



# BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION AGLUKTUK

Volume XXIX

May 2007

## BSNC DECLARES SONYA DIVIDEND IVANOFF LAW

The Bering Straits Native Corporation Board of Directors declared a special dividend of \$1 per share at its regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting held on February 22, 2007. The average shareholder owns 100 shares of BSNC stock and received \$100. The dividend was issued in mid-April. This is the first dividend declared since October 2000 and reflects recent improvements in operations of the Company.

"BSNC has been successful in the last three years due to the maturing of its subsidiaries, especially those doing government contracting," explained Tim Towarak, President and Chief Executive Officer since 2000. "This special dividend is meant to share the Company's success with its

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Governor Sarah Palin signed the Sonya Ivanoff Act into law in Juneau, Alaska on April 27, 2007. The signing ceremony was held in the Governor's Conference Room at the State Capitol. Sonya Ivanoff was a vibrant young woman from Unalakleet, Alaska. She was one of six children of Larry and Maggie Ivanoff, who attended the signing ceremony with two of their other children. Also present were Senator Donald Olson, sponsor of SB 45, State Prosecutor Rick Svobodny, who successfully prosecuted Matt Owens, and Gail Schubert representing BSNC.

SB 45 was introduced by Senator Olson on January 16, 2007. The bill as originally drafted amended Alaska law to impose a mandatory sentence of 99 years on a peace officer found guilty of committing first degree murder while on duty. Gail

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Left to right: Senator Donny Olson, Jacob Ivanoff & Christina Mostoller siblings of Sonya, Maggie & Larry Ivanoff, parents of Sonya, join Rick Svobodny, State Prosecutor, and Governor Palin at the Signing Ceremony of the Sonya Ivanoff Act.

## Bering Straits Native Corporation

### Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders

Saturday, October 6, 2007 at 10:00 AM

at the Mini-Convention Center

in Nome, Alaska

Shareholders who are at least 18 years of age and wish to run for one of the five Board of Director's seats open for election are requested to send a letter of intent, including current address, telephone number and a resume listing qualifications to:

Nominating Committee  
Bering Straits Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 1008  
Nome, Alaska 99762

**IMPORTANT- all letters of intent must be received by the BSNC office no later than 5:00 PM on June 8, 2007.**

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# *BSNC* *Greetings*

Tim Towarak,  
BSNC President/CEO

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By the time this newsletter reaches you, as a shareholder of BSNC, you have received your first dividend since 2000. Based on the reaction from many shareholders, people are happy to finally receive something from BSNC. We hope this is just the beginning. Dividends are based on the success of the company, and as far as we can see as Board members, BSNC is reaching the level of success which we believe should lead towards annual dividends in the future.

The BSNC board thoughtfully debated the motion to declare a dividend. It was considered a "special" dividend since it was not calculated using the formula outlined in the Board created Dividend Policy. Most Board members felt that it was time to distribute some of the profits to thank our shareholders for their patience. At the same time, the board members did not want to make a distribution that might slow down or inhibit the growth we have seen in the last three years. These types of decisions are very critical to BSNC's future growth. I'd like to thank the Board of Directors for their careful consideration in making this decision.

We have just ended another fiscal year on March 31, 2007 (FY 2007). It appears, based on our accounting department's monthly reports, that BSNC will have another good year because of the continued successful operations on our government contracts, a better stock market, along with an improvement in the Nome economy because of Alaska Gold Co. developing the Rock Creek Mine, and other activities that generate revenue for BSNC. We look forward to sending out our reports this summer before our Annual Meeting on October 6, 2007.

An interesting event took place during our stockholder's informational meeting in Anchorage. Chairman Ivanoff announced that the Board is considering having our 2008 Annual Meeting in Anchorage. The reaction to this possibility made everyone there very excited. Our latest records show that we have more shareholders in Anchorage than any other single place, including all of our communities in the region. Based on the number of people who attended the Anchorage meeting, we will probably have a record turnout for that meeting. This is also a reflection of how people are feeling about the recovery of BSNC from our past financial woes. If the logistics can be worked out, we look forward to having the 2008 annual meeting in Anchorage.

As I reflect on the recently ended business year, I appreciate all of the support our shareholders have given the BSNC Board over the years. I also appreciate the long time serving Board members, including Henry Ivanoff, 29 years; Fran Degnan, 26 years; the late Bill Barr, 23 years; Charlie Johnson and Percy Nayokpuk, 22 years; Eugene Asicksik, 20 years; Homer Hoogendorn, the late Blanche Walters and Tommy Johnson, 17 years; and Gail Schubert & Eileen Norbert, 15 years. We also have staff who have staff with more than 10 years of service: Peggy A. Hoogendorn, 25 years; Matt Ganley and Deanna Cox with 14 years; Jerald Brown, 13 years; and Wally Powers with 12 years. It is this kind of dedication that keeps BSNC successful and they should be given recognition for steady service. We hope this trend continues for many more years.

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### **Do you have news to share?**

The Bering Straits Native Corporation publishes the Agluktuk for its shareholders. Whenever possible, we would like to include articles on our shareholders and Village Corporations. If you have information you would like to share, please e-mail [kimberly@beringstraits.com](mailto:kimberly@beringstraits.com). Please include your name and telephone number in order for us to verify the information and/or to contact you for clarification.

# 32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

President Tim Towarak called the 32nd Annual Meeting of Shareholders to order at 10:15 AM on October 7, 2006 in Nome. Shareholder Jake Ahwinona gave the invocation. President Towarak introduced Mitch Erickson, Election Judge and Chairman Henry Ivanoff welcomed all in attendance and asked the Board of Directors to introduce themselves. All Board of Directors were present. Board Treasurer Clara Langton introduced guests and staff present: Loretta Bullard (President of Kawerak), Jerald Brown (Vice President), Peggy A. Hoogendorn (Vice President of Administration), Matt Ganley (Vice President of Land & Resources), Irene Anderson (Land Manager), Josie Reader (Assistant Controller), Rose Koezuna-Clark (Receptionist), Carmill Goldsberry (Accounting), Myrna Outwater (Assistant Stockholder Registrar), Cheryl McKay (Attorney), Aaron Rhodes (Director of Human Resources), Wally Powers (Chief Financial Officer), Kimberly Gooden (Administrative Assistant).

The October 2, 2005 Annual Meeting of Shareholders minutes were approved.

Nominations Committee member Eugene Asicksik informed the Shareholders that Eileen Norbert, Perry Mendenhall and himself serve on the Nominations Committee. Mr. Asicksik presented incumbent nominees: Louise Keller Bauman, Stephan Ivanoff, Charles Johnson, Percy Nayokpuk, and Lincoln Trigg Sr. Other nominees were: Neil W. Foster, Jeanette Iya, Fred Sagoonick, Sherry Sampson, Francis Alvanna, Janice Alvanna, Robert Armstrong, Richard Atuk, Robert Becker, Amos Brown, Charles Degnan, Julie Farley, Mary Ellen Fritz, Marge Gagnon, Joe Garnie, Winona Huffman, Guy Lone Jr., Guy Lone Sr., James Clemensen, Greg Knudsen, Vince Kunnuk, Pete Larsen Sr., Robert Lazov, Ida Lincoln, Teddy Mayac, Andrew Miller Jr., George Miller, Curtis Nayokpuk, Robert Noyakuk, Raymond Nuipok, Foster Olanna, Frank Ongtawasruk, and Charles Pullock. Candidates Louise Keller Bauman, Neal W. Foster, Stephen Ivanoff,

Charles Johnson, Percy Nayokpuk, Lincoln Trigg Sr., Fred Sagoonick, and Curtis Nayokpuk addressed the shareholders.

Judge Mitch Erickson opened for the floor for balloting and set the time for 10 minutes. Balloting closed at 11:20 AM.

Shareholder Lenora Kenick spoke of her opposition of the Rock Creek Mine with the use of cyanide. Ms. Kenick expressed her disappointment with the lack of attendance at the Shareholder Meeting on the Rock Creek Mine that was held a couple of days ago. Land and Resources Chair Charles Johnson informed the Shareholders that the type of cyanide being used is very volatile and is quickly destroyed by oxygen and sunlight; and is very low in concentration.

Gail Schubert introduced Loretta Bullard, President of Kawerak. Ms. Bullard gave a presentation on operations and services provided by Kawerak. Ms. Bullard also informed the Shareholders of the Bering Straits Leadership Team (BSLT), which was formed to foster a stronger voice for the people of Bering Straits Region and allow the organizations to work proactively together. Shareholder Vernon Kugzruk stated that he'd like to propose to the BSNC Board of Directors to recognize and thank Ms. Bullard for her accomplishments with Kawerak. The Shareholders gave a standing ovation in appreciation for Ms. Bullard's commitment and leadership that she has provided to Kawerak and the people of the region.

Reports were given by staff on the operations of BSNC and its subsidiaries, financials for FY 06 and a forecast for FY 07, Land & Resources activities, Bering Straits Foundation, and an



The King Island Dancers performed at the Shareholder Reception in Anchorage on February 22. Yamani Koezuna-Tiulana, 3 years old, looks up to her mother Esther learning the motions of the dance.

overview of the 8(a) subsidiaries under BSNC.

Election Judge Erickson reported that the following directors were elected: Louise Bauman with 183,623.165 votes, Neal W. Foster with 181,231.695 votes, Stephan Ivanoff with 220,053.203 votes, Percy Nayokpuk with 197,549.310 votes and Lincoln Trigg Sr. with 182,754.053 votes.

Director Stephan Ivanoff presented the Elder of the Year Awards.

President Towarak thanked all those who attended and said he was very pleased with the turn-out of shareholders from out of town. Chairman Ivanoff thanked all the shareholders for attending.

Former Board of Director Charles Johnson congratulated Neal W. Foster for getting elected to the Board of Directors and thanked the Shareholders for the support they gave him for the last 27 years while serving on the Board of Directors. Chairman Ivanoff thanked Charles Johnson for his work and dedication to BSNC.

Shareholder Lela Oman gave the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.



## BSNC'S NEWEST & YOUNGEST DIRECTOR

Neal W. Foster is BSNC's newest and youngest Director. Neal graduated from Nome-Beltz High School in 1990 and earned a BBA degree in Finance from Stanford University and a BA degree in Political Science from the University of Alaska Anchorage. He also attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and attended an overseas program through Stanford at Oxford University in England.

Neal has run for election before and was elected on his second attempt. "To lend my business education and experience to support BSNC's financial health," said Neal of his interest on serving on the BSNC Board of Directors.

Neal is Corporate Treasurer of Sitnasuak Native Corporation (SNC), Vice President of Operations for SNC and Chairman of the SNC Finance Committee. He is also President of Government Bidding Services and Bonanza Fuel, Incorporated.

Neal enjoys flying his Cessna 172, camping at Hannum Creek near Deering, and doing marathons & triathlons. "I fly out to the villages during the summers, and I encourage people to stop me to ask questions or simply to say hi," said Neal of one of the places he likes to fly to.

Neal is the son of Representative Richard and Cathy Foster.

## BSNC DIVIDEND

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shareholders, and to thank them for their patience since BSNC reorganized in 1989," said Chairman of the Board Henry Ivanoff Sr. of Unalakleet.

Bering Straits Native Corporation, after many years of stabilizing its operations, invested gradually in subsidiaries providing government services in Alaska, Texas, California, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky and New Mexico; and management expects continued growth and profitability. As owner of several mineral prospects, including portions of the Rock Creek Mine, currently under development near Nome, the Company expects resource development to provide additional income in future years.



**President Tim Towarak presents \$100 to Virginia Harry of Shaktoolik. Virginia was the oldest shareholder, 87 years old, who attended the Shareholder Reception on February 22 in Anchorage.**

Do you need to update your shareholder information? If so, please complete the form below and mail to BSNC, Shareholder Department, Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762. If you know of a deceased BSNC shareholder, please advise our office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ New Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

Custodian for BSNC Shareholder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* For a name change, you must include the legal document for record.

# GIFTING SHARES: YES YOU CAN

## Giftng Shares

You CAN gift to:

- your child;
- your grandchild;
- your great grandchild;
- your niece or nephew; and/or
- your brother or sister (if you are at least 18 years old).

You CANNOT gift to:

- your friends;
- your spouse;
- your parent(s)
- your grandparent(s); or
- your aunt(s), uncle(s), or cousin(s).

Under the 1991 Amendments to the ANCSA (43 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), you may only give stock to a person who is your child, grandchild, great-grandchild, niece, nephew, brother or sister and who is also a Native or descendent of a Native. H.R. 3157 "The Alaska Land Status Technical Corrections Act of 1992," allows for gift of stock to siblings. The law defines a Native as a person who is at least one-fourth degree Alaska Indian, Eskimo or Aleut blood, or any combination; a descendant of a Native is a lineal descendant (child, grandchild, great-grandchild, etc.) of a Native or an adoptee of a Native or descendant of a Native is who is adopted before the age of 18. Once your gift is completed on the corporate books, the recipient of your shares will own and have all the stock rights for those shares, including the right to vote the shares at the shareholder meetings, to receive dividends and distributions on the shares, to bequeath the shares upon death, or to give the shares to a relative. Once gifting is completed, you will have no rights with respect to the shares you gave away.

If you are interested in the gifting process, please contact the Shareholder Department of BSNC at P.O. Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762 or call us at 907-443-5252 or toll-free at 1-800-478-5079.

Please note that if you are a shareholder of the village corporations of Sitnasuak (907 443-2632), Unalakleet (907 624-3411), Stebbins (907 934-3281) or Shishmaref (907 649-3751) and you wish to gift at the village level, you must contact the respective village corporation to request information and forms directly from them.

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## SONYA IVANOFF LAW

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Schubert and Loretta Bullard, Kawerak, testified during a number of hearings on the bill as it made its way through the Legislature. At the bill's first hearing, they urged the Senate State Affairs Committee to name the new law after Sonya Ivanoff, which the Committee did. Subsequently, Sonya's name was stripped from the bill because the Legislature almost never names new laws after people. Fortunately, her name was added back during the final Committee hearing on the bill. It passed the House on April 11, the Senate on April 13, and was sent to the Governor for signature on April 18.

The origin of the Sonya Ivanoff Act was the adoption by the BSNC Board of Directors on May 26, 2006 of a resolution calling for the Legislature to amend existing law to require a mandatory 99 year sentence for a peace officer convicted of murder in the first degree. This action was followed by the adoption of similar resolutions by Kawerak, Norton Sound Health Corporation, and Alaska Federation of Natives. The Board adopted the resolution for a number of reasons. First, law enforcement officers have a fundamental and sworn duty to serve the community, safeguard lives and property, protect the public, and respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice. The Board believed that law enforcement officers should rightfully be held to a higher standard because of their position of authority and responsibility.

The Board also considered the fact that Matt Owens used his authority to lure Sonya Ivanoff into his police vehicle, and then inexplicably murdered her. In so doing, he breached his fundamental duty as a police officer, and set forth a title wave of distrust against law enforcement officers and the judicial system that reverberated throughout the Native community and Western Alaska. In addition, during Matt Owens' sentencing hearing, the State's prosecutor Rick Svobodny cited current law mandating a 99 year sentence for individuals convicted of first degree murder of a peace officer, and stated that the same should hold true if a police officer is convicted of first degree murder while on duty. Judge Ben Esch agreed with Mr. Svobodny's rationale, and imposed the maximum sentence of 99 years plus two years for evidence tampering. The new law became effective on April 27, 2007.

BSNC would like to thank Senator Olson for his dedicated efforts to have this new law enacted, Representative Foster for his support in the House of Representatives, and Governor Sarah Palin for signing the Sonya Ivanoff Law into law. We also wish the family of Sonya Ivanoff Godspeed in their continued healing from this horrible crime. Sonya will live on forever in our hearts and minds, and in the state law named after her which is designed to ensure that no other person suffers her same fate. Even in her death, she has served to make a difference in the lives of all of Alaska's people.

# 2006 BSNC Eld

*Each year the Native Village Corporations select Elders of the Year and the awards are presented at the BSNC Annual Meeting of Shareholders.*

## **James Omiak**

### **Teller Native Corporation**



James Omiak was born in Little Diomedea in 1933; he is now a resident of Teller. James is 73 years young and has been happily living with Mary Killarzoac for many, many years. James has nine children: Fred, Brenda, Stella, Jimmy, Rudy, Dean Pushruk, Roy Agloinga, Diane Miller, and Susie Omiak. At the age of nine, James started carving bone and ivory. He learned from his uncle and

watched what the other boys carved. James has loved carving ever since. During Eskimo dance practice he enjoys drumming and watching the dancers. James always has a smile for everyone he meets.

## **Maggie A. Komonaseak**

### **Wales Native Corporation**

Maggie A. Komonaseak, 71 years old, was born to Winton and Carrie Weyapuk Sr. Maggie is the eldest surviving sibling to Winton Jr. & Walter Weyapuk. She completed her education up to the 8th grade because her parents needed her help in daily and subsistence activities. She married Silas Komonaseak and together they had 12 children, with 8 surviving, who gave them 27 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Silas and Maggie were very artistic in supplementing their income with handmade sealskin dolls sewn by Maggie and the delicate doll faces carved by Silas, who also carved ivory bracelets with intricate scrimshaw of geese, caribou and bears. Maggie retired in 1997 after 27 years of cooking for the Bering Strait School District.



She currently devotes her time crocheting dishcloths and making sure her grandchildren are growing fine. She is a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Through her support and guidance she continues to encourage her children and grandchildren on the importance of gathering and storing food. Maggie resides in Wales and "home" is where her heart is.

## **Winfred Olanna Sr.**

### **Brevig Mission Native Corporation**



Winfred Olanna Sr. was born April 10, 1931 at Shishmaref. Winfred was a good provider for his family and community during his early years. He still likes to camp and gather food whenever possible. Winfred is one of the few remaining elders in Brevig Mission. He loves to travel to the Lutheran Conferences within the Seward Peninsula.

## **Marie Saclamana**

### **Sitnasuak Native Corporation**

Marie was born on King Island in 1938 to Barbara and John Kokuluk, where they lived until 1952 when the family relocated to Nome. On December 16, 1961 she married the late Mike Saclamana and together they had 4 children. She is now a grandmother of 7 and a great-grandmother of 5. In 1990 Marie began teaching Art and Culture at Nome-Beltz instructing the youth various Native crafts such as beading, skin sewing and kuspuk making. In 2006 Nome Public Schools transferred Marie to the Elementary School where she now teaches bilingual classes. In the summer you will find Marie at her Wooley Lagoon camp, which is about 45 miles west of Nome. While at camp she is busy putting away greens, berries, birds and sea mammals, picked and caught by her and her family. Marie is a member of the King Island Dancers in Nome. With the dance group, Marie traveled to Greenland for the very first Inuit Circumpolar Conference. She has also traveled to Washington D.C. and to several dance festivals throughout Alaska. If you attend any practices you will find Marie in the front teaching the youth her dancing skills. It is Marie's determination in preserving her Native ways of knowing, her dedication for her family and her great love of her culture that Sitnasuak Native Corporation selects Marie Saclamana as Elder of the Year for 2006.



# e r s a f t h e Y e a r

## **Dina Sagoonick**

### **Shaktoolik Native Corporation**

Dina Asicksik was born at old Shaktoolik village (Mahghazuk) February 20, 1922 to Baayin and Frederick Asicksik. Dina had 4 sisters and 2 brothers. Dina attended the BIA Elementary School and her first teacher was Charles Menadelook, an Eskimo from Little Diomed. Dina married Nick Evan in December 1945 and together they had 6 daughters and 3 sons. They relied on subsistence, trapping and sewing. When Nick got tuberculosis he was given social security relief since he could not hunt, trap, or fish. He died July 31, 1983. Dina married Gustoff Sagoonick in December 1985. Gustoff was a reindeer herder and died in December 1995. Dina continues to rely on her strong faith and encourages



her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren to continue attending church, to be humble, and don't act big. Dina continues to lead them to church. She has served in the church for many years and has taught her children, grandchildren, and great-grand children to subsist. Today two of her great-grandchildren subsist for her and Gail Evan and her sisters pick berries for her. As old as she is, Dina is able to care for herself.

## **Franklin Okitkon**

### **Solomon Native Corporation**

The Solomon Native Corporation selected Franklin Okitkon as Elder of the Year, who was born June 26, 1928 in Ungalik. His parents were Martin and Esther Okitkon. His parents were reindeer herders in the White Mountain, Koyuk and Ungalik area. They raised Franklin along with six other siblings, all of whom have passed on. Franklin was raised speaking Inupiaq. Franklin retired from construction and was until last winter living in Solomon. After his brother Garfield passed on he has moved to Nome in the winter for health reasons. Franklin was in the Army and was honorably discharged. Franklin subsists as much as he can, is a regular at XYZ Senior Center, and enjoys driving his 4-wheeler around town to say hello to everyone. He spends his summers at Solomon enjoying the country and fishing.



## **Lucy L. Savetilik**

### **Shaktoolik Native Corporation**

Lucy L. Savetilik (Sookiayak-Sockpealuk) was born on May 1, 1930 on the Shaktoolik River at the old village of the Shaktoolik. Lucy is one of nine siblings born to Harvey and Rhoda Sookiayak, and is the only survivor of her family. Lucy attended the BIA Shaktoolik Elementary School. Lucy married Silas Sockpealuk in 1948 and together they raised two daughters and three sons. She is a survivor of tuberculosis and after being hospitalized for three years she returned back to the village. In the hospital she learned many arts and crafts. Lucy began cooking for the Shaktoolik School and retired after cooking for 25 years. Silas passed away in 1978 and in 1985 she married Dan Savetilik Sr. Lucy is a devoted Christian. She was involved in teaching Sunday School, sang in the church choir, volunteered as a church deaconess, and served as treasurer for the Sewing Circle. Lucy participated in city government. Lucy also supported her daughters by making fish strips and selling them to order them school clothes. She also sewed, knitted, and beaded to support her growing family. After retiring she built a cabin upriver and was an avid gardener until she could not walk on her own. Today she continues to enjoy the outdoors. She passed on her knowledge of a subsistence lifestyle to her daughters. She continues to eat subsistence foods, especially with her peers. Lucy is a member of the Shaktoolik Native Corporation and SNC is proud to select Lucy L. Savetilik for Elder of the Year for 2006.



## **Lily Amuktoolik**

### **Golovin Native Corporation**

The Golovin Native Corporation proudly announces Lily Amuktoolik as Elder of the Year 2006. Lily was born on February 22, 1939, and raised in Council and White Mountain. Lily married David Amuktoolik Sr. and moved to Golovin where they raised their 7 children: Laura Esparza, Marie Trigg, David Amuktoolik Jr., Bernice Brown, Darla Longley, Eric Amuktoolik, and their granddaughter Janet Amuktoolik. Lily worked for the City of Golovin on a contract from the United States Postal Service as the Post Master for over 40 years; for Bering Air as a Village Agent for 27 years; and commercial fished for 20 years. Lily has 21 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.



# Native Village Corporation News

## SHISHMAREF NATIVE CORPORATION

**Based in:** Shishmaref

**Shareholders:** 326

**Businesses It Operates:** Shishmaref Cable TV and Apartment Rentals.

**Date of Next Annual Meeting:** March 2008

### Board of Directors:

Tony Weyiouanna, President; Percy Nayokpuk, Vice President; Darlene Turner, Secretary; Curtis Nayokpuk, Treasurer; Reuben Weyiouanna, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Freida Eningowuk, Member; and Johnson Eningowuk, Member.

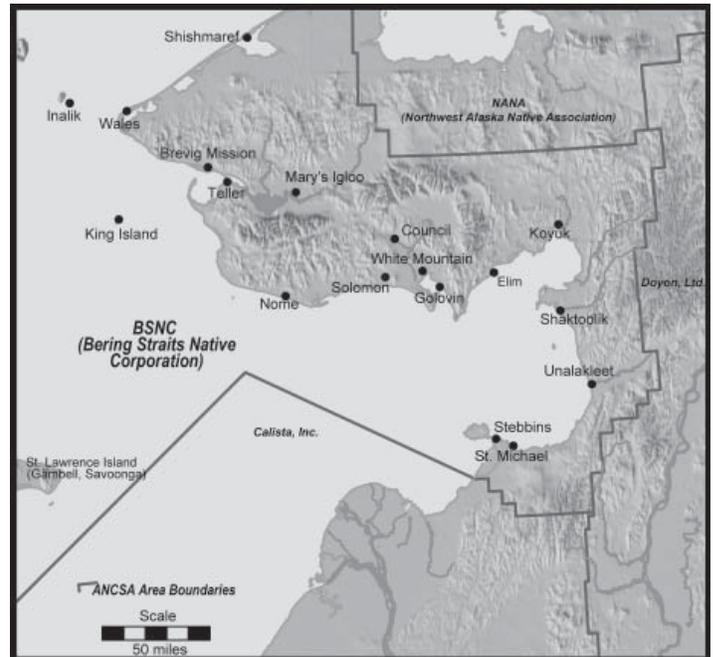
### What's going on:

The Board is nearing completion of its 14(c)(1) adjudications and is working with the US Army Corps of Engineers on easements for the Shishmaref Erosion Prevention Project.

### History:

The original Eskimo name for the island is "Kigiktaq." In 1816, Lt. Otto Von Kotzebue named the inlet "Shishmarev," after a member of his crew. Excavations at "Keekiktuk" by archaeologists around 1821 provided evidence of Eskimo habitation from several centuries ago. Shishmaref has an excellent harbor, and around 1900 it became a supply center for gold mining activities to the south. The village was named after the Inlet and a post office was established in 1901. The City government was incorporated in 1969. During October 1997, a severe storm eroded over 30 feet of the north shore, requiring 14 homes and the National Guard Armory to be relocated. Five additional homes were relocated in 2002. Other storms have continued to erode the shoreline, an average of 3 to 5 feet per year on the north shore. In July 2002, residents voted to relocate the community.

History information was obtained from the State of Alaska Community Database Online.



Elizabeth Nayokpuk holds the plaque and certificate presented in memoriam to Herbie Nayokpuk, "The Shishmaref Cannonball," at the Shishmaref Native Corporation Shareholders Annual Meeting held on March 31.



Delbert Eningowuk happily smiles for this picture after he received the Elder of the Year Award at the Shishmaref Annual Meeting. Delbert is joined by his sister Flora Weyiouanna.

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH ALASKA GOLD CO.

A SUBSIDIARY OF NOVAGOLD RESOURCES, INC.

It's a very exciting time to be apart of Alaska Gold Company (AGC). AGC construction activities continue at Rock Creek. In August of 2006, AGC began recruiting employees to construct the mine site. Currently, the Mill site is under construction and our Truck shop has been built.

## Employment Statistics

As of April 5, 2007, AGC has 39 employees and 9 more on hold pending pre-employment requirements.

Local	84.62%	BSNC Shareholders	25.64%
Native	48.72%	Sitnasuak Native Corp. Shareholders	17.95%



**Russell Saccheus, of Elim, completed the Fast Track Truck Driver Program in Palmer and is now employed as a Truck Driver/Operator with Alaska Gold Co. at Rock Creek.**

AGC is recruiting to fill these jobs immediately: Mine Foreman, Mine Supervisor, Mill Maintenance Supervisor, Mine Maintenance Supervisor, Haul Truck Operator, Chief Assayer, Grader Operator, Loader Operator, Assayer, Dozer Operator, Welder/Mechanic-Mine, Mill Supervisor, Surveyor, Purchasing Agent, Driller, Blaster, Environmental Technician.

Positions that will be recruited for in the near future include: Crusher Operator, Reagent/Tailing Operator, Security/First Aide, Officer, Sampler, Mill Mechanic, Instrumentation/Electrician Tech, Goodroom/Refinery Operator, Grind Operator, Plant Inst/Electrician Tech, Gravity/Float Operator, CIL/Carbon Operator, and Welder/Mechanic-Mill.

Contact Tiffany Martinson, Human Resources Manager at 907-443-4611 or e-mail [tiffany.martinson@novagold](mailto:tiffany.martinson@novagold) for employment information. In Nome you can stop by the office located on Front Street in the BSNC Building on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in suite 302.

## GOLOVIN HOSTS 2ND PEE WEE TOURNAMENT

Written by Renatta Olson, 4th grade.



**Melvin Hunt of Shaktoolik shoots a 3 pointer as his teammates and the White Mountain players wait to see if it goes in the bucket.**

On April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Golovin hosted a Pee Wee Basketball tournament. Five teams participated from Shaktoolik, Nome, White Mountain, Koyuk, and Golovin.

Golovin came out on top with a win against Koyuk (2<sup>nd</sup>). Shaktoolik beat Nome (4<sup>th</sup>) for third place. White Mountain received the Sportsmanship award for their quality play.

Many people and sponsors helped out to make this tournament possible. Countless volunteers aided tournament director, Chon Peterson. Also many people donated money and supplies to the tournament. We would like to thank the following people and organizations for making this tournament possible: Bering Straits Native Corporation, Lonnie O'Connor Iditarod Basketball Classic, Steff Andersen, Morgan Sales & Service, Q-Trucking, Hageland, Chuck & Peggy Fagerstrom, JT Sherman, Kimberly Gooden, Dean Pushruk, Rachel & Peter Olson, Jason & Erin Copenhaver, Terrence Merfeld, Gay & Gary Jacobson, Scotty Starr, Melanie Boser, Benny Seymour, Ike Larsen and NSEDC.

Ten players made the All Tournament Team. They are Thomas Amaktoolik & Alice Amaktoolik from Golovin, Alex Gray & Shayla Johnson from Nome, Asa Bergamashi & Precious Lincoln from White

Mountain, Heather Jackson & Vernon Rock from Shaktoolik, Joshua Dewey & Corey Saccheus from Koyuk. The Most Valuable Players of the tournament were John Peterson & Renatta Olson of Golovin.

Ten players made the Good Sport Team. They are Casey Sherman & Deborah Hersrud of Nome, Adrian Barr Jr. & Rayna Buck-Nassuk of White Mountain, Melvin Hunt & Jessie Paniptchuk of Shaktoolik, and Franklin Hoogendorn of Koyuk. Chon Peterson said, "Next year he hopes more teams will come to Golovin."

# WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE LAND & RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

BSNC's Land and Resource department has been busy over the winter getting ready for the upcoming summer. As reported in previous newsletters, BSNC is involved in the Rock Creek Mine project and interest in the region's other mineral holdings continues to grow. Last season Triex Minerals was investigating uranium potential on patented claims and BSNC's land north of Elim. NovaGold continues exploration in the Big Hurrah area, as well as other areas where BSNC holds the subsurface estate. Other commodities are on the rise so BSNC expects to see future interest in other mineral prospects such as tin.

All of the region's villages except Elim, Council, Savoonga and Gambell have had their final BLM cadastral surveys completed. Elim and Council will be surveyed this summer, and it is expected that final patents will be issued to the villages by late 2008. BSNC will soon be receiving patent to other lands in the region soon, including Lava Creek and Glacial Lake. Sixteen historical and cemetery sites have been conveyed to BSNC, and more are expected in the coming months.

An exciting project will be underway on BSNC lands this summer near the Pilgrim River Bridge. Three cabins will be constructed there, and BSNC is planning to allow rental of the cabins during the summer months. Since the cabins will also be insulated, they can be rented in the winter and springs months for snowmachine trips. This is a first step in BSNC's plans for improving our presence on corporation lands throughout the region. The Land and Resource Department is continuing research into the region's potential for winter and spring adventure tourism.

BSNC continues to hold semi-annual meetings with the Land staff from the village corporations. In conjunction with this April's meeting, BSNC organized two training sessions for participants from the villages: one in GPS use and another class in basic prospecting. It is encouraging and productive to have the village corporation participation in these meetings and the agenda for each meeting deals with a broad range of topics and issues. The next Village Lands gathering is scheduled for the days just prior to BSNC's Annual Shareholder Meeting in October.



Participants of the Land Manager Training and Meeting toured the Rock Creek Mine outside of Nome and are pictured in front of the ball mill. Left to Right: Sally Okpealuk, Brevig Mission; Lew Tobin, Kawerak; Rose Koezuna-Clark, BSNC; Marie Olanna, Brevig Mission; Irene Anderson, BSNC; Emily Murray, Golovin Native Corporation; Matt Ganley, BSNC; Esther Aukongak, Golovin Native Corporation; Nicole Johnston, White Mountain Native Corporation; Jimmy Carlisle, King Island Native Corporation; Ellen Richard, Wales Native Corporation; Tim Towarak, BSNC; Cynthia Ahwinona, Congressman Young's Office; Ed Schubert, Council Native Corporation; Joleen Fagundes, White Mountain Native Corporation; and Keith Lee, Alaska Gold Co. Not pictured: Reggie Barr, Brevig Mission Native Corporation; Mark Johnson, Unalakleet Native Corporation; Rose Ann Timbers, Solomon Native Corporation; and Bruce Tungwenuk, Sitnasuak Native Corporation.



*Our Mission*

*Dedicated to enhancing educational & cultural preservation opportunities for BSNC shareholders, their descendants, & the people of the Bering Straits region.*

**Bering Straits Foundation**

P.O. Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762  
110 Front Street, Suite 300  
(907) 443-5252

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS INCREASE

The Bering Straits Foundation Board of Directors met in January 2007 and approved increasing the scholarship award amounts. Beginning the Fall 2007 term, the college level scholarship for students who earn a 3.0 or higher GPA will be awarded between \$500 and \$1,000 a semester; for students who earn between a 2.0 and 2.99 GPA the amount will be increased from \$250 to \$400 a semester. Vocational Education students will receive \$500 instead of \$250.

The fall 2007 scholarship deadline for New Students, Continuing Students and Martin L. Olson scholarships is June 30. The BSF office must receive the application or it must be postmarked by June 30, 2007.

For an application go to [www.beringstraits.com](http://www.beringstraits.com) and click on the Bering Straits Foundation link. You may also call Rose at (907) 443-5252 or e-mail [rose@beringstraits.com](mailto:rose@beringstraits.com) for an application or to ask questions.



**Rose Koezuna-Clark dances to the beat of the drum.**

## MEET YOUR BSF SCHOLARSHIP CONTACT

Rose Koezuna-Clark was hired September 14, 2001 as BSNC Receptionist. Since then Rose has taken on additional responsibilities including accepting and reviewing the completion of the Scholarship Applications and presenting them to Scholarship Review Committee. Rose continues to work as a receptionist and provides assistance in information technology.

BSF processes between 50-70 applications each semester. Rose encourages applicants to turn in applications on time and to use the checklist provided on the application to ensure their application packet is complete. "I hate to turn away students who apply after the deadline," says Rose.

"Knowing that BSF is able to help fund students for higher education or vocational training in which they pursue," is a highlight of her role in the BSF Scholarship Program.

Rose enjoys Eskimo dancing when she is not at work. Rose is part of the King Island Eskimo Dance group and has been dancing since she was 9 years old. Magdalene Omiak, Rose's grandmother, encouraged and taught Rose how to dance as a young child.

***Graduating this Year? Let Us Know!***

BSNC shareholders or descendants of shareholder please email [kimberly@beringstraits.com](mailto:kimberly@beringstraits.com) your name, degree, when received, school you attended & your photo so that we may share the news in upcoming issues of the Agluktuk.

## NEW MEMBER JOINS BSF BOARD

Tabetha Toloff was born in Anchorage and was raised in Nikiski and Anchorage. She has family in Kenai and Seward and enjoys fishing with her grandfather, Charles Toloff, of Nikiski. She lives in Anchorage with her husband, daughter, and two step-sons and is the Program Officer for The CIRI Foundation. Tabetha is an active member of the Alaska Native Professional Association and currently serves as the Board Chair and on the Finance/Operations and Leadership Development Committees. Tabetha is a CIRI and Bering Straits Native Corporation shareholder of Russian and Athabaskan descent. She earned her A.A.S. degree in Business at UAA; her B.A. degree in Organizational Management at APU; and will graduate with her M.A. degree in Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University in August 2007.



**Tabetha Toloff--BSF's newest director.**

Tabetha has served on several nonprofit boards and is an active volunteer in the community. She works in conjunction with Cook Inlet Tribal Council's Partners for Success program and visits Alaska Native students in local middle and high schools to provide college and scholarship information to those who may be interested in pursuing a post-secondary education after high school.

**Bering Straits  
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*BSNC Mission Statement*

*To improve the quality of life of our people  
through economic development while  
protecting our land, and preserving our  
cultural heritage.*



**President Tim Towarak with Governor Palin, Alaska's youngest and first female governor.**



**Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii and President Tim Towarak at a reception in Washington, DC honoring Senators Inouye and Stevens.**

**BREVIK MISSION RECEIVES FINAL PATENTS**

Brevig Mission Native Corporation Board Members and BSNC Land Manager, Irene Anderson received the final Patents of ANCSA land for the Brevig Mission area. Lands were selected beginning in March 1974. The first Interim Conveyance of land to Brevig Mission was received in December 1979. Since then BLM handled the Native allotment applications, the public use easements and completed the survey. BLM staff Tom Sparks (Nome), Ramona Chinn (Deputy State Director for Conveyance) and Eileen Ford (Land Law Examiner) traveled to Teller and Brevig Mission on April 24, 2007. At Teller, Certificates of Conveyances were signed and presented with maps and signatory pens to the Board of Teller Native Corporation and shareholders of Mary's Igloo Native Corporation. At Brevig Mission the final Patents with the Certificate of Conveyance were signed and turned over to the President of the Brevig Mission Native Corporation, Reggie Barr.



**Front L-R: Marie Olanna, Matilda Nayokpuk, Sara Seetot, Ramona Chinn, Reggie Barr. Back L-R: Elmer Seetot, Irene Anderson, Warren Rock Sr., Sally Okpealuk, Walter Seetot.**