

THE ALEUTIAN CURRENT



November/December 2021 • vol. 1 • issue 3

Sunset in King Cove by Savannah Yatchmeneff

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President & CEO Skoey Vergen recaps the Annual Meeting, while incoming Board Chair Jenifer Nelson provides updates on upcoming efforts and initiatives.

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ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS

Miss the Annual Meeting? Results of the Board of Directors Election & prize winners are inside this edition of The Aleutian Current.

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BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Anthony Lekanof talks about growing up in the Aleut Region and the opportunities ahead for TAC.

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PRESIDENT & CEO MESSAGE

Dear Unangaᖅ family,

I am grateful and humbled to work for you as the President & CEO of The Aleut Corporation. I am excited to lead our TAC family of companies with new energy and a

new vision focused on short and long-term sustainable growth, shareholder dividends, development and opportunities, and economic development for our region.

We all know that TAC had a tough year financially in 2021. As a result, your Board of Directors made significant management, structural, and reporting changes to ensure transparency, accountability, and a foundation for growth. I will embrace and carry forward the new direction set by your Board as we go into 2022 and beyond.

It was a pleasure to present during our virtual 49th Annual Meeting of Shareholders. A huge thanks to our TAC team for switching to a virtual event on short notice, and to all of you who attended.

I'd also like to extend sincere thanks to outgoing Board Chair Sharon Lind, and congratulate our incoming Chair Jenifer Nelson and Vice Chair Gary Ferguson. These Directors have done incredible work over their years of Board service, and I'm excited to continue working with them in their new roles.

Over the past two months, our Shareholder Relations team has been hard at work

processing the first round of CARES Act COVID-19 Economic Assistance Program applications and distributing those funds. Several thousand applications were successfully submitted and paid in the first round. We have opened a second round so Shareholders can apply for CARES Act assistance again. The application deadline for the second round is December 16th at 5:00pm AST. Please visit TAC's website or contact Shareholder Relations if you have any questions.

I am planning to visit our region this summer and look forward to meeting you and hearing your thoughts and ideas when I'm in your community.

As we enter the winter season, I hope you can all safely connect with friends, family, and loved ones over the holidays.

Wishing you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Qaᖅaasakung,

Skoey Vergen
President & CEO



BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Dear Shareholders and Descendants,

It is a pleasure and honor to write to you for the first time as Chairman of the Board. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve our people in this role, and humbled by

the Board's confidence in me to lead them and our corporation. The next three years show incredible promise and opportunity. I would also like to thank our outgoing Board Chairman, Sharon Lind, for her leadership, and direction over the last six years.

Thanks to those of you who joined us for the virtual 49th Annual Meeting of Shareholders in October. This was our second consecutive virtual annual meeting due to COVID, and as case counts appear to be declining and vaccination rates rising, I am optimistic that an in-person Annual Meeting to celebrate our 50th Anniversary as a corporation may be possible next year.

In addition to electing members to the Board of Directors and providing financial updates, we were thrilled to be able to formally introduce Skoey Vergen as our new President & CEO. Skoey's experience in 8(a) contracting and management will be an important asset to us as our corporation continues to grow and leverage new opportunities to meet our mission. A recap of our annual meeting is included in this edition of The Aleutian Current.

Over the next several months, the Board will be working with closely with Skoey and the rest of the management team to establish goals and continue to move our business operations forward. We hope to have more to share with you all on that front this spring.

On behalf of your entire Board of Directors and Management Team, I wish you all safe and Happy Holidays, and a wonderful New Year!

Sincerely,

Jenifer Nelson
Chairman of the Board



TAC BOARD SPOTLIGHT ANTHONY LEKANOF

TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR BACKGROUND.

I grew up with my grandparents. One of our local traditions was that the first-born child is raised by the grandparents, and as the oldest of five, I was the one who my grandparents brought up. I have my grandfather's name, Anthony; my grandmother is Stefanida. My mother is Desiree Turner Lekanof of Holy Cross. She and my father, Phillip, had brought up the oldest children in St. George, and that's where we all were raised.

It is quite true that you are related to virtually everyone in your home village, but I had a really special relationship with my grandfather. Living out in St. George, we got to do so many fun things together - hiking, beachcombing for seal teeth, riding four-wheelers. Growing up there was a great experience. I really enjoy getting to visit my hometown, but it doesn't happen very often considering how expensive it is. Even so, St. George is very much in my heart, and it will never leave.

But even as I have been away for so long, I've continued to find some of those connections living in Anchorage. Since you get to know everyone when you live out there, if you ever find yourself close to someone who is familiar with the area or who also lived in the Pribilofs, it is not hard to find that common relationship. Right now, I live maybe 1/4 of a mile away from someone who grew up with my grandmother, so, it is good to know that level of community is present even far away from home.

WHAT LED YOU TO SERVE ON YOUR VILLAGE CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

I felt like the board could benefit from a fresh perspective, and I also wanted to provide a voice for my village. I saw it as an opportunity to serve in an organization as a part of a process more important than myself. ANCSA is not perfect, but it does provide representation in a unique and important way.

So, I ran because I wanted to be an agent of change at the village corporation level. I was 19 when I ran and was elected, and I am humbled to have been able to serve for all this time. It has also helped me maintain that connection to the village and our people.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO SERVE ON THE TAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Back in 2017, about a year after I had joined the St. George Tanaq Board, I was having a conversation with my family at TAC's Banquet. I expressed to them that I really wanted to be a part of TAC's organization and contribute something to it and our future. I ended up running unsuccessfully two times, but both of those were good learning experiences and ultimately helped my successful campaign last year. These previous two experiences became a valuable lesson on how failure can make one stronger. Much like my service on the Tanaq Board, I wanted to provide a new perspective and be a part of something far greater than myself. TAC has seen so much throughout our history: losses, gains, subsidiaries labeled the "little engines that can". And

it is a history full of ups and downs, and I will remain focused on helping ensure the same mistakes are not made again. Contributing to that is a real privilege.

WHAT FRESH PERSPECTIVE DO YOU BRING TO THE BOARD?

At the moment, I am actually the youngest person on the Board - which, when I step back and think about it, can be kind of surreal. Some of the people I have the privilege of serving with, I remember seeing their photos in Aleutian Currents when I was 7 to 10 years old. And the idea that I get to sit at the same table with them and direct this storied organization... it gives me chills sometimes.

I think the perspective and experience I bring is that of growth orientation and opportunity. I am a believer in balanced aggression when it comes to investments, and I want TAC to have the tools to continue growing financially and offering shareholder opportunities in perpetuity.

And it is the experience on the St. George Tanaq Board which really inspired that. When I first joined that board, we didn't even provide dividends. But now, we are able to provide scholarships and other opportunities for our people, and our revenues have grown in the last 5 years. I want to see that kind of growth happen for TAC well into the future, too. And as a millennial and someone with that village corporation experience, I think the perspective I bring is that of some of our younger shareholders and future shareholders who are looking towards what the next 50 years can offer.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE THE CORPORATION WILL LOOK LIKE IN THE NEXT 50 YEARS?

I want my children to be shareholders. I want them to see ANCSA turn 100 and participate in and be a part of this institution. ANCSA is not perfect by any stretch - but it is far better than the reservation system that was imposed in the Lower 48 in my opinion. We are very fortunate as Native People in Alaska - ANCSA has provided us an avenue of representation, but also a way to use, produce, preserve, and protect our land. It puts indigenous people in control, and sovereignty is something we truly cherish. Sovereignty and self-determination are very powerful feelings, and I want my children to have that same opportunity.

Encouraging the next generation's participation is key - I want others to be a part of the process and participate in this opportunity to serve. That pool of President & CEO candidates reminded me that there are future leaders and people ready to step up to the plate to lead our corporation and people. I am very certain that TAC will survive and thrive for another 50 years.

WHAT WILL YOU AND THE BOARD FOCUS ON FOR 2022 AND BEYOND?

We are very excited to see what our new President & CEO, Skoey Vergen, brings to the table. He is a cool, calm, collected, motivated person with a growth mindset. I am hopeful our management team also shares a growth-based approach. As a board, we will be working on the strategic plan in January, and developing a sustainable, realistic plan for moving forward. We want to ensure that as we

recover from this past year's challenges, we are focused on continuing to grow and setting the path for our future's success.

We will continue encouraging our management team that shareholder hire and retention is a top priority. The conversation is there, but we need to work on producing solid outcomes. We have made strides in this Board goal by developing our intern program; I am looking forward to embracing shareholder hire as a culture of our Corporation. As I reflect on the pool of President & CEO candidates, I also see future leaders for TAC in Alaska, the Lower 48, and the Aleut region. These individuals are great assets in helping provide further opportunities for our shareholders and descendants. In order to continue our business and philosophy, we need to be investing in those individuals who can carry us forward into the future.

At the end of the day, we are in it for the shareholders, not ourselves. We value our shareholders and descendants, and protecting these assets - really, their assets that have been entrusted to us. Increasing shareholder value will always be our ultimate goal.



Photo Credit: Brian Rankin

INTRO TO OUR VILLAGE CORPORATIONS OUNALASHKA CORPORATION

NAME OF CORPORATION:
Ounalashka Corporation (OC)

LOCATION:
Unalaska, AK

NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS:
463

LINES OF BUSINESS:
Real Estate and Development Company

WHAT ARE YOUR SHAREHOLDERS MOST PROUD OF?
OC shareholders are proud of the diverse projects and opportunities OC brings to Unalaska, such as geothermal development and 8(a) contracting. OC shareholders are also proud of the Ounalashka Settlement Trust fund because the distributions are tax free.

LEADERSHIP:
Christopher P. Salts Sr., Chief Executive Officer, and Natalie Cale, Chief Operating Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr., Chair
A. Barbara Rankin, Vice President
Margaret A. Lekanoff, Secretary-Treasurer

Brian D. Rankin
Janice L. Krukoff
Michael R. Tutiakoff
Nicholai E. Lekanoff
O. Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory
Wendy A. Svarny-Hawthorne

WHAT MAKES YOUR CORPORATION UNIQUE?
OC is one of the most remote Alaska Native Corporations with its headquarters at home in Unalaska/Dutch Harbor. We are surrounded by one of the richest fishing grounds in the world and have a geothermal resource at Makushin Volcano.

CONTACT INFO
www.ounalashka.com
Ph: (907) 581-1276



TAF UPDATE

Aang Aang! Qaḡam Aḡsḡagan Angalii Qaḡataa [Happy Thanksgiving!]

Attention students, the next opening for TAF's General Scholarship program is from

November 1-November 30th. To receive scholarships, individuals must provide verification that they are a TAC shareholder or descendant. The Shareholder Development Department at TAC has been working hard with and for our students by assisting students in downloading their verification form from the portal. If you need assistance, contact us or look at our website for more information: www.thealeutfoundation.org.

For the last few months, our Vocational and Career Development Scholarships have had to be filled out on paper applications while we built out the next phase of our scholarship portal. We are pleased to announce that as of November 1st those applications will also be available through TAF's new application portal! Reminder these two programs are open year-round. Apply today!

If you are in the process of building a skill set for a new career, our Vocational Scholarship might be the place for you. If you are looking at increasing your skill set

for your current career through an in-person or on-line professional conference or certificate program, our Career Development Scholarship could be a great fit! Our Vocational Scholarship provides up to \$4,000 per school year. Our Career Development Scholarship provides up to \$2,500 per fiscal year (April 1- March 31). Contact TAF today for more information!

TAF's first Student Advisory Committee meeting was held in November. We are looking for two high school seniors to participate as well as two Alums of our program. Call TAF's office to let us know if you are interested in participating: 907-646-1929. The focus of this committee is to provide feedback to the Management and Board of The Aleut Foundation..

Qagaasakung!

Julie Toomey
Executive Director
The Aleut Foundation

VOCATIONAL STUDENT HIGHLIGHT



MY NAME IS SOPHIA STRANGE. I am 40 years old, married, and have four children. I was born and raised in Alaska and raised

all four of my children in Alaska. I am half Aleut, and a proud Alaskan Native woman of Colorado now.

When COVID-19 happened and I lost my job in February 2020, it was the hardest thing for me and my family. A big concern, scare, and burden was in my hands for my family financially. I applied and applied for positions in every area and avenue possible. A consistent response I heard repeatedly was that I had enough job experience but not enough education. As a result, I investigated the possibility of going back to school and joining the University of Phoenix. The Aleut Foundation came to mind, so I applied for the Vocational-Technical Scholarship. Thanks to The Aleut Foundation, the funding,

and the extra miles they are willing to go, it will make achieving my goal so much easier. I am currently going to school for the medical coding and billing certificate program!

Again, thank you to The Aleut Foundation.



MY NAME IS CYNTHIA JOHNSON and I'm 18 years old. I started welding classes with Charter

College back in March 2021. I grew up helping my dad with all sorts of house projects so after I finished high school, I wanted to pursue a career in welding. My classmates and family have all been very supportive of me and I am very excited to finish the program with a certificate in December!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PROXY PRIZE WINNERS

- \$5,000 Barbara Stair, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$2,500 Terry Murphy, *False Pass, AK*
- \$2,500 Honey R. Wilson, *Sand Point, AK*
- \$1,000 Sarai L. Ethridge, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$1,000 Stacey L. Bourdukofsky, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$500 Cherylyn D. Dushkin, *King Cove, AK*
- \$500 Shirley Green, *Coco, FL*
- \$500 Bonnie L. Berntsen, *Shoreline, WA*
- \$500 Zack W. R. Osterhaus, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$500 Marion E. Weston, *Boca Raton, FL*
- \$250 Arthur N. Hapoff, *Seward, AK*
- \$250 Vernon C. Wilson, *King Cove, AK*
- \$250 John A. Mastenbrook, *Phoenix, AZ*
- \$250 Janelle M. Simmons, *Lynnwood, WA*
- \$250 Richard A. McQuade, *Gresham, OR*

DOUBLE YOUR DIVIDEND

- \$1,000 Wanda Weiss, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$1,000 Simeon L. Snigaroff, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$1,000 Anthony Petrivelli, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$1,000 Robert J. Mercurieff, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$1,000 Richard A. Buck, *Bellingham, WA*

WEBCAST DRAWING

- \$100 Flore Lekanof II
- \$100 Brenda Tellman
- \$100 Margaret Y. George
- \$100 Ruth E. Kudrin
- \$100 Memry Dahl
- \$100 Tamara Vanderweel
- \$100 Maria Stowe
- \$100 William L. Foster
- \$100 Russell Dushkin

TELECONFERENCE DRAWING

- \$100 Janice Krukoff

EARLY BIRD WINNERS

- \$2,500 Alex F. Gordaoff, *Cooper Center AK*
- \$1,500 Katherine Bourdukofsky, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$1,500 Kati A. Snyder, *Ferndale, CA*
- \$1,500 Gladys X. Malone, *Anchorage, AK*
- \$1,500 A. Jack Mercurielief, *Wasilla, AK*

ADDITIONAL DOUBLE YOUR DIVIDEND 2021:

- \$1,000 Betty M. Blalock, *Long Beach, CA*
- \$1,000 Bernice L. Ward, *Homer, AK*

WEBCAST

123 Participants

TELECONFERENCE

29 participants



One Aleut Plaza
4000 Old Seward Highway, Suite 300
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Phone Number: 907.561.4300
Toll-Free: 800.232.4882
Fax Number: 907.563.4328
Email: receptionist@aleutcorp.com
Website: www.aleutcorp.com

Shareholder Affairs
Email: info@aleutcorp.com

Shareholder Records
Email: records@aleutcorp.com

Shareholder Development
Email: shdev@aleutcorp.com

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2021 ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS

ELECTION RESULTS

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES
Jason Bourdukofsky, Sr.	71,404.5769
Colleen Dushkin	94,105.3442
Shannon Gallagher	64,006.8893
O. Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory	70,952.8413
Sharon Guenther Lind	90,276.7259
Debi Schmit	77,497.1839
Edgar L. Smith	51,124.5145



One Aleut Plaza
4000 Old Seward Highway, Suite 300
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Phone Number: 907.561.4300
Toll-Free: 800.232.4882
Fax Number: 907.563.4328
Email: receptionist@aleutcorp.com
Website: www.aleutcorp.com

Shareholder Affairs
Email: info@aleutcorp.com

Shareholder Records
Email: records@aleutcorp.com

Shareholder Development
Email: shdev@aleutcorp.com

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JENIFER SAMUELSON NELSON
Chairman

ANTHONY LEKANOF
Director

DR. GARY FERGUSON II
Vice Chair

SHARON GUENTHER LIND, PH.D.
Director

COLLEEN DUSHKIN
Secretary

DEBRA MACK
Director

KYLE FOSTER
Treasurer

DEBI SCHMIT
Director

TARA BOURDUKOFSKY
Director

ALEUT IMPORTANT DATES

- DEC 16:** Second Round CARES Act COVID-19 Economic Assistance Application deadline, 5:00 pm AST
- DEC 23:** Payout of Second Round CARES Act COVID-19 Economic Assistance Program
- MAR 4:** Save the Date – San Diego Shareholder Informational Meeting
- MAR 5:** Save the Date – Seattle Shareholder Informational Meeting

Check Facebook for updates