

Kasaan Haida Heritage Foundation Newsletter

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Sweet Caroline Celebrates 80 Years

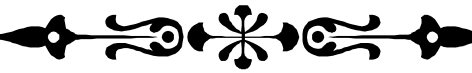


Photo by Brian Coburn

Caroline Hendrixson celebrated her 80th birthday, March 11, 2005 at a party hosted by her daughter Audrey Escoffon in Kasaan. About 40 people attended the event, including a surprise appearance by Caroline's sister Sheena Berger who traveled from Seattle, Washington. Caroline's youngest daughter Audrey prepared a special dinner including some of Caroline's favorite dishes: sweet and sour pork, egg foo young and pork fried rice. Her oldest daughter, Ardath Peterson flew in from Ketchikan with lumpia, and Julie Coburn contributed pork long rice. Audrey made a beautiful birthday cake consisting of five crème-filled cakes designed in the shape of "80."

Caroline is known for her quiet generosity and artistic talent. She has contributed every year to the KHHF fundraising event. In addition to cases of specialty jams, wild beach asparagus and other home-jarred specialties, Caroline has twice donated her handcrafted Haida drums as special prizes, which generated lots of excitement and bidding competition.

Caroline's Haida name is *Guun duu gaa* (Sound of a drum). She is Raven, Brown Bear, Táas 'Láanaas clan (Sand Beach People).



Kasaan Ladies



Three generations of Caroline's family.
Back row L to R: Granddaughter Amanda Hendrixson, daughter Ardath Peterson, daughter Audrey Escoffon, granddaughter Eliza Wallace. Front row L to R: Sister Sheena Berger, Caroline Hendrixson. Photo courtesy of Caroline Hendrixson.



Guess Who?

Julia (Jones) Coburn and Caroline (Young) Hendrixson: clan sisters, second cousins and best pals, circa 1938.
Photo courtesy of Julie Coburn.





Donations



Thanks to all who have contributed funds to support the Kasaan Haida Heritage Foundation. A special thank you to Kavalco for financial assistance with publishing this Newsletter and Deanna Kaulay's time dedicated to this and other KHHF projects. We have launched a major new fundraiser to support new projects we'd like to develop including: clan house restoration, elders' interviews and language revitalization. This Donation Tree recognizes donations made since November 2004. Please help us keep it full.

Donation Tree

K'áang

Hemlock (Up to \$100)

Julie Coburn (in memory of Christian L. Coburn)

Harold J. Geiger & Sigrid K. Dahlberg

Geretta Heiligenmann

Catherine Kerstetter (in memory of Raymond Jones)

Erma Lawrence (in memory of Margorie Sinclair & Vincent Baronovich)

Paula & Keith Sartorius-Eland

Jean Van Holder

Alessandro Vettori

Ts'ahl

Pine (\$101 - \$499)

Laird A. Jones (in memory of Henry Jones)

Louis & Paige Jones

Lucia A. Macro

Andrew Olah

Ts'úu

Red Cedar (\$500 - \$999)

Chris & Jeane Breinig

(in memory & honor of Anna Frank & Louis Lear Jones & all their children)

Louis & Paige Jones

*(in memory/honor of "our loved ones we have known in the past,
the ones we know now and the ones who will carry on when we are gone")*

Sgahláang

Yellow Cedar (\$1,000 or more)

From Frederick Olsen, Jr., Media Specialist

We thank you for your patience. This year, fundraising and organizing has taken longer than expected. However, we have taken some steps toward our goals. We have updated and reformatted the KHHF website.

We have added a "How to Give" page where those interested can donate online by credit card. We have added Haida words and phrases spoken by Kasaan elders. Visitors to the website can click and listen to these short clips.

Next year, we hope to do more recording of our elders speaking Haida. We will add more audio clips to the site and add video, too. At the Kavalco annual dinner, we will show a few example clips – a sort of “Coming Attractions.” Another project for next year will be to put the Gásaáan Xaadas Guusuu (Kasaan Haida Elders Speak) video onto DVD.

We hope for your continued support as we make further progress to document and preserve those things that make the Kasaan Haidas unique.

Please send your **tax-deductible donations** via check, money order or **PayPal** (www.kavalco.com/KasaanHaidaHeritageFoundation/HowtoGive)

Make your check or money order payable to: **Kasaan Haida Heritage Foundation**

Mail to: **Kasaan Haida Heritage Foundation**
c/o Kavalco, Inc.
600 University St., Ste 3010
Seattle WA 98101

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

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR DONATION

Please print your name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Amount of donation _____

Designate to Media Specialist: Check Here _____

In memory/honor of _____

Milestones



Honoring Willard Jones:



Photo by Francine Eddy Jones

Willard retired from the Kivilco Board in 1993 after serving over 20 years as a Board member. Serving on the Board has been only a part of his contributions to Haida, Tlingit and Tsimshian people. Here is a brief summary of Willard's contributions.

Willard's activism started many years before he became a Kivilco Board member. In 1959, while in Sitka working on building the Sitka Pulp Mill, he became active in the Sitka ANB/ANS. While attending college in Oakland, California from 1961-65, he was involved with American Indian issues: the planning of the Alcatraz takeover; keeping the Indian Center in Oakland open; and the early organization of the Tlingit and Haidas.

When Willard and family moved from Oakland to Ketchikan, he became involved in the Ketchikan IRA, Ketchikan ANB/ANS. He was Grand Vice-President with Walter Soboloff, Grand President, involved with Tlingit and Haida, and sang in the Presbyterian choir. In addition to his community work, Willard also took interest in Indian art – silver carving, drawing, basketry, woodcarving/masks, and selling authentic Native note cards. He was instrumental in forming a Native Gallery to give Native artists better prices for their work in the tourist trade. He studied with Steve Brown, Nathan Jackson, and Duane Pasco to make tools and masks, and is currently taking Haida language classes and basketry classes from Delores Churchill and Diane Willard.

In 1979, concerned about the high Native dropout rates, Willard was elected to the Ketchikan School Board. He traveled to one national school board convention in San Francisco and represented the school board at the Upward Bound program – teaching children about government.

Early on Willard was elected as Kivilco's interim Chairman and represented the village of Kasaan during the signing of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) at the Alaska Methodist University Center (now Alaska Pacific University) in Anchorage in 1971. The government had challenged the legality of Kasaan being included in the bill, questioning whether there was the required number of Kasaan residents to qualify. The issue appeared before a court, and as acting Chairman, Willard organized Kasaan elders to testify as to the validity of Kasaan being a bona fide village. The ruling was ultimately approved in Kasaan's

favor and we remained in the bill. At his retirement, Willard provided the following thoughts (abridged/paraphrased) regarding his tenure as a Board member.

“Much has happened to the Haidas of Kasaan over the past 22 years and I would like to share some of my thoughts with the shareholders.

Incorporating as a profit-making corporation was an important decision we made. Documented history and information [shows] that most companies fail within the first five-years, and although we have in our constitution to live in perpetuity, forever is a long time. Next, the selection of the township – 23,040 acres – was challenging and rewarding. We had to make a decision on every quarter section of land for the highest yield timber. Though not a Board member when we had our first sale of timber and the establishment of the debentures, I was there when the course of the Corporation was established.

As a Board member, and if my emotions could be shown as a Wall Street graph, it would show the lows of the depression and the highs of inflation, deflation, arbitration, margin account, SEC, straddle, treasury bill, stocks, bonds, and of course, dividends.

If there is one thing that helps determine my thoughts, it is the knowledge that I was not born when my ancestors started to claim their land. I thank them for their efforts and many sacrifices. I felt that it was my duty to protect the Corporation for the generations yet to be born.”

Willard remains active in the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and has continued his dedication to this cause. Even though Willard retired from the Board, he has attended every Kasilco Annual Meeting, has been willing to share his thoughts on Board policies, and has been active with projects in the newly established Kasaan Haida Heritage Foundation (KHFF). He provided his boat to assist in making KHFF's video project “Gásaáan Xaadas Guusuu Project (Kasaan Elders Speak).

Willard has actively researched Kasaan Haida family lineages, and helped other families with their family trees. He has remained active in Ketchikan ANB/ANS, and has been a strong supporter of his wife’s activities (including her family tree), and her service on the KIC Health Board, and participated in the 2005 Tlingit & Haida Elders Conference in Juneau. He has visited numerous museums, federal and state archives, church archives, interviewed other elders, experts and anthropologists. His wife, Mary, has traveled and worked on these projects with him, a labor of love.

During the Kasaan Elders Speaks project, Willard provided his thoughts (paraphrased edited form) about what we should be teaching our children in the interviews:

What should we be teaching our children about being Haida?

“That’s something we wrestle with quite often, you know, because we live in this changing world, and it’s changing all the time, [be]cause we’ve adapted.

“[Living] in a changing world and I think what we have to do is define, where we are today and what’s important from the past, and I think this project will be one of the planks of culture that we need to have today. Because a lot of the values that were taught were lost or changed early on, and for a long time there was ... nothing to replace it. But we’ve learned and are learning from the Haidas in Masset on what’s important.

So what do we need to teach?

“Teach the good things about being Haida—respect, identification of who you are...not the fact that you have got the biggest totem pole, or the most wealth, but the fact that you’ve done [something good], or you are part of that—understand what it is. That’s one tangent of what we should be teaching.”

“We have to redefine what it is to be Haida...so what do we teach? We teach them what we know, and what we can learn, the legends, the stories that imply social behavior, the dancing, how you place an importance on your guest, how to give gifts, and what you do when you’re giving a gift. Now those are important to [us] as people.”

Willard’s family members are his wife of 54 years Mary Jones; daughter Eleanor and her husband Ron Hadden, and their children Kristopher and wife Sara, and Jennifer Hadden of Anchorage; son Laird and his wife Francine Eddy Jones, and their son Justin of Juneau. Willard’s parents are the late Louis Lear Jones and Anna (Frank) Jones of Kasaan. He was born in Kasaan in 1930, Raven moiety of the Brown Bear (Táas ’Láanaas clan). His Haida name is Naas tao (grease house, or box).

A Big Háw’aa to Last Year’s Raffle Donors!

Last year’s raffle was a big success and brought in approximately \$1,094. Thanks for all your generous contributions! Our challenge this year is to double the amount.

Last Year’s Generous Donors:

Caroline Hendrixson: Handcrafted Haida Drum, 3 pints Grindall seaweed, 1 case smoked sockeye, 1 case elderberry jelly, 1 case huckleberry and blueberry jam.

Opal Olsen: Haida Specialty Creations—Miniature cedar woven basket and hand-beaded medicine pouch necklace.

Jay Miller: Hand carved Haida silver bracelet (love bird design).

Diane Willard: Haida design watch and 3 pairs of handmade beaded earrings.

Diane and George Demmert: Jarred deer meat, 1 case wild asparagus, 1 case wildberry jam, hand-crocheted dish cloths.

Ramona Hamar: 1 gallon hard-smoked King salmon strips.

Julie Coburn: 1 case elderberry and blueberry jam, 4 pints Grindall seaweed.

Louis and Paige Jones: Electric racecar, 8 wooden snow sleigh baskets and 2 baskets for raffle use.

Melanie and Steve Locklear: 5 cans smoked geoduck, 5 cans smoked King salmon.

Erma Lawrence: 1 pint Grindall seaweed.

Jeane Breinig: Homemade “Haida Maid” chocolate chip cookies.

Willard and Mary Jones: Hand-made Bear pillow.

Linda White and Catherine Kerstetter: 1 case apple butter, 1 case applesauce.

Calling All Generous Haidas to Donate!

Last year’s grand prize “traditional native food” basket went over well and we’d like to once again call upon our generous Kasaan Haida people to contribute. Jeane Breinig will get the ball rolling by donating a pint of *satáw* (hooligan oil). For the grand prize basket, we are looking for all of our favorite Haida foods: hard smoked fish, smoked sockeye, deer meat, soap berries, jams, jellies, asparagus, seaweed, smoked geoduck, jarred gumboots, or anything else delicious you can add. We also welcome donations of any kind for other baskets: children’s Christmas gifts (the electric racecar was a hit last year), sweet goodies, holiday towels, kitchen items, or anything else you imagine someone would enjoy winning. Donations will be assembled Thursday, November 3. If you need your items picked up, leave a message for Jeane Breinig at the Cape Fox Lodge and she will get them. *Háw’aa* in advance for your Haida generosity!

We need empty baskets to be filled with raffle items. Did you win a basket last year? Please donate your empty baskets so we can fill them again!

Haida Word of the Week

Dr. Erma Lawrence continues to dedicate her time to teaching Haida to everyone who wants to learn. Below is a sample of her contributions that can be found on the Sealaska Heritage Institute website. Go to <http://www.haidalanguage.org/sounds-of-haida.html> to practice your Haida pronunciation with her voice as your model.

Haida Word – English Translation

awáa – mother

áal – paddle

gantl – water

gé – no

jáadaa – woman, girl

sablii – bread

You can also learn some basic Haida phrases, recorded by Erma Lawrence in Ketchikan in 2003. The phrases are based upon her book *Kúlang Sk'at'áa* (Learning Your Language) originally published in 1978. The phrases can be found at <http://haidalanguage.org/basic-phrases.html>.

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*See the KHHF Newsletter in full color on our website.