

Seldovia Village Tribe

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A Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 17: Number 4 July 2010

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Open daily 10AM-5PM through Sept. 2010

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Sharing Traditional Knowledge in Traverse City, Michigan



Helen Josefsen, Tribal Elder sharing knowledge of cooking salmon in bull kelp, with patrushki all collected here in Seldovia.

Early this June, Michael Opheim and Bree Murphy lead a presentation about Traditional Knowledge and Western Science at the National Tribal Science Forum held in Traverse City, Michigan. Their presentation was largely based from interviews collected last year at the two Culture Camps we had here in Seldovia. The first camp the Harbor Seal Commission lead on harbor seals and the second, SVT Culture Camp featuring bear

safety. Some of the results from the Culture Camp study shared at the Forum included the important role of traditional values like sharing, respect and the findings that some youth had trouble distinguishing Traditional Knowledge from Western Science.

In the spring, it did not look like we were going to be able to attend this conference due to lack of travel funds. However, we were able to attend with help from Monica Rodia of the EPA who was assisting the organization of the conference. The presentation was selected and all travel cost were covered by the EPA Tribal Science Council because they felt it showcased a successful tribal science story. It was a long trip for just one presentation, but from what we saw it was one of the more popularly attended presentations. Several of the conference coordinators complimented us on our presentation. We also had a poster about some of the results and some of our SVT brochures to share with

people. We got to meet many people who were also interested in the mixing of Traditional Knowledge and Western Science in Culture Camps and they thanked us for sharing our experiences and stories. For more information about the results of the Culture Camp study or trip to the National Tribal Science Forum please contact Michael at 907-234-7898 ext. 222 or mopheim@svt.org or Bree at brecamus@hotmail.com.

By Michael Opheim, EPA



Sailing Times:

- Depart Seldovia - 8:00 a.m.
- Depart Homer - 9:15 a.m.
(includes sightseeing)
- Depart Seldovia - 11:00 a.m.
- Depart Homer - 12:15 p.m.
(includes sightseeing)
- Depart Seldovia - 5:00 p.m.
- Depart Homer - 6:15 p.m.
- The schedule is subject to change at any time.
- 877-70-FERRY / 877-703-3779



Seldovia Conference Center~Alaska Tribal Cache 1-800-270-7810

2010 **Open Enrollment**

Enrollment for 2010 opened July 1, 2010 and will remain open through September 1, 2010.

Why should your family members be enrolled?

Being enrolled with Seldovia Village Tribe has many benefits for programs available to Alaskan Natives. Being enrolled in your Tribe can help with housing needs, low income energy assistance heating program, scholarships, and much more. Below is the definition of eligible membership from SVT's Tribal Enrollment Ordinance

Section 6 ~ SVT Enrollment Ordinance: Any blood descendent of any person who was originally enrolled to the Native Village of Seldovia -under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Time is a ticking please call Trinket Gallien @ (907) 435-3248 if you have questions, concerns or want an application. Application can be downloaded at www.svt.org as well.

Tribal Housing Program

Three items of interest:

Low Income qualifying amounts continue to increase for the HUD programs that the Tribe administers. These new standards may allow some to qualify who previously did

not. For instance a single person household, owner, renter or wanting to purchase can have qualifying annual income up to \$40,250. A family of four's total household income can be \$57,500.

There are programs for College student housing, modernization/ weatherization first month/deposits renters help and more.

The State of Alaska's Weatherization Program is funded through 2011. The "turnkey" program is administered by Cook Inlet Housing Authority (CIHA).. It is a slow process, but very valuable in savings for heating costs and comfort in the home.

The State's program is open to all Alaskan citizens. We have the paperwork which you fill out and submit to CIHA. There is also a Rebate Program for those who's income does not qualify them for the "turnkey" program. We also have information and contacts for that program.

SVT has taken the first steps in constructing a rental four-plex. When finished this will be for qualifying low-income persons. Conceptual drawings are underway and we are looking for suitable land in the Barabara Heights Subdivision with electricity and good prospects for water.

By: Rod Hilts, Housing

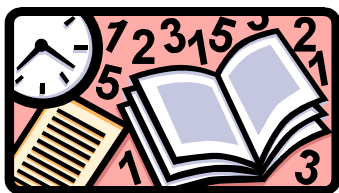
SVT Museum Intern



Hi there, my name is Erin and I work for the SVT museum. Seldovia has a museum? Yes, Seldovia has a museum and if you haven't visited yet, there's no better time than the present! I'm in town for a little more than two months after finishing my master's degree in Museum Studies from the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. I grew up outside of Chicago and came to Seldovia through a program organized by the Alaska State Museum that brings young museum professionals to small tribal museums throughout Alaska. Most of my time in town has been spent working to bring the Museum's collections into an organized system. This means assigning permanent numbers to objects on display and in storage, photographing them, and entering them into a museum specific computer system called Past Perfect. I've also been helping to develop a Collections Management Policy,
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SVT 2010 May Scholarship Awards



Courtney Collier,

Achievement Scholarship \$1,500.00
University of Alaska Fairbanks,
Biology

Jennifer Giles,

Achievement Scholarship \$1,500.00
University of Alaska Fairbanks,
Accounting

Brittany Hopkins,

Achievement Scholarship \$1,500.00
Boise State University,
K-12 Physical Ed

Kellie Nelsen,

Achievement Scholarship \$750.00
Western Washington University,
Elementary Education/Art Education

Congratulations!!! SVT is very proud of all the applicants and wish each and everyone of you the best of luck in your education.

Mark your calendars for General Scholarships, due September 1st, 2010. This scholarship is to be used towards Voc-Tech training. Applications available www.svt.org or call 907-435-3248.

First Place Gary Burleson



Second Place Jennifer Burleson



Third Place Jennifer Giles



Biathlon~Seldovia Style

SVT sponsored 2010 Biathlon on Friday July 2nd, 2010. Racers gathered at the Visitor Center/Museum entrance to register at 9:30AM with the race beginning at 10AM. Racers ran to SNA's gravel pit at Mile two Jakalof Bay Rd turning around continuing running to return to SVT's parking lot, biking four miles to Sea Otter View Lodge head road, then returning to SVT. 1st place Gary Burleson of Anchorage AK, 2nd place Jennifer Burleson of Anchorage AK, 3rd place Jennifer Giles of Seldovia AK and the red lantern prize went to Susan and Mallory Millay of Seldovia. Fun was had by all.

Job Opportunities

Chief Financial Officer

This position is full time.

Senior Meals Assistant Cook

This position is part time.

To receive a full job description and/or submit a resume contact Shirley Hurley, Human Resources @ (907) 435-3248 email: employment@svt.org

SVT~BIA Tribal Marine Science Workshop

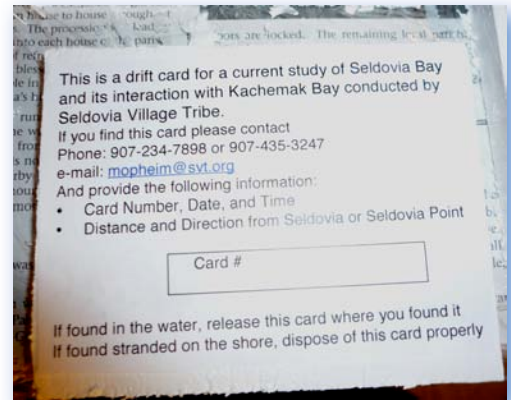
In May SVT and BIA held the first Tribal Marine Science Workshop at Kasitsna Bay Lab. BIA funded this project and we worked with Glenn Chen from BIA and Cathy Needham from Kai consulting to plan and host the workshop. Having the Kasitsna Bay Lab to hold such an event was the perfect setting. Tom Hopkins on the Beowulf provided transportation to and from the lab and to and from a field visit to Peterson Bay. Everyone was very well fed by Sara Nichols at the Tidepool who did our catering. Tribal employees from all over the state came to the workshop. While there was a small number of people, their backgrounds were very diversified. The workshop lasted 7 days and included presenters on subjects from Traditional Knowledge and Subsistence Uses of Marine Resources to Concepts in Oceanography. We had presenters come from as far away as California and Canada. It was great to sit at the end of each day and talk to all involved in the workshop and hear what each of them were working on in their villages and learn as much from them as from the instructors. We were able to take the students out into the field and go to Jakolof and one trip to Peterson Bay to do tide pooling and identification. Some of the instructors even stayed for the whole workshop. One of these people was Dr. Dolly Garza who did two presentations during the workshop and

went out on the beaches and helped everyone learn to identify the edible seaweeds we have here in Kachemak Bay. Before the workshop was over we held a potluck with items that the students brought from their communities. It was quite the feast with things like Herring eggs and dried Herring eggs on kelp and dried seaweeds and bidarkis and fish. On one of the days before the workshop ended we worked with the Susan B. English school to put on Sea Day with the kids. The students from the workshop taught all they had learned back to the kids from Seldovia, Port Graham, and Nanwalek. Many of the workshop students when they left said they had a great time and were going to spread the word to others who did not attend this year that they should attend the next time the workshop is offered. We hope that we will be able to do this workshop again in the future.

By Michael Opheim, EPA

Drift Card Research

The Environmental Office for Seldovia Village Tribe is conducting current flow research in Seldovia Bay this summer. We are trying to learn the current patterns in the bay as well as the interaction of Seldovia Bay with Kachemak Bay. These cards are 3"x4" squares with information about location sealed on them. (see photo be-



low) We are seeking your assistance if you find a card in the water or land. If you could please note the card number, date, time, distance and direction from Seldovia or Seldovia Point, and report it to Michael Opheim 234-7898 ext. 222 or Tracie Merrill at 234-7898 ext. 236

Clams are broadcast spawners and in their larval state drift on the currents eating and growing. At a point larval clams can no longer float and they settle to the bottom. We would also like to see if the current has any effect on the salmon in the bay or as they enter the bay.

We have released one batch of drift cards at the head of the bay and in the next couple weeks hope to have the rest released. We would appreciate your help in collecting this data.

Thank you,
Michael Opheim, EPA



Behavioral Health Division



Paula Lee, Alene Hidecker, Patty Bland, Mercedes Harness

This quarter the Behavioral Health Program has been busy serving our clients, networking and expanding our services. Alene Hidecker, Seldovia Village Tribe's Behavioral Health Counselor and Mercedes Harness, Legal Advocate for South Peninsula Haven House have been collaborating and providing a successful Women's Support Group in Seldovia.

One of their projects has been to develop a new Safety Crisis Response Policy and Protocol for Victims in Need of Emergency Shelter. It includes the Seldovia Village Tribe, the City of Seldovia, the Seldovia Native Association and South Peninsula Haven House. They all agree to follow the Alaska Mandatory Reporting Requirements for children and vulnerable adults.

SVT and SSPH have also provided a Domestic Violence Advocacy Training Program that was taught by our State and National Instruc-

tor Patty Bland and was facilitated by the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence, South Peninsula Haven House and the Seldovia Village Tribe.

Congratulations to Counselor Alene Hidecker for receiving her Advanced Behavioral Health Aide Certification. It is the highest level awarded by the State of Alaska Commission for Behavioral Health Certification. She was also invited to start an Addiction Support Group in Homer, for South Peninsula Haven House.

Congratulations are also in order for Alix Chartier. Our Department is proud to announce that Alix received her Rural Human Services Certificate from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks Human Services Program. She is also going to pursue her Associates Degree this fall.

Prevention Program

The Seldovia Village Tribe Prevention Program hit the summer in full-swing with hikes, camp-outs, arts & crafts, gym & swim, and special events for the entire community.



Alisha Sughrue returned to lead her amazing hikes for children of all ages, from Play Group through teens, and some adults came

along, too. Play Group kids went on easy hikes to places like Inside Beach and Fish Creek for fun exploration around town. Intermediate hikes were taken to MacDonald's Spit, the head of Seldovia Bay, Hoen's Lagoon, and more. Al also held camp-outs at the Sea Otter Cabins, Jakalof Bay, and up Tutka Bay. And she had some special excursions, including an Oyster Farm Adventure Tour, an advanced hike almost to the Sounding Board, and a rafting trip of the Kenai River, all amazing experiences. Al has one last great adventure scheduled for August before she heads off to college again: a five-day trek to Port Dick, in partnership with an outdoor education program based in Homer called HOWL.



Elena Brubaker joined the Prevention Program staff as an Activities Assistant in June, bringing her talent in art and her love of the outdoors to the Seldovia community.

She led children and adults in a candle-making project at Outside Beach, using bull kelp balls to form the candles. She also taught basket weaving, made Eskimo yo-

yo's, and helped design nature tiles from clay. Elena is planning some wonderful berry-themed activities for August, including berry picking, baking, and berry art.

Joining Elena as a Prevention Program Activities Assistant is Tiffany Haller. She brings an enthusiasm for kids and is looking forward to coordinating activities for them to do year-round. Additionally, Tiffany will be planning classes and workshops for adults to participate in, and will help with special event coordination. Already Tiffany has jumped in to work alongside the West Coast Connection Teen Volunteers who came to Seldovia to do community service in late July.



Other highlights of the summer included Tie-Dyeing, Bike Decorating and Spam Carving, all over the 4th of July weekend. Movie nights were held in the School Commons, and summer and year-round folks enjoyed Open Gym & Swim evenings twice a week.

Vivian Rojas led the annual Swim Lessons Program once again this summer, with more than 20 participants, plus she added a junior life guard class, and adult swim lessons to her schedule. Plus, she

just completed training five new high school and adult life guards in the community. Vivian was assisted in her swim programs by Lisa Stanish, Paula Elvsaa, Matthew Gain and Ronene Gain.

Our staff is busy making plans for the school year and for next summer. We will be doing an interest survey in the community to make sure we are bringing activities and programming that everyone will enjoy and benefit from, plus we will continue to promote a healthy lifestyle that is substance free.

By Laurel Hilts Prevention Coordinator

2010 Culture Came

The Seldovia Village Tribe Culture Camp - a combination of local history, Alaska Native culture, outdoor enjoyment and Seldovian youth - is a Seldovia summer highlight. There could not have been a better time for this adventure, Seldovia's omnipresent cloud cover cleared just in time in mid-July for a beautiful, well-appreciated three days in the sunshine.

The Culture Camp theme this year was Archeology. During their stay, campers were involved in a number of activities based around archeology, including a mock dig that gave a realistic look into the work of archeologists. Determining different soil strata, logging artifact findings, and use of excavation tools were among the skills learned.

Additionally, four of Homer's Pratt museum staff flew over to Seldovia for an educational day on the local native groups of Dena'ina

and Alutiiqs. The kids were pleased to reunite with Sevea Kroll-Sueltenfuss, former SVT staffer, who had returned to Culture Camp with the Pratt group.

In a special workshop provided by the museum, the children were able to observe and handle authentic native artifacts that for various reasons had entered the Pratt's educational collection. A precious oil lamp of carved stone, a birch bark cooking basket, traditional stone fishing net weights, and a myriad of hunting tip implements were among what Pratt presented.



In the afternoon, campers basked in the warm sun on a mossy point while listening to two Seldovian elders talk about the history of Seldovia. Through the stories shared by Helen Quijance and Ann Anderson we glimpsed a time when Seldovia was a bustling hub of activity with numerous large canneries and hoards of workers. It was a time when salmon ran so thick at the head of the bay that you could scoop fish out of the river with your hands. Helen and Ann reminisced about a time when fresh fruit and vegetable imports were available only once a year and arrived via barge. They shared how they collected the na-

tive plants and harvested and preserved many types of wild animals, resources which supplied them with the majority of their food when they were growing up. They also spoke about the 1964 earthquake and the flooding of Seldovia that followed.

Another favorite event at camp was a GPS coordinate determined scavenger hunt. Split into teams, the groups competed to reach a hidden cash box prize first. Great sound clips of this activity are on KBBI's coverage of Culture Camp. <http://www.kbbi.org/AudioNews/100716.culture.camp.mp3>

Other camp highlights included slathering ink onto a silver salmon and printing the patterns of the fish onto T-shirts and paper in our Gytaku fish print activity; basket-weaving the native grasses collected from the head of the bay; plus pictograph paintings and the creation of paint by grinding mussel shells or red pigmented rock into powder and adding emulsified oil.

Numerous swimming excursions happened, plus late night thrill dips into the icy water after a sauna. Not to forget hiking, slack lines, gatherings around the fire, great company and s'mores (the Alaskan way, as Richard Gorden-Rein would say) with an artfully fire-melted chocolate bar and a golden, gooey mallow.

Many thanks to those who worked hard to plan the event, including the SVT staff, plus volunteers who donated items and help. And thanks to the Seldovia Native As-

sociation for use of their picturesque facility. All these wonderful experiences came together to make for an excellent Culture Camp for the kids this year.



~Seldovia~

**Donna Fenske, APRN-C
Family Nurse Practitioner**

**Sue Christiansen, PA
Physician Assistant**

**Open Mondays & Tuesdays
9 a.m.- 5 p.m.**

If you would like to make an appointment or have questions regarding services please contact Shirley Hughes, (907) 435-3262.

~Homer~

Dr. Margit Sheinmel, DO

Melissa Bunker, ANP

**Open Mondays 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
Tuesdays- Fridays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.**

To make an appointment or have questions regarding services please call (907) 226-2228.

**"COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR
OUR COMMUNITY"**

~Homer Dental~

Dr. Bill Richardson, DMD

**Open Mondays - Thursdays
8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Fridays 8:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.**

Berries Wanted!



Berry Prices for 2010

Salmonberry...\$2.50
lbs

Blueberry...\$4.00 lbs

All Salmonberries &
Blueberries MUST be CLEAN &
RIPE!

Buying hours: M-F 10am-3pm,
bring berries to the ATC office en-
trance.

Berry Permits are available at the
Alaska Tribal Cache Gift Store on
328 Main Street open daily from
10am-6pm.

Museum Intern continued

perhaps the most important document a museum has. This policy details how a museum's operations, structure, and daily business happen and guides decisions about new acquisitions, loans, documentation, and legal obligations. While I've been dedicating most of my time to the museum, setting up a photography archive and consulting on conservation issues, I've been doing a number of other things with SVT as well. I've enjoyed the beauty of Jakolof Bay while setting up crab traps with the Environmental Department, and had a lot of fun with everyone at the Prevention Department's Culture Camp. Seldovia is certainly a very different place from Washington, D.C. but I've enjoyed my stay here very much and hope that even though you won't be able to see a lot of my work at the museum, you'll visit soon.

By Erin Ober



Seldovia Village Tribe IRA
Drawer L
Seldovia, Alaska 99663