

# Kenai Rotary E News

Rotary Club of Kenai, Club # 100



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## Alaska Day & Seward's Day

*October 18, 1867.....and it's the Territory of Alaska,  
United States of America.*

It was at 3:30pm, Alaska time the Russian Flag was lowered at the Governor's House, Fort Sitka and the American flag was immediately attached to the lanyards and raised, signifying the official transfer of **377,084,160 acres** of the most beautiful land in North America. 250 US soldiers marched to the Governor's House, accompanied by Russian troops and ships at anchor in Sitka Bay. At the instant that the American flag was posted to the top, the big gun of the Ossipee fired, reverberating from the surrounding mountains. The end of 68 years of Russian rule.

Alaska was "just a waste of money" and "Seward's Folly" to most Americans. What would they do with an "icebox" way up there? It took 30 years, and then in 1897 it's **Gold!!** and the rush was on. To a little spot discovered by Joe Juneau and Richard Harris, then the next year, 1898 it was the Klondike, with the rush to Skagway and Dyea and up the Chilkoot. That same year **Gold** on the beaches of Nome, and that first shipment to San Francisco and the "Three Lucky Swedes" were rich.

The purchase actually happened on March 30, 1867, \$7.2 million in a Treasury Warrant, Number 9759, issued to Edouard de Stoeckl, Russian Minister to the United States. Negotiated by William Seward, Secretary of State of the US.

A glorious history since then, with fish, timber, minerals, oil, gas, wildlife and spell binding beauty. Thanks to William Seward for the foresight, the Alaska Natives that were here first, and the pioneers that broke trail in all directions.

- **Alaska Day**- celebrates the transfer of the Territory to the US
- **Sewards Day**- celebrates the treaty that established the purchase.

Visiting a genealogist, a man asked how much it would cost to have his family tree traced. "It could cost thousands of dollars", the woman said. "I see. Well, isn't there an easier way? A less expensive way?" "Sure", she replied. "Run for Senator".

A man walks into a bar with his pet alligator. He asks the bartender, "do you serve lawyers here?" "Yes, we do." "Good. Give me a beer, and I'll have a lawyer for my alligator."

## Program Schedule:

October is Team 4 with Capt. Trent

- ★ October 11 Great Program about the Kenai River Brown Bear Hockey Team by Nate Kiel. An amazing program.

- ★ October 18- Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association presentation. Where fish come from.

- ★ October 25 ????????

## Fall Rotary Events:

- ✓ October 26, 5:30pm, Organization get together, Soldotna, Kenai River, & Kenai Clubs @ Kaladi Bros. coffee (next to Wilderness Way-Safeway) to discuss formation/sponsorship of a Rotaract Club at the Kenai Peninsula College.

President Barry presents the **Rotary Student of the Month Award for October** to **Jacob Iverson**, Senior at KCHS. An impressive young man, active in sports and good in academics too.





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## The back page



Mailing address: PO Box 2640, Kenai, AK 99611 On the web: [www.clubrunner.ca/Kenai](http://www.clubrunner.ca/Kenai)

### ~Officers & Directors 2010-2011~

President: Barry Eldridge  
Vice President: Mya Renken  
Secretary: Trent Dodson  
Treasurer: Brendyn Shiflea  
President Elect: Roy Wells  
Sergeants at Arms: Tom Randall

Director: Jeff Belluomini  
Director: Sal Mattero  
Director: Scott Hamann  
Director: Dave Derry  
Past President: Jeanette Desimone

#### Team 1

Randy Daly, Capt.  
Rick Baldwin  
Barry Eldridge  
Joe Gallagher  
Rebecca Sorenson  
Rick Ross  
Todd Wortham

**Programs:** November, March, July

#### Team 2

Scott Hamann, Capt.  
Jeff Belluomini  
Craig Fanning  
Tim Redder  
Matt Streiff  
"Flynt" Flynt

**Programs:** December, April, August

#### Team 3

Tom Martin, Capt.  
Matt Wilson  
Mya Renken  
Tom Wagoner  
Jeanette Desimone  
Glenda Feeken  
Brendyn Shiflea

**Programs:** January, May, September

#### Team 4

Trent Dodson, Capt.  
George Ford  
Sal Mattero  
Roy Wells  
Rick Koch  
Dave Derry  
Carol Bannock

**Programs:** February, June, October

Next Rotary Board meeting: November 12 @ noon @ Baldwin & Butler conference room~ Any member is invited

### Rotary International, October Rotary theme ~ Vocational Service month

#### Ask Big Al

Yo Al, what's going to happen with this sale by Chevron of all of their Alaska assets? Bill

Well it will be harder to buy Chevron gas. Gee, remember in the old days that's all we had up here, Chevron. They also had that famous Blazo fuel, and how many kitchens had cabinets made out of those great Blazo boxes? Boy those were the days, man I sure miss the Blazo box kitchen. Some of the Ms.' didn't seem to like them as well as the guys did. Oh, yea, what was your question? sorry out of space now.

"Have a question about Rotary, fishing, just about anything.....Send your questions to E News, they will be answered the following week. Remember, **Big Al knows it ALL!**



#### QUESTION OF THE WEEK: ???

What was the purchase price of Alaska per acre, Who owned the ship the Ossipee, Who was President of the US when Alaska was purchased, Had Wm. Seward ever been to Alaska before he negotiated the purchase?

The winner gets: a crisp \$100 bill!!

*Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you...*

⇒ **Matt Wilson, October 18th**

⇒ **Glenda Feeken, October 20th**