
KENAI RIVER WOMEN'S CLASSIC
17th Annual Kenai River
Women's Classic
Women stand as the unwavering compass, navigating the many currents and anchors of life with a blend of intuition, grace, and resilience. Like a beacon in the night, our wisdom and strength illuminate the path forward. Our leadership empowers others to navigate uncharted territories with courage and confidence.

Welcome Ladies

Hello and welcome to the 17th annual Kenai River Women's Classic!

Over the next few days, you can expect to experience some of the best fishing and camaraderie this state has to offer. The Women's Classic is more than just an excuse to go fishing on the beautiful Kenai River. It provides businesswomen the opportunity to come together to honor this great river with our collective conservation efforts.

Whether this is the first time you have attended the Women's Classic or you are a seasoned veteran, we want to make sure you are safe, comfortable, and most of all, have a great time. Please let us know if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable.

You will have a chance to meet new people and reacquaint with old friends; you will fish, laugh, and most of all, raise a lot of money for the Kenai River.

WHAT IS KENAI RIVER SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION (KRSA)

The beautiful Kenai River is the largest sport-fishing and personal-use fishery in the state and an economic powerhouse for the entire Kenai area. Yet as the river and its ecosystem have experienced increasing popularity, the need for advocacy and habitat preservation is more important than ever.

One group of Alaskans is working to ensure the sustainability of the river and, hopefully, increase the number of salmon returning to it every year. The Kenai River Sportfishing Association is a nonpartisan, nonprofit that…

- Supports responsible angler access, ensuring conservation of fish habitat and riverbank restoration
- Promotes science-based fish management policies
- Advocates for sport and personal-use access to fish
- Provides public education to promote responsible stewardship of the world's number-one king and sockeye salmon fisheries.

As a 501(c)3, KRSA brings anglers and conservationists together to protect and preserve one of the greatest rivers in the world – the Kenai River. For more than 20 years, KRSA has invested millions of dollars in the Kenai River watershed. We have accomplished a lot, and have so much more to do to ensure the sustainability of the Kenai River.

How can you help? Advocacy works when we can harness the collective power of our member voice. Please consider joining KRSA. Lend your voice on advocacy issues. Help us educate fellow Alaskans on why Fish and Game management and policy must be in the best interest of the fish, rather than the anglers.

Many people have worked countless hours to make sure that you have a remarkable experience. But if there is anything you need, please let us know right away.

And finally, make sure to use **#reelalaska** and **#kenaiwomensclassic** when you post your pictures. We look forward to some great pictures.

Welcome to the Kenai River!

2024 Co-Chairs:

Laura Edmondson and Juna Penney, co-chairs,

Linda Leary, assistant co-chair

and Kristin Mellinger, retired co-chair

Your Event Coordinators:

Shannon Martin,
Megan McKay,
Natalie Casebeer



Sponsored by ConocoPhillips Alaska

Schedule Of Events

Thursday, September 12

5:30pm-9:00pm	Jeannie's Soiree - Cusack's on the Kenai 34135 Keystone Dr., Soldotna
9:00pm	Return to Lodges

Friday, September 13

6:15am	Leave Lodges - Go to Harry Gaines Fish Camp 46425 Big Eddy Rd., Soldotna
6:30am	Breakfast is Served
7:00am-Noon	Silver Fishing
Noon-2:00pm	Networking Lunch - Harry Gaines Fish Camp
4:30pm	Leave Lodges for Banquet and Auction
5:00pm-9:00pm	Banquet and Auction - Fireweed Hall 129 N. Fireweed St., Soldotna
9:00pm	Return to Lodges

Saturday, September 14

6:15am	Leave Lodges - Go to Harry Gaines Fish Camp
6:30am	Breakfast is Served
7:00am-11:30am	Silver Fishing
Noon-2:00pm	Awards BBQ - Harry Gaines Fish Camp

Each year, the women are treated to a special commemorative piece of jewelry.

In 2022 Bob Penney sponsored Pandora bracelets and charms in honor of the Women's Cassic's 15th anniversary.

Jeannie has continued this tradition by adding a charm to our bracelets.

Each year you return to the women's classic, you will get a charm to add to your fabulous collection.

***Fish are shared amongst participants. Boxes will be delivered to 10th & M Seafoods, 1020 M St, Anchorage, AK 99501. Fish can be donated to Covenant House, please let KRSA know if you would like to donate. Due to limited freezer space we ask that you work with us to have someone pick up your fish within 24 hours of notification. Auction items can be brought up to Anchorage when fish are delivered, please let KRSA staff know if you need something taken to Anchorage. **Out-of-town fish will be shipped via FedEx.**

Shuttle service begins at 10:30 AM September 12 and ends at 3:00 PM September 14. Shuttles run between KRSA provided lodging and event venues approximately every 30 minutes. Missed the shuttle and in a hurry? Call Alaska Cab (907) 262-1555 for a free ride. Tell them you're with the "Women's Classic."

Who is KRSA?

KRSA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with thousands of members from Alaska and the United States. Since 1984, KRSA has been a leading advocate for fisheries conservation in Alaska. The organization works diligently to ensure Alaska's recreational and personal-use fishing rights are protected and they promote science based fisheries policy.

The Mission

To ensure the sustainability of the greatest sportfishing river in the world – the Kenai. KRSA's area of responsibility encompasses the Kenai River watershed, greater Cook Inlet Basin, and Alaska.

MORE SPECIFICALLY, KRSA'S GOALS ARE:

Habitat

Conserve and rehabilitate fisheries habitat to maintain and improve the Kenai River watershed for sustainable fisheries.

Fisheries Management

Promote predictable

and sustainable

sportfishing opportunities.

Research

Encourage and foster fishery, economic, and habitat research to advance information

for management of sustainable fisheries.

Education

Provide public education, and outreach

to promote

stewardship of the fisheries resources.









Habitat:

- Soldotna Classic Fish Walk Project
- Russian River Ferry Project
- Big Eddy Restoration & Improvements Project (est. completion 2025)
- Fishing line collection stations, light penetrating boardwalks, and educational panels at fishing access locations

Fisheries Management:

- Participation at all Board of Fisheries Meetings
- Work with ADF&G on fisheries management, with a focus on Kenai River issues
- Working relationships with municipal, state, and federal agencies regarding fishing access

Research :

KRSA has leveraged funding or match funding for

- Economic reports on recreational fishing in Upper Cook Inlet
- Telemetry study on early-run Kenai king salmon
- Upper Cook Inlet salmon simulation modeling
- Study of marine-derived nutrients in Kenai River Watershed

Education:

- Kenai River Kid's Spring Clean Up
- Jr. Classic
- Kenai River Classic
- Women's Classic
- Juneau Legislative Education Reception
- Kenai Sport, Rec, & Trade Show
- Kid's Trout Pond Sponsor

Kenai River Sportfishing Association

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT





EDUCATION











RESEARCH







HABITAT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Eckhardt, Chair
Retired President, AK USA FCU

Jim Brady, Vice Chair
President, Brady Investments, LLC

Kevin Branson, Secretary/Treasurer
CPA, Thomas, Head & Greisen

Linda Leary
Owner, Fishewear

Kristin Mellinger, Vice President
Owner, V3 Strategic Solutions, LLC

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Senior Vice President-External Affairs, Santos, Ltd.

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Ross Baxter Group, Jack White Realty

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Rik Bucy
Retired, Tesoro Northstores

Laura Edmondson
Edmondson Consulting, LLC.

Eric Fjelstad
Partner, Perkins Coie, LLP

Ed Fogels
Retired, AK Dept. of Natural Resources

Scott Habberstad
Managing Director Alaska Market, Alaska Airlines

Josh Hayes
Owner, Alaska Trout Guides

Verne Martell
Retired, Alaska Pasta Company

Eldon Mulder
President, The Mulder Company

Juna Penney
Retired, Municipality of Anchorage

Mike Pawlowski
Partner, Strategy North Group

Mark Spencer
Registered Guide Outfitter/Dipnet Charter Guide, AK Expeditions

Rick Whitbeck
Alaska State Director, Power the Future

FISHERIES CONSULTANTS

Reuben Hanke **Kevin Delaney** **Ray Beamesderfer**

STAFF

If you need anything while you're here, please reach out at any time to any of the following individuals:

Shannon Martin
Executive Director
907.250.6600

Megan McKay
Operations Manager
907.830.3896

Natalie Casebeer
Event Coordinator
907.395.7033





2024 Women's Classic Participants



Samantha Angaiak-Miller

Communications & Community Liaison Coordinator, Donlin Gold

Samantha Angaiak-Miller grew up in Bethel, Alaska. She enjoys fishing, hiking, berry picking, and camping. Samantha lives in Anchorage with her husband, Owen, daughter Hazel, and black lab Luna. She works for Donlin Gold's community relations team.



Tali Birch

General Counsel, Santos

Tali Birch is the General Counsel for Santos in Alaska. Born and raised in Fairbanks and Anchorage, Tali graduated from the University of Washington and Lewis & Clark's Northwestern School of Law before returning home.

Tali has practiced law in Alaska her entire career. Prior to joining Santos, she worked as a DA for the State of Alaska, for Shell Exploration & Production Co., and in private practice. She lives in Anchorage with her two kids and dog.



Maria Bourne

President and CEO, Denali Universal Services

Maria Bourne is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) & President for Denali Universal Services (DUS), a diverse company providing quality security, food, and facilities management services throughout Alaska and Lower 48 states.

Maria was born and raised in Far East of Russia and spent the last 20 years in Alaska. She and her husband Clayton share their reverence for Alaska's lands and waters with their children through frequent skiing, fishing, and hiking expeditions.



Kelli Waugaman Brewer

Owner, Alaska West Air, Redoubt Bay Lodge, Kustatan Leasing

Kelli came to Alaska as a teenager working in the commercial fishing industry and spent 20 years fishing for: Salmon, Sea Bass, Herring, King Crab, Tanner Crab and Cod in Alaskan waters. She met her husband in Kodiak and transitioned from the commercial fishing industry to the Sportfishing industry. Together, they own Alaska West Air and have been providing outdoorsmen access to the beautiful State of Alaska and its abundance for over 47 years. They also work closely with many oil and gas companies in Alaska providing air support and housing in South Central Alaska. Kelli has served on many non-profit boards throughout the state and shares her love of the outdoors through her work at Redoubt Bay Lodge and the thousands of travelers she meets every year. When she is not working, she enjoys reading, visiting with friends and family. She is fortunate to have both her Son (Duncan 29) and Daughter (Olivia 24) working at their flight service and gets to see them every day.



Roni Briggs

Principal, OSIYO Group

Roni is a change management, organizational design, and executive development specialist. With over 25 years of experience in a number of disciplines and industries, Roni is a thinking partner to many leaders at the C-level. She is a citizen of Cherokee Nation and holds a B.S. degree from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK.



Laura Bruce, ChFC®, CFP®

Owner/Director, Alaska Wealth Advisors

Laura is the owner and director of Alaska Wealth Advisors. She says it is the best job in the world because she gets to tell people they are financially ready to retire. Lately she has been helping empower Alaskan women as they pivot into new careers and re-envision what is possible for themselves. When she's not fishing on the Kenai you can find her at her cabin north of Big Lake with her family.



Natalie Cale

Chief Executive Officer/General Counsel, Ounalashka Corporation

Natalie A. Cale first began representing the Ounalashka Corporation (OC) as outside legal counsel in 2001. In 2019, Natalie was hired as in-house legal counsel. Shortly after, Natalie also became OC's Chief Operating Officer and in 2023 its Chief Executive Officer.
Born and raised in Chicago, Natalie moved to Anchorage after graduating Law School and has called Alaska home ever since. Natalie and her husband have twin daughters that attend the UW – Madison.



Andrea Canfield

Partner, Stoel Rives LLP

Andrea is a partner at the law firm Stoel Rives LLP where she advises private companies in mergers, acquisitions, and other strategic corporate transactions. Andrea has extensive experience advising companies in a broad range of industries, including natural resources, manufacturing, consumer products, and health care. Andrea serves on several community boards, including Abused Women's Aid In Crisis (AWAIC) and the University of Alaska Foundation. In recognition of her work in the community and her professional achievements, Andrea was named one of Alaska's Top Forty Under 40 by the Alaska Journal of Commerce. Andrea is from Eagle River, Alaska, lives in Anchorage with her husband, son and 2-year-old Lagotto Romagnolo. Andrea loves to read, travel, and enjoy the outdoors with her family.



Kati Capozzi

President & CEO, Alaska Chamber

Kati Capozzi has served as the President & CEO of the Alaska Chamber, the state's most diverse business advocacy organization, since 2019. Prior to her appointment at the Chamber, Capozzi served as the campaign manager for Stand for Alaska, the group that soundly defeated Ballot Measure 1 in 2018.

Capozzi moved to Alaska in 1996 and lives and plays in Eagle River.



Marit Carlson-Van Dort

President & CEO, Far West, Inc.

Märit is the President & CEO of Far West, Inc. an Alaska Native village corporation with homelands in Chignik Bay in the southern Alaska Peninsula.

In addition to her work at Far West, she is a former volunteer and big fan of Big Brothers Big Sisters and has served on the board of directors of STAR of Anchorage. Märit is in her third term on the State of Alaska Board of Fisheries. She is the first woman to ever be elected and serve as Chair.

Her favorite things are being on the water, her nephews, and her black lab Olive. Perfection is all those things together.



Nina Caterinichio

Manager of Medical Division, Fairweather

Nina Caterinichio, the Medical Services Manager at Fairweather, is a proud Alaskan hailing from Anchorage. As the youngest of six in her bustling Italian family, Nina's upbringing instilled in her the values of resilience and community. In addition to her professional accomplishments, she's a loving mother to three boys. With her deep roots in Alaska and a commitment to healthcare, Nina is a dedicated leader who exemplifies the strength and compassion of her heritage and her home state.



Susan Childs

Regulatory and Non-Technical Risk Manager, Fairweather LLC

Susan has many years of experience in permitting, policy and advocacy, and stakeholder engagement having worked on frontier projects for oil and gas in the Alaska Arctic, Canada, Mexico, and the Gulf of Mexico, renewable energy projects offshore of the Northeast region of the US, and mining projects in the Alaska Range. Susan has a Master of Science from Texas A&M University and has served on the Board of the Alaska SeaLife Center and Covenant House Alaska, and the Heart Institute's Science Advisory Council. She loves fishing, playing golf, cycling and kayaking and is an avid Anchorage Buccaneer's baseball fan.



Janet Coit

Assistant Administrator, NOAA Fisheries

Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator, leads NOAA Fisheries' work to ensure sustainable U.S. fisheries, restore habitats, and recover protected marine species. Janet directed the RI Department of Environmental Management for over ten years. She also served as RI state director for The Nature Conservancy, worked for three U.S. senators, and was counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College with a law degree from Stanford.



Shelley Cordova

SVP; Chief Strategy, Legal & People Officer, ASRC Energy Services

Shelley Cordova is Senior Vice President of ASRC Energy Services, LLC (AES), a trusted service provider to Alaska's energy industry. She serves as General Counsel and head of Human Resources, where she focuses on practical problem solving and helping AES be a best place to work In Alaska. During her free time, she enjoys hiking, fishing, and skiing with her husband and three children.



Kelly Droop

Regional Manager, Pape Kenworth Alaska

Kelly is a lifelong Alaskan with over 35 years dedicated to Alaska's oil and gas industry, and with her long time love of heavy equipment, became the Regional Manager for the Pape Kenworth truck dealerships in Alaska this past year – supporting big truck Sales, Parts and Service from Dutch Harbor to Prudhoe Bay. She also does consulting as The Droop Group, LLC. Kelly is on the Executive Committee of the Alaska Trucking Association, the immediate past President of the Alaska Industry Support Alliance and a member of the RDC Board. She lives in Anchorage with her husband, Frans, and daughters Paris and Gigi, LOVES fishing, international travels with her family, yoga, and sporting clays.



Rose Dunleavy

First Lady of Alaska, State of Alaska

Rose Dunleavy is Inupiaq from the Kobuk River Valley village of Noorvik, where she grew up. The First Lady has worked for more than 20 years in the airline industry, starting out as an employee of Mark Air in rural Alaska and currently working for Alaska Airlines.

Together, she and Governor Michael Dunleavy have three daughters who were raised in both rural and urban Alaska; Maggie, Catherine, and Ceil. The family has been living in Wasilla since 2004. The First Lady enjoys reading, sewing and spending time together as a family doing a wide variety of outdoor Alaskan activities. Both she and her husband are active members of their Catholic Church community.



Laura Edmondson

Owner, Edmondson Consulting, LLC

Laura has over 30 years of experience in organizational and financial management. Her consulting practice serves a diverse clientele in the areas of strategic growth, M&A and corporate governance. She previously served as EVP/CFO for Bering Straits Native Corporation and was referred to as "Chief Fishing Officer" versus Chief Financial Officer. Laura's love for fishing started on the Kenai River. She serves on the KRSA Board and is a co-chair of the Women's Classic.



Robyn Engibous

Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan

Robyn Engibous Anderson serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan of Alaska. After serving as Finance Director on Sullivan's 2014 U.S. Senate campaign, she joined his Washington, D.C. office in January 2015. Prior to her work with Senator Sullivan, Robyn served as the Co-Executive Director of the Ted Stevens Foundation and was also the Director of Operations at the inaugural Arctic Circle Assembly in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Robyn began her career working for the late Senator Ted Stevens in Washington, D.C. and later worked at the Department of State in the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

Robyn lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and son. Alaska will always be home to Robyn. She has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Marquette University and a Master's degree in Policy Management from Georgetown University.



Stephanie Erickson

Greater Prudhoe Area Manager, ConocoPhillips

Stephanie began her career at Phillips Petroleum Company in 1998 as a petrophysicist. She spent six years in Anchorage in Geophysical Exploration, Development and Commercial roles. In 2009, she moved to Houston and spent nearly ten years developing ConocoPhillips' Lower 48 assets, including the Bakken and Eagle Ford unconventional reservoirs. Prior to moving back up to Alaska she was Geoscience Manager in the Corporate Center in Houston.

Stephanie was raised in Minnesota. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Geological Engineering from Michigan Technological University and a Master of Science in Geophysics from University of Utah.



Ana Fisk

President, Afognak Commercial Group, LLC

President of Afognak Commercial Group, LLC, overseeing all commercial subsidiaries at Afognak Native Corporation, operating in diverse industries. Raising two great kids with her husband of eleven years and enjoying outdoor adventures in the great state of Alaska.



Ella Goss

Chief Executive, Providence Alaska Medical Center

Ella Goss, MSN, RN, serves as chief executive for Providence Alaska, the state's largest health care provider and private employer with ministries in Anchorage, Kodiak, Mat-Su, Seward and Valdez. In this role, she oversees Providence services across the continuum – ambulatory, acute, long-term and residential care as well as joint ventures in imaging technologies, ambulatory surgery and air ambulance services. Goss has more than 30 years of clinical and health care leadership experience. She earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in nursing and certification in health care risk management and health care quality. Goss serves on boards for University of Alaska Foundation and the American Heart Association Western States.



Anna Gould

Director of Sales, GCI

Anna grew up in the telecommunication industry working for her parents at their small cable company in Fairbanks Alaska. In 2001, she took this knowledge to GCI. As the Director of Sales, Anna serves as a strong leader with a mentorship and motivational management style and a proven track record of identifying opportunities to accelerate growth, developing long range strategic plans, and executing short-term tactical initiatives to achieve overall organizational goals.



Jessica Graham

EVP, Chief Risk Officer and General Counsel, Global Credit Union

Jessica Graham is the Executive Vice President, Chief Risk Officer & General Counsel at Global Credit Union. She has been with Global (f/k/a/ Alaska USA FCU) for approaching seven years and has senior executive level responsibility for Corporate Strategy, Information Technology, Legal Affairs, Compliance, Enterprise Risk, and Government Affairs. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Alaska Community Foundation and has past board service with the Girl Scouts of Alaska, the Alaska Bar Association (including one year as President), and the Anchorage Association of Women Lawyers. In her personal life, she and her husband Jason have three children, all of whom are now out-of-state in college or grad school, and three big dogs (collectively weighing nearly 300 pounds) which also means a house full of dog hair.



Heather Handyside

President & COO, Thompson & Co. Public Relations

Heather is President & COO at Thompson PR. She visited Alaska in her early 20's for a quick adventure, met her soul mate, and has happily spent summers on the Kenai ever since.



Jessica Hanneman

Principal, Marsh McLennan Agency

Jessica is a born and raised Alaskan originally from Nuiqsut. She joined Marsh McLennan Agency in 2015, where she is now a Principal and focuses on client retention and firm growth. Jessica is married to Olympian and 5x national champion pro skier, Reese Hanneman, and they reside in Anchorage with their two children.



Ashley Hartshorn

Account Executive, Parker Smith & Feek

As an Account Executive at Parker, Smith & Feek, Ashley leads her team by combining resources to tailor insurance programs to meet the needs of the clients she serves. She also serves on both the Girls Scouts of Alaska and Anchorage East Rotary boards. Last, but certainly not least, she is a proud dog mom of 3 adorable hounds by the name of Toki, Newt and Apple.



Tracy Hartung

Director, Swalling & Associates, PC

Tracy is an owner at Swalling & Associates, PC, one of Alaska's top boutique public accounting firms. She has over 20 years experience as a CPA. Her experience includes over 20 years of comprehensive tax and accounting services for a variety of industries and closely held entities. She enjoys traveling with friends and being involved in the community. In 2021 her claim to fame was winning the Kenai River Women's Classic.



Lauren Hendrix

Director of Marketing & Proposals, ASRC Energy Services

At ASRC Energy, the marketing and proposals team supports a network of over 2,400 employees across 6 subsidiaries, ensuring that proposals and messaging are in-line with the commitment to growth and sustainability.

Masters in PR - 3rd Gen AK - Alliance Board - Top Forty Under 40 - Gas Family



Amanda Henry

Director of Operations & Regulatory Strategy, ASRC Consulting & Environmental Services

I was raised in Eagle River grew up fishing on the rivers of the Susitna drainage and in Prince William Sound. I now live in Anchorage with my husband and two dogs and spend my leisure time gardening, hiking, and biking. I have been a project manager for regulatory permitting, planning, and strategy for resource development, construction, utility, and transportation projects in Alaska since 2003 and have worked for ASRC Energy Services since 2013.



Meg Horvath

Executive Director, Providence Alaska Children's Hospital and Women's Services

Margaret (Meg) M. Horvath, FACHE, serves as the executive director of Providence Alaska Children's Hospital & Women's Services, which includes oversight of the Mother Baby Unit, Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Pediatrics, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), Alaska CARES and Nurse-Family Partnership. Meg has been with Providence Alaska since 2019, most recently as the executive director of the Alaska Health Alliance with Providence. Meg is also a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) and serves on the board of the Alaska Chapter.



Megan Houdeshel

Partner, Dorsey & Whitney

Megan counsels clients through all aspects of major project development and has a breadth of experience assisting clients through complex environmental permitting matters under the National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and community right to know laws. Megan actively represents mining, petroleum, chemical, energy, real estate development, public utility and renewable development interests throughout the United States.



Lindsey Hunter

Operations Support Manager, ConocoPhillilps

Lindsey was born and raised in Anchorage, graduated from UAF with a degree in Civil Engineering in 2006 and has spent her career in the Oil & Gas Industry with ConocoPhillips. She loves all the fun Alaska has to provide and enjoys raising her 2 boys to be wild and adventurous Alaskans!



Alison Kear

Executive Director, Covenant House

Alison Kear discovered her purpose in life 21 years ago when she joined Covenant House Alaska (CHA) as a volunteer, and since that time, she has never looked back. Covenant House Alaska is now the state's largest shelter serving youth experiencing homelessness, with an annual budget of $16.2 million. Outside of work, Alison loves spending time with her best friend and devoted Goldendoodle, Charley.



Christine Krysinski

Managing Director, KPMG LLP

Christine lives in Chugiak with her husband, Nick, and two daughters (6 and 8). They enjoy fishing as a family and trying new recipes to keep things interesting. She is an audit managing director at KPMG in the Anchorage office. Christine is a board member and troop leader for the Girl Scouts of Alaska and Board member for Anchorage "Downtown" Rotary.



Colleen Laraux

Community Relations Coordinator, Donlin Gold

Colleen joined the Donlin Gold team in 2011. She was born in Bethel and raised in Bethel and Kongiganak. Colleen graduated from Bethel Regional High School and attended Alaska Pacific University and the University of Alaska Anchorage. She has held various positions in Bethel and Anchorage in the healthcare industry and legal field. Colleen is proud to be able to read, write and speak her Native Yup'ik language. Her parents are Martha and Walter Larson Sr., from Bethel. Colleen and her husband, Kris Manke, live in Bethel and together have six children and nine grandchildren.



Linda Leary

Founder, FisheWear

Linda Leary is the Founder and owner of FisheWear. She lives in Eagle River and loves to spend her free time fishing with her husband Mike and Fishe friends! Linda also serves on the boards KRSA and Alaska Regional, she is also the owner of Women's Flyfishing offering hosted trips and classes, and offering business consulting services with Linda Leary Consulting LLC.



Angela Leichliter

COO, TotalCare

Angela is the COO of TotalCare Custom Mobility, where she has worked for the past 14 years. She enjoys boating and travelling with her husband Jon and 16 year old daughter Chloe. The Leichliters are the new owners of Legacy Electric in Soldotna and have brought their Texas business, TotalCare, to Alaska.



Anna Lewallen

Sr. Development Geologist, Santos

Anna is a petroleum geologist at Santos. She has been working as a geoscientist for over 18 years and is passionate about responsible resource development and contributing directly to the states' economic vitality. Anna is Vice Chair of the UAA Geoscience Advisory Board. Anna and her husband Matty own the Kenai River Cowboys, a successful sport fishing guiding company on the Kenai and Kasilof rivers. She is a proud mother of two young daughters.



Renee Limoge-Reeve

Vice President of Government and Community Relations,
Cruise Lines International Association

Renée grew up in Vermont and graduated from the University of Vermont.
She moved to Alaska in 2003. Renée has over 20 years' experience in government relations in state and federal government and trade associations, most recently serving as State Director for U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan. She joined CLIA Alaska in 2021. Renée is chair of the American Cancer Society Alaska Advisory Board. She lives in Anchorage with husband Michael and Labrador Fenway.



Mary Beth Long

Vice President of Communications, American Sportfishing Association

I have been working for more than 25 years in Communications and Marketing and am passionate about standing behind issues that I really care about. While I have only been with the Sportfishing industry for a short time I have never felt so comfortable and welcome in a job. I look forward to helping to increase fishing participation, advancing professional women in our industry and fishing a lot more!



Juli Lucky

Executive Director, Alaskans for Better Elections

I moved to Alaska in 1996 and spent more than 20 years working for the Alaska State Legislature. As a nonpartisan who worked for legislators from across the political spectrum, I engaged stakeholders to find solutions for policy issues through consensus-building and negotiation. Voter empowerment and public involvement in shaping policy have always been my guiding principles.



Janie Ma

Account Executive, Parker, Smith & Feek

Janie is an Account Executive with Parker, Smith & Feek and holds the Management Liability Insurance Specialist designation. She's a board member of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Anchorage (BOMA), a Board Member of UAA WPM RE+'s Advisory Board, and a Rotarian. Janie was born and raised in Alaska and after several years of traveling, she returned home where she is raising her 9-year-old daughter, Yili.



Leigh McGee

Co-Founder & Principal, OSIYO Group

Leigh is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and resides part-time on the reservation and part-time in Alaska. OSIYO Group has served Alaska Native communities and corporations for twenty-two years specializing in inclusive leadership and organizational development. Leigh is a Gallup Certified Strengths Coach and the former Chair of the U.S. Census Advisory on the American Indian Alaska Native population. It is a thrill to be here on the Kenai River with all of you!



Lesil McGuire

Owner, Inconnu Solutions

Throughout her distinguished career, Lesil has consistently exemplified what is possible through value driven leadership. As a 16 year member of the Alaska House and Senate, she was the driving force behind a series of governance solutions that now guide Alaska, and the nation.
Lesil's talent is in anticipating potential crises between competing interests and building a bridge for those very same individuals to cross easily into an optimal solution. In doing so, she inspires others to be part of something bigger, and forge new paths in the face of adversity. Shifting her methodology from public service to the private interests of her clients has been seamless. Simply navigating the complex legal and socio- political landscape that exists today will not suffice. Success in the long-term will require the ability to influence solutions that can weather the inevitable changes yet to come, and provide mutual benefit to all concerned.
Lesil is a lifelong Alaskan who loves the Women's Classic and loves to fish!



Jill McLeod

Chief Legal Officer, Three Bears Alaska, Inc.

Jill McLeod serves as VP and Chief Legal Officer of Three Bears Alaska, Inc. Based in Anchorage, Jill oversees Three Bears' legal affairs. Jill has nearly 30 years of international legal experience, including extensive work in acquisitions, real estate, retail, finance, oil and gas, mining, telecommunications, aerospace, hotels and resorts and complicated commercial transactions, risk and compliance and general corporate law. As a lifelong Alaskan, Jill is committed to pro bono efforts and the community and recently served on the Board of Directors for the Providence Alaska Foundation (2017-2022) and American Heart Association Alaska Chapter Executive Committee (2021-2022). She is an avid runner and triathlete and has completed numerous marathon and Ironman® races.



Kristin Mellinger

Owner / Principal, V3 Strategic Solutions, LLC

Kristin Mellinger owns V3 Strategic Solutions. Specializing in M&A and growth strategies, Kristin provides management consulting to Boards of Directors and executive management teams. Through V3, Kristin has also led a number of equity transactions, providing buy- or sell-side advisory services.

Prior to founding V3, Kristin served as the Chief Financial Officer of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.

Kristin serves on the Boards of Zo Financial, Alaska Power & Telephone, AIH, Casting for Recovery, and the Kenai River Sportfishing Association.

Kristin and her husband live in Soldotna where they hunt and fish as often as possible.
Kristin loves to fly and is a flight instructor.



Jennifer Meyhoff

Director of Employee Health & Benefits, Marsh McLennan Agency

As a lifelong Alaskan, I embrace the KRWC as a time to play with an unmatched group of leaders in our great State! With Marsh McLennan Agency, we lead the insurance consulting industry by delivering innovative solutions with unmatched client service. We consult with employers on all aspects of employee benefits, business insurance, and surety needs for their organization and their employees. Cheers!



Ramona Monroe

Partner, Stoel Rives

Ramona is a partner at Stoel Rives LLP, where she represents mining and oil and gas companies in transactions, financing, mineral tenure issues and compliance with state and local government requirements. She loves visiting her clients projects and learning more about their operations and business. Ramona has two grown sons and a labradoodle named Decker. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, travel, cooking, knitting, and trying new activities.



Julie Morales

Vice President/Chief Financial Officer , Three Bears Alaska, Inc

Julie Morales, CPA is vice president and chief financial officer of Three Bears Alaska, Inc., a retail grocery and convenience store chain that has been proudly serving Alaskans since 1980. Morales joined Three Bears Alaska, Inc in August 2022.
With more than 25 years of experience, Morales is an accomplished, energetic retail/finance executive and a focused and decisive servant leader.
Julie has three grown children and currently resides in Wasilla, Ak.



Kara Moriarty

President/CEO, Alaska Oil and Gas Association

Kara came to Alaska from her home state of South Dakota to teach elementary school in Atqasuk, an Inupiaq village in the North Slope Borough. After working in Washington, DC for then South Dakota Congressman, now U.S. Senator John Thune, she moved back to Alaska and lived in Fairbanks for seven years. She has served as legislative staff in Juneau to Senator Gary Wilken and was the President/CEO of the Fairbanks Chamber for four years. She joined the AOGA staff in April 2005 and has been the head of the association since 2012. She is a member of the Athena Society, a recipient of Alaska's Top 40 Under 40 Award and was the Honorary Iceman at Eielson Air Force Base. She is a member of the Lumen Christi School Board and the Downtown Rotary Club of Anchorage and serves on the Executive Committee of the Resource Development Council. In her spare time, she can be found serving as a taxi driver for her three children, Joseph, Maggie and Garrett to their many church, school and sporting events



Amanda Moyes

Manager, Human Resources & REFS, ConocoPhillips Alaska

Amanda has worked in Human Resources at ConocoPhillips since 2002 in varying positions of responsibility. Amanda loves to travel and has been fortunate enough to blend her love of traveling with work and has held positions in London, Doha, Calgary, and Anchorage. Originally from London, Amanda has been in Alaska since 2022 with her husband and teenage daughter enjoying the seasonal changes from winter wonderland to never-ending sun.



Lisa Murkowski

Senator, US Senate

Lisa Murkowski, Alaska's senior U.S. Senator, is a third generation Alaskan proudly serving as the first Alaskan born senator. Murkowski was born in Ketchikan and raised in towns across the state, including Wrangell, Juneau, Fairbanks, and Anchorage. She is married to Verne Martell and they have two grown sons. Lisa loves spending time in the Alaska outdoors. She's an avid skier, has hiked on glaciers, enjoys fall duck hunts, and has a pretty impressive King Salmon mounted on her office wall.

Since joining the Senate in 2002, Senator Murkowski has worked tirelessly for Alaskans and earned a reputation in the Senate for her ability to work collaboratively and across the aisle to reach common sense solutions. Murkowski is well-known for her love and dedication to her state, which means putting Alaska first.



Krystal Nelson

Executive VP/COO, Bering Straits Native Corporation

Krystal Nelson joined BSNC in 2014 with more than 18 years of experience working in public and private business sectors managing federal, state and municipal contracts. Her experience includes management of multi-million dollar programs and projects, union negotiations and managing more than 1,200 personnel.

As an Alaska state legislative aide, Nelson dealt with federal, state and municipal government processes, managed community relations for a state senator, staffed the Alaska State Senate Finance Committee and oversaw budget preparation for the Alaska Departments of Transportation, Commerce and Economic Development, and Environmental Conservation. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science from the University of Texas at Austin.



Jennifer Opsut

CEO, Alaska Regional Hospital

Jennifer joined the Alaska Regional family in 2018 as Chief Operating Officer, and was promoted to CEO earlier this year. Jennifer's many areas of expertise include strategic planning, physician relationships, quality improvement initiatives, and operational excellence. She is the former Alaska Region President for the American College of Healthcare Executives, and she's involved in many organizations working to make Anchorage and all of Alaska an excellent place to work, raise a family and play – and fish!



Melanie Osborne

Attorney, Alyeska Pipeline Service Company

A lifelong Alaskan from Valdez, I've spent most of my career as an attorney and talent management executive representing Indigenous organizations. This past year has been full of new experiences. I transitioned to Alyeska (focus on technology law) and deepened my involvement with The Nature Conservancy of Alaska and Alaska Legal Services. Brad has patiently indulged my desire for new adventures, from driving through the Keys to kayaking and hiking in Seward, and taking the Danny J to the Saultry. We have two grown children pursuing their own adventures in Florida and Arizona—perfect for frequent visits!



Bonnie Paskvan

Partner, Anchorage Office Head, Dorsey & Whitney LLP

Bonnie Paskvan is a Dorsey & Whitney Partner, and Co-Chair of the Indian & Alaska Native Law Practice Group. Bonnie's Croatian Grandfather emigrated to Juneau over 100 years ago, and worked as a AJ Goldmine Blacksmith. As 7th of 9 children, Bonnie hopes Alaska will be a great place to live and work in 100 years. Bonnie is Co-Chair of the Alaska State Bar, Corporate Counsel Section, Director for the Girl Scouts of Alaska, and its Board Development Committee Chair. One of Bonnie's happiest moments was appearing on the news, captioned "angler," after winning a fishing trip for Anglers for AWAIC.



Carrie Peluso

Chief Nursing Officer, Providence Alaska Medical Center

Carrie Peluso is the current Chief Nursing Officer for Providence Alaska Medical Center. Carrie's nursing career began as an Emergency Department nurse in rural Montana before moving to Alaska in 2000. Carrie is a nursing leader who is passionate about promoting the nursing profession. In her spare time, Carrie loves to fish with her husband all the wonderful bodies of water in Alaska.



Juna Penney

Retired, Penco Properties

After beginning my working life at age 15 (I was the Easter Bunny at our local flower shop in Hayti, Missouri), I retired in January of 2022 after 47 years and too many jobs to count. My Alaska career included stints at Premera, Providence, and lastly the Municipality of Anchorage. I look forward to continuing my streak as the only woman to attend every Women's Classic since it began!



Jackie Purcell

Senior Meteorologist, KTUU Channel 2 Weather

Jackie has lived in Alaska since 1962! She is a graduate of Bartlett High school and Gonzaga University, and started her career with KTUU in 1985. She made the transition from reporter to meteorologist during her tenure at KTUU and has never looked back. Weather in Alaska is ever-changing and keeps her on her toes!

Jackie married Dannie Pearson, a former Channel 2 photographer, and they reached their Silver Anniversary on May 30, 2023!



Roberta “Bobbi” Quintavell

President/CEO, BQ Solutions

Bobbi Quintavell is the former President/CEO of Sitnasuak Native Corporation (SNC). Prior to that position, she was the Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Doyon, Limited. Over the course of her career, Quintavell has contributed her expertise in helping Alaska Native corporations and their subsidiaries grow in shareholder equity and operational profitability. She has served as executive director of Arctic Slope Native Association, president/CEO and board member of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC), as well as president/CEO for ASRC Construction Holding Company and ASRC Constructors Inc. Quintavell has also served on the boards of various nonprofits including the Alaska Federation of Natives, Special Olympics Alaska, Alaska Municipal League and the Rasmuson Foundation. She is Inupiaq and originally from Utqiagvik. She received a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Alaska in Anchorage and graduated with an executive master’s degree from Harvard University.



Kellie Ralston

VP Conservation and Public Policy, Bonefish & Tarpon Trust

Kellie Ralston is the VP for Conservation and Public Policy for the Bonefish & Tarpon Trust. She also serves on Florida’s NW Florida Water Management District Governing Board and Environmental Regulation Commission, and NOAA Fisheries’ Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee. She has worked on fisheries, water quality, and Everglades’ restoration with the FL Department of Environmental Protection, the FL House of Representatives, the FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the American Sportfishing Association.



Mesa Rangel

Chief Financial Officer, Alaska Regional Hospital

As the CFO for Alaska Regional Hospital, Mesa ensures responsible financial stewardship to ensure Alaskans can receive the care they need. When Mesa isn’t crunching numbers, she is catching fish!



Kathleen Redmond

VP, Strategy & Operations, Alaska Communications

Kathleen Redmond is VP, Strategy & Operations at Alaska Communications with more than 30 years’ experience in Alaska telecom-industry. Currently leading ACS’ federal broadband grant program, and leading Carrier Relations and a cross-functional team focused on COGS.
She holds a B.S.B.A. from University of Montana and an EMBA-ICT from Alaska Pacific University.
Kathleen is active in the community as an eight-year board member Boys & Girls Clubs–Alaska and Petroleum Club as vice president of the board.



Melissa Reiser

Vice President, First National Bank Alaska

Melissa Reiser is a Vice President and part of the Corporate Commercial Lending unit at First National Bank Alaska since 2008. Reiser creates financial strategies for Alaskan businesses. With over 30 years of banking expertise, she specializes in statewide healthcare lending. Engaged in Alaska's business community, she contributes to Boards like the University of Alaska Foundation and Anchorage Project Access. Outside of her professional endeavors, she indulges in fishing and jewelry crafting.



April Rodriguez

Vascular Surgeon, Alyeska Vascular Surgery, LLC

April Rodriguez is a vascular surgeon who has been practicing in Anchorage, AK at Alyeska Vascular Surgery since 2017. She completed medical school at the University of Michigan and did her vascular surgery training at the University of Washington. She loves being outdoors and was introduced to fishing in Alaska through the KRWC.



Marilyn Romano

Regional Vice President, Alaska Airlines

For 11 years, Marilyn Romano has served as the Regional Vice President for Alaska Airlines. Marilyn shapes the company's strategic external relations, corporate giving, sales and marketing, internal and external communications, and governmental affairs in Alaska.

Prior to joining Alaska Airlines, Marilyn spent nearly two decades at the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, and was the publisher and VP for 11 years.

Currently, Marilyn serves on the Rasmuson Foundation board, the Governor's Aviation Advisory Board and the Alaska Airlines Foundation.

In 2020, Marilyn was recognized as a Woman of Achievement by the YWCA, and in March of 2014 was inducted into the ATHENA Society.

Marilyn received her Executive MBA from the University of Washington on June 5, 2017.



Elena Romerdahl

Partner, Perkins Coie

Elena is a partner at Perkins Coie specializing in natural resource, energy, and environmental law. Elena was born and raised in Anchorage and grew up fishing. In her spare time she attempts to wrangle her three young children.



Jessica Rostad

Owner, CEO, Big Ray's

Jessica Rostad was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska. She grew up embracing the Alaskan lifestyle, spending her summers fishing, floating rivers, and camping with her family. She is the proud co-owner and CEO of Big Ray's, the Alaskan Outfitter. Established in 1947, Big Ray's is one of the oldest locally owned independent retailers in the state of Alaska. When she is not at the office, she enjoys fly fishing, hiking, camping, and cooking.



Bryony Ruby

VP, Corporate Finance, GCI

My name is Bryony Ruby and I am the VP, Corporate Finance at GCI. I have been an employee with GCI for over 11 years. I am originally from Texas and moved to Alaska in 2009. I love the summers up here and especially love all the connections I have made attending the Kenai Women's Classic. This will be my 6th Women's Classic and every year gets better and better. If I'm not working or fishing then I am exploring other countries.



Lisa Sauder

Executive Director, Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska

Lisa Sauder currently serves as the Executive Director of Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska (ARA). The mission of ARA is to support Alaskans affected by Alzheimer's disease, related dementias, and other disabilities to ensure quality of life. Prior to her work at ARA, she spent over a decade focused on homelessness and food security in Anchorage. She enjoys spending time at her cabin, fishing, and biking the coastal trail.



Elizabeth Schok

Associate Broker, REALTOR®, Somer's Sotheby's International Realty

Elizabeth lives in Fairbanks and is a full time REALTOR and a Past President of the Greater Fairbanks Board of Realtors. She holds National Association of Realtors designations and an appointment as NAR FPC to Sen. Sullivan. Elizabeth sits on the Exec and Finance committees of the Greater Fairbanks Community Hospital Foundation and sits on the Alaska Real Estate Commission. She is married to Richard Schok Jr and has 3 adult kids and a new grandson!.



Brandi Sellepack

Exploration Manager, ConocoPhillips Alaska

Brandi Sellepack is the Exploration Manager for ConocoPhillips Alaska. She began her career in 1998 as a geologist with ConocoPhillips in the Lower 48 and has held technical and leadership positions in exploration and development organizations in the US, Canada, and Australia. Brandi grew up in Texas and has a BS and MS in Geology.



Annette Sheppard

Director of External Affairs, Denali Universal Services

As External Affairs Director, I am responsible for the coordination of the company's client and community relations, business development and marketing aspects. These activities include relationship management, external and internal communications, and collaboration with our clients for an enhanced business environment.
I am a lifelong Alaskan, born on a homestead near Denali Park and raised in Anchorage.
I attended the University of Alaska and currently reside in Anchorage with my husband Jack.
I love the opportunity the KWRC brings to us women to network, laugh, share stories, and become great friends through the world of fishing! It is one of the best events of the year and I look forward to it time and again.



Danicia Shiryayev

Commercial Relationship Manager, Wells Fargo Bank

With over 15 years of experience in commercial banking, Danicia is dedicated to helping businesses grow and succeed by providing tailored financial solutions and strategic advice. Danicia is a member of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Board for the last 5 years and is also passionate about financial education through her work with the Junior Achievement of Alaska Board. In her free time, she likes to dirt bike, four wheel and spend time with her husband and two children.



Sarah Skeel

Chief Administrative Officer, Providence

Sarah is a born and raised Alaskan having spent her entire career leading and providing healthcare services for our Alaskan communities. She currently serves as the Chief Administrative Officer for Providence Alaska Medical Center and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Fellow for the American College of Healthcare Executives. In her off time, you will find her ice fishing, camping, biking, running, hiking, four-wheeling, and skiing with her husband and two sons.



Deantha Skibinski

Executive Director, Alaska Miners Association

Deantha has been the Executive Director of AMA for 12 years. Previously she served at the Resource Development Council, where she advocated for the mining and tourism industries and managed efforts on ballot initiative campaigns.

Deantha serves on the Board of the Armed Services YMCA of Alaska, an organization dedicated to supporting military members and their families. In her spare time she enjoys time with family at their home in Big Lake.



Jana Smith

VP, S&S Consulting

Jana spent nearly 40 years working in the commercial insurance industry and most recently served as the Regional Vice President of Parker, Smith & Feek Insurance Brokers. She has also been actively involved in the community serving on several non-profit boards as well as time spent volunteering to further the organizations' missions. Jana loved her long-term career and enjoyed the opportunity to work with so many great companies and business professionals in Alaska. She recently retired and is happily enjoying new priorities and working on what is yet to come. Having attended the Kenai Women's Classic for several years, Jana has met so many awesome women and developed life-long friendships, all while having a blast on the great Kenai River. The journey continues!



Jeanine St John

The Boss!, None

FISHING FOOL! Been missing all the ladies, so I can't wait to join you all again this year. I'm the boss of my own retirement!



Andrea Story

Chief Marketing & Administrative Officer, R&M Consultants, Inc.

Andrea has more than 26 years of experience in professional services marketing, including the past 19 years with R&M. She specializes in marketing and strategic planning, market research, communication and proposal development. Andrea serves as an at-large director on the Board of Directors for the Society for Marketing Professional Services. She also serves on the UAA College of Business and Public Policy Advisory Board and leads QBS efforts for the local ACEC chapter.



Kimberley Strassel

Columnist and Author, Wall Street Journal

Kim is a member of the editorial board for The Wall Street Journal, writing editorials and her weekly Potomac Watch political column. She's the author of three politics books, and a Fox News contributor. She lives in Alaska with her husband Nick and three kids, and loves fishing, going to the cabin, her truck, and books.



Beth Stuart

Managing Partner, KPMG LLP

Beth is a CPA and the managing partner of KPMG's Anchorage office, leading a team that provides audit, tax, and advisory services to organizations throughout Alaska. She and her husband are raising two sons in Anchorage. Beth is usually on the go; cross-country skiing and snowmachining in the winter, and hiking, fishing, and racing motocross in the summer. She is passionate about helping other women feel more comfortable in motor sports. Favorite phrase: "I'm in!"



Caitlin Sweeney

Owner, Pasta La Vista

Caitlin is the owner of Pasta la Vista, a food business that specializes in pop-ups and private events for client engagement.

Her background in wine and spirits and culinary passions led her to create the hospitality company. Caitlin hosts private events, milestone birthdays, corporate dinners and wine tastings. Find her at many local distilleries/breweries or book her for a private client dinner and wine tasting!



Tara Sweeney

Vice President, External Affairs, ConocoPhillips

Tara Sweeney serves as the vice president of external affairs for ConocoPhillips-Alaska. She loves this event because it brings together women that represent the fabric of this great state. Last year she launched her informal quest in her personal life to become "the auntie in the bake shop" character in any Hallmark Christmas movie. She is looking to this amazing field of women to help boost her efforts. During the holiday season she practices her craft by binging on Hallmark movies and critiquing and learning from current aunties in the bake shop. She is married to Kevin and together they have two grown children.



Jennifer Thompson

CEO, Thompson & Co.

Jennifer Thompson is the principal and president/CEO of T&C. With her name on the door, Jennifer ensures that absolutely everything the agency produces is strategic, consistent and exceeds client experience. Overseeing account teams across the country, she's purposefully grown a cohesive agency structure that exudes vibrant culture. With each team member she emphasizes the importance of work life balance and encourages their pursuit of passion to sustain the creative atmosphere in the agency, yielding unmatched client results. Recognized by PR News as a "Top 50 Women in PR," she is a member of the Anchorage Athena Society and a board member of the Public Relations Society of America's Counselors Academy. In addition of the #iworkinpr life, she loves coffee, good shoes and sunshine. Jennifer lives and leads by the mantra: good PR starts at home.



Joan Travostino

Vice President of Business Development, Three Bears Alaska, Inc.

After almost 40 years in law firms, I moved to a mixed business development/legal position with Three Bears Alaska, Inc. in January 2023. My non business interests are backpacking, cross country skiing, hiking and serving on the board of Alaska Huts.



Tracy Vanairsdale

President, Bettisworth North Architects & Planners, Inc

Tracy is a proud Fairbanksan community builder with a great love for Alaska. She is dedicated to creating better built environments through her career and volunteer work. Tracy is an architect who joined Bettisworth North in 1997, becoming a partner in 2007 and now the firm president. Tracy's work includes commercial, education, health, and civic projects, emphasizing sustainability and cultural design. With her husband Dave and dogs Tsaina and Copper, Tracy loves everything Alaska offers.



Kristy West

Sr VP Tax, Bristol Bay Native Corporation

Kristy currently serves as Senior Vice President of Tax for Bristol Bay Native Corporation and is a Board Member of McKinley Alaska Growth Capital in addition to being business partner with her husband, Jim, in their family businesses, Wild West Guns and Klutina Lodge. Kristy loves fishing, hunting and being outdoors with family and friends and has recently started competing again at International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC) matches.



Rebecca Wilmarth

Community Relations Supervisor, Donlin Gold

Rebecca is from Red Devil on the Kuskokwim River. Rebecca and her family spend summers in Red Devil and winters in Palmer. She has worked with Donlin Gold's Community Relations team since 2019. Her favorite part of the job is working with communities in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region and with landowner partners, Calista Corporation and The Kuskokwim Corporation, to build a project that will provide benefits for generations. Rebecca enjoys berry picking, fishing, and snowmachining.



Athena Grimm

Owner, BAC Transportation

Athena Grimm, a seasoned entrepreneur with nearly 30 years of experience, attributes her success to living out her RAISE UP values, guiding both her personal and professional life. Together with her husband, Charlie Grimm, she leads BAC Transportation, LLC, a chauffeured service, and Alaska Medical Transport a ambulance service. As hosts of The RAISE UP Podcast, they explore leadership, business growth, and purpose-driven living, building community-focused businesses that prioritize service excellence, safety, and sustainable growth.



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Immediately following the Welcome Dinner, take part in the 8th Annual "Upgrade to First Class" Boat Auction. This is your opportunity to bid on a uniquely curated upgrade that will take your fishing trip over the top.

There will be two decked-out vessels to bid on, each generously sponsored by a different group. The two sponsors this year are **Santos and Alaska Airlines**. This is an opportunity for four participants to get together to bid for the chance to fish on one of the two sponsored boats. The winning bidder group for each boat will partake in all the upgraded features and be the first two boats on the river.

Each boat will take 4 people so gather your friends and colleagues and be prepared to bid for one of these spectacular first-class boat experiences.

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