

## Nakuqsitmuktuk Atavanuk

*"It's Getting Better All the Time"*

Tim Jones



L to R: Lee Frasl, Glenn Liptak, Dave Anderson, Adam Powalski, Jason Anderson, Sidney Cleveland and Tim Jones team up to take on the "Eight Deadly Wastes".

Mechanics Dave Anderson, Jason Anderson, Sidney Cleveland, Glen Liptak, planner Adam Powalski, and Building Excellence at Red Dog (BEAR) members Lee Frasl and Tim Jones met in February for a three day event that focused on our 777 haul truck Preventive Maintenance (PM) program.

"Our purpose was to increase the availability of the 777 haul trucks", Jason explained, "and to create a more enjoyable work environment for mechanics". The current method was documented from start to finish

*Continued on Page 4*

## FROM THE General Manager

Mike Bonneau



The first quarter of 2011 was off in true Arctic fashion. We experienced a very large storm in February that impacted our business. The storm brought many challenges to the operation which impacted mining and production. I'm very proud of our employees who took great precautions for each other's safety.

The wellbeing of our employees is important to us. We initiated our wellness program by bringing a consultant, trainer onsite to live amongst and work with our employees. This has been received with enthusiasm and high participation by our workforce.

We continue to look at innovative ways to improve the way we do business and appreciate that our employees feel empowered to take the initiative to share their ideas and knowledge to better our processes.

Our reserve drilling activities started up this quarter with drilling on the Qanaiyaq deposit. We have completed approximately 25% of the total planned drilling in this area, and are currently planning to move to the Aqqaluk pit as soon as spring arrives.

We're busy gearing up for spring thaw and preparing for another busy summer season of projects. The two most significant are the Isa Mills and the Main Dam wing wall. Our camp space is expected to reach maximum capacity again as our construction activities swing into top gear.

We said farewell to a few long time employees. Some retired and some moved on to pursue other opportunities. We wish them the best in their future endeavors.

Congratulations,  
2011  
Iditarod Champion  
John Baker  
from  
one top dog to  
another!



## Changing Times

Curtiss Ehrsam

Times have changed and it is good to recognize what is new. The 2011 BEAR team, Neil Christensen, Ed Chung, Curtiss Ehrsam, Lee Frasl, and Tim Jones support Red Dog departments to deliver \$15 million in business improvement ideas in 2011.

BEAR provides updates of contributions of groups and individuals by way of our business improvement process. Lee and Neil provide updates on Maintenance Excellence initiatives and successful idea owners. Tim's focus is on Mine Operations and Materials Management while Ed supports Mill Operations.

This New Year brings a flurry of activity, but we would like to pause long enough to introduce you to our newest member Ed Chung. Ed comes to us from Smithers, British Columbia, known as little Switzerland, with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He began his two years at Red Dog Mine as a process engineer with the Mill Technical department. Recommendations and opportunity landed him on the team where he is fast tracking to interact with different individuals in the organization. Ed works to gain a better understanding of how other departments interact and how the Mill departments' actions impact the bottom line.



L to R: BEAR Team Curtiss Ehrsam, Lee Frasl, Neil Christensen, Tim Jones and Ed Chung.

*Continued on Page 4*

## Employee Service Awards



L to R: Robert Hingsbergen, Ron Carter, John Anderson, Mike Dubie, Steve Jeffords, Mike Gonazales, Peter Nelson, Ronald Corey, Dave Murdock, Curtis Wladyka, Casey Strzelewicz, Bill Harbuck, Loren Quilliam and Justin Morris at one of three 2010 Service Award ceremonies held in 2011, Q1 and Q2.

Red Dog Operations annually recognizes commitment and contributions its employees have made through their years of service to Teck.

In 2010, 61 employees reached a significant milestone in their service.

Service Award ceremonies and dinners are held in honor of those who reached a five-year milestone in the previous year.

*Thank you for your contribution!*

## Congratulations!

### 25 YEARS

*Somers, Jim*

### 20 YEARS

*Beaver, Billy  
Corey, Ron  
Conitz, Gregg  
Dubie, Mike  
Herron, Shaun  
Lee, Ernie  
Lozano, Steve  
Martinisko, John  
Nelson, Peter  
Quilliam, Loren  
Quinn, Joe  
Rawlins, Dan  
Strzelewicz, Casey  
Terry, John  
Walker, Kerry*

### 15 YEARS

*Bruner, Mike  
Chace, Doug  
Diehl, Joe*

### 15 YEARS

*Continued*

*Falzerano, Doug  
Graupe, Chris  
Hadden, Guy  
Harbuck, William  
Karp, Vince  
Phillilps, Ed  
Salm, Tony  
Tobin, John  
Van Zyl, Dennis*

### 10 YEARS

*Ballot, Issac  
Bolton, Art  
Carter, Ron  
Hilton, Tom  
Hjem, Todd  
Jeffords, Steve  
Monroe, Jeff  
Murdock, Dave  
Randall, Charlie  
Witzel, Mark  
Wladyka, Curtiss*

### 5 YEARS

*Anderson, John  
Ballot, Evans  
Booth, Don  
Bousquet, Richard  
Brown, James  
Conwell, Allison  
Gonzales, Mike  
Hadley, Sr., Robert  
Hingsbergen, Robert  
Hinz, Freddie  
Jackson, Sherrell  
Lee, Jason  
McCue, Phillip  
Mills, Lorena  
Morris, Justin  
Robinson, Brady  
Whitehead, Mark  
Wilson, Myles*

## “Mr. Red Dog”

In 1988, young Jim Kulas worried about making a long five year commitment as Red Dog’s Chief Geologist for Cominco Alaska. Twenty-three years later, in March 2011, as Manager of Environmental & Public Affairs, he found it nearly impossible to retire!

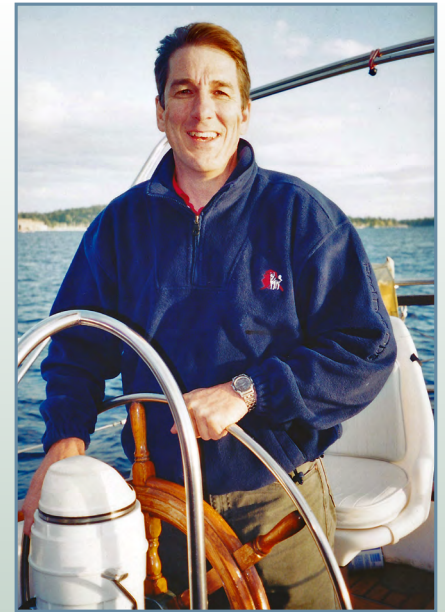
Working with Jim and seeing his commitment to Red Dog, it’s apparent that it has been a special place for him. When asked what made it so special, he responded, “it’s not one thing or several things; it’s the entire package – special for its unique geography and setting (arctic and remote); for the culture of its neighbors and the region; for the family atmosphere of the workforce and; special for the role I was allowed to play.”

In 1996, Jim became the Environmental Manager and in 2008, Manager, Environmental & Public Affairs. Jim feels that his significant accomplishments were in the early years at startup and being on the Discovery Team of the Aqqaluk deposit, “we went from nothing to a functioning operation, everyday brought on a new challenge that had

to be solved.” He recalls the excitement of each drill hole in the 1996 Aqqaluk exploration program and 15 years later, the challenge of obtaining the authorization to mine it. “Startup and Aqqaluk were a team effort and it was a privilege to be a part of that,” Jim said.

Most significant and lasting are his well established friendships developed over the years. To the people of the northwest region, Jim was “Mr. Red Dog.” Jim says “people are honest, caring and real. My values are the same and it helped to make many friends and I had the privilege to represent Red Dog.”

Jim’s legacy will be visible long after his retirement in the programs that he started during his time at Red Dog. He initiated support of healthy youth and education programs in the region including Boys & Girls Clubs; Youth Leaders, bullying and suicide prevention; Red Dog’s National Basketball Association program that motivates students to excel in school and community service; and since 1997, partnering with 2011 Iditarod Champion John Baker to inspire



*“I’ll never forget the friends I met along the way – sitting in someone’s home, having coffee and hearing their stories about their lives was one of my favorites.” -Jim Kulas*

students to succeed in their endeavors.

“Jim has done more than any one person to ensure the success of Red Dog, we owe him a debt of gratitude that we’ll never be able to repay,” said Larry Hanna, General Mine Foreman who has worked at the Red Dog for 19 years.

*Happy sailing and retirement from the Red Dog crew!*



## Healthy Changes

Jim Somers

Red Dog is pleased to have commenced its Wellness program in the first quarter of 2011. Chris Newans, Wellness Consultant and Trainer of Wellness Initiatives Network for Alaska (WIN Alaska) will work a one week on/one week off schedule at Red Dog.

Chris has a distinguished background in athletics and strength and conditioning training at the professional and college levels and the public at large. Chris has been busy meeting people at the mine and port sites at tool box and safety meetings and our living accommodations, answering questions and providing information about his background and about the WIN Alaska program.

Employees are completing their Personal Wellness Profiles to provide a current state of wellness and will then meet with Chris to set a course to improve upon their biometric numbers. It’s important to know your numbers and with Chris’ help, find out what to do to better them and ultimately improve your overall health and wellbeing.

We welcome Chris and look forward to making positive healthful changes happen for Red Dog workers.

## “Good Hunting, Henry”



Henry Jackson, Jr. retired from Red Dog after fifteen years of service as a Level Four (highest milestone) “oiler” in the mine department on February 23, 2011.

Henry was born in Kiana and now lives in Selawik and plans to spend his retirement out in the country hunting on the land he loves.

Prior to his time at Red Dog, Henry worked for on the Trans Alaska pipeline for 11 years. He considers the Caterpillar machinery that he worked with for the majority of his career as his “pride and joy” when it comes to heavy equipment.

Henry says that he enjoyed working with his crew while at Red Dog because of their good attitude and teamwork.

*Happy retirement and good hunting from the Red Dog crew!*

## Nakuqsitmuktuk

*Continued from Page 1*

and found that the two mechanics working on the PM climbed up ladders 25 times, and walked about 3 miles in their 5 hour job. “My knees hurt at the end of the day”, said Glenn, “and now I can see why!”

It wasn’t about working faster, but working smarter, so the mechanics split PM tasks into “internal” which must be completed while the truck is down and “external” which could be completed even while the truck is operating. “It’s like a NASCAR race and a racecar pulling in for a pit stop.”

Red Dog Occupational Health and Safety Committee (OHSC) is a group of Red Dog people who care about the safety and well being of our workforce.

What we do at work has an impact on our coworkers. When we choose unsafe behavior or when there is fear of reprisal from other crew members that prevent us from speaking up against unsafe behavior, we are allowing potential harm to come to us all.

We have a wide range of age and experience in various positions. We work together to keep the whole operation going. OHSC is a tool that helps us to make sure that everyone is safe. We learn of the importance of effective, efficient, and productive work.

There is a ripple effect. When I look at a crew member, I see more than just that individual. He or she is more than likely related to someone in my community that I know and care about. We are connected, his or her life matters to me and many others.

As an active OHSC member, my eyes have been opened about the connection to my working community here at Red Dog. Our choices impact everyone around us. I choose to go home safe and healthy every day.

said Tim, “You want to be prepared to perform tasks and get it back in the race.”

After grouping tasks by areas on the truck, the team created a set of checklists. Lee described the Eight Deadly Wastes; Defects, Over-Production, Waiting, Not Using the Talents of our People, Transportation, Inventory, Motion, and Extra-Processing. The team spotted several wastes in their shop then worked another PM using their checklists by area and was happy to find that their time had successfully been reduced by more than an hour!

“When we finished that original PM, I just knew it couldn’t be done any faster than 5 hours”, said Dave, “I couldn’t believe the new way was significantly faster!” An added benefit was that the total distance walked was cut to ¾ mile and only 12 trips up the ladders. “I’m going to have to join a health club now,” said Dave. Sid reflected on the

## “We are Connected”

Alta Horst



Right, Alta Horst, Heavy Equipment Operator and Red Dog miners OSHA representative escorts Mine Safety & Health Administration Inspector Mike Murray on a tour of the pit.

three day event, and remarked “*Arigaa nakuuniaqtuq*”. Translation: “*Fine, it will be good*”.

## Changing Times

*Continued from Page 2*

Recent activities include revising the Mill visual Results, Action, Review (RAR) board, and the idea generating session to resolve the potential avalanche hazard from the CSB roof. He enjoyed discussions that captured the ideas to improve the boards.

Ed started out training one on one with former BEAR Joe Neumann. Subsequently, he has analyzed flotation, dewatering, and grinding information. Next up is to facilitate idea generating sessions that capture ideas to reduce the time it takes to start up the mill and to maximize the milling rate after relining Ball Mill 4. His advice for new team members: “Keep an open mind about the business improvement processes and it should go well”.

## Filling the Gap

Robert Mercurief



L to R: Phil Booker, Electrician; Mechanics Steve Jeffords, Terry Adams and Bob Harvey, and Electrician Robet Yarnell, port site team.

Prior to 1998, Red Dog's concentrate was stored in Concentrate Storage Building (CSB) 1 at the port site. Lead concentrate was stored on the south side and zinc on the north.

Zinc was delivered to different spots in the CSB using a railed tripper and lead was conveyed to one of 5 table plows. Table plows are a system that moves the conveyor belt up to a "V" style plow and pushes the ore off the conveyor belt. To keep the lead and zinc concentrate separate, a 100 to 120 foot neutral zone gap was maintained between the zinc and lead. No material was stored here.

When CSB 2 was completed, a decision was made to make CSB 1 an all zinc storage and CSB 2 zinc and lead storage. The concentrate dump conveying system in CSB 1 was modified to dump zinc on plows 1 through 5 previously used for lead. The railed tripper was retained to dump zinc to the rest of the building. The problem was the neutral zone.

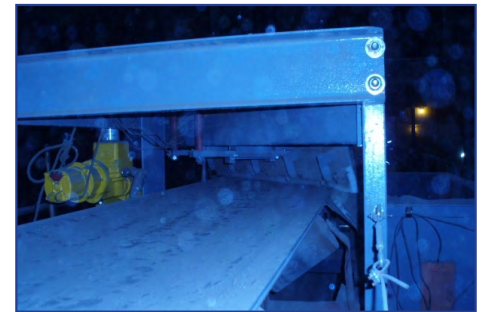
There was still a 100 foot area between the plow dump system and the tripper dump system with no way to dump concentrate into the neutral zone. This area was filled by a dozer pushing each truck load into it. Using the dozer to fill the gap resulted in a compacted (hard) concentrate zone which required a dozer to break up before shipping out. Chunks of concentrate plugged chutes and hoppers, causing grief for the shipping operation as well as additional man and equipment hours.

In the summer of 2010, Port Site Supervisor, John Terry and Mechanics Terry Adams, and Steve Jeffords pooled their experience and ideas to come up with a

location and a plan for a table plow on the P4 conveyor belt. The location and table plow idea was aided by Randy Lewallen, Reliability Centered Maintenance and was given the go ahead by Port Coordinator, Kie Curtis to start the project.

The modifications now allow for even distribution of ore storage and saved an estimated 750 man and equipment hours. This project had many influences including the business improvement mantra of "every person, every day looking to improve the processes they influence". The port team put their experience and efforts into making a good idea a reality.

*Good job to you all!*



New plow #6 at the Concentrate Storage Building at the port site makes zinc storage easier.

## Andy's Story

*Our gratitude to Andy Willman, Red Dog Environmental Technician for sharing his inspiring story of why he grew his hair out for two years and three months. Thank you, Andy.*



"My last hair cut before this was in December, 2008. When I cut it a couple of weeks ago, the longest strands were 18 inches. It was

donated to *Locks for Love* organization. My reasons for doing this came about when my son (Barrett) was in the hospital for premature birth. We had recently lost Barrett's twin sister, Aubrey.

My wife and I were sitting at Barrett's bedside talking. She wanted me to get a haircut and I just didn't want to do it because I really wasn't motivated to do a whole lot at that time. The nurse overheard us and told us about the *Locks for Love* program. She had worked with children that lose their hair from different types of treatment and it's difficult for kids to deal with the loss of their hair.

It is a good cause and it was a way for me to help and give back. After that conversation, I decided to donate the

hair; I just had to grow it. It was a little more difficult than I thought. I learned a bit from the experience, like a lot of people make assumptions about a guy with long hair. It was fun though and I would do it again, as long as I don't go gray any time soon."



December 25, 2010, three months before cut.

## Best Wishes!



Betty Sheldon has moved on to a new opportunity after 21 years at Red Dog. Betty worked in various departments and positions over the years, her most recent as Loss Control Clerk.

*Best wishes from the Red Dog crew!*



"Can I use Dad's safety glasses that he uses when he's mowing the yard to light my sparklers?" Caitlynn Hanna, Larry Hanna, Mine General Foreman's daughter asked her Mom Lori on New Year's Eve.

## Congratulations!



Joe Conover, Sr., Facility Operating Technician invited guest Ana Carrazco to Red Dog for a holiday visit and surprised her with a proposal of marriage during the New Year's Day dinner.

She said, "Yes!"

Beginning in Q4, 2010, Red Dog firefighters partnered with the borough to share their skills and knowledge with village fire fighters and elementary students in the region. (See full story Q4, 2010)

"My favorite part of the assembly was test smoke alarms, plan and practice exit drills, know two ways out of every room, get out - stay out of burning houses, and stop, drop and roll. Once I grow up or after college I might work at Red Dog mine like my Dad Willie." --Walter, 5th Grader, Noatak

"I've been practicing for fire alarms. It was fun trying on your safety jacket. I hope you come again." --Tanya, Ambler

"My favorite part of the assembly was when you let us try on your jacket, helmet [and] face mask. My next best part was when Chief Chandler put on his fire department stuff in about 42.2 seconds. The third best was telling us about their tools." --Joel, 5th Grader, Noatak

"Hi to Fire Department people. I like Fire Fighters. Thank you for letting us know two ways out in a fire. Keep up the good work fire department." --Gabriel, 5th Grader, Noatak

"My favorite part was getting to know you guys. Please come again next year." --Kobie, 5th Grader, Noatak



"The students and the response we received was great. I felt like a rockstar with all the cheering, stomping on the bleachers and applause while putting on my gear!" --Bob Chandler, Red Dog Fire Chief



Left: Red Dog Firefighters Sonya Adams and Glenn Davey demonstrate equipment use.

Right: Noatak Firefighter Frank Booth gears up a student.



## To Go or Not

John Martinesko



Kitchen Helper, Charlotte Custer says "thanks" for choosing the right tray.

When you enter the food line at the Red Dog cafeteria, you have a choice of what to put your food on. You can use the china dishes and silverware or you can choose the disposable to go containers with plastic utensils.

The to go containers are provided for those who want to take their meals out of the dining area. However, if you are eating in the dining room you should use the washable china and silverware. Following are some reasons why: when employees were asked why they were using the disposable containers most responded they were saving the dishwasher work. When asked, the dishwasher said the worse part of the job was emptying out the trash bins and carrying the bags to the dumpster.

Using disposables does not save work and it uses resources. The surface crew has to haul the dumpsters to the incinerator, burning diesel fuel in the process, where diesel fuel is used again to incinerate the containers. All of this creates air emissions and more work for employees.

Other factors in the life-cycle of the to go containers are the costs and air emissions associated with shipping them thousands of miles to Red Dog. China plates only have to be shipped once and can be used over and over.

Going back further in the life-cycle of the disposables, the process of manufacturing them also creates pollution. The worse offender of this is Styrofoam. We stopped purchasing

Styrofoam containers though they are considerably less expensive. Components used to make Styrofoam containers including hazardous benzene, ethylene and styrene can be harmful to the environment. Hawaii actually has a bill to ban Styrofoam containers because of these concerns. The to go containers Red Dog has purchased are a better option. We all can do our part to reduce waste and minimize pollution by using the china.

Our environment and the dishwasher will thank you.

## The Perfect Storm



Snow drift blocking the 12 foot high M4A mill building garage door and man door.

We're accustomed to cold weather and storms in the arctic; however, the storm of February, 2011 is one to remember.

On February 22 and 23, Red Dog experienced one of its largest accumulations of snow fall in a two-day period, 16.7 inches.

We sustained winds of greater than 30 mph for over 24 hours with a maximum gust of 83 mph over a one-minute timeframe. Drifts of over 20 feet deep could be found throughout the property.

All outdoor activity was stopped; roads and the airport closed, the concentrate storage building filled up, and the mill shut down. Food choices in the kitchen were good, but limited because cargo planes could not get in.

Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> was weekly crew change-out day. The airport stayed closed until the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Saturday is also a regular weekly crew change-out day with fewer employees. By the time aircraft could finally get in, approximately, 400 employees traveled in and out of Red Dog on Saturday, February 26.

At the end of the day, through the storm and challenges it brought, more important than anything, everyone was safe!

*Great work Red Dog!*

## 2011 Exploration

Hugh Stewart



Connors Drilling crew Michael Mesa, Kevin Lincoln, Joshua Hadley and Foreman James Grabowski in front of Tuuq Drilling's Duralite 1000N core rig.

It's been ten years since Exploration last core drilled during the winter season at Red Dog.

In the first quarter of 2011, Red Dog initiated a winter core drilling program at the Qanaiyaq deposit located approximately 1 mile south and east of the mine complex.

Tuuq Drilling, LLC has sub-contracted Connors Drilling, LLC to complete infill work. Drilling will continue for the remainder of the year on the Qanaiyaq (32,500 feet in 127 holes) and Aqqaluk (55,925 feet in 105 holes) mineral deposits.

We welcome Mike Mesa and Josh Hadley, the first of three trainees from the region to graduate from the Connors Driller Assistant training program.

# Wayne Hall

MANAGER, COMMUNITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS



Wayne Hall has accepted the position of Manager, Community & Public Relations. Wayne joined the Red Dog team 12 years ago as Environmental Coordinator, in 2003 was promoted

to Senior Coordinator and on to Environmental Superintendent in 2008.

Including his time with Teck, Wayne has over 20 years of experience in mining and environment stewardship and has worked at other mines in Alaska and California. Wayne grew up in Juneau and still resides in Alaska today.

Wayne's role in an environmental capacity allowed him to work closely with Red Dog's public and community relations team to address topics important to Red Dog stakeholders in the region and statewide.

The move from an environmental role to community and public relations is a natural transition for Wayne and one that he looks forward to. "One of the first and primary topics people want to talk about when it comes to Red Dog is the environment. With my environmental background, and my personal goal to learn more about our region and our stakeholders, I personally want to effectively communicate that Red Dog is an environmentally responsible and safe operation that positively impacts the social, cultural and economic health of northwest Alaska and that our desire is to work towards a lasting legacy where our people and communities consider themselves better off as a result of their interaction with us."

In the summer of 1987, the dock at the port site was completed, a construction pad built and road surveying started up.



By August of that summer, two miles of the road was completed. The 52 mile long pioneer road from the port site to the airport was completed by December, 1987.



Fritz Westlake, Community Relations Officer and students of the region at the Rose Garden Arena, home of the Portland Trailblazers National Basketball Association team in Portland, Oregon. Nine students were selected based on outstanding performance in their schools and communities.

Stay tuned for the full story in the next issue of Suvisi!

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**Suvisi** (Sü-vi-see) in the Inupiaq language means: "what are you people doing?"

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