



TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter of the Kenai River Professional Guide Association

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President's Message

Ray DeBardelaben

Our first Fall meeting is scheduled for October 13th (2nd Tuesday of every month). Our annual meeting and general elections will be held November 10th. My term as president will be up at the November General Elections. I am willing to serve again as KRPGA President for 3 more years with your vote. However, I really encourage new association involvement. The bottom line is that if I am re-elected, I want 90% of guides that register with State Parks to be association members.

What your KRPGA has done in the last 2 years was well worth the \$100 bucks to be a member. During the last Board of Fish Cook Inlet cycle, the KRPGA professionally represented all guides and non-guided anglers. I, plus several members, spent the entire 2 weeks at BOF representing KRPGA. Again, all who guided the past few years and plan on the future, I encourage you to join or rejoin our association.

KRPGA is the largest guide association in the state. 2020 has been a challenge for all Kenai River professional guides. In my opinion, guides that were members of KRPGA called other association members for booking before guides that are not members. I have faith that 2021 will be a good season. People feel safe coming to Alaska and people love Alaska. Please call me or any of our board members with questions or ideas.

CONTACT US - Kenai River Professional Guide Association

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Website: www.krpga.org

Board Member Messages

Alex Douthit, VP, Salmon Busters Guide Service

2020 has been an interesting year for everyone. I hope that all businesses are hanging in there and have made the best of the season. Hopefully the saying "What doesn't kill us only makes us stronger" is coming into play. With the downturn of the last few seasons, I have been focusing my energy on our full time business, Kenai Peninsula Driving Instruction and my family.

That being said, I will not run for reelection for a board seat this year. I'm not as vested in the fishing industry as I once was and my time is being pulled towards the driving school. I'm certain that current and new board members will do an amazing job at keeping KRPGA moving in a great direction. KRPGA has done an amazing job the last 4 years making so many positive changes during some very tough times.

I wish everyone a prosperous future and that we see our amazing fishery back to its heyday very soon. See you on the river. -Alex Douthit

Kasey Loomis, Secretary/Treasurer, Kasey Loomis Fishing

During this crazy time when our world, community and businesses have been turned upside down, continuing to stand together is so important. The guide community is a unique one, and I encourage you join the guide association, come to our meetings, be informed about your industry and way of life.

"Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much" - Helen Keller

Monte Roberts, Member at Large, Absolutely Alaskan Fishing Adventures

Hey fellow guides, we all can agree that 2020 was difficult at best, but I am going to try to point out some bright spots...First off I want to thank everyone who helped us with the BOF meetings, it was a nice change to have a couple of our proposals passed as written! I personally benefited from the transport of 5 people reds fishing. The second one that comes to mind is that I didn't see one guide harassing Kings in silver season. Thanks for being careful to protect 'em! The last one I have (for this list) is that although the department of Fish and Game had a really rough year as well, the conversations that we had were cordial and that they listened to our concerns even if they could not do enough to make the goals or identify what they were counting, they heard us and are looking for ways to improve...Hope you all make it through what's going to be a loong winter and look forward to better days! -Monte

Ty VanLier, Member at Large, Alaska Fishing and Lodging

I hope everyone stayed safe and scraped up enough business to survive another season through these trying times. My term on the Board is coming to a close and I will not seek another term. Starting on Monday Oct 5th The NMFS CARES act will have a two-week comment period before they start taking applications. There are significant funds set aside for Charter Captains and Charter business owners. The details will be in the public notice on Monday. - See ya on the creek ...Tyland

ADFG/NOAA CARES Act Draft Spend Plan is now open to public comment.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has published information regarding Section 12005 CARES Act funding, specific to fisheries relief. According to the press release, the sport-charter sector has been allocated 32% of the \$50M headed to Alaska fisheries, approximately \$16M. This is an equal percentage as the Commercial Harvest and Seafood Processing sectors. Review the spend plan here: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg+hottopics.main.



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.

November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021 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 from the date dues are paid until October 31, 2021.

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

KRPGA PO Box 3674 Soldotna, AK 99669 or krpga1@gmail.com

Office Use:

Payment: \$ _____ Date: _____ Method: _____

Card/Letter Sent: _____ Roster: _____ Email: _____ Website: _____



Regular Meeting Agenda items include:

Call to Order
Treasurer's Report
Approval of Minutes
Fundraiser
Board of Fish
Good of the Order/Adjournment

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

2020-2021 Membership Meetings

2nd Tuesday of each month October-May
6:00 p.m. Four D Professional Building
Conference Room

Emails will be sent to members if
scheduling changes occur

- October 13
- November 10- Annual Meeting/Elections
- December - No Meeting - Break
- January 12
- February 9
- March 9
- April 13
- May 11

KRPGA successfully applied for and received Soldotna CARES grant funding in August

KRPGA

PO Box 3674

Soldotna, AK 99669

