

# KENAI RIVER PROFESSIONAL GUIDE ASSOCIATION

APRIL 2020

## 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                       |                |                |                               |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Ray DeBardelaben      | President      | (907) 398-2854 | krpga1@gmail.com              |
| Alex Douthit          | Vice President | (907) 398-2080 | ray@longlivethekings.com      |
| Kasey Loomis          | Sec/Treasurer  | (907) 252-1578 | aksportfishing@yahoo.com      |
| Steven "Redman" Blunk | Director       | (907) 227-9861 | ericloomisfishing@hotmail.com |
| Luke Graham           | Director       | (907) 398-6250 | lukegraham_5@yahoo.com        |
| Monte Roberts         | Director       | (907) 398-7461 | mbfenton@ak.net               |
| Ty VanLier            | Director       | (907) 252-5464 | montesfishing@alaska.net      |
| Adam White            | Associate Dir. | (907) 202-3971 | swifter@alaska.net            |
|                       |                |                | ajwak@ak.net                  |

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have one word to start this letter: 'Challenging'. As KRPGA President, I pray and hope that all the world will get through these current trying times. Everyone, everywhere, will be affected by the current COVID19 epidemic. In my opinion, we should all work together to work through the 2020 fishing season. The Federal government is offering many programs for economic stimulus and relief. I encourage all members to do their homework on how and what will most benefit their business, as we all have different models.

Again, this season will be challenging for me personally, as a business owner and as KRPGA President. I accepted this. Did I think I was ready and prepared for the 2-years prior to the 2020 Board of Fish meetings? No, I was not. I had a fairly good idea of what the role of the President of KRPGA was and jumped in with both feet. I got a quick eye opener that it was impossible to take on this challenge on my own. I appreciate my Board and active Association members. This time, I want to thank all the past Presidents of KRPGA.

The Kenai River Professional Guide Association members were professionally represented at the 2020 Board of Fish meetings. All the time and effort spent over the last year preparing for these meetings showed and worked. All members should be thankful and proud of the Board members and Members-at-Large who spent 2-weeks of their time at these meetings, 8-hours a day with very few breaks. *"Your KRPGA team members were well prepared, ethical, and respectful during the 2020 BOF meetings"* is what I heard from several Board of Fish members and Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff. KRPGA submitted 4 proposals. As guides, you will now be able to fish with clients on the Kasilof River while shore fishing. Guides may also transport 5 clients by boat to shore fish on the Kenai River. One of the most important management plan changes accomplished by KRPGA was to get the 1% rule moved back to July 31<sup>st</sup>. KRPGA had many of the positive accomplishments at the meetings. With the internet and talking to fellow guides you should already know. These accomplishments were made because of your loyal support and membership in the KRPGA. Thank you.

I want to thank some of the guides who helped KRPGA be so well represented at BOF: Luke Graham, Steve McClure, Andy Szczensy, Joe Connors, Kasey Loomis, Dave Goggia, Ian McDonald, Monte Roberts, Joe Hanes, Tyland VanLier, Mike Crawford, and Josh Hayes.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED**

KRPGA also completed another Kenai River Guide Academy in March. Unfortunately, the April Guide Academy has been postponed. Thank you to the following who helped with the Kenai River Guide Academy: Joe Connors, Alex Douthit, Kevin Thurman, Josh Hayes, Dustin Klepacki, Steven Redman, Dave Goggia, Dallas Voss, Dustin Voss, Ian McDonald, Jerry Strieby, Mark Wackler, and anyone else that I forgot!

During these challenging days, please remember to support our community businesses that support KRPGA! Please see the KRPGA Christmas Party donation list included when planning your essential needs shopping.

Currently, Mike Flores, Mark Glassmaker, Ty Van Lier, and Joe Connors have been exploring what options KRPGA members may have within the CARES Act and what programs may yet be presented for stimulus or relief. Please keep up to date with the Alaska Health Mandates as they continue to change how we may or may not operate this upcoming season. Until we get through the next month, I don't know if anyone has the answer. Let's all be patient, work together and roll with the punches. It is not only going to be a tough time for guides, it is a tough time for the United States of America.



Ray DeBardelaben, KRPGA President

## **Thank You to Our Local Business Donors!**

**These companies and individuals were part of a record-breaking number who donated to our fundraiser this year. Please buy local whenever you can to support our local economy.**

*AK Fish and Float*  
*Alaska West Air*  
*Alaskan Game Fisher*  
*Allen Sisters*  
*ATEC*  
*Birch Ridge Golf Course*  
*By Sarah*  
*Cannery Lodge*  
*Country Shed Creations*  
*Custom Seafoods*  
*Joe Connors*  
*DeBardelabens*  
*Edward Jones – Ryan Kapp*  
*Edward Jones – Josselyn*  
*O'Connor*  
*Escape with Bridget*  
*Fishe Wear*  
*Four D Carpet One*  
*Gahm's Guns*  
*GUN Apparel*  
*High Adventure Air*  
*Jesse's Mobile Shrinkwrap*  
*Joe & Billie Hardy*

*Kaotic Kreations*  
*Kasey Loomis*  
*Kathryn Joyce*  
*Kenai Aviation*  
*Kenai River*  
*Foundation*  
*Kenai Satellite Phone*  
*Rentals*  
*KMC Consulting*  
*Koffler Boats*  
*KRSA*  
*Louie's*  
*Uptown Motel*  
*Magtec*  
*Mykel's*  
*Ninilchik Charters*  
*Orca Theater*  
*Pizza Boys*  
*Ralph's Marine Service*  
*River Sea & Marine*  
*Safari Club*  
*Sarah Douthit*  
*Shannon Martin*



**Local Love**

**--- WAYS TO HELP ---**

- ♥ SHOP YOUR LOCAL SHOP WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA
- ♥ BUY A GIFT CARD
- ♥ BOOK A FUTURE EVENT
- ♥ POST & TAG PHOTOS OF YOUR FAVORITE LOCALLY BOUGHT ITEMS
- ♥ UTILIZE CURB SIDE PICK UP
- ♥ COMMENT & SHARE SOCIAL MEDIA TO INCREASE VISIBILITY

*Shimano*  
*The Cannery Lodge*  
*Triangle Recycling*  
*Trustworthy*  
*Ty VanLier*



JOIN OUR ASSOCIATION AND HELP US SUPPORT YOU AND OUR FISHERY

The Kenai River Professional Guide Association (KRPGA) is comprised of sport fishing guides, business owners and individual citizens concerned about the future of the fisheries and the guide industry.

As a professional guide, being a member of the KRPGA has many benefits. Some of these benefits can include discounts at local merchants, pro-gear suppliers and some insurance policies. The KRPGA.org website includes links to member's websites and contact information.

KRPGA's goal is promote sport fishing guide opportunity and industry on the Kenai River and the Kenai Peninsula. Additionally, it is our goal to achieve a fair and equitable allocation of salmon resources for sport fisheries and fishing guides.

**2019-20 Membership**

**Professional Membership:**

In order to be a professional member, you must hold an Alaska State Parks commercial operators permit for the Kenai River. Membership dues are \$100 per year and are good until October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Associate Membership:**

Any person or non-fishing guided business may become an associate member. If you are interested in helping the Kenai Peninsula Sport Fishery, this is a great place to start! Membership dues are \$50 per year.

Please circle one:      **PROFESSIONAL / ASSOCIATE**      Is this a renewal?      **YES / NO**

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

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

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

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

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

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

*I am interested in these community service opportunities KRPGA is involved in:*

- Kenai River Clean Up       Take a Kid Fishing Day       Kenai River Guide Academy
- Salmon Celebration       Scholarship Committee

For more information and a list of our current members, please visit our website at [www.krpga.org](http://www.krpga.org)

**KRPGA PO Box 3674 Soldotna, AK 99669**

## REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

KRPGA's regular meetings take place on the second Tuesday of the month October through May at 6:00 p.m. in the Four D Professional Building Conference Room. Please note current meetings are TBD due to social distancing requirements.

Agenda items include:

Call to Order

Treasurer's Report

Approval of Minutes

Fundraiser

Board of Fish

Optional items: *Kenai Soldotna Advisory Committee, Salmon Celebration, Kenai River Clean Up, NPF, KRSA, KRSMMA, Scholarships, LA LIO Office, CIRI Commercial Surface Access Agreements*

Good of the Order

## NEXT MEETINGS/EVENTS

- April 15, cancelled
- May 13, TBD
- *E-mails will be sent to members if meeting arrangements are made.*



## CONTACT US

**Kenai River Professional Guide  
Association**

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Soldotna, AK 99669

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Karen Crapps, Administrator

KRPGA

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