



WE WON THE GRANT!!!

JUNE 2001



Newsletter

Kasaan Haida Heritage Foundation



Update on Ga'saa'an Xaadas Guusuu

The Kasaan Haida Interview project has officially started. Willard Jones, Project Director, organized a "seaweed gathering" harvest event that was videotaped by Fred Olsen Jr., with over 7 years experience in media production. Willard Jones provided the use of his boat the "Gypsy Rose," and piloted the crew to the seaweed grounds. Seaweed was picked, dried, ground up, and packaged primarily by Eleanor Hadden and Jeane Breinig with assistance from Fred. In addition to filming, Fred helped Willard with boat duties as well as keeping a keen eye out for "Lady Slippers." Luckily, Fred spent 10 summers fishing with his dad, so the boat had at least one experienced crew person.

Fred will use his media expertise to edit portions of interviews conducted this summer into a video, with will be available to interested Kasaan people at a discount. Eleanor and Jeane will be the primary persons who will interview, transcribe, and edit the written versions of individual audio interviews conducted with elders, which will also be made available in separate hard copy. John Campbell and Kenneth Gordon have also volunteered to conduct interviews with family and others close to them. Depending on availability of funds, more than one video may be produced. In any case, the final products will be valuable documents for us to have and to pass on to our children and grandchildren. Elders who participate in the interviews will receive gifts of seaweed from the Project staff.

The Project staff hopes to conduct some of the interviews this summer in Kasaan, following the Annual cemetery clean up. If you would like to volunteer your time or resources to this Project, please contact Project Director Willard Jones at 907-247-2618, email ktnjones@ktn.net, or FAX 907-247-2617.



Donors

(In the order they were received within each category)

K'a'aang

Hemlock (Up to \$100)

Erma Lawrence in honor/memory of Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Baronovich
Catherine Kerstetter in honor/memory of Anna & Louis Jones
Melinda White in honor/memory of Louise & Melinda Jones
Alton McAllister IV in honor/memory of David & Annabelle Peele
Audrey Escoffon in honor/memory of Eliza Mary Young McAlpin
Henry M. Brouillette in honor/memory of Robert R. Young, Sr.
Minnie E. Stevens in honor/memory of all old timers, especially The Peeles

Ts'ahl

Pine (\$101 - \$499)

John Campbell
Shelly Smith in honor/memory of Dorothy Evener
Eleanor Hadden in honor/memory of Louis & Anna Jones, George Jones,
Henry Jones and Raymond Jones

Ts'u'u

Red Cedar (\$500 - \$999)

Kenneth Gordon
Elaine M. Privett in honor/memory of Edward L. Young Sr.
Louis L. Jones, Sr. in honor/memory Raymond & Laura Jones

Sgahla'ang

Yellow Cedar (\$1,000 or more)

Della Coburn in honor/memory of Anna Frank Jones, *Taaslaanas Raven**
Chris & Jeane Breinig in honor/memory of Henry Jones, *Taaslaanas Raven*
Caroline Hendrixson in honor/memory of Robert Phillip Young
Organized Village of Kasaan
Julie R. Coburn in honor/memory of Christian L. Coburn, *Taaslaanas Raven*
Sealaska Heritage Foundation

**If you would like your clan name identified with your donation, please let us know.*

Through these generous donations we have
raised over \$10,600!

A huge Hla'waa to all who have donated!



To Make Your Donation:

Make your check payable to:

Kasaan Haida
Heritage Foundation

and mail it to:

Kasaan Haida
Heritage Foundation
c/o Kaviilco, Inc.
600 University St.,
Ste 3010
Seattle, WA 98101

IRS code 501(c)(3),
EIN 92-0169568





Yahkwda'ng

We would like to recognize and pay respect to those Elders we hope will contribute their special knowledge to this project.

Pauline Blackstad

Erma Lawrence

Catherine Kerstetter

Harriet McCallister

Mae Leask

Julie Coburn

Caroline Hendrixson

Willard Jones

Ernest Jones

We also hope to add the perspective of the "younger" Elders:

Louis Thompson, Fred Olsen Sr., and Louis Jones, Sr.



Ha'waa to all the people who already have or will volunteer time or resources towards this important project: Willard Jones, Fred Olsen, Jr., Jeane Breinig, Eleanor Hadden, John Campbell, Kenneth Gordon and Della Coburn.



Milestones



Willard & Mary Jones Celebrate 50th Anniversary

On March 10, 2001 Willard & Mary Jones celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a party hosted by the children and grandchildren at the Ted Ferry Civic Center in Ketchikan, Alaska. Two hundred fifty (250) friends and family were in attendance to help celebrate this Golden Anniversary. They were married in the First Presbyterian Church in Sitka on March 15, 1951.

Henry Jones Graduates

Henry Jones graduated May 12th with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Minor in Psychology from the New Mexico State University and has been accepted at Syracuse Law School in New York this Fall. His wife, Crystal, graduated at the same time with a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice.



Application made for National Register of Historical Places

In March Louis A. Thompson, President and CEO of Kavilco completed the work necessary to nominate Chief Son-I-Hat's Whale House, the Totem Park and Cemeteries near Kasaan registered as National Historic Places. In early April Mr. Thompson received a letter from Joan M. Antonson, State Historian, State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of History and Archaeology stating that she had received the nomination and that it "will be put on the agenda to be considered by our state review board, the Alaska Historical Commission". If these areas are successfully granted registration as a National Historic Places, only then can application for grant funds be made to preserve the building, totems and cemeteries.



Skowal's house, 1902

Chief Skowal Pole

John Campbell is working on a documentary about the journey of the Chief Skowal pole from its creation to its present location in the basement of the Ketchikan Totem Heritage Center. "I started out only wanting to access some production equipment for the Kasaan Haida "Elders Speak" project," John said. "I met Dan Hart, the director of *Native Voices* at a Pow Wow. *Native Voices* focuses on Native American films such as "White Shamans and Plastic Medicine Men" which tells of white America adopting Native culture and religion as their own and commercializing it. For example, some people charge to go on "vision quests" or "sundances", which is a total desecration of the ceremonies.

Dan talked me into taking a class so that I

could officially access the equipment. As a part of the class I had to develop a proposal for a documentary. Dan simply asks students to come up with their own ideas and helps them to develop the idea into a feasible documentary. My idea was to tell a story not only of the Skowal pole's journey, but of the culture that is embedded in its creation. The underlying story interwoven in the production will be of colonialism, assimilation, cultural appropriation, cultural exploitation, and the pride of the Kaigani Haida of Kasaan, Alaska as we struggle for the continuance of our culture. The research is tedious, but gratifying. I have discovered several hundred pictures, articles and reports of and about Kasaan, and keep finding more all the time. Right now I am getting archival pictures of Old Kasaan together to digitize for inclusion in the film."



Memorial

Marjorie E. Sinclair

Marjorie E. Sinclair passed away on February 6, 2001 at the age of 90 after a long illness. She was born in Kasaan on December 12, 1910 to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas L. Baronovich. She attended Sheldon Jackson School and graduated in 1934 with a \$300 scholarship to attend college. She attended school in Ellensburg and went to Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree. After graduating she took a staff position at Sheldon Jackson and went on to teach school throughout Alaska for 30 years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. During her retirement she was a regular attendee at the Kavalco Annual meetings, including the one held last November. She is survived by her brother Edwin Baronovich and her sister Erma Lawrence.

Henry "Hank" Max Brouillette Jr.

Henry Brouillette (Sk'an doo'u) passed away on May 21, 2001 in Ketchikan, Alaska. He was born April 22, 1941 in Juneau, served 5 years in the Air Force, worked as a logger and fisherman and retired from the Alaska Marine Highway System. He regularly attended Kavalco's Annual meetings. Donations can be made to the Ketchikan Volunteer Rescue Squad in his honor.

Haida Word of the Week

Here are words still used by our Elders. For pronunciation, we encourage you to ask an Elder.

Week 1

<u>Haida Word</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
a'yaa	I don't know

Week 2

<u>Haida Word</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
ha'akwsdaa	hurry

Week 3

<u>Haida Word</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
K'a'aw	herring eggs

Week 4

<u>Haida Word</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
sata'w	ooligan grease

Week 5

<u>Haida Word</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
sga'wsiiit	potato

Week 6

<u>Haida Word</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
ja'adaa	to be a woman

Week 7

<u>Haida Word</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
i'ihlangaa	to be a man

Week 8

<u>Haida Word</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
yahkwda'ng	to respect

Thanks to Julie Coburn for helping to select Haida words from the Verb Dictionary compiled by Erma Lawrence.



Give Us YOUR Suggestions & Contributions

If you have any suggestions or if you would like to submit an idea to our new newsletter about cultural heritage activities you think others might be interested in, please send them to:

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