

Hoonah Schools Newsletter

September-October 2016

(Sept.) Distlein: the big month, time to gather everything, time to keep busy.

(Oct.) Shanax Dis: the month to go to the mountains to get mountain goat.

Welcome to a New Year at Hoonah City Schools

With the start of a new year at Hoonah City Schools comes the opportunity to welcome new students and staff to Hoonah. We have three new certified staff and a new principal at our school, and quite a number of new students as well. See pages two and six for pictures and profiles of the new staff.

You will also find in these pages: news of classroom doings, high school sports, a playground fundraising update, writing from the middle school class, dates of upcoming events, Tlingit language program highlights, and much more. If you haven't looked at our school website lately, it is full of even more information about our school, including a school calendar for the whole year. Take a look at www.hoonahschools.org.

Hoonah Students Participate in Xunaa Shuká Hít Dedication August 25

On a cool, foggy morning in late August, three traditional spruce canoes skimmed smoothly across the waters of Bartlett Cove towards a shoreline crowded with onlookers. Hoonah City School students Sophie Henry, Mary Jack, and Randy Roberts were among the 20 pullers who had spent hundreds of hours carving and painting paddles, practicing canoe maneuvers, and journeying through Port Frederick, Icy Strait, and the waters of Bartlett Cove to herald in the Huna Tlingit return to homeland.

Following a centuries-old tradition, students Theodore Elliott, Leah Moss, and Jerry White, III called out to the approaching boats "Aadóo sáwé? (Who are you?), Goodáx aa yaakw sáwé? (Where is this canoe from?),

Daat yis.sa haat iyaawagoo? (Why have you come here?), Yándeí gaxyeekoox (Come ashore), Yáadu yak'éiyi l'éiw (Here is a sandy place), Héenák'w yee jeedéi gaxtoolashaat. (We will give you fresh water.), Yee jin gaxtoolat'áa. (We will warm your hands.). Elders George Bennett (T'akdeintaan) and Dennis Gray, Sr. (Wooshkeetaan), and James Hart (Kiks.ádi) responded with pride, telling the waiting crowd that the canoes had journeyed from Hoonah to celebrate the opening of the long-awaited Xunaa Shuká Hít – Huna Ancestors' House. Dennis called, "We gather here to celebrate. To bring joy back to the land of our ancestors."

The canoe landing initiated a day of ceremonies in which the traditions of Tlingit oratory, clan stories, mournful and happy songs, exuberant dancing, and the sharing of food gathered from the land and sea blended with the new; newly crafted songs written by Hoonah City School students, new relationships between individuals and organizations, and *(Continued on page 4)*



NPS Photo



Ian Johnson Photo



**SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE
FROM DR. PJ FORD SLACK**

WUDINAAK

Welcome Back to School,

Please come and join us for breakfast on Monday mornings at 8:00 AM and then follow us to the Alumni Gym as we sing and dance our way into each week. Everyone is welcome.

Hoonah City Schools is having an amazing start to this year's school term. It has been Likoodzi! From the beautiful Xunaa Shuka' Hii't dedication to "Hey Hey Hey" it is no Tardy Tuesday, things are happening at Hoonah City Schools. Come and meet Mr. Watkins and join the fun.

Wudinaak means to prepare yourself and that is what Hoonah City Schools did from August 17- August 25. All staff, including the superintendent, and all students were taught, Lingit songs by Mrs. Wright and L'geiki Powell. What fun to start and end each day with singing and dancing. So by the time August 25th arrived we were prepared. Do you know how amazing your children are? They were cheerful, friendly, respectful, joyous for over 18 hours on that day. Give them big hugs. We would also like to acknowledge the work of Mary Beth Moss. She is a parent and advocate for outstanding education. To Julie Jackson, Bob Starbard, and Darlene See, we thank you for all of your work towards this wonderful event.

Did you know that Mrs. Wright and Ms. Powell were invited to a language intensive at UAF campus this summer? They are actually very famous and represent Hoonah so well. Ms. Powell has been chosen as a Language and Culture Fellow by First Alaskans to attend a two-week intensive program at Stanford University. She will work with other Alaskans, as well as Maori and Hawaiian language leaders.

Even with the legislatures proposed cuts to education our Learning community, with your help, will continue to offer excellence in education in a small safe, culture centered school.

Wooch.een yéi jigaxtoonéi!

We are going to work together!

Dr. PJ



Greetings from your School Board!

The board held a retreat during August in order to reflect on the past year and prepare for this school year. Jerry Covey served as our facilitator. We accomplished our annual evaluation of Superintendent PJ Ford Slack, who received high ratings from the board in all areas. We feel extremely fortunate to have Dr. PJ's expertise and leadership. We also completed a board self-evaluation that pointed out some areas for improvement. And we also set a major board goal for this year.

Our board goal is to enlist the help of the community in prioritizing school programs. We have heard that our state legislature will be considering a major cut in education funding for next school year. We as a board must plan for the worst-case funding scenario while hoping that it will not become a reality. The board feels that it is essential to engage the students, the parents, and the community in the discussion of priorities so that we can provide the best possible education for our students if faced with inadequate funding.

During our September meeting the board approved the final reading of the last remaining section of our policy manual. This brings to a close a yearlong process of updating all sections of the manual, guaranteeing that outdated sections are now both current and relevant.

By the time you read this column, elections will have taken place and we will be welcoming new members to the board. We will be honoring outgoing members of the board during our regular meeting on October 27th.

As always, I encourage anyone with concerns about the school to email me at huttonr@hoonahschools.org or call or text me on my cell phone (907-209-0996). Gunalcheesh!

*Bob Hutton
HCS Board President*

Note: newly-elected School Board members are Heidi Jewell and Jamie Erickson. Appointed by the Board at the October 25th meeting was Dillon Styers.



Principal's Welcome from Ralph Watkins

Dear Parents, Families and Friends,

As I begin my first year as Principal of Hoonah City Schools, I am energized and

deeply committed to making a positive difference in the lives of your children. We will accomplish this by setting high academic expectations for all children and providing support systems to assure they are met. Our dedicated staff will continue to work very hard to meet the individual needs of all students, and maintain personal connections with their families. I believe that all of us – the school and the community – must work together in an extended family environment to insure success for all our students. I believe it is everyone's responsibility to empower children with the creative, intellectual, and decision-making skills necessary for them to become: culturally, academically, socially, physically, emotionally successful and responsible.

I truly believe that communication is the key to a successful educational experience. I, along with my staff, will work together to improve the quality of our school community and provide the best for the students of Hoonah City Schools. By addressing school culture, setting high standards for teacher performance, increasing academic expectations for all students, and engaging the community, it is my goal, and the shared goal of my staff, that at Hoonah City Schools all of our students graduate and are college or career ready so that they may take advantage of all the opportunities that are available to them.

Together we will embrace the challenges of the future while we continue to cherish and celebrate the rich traditions of the past. Our remarkable staff, involved parents and committed students come together to make Hoonah City Schools a wonderful and unique place.

With that in mind, you are invited to be an active participant at Hoonah City Schools. Whether you are a classroom volunteer, special event participant, or member of one of our school committees, you are encouraged to be involved! Research on schools clearly demonstrates that participation by a child's caregiver in that child's school coincides with a greater likelihood of academic success for their child.

It is my desire to keep you informed of all that is taking place at school. We have updated our district website and will keep it up-to-date with the information you need to be informed. You can now receive text messages directly from school to get the latest information in cases of emergencies and reminders.

If you have questions or concerns that arise at any time, please do not hesitate to give your child's teacher or me a call. I look forward to having a long and rewarding relationship with you and your family. I am looking forward to working with you and your student as we work toward an academically successful school year.

Respectfully,
Ralph M. Watkins
Principal

Photo below: on the first day of school, Mr. Watkins led a game of Simon Says with the students, staff and visitors.



Getting to Know Our Principal: Mr. Ralph Watkins was recently asked the usual questions that are put to new school staff. Here are some of his replies:

His most recent position before coming to Hoonah was as the principal in Shishmaref, Alaska.

He was born and raised in Los Angeles, but considers Wyoming home. He graduated from Pacific University in Oregon. He taught in Oregon for four years, then returned to Wyoming where he earned his Master's Degree in school administration.

Mr. Watkins comes from a family of 10 siblings, most of whom still live in California. He is married to Jolene Watkins, and they have a total of six children; three of them are students in our school. When he isn't at work, he enjoys being out on the water, and "a fun night of karaoke now and then."

When asked how he likes Hoonah, Mr. Watkins replied: "I love it here!!!! The community is so very rich in culture. I enjoy experiencing the language and the traditions. The students have been so welcoming. I can be a little quirky but they accept me with open arms."

About this newsletter: Welcome to a new year at Hoonah City Schools. This is the first issue of our newsletter for the 2016-2017 academic year. Since 1988, the Title VII Native Education Program at the school has provided this publication as a means of letting the community know what is happening at school, and about other events that affect our students. Please contact Daphne Wright with questions or suggestions about this project. Call her at school (945-3611) or email: wrightd@hoonahschools.org.

*Xunaa Shuká Hít
Dedication,
continued from
page 1*

.....new opportunities for learning, sharing, and creating. Drumming and singing their way

from the shoreline to the front of Xunaa Shuká Hít, student voices reminded all who participated in the days' events that "the box of knowledge will be opened again..."



The ceremony continued with thanksgiving. Elders burned cedar and spruce chips gleaned from house screen, house post, and canoe carvings to honor the Aas Kwáani (Tree People) who gave their lives to build the 2,500 square foot Tribal House as well as the newly carved 40 foot canoes. Elders shared the meaning behind the intricately carved house front depicting Raven with the Box of Knowledge and Eagle grasping the Salmon. They encouraged the audience, telling of the Raven and Eagle's firm and balanced hold on all that is good about Tlingit culture -all that is contained in, and represented by - the box of knowledge, the tináa, and the salmon. Later, clan leaders led the crowd in breathing life into the house during a traditional ceremony in which Xunaa Shuká Hít (roughly translated as Huna Ancestors' House) was named.

Elder Ken Grant (T'akdeintaan) introduced keynote speakers Frank Wright, Jr. (L'uknaxádi), President of Hoonah Indian Association and Philip Hooge, Superintendent of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve by noting that "What you see before you is a house. This house to us is a keystone. The keystone holds up the bridge ... the bridge between the National Park Service and the Huna Tlingit, through the Hoonah Indian Association. What is happening now, is the Park and the Huna clans, through HIA, are reaching out and taking their hands – holding hands in partnership." Frank and Philip, too, spoke of their mutual goals for the Xunaa Shuká Hít. Philip noted that "Today we celebrate a long-awaited dream. We are drawn here to celebrate a building. But that building is a symbol of something far larger for both the Tribe and the National Park Service on its 100th anniversary." Frank spoke of words often repeated by elders, "Whatever we do is for our children and our grandchildren's grandchildren. So this house is going to be here for many grandchildren."

And finally, tribal elders entered the house for the first time, passing before the elaborately carved interior house screen depicting the cultural geography of the Huna Tlingit and winding around the four clan house posts, all finally seen as part of a whole. Once inside, more stories and words of encouragement were emotionally shared, the four corners of the house were ceremoniously marked with red paint, and food was shared with all.

As Hoonah City School students, "brought out" a song inspired by ancestral voices and the beauty of Glacier Bay during a May 2016 "Journey to Homeland" trip sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Park Service, Hoonah City Schools, Hoonah Indian Association, the Hoonah Liquor Board, Sea Wolfe Adventures and Adventures Afloat, the mood in the Tribal House expanded. While this new song was crafted by students Vanessa Conteras, Jeff Devlin, Raymond Osborne, Brandon Guthrie, Mary Jack, Treston Lafferty, Randy Roberts, Nina Sanders, Sam Sheakley, and Kelsey Thein with help from Hans Chester, Heather Powell, Daphne Wright, and Darlene See, its words spoke to all the Huna Tlingit that day: "Toowú sigóo áyá (We are happy). Has du een yei haa teiyí (When we are with our ancestors)".

As more tribal members, NPS employees, and guests entered the building, the drum beat quickened and dancers dipped and spun with increasing energy. The house reverberated "like a box drum" some said, calling the Huna Tlingit into their new space. As evening drew close, a new exit song helped people wend their way back to waiting buses and boats. Children and teachers boarded the ferry LeConte and others climbed onto waiting catamarans. As the boats returned to Hoonah that evening, many reflected on the day's events and planned for their next return to homeland.



Originally conceived as a building intended to memorialize the Huna clans' tie to their Glacier Bay homeland, Xunaa Shuká Hít has become much more for both the Huna Tlingit as well as the National Park Service. It will continue to anchor the Huna Tlingit in their traditional Glacier Bay homeland and will serve as a gathering place where tribal members can reconnect with cultural practices and ancestral knowledge through ceremonies, workshops, camps, tribal meetings, and other events. It also provides opportunities for thousands of park visitors to learn about Huna Tlingit history, culture, and life ways. Cooperatively designed and built in partnership between the National Park Service and the Hoonah Indian Association, it reminds all of the power of Woosh ji.een—working together. *Gunalchéesh to Mary Beth Moss for this article.*

See page 14 for a gunalchéesh list from Hoonah Indian Association to the many people, businesses and organizations that contributed to the success of the Tribal House dedication. Photos this page by Ian Johnson.



Native Education Program News

Since we started our school year with a trip to Glacier Bay for the Tribal House dedication, we have continued to learn about and celebrate our Tlingit culture at Hoonah City Schools.

On most Mondays, there is an assembly first thing in the morning with the whole school; it includes Tlingit singing and drumming, to get everyone ready for the week ahead. This was how the entire school was able to learn the new Glacier Bay songs composed by a group of students last May.

We are currently providing Lingít Yoo X'atangi (Tlingit Language) instruction to grades PreK-12th; our students are encouraged to use Tlingit in their everyday life as much as possible. On Halloween, "Linúkdzi.át haa tuwáa sigóo!" (we want candy!) was heard at several homes as students went trick-or-treating.

A majority of the high school students are taking Tlingit classes this year, taught by Heather Powell. In the elementary school, Daphne Wright is the instructor. There have been several joint classes, when the younger students get to work with the "big kids." In some of the pictures on this page, they are playing "Memory" to reinforce their Tlingit vocabulary.



members of a youth panel as part of their experience.

Right : some of the 2nd-3rd graders dropped by the Tlingit classroom during Open House, saw a stack of drums, and a Tlingit "jam session" broke out.

Two of our high school students attended ANB/ANS Grand Camp in Juneau as part of their study of the organization and its role in Alaska Native history. Mary Jack and Randy Roberts were



S'ikshaldeen, also known as Hudson Bay Tea, was collected by the high school students as a class field trip. The students learned about picking, cleaning and drying the plant for tea.

Gunalchchéesh to Sally Dybdahl (Tooleitch) for volunteering in the K-1 class while we were short-staffed. She read stories and played Tlingit card games with the students.

New Ways to Study Tlingit: if you have a smartphone or other kind of mobile device, try loading "**Yakutat Tlingit**" a new (FREE) app which has loads of Tlingit language learning materials. The students in the high school language classes and Tlingit Study Group have all been taking advantage of a new way to study our ancient language.

Quizlet is another way to study Tlingit. Go to <https://quizlet.com/join/UnYeF2hMU> to join our Tlingit Study Group Cohort. We have quite a few study sets available, and are planning on adding more. Gunalchchéesh to Aimee At k'aheeni Smith for sharing information about this valuable learning tool.

Tlingit Study Group has been meeting almost every Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 7:30 in the Tlingit classroom (room 102, Elementary Bldg.) This is a very informal group, open to all, regardless of language



experience. Gunalchchéesh to Deiwjee, Genevieve Cook, for all your patience and help.

The Native Education Program is in the process of recruiting interested parents or guardians to serve on the **Parent Advisory Committee**. Please call or send an email to Carol Williams expressing your interest in serving on the Committee.

Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 16th will be our first **Wooch.een Wednesday**, a Family Engagement dinner/meeting to involve families in our program. We'll have a dinner starting at 5:30, followed by a meeting to

explain our program. We will play a few games of Tlingo (Tlingit Bingo) and sing a few songs, too. Families are invited to bring a side dish or dessert if they wish. Watch the school daily Messenger, signs around town, and Facebook for reminders about this event as the date gets closer.

Hoonah Schools Welcomes New Staff

When school opened in August, we welcomed new staff at HCS:

Melissa Thaalesen is the new 7th and 8th grade teacher. She has her middle school students for most of the day; she teaches Math, Language Arts, Social Studies and middle school advisory/technology.

Melissa has lived in Hoonah since she was 14 years old. She is a graduate of Hoonah High School, and worked here at the school as a Special Education Paraprofessional for ten years. In 2007, she decided to go back to school to become a teacher. She has always had a dream of working here as a teacher and helping the students of Hoonah City Schools to succeed.

Melissa attended Grand Canyon University, a private online Christian college to earn her degree. This university allowed her to work at her own pace, since she was a single mother with a fulltime job while doing her coursework.

Melissa is the mother of two girls, Zada and Shayla, and two boys, Mitchel and Liam. They are a close family and love to spend time together when Melissa is not working. They have a new puppy, Ember, who loves the beach and being outside as much as they do.

When asked about her early impressions of working as a teacher at our school, Melissa said THIS IS AMAZING!



Sheryl Ross is the new Special Education Teacher and Special Education Director. Her most recent jobs before coming here were in Sitka, where she was a Special Ed. Coordinator and Special Ed. Teacher, and in Ketchikan where she was a Special Ed. Teacher.



Sheryl grew up in Upper Michigan in an iron ore mining community. Her family moved to Portland Oregon when she was in high school. She went to college at Eastern Oregon University, LaGrande, Oregon, Multidisciplinary Studies, ELL Endorsement; University of Hawaii, Manoa, Multicultural Ed and continued to SOU. Southern Oregon University- M.Ed/Dual SpEd PreK-12, OR Teacher Lic/Admin. UAA- AK Teacher Lic PreK-12, Type B Administrative UAF- Currently in the Ph.D. Indigenous Studies with emphasis on Sustaining Culture/Curriculum & Instruction.

Sheryl and her husband raised their family in Enterprise, Oregon and in Kailua Kona, Hawaii. They have 11 children and 12 grandchildren. Five of their

children are Native Inupiaq from Pt. Barrow, Alaska and call Hawaii home. The rest of their children live from Hawaii to the East coast.

When Sheryl is not actually at school, she is doing homework. But she also enjoys spending time on the boat, fishing and hunting. She and her husband also kayak, as well as travel to spend time with family from Okinawa to Hawaii, West and East coast. She also likes to garden, read, write, and bake.

Sheryl reports that she and her husband Dave love Southeast, they think Hoonah is beautiful, and have enjoyed the friendliness of the community. They have visited Pelican, Gustavus, Tenakee Springs, Elfin Cove and Glacier Bay National Park and found each place to be unique.

When asked about what she hopes to accomplish in the near future, Sheryl said she wants to complete the Ph.D program and find a place to build a home.

Melinda Hamerly is the language arts teacher in the high school; her classes are Composition I (9th grade); Alaska Literature, emphasis on place-based (10th grade); Composition II (11th grade) and Senior English.

Most recently, she worked a bit farther north in Alaska teaching English in high school and middle school, and music Pre-school to high school.

Melinda is from Delta Junction, AK, but she grew up at Lake Tahoe on the

North Shore where it is quiet; she had the National Forest as her backyard and enjoyed it! Mountains to roam, hike, run, or ski, beach to stroll or play volleyball on, and cold, deep water to sail her little sail tub on...she was never bored.

As for her college education, Melinda has this story to tell: *After many years of completely loving working with students in school, I went to UA night school, and when I had exhausted all the classes available, my colleagues and friends encouraged me to become a full time student and to obtain my teaching credentials. I loaded 6 suitcases, 2 teens, musical instruments and a cat and flew into the unknowns of Washington, DC where I had a scholarship to study music with an emphasis in music education. Thus began my wonderful foray into formal learning. How wonderful!*

While at Columbia Union College (The name is now Washington Adventist University), my professors persuaded me to also obtain a degree in English with a minor in secondary education. I feel very fortunate to have found a small university specializing in high quality education and a very low professor: student ratio. Many of my classes only had four students to the one professor or Doctorate. They tried to talk me into staying back East, but I wanted to come back to Alaska, teach in my home state and share the excellent education I received with our fabulous young people.

When asked about her family, Melinda said that her parents came up to spend a few weeks with her, and had an awesome visit. (continued on next page)



Cross-Country Coach's Wrap-up Report

We had a great year with many personal improvements. Cross Country is a sport that builds a unique team spirit and pushes the individual. The team worked hard in practices and it showed in their improvements this year. Completing his four-year running streak, Manny Budke qualified for State Cross Country and ran a personal best time of 18:08 which placed him in 36th. Randy Roberts, Josh Wright, Brandon Guthrie, Jerry White, and our 2 Freshmen Halle Budke and Zada Michel each ran well. We are hoping to have more students join in the fun of running next year. *Coach Steve Berry*

Pictured at right: back, Coach Berry, Brandon Guthrie, Jerry White III, Ronie Roberts, Halle Budke, Zada Michel; front: Josh Wright, Randy Roberts, Manny Budke



(Melinda Hammerly, continued from page 6)

Melinda has a daughter who teaches 4th grade in Maryland. Her other two kids are grown and working towards their dreams as well.

When not at school, she enjoys singing, movies, volleyball, cookies, board games, photography, cookies, baking, sleep, talking to people, brain game puzzles, reading and cookies. And she is in the community play here. Her words: *Wow, what fun! What a learning curve for me to be on stage!*

When asked about her early impressions of Hoonah and our school, she replied: *I love it here! It reminds me of home and growing up at Tahoe. It's the same small town friendly that I so cherish. I am really enjoying how nice people are here. As for the students? They continue to deeply impress me with their candor and willingness to learn. They are a fabulous group and I am honored to have the opportunity to be their teacher.*

A final question, and Melinda's answer in her own words. What are some things you would like to accomplish in the near future? *My foremost desire is to provide an education of excellence to our talented students here at*

Varsity Volleyball Update

From Coach Jessie Dybdahl

Hoonah High School's Mixed 6 Volleyball team has hit the ground running! Between schoolwork, practice, fundraising, and games - the Braves are keeping busy! Our Varsity and JV teams hosted the Gustavus Foxes, where the Braves V team dropped two matches, both 3-2, and the Braves JV team won two matches, 2-1 and 2-0. We also traveled to Yakutat where the Braves won two matches, both 3-1. We traveled to a seeding tournament in Thorne Bay October 27-29, will go to the jamboree in Gustavus November 14-15, and to Regionals in Angoon December 1-3.

Our Dessert Auction during the Gustavus matches raised \$ 1, 178.00. Thanks go to Dillon Styers for auctioneering, families and friends who donated pies, etc., and everyone who purchased goodies.

Hoonah. I hope to accomplish my goal- all students grow towards their potential as life learners and learn to communicate well, so that their unique voice and ideas may be heard and understood.

I am looking for a school to obtain my doctorate in Brain Education and Music or Narrative; I haven't quite decided. The intersection of neuroscience and education completely delights me. Then, if music or narrative blends with it, exciting things happen!

In a closer future: I would love to start a small (or large) choral group to explore some of the master works of choral music from early chant (Palestrina, de Tomàs) forward to the great choral composers (Mozart, Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn) modern choral composers such as Rutter, Whitacre and Bingham. Any interest? ☺ (Contact me through the high school office.)

I really enjoyed my time behind the radio mic. My radio show was Coffee Time and it covered the history of Western music. I know; it sounds boring, but it wasn't! Perhaps, someday soon, I can have a radio show again.



Glacier Bay *By Ethan Ruerup*

On August 15th, the majority of my school, around eighty-nine students and twenty-nine adults, travelled to Bartlett Cove in Glacier Bay; a national park in southeast Alaska. There are several reasons why this was culturally significant to me. For example, I learned and perfected many songs from my culture, the Tlingit culture, of which I am of Eagle moiety and Chookaneidí clan.

This was the second time I had been to Glacier Bay, but the first time in three years, at which point the tribal house did not exist. Though, this trip was very different from my previous visit, given that there was a lot more singing and dancing, and there were a LOT more people. Something I really enjoyed was seeing my brother, who I hadn't seen in four days due to his canoe journey. I also enjoyed seeing the beautiful views, though I didn't see any exotic animals this time.

I didn't hear, or if I did I wasn't paying attention, any new stories I hadn't heard before, but I was really excited to see the design on the front wall outside of the Tribal House and the screen on the inside.

It was very encouraging to find that the front of the tribal house was designed by a high-school student. It makes me believe that anyone, no matter how young, can make a mark on history.

Overall, I'm glad I went on this trip, and believe it was a substantially life-changing experience.

My Favorite Time of the Year

By: Duane Jack

I like fall the best because it has Halloween. I like to carve a pumpkin. I like to cut a cat pumpkin with a smile. We hang up skeleton lights outside. I light my pumpkin and ghost lights.

I trick-or-treat at Grandpa Tom's and Chris (grandma), and over at Uncle Jame's and Ms. Pearl's.

My Big Journeys

By Olivia Morrison

Hi, my name is Olivia. I have had a crazy wonderful, interesting life, going from place to place, also going to a new place and meeting new people. Seeing great things and growing up with people I love and doing all these things are great, especially when you are with your family.

My first time ever traveling to a big country, and I was so excited to go to Puerto Rico. When we arrived we had a bunch of family waiting for us. We had a blast. We met my family, ate really cool foods, and went to cool

places. That was one of my big journeys.

When I got back to my home in Alaska, we had an idea we should go on a family road trip. We didn't know how long we would be gone, but we packed up, and got on the ferry. First we went to Haines and crossed over to Canada. When we arrived, we drove all the way to Montana, where we met my aunt Deloris and stayed for two days. Then we got back on the road. We went through the mountains and went under waterfalls. It was very rainy, but when we got out we went to a seal cave. It stunk really bad. Afterwards, we went to the Paul Bunyan Petting Zoo and I got to hold a bunch of animals like a baby lamb; it was great. Then we went fishing and jumped off the bridges, which was really fun.

On the way back we had a plan. The plan was to go around and have fun, while meeting my family. This time we were meeting my dad's side of the family. My mom had never met my dad's family, and I had not met them either. The only one who knew them was my dad. When we got there, all my dad's brothers, nieces, and nephews were waiting. I met all my uncles: Keith, Jeff, David, and my cousins Marisa, Autumn, Mason, and Christopher. They all were really nice. We decided we would move there. When my mom and dad went back to Alaska. My brother and I stayed. While my mom and dad were gone, we lived on a farm. This meant we had chores. I had to feed the horses, clean stalls, feed the pony, and take care of the chickens. My dad's family raced horses; they jumped hurdles and ran around poles. So my cousins were in a lot of races on horses. One of the cooler things we had was a pet deer named Mario. He loved drinking chocolate milk from a bottle. Then we would find salamanders, which were all weird and covered in slime and really jumpy. When we had a chinchilla, he would always throw his turds at us so we would put a blanket over his cage. But after awhile waking up at the crack of dawn and doing lots of chores didn't seem fun anymore.

Eventually, we left Oregon; farming didn't suit our life-style. Living in cold, sometimes harsh winters and coming back to the beautiful summers were you can fish, hunt, and camp and be free to do what ever you want; this is the life-style for me.

Story of my life *By: Gary Glover*

I have had a crazy life. Some of the things I'm going to talk about are: my 11th birthday, my brother's 1st and 2nd birthday, and my vacation to Juneau.

My birthday: When I was nine I got my Xbox. I got my first phone when I was 11. When I was 10, I got my first BMX; it was green.

Thayer's birthday: On my brother's birthday, he made a mess with his cake. He got a crapload of toys. He was happy he got toys.

Last year we went to Juneau and bought lots of stuff. We bought things like shoes, games and clothes. We stayed at the Best Western. I had a lot of fun because it had a swimming pool and a hot tub.

I have enjoyed many things. My favorite things have been my brother's birthday, my 10th and 11th birthdays, and my trip to Juneau.

Second-Third Grade News

Greetings from Mrs. Fuller's 2nd and 3rd grade class!

WOW! Where do I start? We have had such an exciting start to a new year. It is rolling by so quickly; we have already finished our first quarter. Our class has gotten settled into a great routine of learning and fun. Everyday is a new adventure.

To begin, we started our year with our 3rd graders going on a wonderful trip to Glacier Bay for the dedication of the Tribal House. Our third grade class, although small in number, did a great job contributing to Hoonah School's singing and dancing.

We began our year with the theme of *Going for the Gold!* We studied the Olympics and its history. Since this year's Olympics were held in Brazil, we learned a little about South America and its tropical rainforest. This led to us comparing the temperate rainforest we live in to the tropical rainforest. As a culminating activity, we headed to the US Forest Service for an interpretive lesson on the trees, plants and animals of our temperate rainforest. Thank you so much, Miss Robin Hasselquist, for the field trip. We really had a great time. After we finished our field trip, we even made a rainforest in a jar to observe the effects of a canopy of trees.

In addition to our study of South America, we took some time to explore the geography of our world. We learned the 7 continents, 4 oceans and the Equator. We made a salt dough map and a paper Mache globe for a little additional fun.

This year, we have a new principal and wanted to give him a warm welcome. So, we had him read one of our favorite books, *Mr. Tanen's Ties*, which is about a principal and his exciting wardrobe of ties. If you did know this about our principal, he loves to wear super cool ties too. So, we bought him a copy of the book and made him an assortment of paper ties designed by our class to remember us.

We want to thank our volunteers this year. Thank you so much Miss Diane for being our Book Bag Lady again. Also, a big thanks goes to Sherry Constantino for pitching in and helping where you can. We will really miss the Constantinos; happy trails and enjoy your adventures in Wyoming.

We are really looking forward to another quarter and before we know it, we will have finished half a year. It was so nice getting to meet with parents during Parent/Teacher conferences. I so enjoyed sharing your child's growth. I am looking forward



to meeting with you again. We love volunteers and appreciate any way families and friends can contribute. Until next time; have a great fall!
Mrs. Fuller

Kids + Cameras = Wonderful Photos

Results of our *Kids with Cameras* project from last spring will be on display and for sale at the Christmas Bazaar on December 3rd. A small number of photos were selected to be printed and matted.

Other photos were selected to be a part of the Tlingit Language Program. They will be used as visuals to help teach Tlingit vocabulary lessons.

Be sure and look for the matted pictures on display at the Christmas Bazaar. *Kids with Cameras* was a project of Hoonah City Schools and the National Park Service.



Kindergarten-First Grade

The Kindergarten-First Grade classroom is always a busy place! Here are some news and thank you notes from their class:

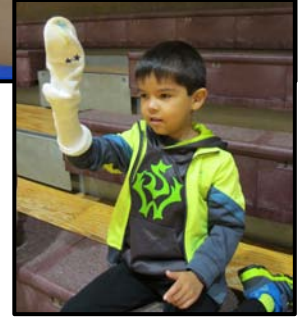


Gunalchéesh to our volunteer Bookie Bag lady, Mrs. Diane Bean. She reads with students, takes care of the book bags, has donated school supplies and even brings snacks sometimes.

Gunalchéesh to others for bringing snacks: Laura Hinchman, Megan Skaflestad, Jamie Erickson, Angie Voeller, Judy Bitz and Terri Rae Mills. We always appreciate donations of healthy snacks, such crackers or nuts.



Gunalchéesh to 12th grader Vanessa Contreras, who works as a TA (teacher's assistant) during one of her class periods. She donated some school supplies for our class to use.



In our Tlingit class, Mrs. Wright is teaching us how to say colors, things in the classroom, animals, weather, and feelings. We also get to sing and drum Tlingit songs.

In September, a group from Perseverance Theater in Juneau came over and helped our class make sock puppets. Afterwards, we put on little shows for each other, using Tlingit words that we have been learning. Some of the pictures on this page show us playing with our sock puppets.

A Note of Gunalchéesh to the Hoonah Liquor Board for \$3000 given for the School Food Service Program.

Notes from the School Office:

Did your cell phone number change recently, or did your physical residence change?? It is important that we at HCS have the most current information from all parents and guardians in the event we need to contact you regarding the safety and welfare of your precious and wonderful child.



If there have been changes, please contact Carol @ 723-0723 or Ladonna @ 945-3613. Thank you!

The 2016-2017 Student Handbook inadvertently stated all students in Grades K-6 will receive a free lunch. Actually, all students in **Grades K-12** will receive a free lunch. HCS regrets the error. Lunch for adults remains at \$4.50 per meal.



Gaawt'ak.aan Dancers-----

It is time to return those blankets, tunics, headbands and drums that you borrowed when we traveled to Juneau for Celebration.

Carol maintains a list of all students who have borrowed regalia from the school collection. Talk to her if you aren't sure about what you still have checked out; then please get it ready to bring to Carol's office at the school. Gunalcheesh!

Thanks for volunteering:

These women met once a week throughout the summer to make dried Alaskan flower bookmarks and to repair school-owed regalia: Glenda Hutton, Linda Dellazoppa, Karen S. Mills, Daphne Wright, Arely Wright, Sally Dybdahl, Lorrie Scoles, Heather Powell, and Shelly Hughes. They sold 128 bookmarks (valued at \$384.00) to the ISP School Store to support student activities. Lorrie also donated tulle in school colors to make tutus for fans to wear to home games.

News from the Fourth Grade Class

As the first quarter is coming to an end, it gives us time to reflect on the new routines we've incorporated in our class, and the concepts we've reviewed or learned. One new routine we've implemented this year is the use of binders. Every student has a binder in which to keep all necessary papers and agenda. It's proving to be very handy in keeping students organized and ready for learning!

At the very beginning of the year, we, along with students from grade 3 through 12, were invited to take part in the dedication of the Tribal House over in Bartlett Cove. I cannot stress enough how well-behaved every student was from the time they got on the ferry at 5 a.m. till they got off later that night. They represented the school and our community very well!

In writing, the focus is on personal narratives. Students are learning the qualities of a well-written personal narrative and

working to develop their own personal narrative with a clear introduction, sequence and conclusion. I'm excited to see their finished product! These students have some fascinating experiences they are writing about!

At the beginning of the school year, Kathie Dietering brought some Woolly Bear caterpillars to our classroom to use during Science. We enjoyed watching them! After observing their behavior, we used these observations to

make a property word chart. We are also in the middle of a unit on gravity and magnetism. Students are learning about forces, particularly magnetic force, gravity and electrostatic force.

The great state of Alaska is our focus during Social Studies. We are learning about the physical layout of Alaska, how it's broken into regions, and learning the location of major cities, mountains and rivers. The first region we are really focusing on is the Southeast region. Students are in the middle of making their own 3-D map, with the regions, major landforms, and cities labeled. It is a work in progress!



One of the largest areas of growth students have made this quarter is in math. They are learning multiple strategies for figuring out their multiplication facts, learning how to give multiplicative comparisons, deciding whether a number is prime or composite, and learning

about linear measurement and volume in both metric and customary units.

I'm excited to see the growth this class will continue to make as the year progresses. Please continue to check your child's binder on a regular basis for notes or assignments that need to be completed. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 907-209-0814.

Until next time,
Ms. Bidiman



Gift Wrap Fundraiser Report

Hoonah citizens wholeheartedly supported door-to-door and online sales of giftwrap, magazines, candy, jewelry, and household items in our BelieveKids fundraiser, sponsored by Hoonah Fun & Fit Partnership to benefit the Playground Fund. Gunalchéesh!

Thanks to 20 students and their families for making time to help with this project. Following is a list of our salespeople and the amount of merchandise they sold:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Will Dalton</i> \$653.50 | <i>Krista Howland</i> \$525.00, |
| <i>Leah Moss</i> \$500.00 | <i>Kali Harris</i> \$404.00 |
| <i>Alona Howland</i> \$388.50 | <i>Tatiana Jacobsen</i> \$276.00 |
| <i>Teresa Lewis</i> \$250.75 | <i>Dietrich Lewis</i> \$250.75 |
| <i>Tyler Watkins</i> \$171.50 | <i>Tanner Howland</i> \$163.00 |
| <i>Izaak Jacobsen</i> \$156.50 | <i>Alejandro Contreras</i> \$146.00 |
| <i>Ian Sharclane</i> \$104.50 | <i>Susan Bradford</i> \$86.00 |
| <i>Fisher Skalfestad</i> \$80.50 | <i>Johan Nichols</i> \$77.50 |
| <i>Kenny Skaflestad</i> \$73.00 | <i>Evan Fuller</i> \$64.50 |
| <i>Sophie Didrickson</i> \$43.00 | <i>Shawn Mills</i> \$42.00. |

We are happy to report that the students brought in a total of \$4456.50! Of that amount, \$1782.60 will go into the Playground Fund. Student salespersons earned prizes based on # of items sold. Orders will arrive and be delivered to customers before Thanksgiving. Thank you to the following for checking the orders after they were turned in: Glenda Hutton, Daphne Wright, Karen Mills, Mary Beth Moss and Sally Dybdahl.

News from High School Science Department

By Patrick Malone, Science Instructor

Last year I applied for a grant-funded research fellowship at University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Dr. Lawrence Duffy at UAF and I are working to determine the distribution of mercury in the plants, soils, and water in and around Hoonah. Our focus is to develop a means through which I and Hoonah City Schools students can take a water sample from a creek, a marshy bog, or even a rainwater puddle and calculate the approximate mercury likely found in plants nearby. The plant we are looking at for this study is the blueberry; primarily because several members of our community advised me that it is likely our most widely used plant food resource, but also because this plant is a subsistence food used in communities throughout southeast Alaska.

We are comparing the mercury contamination in both leaves and berries to what we find in moss and groundwaters near each bush and recording the location using GPS. Moss is used because, like lichen, it is part of an established method for tracking mercury through the environment. The different sources of water is important because glacial meltwater, springs, surface rivers and creeks, marshlands, rainwater, and even fog all tend to carry very different levels of mercury contamination that changes throughout the year. By looking at water and moss compared to leaves and berries, we will be able to formulate a method for determining how much mercury one can expect in a blueberry bush from a simple water or moss sample before the berries ripen.

Such a method can become part of Hoonah High School's chemistry or biology lessons, and so providing an annual way for students to connect with the broader Hoonah community in a truly meaningful way that brings their science into the real world. By mapping relative levels of contamination, my students and I will slowly grow a map for our community to make informed decisions about how to safely enjoy the cultural side of food gathering. I have published research in scientific journals before, but I am very pleased because this study gives me a nice opportunity to include several Hoonah high school students as contributors to the study.



To ensure that this program continues, my research grant will stretch into next year, with the opportunity to extend into a third. Each year the grant awards a \$5,000 stipend that is essentially a salary. I have chosen to use those funds to bring my laboratory classroom into the 21st century. Last year I purchased about \$750 in new chemistry equipment, donated my old university-grade microscope to the school, and purchased a new 2500X microscope with a mount for a digital camera to project onto my SMARTBoard™, at the same time that Hoonah City Schools purchased similar microscopes to replace old and damaged equipment.

This year I used Amazon.com and eBay to acquire 30 new textbooks for as little as \$2.30 apiece, and the stipend has already paid for about \$800 in

personal protection equipment, digital sensors, and electronic probes our students now use in Physics, Chemistry, and Anatomy & Physiology. The stipend will also pay for the chemical reagents our students have not been able to enjoy in chemistry investigations for a very long time, and in some cases never have. New equipment will include additions to the Physics class that enable much deeper explorations of motion, sound, light, and even astronomical phenomenon. A gas chromatograph, a spectrometer that operates in near-infrared and ultraviolet range, and physiology equipment such as an EKG will provide our students access to learning opportunities typical only of very wealthy school districts and universities.

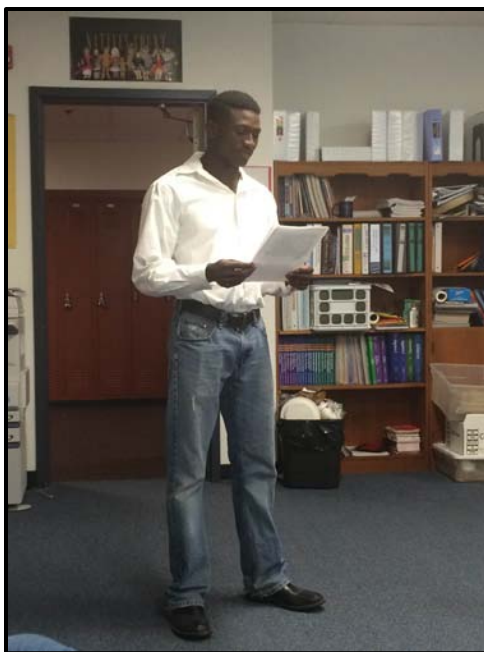
This equipment will provide the backbone for real-world student scientific investigations, encourage skills development of practical value in technical colleges and 4-year universities, and support the mercury research project that contributes to our community. Once the methods are validated by the UAF research project, our students can expand the study into other plants, and even to animal tissues such as cockles or deer meat.

Next year the grant will make available the same stipend that I intend to again use to obtain more equipment and provide the Hoonah science lab with more supplies. In the third and final year, the grant dedicates funds specifically for Hoonah City Schools to acquire additional equipment to support a continuing research relationship between our students and UAF.

Student Government Report

Student Government recently finalized their slate of officers and representatives for the 2016-2017 school year! The senior class representative is yet to be determined from current officers. Regular meetings are open to the public. They will be held in Room 418; watch the daily School Messenger for meeting dates and times. Student Government officers are as follows:

Emmanuel Budke (President), Randy Roberts (Vice President), Mary Jack (Secretary), Zada Michel (Treasurer & Freshman Representative), Halle Budke (School Board Representative), Jerry White III (Junior Representative), Tyler Watkins (Sophomore Representative), Middle School Representatives: Ethan Ruerup, Shayla Thaalesen, Dakota Garrison. See Manny Budke giving his first presidential address to the Student Government in the picture, left. The Student Government has begun planning for pep assemblies and homecoming week and will be working this year on learning more about Roberts Rules of Order, writing resolutions for the spring conference, and drafting a new Student Government Handbook.
---Aimee Smith, Advisor



Hoonah Fun & Fit Update

Hoonah Fun & Fit Partnership is a group that meets once monthly. We are the advisory group for the school's Wellness Policy. We plan events to encourage physical activity & promote availability of affordable healthy foods and beverages to decrease community obesity, and we promote community health education. If you have questions or are interested in joining our efforts, please contact Judy Hankla at the school (945-3611), Candy Keown at HIA (945-3545), or Sally Dybdahl at BBBS (945-3600).

The estimated fundraising target of our elementary playground renovation is \$113,000. So far, we've earned \$28,125.09. Recent sources of funds include \$135.10 of BoxTop\$ 4 Education; \$422 from 3rd of July Ring a Drink Booth; \$700+ from Alumni Reunion Car Wash; \$200 check, \$50 gift certificate, and \$10 worth of aluminum cans from Mary's

Restaurant; \$1000 from Hoonah Liquor Board and 6-\$50 VISA gift certificates from SEARHC Wise Families Program.

Thank you for the 3rd of July effort include: Karen S. Mills-working & hauling & making popsicles, Paul Dybdahl-hauling and bottled water, Lorrie Scoble-working and root beer, Debbie Picken-Gatorade, Ralph Watkins-working, Daphne Wright-working & financial donation, Jen Bidiman-working. These folks helped with hauling: Jeremy Martin, Forrest Braley, Jr., Jessie Dybdahl, Kylie Kookesh.

On page 11, you'll see the results of our *BelieveKids* gift wrap & other items fundraiser: from that sale, we were able to put another \$1782.60 into the fund.

Gunalchéesh to Kelsey Thein and her crew for putting on a very successful Haunted House for Halloween and donating the proceeds to the playground fund.

Please continue to deposit your BoxTops\$ 4 Education in locations around town (Hoonah Trading Company, Colette's Cupboard, Hoonah Harbor, high school entrance and elementary classrooms). Every dime matters to our playground fundraising.



NUTRITION NOOK

This school year we will reintroduce everyone to **My Plate** (where ½ your plate should be fruits and vegetables). Each newsletter will have a “NUTRITION NOOK” article providing much more information about **MyPlate** in terms of websites to visits, projects for families to do, games, challenges, learn about nutrition across cultures, treasure hunt ideas, and much, much more for all ages.

Parents as Teachers (PAT) returns to Hoonah!!!

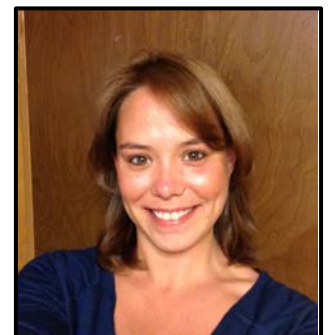
Hoonah PAT is funded through RurAL CAP in Anchorage, which is partnered with Hoonah City Schools and the City of Hoonah. Additional partnerships throughout the community are currently being developed. Strong parent participation during this school year will establish Hoonah PAT as a permanent RurAL CAP site.

Families with children from Prenatal to 3 Years old will benefit from participating together in a variety of fun activities that encourage development. Some families will be able to receive individual personal visits from Jamie twice a month. **Watch for the flyers announcing the first events!**

The purpose of Parents as Teachers is to show parents how to maximize their child's crucial brain development during the first 3 years. Parents learn how to use common household materials to create fun learning activities to do with their children. Thirty years of national PAT research shows that children who have participated in PAT with their families have more skills entering Kindergarten and have greater academic success in school.

Hoonah PAT will be implemented by Jamie Erickson, who was born and raised in Hoonah. She is the

parent of James, who is in 1st grade at Hoonah City Schools. Following her graduation from Hoonah City Schools, Jamie attended University of Alaska Southeast where she earned her Associates of Applied Science and Associates in Business degrees. She was recently elected to the Hoonah School Board, and served as Parent Policy Rep to Hoonah Head Start, and elected to the Hoonah Indian Association Board. Jamie recently earned her parent educator certification from the Parents as Teachers National Center in St Louis, MO. Congratulations to Jamie for her hard work at the recent PAT training in Portland!



Jamie Erickson can be reached at (907) 764-4091. Her office is located at the school. **Join her for some exciting family adventures!**

Submitted by Nicki Shelton, National Trainer, Parents as Teachers

Gunalchéesh from HIA

Hoonah Indian Association extends its gratitude to the many individuals and businesses that contributed to the success of the Xunaa Shuká Hít dedication. A truly momentous occasion, the significance of the Tribal House has begun to draw national attention to what true collaboration can achieve. National Park Service personnel went above and beyond the call of duty to support our efforts to make this an unforgettable experience for all involved. We thank the entire community of Hoonah for coming out to support and witness the Tribal House Dedication. We attempt to capture in the following lists, all who helped to make the event so successful.

ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Alaska Marine Highway, Alaska Seaplanes, Allen Marine, Aramark, City of Hoonah, Fred Meyer, Gustavus Library, Gustavus School, Gustavus Visitors Association, Hoonah City Schools, Hoonah Cold Storage, Hoonah Liquor, Hoonah Trading, Hoonah EMT's, Huna Canoe Pullers, Huna Heritage, Icy Straits Brewery, Icy Straits Lodge, Icy Strait Point, Mary's Inn, North Tide Canoe Pullers, Safeway, Super Bear, T&H Central Council Child Care Dept., T&H Central Council President Richard Petersen, T&H Central Council Compliance staff, Wise Families/SEARHC, National Park Service.

INDIVIDUALS

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Anesia Neal | Elisa Weiss | Jay Erickson | Mike Mills |
| Author Campbell | Emiko Furuya | Jera Goins | Niccole Williams |
| Ben McCluckie | Esther Heath | Jeremy Grant | Nicki Shelton |
| Betty Ann Nakumara | Faith Grant | Jessica Voeller | Owen James |
| Bill Dalton | Frank Wright Jr. | Jim Dalton | Phillip Sharclane |
| Bill Mills | Gayle Starbard | John Hawkins | Ralph Knudson Jr. |
| Buddy Howard | George Bennett | Julie Jackson | Ryan Neal |
| Candy Keown | George Westman | Kami Grant | Sally Dybdahl |
| Carol Williams | Glen Glover | Karen Hinchman | Sarah Dybdahl |
| Charlie Wright, Jr. | Gordon Greenwald | Kassie Pesch-Johnson | Sarah Lampe |
| Chris Greenwald | Hans Chester | Kathy Marvin | Sheryl Contreras |
| Daphne Wright | Heather Powell | Kiana Young | Stephanie Harold |
| Darlene See | Heidi Jewell | Leah Moss | Steve Berry |
| David John Marvin | Herb Sheakley | Lily Hughes | Tania Lewis |
| David Sheakley | Ian Johnson | Marlene Johnson | Terry Fiske |
| David See | Jack Lee | Marti Lee | Valerie Veler |
| Denise Gray | James Lindoff | Mary Beth Moss | Veronica Dalton |
| Diane Carrier | Jamie Erickson | Mary Cook | Wayne Howell |
| Don Bolton | Jason Goins | Melissa Senac | William Cook III |
| David Fagan | Jackie Dick | Harvey Lindoff | Ray Howard |

Tribal Dedication Clan Leader & Elders Planning Group

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Bill Wilson | Ernie Jack | Julie Williams K | Ozzie Sheakley |
| Carolyn Martin | Genevieve Cook | Ken Grant | Paul Marks |
| Charles Jack Jr. | George Bennett | Lillian Hillman | Paul White |
| Dennis Gray | George Dalton Jr. | Marlene Johnson | Ron Williams |
| Ed Mercer | Gerry Ann Gray | Mary Rudolph | Stuart Mills |
| Edwina White | Glen Johnson | Millie Jack | Thomas Jack |
| Ernie Hillman Jr. | John Martin | Jerry White Jr. | |

We are so proud of our Hoonah City School students; you lifted our spirits as your voices meshed with our ancestor's voices in our homeland. Please forgive us if we have forgotten anyone.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hoonah

School is back in session and nine Littles are awaiting the gift of a Big Brother or a Big Sister. Please don't hesitate to contact Community Director Sally Dybdahl @ (907)209-9326 or (907)945-3600 to learn more about our local mentoring program starting its 15th year!

Locals and community guests enjoyed our 30+ BBBS hanging flower baskets placed throughout Hoonah. Major help came from Jeremy Martin, Karen S. Mills, and Paul Dybdahl. Woman with Tools, Arely Moreno, secured the brackets and Bonnie Skaflestad donated plants. Thanks for helping watering,



pruning, and tending the plants goes to business owners.

This summer, \$1000 was donated by Hoonah Recyclers and Diane Bean donated

prizes for our Bowl for Kids' Sake.

Local sales of statewide raffle tickets earned \$1260 for our program. Thanks to all who purchased tickets hopeful that they'd win Alaska Airline Miles. Gratitude goes to Kali Harris, Adrien Lee, and Karen S. Mills for helping sell tickets.

We had 57 swimmers joining in the fun at our BBBS FREE Swim on July 29th.

ALPAR (Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling) donated \$775.00 for summer Thursday Trooper litter patrols. The Hoonah Liquor Board *more than* matched that with \$1000.00 for foods, incentives, and rewards.

Other BBBS partners in this effort to keep Hoonah's streets and byways clean were Hoonah Recyclers, William & Mary Johnson Youth Center, and HIA (Hoonah Indian Association). Huna Outfitters and Café donated four drink coupons to the incentives, as well.

From 1:30-2:30 on eight Thursdays, youth and adults gathered to patrol for litter. 31 individuals took part: Tatiana, Lorrie Scoles, Carlynn, Bristol, Linda Dellazoppa, Leona, Seth,



Keira Budke, Nakima, Leah, Atkaheen, Tayla, Corbin, Isaiah, Nicky, Peter, Olivia, Teddy, Lauren, Jayden, Garry

Thaalesen, Janice Towry, James, Ian Johnson, Diane Bean, Madeline, Dietrich, Teresa, Daphne Wright, Karen S. Mills, and Sally Dybdahl.

The Thursday Trooper culminating event was a clean up and picnic at the Lions' Club Picnic Area out near the airport. Don Stivers drove us to and fro. Use of the Icy Strait Lodge Red Trolley was donated by Barb and Ed Phillips. Karen S. Mills provided kindling, wood, fire watch, & crowd control, Daphne Wright offered rides, round-up, & motivation; Karen, Daphne, Linda Belarde and Joann Wolfe offered moral support & supervision. Forest fun was had by all! Please plan on joining in next summer.



Pictured above: BBBS sponsored the Halloween Costume Parade at the Williams & Mary Johnson Youth Center after school on Oct. 31st. Fun was had by all. Thanks to our judges: Glenda Hutton, Kelli Deitering and Diane Bean, and to the following for helping set up: Kathie & Kelli Deitering, Karen S. Mills, Arely Wright, Eric, Jenelle, Kali, Krista, Tanner, Alona, Anthony and Leif; at the event: Judy Bitz, Janice Towry, Carissa Mills, Jeri & Gayle Henry, and Daphne Wright.

Hoonah Recyclers News

Our van has gone to Seattle and will return to Hoonah in March or April. Until then, please save your metals: aluminum, brass, copper, bronze, zincs, stainless steel, and radiators.

We'll buy your metals OR you can donate them like these generous individuals, organizations, and businesses: Daphne & Frank Wright, Jr., Paul & Sally Dybdahl, HIA, Nicki & John Shelton, Marj & Floyd Peterson, Diane Bean, Howard, Elena, & Jack Diamond, Jessie Dybdahl & Jeremy Martin, Hoonah Harbor Department, HoonahTradingCompany, Glenn and Lenora Johnson, Debba & Dave Hunsley, Chris & Tom Jack, Sr., F/V Vagabond Queen & F/V Trinity, Eleanor Davenport, ISP Office, Bob & Glenda Hutton, ISP Mechanical Shop, Phyllis and Jeff Tischer, Robin Hasselquist, Pete Schneeberger, and Jamie Erickson.

Profits from this effort benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hoonah *and* other youth-friendly projects (Earth Day Clean Up, Fishing Derby, Independence Day, etc.) around our community.

Volunteering to be a part of our group is fun and only takes one hour *some* Saturdays. Thanks to these volunteers and others that helped our cause: Paul Dybdahl, Kenny Worrell, Karen S. Mills, Daphne Wright, Zada Michel, Hoonah Harbor Crew, Alaska Marine Lines staff, Kris Skaflestad, Leona Skaflestad, Diane Bean, Moises Contreras, Sr., and Sally Dybdahl.

Hoonah City Schools
P.O. Box 157
Hoonah, Alaska 99829

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Hoonah

Boxholder

Hoonah City Schools Newsletter September-October 2016

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Dates to Remember:

| | |
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| First Quarter Awards | Nov. 8 |
| Veterans' Day Program 10 a.m. | Nov. 11 |
| Principal's Roundtable 5:30 | Nov. 11 |
| Volleyball @ Gustavus | Nov. 14-15 |
| Community Picture Retakes | Nov. 15 5 p.m. |
| School Picture Retakes | Nov. 16 |
| Family Dinner/Wooch.een Wed. | Nov. 16 |
| Wrestling @ Haines | Nov. 18-19 |
| Thanksgiving Holiday | Nov. 24-25 |
| Varsity Basketball Season Begins | Nov. 30 |
| Volleyball Regional Tourney/Angoon | Dec. 1-3 |
| Wrestling @ Wrangell | Dec. 2-3 |
| Holiday Bazaar 10 a.m. to 1:30 | Dec. 3 |
| Wrestling Regional Tourney/Sitka | Dec. 9-10 |
| Winter Holiday Break | Dec. 19—Jan. 2, 2017 |
| Students Return to School | Jan. 3, 2017 |
| Teacher Workday - No School | Jan. 6, 2017 |
| Spring Break | March 20—24, 2017 |
| Last Day of School | May 19, 2017 |



Xunaa Shuká Hít photos by Ian Johnson—contact him through HIA if you would like to see his photos and possibly get prints made.