



## The President's Report

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By President Myron Naneng Sr.,

Our AVCP staff have been busy completing the year end reports for State programs, as well as the audit that we are administering on behalf of our tribes and membership.

Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission is off to a good start, based on comments from USFWS and others who have been observing the works that the commission has implemented this summer, for the conservation of salmon stocks and coordination in openings during the Chinook salmon runs. Every village participated in the effort, with the exception of one village. However, we believe that they too will eventually participate as we have been working on this for many years.

We recently got notification from BIA that there is over \$40,000.00 that they have identified for the Kuskokwim Demonstration Project. We are still pursuing additional funding, working with USFWS and DOI. The agreement in place for this funding will include the Office of Subsistence Management.

I attended a meeting in Vancouver, Washington, with USFWS, Washington Fish and Game, and Oregon Fish and Game, regarding Cackling Canada geese: Farmers in Oregon have had an ongoing concern regarding goose depredation of their farm fields. At the meeting, the farmers' proposal was to kill off as much of the Cackling Canada geese as possible, up to 25,000. However, as we started to explain to them the subsistence uses and the other benefits of having these geese in our region as a food source, the farmers backed away from their position to support our subsistence uses and other means of harvesting the geese while they are in our region, nesting and growing their young. The farmers now want us to work with them in finding funding for non-lethal ways of preventing the geese from mowing their farm fields.

We will identify a date and time of the next Waterfowl Conservation Committee and will provide updates and proposals that we need to work on that would provide more subsistence opportunities on migratory bird hunting and extending the subsistence hunting up to additional six weeks after the 1<sup>st</sup> of September.

We will need to work on regulations that are issued each spring to remove the restrictions on egg gathering of the Cackling Canada geese. We will bring this up with the Alaska Migratory bird co-management council during the fall meeting.

Administration and program staff participated in meetings in DC with BIA. AVCP is one of the recipients of a TIWAHE grant, along with three other Lower 48 tribes, this will increase the funding for Social Services and BIA program funding. We made a presentation to BIA staff along with other recipients on what they have been doing in their tribal programs. I believe that they were amazed that we have 56 tribes within our region and were doing programs without the benefit of roads connecting the villages.

I attended a meeting with Senator Murkowski and Mike Hoffman, while in DC. AVCP is advocating for Revenue sharing from Arctic Ocean Oil and Gas exploration. Both North Slope and Northwest Arctic Boroughs are making this request with Senator Murkowski through Federal legislation. Since AVCP villages north of the Kuskokwim River are considered to be part of the Arctic, we have made a request for inclusion. We all know that State of Alaska revenues have decreased, so we need to be creative in pursuing funding that can benefit our villages.

The “Wade Hampton” Census District name has been changed to Kusilvak Census District. Kusilvak, means the high one, and it is a mountain that is located on the southside of the Yukon River and west of Mountain Village. It is a prominent landmark in the area. The official letter of change was made by Census Bureau on July 15, 2015, in response to Governor Bill Walker’s letter and support from Senator Murkowski, Representative Bob Herron.

We are negotiating our OSG funding, negotiations were on July 27, and will not be final until we meet with BIA again in November during the BIA Providers Conference.

Program Directors have been doing a great job in delivering their program funding. However, one of the things we are starting to do is forensic auditing to insure that the funds we have received are and were reported correctly.

There is a lot of activity going on within AVCP. We have been very busy these last few months, so this report highlights some of the ongoing concerns that we are working on. We appreciate the support from the Executive Board as we build up programs that will benefit our villages and tribal membership.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dyckhoff".

Photo: Alakanuk River Bank

## 2015 Annual AVCP Independence Day Raffle



Grand prize winner Leonard McCarr accepts his check from AVCP HR Director Debbie White

Congratulations to our Grand prize winner Leonard McCarr and our other winners in this year's raffle! Thank you to the many who supported the AVCP Raffle and the AVCP Employees who helped sell tickets to make this a successful year.

AVCP's Burial Assistance Donations are funded entirely out of this fundraiser which helps tribally-enrolled families in the AVCP Region with Burial Assistance. This is a non-restricted fund of \$750 to families that have suffered the loss of a family member.

### 2015 Raffle Winners:

**1st Place: \$15,000.00 – Leonard McCarr, Bethel**

**6th Place: 1,250.00 – Mary C. Nanuwak, Bethel**

**2nd Place: \$5,000.00 – John Wuya, Bethel**

**7th Place: \$1,000.00 – Kenneth Chaney, Bethel**

**3rd Place: \$2,500.00 – Francis Flynn, Newtok**

**8th Place: \$750.00 – Warren Polk, Bethel**

**4th Place: \$2,000.00 – Emma Active, Atmautluak**

**9th Place: \$500.00 – George Philbrick, Bethel**

**5th Place: \$1,500.00 – Jerry Ivon, Kongiganak**

**10th Place: \$500.00 – Zach Fansler, Bethel**



## **Air Agency Certificate presented to AVCP Regional Aviation Maintenance School**

July 17, 2015

Certification of the aircraft maintenance school is complete. This long process was completed July 16 with the presentation of the Air agency Certificate at AVCP Regional Aviation Maintenance School by the Deputy Director of the Federal Aviation Administration Michael Zinkovich from Washington DC. With the issuance of the certificate the school now can start the next phase with starting to advertise the school and start school recruitment. I want to thank AVCP Administration and employees for working diligently and staying the course to complete this huge undertaking. This is only one of three aviation maintenance schools in the state of Alaska and the last one was certified 30 years ago. This school will allow people to stay in the region to get certified as a mechanic without having to accumulate additional expenses to achieve an education in aviation. With Bethel being the second busiest airport in the state that serves our regions 56 villages, this school will bring a work force of mechanics that is much needed in our region as well in the state of Alaska. The school will be recruiting up to 15 students that are dedicated to complete the 18 month course that will allow them to become an Aviation Airframe and powerplant mechanic. With the completion of the school dorms it will add a much needed component to let the students complete the school knowing there is housing available. We are looking to start the school in September, look for our advertising in the newspapers and AVCP website. Again thanks to everybody for their hard work that made this school happen.

Thanks,

Jeff Hoffman Program Manager

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

# Air Agency Certificate

*Number* 3VRT609K

*This certificate is issued to*

AVCP REGIONAL AVIATION MAINTENANCE SCHOOL

*whose business address is*

3321 NORTH APRON ROAD  
BETHEL, ALASKA 99559

*upon finding that its organization complies in all respects with the requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations relating to the establishment of an Air Agency, and is empowered to operate an approved Aviation Maintenance Technician*

School

*with the following ratings:*

AIRFRAME  
POWERPLANT  
AIRFRAME AND POWERPLANT

*This certificate, unless canceled, suspended, or revoked, shall continue in effect* INDEFINITELY.

*Date issued:*

JUNE 29, 2015

*By direction of the Administrator*



CLINT F. WEASE  
DIVISION MANAGER, ALASKAN REGION

This Certificate is not Transferable, and any major change in the basic facilities, or in the location thereof, shall be immediately reported to the appropriate regional office of the Federal Aviation Administration

Any alteration of this certificate is punishable by a fine of not exceeding \$1,000, or imprisonment not exceeding 3 years, or both



## Washington DC officials visit region with trips to Oscarville and Alakanuk

On July 21 & 22 2015, AVCP hosted several visitors from Washington DC who were visiting our region for the first-time. Visitors included Whitehouse Domestic Policy Council members, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy for ACF, the Commissioner of Administration for Native Americans (ANA), the Associate

Commissioner of Children's Bureau, the Director of Casey Family Programs, and staff from Administration for Children & Families, as well as State of Alaska program staff and staff from AVCP villages. The group travelled to Oscarville by boat where they had lunch and talked with tribal members and had a tour of the community. The group returned to Bethel and boarded a charter to Alakanuk. In Alakanuk, the group met with tribal members before flying back to Bethel. The trip was very successful; the people who visited had never been to any place like this before. The morning after the trips, the group convened for a meeting and the guests from Washington DC said that what made the most impression on them was the kindness and hospitality of the region. They listened to a lot of comments, information and issues. After visiting the region, they are now able to better work towards solutions, as they saw first-hand what kind of issues and constraints our communities face.



## Oscarville Roundtable—A holistic approach by multiple agencies

Agencies coming together through a holistic approach to create healthy, thriving, sustainable communities. The Oscarville roundtable concept has brought together some of the important pieces of a healthy community – residents and their culture, housing, energy, infrastructure, water/sewer, community health, and economic develop-

ment. Agencies involved are AEA, AHFC, ANTHC, AVCP, AVEC, CCHRC, DOE, HUD, Nuvista, UAA-CED, USDA-RD, WHPacific, and YKHC. The goal is to do a pilot project in Oscarville, a small community in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta region, to address the many elements of sustainability through community engagement and interagency partnerships. This will begin the creation of a statewide model for community development.



# Yuut Driving Academy

*Professional Truck Drivers Needed! Classes Begins September 14, 2015!*



- ◆ Must possess valid Alaska Drivers license for a minimum of one year
- ◆ Must be 18 years of age
- ◆ Must be able to pass DOT Physical and Drug Screen. Recommended to take the physical prior to beginning of class.
- ◆ Must obtain a Class "A" CDL permit prior to start of class.
- ◆ Training consists of 6 weeks of classroom and BTW instruction

This program is partially funded through a \$ 1.5 million Alaska Native Education Program grant from the United States Department of Education.

Contact Gerry Graves at 543-0978 or 545-3532 or [ggraves@yuut.org](mailto:ggraves@yuut.org) for pricing and to sign up



## Yupit Piciryarit Museum newsletter information, June 16, 2015

### Museum Receives Donation of Two Hand-Made Traditional Yup'ik Dolls

Several area artists worked together to create a wooden male doll, made entirely of drift wood, hand-carved and adorned with traditional men's dance regalia. This doll, along with a matching "traditional Yup'ik" style female doll, was donated to the Yupit Piciryarit Museum, courtesy of a grant administered by the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The female doll, wearing a beautiful kaspeq, mukluks and a woman's belt, was made of material found in most households, a great way to repurpose old socks, pieces of animal hide, wood and electrical tape. For the male doll, the carvers took a very different approach to doll making, a work of art and of collaboration among four individuals who continue the tradition of wood carving from driftwood.

The dolls were created as part of a two-day Artist Symposium held in the Yupit Piciryarit Cultural Center in Bethel, Alaska. The purpose of this event was to have artists John McIntyre, Neva Mathias and Mike McIntyre address challenges and opportunities for artists that live in rural Alaska. The class was well attended, drawing people from all walks of life, who have an interest in artwork, either for sale as a means of making a living, to those who view carving as a skill that must be shared with others to keep it alive.

The class was intentionally orchestrated in order to create a comfortable atmosphere for everyone. Tables were arranged in a big circle., with artist teachers sitting among students, everyone encouraged to participate in both the physical work to produce a doll, or to take part in the dialog, the topics driven by a flexible agenda.

Each person in the symposium agreed to work on one of the two dolls, after deliberating together on the design and agreeing to specific tasks, depending on that person's skill and knowledge. Wood carvers focused on the male doll. Skin sewers and doll makers worked together to make the female doll. Several of the ladies worked on the woman dancer's face first – the size of the doll's face would dictate the size of the rest of the doll.

A very special doll from the museum collection inspired a surprising and unique design for the male doll. Its made similar to a ventriloquist's dummy that was donated to the museum recently; made in the image of Maggie Lind of Bethel, daughter of Trader Lind, and known for her love of sharing traditional Yup'ik stories with others.

A log from a pile of driftwood was chopped into pieces for making the mannequin, it is comprised of a head, torso, and both arms and legs are flexible, yet rigid enough to hold a pose.

A special feature of this doll, the mask, is made by John. He made this mask entirely by hand, as well as the life-size mask that is in the museum gallery; they are both replicas of the famous Yup'ik shaman Issisisuak's own mask. He instructed a wood carver to make a mask of his own design depicting a ship with 3 faces on one side of the ship. The shaman is credited with foretelling the coming of a ship that entered the Kuskokwim River in the 1860's.

Several artists spoke on topics relating to making artwork, from finding material, to the pros and cons of selling artwork on-line. The symposium was the first of its kind for Bethel, and was sponsored by the museum, along with the Yupit Piciryarait Cultural Center staff, and paid for by a grant awarded to the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Following the symposium, a Yup'ik/Cup'ik Doll Making class was held with teacher/artist Neva Mathias of Chevak, Alaska. Doll makers from all levels of experience, from first-timers, to seasoned doll makers attended this free class, again paid for by a grant through the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The Museum is planning to exhibit the two new dolls, along with our large collection of dolls, from activity dolls to a ventriloquist's dummy made in the image of the late Maggie Lind, a famous storyteller who was born and raised in Bethel. Stay tuned to our exhibit schedule, and more at [www.facebook.com/yupikmuseum](http://www.facebook.com/yupikmuseum).



**Left Photo:** Symposium participants Chris Nevak and Marvin Kiokun with instructor Neva Mathias holding up a doll created during the class.

**Right Photo:** John McIntyre holding up an Isiisaiyuk mask next to a miniature doll mask that he made for the doll.

## AVCP Welcomes New Employees



### Liz Pederson

#### General Counsel

Liz Pederson is AVCP's new General Counsel. She has been a practicing attorney for fourteen years, the past eleven years in Bethel. Before AVCP, she was the supervising attorney for the Southwest Region of the Public Defender Agency. She has three wonderful children, her adult son, Ian "Chachi" lives in California, and she has two bright beautiful daughters Angel, 8 and Lily, 7. She loves spending time with her children, boating, berry-picking and working on productions with the Bethel Actors Guild.



Monique Vondall-Rieke and Adam Walters

## Monique Vondall-Rieke, J.D. Tribal Justice Center Director

Monique Vondall-Rieke, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians tribal member, is the new director of AVCP's Tribal Justice Center in the Joe Lomack Building in Bethel, Alaska. Monique, her husband, Stuart, and their 8-year old son, Hunter, have moved to Bethel and plan to live here indefinitely. Monique had never been to Alaska before accepting the position and moving here from Belcourt, North Dakota where she had her own private tribal law practice within tribal courts in the Midwest for nine years.

Monique has both an associate's and bachelor's degrees in English and a juris doctorate from the University of North Dakota School of Law. She has spent the majority of her professional career working with Native American and diversity programs both in law

related and higher education programs. Monique enjoys working with tribal law the most, however, because of the impact it makes to Native Americans.

Monique, upon graduating from law school in 2004, did serve as appellate justice for the Turtle Mountain Tribal Court of Appeals under a Tribal Council appointment for four years and has worked on two major tribal code projects for her tribe.

Monique wrote the first Traditional Court Code in North Dakota which formed the WoDakota Traditional Court for the Spirit Lake Nation in Ft. Totten, North Dakota. The WoDakota Traditional Court was, in fact, modeled after Peacemaking Circle courts found in Alaskan tribes and modified it, along with her paralegal partner, Betty Hamley, to reflect the cultural heritage of the Spirit Lake Nation. This concept, Monique says, is very much in line with the legal research available on tribal court resources for Alaska Native tribes and villages.

The Restorative Justice portion of the Tribal Justice Center is an enhancement goal of Monique, who has organized a training of the holistic approach of restorative (or sometimes called "traditional") court systems for North Dakota social workers. An example of how this works in non-Native communities can be seen in suburbs of Los Angeles and other state entities, like Grand Forks County in North Dakota. The concept is that the use of the social services resources and court assistance programs, such as Victims of Crime Assistance, ICWA, Guardians ad Litem, foster care programs and drug and alcohol treatments centers, are all part of the holistic approach and work together to address the diversion tactics of criminal and child protection issues facing the alleged offenders or victims. This concept is not new to AVCP because that is what the 56 member consortium, non-profit agency already does for the tribes and villages it serves and is deeply rooted in Alaska Native history.

Monique is excited to bring other resources in her over thirty (25) years of experience in working with tribal governments and Native American programs. She has already begun two innovative initiatives that may bring more resources for AVCP's tribes to enhance, develop, or re-establish tribal court systems.

"AVCP Tribal Justice Center has a great opportunity to make changes in the way that tribal courts and state agencies interact," she said, "and the way we make an impact has to begin with how we develop and leverage existing resources."

## Adam M. Walters Associate General Council

Adam M. Walters was raised in western New York State by a social worker and school teacher. He earned undergraduate degrees in International Relations and Spanish at Canisius College of Buffalo, where he regularly volunteered with a refugee resettlement agency to serve local Cuban, Somali, Iranian, and Burmese communities. After graduation, Adam researched regional climate adaptation strategies in Peru with funding from the U.S. Fulbright Student Program. He next coordinated urban schoolyard greenspace efforts for a Pittsburgh-based land trust organization. Adam holds a law degree from the University of Oregon School of Law. In law school, he earned a stipend award to intern with an Anchorage nonprofit law firm that would introduce him to ANCSA; he also externed for U.S. District Judge Michael McShane in Eugene, OR, and served on the board of Oregon's LGBT bar association. Before joining AVCP, he clerked for Judge Andrew Guidi of the Third Judicial District in Anchorage.

# Upcoming Events



## The Inuquaq Exhibit

Inuquaq, or “pretend people”, were toys and symbols of a Yup’ik girl’s future life as an adult. View our wide variety of Yup’ik dolls.

Aug.—Oct. Tuesday—Saturday 12PM-4PM

## Container’s Exhibit

Juried Art—The ‘Container—To Hold’ Juried Art Show. Exhibit Opening for show of objects will be held at the Yupiit Piciryarait Museum on November 21, 2015.

Nov.—December 2015



Prior Exhibit of Mike McIntyre April—July 2015

## 2015 Annual AVCP Convention

Sept. 29, 30, and Oct. 1, 2015

## 2015 AFN Convention

Oct. 15-17, 2015



<http://www.facebook.com/yupikmuseum>

Bethel, Alaska 99559

PO Box 219

Association of Village Council Presidents



## Association of Village Council Presidents

### Mission Statement

Yuut aturyukngaitnek paivciluni ikayurluki yuungnaqlerkaitnek cali allat yuut aturyukngait ellmegnek piyugngarillerkaitnek makut yuut atuqekngait. Yuuyarait piciryarait-llu pingiinallerkaakun ellmegnek, ukut nunat ilakluki.

Provides human development, social services, and other culturally relevant programs for the people, to promote self-determination, protection and enhancement of our culture and traditions through a working partnership with member villages of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta.