

# ALASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY *and* MUSEUMS ALASKA

## September 12-15, 2018 in Nome, Alaska

### John Active (1949-2018)



Alaska Native storyteller, journalist and broadcaster John Active “Yup’ified” the world. Capturing and transmitting stories, he used newspapers, radio and television to joyfully tell the world about the people and places of Southwest Alaska. His distinctive voice will be missed on KYUK, Alaska Public Radio Network, and National Public Radio.

### Carol Feller-Brady “Koodeilge” (1927-2018)



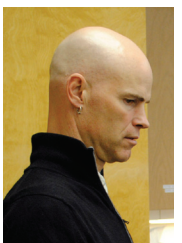
Long associated with Sheldon Jackson School in Sitka and Wrangell Institute, Carol Feller-Brady was the daughter of Elizabeth Kadashan of Wrangell and Raymond James Sr. of Sitka. While raising her family she advocated and was recognized for her work with young substance abusers. Her 1980 memoir *Through the Storm Towards the Sun* chronicles life through a significant period of Alaska history.

### Poldine Demoski Carlo (1920-2018)



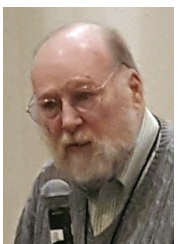
Welcoming and always positive, Poldine was born in Nulato and raised by grandparents Joseph and Anna Stickman. She married Bill Carlo and raised 8 children. Her 1978 memoir *Nulato: An Indian Life on the Yukon* describes her early years. In Fairbanks with several others she envisioned a gathering place and organization for Alaska Natives resulting in the Fairbanks Native Association. Acknowledged for her traditional knowledge and leadership, Poldine received many awards.

### Scott Allan Carrlee (1964-2018)



Enthusiastic, gregarious and helpful, Scott served as Alaska State Museum Curator of Statewide Services. Adventure drew him to mountain tops, international archaeological sites and Alaska where he helped small museums and historical societies for 18 years. He is survived by his wife Ellen and son Carson who as a baby and toddler attended these annual conferences. Alaska Museums continue to benefit from a student internship program Scott established through the Juneau Community Foundation.

### John Paul Cook (1938-2018)



Anthropologist John Cook’s Alaska career began with military assignments at Ladd Field (Fairbanks) and Unalakleet Air Force Station. With field experience in Newfoundland and Yukon Territory, he began research at Healy Lake. He directed the archeological research related to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, and salvage excavations at Amchitka Island prior to the nuclear test. John taught at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, co-founded the Alaska Anthropological Association, and worked for the Bureau of Land Management and served on the Alaska Historical Commission.

### Marie Darlin (1925-2018)



A third-generation Juneauite of Finnish heritage, Marie was known as the “velvet hammer”, advocating for many causes including the preservation of local history. She worked for Territorial, Federal and State agencies and with husband Bill Darlin operated the Triangle Cleaners. Her broad interests yielded volunteer service and recognition in local and statewide organizations and advocacy for middle-income senior housing. She was co-compiler of books on Juneau families and was the instigator of the Empty Chair Project. Marie was a determine citizen advocate for seniors and Alaska history.

### Eileen Devinney (1966-2017)



National Park Service cultural anthropologist Eileen Devinney helped document the traditional Alaska Native place names of significant natural features, settlements and trails, and places to hunt, fish, and gather. Within the Western Arctic National Parklands and the Kobuk Valley, Eileen facilitated NAGPRA agreements. Her place names research in Interior and NE Alaska are reflected in maps, oral histories and stories.

### Donald Harper Dinkel (1931-2018)



The Dinkel family came in 1937 as members of the Matanuska Colony Project. Pursuing horticulture, Don received a PhD in plant physiology from the University of Minnesota, returning to a long career with the University of Alaska Experiment Station developing home and commercial practices for growing vegetables, fruits and flowers in subarctic conditions. Upon retirement in Fairbanks, he returned to farm in his favored Matanuska Valley.

### Dr. Chelton Feeny (1922-2017)



Medical doctor Chelton Feeny practiced in Salt Lake City and as an Air Force Doctor in Korea before moving to Anchorage. In retirement he actively participated as donor and volunteer for the Hope Museum, earning Museums Alaska’s Volunteer Award in 2005, and was a founder and volunteer for the Anchorage Veterans’ Museum.

### Jean Hartjoy Kyle (1921-2016)



Jean Kyle, a resident of Ocean Shores, Washington, came with her physician husband to a cabin in Eagle in 1987. They spent five to six months there each year for over 20 years, and when her husband died, she continued driving to Eagle until 2008. Jean was an active member of the Eagle Historical Society.

## Iris D. “Dee” Longenbaugh (1933-2018)



Raconteur bookstore owner, Dee Longenbaugh loved history, antiquarian maps, and people who loved books. Proprietor of “Observatory Books” in Sitka then Juneau, Dee traveled the world in pursuit of Alaska materials. She shared her vast knowledge through teaching, newspaper and television book reviews. Her volunteer efforts include founding the first mental health clinic in Sitka, assisting children through Easter Seals, and editing the Alaska Historical Society newsletter. Dee served on the Alaska Historical Commission, the Alaska Historical Society board, and served as a SLAM docent lecturer.

## Alice Jeanette Nesbitt Lynch (1929-2018)



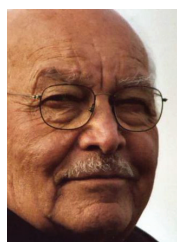
Cultural anthropologist Alice Lynch worked for multiple Federal agencies on projects in Interior Alaska. In 1982 she authored *Qizhjah: the Historic Tanaina Village of Kijik* and the *Kijik Archaeological District and Archaeological Investigations of 5 Remote Tracts of Land Within Denali National Park and Preserve: Alaska: 1988, 1989*, and participated in a team collecting oral histories from Doyon region historic sites.

## Mary McBurney (1959-2018)



Nome, Juneau, Cordova, Homer and Anchorage were homes for Mary McBurney. In those communities, she worked as a museum director, legislative staffer, and director of Cordova District Fishermen United, Western Alaska Fisheries Development Association and a staffer of the Bering Sea Fishermen's Association, as well as Subsistence Specialist for the National Park Service.

## Judge Roy Madsen (1923-2017)



Born in the Alaska Peninsula village of Kanatak, Roy Madsen's family moved to Kodiak which anchored him during his 94 years. Experiences as a bear hunting guide, commercial fisherman, in the US Navy, and as an attorney culminated in his 1975-1990 tenure as the first Alaska Native Superior Court Judge. Roy was proud of his Alutiiq and Russian Orthodox heritage, helped found the Kodiak Area Native Association,

advocated for Kodiak College, served on the University of Alaska Board of Regents, and the Alaska Commission for Human Rights. In 1996, he authored *A History of the Kodiak Bench and Bar*.

## Theodore “Ted” Reed Merrell Jr. (1923-2017)



Fisheries researcher Ted Merrell's career ranged from Oregon, across Alaska and even Antarctica as part of the United Kingdom's 1966 expedition. Arriving in 1956 to work in the Bureau of Fisheries Lab in Juneau, he supervised salmon research in Bristol Bay and field stations from Ketchikan to Kodiak. Other projects included research on the marine resource effects of Amchitka underground nuclear tests, plastic

marine debris on Aleutian beaches, impacts of logging and marine pollution on salmon. In retirement Ted was a presenter and attendee of many Alaska Historical Society conferences and served on numerous professional and public service boards.

## James “Jim” Edson Moody (1932-2018)



Descended from early Fairbanksans, Jim Moody was impressed when Howard Hughes landed in Fairbanks on his 1938 “Round the World” flight. He became a pilot and worked many years for the Alaska Dept. of Transportation, Aviation Division, supervising the design and construction of rural Alaska airfields. Continuing his personal and family interest in Alaska history, Jim served as President of the Cook Inlet Historical Society, and was active with the Interior and Arctic Aeronautical Foundation, Pioneer Air Museum, and Pioneers of Alaska.

## James “Mumigana” Nageak (1941-2017)



North Slope Borough elder James Nageak “Mumigana” of Anaktuvuk Pass was an educator, linguist, and minister. Higher education included Sheldon Jackson School in Sitka and Divinity school in Iowa. Long an advocate for Inupiaq language research and teaching, he worked in the Alaska Native Language Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and served on the board of Ilisagvik College in Utqiagvik.

## Lela Kiana Oman “Ahyakee” (1915-2018)



Born in Noorvik, Lela Kiana Oman lived a subsistence lifestyle in the Kobuk River Valley. Her education required boarding schools in White Mountain followed by Eklutna for high school. After marriage she worked in various positions in Kotzebue and Nome; she authored and lectured about traditional stories and beliefs in several books including: *Eskimo Legends* (1966) and *Epic of Quyaq: The Longest Story Ever Told by*

*My People* (1995). She lived a long life, 103 years.

## Kathryn “Kay” Shelton (1941-2018)



A southerner by birth, Kay Shelton and husband Jev moved to join the University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau in 1970. Witty, generous, and with a ready laugh characterized the way she raised her children and her professional work as librarian and archivist on campus, Legislative Affairs, State Historical Library, and Alaska State Library, and as Director of Libraries, Museums and Archives. Those experiences provided a

vision for securing additional state land and constructing the newly combined Alaska State Libraries, Archives, and Museums building. A long-time member of the Alaska Historical Society, she also served as its Chairperson.

## Roberta Messerschmidt Spartz (1932-2018)



Daughter of early settlers, Roberta Spartz told wonderful stories of growing up in Juneau. As an adult she worked for the Territorial Legislature and in the office of Governor William Egan. With husband Keith Arnold, the family moved to Anchorage where she worked in the law offices of Ely Guess and Rudd and enjoyed family adventures in Halibut Cove, and later returning to Douglas. In her 50s, after her children were

adults, she pursued her passion for archaeology at the University of Alaska Anchorage and Fairbanks.