



Meera Kohler
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Mountain Village

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Communities Served

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Alakanuk | New Stuyahok |
| Ambler | Nightmute |
| Andreafsky | Noatak |
| Anvik | Noorvik |
| Brevig Mission | Nulato |
| Chevak | Nunapitchuk |
| Eek | Old Harbor |
| Ekwok | Pilot Station |
| Elim | Pitkas Point |
| Emmonak | Quinhagak |
| Gambell | Russian Mission |
| Goodnews Bay | St. Mary's |
| Grayling | St. Michael |
| Holy Cross | Savoonga |
| Hooper Bay | Scammon Bay |
| Huslia | Selawik |
| Kaltag | Shageluk |
| Kasigluk | Shaktoolik |
| Kiana | Shishmaref |
| Kivalina | Shungnak |
| Kotlik | Stebbins |
| Koyuk | Teller |
| Lower Kalskag | Togiak |
| Marshall | Toksook Bay |
| Mekoryuk | Tununak |
| Minto | Upper Kalskag |
| Mt. Village | Wales |



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Remembering Franklin Simon

We were reminiscing recently about the many fond memories we have of people we have worked with through the years. One of these was a longtime power plant operator who died in September 2011: Franklin Simon from Huslia.

Franklin was a colorful character who wore many hats. He was born in the old village of Cutoff in February 1934. His parents were the late Edwin Simon and Huslia's beloved Elder Lydia Simon. In 1949, the family moved to Huslia from Cutoff.

Franklin lived the subsistence way of life around Huslia—hunting, fishing, gathering from the land and trapping—first as a child, then as a young man and, finally, as an Elder.

In 1962, he married Lillian Koyukuk from the village of Allakaket. Franklin and Lillian raised four children and one grandchild. Franklin worked early on at the Hog River Mine, and Naknek and Helmik canneries. He also worked for the late Jimmy Huntington on the barge hauling freight and construction materials along the Koyukuk and Yukon rivers, and later for Yutana Barge Lines. Franklin also worked as a seasonal emergency firefighter for BLM for 15 seasons, and as a power plant operator for AVEC from 1968 to 1996.

Franklin spent his later years as a revered Elder, helping young people learn subsistence ways and telling stories about his colorful life.

Board Elections

Delegates from our 54 villages will gather next month in Anchorage at our Annual Meeting. The most important business they will conduct will be to elect directors to fill three of the seven seats on the AVEC board. Any natural member of AVEC in good standing—you cannot be past due on your electric bill—may run for the board. You do not have to be present at the Annual Meeting to run, although any member who wishes to attend is welcome.

If you are interested in serving, please send a letter of candidacy to us via email at mkohler@avec.org, or by fax to (800) 478-4086. Your letter of interest will be provided to the nominating committee and to the delegates at the meeting.

Until next time,

Meera Kohler
President and CEO