Ahtna Kanas

WINTER 2019

AHTNA, ALYESKA RENEW FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT P. 8

REMEMBERING HAZEL MARY NEELEY P. 14



Ahtna Kanas Winter 2019

TABLE OF

CONTENTS



Alaska firm finds success in California



Ahtna, Alyeska renew Friendship Agreement



What is the future of Copper River salmon?



Remembering Hazel Mary Neeley



"MyAhtna" shareholder portal debuts

- President's message
- CEO's message 5
- 7 Shareholders provide team atmosphere
- Talking STEM in Glennallen
- 7 Ahtna employees of the year
- 9 Upcoming CPR classes
- 10 Final intern capstone presentations
- STAR awards
- 2018 Christmas gathering photos 11
- 12 Reflections on reciprocity
- Soccer team brings home trophy and memories 13

- Ahtna shareholders honored at ATCEM Conference 16
- 17 First Alaskans Institute honors Barbara Blake
- 18 AFN president honors Ahtna shareholders
- Copper River Native Association honoring a good trail 19
- Get ready get qualified get hired! 20
- Eat, Learn, Grow! 21
- 2019 Annual Meeting
- Meet the board: Karen Linnell 24
- Calendar of events 25

Ahtna, Inc. and Ahtna Netiye' senior management team



Michelle Anderson President, Al



Kathryn Martin Senior VP, AI



Tom Maloney CEO, AN



Roy J. Tansy Jr. Executive VP, AN



Matt Tisher CFO & VP of Finance, Al



Joe Bovee VP of Land and Resources, Al



Douglas Miller VP of Human Resources, Al

Ahtna Subsidiary Presidents



Craig O'Rourke President, AGSC & ADB



Brenda Rebne President, AFSI & APSI



Vicky Dunlap President, ASTS & ALL



Susan Taylor President, AKHI & ATSI



Tim Finnigan President, AGL & AEI



Tim Gould, PE President, AES



David O'Donnell President, AC&PPC

If shareholders would like to submit articles for the next issue of the Kanas, the submission deadline is February 22, 2019.

For questions or more information about the Kanas, please contact the media and communications office at news@ahtna.net



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR IN 2018

Dear fellow shareholder,

As we look back over 2018, we certainly have a lot to be thankful for. That theme of gratitude and reflection is especially relevant as the holidays come to a close and we get on with life in the new year.

One of the highlights of 2018 was the great performance of our Ahtna Netiye' family of businesses. They produced a bottom line that enabled Ahtna's Board of Directors to declare a \$10.27 per share dividend and a distribution of \$1,000 per eligible Elder.

The distribution set a record and, for the first time, was distributed from the Ahtna Hwt-anene (People's) Trust, which means it won't be taxable. The 2018 distribution is more than double that of Ahtna's 2017 dividend and is the highest dividend distribution per share in the history of Ahtna. Our Elders teach the importance of being thankful. Please join me in thanking our hard-working employees who made the dividend happen.

A special relationship

Ahtna and Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. have worked together since 1970, and we recently renewed our longstanding Friendship Agreement and discussed current matters and upcoming projects. This relationship has proven extremely beneficial to our shareholders and to the operators of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). As Alyeska President Tom Barrett noted during the signing ceremony, "Alyeska has a special and enduring relationship with Ahtna, and we appreciate that they share their traditional lands with us and bring innovative solutions from the exceptional employees along TAPS.

"As our company brings innovation forward for the next 40 years, our relationship with Ahtna will not change, but only grow stronger in partnership."

We couldn't agree more. You can learn more on page 8.

Continued on page 4



Here, Michelle and Alyeska President Tom Barrett sign the formal agreement.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Continued from page 3

Righting a historic wrong

Just days before he left office, Governor Bill Walker and the Gulkana Village Council formally agreed to a process for the State to re-convey Gulkana land that had been developed 75 years ago without permission. In 1943, the Alaska Road Commission built a bridge across the Gulkana River, dividing the village and making uninhabitable portions of land Gulkana has occupied for centuries. The bridge was built just feet away from the village cemetery, enabling people to trespass through sacred grounds to gain access to the river. Governor Walker is a good friend of the Ahtna, and we deeply appreciate the fact that he took the time to address this past injustice while he was still in office. I look forward to working with Governor Dunleavy and his team to resolve this issue.

Our amazing people

A big shout-out of congratulations to Barbara 'Wáahlaal Gidáak Blake, Dr. Donna Galbreath and Glennallen School Principal Frances Jackson. The First Alaskans Institute named Barbara as a Young Native Leader and Donna and Frances were honored with AFN President's Awards. You can read more on pages 17 and 18.

It is with a sad heart that we report the death of Hazel Mary Neeley, 92, the beloved wife of our former First Chief Ben Neeley, mother of eight and a true culture bearer and sharpshooter. You can find out more about her remarkable life on page 14, along with a moving remembrance by her granddaughter, Angela Vermillion.

It was wonderful to see so many of you get out and vote this past election season. It is a civic responsibility that each of us has as a U.S. citizen, and it grants us the opportunity to elect leaders who may affect great changes in our way of life.

As always, Ahtna strives to provide the highest quality of service for you, our shareholders. Our Shareholder Services department recently unveiled MyAhtna, an online portal that allows eligible shareholders, 18 years of age or older, to update their records online. Shareholders will also be able to opt in to receive their annual meeting materials electronically, which saves money and reduces our environmental impact.



We would also like to acknowledge those of you who completed the Shareholder Employment Questionnaire. Our Shareholder Development department will use the information for employment, training and professional development opportunities.

One final thank you to our Anchorage staff for their generosity. Our goal during the annual food drive was to collect 1,000 items – we ended up with 958. The donations went to the Copper River Native Association's (CRNA) Food Bank, a program that benefits people living in the Ahtna region.

I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and took some time to reflect on the blessings in your life.

Tsin'aen,

Michelle Anderson, President

Mikelle Anderson

Ahtna, Incorporated



CEO'S MESSAGE AHTNA IS THE TEAM THAT DELIVERS

Dear shareholders,

As we ring in the new year on a high note, there is much to be thankful for. In

2018, Ahtna earned record-high revenues and distributed the largest shareholder dividend in the Corporation's history. Our success was fueled by our vision to create economic growth and opportunity for future generations of shareholders. I would like to thank our Board of Directors, shareholders and employees for their dedication and hard work throughout 2018.

At the shareholder reception at AFN, and again at the Christmas gatherings, I was left humbled as I got to visit with folks. It is an honor and motivator to work for our shareholder-driven corporation. I look forward to working with all of our employees to ensure Ahtna's continued success.

Safety

Safety is the number-one priority at Ahtna for all of our employees and operations. Keeping that in mind, please make sure to take extra precautions to keep you and your family safe whether you are ice fishing, hunting, snow machining, hiking or just enjoying the great outdoors.

Record revenues and dividends

Early revenue forecasts signal 2018 was a year of continued revenue and operational growth for Ahtna. Revenues for 2018 were over \$270 million. In the past three years, we have achieved approximately 50 percent growth in revenues. This is despite Alaska being in a recession over the same time period. Our new relationship with Great American Insurance Group increased our bonding capabilities and opened more doors of opportunity for us. Our enhanced bonding ability will allow us to pursue larger construction projects.

Project updates

Ahtna received a tax-credit certificate from the State for the exploratory Tolsona gas well. Ahtna entered into a contract with BP to purchase all of our earned tax credits. BP has paid us in full. We really appreciate how well BP has worked with us on tax and carbon credits.

Ahtna is proud to service contracts for our nation's armed services. Last fall, I had the opportunity to visit several of our job sites on the East Coast that were affected by hurricanes. Recently, Ahtna Design-Build Inc. was named the second-fastest-growing private company by the Orange County Business Journal, a newspaper covering business in Orange County, California. You can read more about their success on page 6.

While some of our projects are experiencing weather-related delays, our subsidiary heads and employees continue to encompass our values of safety, quality and integrity in all they do. The partial government shutdown does have an effect on some of our subsidiary operations, including funding. Ahtna's financial position is such that it can minimize any impact to employees or subsidiary operations.

2019 outlook

As in hunting and fishing, it is difficult to predict the absolute outcome for the new year. We are working diligently to ensure Ahtna is well positioned to continue growing and providing benefits to our shareholders. We expect 2019 to present new challenges as Ahtna and all other Alaska Native corporations experience a decline in service contracts. This is caused by a change in contracting strategies on the part of various government agencies.

To continue providing employment opportunities for shareholders, Ahtna signed a master services agreement (MSA) with the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation (AGDC). The MSA ensures any pipeline that crosses through the approximately 40 miles of Ahtna land is serviced by Ahtna employees, and provides benefits to shareholders. Overseeing the MSA is Cantwell-born Roy Tansy Jr., who will work to maximize shareholder benefits as the gasline progresses.

While 2019 is expected to present new challenges, our dedicated Board of Directors and employees are prepared to work hard for you. Many of our corporation's projects extend beyond our state; however, Alaska will always remain our priority. We encourage shareholders to visit our website to learn more about training and employment opportunities. We wish everyone a safe, healthy and prosperous 2019.

Thank you,

Tom Maloney, Chief Executive Officer

Ahtna, Netiye'



SUBSIDIARY NEWS

ALASKA FIRM FINDS SUCCESS IN IRVINE

BY PETER J. BRENNAN | FROM: ORANGE COUNTY BUSINESS JOURNAL

An Alaska-based firm is seeing its construction-management firm do quite well in Irvine, California. Ahtna Design-Build Inc.'s revenue spiked to \$12.5 million for the 12-month period ended June, up 510 percent from the same period two years ago. That growth places it at No. 2 on the Business Journal's annual list of fastest-growing companies with revenue between \$10 million and \$100 million.

"We've been very successful in winning government contract awards," said President Craig O'Rourke of the Irvine unit.

It's a subsidiary of Ahtna Inc., one of 13 Alaska Native regional corporations formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. Perhaps the best known in this group is the Arctic Slope Regional Corp., the largest Alaska Native-owned corporation, with revenues over \$2 billion a year and oil services and operations along the Alaska northern slope, where it owns over 5 million acres of land.

Ahtna provides an array of construction and maintenance services across many industries, including oil and gas pipelines. The for-profit company employs 1,300 worldwide and reported \$238 million in companywide revenue last year. It also controls about 1.77 million acres in Alaska, where it's based in Glennallen, a town 200 miles north of Anchorage. The company has over 2,000 shareholders, the majority of whom are of Ahtna Athabascan descent. Its profits support the Ahtna Native people with job opportunities, vocational training and scholarships as well as contributing to preserving their land and traditional culture.

O'Rourke, who isn't a shareholder, said employees don't have to be shareholders, but the company has "a strong Ahtna Native hiring preference," particularly for shareholders, descendants and spouses.

From Alaska to Irvine

The Ahtna Design-Build unit is a certified small business capable of performing a multitude of construction, engineering and environmental services across the U.S. The unit employs 18 people and also has offices in Sacramento and one near Monterey, with plans to open a San Diego office. Its Orange County employee count is eight, double the number from 2016.

Ahtna opened its local office in 2010 because it wanted a California presence, said O'Rourke, who joined a year later as vice president and was named president in 2013. "We didn't really hit the ground running," said O'Rourke, who has more than 25 years of experience in the construction industry. "We're a relatively new company." As a certified Alaska Native-owned business, the company enjoys certain contract preferences, he said.

Still, the company had to prove it was capable by managing smaller projects in the initial years, such as a treatment plant at Camp Pendleton, O'Rourke said. "Once you start demonstrating that kind of performance, you can move up the level of complexity," said O'Rourke, who was born and raised in Newport Beach and is a graduate of University of California Los Angeles and holds a master's degree in environmental sciences from California State University Fullerton.



Demolition, dredging

Its recent projects include demolishing abandoned structures for the U.S. Forest Service in the San Gabriel Mountains and for the U.S. Navy at 29 Palms Marine Corps Base; dredging of Morro Bay for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and conducting regular operations and maintenance inspections of hangar facilities at the former Tustin Marine Corps Air Station.

Ahtna has qualified for the U.S. Small Business Administration's Business Development plan, allowing it to win set-aside contracts such as demolition and building restoration projects for Navy facilities in San Diego and for refrigeration upgrades of 30 military commissaries.

The company is also performing work as a specialty subcontractor for various large general contractors for new building construction projects at LA Metro, the Oceanwide Plaza project near Staples Center and at Vandenberg Air Force Base. O'Rourke expects the rapid growth to continue because Ahtna has qualified to bid on government contracts that total about \$2.5 billion.

The company may well be on next year's list again. It's projected to exceed \$30 million in revenue by end of the year.

"We hope to win more than our competitors," O'Rourke said.

AHTNA SHAREHOLDERS PROVIDE TEAM ATMOSPHERE

Shareholders Bjorn Beeter, Jericho Green and Darryl Deacon worked over the summer on Ahtna Construction and Primary Products Corporation's (AC&PPC) Delta Clearwater Remediation Project, located in the Deltana area of Interior Alaska, approximately 15 miles southeast of the community of Delta Junction.

AC&PPC is working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to restore the site to its original condition to prevent sediment from reaching the Clearwater River and Bog during high water levels. A recreation area built in the watershed caused increased erosion, muddying the Clearwater River during times of heavy melt or rain. The project also increased ATV and truck traffic on dikes, and officials worried of a liability issue should a vehicle fall through the eroded land. Because the project would take \$50 million to properly complete, AC&PPC is working to return the area to its pre-project state.

"They are very talented and very motivated young men. I am so proud to be able to not only work with them, but also to share some of my knowledge with them this summer. I would really love to share that these young men were so eager to learn, listen and most of all, were team players," said Dennis McKoon, AC&PPC project superintendent.

"All three of these guys were not only good hands but are very good people. I will be taking these men to another project with me this winter in Texas."

TALKING STEM IN GLENNALLEN

BY PETER EWAN, AEI, AND VIVIAN TOKAR, AEI

AES and AEI staff gave a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) presentation to Glennallen High School students in October. The students were given an outline of the different types of scientists and engineers that AEI/AES/ AGL employ or are seeking to employ in the varying degrees that are available. Part of the presentation was to show the financial benefits of becoming an engineer/scientist.

"The trip was encouraging, to see the high school students interested in what we do. I felt that we had encouraged them also into giving more thought to their science class," said Valda Akpik, AES administrative assistant.

2018 EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR





Valeriya Brand Contracts Manager Ahtna Engineering Services, LLC





Rafael Gonzalez **Detention Officer ASTS PIDC**



Andrew Guest Senior Environmental Scientist Ahtna Government Services Corporation



Robert Jewett Project Engineer Ahtna Global, LLC



Jessica L'Italien Site Manager Ahtna Support & Training Services, LLC



Hung Nguyen Graphics Ahtna Facilities Services, Inc.



Ashley Olson Program Manager Ahtna Environmental, Inc.



Nicholas Ostrovsky Managing Counsel Ahtna, Inc.



Lawrence "Lon" Trotter **Contracts and Compliance Director** Ahtna Technical Services, Inc.



John Wamsganz Superintendent Ahtna Construction Ahtna Construction & Primary **Products Corporation**



Greg Wells Site Superintendent Ahtna Design Build, Inc.



Leaders from Ahtna and Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. recently renewed the longstanding Friendship Agreement between the two organizations.

The relationship dates back to July 1974, when Ahtna and Alyeska entered into an Omnibus Agreement that gives each other reciprocal benefits and creates special opportunities. Subsequently, Ahtna Construction, in a joint venture with Trans-Alaska Engineering Company, began construction of the pipeline, laying the first section of pipe on March 27, 1975 at Tonsina River.

In addition to the signing, Ahtna board members and Alyeska leadership discussed the agreement, current matters and upcoming projects.

"We appreciate that they share their traditional lands with us and bring innovative solutions from the exceptional employees along TAPS," said Alyeska President Tom Barrett. "As our company brings innovation forward for the next 40 years, our relationship with Ahtna will not change, but only grow stronger in partnership."



WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF



COPPER RIVER SALMON?

BY KAREN LINNELL, AITRC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nearly 40 participants from the headwaters to Prince William Sound gathered in Glennallen to attend a November Search Conference to discuss the future of Copper River salmon. Those attending included tribal and non-tribal rod and reel, dipnet, fishwheel, seine or gill-net users and federal and state fisheries managers.

Search conferences informally engage stakeholder groups in a number of collective exercises to identify a shared vision and plan. Breakout groups were used to identify our shared history, probable and ideal futures and an action plan moving forward. Several common goals began to emerge throughout the conference. Stakeholders shared a desire to establish a single management structure incorporating science and traditional knowledge to ensure continued healthy salmon

populations and fisheries from the headwaters to the sea and beyond. Working together to ensure that our fish, waters and peoples remain healthy was a strong common goal.

This conference made it possible for people to begin to better know and understand each other. There was more common ground than differences among participants. We came away with a strong commitment to formally establish and to continue to strengthen the emerging partnership shared by all. Most expressed the importance of working together to improve our grandchildren's future.

Healthy fish, waters and people require communication, collaboration and commitment among the federal, state, tribal and public partners. Grievances and disagreements must be pushed aside for the pursuit of the

common good. Practicing sharing, caring and respect for each other and our fisheries must begin again if we are to ensure that our grandchildren are able to harvest the fish that our grandparents speak of.

Alaska's rivers provide more than just opportunities to harvest fish. They are places where families connect with each other year after year. These places immediately invoke a smell, taste and feeling that makes us whole.

We want to thank the Ahtna tribes, Native Village of Eyak, Cordova District Fishermen United, Copper River Watershed Project, the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game and others for their participation in this historic event.

UPCOMING CPR CLASSES OPEN TO SHAREHOLDERS

Sign up - and maybe save a life

Ahtna will offer seven adult CPR/AED/first aid courses during the year. Certifications from these classes are valid for two years. Classes are open to all shareholders, employees and non-employees. If you are an Ahtna shareholder employee, you will need your supervisor's approval to attend. Class sizes are limited, so please sign up early.

2019 CLASS SCHEDULE

January 24	April 18	July 18	November 5
March 12	May 16	September 10	

Classes will run from 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. in conference room 247 of Ahtna's Anchorage office with a 30-minute break.

To sign-up for a session, connect to your eLogic portal

Log into Ahtna's Learning Management System (LMS) and find the event under the "Calendar" link to register. If you need to get set-up with access to the LMS or have any questions, please contact Tracy Parent at (907) 868-8221 or email tparent@ahtna.net.

FINAL INTERN CAPSTONE PRESENTATIONS







The 2018 Ahtna internship season wrapped up with final capstone presentations from interns Tara Gray, AFSI; Rodney Lengele, AI Communications and AES/ AEI/AGL; and Eric Stevens, Al Carbon Credits. The interns presented their experiences over the course of their internships and the lessons and knowledge

they gained while working for Ahtna. We would like to thank our 2018 interns for a job well done! If you or someone you know is interested in interning with Ahtna, please contact Tracy Parent, shareholder development coordinator at (907) 868-8250, or email shdevelopment@ahtna.net.

STAR AWARDS -



Recent STAR Level 2 Award recipients:



Lt. Francisco Gracia

ASTS/Port Isabel Detention Center (PIDC) Detention Lt. Francisco Gracia received a Level 1 STAR Award for his selfless act of service to the community. On September 7, Gracia was en route for duty when he came upon a serious two-vehicle accident in rural Cameron County, Texas. One accident victim was walking in the middle of the road. Gracia stopped and helped the victim off the roadway, thus preventing further injury from passing vehicles.

Gracia located a second accident victim and provided aid until emergency medical services arrived. Gracia provided local law enforcement with a complete and detailed witness account.



Alejandro Quintero

ASTS Detention Officer Alejandro Quintero was awarded a Level I STAR Award for vigilance. On September 20, a PIDC detainee exiting a cell inside the facility's medical ward swung a closed fist at a U.S. Public Health Services registered nurse, striking him with a glancing blow. The strike was minimal due to Quintero's immediate response. Quintero rapidly took the detainee to the floor, pinning him until the detainee could be properly

restrained. Quintero's vigilance and quick reaction to a rapidly escalating situation prevented serious or possible further injury to a civilian medical-staff employee. The detainee was not injured and is being prosecuted for assault on a public servant.

National Training Center at Fort Irwin, CA

Eighteen ASTS employees were recognized for their contributions to site safety and work surge during Army training operations. Fort Irwin hosts the National Training Center, where several thousand soldiers, Marines, sailors and other Department of Defense (DoD) personnel annually receive highly realistic and fast-paced training to better prepare them for DoD missions. ASTS employees work to fuse digital training systems to ongoing operations to provide accurate and timely information to the trainees.

SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT

2018 SHAREHOLDER CHRISTMAS GATHERINGS













REFLECTIONS ON RECIPROCITY

BY TIKAAN GALBREATH, AHTNA SHAREHOLDER DESCENDANT

Six years ago, I received a gift of Alaska wormwood seeds (Artemisia Tilesii); I haphazardly threw them into the soil in the darkest, coldest and most unplanted corner of my yard. "Alaska plants are resilient," I told myself. Not only did the wormwood germinate and grow, it is now prolific. Claiming and spreading throughout the entire corner, it has found a way to the sun. Today the plants gift me with medicine enough to share with family and friends, offering aid in healing gastrointestinal issues as a tea and as a compress soothing skin cuts and sores. Each year it returns more vibrant than the last. I am grateful for the contributions the wormwood has made to my life and to the little urban homestead I call home. As a direct result of it arriving in my life and choosing to stay, I can say: I know this plant.

"I LEARNED TO RESPECT MY

ELDERS, QUESTION REALITY

AND PRACTICE KINDNESS."

Whether it is birch sap to break up spring; morels, nettles, or twisted stalk to welcome summer; salmon in July; berries and mushrooms in August; or game meat and wild roots to sustain us

through winter, the bounty Alaska provides is unique. Unlike so many other places in this modern world, Alaska's ecosystem is still intact enough that it sustains the integration of human life. Still, I struggle to find balance between a cultural and spiritual drive to be connected to and sustained by the land, and my current truth of living in a city. I endure the systemic changes happening on a global scale and seek to understand how my life intersects with it all. At the cross-section of my family's traditions and modern day living, I have found food.

My name is Silas Tikaan Galbreath, of the Athabascan people, from the Ahtna region, and part of the Tsisyu Clan. Raised between two identities, my childhood and adolescent years were spent in Fairbanks and the village of Mentasta Lake; in both places, I was raised in the woods.

In the woods, I learned many lessons; I learned to slow down, listen and breathe. The woods invited me to imagine the fantastical possibilities present in life when we ground ourselves in the tangible reality and nature of things. They reminded me that great things come from determined persistence, patience and a willingness to adapt. In my community, I learned many lessons. I learned to respect my Elders, question reality and

practice kindness. My community invited me to challenge the status quo and explore the systemic allegories not yet discovered. It reminds me that life is defined by experiences, that society is collectively prescribed and that we are the stories we tell ourselves. Between the two, as I seek understanding through balance, I know nothing stands alone, all things are connected, and I must integrate my ambitions into the shared vision of my community. In both, I found myself in relationships full of reciprocity, trust and an unwavering commitment to knowing the other.

Despite an active intention of connecting with the land, when the numbers are crunched, my relationship to the land is recreational at best. This becomes especially true when I compare my life to the stories of my grandparents

and great-grandparents living semi-nomadic lives, traveling between winter camp and summer camp in the Alaska Range. My lifestyle in Anchorage feels far removed from the woods. Yet, from

are filled with plans to be out of doors and frequently focused on food. As I have made my house a home over the years, one of the most important elements is a freezer full of Alaska's bounty.

March to October, most hours after work and weekends

Harvesting from the land brings me moments of quiet contemplation and fitful elation. It is a practice that roots me to tradition. It provides me a direct connection to the earth, to the place I call home and it sustains me holistically: mind, body and spirit. But, it hasn't always been this way. In the early years of filling my freezer, there were times when I found myself gathering from places that I did not know, that didn't know me. The lack of connection left me pondering on reciprocity. I recognize now that while I was engaging with the traditions of my ancestors, harvesting the same food that sustained them for thousands of years, I was doing it in a different way. In some of the places I was harvesting (for example, the secret berry patch just outside of Anchorage, over the hill and to the left of the stream) I lacked the ability to give back.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was first published in the Fall 2018 issue of First Alaskans Magazine.

Read Tikaan Galbreath's complete article in the E-Kanas.



Ahtna shareholder Devin Ferdinand (second row, second from left) and the 2006 Cook Inlet Soccer Club boys celebrate their Las Vegas Mayor's Cup victory.

SOCCER TEAM BRINGS HOME TROPHY AND MEMORIES

BY ALMA JOHN, AHTNA SHAREHOLDER

Ahtna shareholder Devin Carter Ferdinand returned from the Las Vegas Mayor's Cup International Tournament and Showcase, where his Cook Inlet Soccer Club (CISC) team took first place in their division.

Devin is the son of Ahtna shareholder Alma John and grandson of Ahtna shareholder Elder Fred John Jr. and Linnea John of Mentasta Lake Village.

Devin traveled to Las Vegas with his Cook Inlet 2006 Boys Soccer team to compete in an international tournament. The boys lost to Arizona and had to work their way back up to get a rematch in the championship game. In that match, the CISC boys got their revenge in the form of two, five-minute overtimes which led to a penalty-kick shootout. These boys played with everything they had and showed up ready to compete. Devin and his team prepared for this tournament by practicing three times a week and scrimmaging older teams in their own club. All their hard work paid

off and the boys came home with a giant trophy and memories that will last a lifetime. Congratulations to our CISC 06 Boys!

Devin has been playing soccer since the age of 3 and now competes in a competitive league in Anchorage. He dreams of becoming the next pro soccer player Cristiano Ronaldo one day. If his dream of professional soccer player doesn't pan out, he hopes to take his love of soccer to a local university, where he can play competitively and pursue an education. Devin plays many positions on the field, including mid-fielder and defender.

Devin would like to thank all his friends and family from the Ahtna region who supported him to travel to Las Vegas. Thank you so much to everyone who bought empanadas and raffle tickets. We are so grateful for your support here in Alaska. It takes a village to raise a child.

A Tribute to And Grandmother BY ANGELA VERMILLION



These are a few of the memories that I have of my grandmother, Hazel Neeley, who impacted my life in so many ways. I count myself extremely blessed to have had my grandma for so many years.

My grandmother had no fear. I never saw her with any fear at any time that I had been with her. She told me that when her brothers shot a moose, she would help by breaking a trail in the snow in the middle of nowhere for miles and miles by herself so they could bring the moose home easier. When we were young, she always taught us that spiders were our grandma. When she saw one in the house, we saw her countless times pick the spider up with her hand and take it outside. She never harmed spiders. Another time as an Elder, when a bear was bothering her smokehouse and grandpa was out hunting, she stayed outdoors with a aun for hours until he came home. She was always a rock, never showing fear.

My grandmother prepared me to be ready for danger. She told me many

times to always keep a clear path to the door before we go to sleep so that, if there were a fire, we wouldn't trip. This was deeply instilled in me. She told me to be careful about bears because they will dig a hole at an empty cabin and wait. Sometimes they'll even walk as a human on two feet as she saw as a young girl.

My grandmother taught me not to waste. She was conservative with her food, money and everything else. She made things last a long time. She was the ultimate recycler. She never threw away anything and found ways to re-purpose things.

66 My grandmother had no fear. I never saw her with any fear at any time that I had been with her."

She warned me about times of lack and that we should always be prepared. She said to store up food while you can for the winter.

She gave me tips when she recalled memories growing up. She said in the spring time, her mom would use duck fat and apply it to their feet and calves because they didn't have rubber boots or lotion for the wet ground. The ducks are fat when they first come back, and it was used to help their skin from chaffing.

She took us blueberry picking every year growing up. She taught us how to keep our berries clean. She always let us pick out one candy bar when we went berry picking with her. There was no other time that I remember her buying us candy bars except on our berry-picking trips.

She taught us many things from our culture. She taught us how to make "c'encaes" from cranberries, cut fish, tan moose skin and many other things. Growing up she used the word, "Engii" a lot, which means simply to not do those things and it instilled respect. Such as: "It's Engii to eat with one shoe on and one shoe off." This was so that we respected food. She also taught my brother and me how to have a snare line for rabbits and skin the rabbits. She used to talk a lot about working with rabbit skin as a child when the lamp would go out, her mom would have her kids work on rabbit skin to get it softened. Grandma taught me how to sew and bead as a young girl. She also taught this at Gakona Elementary School, where Lattended.

She taught us to play a card game called "snerts" and we learned math keeping score. We spent many weekend nights playing snerts with her growing up and even as adults. We played with her even two nights before she passed. We have such great memories around her table. We saw her many times stop the snerts game to pray for an immediate situation that came up.

She was the one who always came to us when we were sick. She brought water and juice and a cold wash rag. She didn't show a lot of affection to us when we were young, except when we were sick. I believe that if she grew up in my generation, she would probably be a nurse or doctor because of her steadiness, hard work and compassion for us when we were sick. She was a

HAZEL MARY NEELEY, 1926 - 2018

Hazel Mary Neeley, 92 years old, entered Glory Land on Nov. 11, 2018. Hazel was born to Oscar and Balico Ewan at the Gulkana Historical Village.

Hazel grew up without electricity or running water. She grew up in the nomadic lifestyle of the Ahtna people. She lived at Ewan Lake, at her homestead, at fish camp and at the Gulkana Historical Village. She was known for her sharpshooting skills. Grandpa said she was always a "sharp shooter." She shot many wild game during her lifetime and her last moose harvested with a single shot was when she was 84 years young.

Hazel married Ben Neeley and had eight children. She worked as a Sunday school teacher as well as the treasurer for the Gulkana Chapel and the Wrangell Mountain Bible Conference for many years.

Hazel worked as a homemaker, raising her children while her husband worked out of the area at camps. After the children were raised, she worked as a custodian for Gakona Elementary School until she retired. She also worked as a culture teacher in the elementary school, teaching beading.

She is survived by her daughters, Lorraine (Nick), Roberta and Eveline; son, Ray; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



serious grandma until we grew up.
As adults, she was less strict and laughed with us. And now I see her being very affectionate with her great-grandchildren immediately and always smiling or laughing with them. I will miss watching her face light up when she sees her great grandchildren or babies.

She was also a janitor at Gakona School when I was in elementary school. We stayed after school with her many times just to help her. She took pride in her job. I remember one time she gave me a razor to peel off excess paint on the windows. As a young girl, I thought no one is going to look that closely at the windows. But I remember this very clearly because it instilled paying attention to detail and working hard at your job.

My grandpa and grandma visited their friends a lot and took us with them. That was a special time. My grandparents' generation took time for each other. There was no texting back then but to physically visit.

My grandma was always busy. She never kept herself idle. Her projects were beading and knitting. When we were little, she made us one pair of mukluks and knitted us socks. She was strict but caring.

Her birthday cards to us were always special. She would add a lot of stickers to the card and it felt full of love.

I clearly remember the day I left to drive off to college at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. I stopped to say goodbye to my grandparents.

Grandma said, "Wait." I waited a few minutes, and she came out with an envelope which I counted later. It was filled with all kinds of bills and was an even \$500 in cash. She invested into my education, which deeply impacted me. I veered off and left college without a degree. Many years later, her investment was always in the back of my mind, which gave me the motivation to finish my bachelor's and master's degrees. With her investment, and knowing it wasn't just five \$100 bills but many bills to add up to \$500, I knew she put a lot of thought into it and I just could not drop out. I had to finish. The first time, I went back to college after 10 years of dropping out, I called her and asked her to pray for me as I was writing my first paper and very nervous. Her prayer was similar to her prayer for me in her last days. She said, "Lord, give her the power and strength to do what she needs to do."

During our adult lives, we started a new tradition playing Chinese gift exchange at Christmas time. Grandma always brought a present for her and grandpa to play. One year she picked the present and unwrapped these slippers that were furry and big and fell right down on the floor by her feet. It was slippers that looked like bear feet with fur and claws. Grandpa and all of us laughed so hard, mostly because Grandma was shocked and speechless.

Continued on page 16

A TRIBUTE TO MY GRANDMOTHER - Continued from page 15

My grandma taught us to do the Lord's work. She took pride in helping the Wrangell Bible Conference, which happened one week every summer in Copper Center. She was the treasurer. She had me and others help her count the money. My grandparents also took us before it started to help clean up the church grounds, the kitchen and the church. They loved contributing to the conference. I also remember fondly the times of church communion when they were pastors at Gulkana Chapel. After church, as children, we would go to her place and drink all the remaining juice from the little communion cups, which was a nice treat. We also had to help wash those little cups. She was always quick to

pray immediately for every request and, even in her last days in her sleep, she was praying out loud. We also witnessed her reading the Bible countless times, even two days before she passed.

66 My grandma was always busy. She never kept herself idle."

My grandma witnessed so much change in her lifetime. When she was born, there were no roads or highways, or running water or electricity, or telephones. I can remember when the first cellphones came out and they were big and heavy. Several of us grandchildren had to carry her cellphone for

her when she went on trips. More recently, she had an iPad and had us recording Indian songs and family events. One time, it ran out of memory, and I remember we were trying to explain it to her why it couldn't record anymore. It's amazing what she saw in her almost 93 years of life in Alaska.

My grandma was humble, without an education, but heavily impacted my life. She foremost taught me to walk with the Lord and work for Him. She taught me to work hard and pray for everything. She instilled strength by the life she lived. She taught me to respect with our culture, but she also deeply valued education. I'm forever impacted by her teachings.

TWO AHTNA SHAREHOLDERS HONORED AT THE 2018 ALASKA TRIBAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (ATCEM)



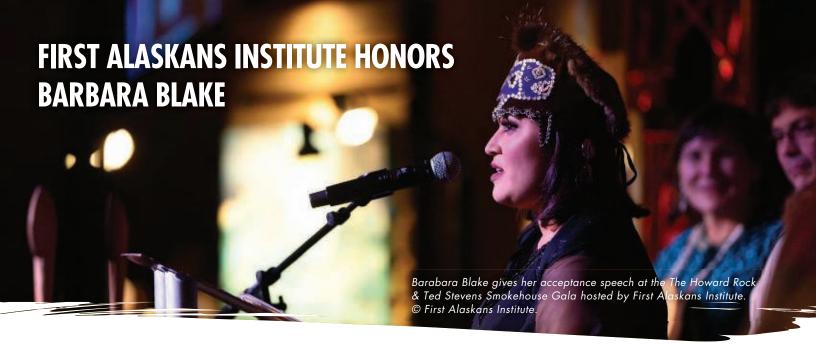
Wilson Justin - Lifetime Achievement Award

Wilson's advisory role during the formation of the Indian Environmental General Assistance program, his tireless contributions and advocacy for tribal environmental management, and his ongoing wisdom and leadership that have sent him as far as the White House to speak, among countless other accomplishments, has earned Wilson Justin ATCEM's Lifetime Achievement Award. Thank you and congratulations, Wilson!



Susie Martin - Rising Star Award

Susie's progress in removing recyclable materials and household appliances and electronics from her community of Mentasta helped earn her ATCEM's Rising Star Award. Susie's commitment to fostering environmental stewardship in youth through the annual Copper River Youth Environmental Summit and her leadership on multiple regional committees and position as a Second Chief in her community, position her well to continue improving our environment. Congratulations, Susie, we look forward to seeing what you plan to do next!



Barbara 'Wáahlaal Gidáak Blake was named this year's Young Native Leader by the First Alaskan Institute (FAI), a statewide Alaska Native nonprofit organization.

"This young leader has shown through dedication that she is working to help Native peoples and our community with significant and profound purpose," the Institute wrote in a press release.

The award was presented November 17 during the seventh annual Howard Rock & Ted Stevens Smokehouse Gala. "Named in recognition of Howard Rock (Iñupiaq) and Senator Ted Stevens, the Gala celebrates the significant contributions of Alaska Native peoples and our friends in advancing our collective wellbeing," the Institute said.

Barbara is from Prince of Wales Island and currently lives in Juneau. She served as director of Native and rural affairs during the Walker Administration.

Of Ahtna Athabascan, Haida and Tlingit descent, Barbara belongs to the Káat nay-st/Yahkw 'Láanaas (Shark House/Middle Town People) Clan. Her maternal grandparents are Franklin and Frances (Peele) Demmert. Her mother is Sandra Demmert of Klawock. Her paternal grandparents are the late Irene and Walter Johnson. Her father is Kenneth Johnson of Chistochina.

A woman of many accomplishments, Barbara is a member of the Xaadaas Dagwii Dancers, Alaska Native Sisterhood, Polynesian Voyaging Society and the Heinyaa Kwaan Dancers. She earned her master's degree from University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) in Rural Development, focusing her thesis on fisheries development in rural Alaska. She holds a bachelor's degree in Rural Economic Development and an associate degree in Tribal Management from UAF, and a certificate in Tribal Governmental Business Law from Seattle University.

'Wáahlaal Gidáak formerly served as government affairs liaison for Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska and also assistant professor for UAF Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development. In addition, she has worked as the technical assistant specialist for Intertribal Agriculture Council and program assistant in the Office of the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Office of Tribal Relations.

The Smokehouse Gala Awards "remember those who have helped us, show our young people that we believe in them, and share the pride in our cultures," said Willie lġġiagruk Hensley (Iñupiaq), FAI board chair.



AFN PRESIDENT'S AWARDS



Dr. Donna Galbreath, **Health Award**

This award recognizes an Alaska Native who has demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity in the health fields, whose

accomplishments have improved health care for Alaska Natives.

Ahtna shareholder Dr. Donna Galbreath is the daughter of Don and Molly (John) Galbreath, sister of Larry and Mike Galbreath, and mother of Tikaan and Kate Galbreath and Yatibaey Evans.

She has worked in Alaska for Tribal organizations since completing her medical training 27 years ago. She has focused her career on both providing health care and partnering with other Alaska Native people to improve the quality of and access to services.

Dr. Galbreath comes from a line of traditional healers and, as a primary-care provider, uses both traditional Ahtna healing knowledge and western medical knowledge in her practice. She also serves as the senior medical director of quality assurance for Southcentral Foundation, and presents nationally and internationally on quality assurance, corporate compliance and Southcentral Foundation's relationshipbased Nuka System of Care.



Frances Jackson, Eileen Panigeo **MacLean Education** Award

Named for the late State Legislator and elementary and bilingual teacher Eileen

Panigeo MacLean, this award recognizes an Alaska Native who has demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity in the education field, and whose accomplishments have improved educational opportunities for Alaska Natives.

Ahtna shareholder Frances Jackson is from the Tsisyu Clan. Her parents are Nick and Lorraine Jackson. Her maternal grandparents are Hazel and the late Chief Ben Neeley of Gulkana. Her paternal grandparents are the late Tony and Mary Jackson of Kluti-Kaah.

Jackson has spent the last 17 years teaching. She taught at June Nelson Elementary in Kotzebue for four years and at the Glennallen School for the last 13 years. Today, she serves as the principal of Glennallen School.

She is the first local Alaska Native to graduate from Glennallen School and later return to serve as a teacher and then principal.

Jackson is an elected member of the Gulkana Village Council. She has also served on the Haskell Indian Nations University Board of Regents. She was brought up living a subsistence lifestyle with Christian values. She imparts these values in her daily life. She enjoys fishing, hunting and cutting wood - and being a foster mother and "auntie" to many. Her house has always been open for children.

Whether it's for a few days or a few years, the Jackson home is a safe place to be for those who just need a little "auntie" time and for those who are in need. Some of the children she watches over are still in school, while others have graduated. Even though they grow up, she never stops mentoring them.

Her prayer is that she will inspire children to be lifelong learners and to become educators.





CONGRATULATIONS, AFN REPRESENTATIVES

Michelle Anderson Ahtna Representative

Lacayah Engebretson Villaae Representative

Christopher Gene Representative

Linda Pete **CRNA** Representative Jalene Voyles Youth Representative



"Walk to honor someone, walk to encourage others, walk to remember those you've lost. When we stand together, we can create change!"

The Copper River Native Association (CRNA) organized a Community Walk to Support Recovery and Wellness. The walk went five miles from the Ahtna Cultural Center at the Wrangell-St. Elias Park Headquarters to CRNA's maintenance shop. As CRNA's Facebook page states:

"As a community, we have seen the effects of the increase in drug use, like meth. We are often left asking ourselves what we can do to help our community.

"When we show up, people notice. We want to bring hope to those who are struggling with addiction and let them know they are supported. At the same time, we can encourage those who have taken the brave steps into recovery."

2018 SHAREHOLDER **EMPLOYMENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

Thank you to everyone who took the 2018 Shareholder Employment Questionnaire. The results will be used by Shareholder Development to reach out on training and employment opportunities to best meet the needs of our shareholders. Congratulations to our lucky gift card winners!

Douglas Rock

Lee Fier

Christine Craig

Bonnie (Katie) Finnesand

Cheril Lee Gardner



Submitted by Kellie Taylor.

SHAREHOLDER DEVELOPMENT

GET READY – GET QUALIFIED – GET HIRED!

To help shareholders better prepare for careers with Ahtna, we are featuring a recurring matrix on the most frequently recruited positions. This quarter is focused on general laborer and equipment operator positions. To be eligible for either position, it is important to have a good driving record and valid driver's license and the ability to pass a pre-employment background check and drug test.

Shareholder Development works with a number of different apprenticeship and training organizations, which can be good ways to get started in these fields, and many offer free, or even paid, training.

We recently teamed up with the Alaska Laborers Training School to produce a video highlighting the benefits of their apprenticeship program, which include a living wage, pension, health care plan, training and legal fund. You can view the video at www.vimeo.com/299251639.

Below is a listing of some of the organizations with which Ahtna has built strong relationships to help further our shareholders' credentials and career opportunities.

- Alaska Laborers Training: www.aklts.org
- Alaska's Apprenticeship & Training Coordinators Association (AATCA): www.aatca.org
- IBEW: www.ibew.org
- Northern Industrial Training: www.nitalaska.com
- Teamsters: www.teamster.org

For more information, visit the websites above and contact Shareholder Development Coordinator Tracy Parent at (907) 868-8221 or shdevelopment@ahtna.net.

JOB TITLE

GENERAL LABORER



MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of construction machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair and maintenance, and the practical application of use

Valid driver's license, proof of current automobile insurance and the ability to travel to local facilities

Ability to pass a background check and/or obtain and maintain government security clearance

Some positions may require U.S. citizenship

Knowledge of construction, machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair and maintenance, and the practical application of engineering science/technology

Ability to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) (goggles, hardhats, safety shoes, etc.)

One to two years related experience









EXPERIENCE

High school graduate or general education degree (GED) preferred







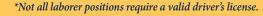
The general laborer and equipment operator positions both require:

Valid driver's license with clean driving record*

Ability to pass a pre-employment screening, including a drug test

High school graduate or general education degree (GED) preferred

Operator certificate preferred



EAT, LEARN, GROW!

Ahtna Son' University is excited to offer "Eat, Learn, Grow," a professional development lunch series open to shareholders. These trainings focus on skills helpful to all professions with topics such as communication skills, time management, conflict management and more! Currently being offered in our Anchorage and Glennallen offices, we hope to see you there! Stay tuned for more topics later this year.

JANUARY

PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION

WITH BRADISON MANAGEMENT GROUP

Join this session where we learn to break down communication barriers in your professional setting. We will cover email and online etiquette, telephone soft skills, and some simple rules to help streamline efforts and find common ground.

Ahtna Anchorage Office, Deniigi Room:

Noon - 1 p.m. Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Ahtna Glennallen Office, Conference Room 1:

Noon - 1 p.m. Friday, January 25, 2019

FEBRUARY

TAKE ON CONFLICT WITH CONVERSATION

WITH BRADISON MANAGEMENT GROUP

Learn how to tackle conflict and build a foundational framework to address difficult conversations. Conflict is costly and our relationships cost us more. This session hopes to provide some practical tools to use to diffuse conflict, build collaboration and restore trust.

Ahtna Anchorage Office, Deniigi Room:

Noon - 1 p.m. Wednesday, February 20, 2019

Ahtna Glennallen Office, Conference Room 1:

Noon - 1 p.m. Friday, February 22, 2019

Shareholders, shareholder spouses, and shareholder descendants are welcome!

Lunch will be provided.

Space is limited and sign-up is required

To sign up call (907) 868.8221 or email tparent@ahtna.net

You can also log into Ahtna's Learning Management System (LMS) and find the event under the "Calendar" link to register.

Brought to you by:



SHAREHOLDER SERVICES UPDATES



2019 ANNUAL MEETING

Scheduled for Saturday, June 1 2019 Location: TBD

Once again, we will be sending only one Annual Meeting packet per shareholder household. Shareholders eligible to vote will receive individual proxy information but each shareholder household will only receive one packet with the 2018 Annual Report, Annual Meeting Agenda, etc. We have also implemented the option to receive materials electronically in 2019. (See the article on page 23 announcing the new MyAhtna shareholder portal). These changes will bring substantial costs savings to the company in printing and postage as well as help to reduce our environmental impact.

If you wish to still receive your own individual Annual Meeting packet, please contact Shareholder Services at (907) 822-3476 or shservices@ahtna.net no later than March 31, 2019.

CONDOLENCES

In loving memory of our shareholders who have passed

David E. Brotherson
Edna Senungetuk
Hazel M. Neeley
Lillian P. Boston

APPLYING FOR CLASS L SHARES

Application booklets for Class L shares are available online at www.ahtna-inc.com and at either Ahtna office. Ahtna will not accept incomplete applications. Once a shareholder turns 18, it becomes their responsibility to ensure their records are up to date as parents or family members cannot request changes on their behalf.

Eligibility requirements:

- Lineal descendant of an original Ahtna shareholder (such as child, grandchild, etc.)
- 1/4 or more Alaska Native blood quantum
- Be born after Dec. 18, 1971
- Be a United States citizen
- Not be a shareholder of another ANCSA regional corporation (except by gifting or inheritance)

Required documents:

- Class L stock application
- Original birth certificate an original birth certificate is the only document that will be accepted. If you do not have an original birth certificate, contact your local vital statistics office.
- Original Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB)
 - For assistance regarding CIBs, contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- Additional documents that may be required, if applicable, can be found online.

IMPORTANT:

If you are a Class L shareholder, are of age and have received your high school diploma, GED or equivalent, please remember that Shareholder Services needs proof of graduation/completion, such as a copy of your diploma, so they can transfer your remaining shares to you. Please note that Class L applications and graduate gift requests are managed under separate programs and proof of graduation must be submitted separately to each. When first enrolled, a Class L shareholder-owner receives 30 shares of Class L stock. Upon turning 18 and receiving a high school diploma, GED or equivalent, Class L shareholder-owners receive an additional 70 shares of Class L stock, for a total of 100 shares.

AHTNA DEBUTS "MyAhtna" SHAREHOLDER PORTAL

REGISTER TODAY!

Ahtna's new shareholder portal, MyAhtna, is a free, online resource that provides shareholders easy access to a wealth of information.

The portal can be accessed through a secure link on the Ahtna website. It allows shareholders the convenience of making certain record changes online, such as updating mailing addresses and other contact information, viewing payment information, printing dividend confirmations, viewing information about the shares owned, viewing and printing tax information and RSVPing for events.

Go paperless!

Shareholders now have the option to go paperless and receive their Annual Meeting packet materials electronically instead of through the mail. By opting in for digital Annual Meeting materials, you will be helping to save trees and eliminate printing and mailing costs.

Who can register?

You must be an Ahtna shareholder at least 18 years of age and not subject to guardianship or conservatorship orders, provided there is an email address in the Ahtna stock records and that email address was not used by another shareholder to create an Ahtna account. As an example, if a husband and wife are both shareholders and have the same email address on file with Ahtna, only one may create a portal account using that email address.

Getting ready to register

You will need your social security number or your shareholder identification (ID) number, which can be requested from Shareholder Records.



How to register

- 1. Visit the Ahtna website and click on the MyAhtna link under the "Shareholders" tab, or type www.MyAhtna.com into your browser.
- 2. When the "Connect with MyAhtna" sign-in screen appears, click the word "here" in the sentence "Click here to get started."
- 3. A new screen will appear, where you will enter your shareholder ID number or social security number and your date of birth. When you are done entering the requested information, click the "Validate" button on the lower, left-hand side of the screen.
- 4. If the information you entered matches the information in Ahtna's shareholder database, you will advance to a new screen. Otherwise, a message will appear on the screen to alert you to any issues.
- 5. The final step of the registration process involves adding or confirming your email address and agreeing to abide by the "MyAhtna Terms of Use" and creating a password.

Once you have successfully created a MyAhtna account, you may sign in again at any time by visiting the Ahtna website and clicking on the "MyAhtna" tab, or by typing www.MyAhtna.com into your browser and entering your username and password. To maintain confidentiality and keep your information secure, your MyAhtna sign-in information should be treated confidentially and not shared. Additional hints for keeping your portal account secure may be accessed by clicking a link on the MyAhtna sign-in screen.

If you experience any problems when using MyAhtna, you may find an explanation in the troubleshooting document, which is accessible on the MyAhtna sign-in screen or, if you are already signed in, by clicking on the link under your name on the top right-hand side of the screen. As always, Shareholder Services is happy to assist. Contact us by calling (907) 822-3476 or emailing shservices@ahtna.net.

MEET THE BOARD

KAREN LINNELL, INCREASING TRANSPARENCY AND EQUALITY FOR ALL



1. Describe your family.

I am the daughter of Lemmie and Edna Charley. I come from Tsiis tl'edze'na' (Chistochina) and Keex (Kake), a member of Naltsiine on my Ahtna side and Was'ineidí on my Tlingit side. I am married to Bill Linnell, a Yupik man whose family comes from Kalskag. We have two daughters, Marissa and Ashley, and five step-children, Dawn, Brik, Cynthia, Ruth and Roy, and 11 grandchildren.

2. What are some defining/influential moments in your life?

When I was a receptionist/secretary for Ahtna, Inc. in my early 20s, there was an issue. I don't remember what it was, but Roy S. Ewan asked me what I thought about it and how I would handle it. It got me thinking outside of my current position and paying attention to what's going on around me. That my opinion mattered and that I needed to think like a leader. He was great at drawing people in and getting them involved. I appreciate that.

3. Is there anyone in particular in your life who has inspired you?

My mother. She taught me that you can't change things from the outside, you have to get involved. She also taught me that there are two sides to every story, so ask questions. My dad taught me that everyone has value, no matter where they come from, and deserve to be treated with respect.

4. What are you most passionate about in your life?

My passion is for my family and my people. That's why I am working to secure our hunting and fishing rights for generations to come. It's much more than putting food on the table, it is part of who we are. We shouldn't have to fight for that last moose, caribou or salmon. We need to work to ensure these resources have healthy populations and are here for our grandchildren's grandchildren. We need to quit managing for a single species or piece of land but start looking at the whole picture.

5. What hobbies or activities do you enjoy?

I've recently taken up sewing. My daughters have taught me to make shirts without a pattern. We worked together to design an "Ahtna" or Athabascan-style shirt to use on Kuskpuk Fridays. I try to meet with friends and family one day a week to visit and sew. I especially like the visiting.

6. What are your hopes for the future of Ahtna?

We are still in recovery from our near bankruptcy. I would like to see Ahtna rebuild our portfolio, to see it exceed the levels of the late 1990s - at that time, we had a portfolio of over \$33 million. We now have a strong business, but we need to rebuild our portfolio outside of the Ahtna Hwt-anene (People's) Trust to be fully recovered from our near bankruptcy. I would like to see us not only educate our shareholders, but welcome them into our company and have them run it at all levels.

7. What is the board's vision for Ahtna, Inc.?

Our culture unites us, our land sustains us, our people are prosperous. By working together, we can do what is best for all shareholders.

8. What made you want to join the board in 2004?

I was asked by Cheesh'na shareholders to represent them and I was full of energy and thought I could make a difference. I hope that I am still making a difference.

9. What excites you the most about the board's work?

Looking to the future. After being on the board for a while, it sometimes feels like we haven't made progress, then we look back and see all the changes and hard work that has been done to get to where we are. Sometimes, it feels like slow progress, but it is progress.

10. What are some key things you wanted to change/implement when you joined the board?

Transparency. Adherence to policy. Equal treatment for our villages and shareholders.

11. What is one or a few things you would love for all shareholders to know about the board?

I would like our shareholders to know that the Board of Directors works hard for them. We don't always get along or agree on everything. Often we agree to disagree but it should always come back to what is best for ALL shareholders.

12. What message would you like to share with the youth of today?

Pay attention, get involved, make informed decisions. What you do today affects your future. If you want to see changes, you can't just complain about it, you have to get involved and start to make changes from within.

13. Can you tell me more about your work history and community involvement?

I have been involved with our communities since I was a teenager as an AFN youth delegate and helping to organize dog races. As an adult, I have been a Gulkana Council Member, Copper River Native Association board member and vice president, and Cheesh'na council president. I sat on Ahtna's Land Committee and C&T Committees and serve on the Cheesh'na SVO. I was secretary and vice chair of the Copper Basin Advisory Committee (2008-16), was appointed by the Secretary of Interior to serve on the Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource Commission (2011-17) and an Alaska Board of Game member (2016-present).

14. Anything else you would like to share?

As I sit here on election day, it makes me think of the adage: The world is run by those who show up. So shareholders, it's up to you to show up.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

= video conference between Anchorage & Glennallen

JANUARY

Jan 25 - Class L deadline

Jan 29 - Feb 1 - Federal Subsistence Board Meeting, Anchorage

FEBRUARY

Feb 1 - Federal Subsistence Board Meeting, Anchorage

Feb 12 - AITRC Board Meeting, 10 a.m.

Feb 16 - Al Board Meeting, Anchorage **Feb 18** - Presidents Day (Ahtna offices closed)

Feb 27 - Shareholder Committee, 9 a.m., Video

Feb 27 - Land Committee 1 p.m., Video ■

Feb 28 - Policy Committee 9 a.m., Video

Feb 28 - Deadline for all board nominations

MARCH

Mar 5 - Elections and Rules Committee, 9 a.m., Video Mar 29 - SVO ballots deadline

Mar 30 - Al Board Meeting, Anchorage



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RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED



Ahtna, Inc. Board of Directors



Ke n Johns Chair



Eleanor Dementi Vice Chair



Jason Hart Tre a sure r



Linda Tyone Se c re ta ry



Nic holas Jackson



Luc ille Linc o ln



Albert Fleury



John E. Craig



Margie Ewan



Fra nklin John



Karen Linnell



Genevieve John



John Dve

Corporate Headquarters

PO Box 649 Glennallen, AK 99588 Phone: (907) 822-3476 | Fax: (907) 822-3495 Toll Free: 1-866-475-0420

Anchorage Office

110 W. 38th Avenue, Suite 100 Anchorage, AK 99503 Phone: (907) 868-8250 | Fax: (907) 868-8285 Toll Free: 1-888-562-5316