

# ◆ On The Wings Of Eagles ◆

The American Bald Eagle Foundation Newsletter

July, 2000

## Mural Dedication a Stunning Success Native Community Leaders Dedicate Mural

Before the second largest crowd in American Bald Eagle Foundation history, Tlingit elders Joe Hotch and Ed Warren dedicated the Tlingit subsistence mural early in April. This painting is not only a beautiful piece of artwork, it is also a culturally and historically correct depiction of the Tlingit way of life in the Chilkat Valley. The mural includes subsistence hunting and fishing techniques, as well as Tlingit crafts and art. In addition to telling a wonderful story the mural also has some interesting animals that are so well camouflaged that most people do not find them until they are pointed out. For example, the Wilson's Warbler is perched atop a branch but is nearly hidden by the surrounding foliage. And while a number of Bald Eagles are readily visible there are just as many soaring in the background sky that are not so visible and require a bit of



Tlingit leaders Joe Hotch and Ed Warren dedicating the ABEF mural. Photo courtesy of Tom Morphet and the Chilkat Valley News.



Here's a look at our new ABEF logo

studying to find. The mural complies with Tlingit culture in that there is a nebulous zone at both the beginning and ending of the painting. This is representative of the fact that no one knows the details of the beginning or ending of time on earth. Additionally, the mural begins in the season of Spring, progresses through Summer, and concludes in the Fall. The assistance of the Tlingit elders proved invaluable in ensuring that the mural would be historically accurate and that important aspects of traditional Tlingit life would be included. We have created an icon key that shows what the various icons in the topographical portion of the painting represent. Visitors are often astonished that such a detailed view of the 2.6 million square acres depicted in the painting could be drawn from memory by

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### Director's Corner

by  
Dan Hart

Hello again, I hope you are having as wonderful a summer as we are here in Haines. I would like to start by thanking all of our new and renewing members for their support of the ABEF. Our membership continues to increase at the fastest rate in our history and we are very grateful for that support. While on the subject of support we must tell you that this year our tour operators and independent visitors are breaking attendance records on a daily basis. We have broken our one day attendance record 4 times in the last 4 weeks. Our current record is 808 visitors on a single day. At our current pace we will exceed our all time annual attendance by at least 5,000 visitors this year, topping out somewhere around 46,000. In other news our founder, Dave Olerud,

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