



# Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

52 °F / 11 °C

Overcast  
at 9:53 PM



[Click for Forecast](#)

Wednesday, Sep. 21, 2005

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 1, No. 15, September 15, 2005

Local News

Calendar

Opinions

Spotlight

School

Classifieds

Archives

Seldovia.com

Gazette Services

[Top Stories](#) | [City Managers Corner](#) | [Police Report](#) | [Repeats & Notices](#) | [Corrections](#) | [Click here for Large Print version of this page](#)

## Headlines

▶ HEA generator problems addressed

▶ City Council meeting summary

▶ "A Night to Talk"

▶ SOS meeting summary

▶ In memory of  
- Petreena Getty

▶ In memory of  
- Larry Stanley

▶ In memory of  
- Jay Wilson

▶ Andy White & Radoslav Lorkovic concert

▶ Aurora alert for Thursday night, September 15

▶ Tidbits . . .

▶ City Manager's Corner

▶ Seldovia Police Report

## Opinions



▶ 2 Cents Worth

▶ Letters to the Editor  
- Curtis and Ronanda Liberty and family

## Spotlight



Carol Pucci, a travel writer for the Seattle Times, wrote a nice article on Seldovia on September 2.

[Click here to read the article](#)

## Top Stories

### HEA generator problems addressed *by Tom Glover*

Wednesday nights City Council workshop provided HEA (Homer Electric Assoc) officials an opportunity to bring Seldovia up to date on the status of the Standby Generating Plant. Representatives from HEA included Joe Gallagher (public relations), Darrell Birkhimer (Operations Superintendent), Charlie O'Hare (Manager of Power Production & Transmission), Bob O'Neill (operator), and Gerry Willard (onsite operator). Brad Janorschke (HEA General Manager) could not make this meeting but will be at the upcoming open house.



HEA representatives, left to right: Bob O'Neill, Darrell Birkhimer, Charlie O'Hare, and Joe Gallagher.

In short, HEA acknowledged the poor initial condition of the generators, problems with a PLC (programmable logic controller), problems with the fuel transfer system, and a variety of other problems. All of the problems have

## Marketplace



**Jenny Chissus**  
234-8000  
Your Seldovia Connection

[www.seldoviaproperty.com](http://www.seldoviaproperty.com)  
RE/MAX of Homer



Have Fun!  
Shop 'til you Drop!

**Herring Bay Mercantile**  
Seldovia, AK



**234-7652**  
Serving Seldovia with your real estate needs

>> Summer Special <<



2 nights at Seaport Cottages + Round trip on Smokey Bay!  
Only \$275. Call for details 907-234-7483

Support the Seldovia Sea Otter Booster Club  
Help keep sports and academic travel programs alive for our school!



Seldovia Boat Slips for Rent



**School**



**Notices**

▶ Comprehensive Plan Public Final August 10, 2005 (pdf)

▶ Amended FY05 Seldovia City Budget 7-8-2005 (pdf)

▶ Boys and Girls Club September 2005 Calendar **NEW!**

▶ Boys and Girls Club June - July Newsletter

▶ Harbor Survey Priority Results (pdf)

**Corrections**

▶ None this week. . .

**Classified Rates**

▶ Instructions and rate sheet

PDF files require a special "Reader" in order to view pdf files. Click the Adobe

either been corrected or are in the process of being corrected.

The complete rebuild on both engines is nearly complete, including rebuilding the turbochargers, and the fuel transfer system has been repaired. An expert on the PLC was brought into Seldovia this week and he will be thoroughly testing all of the PLC code and functions over the next two months. A new muffler system is also being considered in order to cut down on some of the noise.

Major efforts continue on the clearing of beetle-kill trees and repair of lines and poles. Over 132 poles have been repaired, 22 poles replaces, and crossarms and insulators repaired or upgraded. SNA has graciously extended the clearing right of way in some of the worst areas.

HEA's message . . . We can't do anything about what has happened in the past but we are committed to making these generators work and work right.

Gerry Willard expressed that he is very satisfied that everything is moving forward as it needs to be and the job is finally being done right.

HEA is planning to have an open house at the local facility in about a month when the plant repairs are completed. This will provide Seldovians an opportunity to look at the equipment and talk to the operators.

*Reporters note: It is this reporters opinion that HEA has finally got its act together where our generation plant is concerned. Everyone involved in this project that I have spoken with is very happy with the "changing of the guard" that has taken place and there is a new level of commitment to Seldovia that this project will be done right.*

**City Council meeting summary** by Tamara Blodgett

**Voting Record**

Wednesday night's City Council Meeting, September 14, 2005, addressed one main item of old business, along with a few small items; new items were also introduced to be discussed. The council consisted of: Peggy Boscacci, Tom Glover, Steve Lewis, Mark Massion (who officiated in Mayor Dick Wyland's absence), and Walter McInnes. Keith Gain was an excused absence. Rhonda Haynes recorded the meeting with our City Manager, Kurt Reynertson also in attendance.

**Ordinance 06-02** introduction passed 4-1 for discussion on September 28, 2005 . This ordinance pertains to the Authorization Sale of Lots 5 & 6, Block 10.

Early in the meeting, Mary Glover, President of the Chamber of Commerce, presented a plan of events to kick off the summer season beginning with the Chainsaw Carving Competition for Memorial Day Weekend, with the Seldovia Summer Music Festival concert on June 16-17, followed by, last, but definitely not least, our traditional Independence Day Celebration. Ms. Glover has also made mention of the need for \$3400 price tab to make the Chainsaw Carving Competition happen. The Chamber is hoping local businesses and individuals can contribute so this great event can take place.

The Seldovia harbor has 32 foot and 42 foot slips for rent. Call for details: Harbor Master (907) 234-7886 City Office (907) 234-7643

button above to get a  
FREE pdf reader!



Large print version  
of this page - click here.  
Please note that we do not  
have large print versions  
of the other pages on this  
site.

Mr. McInnes mentioned that the new SOS Manager/Treasurer is Sharon Bond.

Regarding the Cannery Dock Demolition Bid, six bids were received and found to be from qualified contractors. Out of the six, Hopkins Brothers Construction with a bid of \$123,504 was the accepted bid and also the lowest. City Manager Kurt Reynertson moved for the City Council to award this bid to Hopkins Brothers Construction pending EDA approval. Councilman Lewis commented on the huge disparity in bids. Reynertson responded with stating that the higher bids may reflect the contractors that did not physically see the sight. Furthermore, the engineers at Michael Foster feel confident with the quality of work expected from Hopkins Brothers Construction. City Council voted to award the Cannery Dock Demo unanimously to Hopkins Brothers Construction of Seldovia.

In new business, **Resolution 06-06**, a resolution in favor of seeking a VISTA member for the City of Seldovia . Two people have already applied for this position. Reynertson believes VISTA is responsible for choosing the applicant. This was moved to approve by Councilman Glover, and a 2 nd by Councilman McInnes.

**Resolution 06-07**, a resolution in support of a Mini-Grant Application for a Business Plan and Conceptual Drawings for the Cannery Site at a cost of \$30,000. This would be a city-owned facility/facilities with the businesses leasing from the city. Reynertson feels the wording for seeking marine-related businesses gives us an edge on securing the grant. It does not preclude non-marine businesses from being allowed to also operate within this future facility. Reynertson mentioned that this would allow expansion in this area and would be industry-oriented. This resolution passed 4-1.

**Resolution 06-08**, A resolution in support of an application for Multi-Use Facility renovations grant funds from the Denali Commission. This is a grant that City Manager Kurt Reynertson diligently found that would make renovations to the existing City Library to bring up-to-date with current code for access for the physically challenged. This grant money that is being requested by Reynertson is \$15,000, with a match from the City of Seldovia of \$2500 for a total of \$17,500. This would renovate the existing elevator, to include new doors, and would include a complete restroom overhaul. This resolution was passed unanimously.

A request was made by Gary and Alona Milton to build an access ramp across Bay Street to Lot 3, Block 32, Seldovia Townsite. Reynertson mentioned in response to public comment that the current right-of-way was currently "mid-air." Councilman McInnes elaborated on Mr. Milton's request for this and felt that it was a practical and would not impact the right-of-way adversely. Councilman Lewis did not feel that the council was the right forum for this request to be heard, rather, he felt it should be handled through the appropriate channels. Reynertson respectfully disagreed and felt this right-of-way would allow Mr. Milton to access his lot. This motion was passed 4-1. Council Chair, Mark Massion, clarified with City Manager Kurt Reynertson that "all the bases would be covered," with regard to this request which Reynertson agreed to.

Lastly, there are 4 lots that City Manager Kurt Reynertson would like to get a current value appraisal on at a cost of \$1300 for the all four. Reynertson has contacted Dave Derry of Kenai for the appraisals who has been used before. The current assessment of the lots needs to be established, by code, before any

future sale could be made. Presently, the lots are assessed at only \$22,000, and Reynertson thinks the lots are of a much higher value currently. For clarity, the “pie-shaped” lot that is located right on the marina to the southeast of the Harbormaster’s Building is currently publicly owned and a vote of the People of Seldovia would be needed to change it’s current designation from publicly owned to city owned. In between the “pie-shaped” lot and the Harbormaster’s Building are lots 5 & 6 which are currently being used for parking. Lots 5 & 6 are both city-owned. The last lot in question is the lot between the Tidepool Cafe and the Harbor Inn and is city-owned as well. This particular lot was taken off the market by a prior City Council. A motion to rescind that previous motion was passed 4-1. Two public opinions were heard on the subject of the “pie-shaped” lot changing it’s designation from public to city. It was mentioned that a park should be the obvious choice for this area before the marina landscape is taken up with nothing but buildings and people cannot enjoy the intrinsic beauty of our unique coastal town. Councilmen and woman also echoed the need for restraint in this area and two council members felt if it came to a vote the People of Seldovia should decide if the designation of this lot should change out of the public’s hands into the city’s. A map will be made available in the near future for the public to view the lots in question.

**Resolution 06-09** a resolution adopting to participate in the AMLJIA loss control incentive program for the City of Seldovia . This resolution that costs our city nothing, would decrease our current premiums, provide comprehensive risk management assistance and provide workers’ compensation, liability and property coverage with a discount for the City of Seldovia . This resolution was passed unanimously.

Councilman McInnes attended the HEA meeting and felt the crew was being aggressive with managing the line to keep the system up and running. There should also be an expert here today checking the circuits, which, in tech-speak, is called “ringing.” McInnes appreciated the public show of support for this meeting.

City Manager Kurt Reynertson reported that there is nothing new on the tank farm project. He stated that he has had a couple of conversations with Dave Lockhart and Frank Blodgett (current owner of Seldovia Fuel) regarding lease-status. The Gruber property will be impacted by current plans for a block-fuel dispensing station. The fish-cleaning table still has a finish date of today (Sept. 15). The Harbormaster renovations continue with the roofing and new window install already complete and the heating being currently worked on with flooring slated to follow. This completes the coverage on the City Council Meeting September 14, 2005.

---

## "A Night to Talk"

*by Mary Glover*

### **A motivational talk to youth and parents by Eric Remegr**

On Tuesday night, September 13, 2005, orator Eric Remegr presented “A Night to Talk” to an audience of adults and older children at the SBE School. Eric was speaking from his heart and told his sincere life’s story and how he is helping others overcome tragedies. Eric can “reach” today’s youth. The kids listen to him! He certainly has a message for all. His objectives are: information about illegal drug use and its effects; information to help people

overcome a suicidal tendency; and teaching people how to deal with personal tragedy. This is a very real purpose and need in today's society.



Eric's message had the audience listening to his every word. We knew he was speaking the raw truth. He even mixed in funny lines like: "When you are skinny you want to be fat, and when you are fat you want to be skinny." (When reading this statement, it is not funny, but when Eric said it, it was funny and everyone laughed.)

Thank you Eric, Lewis and Bill Hooper for coming to Seldovia and sharing your lives with us. Many thanks to the Seldovia Village Tribe (SVT) who provided the program to the community. (Sandee Elvsaa first heard Eric Remegr speak at a symposium outside, Alene Hidecker put this program together and the SVT under the direction of Crystal Collier, CEO made it happen.)



Lewis Rocks!

[Click here for Remegr website](#)  
[Click here for Eric's story \(pdf\)](#)

---

**SOS meeting summary**

*by Mark Janes*

## SOS Regular Meeting on September 12, 2005

Board Members present: President Sera Baxter, Sadi Synn, Walter McInnes, Josh Patrick, Mark Janes.

SOS Staff Present: Jennifer Frohip, Sharon Bond

Public Present: Red Kvarford

I. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm

II. The meeting agenda was read and amended by Mark Janes to include discussion on filling 2 empty board seats.

III. The minutes from the previous board meeting in May were not available.

IV. Jennifer Frohip gave the Treasures report. SOS paid less in Workmans Compensation Insurance for 2005 by approximately \$130.00. SOS services to Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response Inc. (CISPRI) for the barge watch activities netted \$4027.44. The 650 Barge depreciation value is now \$98,000.00. Buckley and Associates who previously prepared taxes but neglected to file properly are negotiating with the IRS to get the penalty assessed SOS abated. SOS currently has 38 donating member of which 15 are HAZWOPER trained.

### V. Old Business

1. 650 Barge- Mark reports that there have not been any responses to the offers to sell the barge. He reported that he has located a web site that offers free listing of oil response equipment for sale around the world. He is currently working with the [website](#) owners to list the barge.
2. Compare hourly rates- The board received list of rates charged by other response organizations and will review and evaluate the need to update the rates charged by SOS.
3. DEC Term Contract- The term contract with ADEC is set to expire 9/30/05. Geoff Harbin with ADEC has agreed to renew for one year.
4. 8 Hour HAZWOPER Refresher Course- The board discussed expanding the course to be a full 40 hour HAZWOPER Training. During recent responses the spill responders were required to have training at the 40 Hour level. This would allow for attendees to be fully trained and the training would also apply to numerous other jobs that require hazardous materials handling training. Sera agreed to talk with the previous trainers and see if they are willing and able to offer the expanded training, then we will pursue funding with ADEC.
5. ADEC has provided an additional storage connex for SOS. It will be used to store oil spill boom that was formally used by the Tutka Bay Hatchery. Sera and Sadi took 6 hours to load it into the connex from where it was stored on the Homer Spit. It will be brought over and stored in Seldovia and provide addition protective boom for SOS to use. Sera reports that the boom is not in the best shape but is functional and will require some repairs in the future.
6. Invoice for Shipping of the Connex- Sadi moved "SOS should promptly pay the invoice for the shipping of the ADEC Connex" Josh seconded. The motion carried with no objection.

### VI. New Business

1. New Printer-Jennifer report on the demise of the old printer and the acquisition of a new one
2. Seldovia.com has offered to post summaries of board meetings. Walter reported that he frequently has conversations with individuals in the community who are unaware of SOS' ongoing operation Mark will follow up
3. Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council sent information regarding new response tools to be used during a spill. The link to the tools is through the [Nuka Research website](#) . Mark explained that much of the materials posted there are still under development.
4. Andy Anderson's resignation from the board was accepted
5. Chuck Gillick's resignation from the board was accepted
6. New board members- Tim Robertson has offered to fill in for the remainder of Gillick's term, The board unanimously approved the offer. The board agreed to solicit other qualified community members to fill Anderson's seat and return next meeting with possible candidates.
7. Jennifer Frohip's resignation as Office manager was accepted and Sharon Bond has been hired to fill the position. She is training with Jennifer for the next week.
8. Treasurer- Sharon agreed to fill the role of treasurer that will be vacated by Jennifer and the Board unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35

Next meeting is October 10, 2005 at 7 pm in the City Multi Purpose Room

---

## In memory of Petreena Getty



Photo courtesy of Sandee Elvsaaas

### **Petreena M. Getty**

Born  
May 22, 1936

Passed away  
September 13, 2005

Petreena's brother is Fred Elvsaaas, Sr. of Seldovia and her sister is Inga Caffrey of Seldovia. She also has a brother, Herman Elvsaaas, of Seattle, WA and a sister, Loucaria Hampton, of Anchorage. Petreena's two daughters are Dawn Spangler of Ripley, TN and Paula Brill.

---

## In memory of Larry Stanley

**Larry Stanley**



Photo courtesy of Renee Haller

August 5, 1951 - September 13, 2005

**Memorial Time for Larry  
1:00 Linwood Bar Sunday, Sept 18th  
Come Share Your Stories  
(Larry's family is in town)**

## In memory of Jay Wilson



Photo courtesy of Andy Anderson

### Jay Myron Wilson

Born June 3, 1924  
in Glen Union, PA

Passed away  
September 5, 2005  
in Wasilla, AK

Jay Wilson, a 15 year resident of Seldovia, was living in Colony Manor Assisted Living, Wasilla when he passed away last week. Jay served in the Navy during World War II and moved to Alaska in 1967 where, for the most part, he worked for Nabors & Brinkerhoff in the Alaska Oil Fields.

Jay is survived by his son and daughter-in-law Phil & Laurie Wilson of Wasilla and his brother and sister-in-law Bill & Orpha Wilson in Florida. Funeral services were held in Wasilla and per Jays request, no public services will be held.

## Andy White & Radoslav Lorkovic concert

*by Susan Zerbach*

Don't miss this concert on Saturday, September 17 at 8:30pm, in the Susan B. English School Commons!





Andy White

Rad Lorkovic

Seldovia will have an international treat when Andy White teams up with Seldovia favorite Radoslav Lorkovic on September 17. These award winning musicians met in Italy in 1997. Seven years later they are still playing together, '...one of the most unusual and anticipated musical collaborations we've seen. In Rad we get a pianist with both blues and classical roots, and in Andy we get rock and roll and alternative sounds with Celtic origins. This is an astonishing mix for those listeners tired of the same old same old' (Nigteaglecafe.org).

Ticket prices are \$15/adult, \$8/child, and \$35/family. Special price for this night's concert: ages 18-25, four people together get in for \$35 (family rate) For more information contact the Seldovia Arts Council at rowing@ptialaska.net or (907)234-7614.

---

## Aurora alert for Thursday night, Sept 15

A X-Class solar flare (the largest) occurred on September 13 and was pointed directly at Earth. That means that very active aurora should be visible Thursday night if the skys are clear.

### Tidbits . . .

**The end of a lazy summer for these three little bears.  
Next step, find a hole and dig in for the winter.**



Photo courtesy of Bruce Dimick

**City Manager's Corner***by Kurt Reynertson*

- Mike Driscoll has been hired as the Fire Department Administrator
- Lynn Moreno of the Village Safe Water Group has indicated that the money for the engineering design grant will be received within a month and once the money has been received, she will come down to Seldovia to present a grant offer letter to the council at which time the council can either accept the grant or say that we don't want the money.
- Several Kachemak Bay Ferry Project RFPs will be released next week for advertising to Anchorage as well as Seldovia newspapers. Those RFPs include:
  - Organization Planning and Development Services
  - Environmental Assessment Services
  - Title 29 Municipal Port Authority assistance for Seldovia
  - Coordinating Kachemak Bay Ferry Projects with Alaska DOT and State Legislature
- Request for the City Council to get back on the Small Boat Harbor renovation priorities that we started in the summer. It's fall and time to get back on the list. Proposed date of a workshop is October 10, 2005.

**Seldovia Police Report***by A.W. Anderson, Chief of Police***> Repeat Story from last week <**

The Police Department has conducted security checks on 3 residences following suspicious activity reports but have not found anything to be amiss.

One person was contacted after a caller reported they were unable to get in touch with them. All was reportedly fine.

One theft has been reported but the items alleged to have been stolen were located.

A reported trespass was handled informally after it was found to be a civil dispute between two parties.

Two separate reports of 4-wheelers driving erratically and creating a lot of noise, at both the Outside Beach and in the area of SBE School, were taken on different occasions. These reports indicate teens were the source of the activity and both incidents happened on different nights between midnight and 4:00 a.m..

A portable telephone was found in the area of 1 mile, Jakolof Bay Road and turned into the Police Department. If you lost a telephone call the Police Department with a description.

One report of cruelty to animals was taken when it was found that a land otter had been locked in a building in the McDonald Spit area and died as a result. Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call the Police Department.

Police are still requesting anyone with information regarding the Hit & Run accident that occurred on 8/13 at Lakeside Terrace to contact the Department. Bob and Annie Rafferty's vehicle sustained considerable damage in the incident and more information is needed in the case before action can be taken.

A suspicious person report was taken by the Seldovia Police Department. Investigation into the report has failed to reveal the location of the suspect. Anyone observing suspicious activity is asked to call 911 or the Seldovia Police Department immediately. We must work together to keep our area safe.

A Debit Card was lost between town and the Outside Beach Park. Anyone finding the card is asked to turn it into the Police Department.

A black bear was hit by a vehicle on 9/8 in the area of 1.1 mile, Jakolof Bay Road, and the bear was not killed. When in the outer area be alert. An injured bear could be a dangerous bear so if you see a bear that could possibly be injured call the Police as soon as possible.

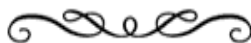
The Seldovia Police Department encourages the public to lock their home heating fuel tanks and automobile gas tanks. With the ever increasing fuel costs we will find more and more thefts of petroleum products. Please take the time to address the problem and save yourselves the cost of replenishing the fuel that would be lost. Also keep an eye on your neighbors property and report any suspicious activity. If you see activity that is suspicious call 911 and the Police will respond and check it out.

The Police Department would like to see Cell Phone coverage in our area. If you agree we have put forms that you can sign at the City Office, Seldovia Fuel & Lube, Main Street Market, the Tidepool Cafe, the Harbormaster's Office and at the Police Department. We would like to see the coverage for many reasons but mostly for safety considerations when the telephone is not readily available to you. If you are in agreement with the Cell Phone coverage reaching Seldovia, please sign on of the forms.

Just a reminder, with fall fast approaching, people are asking about the laws regarding the use of studded tires. Studded tires can be utilized from Ninilchik north starting on September 1st but south of Ninilchik you have to wait until September 15th to run them. The State will be enforcing the studded tire laws on the other side so be aware of the rules.

#### Repeats & Notices

- ▶ *Comprehensive Plan Public Final Version  
Dated August 10, 2005*
- ▶ *Amended FY05 Seldovia City Budget 7-8-2005 (pdf)*
- ▶ *Harbor Survey Priority Results (pdf)*





Copyright © 2005 Seldovia.com, Inc. and Seldovia Gazette. All rights reserved. The Seldovia Gazette is published weekly by Seldovia.com, Inc. Contents of this publication may not be used or reproduced, in whole or in part, in any form or manner without the express written permission of Seldovia.com, Inc. [Click here for additional details.](#)