-	28.80	-	-	-	-
Minutes Book Printing Expense	-	-	-	-	2,436.91	587.34	2,500.00	600.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	-	-	-	-	120.00	22.62	150.00	150.00
Pin Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Office Equipment	942.92	-	-	-	568.19	-	1,000.00	500.00
Officer Stipends	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Office Supplies	-	25.76	-	9.70	-	-	100.00	3,000.00 200.00
Past President's Pin Engraving Expense	-	56.38	46.13	46.13	46.13	46.13	50.00	50.00
Pathfinder	120.95	-	1,000.00	-	2,000.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	1,500.00
Patents & Emblems	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500.00
Per Capita Refunds	-	-	-	-	90.00	66.00	100.00	100.00
Postage & Delivery	386.78	82.43	47.65	84.25	155.24	159.45	200.00	180.00
President's Convention Fund	419.00	-	211.68	1,211.58	-	1,796.44	500.00	1,000.00
President's Installation Fund	2,726.58	-	3,841.04	3,072.62	6,056.24	3,315.35	4,080.00	3,500.00 4,700.00
Safe Deposit Box	140.00	-	140.00	145.00	145.00	150.00	150.00	-
Snider Park Improvements	-	-	2,500.00	-	-	-	500.00	-
Trustee Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Specific Projects/Historic Restoration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Historical Archives Digitizing (new)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trademark Expense	-	4,785.00	860.00	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	23,801.96	12,330.52	18,561.61	22,735.41	23,145.44	23,986.67	23,640.00	23,630.00 26,030.00
Covid Years								

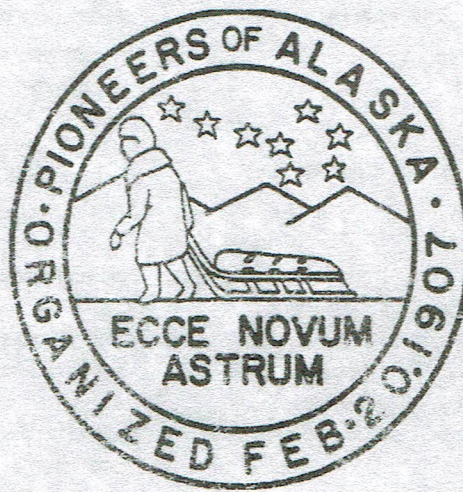
2025 Charter Fees

New Igloo Charter Fee	350.00
Replacement Charter	150.00
Combining Igloos Certification	100.00

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The Fiscal "Year" is always represented by the year that January falls in.

108th CONVENTION OF THE GRAND IGLOO PIONEERS OF ALASKA



Memorial Service

Music provided by the Valdez High School Bell Choir.

"During his life on this earth, he personified the qualities befitting a true pioneer: resourceful, dedicated and always helpful to his fellowman. In all his endeavors for good he promoted the inspiring virtue so typical of our Alaskan Pioneers, that of brotherly love."

108th CONVENTION OF THE GRAND IGLOO PIONEERS OF ALASKA

Memorial Service

Valdez, Alaska

September 25-27, 2025

Men's Igloo #1 - Nome

None reported

Women's Igloo #1 - Nome

None reported

Men's Igloo #4 - Fairbanks

Robert Boswell
Roger D. Burks
Steve Cooper
Paul Hagland
Fred Hueprich
John P. Inimel
Kenneth Kelser
Gregory Mitchell
Chris Putnam
Virgil Severns
Peter Shephard
Robert Slater

Women's Igloo #8 - Fairbanks

Tekla Becker
Ruth Bohms
M. Therese Burik
Constance Burnett
Louise Frances Grys
Janet M. Halvarson
Yvonne Estelle Haugen
Lois Jean Kincaid
Ruth E. Main
Jane G. Mangus
Judy Ann Martsoff
Jurieth L. Moore
Barbara Ann Pernberton
Dana L. Richter
Joan Feisel Robson
Elizabeth A. Sharp
Beverly J. Stringer
Katharine M. Webb

Men's Igloo #6 - Juneau

Douglas C. Boddy
J. Roger Grummett
Duane D. Herrick
Henry William Jebe
Fred E. Wiley

Women's Igloo #6 - Juneau

Maureen Eberhardt
Barbara Jean (Shearer) MacKinnon

Men's Igloo #7 - Valdez

David Curtis
John Kevin Gilson
Ryan John Sontag

Women's Igloo #2 - Valdez

None Reported

108th CONVENTION OF THE GRAND IGLOO PIONEERS OF ALASKA

Memorial Service

Valdez, Alaska

September 25-27, 2025

Men's Igloo #9 – Seward

Gary Akerson
Kaare Elde
Ludwig Everett
Robert Giachino
Jack Sadvsky
Brad Snowden

Women's Igloo #9 – Seward

Donna Cutshall
Janet Mitchell

Men's Igloo #15 – Anchorage

Floyd Allen Coward
Alan A. Dickson
Charles E. Dickson
Craig Kauffman
Herbert Lang
Raymond F. Lee
Arnold G. Link
Joseph P. Palmer
Earl A. Wineck
Gerald W. Wolf

Women's Igloo #4 – Anchorage

Dorothy Arnold
Marie Brown
Elda Gallear
Stephanie Gardner
Shirley Iverson
Sue Norgaard
Marilyn Porter
Doris Rhodes

Men's Igloo #16 – Ketchikan

Kenneth J. Kiffer
Paul Perry
Larry Peterson
C. Wilbur Smith
William Tatsuda
Larry K. Tillotson
Douglas Allen Vig

Women's Igloo #7 – Ketchikan

Sharon Boaiwright
Marion Christopher
Barbara Peace

Men's Igloo #18 – Kodiak

Larry (Tom) Dooley
Cy Høen
Jack Lechner

Women's Igloo #17 – Kodiak

Peggy Dysen
Dottie Holms
Judy O'Donnoghue
Carmen Lunde

108th CONVENTION OF THE GRAND IGLOO PIONEERS OF ALASKA

Memorial Service

Valdez, Alaska

September 25-27, 2025

Men's Igloo #19 - Cordova

Earl Bentz
Herb Jensen
Steve Johnson

Women's Igloo #5 - Cordova

None reported

Men's Igloo #21 - Wrangell

Ken Davidson

Women's Igloo #15 - Wrangell

Cheryl Wickman

Men's Igloo #22 - Sitka

None reported

Women's Igloo #12 - Sitka

None reported

Men's Igloo #26 - Petersburg

Larry Matheny

Women's Igloo #10 - Petersburg

Darcel Schouweiler

Men's Igloo #31 - Palmer

Bill Brokaw
Carol Christiansen
Bill Church
Charles Dickson
Bill Tull

Women's Igloo #11 - Palmer

Ruth Ann Hodsdon
Kathi Johns
Arieta O'Connor

Men's Igloo #32 - Homer

Jack Barr
Kenneth Hinkle

Women's Igloo #14 - Homer

Betty Branson
Dorothy Johnson

Men's Igloo #35 - Delta

Travis McNeil

Women's Igloo #19 Delta Junction

None reported

McCarthy Igloo

None reported

2025-2026 GRAND IGLOO OFFICERS

GRAND PRESIDENT

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2025 CONTACTS PofA MENS AND MCCARTHY IGLOOS

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1	President/Secretary	LEW TOBIN	907-443-5549	clewistobin@gmail.com	PO Box 146	Nome	99762
4	President	TIM BECK	907-322-4410	Beckalaska@gmail.com	PO Box 70050	Fairbanks	99707-0050
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6	President	BRAD AUSTIN	907-321-8262	baustin8262@gmail.com	PO Box 21005	Juneau	99802
6	Secretary	FRED THORSTEINSON	907-321-8868	fredthorsteinson@gci.net	PO Box 21005	Juneau	
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18	President	AL SEALE	907-942-1164	seale.alan@gmail.com	PO Box 684	Kodiak	99615
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21	Secretary	BRUCE EAGLE	907 874-2497	oldbuzzard@aptalaska.net	PO Box 1152	Wrangell	
22	President	JOE MURRAY	907-888-9629	cjoseph.murray@usw.salvationarmy.org	PO Box 1581	Sitka	99835
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32	President	DON BURT	907 299-5113	40akdon@gmail.com	PO Box 931	Homer	99603
32	Secretary	ROBBIE JOHNSON	423-737-3138	grandmarobbieak@aol.com	PO Box 931	Homer	
32	Treasurer	Debbie Dauphinais	907 299-8813	ms2beads@yahoo.com	PO Box 2344	Homer	
35	President	NAT GOOD	907 388-3754	alaskanat@wildak.net	PO Box 445	Delta Junction	99737
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McCarthy	President	PATRICK PRODEN				McCarthy	99588
McCarthy	Secretary	LAURIE HEGE	907-347-0420	lololaurie@hotmail.com	MXV #131	McCarthy	99588

PIONEERS OF ALASKA

WOMEN'S IGLOO CONTACTS

NOVEMBER 2025

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