



# Eagle River Nature Center News

EAGLE RIVER NATURE CENTER

No. 66 Member Newsletter ~ November 2016 ~ Connecting People with Nature Since 1996



The fabulous **Midnight Sun Zombies** performed to a full house at our *October Nights* auction and award ceremony on October 8<sup>th</sup> at the Alaska Native Heritage Center. The band will be joining us on January 14<sup>th</sup> for our members-only Iditarod Roadhouse evening (see program details inside).

**Our 2016 Auction** was a great success! Thank you to all our donors (see next page); attendees; volunteers; and corporate sponsors for your generosity. Auctioneer **Rayne Reynolds** was amazing to watch. He kept the audience laughing while “encouraging” everyone to donate more and more money.

**Ginamaria Smith** joined us with Archimedes, the Great Horned Owl in her care. What a treat it was to learn more about him and watch him close up. Ginamaria is a skilled educator and dynamic presenter. Thank you!

Thank you to BP; Conoco Phillips; Carl Lundgren Family; North Country Stoves; Perkins Coie; and Visit Anchorage for sponsoring tables.

A big thanks to our auction volunteers who made the event run so smoothly: Colin Tyler Bogucki; Cathy Brenner; Amy Cawvey; Stacy Flagg; Angelika Harder; Billy Herbst; Perry Lundgren; Sheree Newton; Beth Reiland; David Rowland; Ramunas Sirvelis; Gail Sommerville, Ginamaria and Kyle Smith; Candy Stanley; Sean Wagner; and Stephanie Whaley.

Lastly, kudos to our Board of Directors and Chairman Carl Lundgren for making the event possible.

Thank you all from the staff of the Eagle River Nature Center. We’re honored to serve you.



**Award Recipients:** Volunteers of the Decade Liza Sanden and Dean Davidson; Lee Thomison for his IT work; Guy Runco, on behalf of the Bird Treatment and Learning Center; and Steven Piper, on behalf of REI Co-op. Dick Griffith is pictured on page 3. Thank you all for your volunteerism and community spirit.

*A HUGE THANK YOU to  
our 2016 Auction  
Item Donors!*



*If you visit any of these  
fine businesses, please say  
thanks for donating!*

2 Friends a Most Unusual Gallery

Ada Vodopalas  
Alaska Airlines  
Alaska Mill and Feed  
Alaska Paracord Designs  
Alaska Raft and Kayak  
Alaska Railroad  
Alaska Rock Gym  
Alaska Sausage and Seafood  
Alaska Sea Kayakers  
Alaska Sealife Center  
Alaska Wildland Adventures  
Anchorage Concert Association  
Anchorage Sam's Club #6602  
Angelika Harder  
Arctic Brewing Supply  
Arctic Fire Clothing  
Arctic Roadrunner, Inc.  
Arctic Valley Ski Area and Tube Park  
Artworks Gallery and Glass Studio  
Beth Reiland  
Bird Treatment and Learning Center  
BP Alaska  
Brecht Studio and Gallery  
Broken Tooth Brewing  
Brown Jug  
Chena Hot Springs Resort  
Chugach Adventures  
Chugach State Park  
Cindy Shake Design  
Claire Holland LeClair  
Colin Tyler Photography  
Costco Wholesale  
Dean Davidson  
Denali Dreams  
Dick Griffith  
D&M Photography  
Eagle River Nature Center  
Eagle River/Palmer City Alehouse  
Eagle River Tattoo  
Emily Reeves  
Fire Island Rustic Bake Shop  
Ginamaria Smith  
Giselle Bergeron

Great Harvest Bread Co. Anchorage

Hilltop Ski Area  
Jitters  
Kaladi Brothers Coffee  
Laura Kruger  
Lee's Custom Designs  
Milt Cooper Estate  
Musk Ox Farm  
Namaste North Yoga Studio  
Nicole Pressman-Schneider  
Nordic Skiing Association of Anchorage  
North Country Stoves  
Odd Man Rush Brewing  
Peppercini's Deli and Catering  
Picture This  
Qdoba Mexican Grill (Muldoon Rd)  
Rachel Clarity Photography  
Ramunas Sirvelis  
Ranger Summit  
REI Anchorage  
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Salmon Sisters  
Skhoop of Scandinavia  
Skinny Raven Sports  
Sleepy Dog Coffee Co.  
Snow City Cafe  
Spenard Builders Supply - Eagle River  
Stacy Flagg  
Sue Ellen May  
Sunny Cove Sea Kayaking  
Susan Walker  
Sweet Caribou  
The Alaska Zoo  
The Big Ass Fish Company BAFCO  
The Fairmont Olympic Hotel Seattle  
The Spice and Tea Exchange of Anchorage  
Tourism Trekkers  
Trailside Discovery  
Tyler Howie  
Ute Olsson  
Vickie Baker LMT  
Visit Anchorage  
Whalebone Watercolors

# Annual Dick Griffith Matching Challenge 2016-17

Every dollar you donate to the Eagle River Nature Center from November 2016 through March 31, 2017 will be matched by this year's Philanthropy Award recipient. Dick Griffith is a legend in Alaska for his outdoor adventures. At the Nature Center he is a legend for his volunteerism and philanthropy. Thank you Dick!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have an enclosed a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my credit card charged for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Visa MC Discover Amex

CC # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Security # on back \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Winston Churchill

Mail to: Eagle River Nature Center 32750 Eagle River Rd. Eagle River AK 99577 www.ernc.org 907-694-2108

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andy Bickford  
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## HONORARY DIRECTORS

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**THANK YOU TO ALL  
OUR PICK.CLICK.GIVE  
DONORS for selecting  
Friends of Eagle River  
Nature Center for you  
PFD donation!**

You will all be receiving a personal note of thanks from us in the mail soon.



Naturalist **Samantha Russell** joined the ERNC team this year. Welcome Samantha!

**Thank you to all our auction's "For the Cause" donors who donated over \$11,000 collectively to provide scholarships to school classes in the upcoming year. Thank you to the following:**

**\$1000-\$2000 donors:** William Schmid ; John Lapkass

**\$500 donors:** Cathy Brenner; Anita Nelson; Megan Poulson; Susan Spyker

**\$300 donors:** Megyn Greider; Mesa Jetton; Claire LeClair; Adam Muggli; Jennifer Roberts; Liza Sanden; Julie Saupe; Ben Schneider; Jen Schorr; Judy Stohl; Lee Thomison; Kirsten Valentine; Ada Vodopalas; Margaret Paton Walsh; John Wolfe

**\$100 donors:** Jerry Bever; Lara Bickford; Chera Boom; Bruce Bustamante; Kati Capozzi; Jan Cawvey; Paul Daggett; Marg Halloran; Derek Johnston; John Kelly; Carl Lundgren; Carmen Olito; Peder Reiland; Ginamaria Smith; Gerda Stechauner

**\$25 donors:** Tony Carnahan; Megan Coleman; Jennifer Currie; Dean Davidson; James Elam; Stacy Flagg; Dana Glessner; Megyn Greider; Joe Hall; Heidi Hurliman; Hank Jamison; Mesa Jetton; Terry Lauck; Wendy Loya; William Marshall; Lauren Maxwell; Adam Muggli; Steve Rasic; Texas Gail Raymond; Peder Reiland; Guy Runco; Ben Schneider; Mark St. Amour; Gerda Stechauner; Kirsten Valentine; Margaret Paton Walsh; Scott Webb; Michel Wilkens; Keith Wilson



Friends of Eagle River Nature Center  
 Member Newsletter & January 2017 Programs  
 32750 Eagle River Road  
 Eagle River, AK 99577  
 www.ernc.org  
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 Organization  
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Your membership expiration date is listed below the address label.



October-April hours: Fri-Sun, 10am-5pm,  
 Closed Dec. 23 – Jan. 5, 2017; Trails are always open!

## Save the date!

**Annual Solstice Celebration** – December 17, 2016  
**Historic Iditarod Roadhouse Day** - January 14, 2017  
 Members-Only Roadhouse Evening starts at 6pm, Jan 14th  
**Icy River Rampage Fat Bike Race** – February 4, 2017  
**Night with the Stars** with Charles Wohlforth – February 11  
*More details coming soon!*



### Yukla Yurt by Adam Mackie

*(from yurt log 7/26/16 – reprinted with permission)*

Here at the Yukla Yurt on the river bends, where raging rapids run rapidly, red raspberries await a fresh picking and silence blows through spruce leaves.

A whisper in the woods, down the path to Echo Bend, where water calms and mountains stretch upward, where for miles the sweet song of a songbird flies after the swift foot heels of the wind.

A step of roots leads to a step of rocks, surrounded by lichen patches, and moss near craggy cliffs, and fireweed winking into the depths of the forest, seeing sunlight breaking in between countless trees, and shadows underneath birch bark peeling.



The AllGood Band performing at the Historic Iditarod Roadhouse Day in January 2016.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE for School Field Trips

### *Pass the word on to teachers*

Thanks to the generous donations received at our recent auction, the Nature Center is offering scholarships to classes that cannot afford a naturalist-guided field trip. We will cover the cost of a bus and/or waive the student fee for needy classes.

Please email Asta Spurgis, Director, at [info@ernc.org](mailto:info@ernc.org) for more information and to request a scholarship.