



# Gastineau Chatter

A more-or-less quarterly newsletter of the Pioneers of Alaska,  
Men's and Women's Igloo 6

March 2013

Vol. 13 No. 1

## Message From Men's and Women's Igloo Presidents

Thank you for electing us as your Presidents for 2013.

This will be an exciting and busy year as the Grand Igloo Convention is in Juneau in September. We will need lots of help on the committees. We will take any amount of time you can offer, whether it is a little or a lot.

I would also like to encourage our members to attend the convention in large numbers even if you are not a delegate. It will show that Juneau Pioneers' support the organization and it is an opportunity for those who are not able to travel to attend a convention.

**WILL YOU HELP??** We desperately need a person who is willing to take over the financial secretary position for the Women's Igloo. This position is a paid position (although a small amount). Suzanne Haight is currently doing this but she is working full time and is also the co-chair of the convention committee. She is stretched a little thin. We need her focus to be on the convention. Please contact Lorinda and she will give you more information about the position.

With the passing of Brother Wally DeBoff, Dan appointed Lyman Thorsteinson to fill out Wally's term as Historian for Men's Igloo #6. Brother Lyman is a brand-new member and may need a

little help along the way getting used to us. We love people who agree to jump right in and get busy. We welcome him into the Igloo and as Historian.

Thank you to Fred Thorsteinson and Carol Whelan who stepped up to join Dan Kassner and Peggy Cartmill on the Newsletter committee. If you would like to join, I know the committee would welcome additional members.

The number of members in both the Women's and the Men's Igloos is dwindling. The Men's Igloo has 160 members, a loss of 12 from last year. The Women's Igloo has 245 members, a loss of 16 from last year. We challenge each of you to actively pursue someone to join Pioneers. Talk to everyone you meet and, if they are eligible, encourage them to join.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a list of the current officers. If you have any questions, suggestions, complaints, or praise, we welcome your phone calls or e-mails.

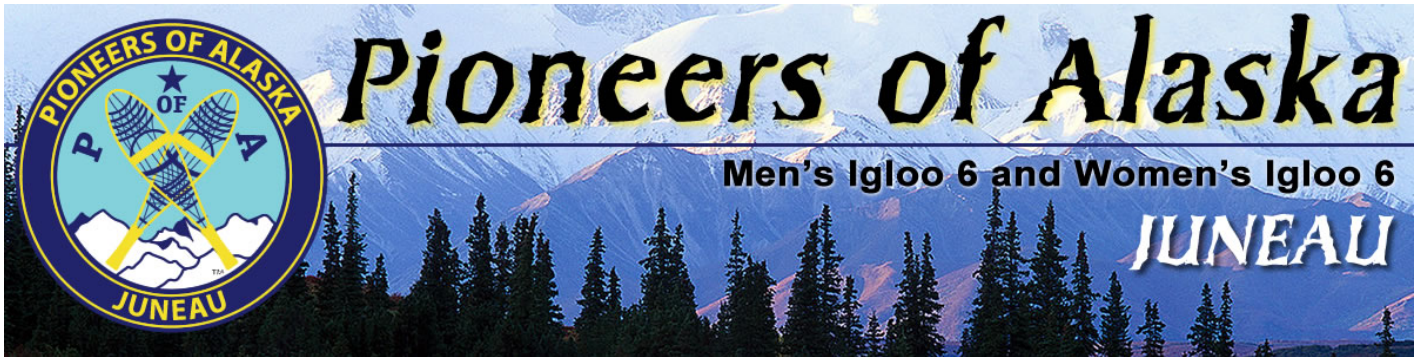
Lorinda Kassner  
President, WI #6

Dan A. Kassner  
President, MI #6

586-1213

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**Website:** [pioneersofalaskajuneau.org](http://pioneersofalaskajuneau.org)



We are proud to announce that we now have a website for Men's Igloo 6 and Women's Igloo 6. You will find information about the Pioneers of Alaska and our Igloos as well as information about the 97<sup>th</sup> Grand Igloo Convention, our Scholarship program, projects that we are working on, information about how to become a member and many other things. Fred Thorsteinson, Carol Whelan and Val Lind worked on the development of the website that was designed and will be operated by DS: PS in Soldotna. Check this out!

### **End of the Trail**

#### Men's Igloo

Thomas H Laurent  
Romer Elmer Derr  
James Henry Taylor  
Edmond N. Orbeck  
Duke J. Davis  
Kenneth Loken  
Lawrence Welp

#### Women's Igloo

Johanne Ask  
Carol Austin  
Ethelda Bisom  
Agnes Hagerup  
Esther MacDonald  
Peggy Mulligan  
Mabel Reddekopp  
Violet Seaberg  
Barbara Swanson  
Janna Swanson  
Mary Primrose Wright  
Kathryn Young

### **New Members**

#### Men's Igloo

Chuck Van Kirk  
John A. Sandor  
Lyman K. Thorsteinson  
Fred Bergander

#### Women's Igloo

Patricia Palmer  
Lynn Van Kirk  
Lenore Sandor  
Susan Thorsteinson  
Beverly Gelston

### **2013 Calendar**

Meetings are held at the Juneau Senior Center beginning with a social hour at 5:30 pm. Dinner is served at 6:00pm. The business meeting begins at 7:00 pm. See you there.

March 9	Sweetheart Dinner
March 22	Business Meeting
April 26	Business Meeting
May 5	King & Queen Regent Tea
May 31	Business Meeting
June 15	Picnic
July 4	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade
August 30	Home Coming Meeting
September 18 – 21	97 <sup>th</sup> Grand Igloo Convention
September 27	Business Meeting
October 25	Business Meeting
November 15	Business Meeting
December 6	Business Meeting

### **Show Your Colors**

Pioneers of Alaska jackets can be purchased at the Alaska Outdoor Wearhouse and Embroidery at 5449 Shaune Drive in Lemon Creek or you can purchase the patches from Bob Weiss and sew them on your own jacket. Pioneers of Alaska baseball hats are also available for \$15 plus shipping by contacting Fred Thorsteinson

### **Pointed Paragraphs**

A man who can turn his hand to anything is usually too lazy to make the turn

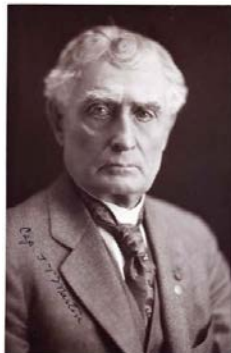
*Daily Alaska Empire March 11, 1913*

## 2013 Grand Igloo Convention

The 97th Grand Igloo Convention will be held in Juneau September 18<sup>th</sup> through September 21<sup>st</sup> at Centennial Hall. We are commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Men's Igloo Charter with the theme "True Blue and Gold". The convention begins on Tuesday September 18<sup>th</sup> with a Mug Up, Registration, a tour of the Juneau Pioneers Home and a reception at the Mt Roberts Tram. The convention will open on Wednesday. The Women's Lunch will be held at the Baranof Westmark and there will be lots of fun at the Skit Night that evening. Business will continue on Friday, the Men's Lunch will be held at the Baranof Westmark. The Grand Ball will be the main event that evening. Business will be completed on Saturday and the Grand Banquet will complete the events.

## 100 Year Anniversary of Men's Igloo 6 Charter

Men's Igloo 6 received its charter from the Grand Igloo on April 4, 1913. The first President of the Igloo was J. T. Martin (photo)



The other officers were:

1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Grover C. Winn
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	James McKenna
Secretary	E. Lang Cobb
Treasurer	Emery Valentine
Historian	Rev L. F. Jones
Sergeant at Arms	Trevor Davis
1 Year Trustee	J. M. Davis
2 Year Trustee	Captain Whitney
3 Year Trustee	Martin George

## 2013 Scholarships

We awarded one scholarship in 2012 to Auriel Clark, who is the granddaughter of Herriot Botelho. This year we plan to award two \$2,000 scholarships. The applicants must be descendants

of members of Pioneers of Alaska Men's Igloo 6 or Women's Igloo #6 who reside within the boundaries of the Juneau Douglas School District. Application forms for the 2013 Scholarship are available at the counselor's offices at Juneau Douglas High School and Thunder Mountain High School. The applications must be turned in by April 15, 2013.

## 2013 Officers

Grand President Jerry Krier installed the Men's and Women's officers at the January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Women's Igloo 6

President	Lorinda Kassner
1st Vice President	Mary Lou Meiners
2nd Vice President	Pat Berryhill
Historian	Mary Ann Welp
Chaplain	Jean Hunt
Sergeant at Arms	Joy Baker
Inner Guard	Dorothy Burnett
Treasurer	Cheryl Jebe
Financial Secretary	Suzanne Haight
Recording Secretary	Carol Thorsteinson
1 Year Trustee	Virginia Calloway
2 Year Trustee	Barbara Potter
3 Year Trustee	Carol Whelan
Marshall	Karen Bonnett-Petersen

### Men's Igloo 6

President	Dan Kassner
1st Vice President	Brad Austin
2nd Vice President	Fred Thorsteinson
Historian	Lyman Thorsteinson
Chaplain	Gary Horton
Sergeant at Arms	Gordon Taylor
Inner Guard	Doug Whelan
Treasurer	Dan Kassner
Financial Secretary	Bob Weiss
Recording Secretary	Fred Thorsteinson
1 Year Trustee	Bob Cartmill
2 Year Trustee	Bill West
3 Year Trustee	Don Burford

## **Women's Igloo 6 History**

### **1937 Women's Auxiliary President**

#### **Crystal Brilliant Snow Jenne**



Crystal Snow was born in Sonora, California on May 30, 1884. She was a talented child actress, dancer and soprano. The family arrived in Juneau on the Olympian on April 24, 1887, when Crystal was just three years old. She and her older brother Montgomery are considered to be the first white children to cross Chilkoot Pass. They

traversed that arduous trail in 1894, before that pass became famous as a route to the Klondike Gold Rush. The children were accompanying their actor parents, George T. and Anna Snow, to gold camps at Circle City in the Alaska Territory and Fortymile and Dawson in Yukon Territory.."

The Snows performed at the opera house in Circle City from 1895 to '96, putting on shows such as "Camille" and "Uncle Tom's Cabin." They moved to a cabin across from Dawson in the autumn of 1897.

Jean Murray, in "Music of the Alaska-Klondike Gold Rush," writes that the family had "a three-octave organ in tow" when they went over the Chilkoot. Murray describes George Snow as "a theater manager," responsible for building Circle's two-story opera house, "the first in Alaska." Murray also says that the family prospected on Bonanza Creek in Dawson and took out gold worth \$78,000. Another source says that when news of the gold strike at Nome reached the family, they headed there via the Yukon River, "shooting the rapids on a raft." In 1899, the family was in Seward. Here, at 15, Crystal ate her first fresh fruit - an apple that cost a dollar.

The Snows finally decided to settle in Juneau. Because of her peripatetic childhood, Snow had not attended school regularly, but was tutored by her mother. She was admitted to the eighth grade by examination. Snow attended Juneau High School, graduating in 1905 as the sole member of her class. The Log says that she then went to the Lower 48 for voice instruction, but strained her vocal chords and could not speak louder than a whisper for more than

a year. "When her plans were frustrated, Snow channeled her ambition into other directions".

Snow attended normal school and the University of California at Berkeley, earned a teaching certificate and taught school in California until returning to Alaska to teach in Douglas from 1907 to '08. During the summer of 1908, Crystal gave a concert tour of mining camps along the creeks of Alaska and the Yukon Territory with pianist Dazie Stromstadt.

From 1908 to 1916, she lived as free a life as was possible for a single woman of her era. She studied shorthand in Ohio. She worked in Vancouver as a clerk in the office of the Yukon & Southeast Alaska Publicity Bureau. She taught in Sitka, working after-hours and Saturdays at the U.S. Experimental Agricultural Station as a secretary. After teaching in the Mendenhall Valley area and in Juneau, she married Dr. Charles P. Jenne, a dentist, in 1916, and bore three children. During this period she continued to direct and participate in musical performances and church choirs.

In addition to being a performer, Snow was a talented creative writer who penned poetry and music and kept journals. Her ease with the public and her polished stage presence were valuable assets as she became prominent in Juneau history. In civic affairs, she was a member of the National Professional & Business Women's Club, the Juneau Woman's Club, the Alaska Federation of Women's Clubs, the Democratic Women's Club and various other committees and organizations.

In 1934, Snow became the first woman candidate to file for Alaska Territorial House of Representatives. Her campaign was unsuccessful, but she was undeterred. Two years later, she was the first woman candidate to file for Alaska Territorial Senate. She was again unsuccessful. Nevertheless, her political career continued until 1956, during which period she waged various Territorial House and Senate campaigns. Snow served as Territorial House Representative from 1941 to '44. In 1942, she became the first woman re-elected to an Alaska legislative seat. If you receive mail at your home, give thanks to Jenne. She initiated house-to-house delivery during her tenure as Juneau Postmaster from 1944 to '55. Jenne became a widow in 1938. From 1938 to 1944 she owned and operated the Forget-Me-Not Flower Shop. She died June 5, 1968, at the Pioneers Home in Sitka.

*Juneau Empire Jan 14, 2004, Ann Chandonnet*

## 2013 King and Queen Regent Announced



**Bob Cartmill and Mary Ann Welp introduce Mary Lou Meiners the Women's Igloo 6 Queen Regent**

Doug Boddy and Mary Lou Meiners were announced as the King and Queen Regents for 2013 at the Sweetheart Dinner on March 9. The Tea and Crowning Ceremony will be held at the Juneau Pioneer Home on May 6 beginning at 2:00 pm.

## March Business Meeting Rescheduled

The March Business Meeting date has been changed from March 29<sup>th</sup> to March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Grand Igloo Historian Fred Thorsteinson will do a presentation on the Wreck of the Clara Nevada.



## Sweetheart Dinner

This year's Sweetheart Dinner was a formal event and a huge success. The ceiling was decorated with blue and gold lights to represent the colors of our state flag and the northern lights. Dinner began with a crab puff appetizer, followed by a salad, roast beef, mashed potato, sautéed vegetables and rolls. Dessert was a variety of cookies and cupcakes with ice cream. The meal was prepared by Abby's Kitchen and coffee was provided by Reliable Transfer. Dinners were serenaded by piano music. See pictures on our website.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE MARCH BUSINESS MEETING HAS BEEN  
RESCHEDULED FROM FRIDAY MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> TO FRIDAY  
MARCH 22ND

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