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Cover image by Jon Van Zyle, Ollie’s First Year (page 9)
Tidal Echoes

_Tidal Echoes_ is a literary and art journal that showcases the art and writing of Southeast Alaskans. The journal is published by the University of Alaska Southeast and edited by undergraduate students on the Juneau campus. It may be purchased for $5 from Emily Wall at emilly.wall@uas.alaska.edu.

Permafrost

_Permafrost_ is the farthest north literary journal in the world and is published annually by the graduate students in the UAF Department of English. For submission information and subscription rates, visit www.permafrostmag.com or email editor@permafrostmag.com.
Nearly two million people visit Alaska every year, drawn to its spectacular views and endless activities.

But with such size and so many options, it can seem overwhelming when it comes to planning a family vacation to the 49th state. The best place to start? With a local, of course.

Journalist and Alaska resident Erin Kirkland knows every corner of the state, and she has crossed thousands of miles with her son. In *Alaska on the Go*, she offers a fresh take on exploring some of the most beautiful land in the world, with tips and tricks that only an insider knows. Serving as the perfect tour guide, Kirkland identifies the best and most kid-friendly destinations in cities across Alaska. She offers practical advice on everything from restaurants to rest stops and from weather surprises to wild animals. Photos, maps, and sample itineraries make it easy for parents to plan a trip that will delight and entertain everyone.

The only family travel guide written by a current Alaskan, *Alaska on the Go* makes the state more accessible than ever. Whether traveling via car, cruise ship, or dog sled, this practical, portable guide will open up a new world of memorable adventures.

**ERIN KIRKLAND**

Erin Kirkland is a contributing editor to *Alaska* magazine, cohost of the Alaska Travelgram Radio Show, and publisher of AKontheGO.com, a website dedicated to family travel and outdoor recreation in Alaska. She lives in Anchorage, Alaska.
Surrender to a wild river and unexpected things can happen. Time on the water can produce moments of pristine clarity or hatch wild thoughts, foster a deep connection with the real world or summon the spiritual. *River of Light: A Conversation with Kabir* is centered in one man’s meditations and revelations while traveling on the Copper River in southcentral Alaska. The river’s shifting landscape enriches the poem’s meditative mood while currents shape the poem and the pacing of its lines. The mystic poet Kabir is Morgan’s internal guide, and he serves as a divine foil through quiet stretches that bring to mind questions about war and human nature. Artwork by distinguished Alaska artist Kesler Woodward is a sublime companion to the text.

A combination of adventurer’s tale and spiritual quest, *River of Light* takes the reader on a soulful journey that is both deeply personal and profoundly universal.

JOHN MORGAN

ILLUSTRATED BY KESLER WOODWARD

John Morgan has published five books, most recently *Forms of Feeling: Poetry in Our Lives*. He was the first writer-in-residence at Denali National Park. Kesler Woodward is professor of art emeritus from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He is the author of six books, most recently *Painting Alaska*.

“THIS POEM BY ONE OF OUR FINEST POETS DRAWS UPON SUCH INCANDESCENT, CREATION-LADEN WORDS TO REVEAL THE ‘AUTHENTIC WILDERNESS’ THAT FLOURISHES WITHIN US AND, YES, WITHOUT US. *RIVER OF LIGHT* DAZZLES WITH THE PURE PLEASURE OF ITS PASSAGE.” — MICHAEL WATERS, AUTHOR OF *GOSPEL NIGHT* AND EDITOR OF *CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POETRY*
From the moment of our first steps and from the time of our earliest ancestors, our lives revolve around finding our way through the world. The paths we choose and the guides we trust can forever change our course. Mariner Holly Hughes has spent much of her life on the open sea, experiencing first-hand the practical and philosophical consequences of navigating through uncertain waters. In *Sailing by Ravens*, she gathers the wisdom gained from life on the ocean, creating an exquisite collection of poems.

In *Sailing by Ravens*, Hughes draws on her more than thirty seasons working Alaska waters and weaves personal experiences and her love of the sea with the history and science of navigation, exploring the excitement and confusion inherent in finding one's way in love and in life. They give insight into life as a fisherwoman in a heavily male profession and show that sometimes the best directions to follow are those that come from the natural forces in our lives. Hughes deftly navigates “the wavering, certain path of a woman’s heart,” leaving a trail that will inspire readers in their own journeys.

**HOLLY J. HUGHES**

Holly J. Hughes teaches writing at Edmonds Community College, where she co-directs the Convergence Writers Series.

“TO ACCOMPANY HUGHES’S REVERIES IS TO EXPERIENCE A VENTURING SOUL WHOSE ARRIVAL REPLICATES THE FEARFUL EXUBERANCE OF FREEDOM; HER DISCOVERY IS THAT WITHOUT SUCH FREEDOM, WE CANNOT Delineate THE BOUNDARIES OF OUR INNER SURVIVAL MAPS.” — TESS GALLAGHER, AUTHOR OF MIdNIGHT LANTERN: NEw AND SELECTED POEMS
It’s easy to find joy in a playful, agile creature that enjoys sliding on its belly. River otters are among the most adorable, charismatic animals in North America, and with a territory that spans the continent, they’re a far-reaching favorite. *Ollie’s First Year* is a lively wildlife adventure that captures the wonder and delight elicited by the playful otter.

The book follows Ollie the Otter through a year of new experiences, from swimming lessons to foraging practice, and through capers with his littermates. His budding knowledge of the world is put to the test when he is separated from his family and must travel through the forest alone. Luckily, a joyful reunion with his family awaits.

Longtime children’s book author Jonathan London and well-known Alaska illustrator Jon Van Zyle team up again to bring Ollie’s story to life with vibrant illustrations and text perfect for ages 2–6. Author notes about otter biology and habitat along with tips for keeping their environment safe will teach younger readers about wildlife and inspire them to protect it.

*Ollie’s First Year*

**BY JONATHAN LONDON**
**ILLUSTRATED BY JON VAN ZYLE**

Jonathan London is a poet and author of numerous picture books, including the *Froggy* series. He lives in Graton, California. Jon Van Zyle is recognized throughout the U.S. for his striking paintings of Alaska’s wildlife and landscape. He lives near Eagle River, Alaska.
In the second half of the nineteenth century, an epic race was underway in some of the most brutal parts of the planet. Explorers from around the world hoped to stake their claim on the Arctic, with the North Pole being the ultimate prize. Those with the greatest success found that the fastest way to travel was on four legs: using a team of hardworking sledge dogs.

Harness to the Pole follows the adventures of eight American explorers and their dog teams, starting with Elisha Kent Kane and ending with Robert Peary, the controversial claimant to the title of first to reach the North Pole. While history has long forgotten these “little camels of the North,” Nickerson reveals how critical dogs were to the arctic conquest. Besides providing transportation in extreme conditions, sledge dogs protected against wolves and polar bears, helped in hunting, found their way through storms, and provided warmth in extreme cold. They also faced rough handling, starvation, and the possibility of being left behind as expeditions plunged ahead. Harness to the Pole is an extraordinary—and unflinching—look at the dogs that raced to the top of the world.

SHEILA NICKERSON

Sheila Nickerson is a poet and author, most recently of Disappearance: A Map: A Meditation on Death and Loss in the High Latitudes and Midnight to the North: The Untold Story of the Inuit Woman Who Saved the Polaris Expedition. A former resident of Alaska, she now lives in Bellingham, WA.
Swedish missionary Albin Johnson arrived in Alaska at the turn of the century, thousands of miles from home and with just two weeks’ worth of English classes under his belt. While he intended to work among the Tlingit tribes of Yakutat, he found himself in a wave of foreign arrivals as migrants poured into Alaska, seeking economic opportunities and the chance at a different life. While Johnson came with pious intentions, others imposed western values and vices and left disease and devastation in their wake.

Seventeen Years in Alaska is Johnson’s eyewitness account of this tumultuous time. It is a captivating narrative of an ancient people facing rapid change and of the missionaries working to stem a corrupting tide. His journals offer a candid look at the beliefs and lives of missionaries, and they ultimately reveal the profound effect that he and other missionaries had on the Tlingit. Tracing nearly two decades of spiritual hopes and earthbound failures, Johnson’s memoir is a fascinating portrait of a rapidly changing world in one of the most far-flung areas of the globe.

ALBIN JOHNSON
EDITED AND TRANSLATED BY MARY EHRLANDER

Albin Johnson (1865–1947) graduated from the Swedish Mission Covenant’s mission school and then lived and worked in Yakutat, Alaska, until 1905. Mary Frank Ehrlander is professor of history and director of the Northern Studies Program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.
In the Aleutian Islands, wildflowers are king. Persistent low temperatures mean trees are unable to thrive, and so swaths of open tundra serve as the dramatic stage for a stunning variety of flowers. *Wildflowers of Unalaska Island* is the only guide to this flora, covering more than 160 species of flowering plants in a backpack-friendly book.

Each species is introduced and clearly defined and is accompanied by a photograph and line drawings. Many of these plants occur across a wide area of coastal Alaska—others are unique to the Aleutians. The introduction includes background on the unique geologic history, climate, and habitats of the archipelago to fully round out the user’s appreciation of the dramatic environment in which these hardy plants thrive.

"PROVIDES A THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF THE FLORA AND ETHNOBOTANY OF UNALASKA ISLAND, IT IS WELL WRITTEN FOR AMATEUR PLANT ENTHUSIASTS, AND...IT SHOULD BE WELL RECEIVED BY PROFESSIONAL BOTANISTS."—PATRICIA HOLLOWAY, DIRECTOR, GEORGESON BOTANICAL GARDEN, UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

**SUZI GOLODOFF**

Suzi Golodoff has been a resident of Unalaska for more than forty years. She teaches locally and offers Aleutian birding and natural history tours.
Son of an American journalist and a Russian writer, Victor Fischer grew up in the shadow of Hitler and Stalin. After Eleanor Roosevelt personally engineered his family’s escape from Russia, Fischer went on to fight for the Allied Forces in World War II, serve as a delegate to the Alaska Constitutional Convention, and later return to Russia with lessons of democracy. Fischer’s experiences on both sides of the Atlantic make for a timely and thrilling memoir.


**To Russia with Love**

**An Alaskan’s Journey**

Victor Fischer held several government positions and was on the faculty at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and Anchorage, where he was director of the Institute for Social and Economic Research. Charles Wohlforth is the author of numerous books about Alaska.
The only Dena’ina dictionary in existence, the *Dena’ina Topical Dictionary* is a critical resource for those studying and sustaining this language. With thirty-three chapters, nearly seven thousand entries, and two hundred maps, illustrations, and diagrams, it is one of the most thorough and refined lexicon references for an Alaska Native language. This revised edition adds more than seventy-five new vocabulary entries and provides updates to existing entries. It also includes a new chapter on grammatical terminology and a reconstruction of the Dena’ina clan system.

“EVERY PAGE IS FULL OF GEMS, AND IT IS EASY TO SPEND HOURS WITH THIS DICTIONARY…. THE RICHNESS OF THE VOCABULARY IN THE DICTIONARY IS REMARKABLE.”—KEREN D. RICE, *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF AMERICAN LINGUISTICS*

**Compiled by James Kari**

**James Kari** is professor emeritus of linguistics with the Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

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