



# Seldovia Gazette

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### Great Northern Air to Service Seldovia Again

by Chad Frazier



Chad and Kate Frazier, GNA's new owners

Great Northern Air is planning to return scheduled air service to Seldovia. After having been absent for a season or two, the new owners want to resume one of the core elements of GNA and once again start running airplanes to Seldovia. Chad and Kate Frazier, the new owners of GNA, have restructured the business and moved the primary operations directly on to the Lake Hood airstrip just a stone's throw from the main terminal at Anchorage International and centrally placed between downtown and the Dimond area. This location allows for convenient travel to shopping, lodging and further travel.

Chad and Kate bought Great Northern Air last year and, after talking to Mr. Gene Zerkel, the original owner of GNA, thought re-starting service to Seldovia would fit in with their plans to grow the company. Kate is an Alaskan, born and raised in Anchorage, and after going to college in Colorado, she returned to work out of Whittier and a lodge at the foot of the Matanuska Glacier for a few years. She is now a commercial airline pilot, having caught the flying bug watching cub pilots come and go while working at the lodge. Chad came to Alaska 6 years ago. He trained in the lower 48, and wanted to fly in Alaska for a season to gain some experience. Then, as happens up here, fell in love with a girl, and the state and just never left. He has spent the last couple of years

Great Northern Air has been around since the 1960's and has operated aircraft as diverse as the large twin engine De Havilland Caribou capable of carrying up to 30 people and the Cessna 172 which carries a pilot plus three passengers (not sure if this is needed - C.). and has operated out of several locations between Anchorage and Homer. The business currently operates a Cessna 206 which seats up to five people and is planning to bring on board a Cessna 182 seating three passengers by spring. The C-182 will be an economical fit for a few passengers to fly directly between Anchorage and Seldovia. GNA currently specializes in lodges and hunting camps, but also does service to Beluga, Tyonek and Soldotna.

The Fraziers live in Anchorage with their 5 month old, Evelyn, and Lolo the black lab. They enjoy Seldovia, Chad for the King salmon fishing and Kate just likes the sights and feel of the town. They think it's a great little place with plenty of charm and can't wait to visit more often, not only for business, but to just spend more time here is as well.

As stated earlier, the regular service is in the planning stages

flying out of Anchorage Dillingham and King Salmon, honing his skills on the vast terrain and weather of the Alaska peninsula. The two together, were looking for a new challenge when the opportunity to buy Great Northern Air arrived and they jumped at the chance.

and Chad is asking for input to provide the best, most economical service possible. If the readers have any suggestions or just want to chat they can call at (800) 243-1968 or email [chad@gnair.com](mailto:chad@gnair.com).

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