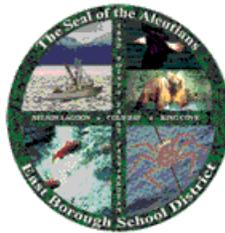
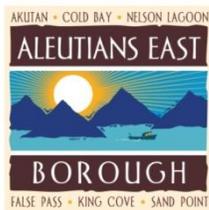


## In the Loop



Bringing the Aleutians East Borough, the AEB School District and Eastern Aleutian Tribes together by sharing common goals.

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## Unusual Winter Weather Descends Upon the Aleutians



An avalanche roared through the A.C. warehouse in King Cove last week. Photo by Charly Wilson.

It's typical for residents in the Aleutians to see harsh, stormy weather accompanied by gale-force winds during the winter. But experiencing icy-cold single digits followed shortly thereafter by blizzards and huge dumps of snow is anything but typical for this region. This winter, Aleutians East Borough communities faced numerous challenges, including avalanche dangers and digging out of their driveways.

Last week, an avalanche cascaded down a mountainside on the west side of King Cove above the harbor, slamming into the A.C. warehouse. Fortunately, no one was inside the

warehouse or the store when it broke loose.



Two bobcats and about ten people plowed and shoveled the snow from the avalanche at the A.C. warehouse. Photo by Paul and Marlene Dushkin.

“I had decided to close early last Wednesday because the storm was coming,” said A.C. store manager Jeff Watt. “We left 15 minutes before the avalanche hit the store.”

Watt said if he hadn’t closed early, he or one of his employees could have been badly injured.

“I know it,” he said. “We have to go back there to shut lights off and put stock away for the day.

Somebody would have been back there.”

“If anyone had been in the A.C. area when it happened, it would have been all over with,” said King Cove Police Chief Robert Gould. “It was packed like cement when it came down.”

Watt said photos and the store’s surveillance video show the snow barreling through the back half of the warehouse, filling the area. The building has a bulkhead between the warehouse and the store.

“I think it was just air pressure built up that stopped it from coming any further,” Watt added. “One of the



It took several days to clear out the snow in the A.C. warehouse following the avalanche. Photo by Paul and Marlene Dushkin.



A.C. store manager Jeff Watt said one of the emergency exits on the side of the building was blown open. Photo by Paul and Marlene Dushkin.

emergency exits on the side of the building was blown open.”

It took four days to clear out the mess left in the slide’s wake.

“It was a lot of snow,” said Watt. “We had two bobcats going and 8 to 10 people helping with the shoveling.”

That was just one of the avalanches that came loose within several days of each other. Another occurred one-quarter of a mile away from the A.C. store. A third snow slide broke loose on the east side of town, while a fourth had the potential to bury two police officers as they were driving on the northeast side of King Cove on Rams Creek Road.



**A snow drift blocked the doors of the shed belonging to Rudy Dushkin, Sr. in downtown King Cove. Photo by Paul and Marlene Dushkin.**

“It actually went right in between two of my police cars as the officers were returning from a call. They lucked out by seconds,” Gould added. “It came down with alder brush and you name it. The guy in the rear lost the side of his tail lights. He didn’t even know what happened at first. All of a sudden, he’s right up against a big snow slide. It could very well have hurt someone, but the guardrail stopped it from going any further.”

King Cove has experienced the gamut of temperatures this winter, ranging from three degrees above zero with icy, howling winds just two weeks ago to blizzard conditions and temperatures in the mid-30s. Residents faced plenty of challenges during both scenarios.

“With the high winds and the chill factor, a lot of people had problems with their heating fuel jelling up,” said Gould. Ya know, it gets so cold and they had to fight to get their heating systems going.”

Now that it has warmed up into the 30s, icy roads and avalanches are the latest danger.

“Another snow slide came halfway down the mountain,” Gould added. “It was a pretty good size. We’re lucky that one stopped. You can see

the build up where it’s sitting right now. Hopefully, we won’t have any more of this slide activity.”



**Sand Point residents woke up to find their cars buried last week. The City received about two feet of snow within a 24-hour period. Photo by Tina Anderson.**

King Cove's neighbors to the north also saw plenty of activity earlier this week, but of a different kind. On Wednesday, Sand Point received two feet of snow within a 24-hour period.

"Many of us had a surprise in the morning," said AEB Clerk/Planner Tina Anderson. "We had to dig our cars out.

Anderson said the City crew did an amazing job plowing and hauling snow away all night to ensure the roads were in good condition in the morning.



Clearing snow away from driveways and making trails around homes in Sand Point was a big chore following the snowstorm last week. Photo by Tina Anderson.

"The roads were great," she added. "But no one could get out of their driveways to go to work. The temperatures were in the 30s, so many people, especially elders, had a difficult time dealing with the snow."

Anderson said once the city got a handle on catching up with the snowfall, crews helped clear residents' driveways. While this amount of snowfall isn't unusual for many parts of Alaska, it isn't the kind of weather folks in the Aleutians see very often.

"The new city public works director just arrived over the weekend," Anderson said. "He was very busy almost as soon as he got here. He was plowing the road to the spit throughout the night. Once he got the road cleared to the airport, it was time to clear it again."

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## Japanese Tsunami Debris Arrives in Alaska Coastal Communities

*By Anne Bailey, AEB Community Development Coordinator*

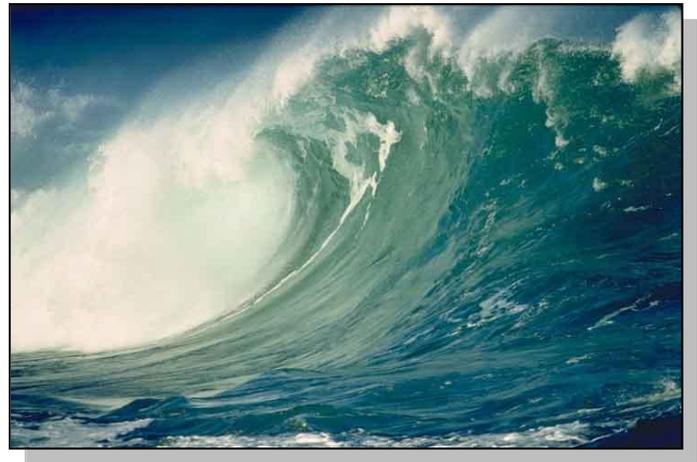
In March 2011, a 9.0 earthquake occurred, generating a 130-foot wave that devastated Japan, creating approximately 25 million tons of debris. It's unclear how much and what type of debris entered the water and what effect it will have on the Alaskan coastline. It's suspected that debris

is already arriving in Alaskan communities. Kodiak has seen large, white plastic buoys and Yakutat has had large buoys suspected to be from Japanese oyster farms appearing onshore. It is believed that a lot of debris will arrive on the west coast and in Southcentral Alaska in 2013.



Numerous agencies are leading efforts to monitor the data and determine ways to protect our natural resources and coasts. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), “the debris is no longer in a “debris field.” Rather, there are many items

scattered across a large area of the North Pacific.” Since it is dispersed, it will be harder to detect; however, the Marine Conservation Alliance Foundation (MCAF), is establishing a monitoring program to locate and identify Japanese tsunami debris making landfall on Alaska’s shores. According to the NOAA website, it is highly unlikely that the debris is radioactive but “this is not to say that cleaning up the shoreline and handling marine debris is risk free.” It is important to put safety first while handling debris.



Since there are thousands of miles of coastline, it’s really important for locals and fishermen to report any tsunami debris, whether it is buoys or personal effects. If you have seen any debris, please report to: [DisasterDebris@noaa.gov](mailto:DisasterDebris@noaa.gov).

For more information, visit the links below:

<http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/info/japanfaqs.html>;  
[http://www.mcafoundation.org/press/prJapanese\\_Tsunami\\_Debris\\_20120118.pdf](http://www.mcafoundation.org/press/prJapanese_Tsunami_Debris_20120118.pdf);  
<http://www.adn.com/2012/01/20/2274696/no-radioactive-threat-expected.html> and  
<http://www.adn.com/2011/12/27/2234949/japan-tsunami-debris-arrives-in.html>.

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## Dreamlifter Diverted to Cold Bay

It was a rare sight indeed for those who witnessed the arrival of the Dreamlifter to the Cold Bay Airport last month. Poor weather diverted the modified 747-400, also known as the Dreamlifter,



The Dreamlifter, a modified 747-400, arrived in Cold Bay last month to refuel after it was unable to land in Anchorage or Kenai because of ice fog.

to Cold Bay on Jan. 15, 2012. The large cargo freighter, which arrived from Japan, was unable to land in Anchorage or Kenai because of ice fog.

During its brief stay, the Dreamlifter refueled and took off from Cold Bay as it headed to the lower 48. It was carrying two wings and a section of fuselage for the 30<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Boeing 747 Dreamliner.

The Dreamlifter can haul more cargo by volume than any airplane in the world.

It is the primary means of transporting major assemblies of the Boeing 747 Dreamliner from suppliers around the

world to the 787 final assembly site in Everett, Washington. There are only four Dreamlifters in the world.

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## Two Borough Students to Attend Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit

The Aleutians East Borough is pleased to send two aspiring young fishermen from the region to the Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit in Juneau this month. Last month, the Borough announced that it would sponsor two AEBSD high school students to the Summit. The Borough selected Nathan Nelson of Nelson Lagoon and Edwin Gundersen of Sand Point. They will be chaperoned by AEBSD



Nathan Nelson (left) and Edwin Gunderson (right) are heading to the Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit in Juneau next week. Photo by Marc Donadieu.

teacher Edwin “Chip” Sharpe of Nelson Lagoon.

The Summit, centered on the theme, Weaving a Network of Future Fishing Leaders, takes place Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The two-day conference will cover four main topics:

- The nuts and bolts of managing the financial aspects of a successful fishing business.
- Methods for participating in fisheries regulatory and legislative processes.
- The role of Alaskan seafood in the world marketplace.
- The science and management of our sustainable fisheries.



AEBSD teacher Edwin “Chip” Sharpe will chaperone the two boys to the AYFS in Juneau.

AEB Fisheries Consultant and Former Speaker of the Alaska State House Sam Cotten is the key-note speaker for the event. He will meet with the AEB students during their stay in Juneau.

Acceptance for the AEB-funded travel was competitive, based on scholastic achievement, prior involvement in the fishing industry and a one-page letter of interest to attend the Summit from the students. The Summit is hosted by the Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program.

## [AYFS Agenda](#)

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# Help Protect Your Fisheries

*By Anne Bailey, AEB Community Development Coordinator*

Did you know that it doesn’t take a big oil spill to have devastating effects? In cold waters, a drop of oil just an inch in diameter can kill a bird. Combined, a fleet’s little spills can add up to significant pollution. It is important to learn what you can do to help prevent pollution from fuel, oil and debris.

The Aleutians East Borough is a participant in the Community Coastal Impact Assistance Program\* (CCIAP). One of the Borough’s CCIAP projects was to



The Borough is distributing an educational pamphlet to AEB communities on pollution prevention in marine environments.

create an educational pamphlet on pollution prevention in marine environments and distribute them to the local fishing fleet. Solstice Alaska was contracted and created the pamphlets and posters that are being distributed to fish vessel owners and others within the Borough Communities.

The pamphlet highlights the effects pollutants have on fish and wildlife and what can be done to help protect the environment. A few items to remember are: Tune and maintain your engine to increase efficiency and decrease leaks; while fueling, use fuel collars and pump slowly to avoid backslash; and it is illegal to discharge contaminated bilge water or toss plastic overboard. The Aleutians have rich and productive waters that need to be protected. Please take a moment to read the information. You can find a copy in your local city or borough offices or click on this [link](#) on the Borough Website. Or go to [www.aleutianseast.org](http://www.aleutianseast.org). Select the “Commercial Fisheries” section and the “Protecting Our Fisheries” subsection.

By taking measures to reduce pollution associated with your vessel activity, you can help maintain the productivity of the Aleutian fisheries.

\*The educational pamphlet is funded by a grant from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Community and Regional Affairs, Community Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CCIAP). The CCIAP is funded with qualified outer continental shelf oil and gas revenues by the Coastal Impact Assistance Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The views expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S Department of the Interior, State of Alaska or any of its sub-agencies. Federal Award #F12AF70179.

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## News from Eastern Aleutian Tribes

**EAT’s Director of Behavioral Health Services, Gary Williams, has accepted a position on the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium’s Behavioral Health Academic Review Committee. The Committee promotes the development of**

**training and approves training courses for Behavioral Health Trainees, Behavioral Health Aides and Behavioral Health Practitioners.**

**Gary will attend a meeting in Juneau from February 14 – 18. The committee will meet with Legislators, other state officials and the Governor.**

**Dental clinics will be conducted in King Cove, Akutan, Cold Bay and Sand Point, weather-permitting. Wish for blue skies! Chelsea Shoemaker and Erik Linduska both graduated from the Dental Health**



Aide Therapist training, which required that they complete either 400 hours or four months of additional hands on training in simple fillings, extractions, cleanings, etc. They have completed that phase and now are certified. That means they can practice under indirect supervision. This will allow EAT's dental department to be able to get out to our remote sites more readily and increase our ability to serve our people.

**Patricia Moore** is our second Licensed Professional Counselor at the Sand Point Clinic. Pati started in December and is quickly becoming involved in community activities. She attended Oklahoma City University where she attained a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology. During her professional career, she has been blessed to work in different positions that have allowed her to have a broad knowledge/experience base to draw from. She has hospital experience in social work, crisis intervention and vast trauma training. She has worked in the Child Protection Service as a social worker as well as a therapist on an inpatient adolescent psychiatric unit. She has also worked in the emergency department assessing patients for psychiatric/substance abuse admission criteria. On a personal note, Pati has two grown children and five grandchildren. She loves music and adventure, such as skydiving. She also loves learning new things. She has enjoyed her time at EATs so far and loves Sand Point.

Welcome Aboard, Pati!

### **Patient revenue and collections**

EAT would like to remind everyone that we are required by our main funders to ask all patients about insurance and eligibility, and that income must be verified.

Clinic/Hospital bills and insurance: The Indian Health Service cannot provide enough funding to cover all the health needs of all our customers. To help pay for the rest of the services needed, we get funding from private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid and a HRSA grant. If you have such coverage, we will bill them for some of the cost of services provided to you. (Little or no additional effort on your part is required in the billing process.) These "third-party" revenues are an important source of income and help us improve the quality of care we provide to all of our customers. Should you not have any type of health coverage, we will not turn you away, but we will ask you to provide income and family size. This allows us to use some specific funding to reduce the cost of services to those with limited or no means to pay. This is just another way we are *Working Together to Promote Healthy Communities*. If you have any

INSURANCE COMPANY NAME		COVERAGE TYPE
MEMBER NAME: JOHN DOE	EFFECTIVE DATE: XX-XX-XXXX	
MEMBER NUMBER: XXX-XX-XXXX		
GROUP #: XXXXXX-XXX-XXX	PRESCRIPTION GROUP #: XXXXX	
PCP CO-PAY: \$15.00	PRESCRIPTION CO-PAY:	
SPECIALIST CO-PAY: \$25.00	\$15 GENERIC	
EMER. ROOM CO-PAY: \$75.00	\$20 NAME BRAND	
MEMBER SERVICES: 1-800-XXX-XXXX		
CLAIMS/INQUIRIES: 1-800-XXX-XXXX		

questions about your insurance coverage, please contact our patient accounts coordinator at 564-2520.

If you have health insurance: Your EAT clinic will need a copy of your identification card. We also may need insurance forms supplied by your employer or insurance company (which we will obtain on your behalf). You will be asked to assign benefits from the insurance company directly to your EAT Clinic. If you are covered by Medicare, we will need a copy of your Medicare card to verify eligibility and process your Medicare claim.

If you are covered by Medicaid or Denali KidCare: We will need a copy of your Medicaid card. Denali KidCare is a no-cost health insurance program for children, teenagers and pregnant women. Denali KidCare may pay for many medical services that are not provided or paid for by your local clinic. These include: eyeglasses, prescriptions, mental health therapy, substance abuse treatment, allergy testing, transportation (including air/taxi/ferry), lodging and meals, when your visits to medical providers are pre-authorized through the state. If you would like to know more about Medicaid or Denali KidCare, please call your local clinic.

Also, the State of Alaska offers a program called CAMA, which is an assistance program that will help you in paying for services, should your circumstances put you outside of the well-known payers. You may qualify for CAMA and not Medicaid or Medicare.

For more EAT news, visit: <http://www.eatribes.org/index.htm>

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## **Job Opening: Bering Pacific Seafoods, L.L. C.**

### Office Assistant



This is a seasonal full-time position with Bering Pacific Seafoods located in False Pass, Alaska. The position is responsible for managing the day-to-day functions of the office.

The qualified applicant must be detail oriented, work well with the public and co-workers, be self-motivated and able to follow directions. The position requires working with time-sensitive data, working independently and staying on task. High school diploma or equivalent, general office skills, supervisory skills, excellent written and verbal skills, highly fluent in Word and Excel and two years accounting experience required.

Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Assist Plant Manager with all paperwork pertaining to plant operations, including production data collection and reports, bookkeeping/accounting, payroll data collection and data entry.
- Insure premises and office spaces are clean including disposal of refuse.
- Maintain an adequate inventory of all office supplies.
- Operate office equipment, including fax, computer and telephone.
- Communicate on a daily basis with APICDA's administrative offices in Juneau, Anchorage and Soldotna.
- Report to and contact National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding fisheries landings.

**Position Begins March 1<sup>st</sup> and ends approximately September 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Airfare, room and board included.**

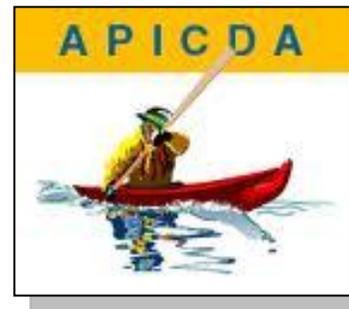
**Pay is DOE**

To apply, please contact:

Laura Delgado

APICDA Human Resources

1-888-927-4232 or [ldelgado@apicda.com](mailto:ldelgado@apicda.com)



Applications are available on our website at [www.apicda.com](http://www.apicda.com)

## **Job Announcement** **for Plant Engineer**



APICDA Joint Ventures is accepting applications for Plant Engineer at their seafood processing facility in False Pass, Alaska. Bering Pacific Seafoods is a multi-species seafood processing facility located in the remote community of False Pass on the Aleutian Chain. The position is full-time and based in False Pass, Alaska.

The position is responsible for the daily operation of all mechanical and electrical systems of the facility, including but not limited to, the engineering department.

### **Qualifications:**

Experience in the operation, repair, and maintenance of flooded ammonia refrigeration systems.

Experience in the operation, repair, and maintenance of diesel electric power plants and their electronic switching gear.

Experience in the repair, maintenance and operation of seafood processing equipment.

Must have basic knowledge of OSHA safety regulations.

The successful applicant is required to hold a valid certification as a universal technician as required by 40 CFR part 82.

Must be a motivated, self-starter and work well with minimal supervision.

**Skills:**

Welding and fabrication in aluminum, stainless steel and steel.

Working knowledge of hydraulic systems.

Working knowledge of electric systems, single and three phase.

Knowledge of diesel and gas engines and their repair.

Basic computer skills, MS Word and MS Excel.

English language written and verbal skills.

Excellent benefits. Wages are DOE starting at \$25 per hour, plus overtime. Position is open until filled. Please submit a cover letter and resume to Human Resources at [ldelgado@apicda.com](mailto:ldelgado@apicda.com) or fax (907) 646-7741.



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## Students: Get Cash for College

### Alaska State Fair to Award \$6,500 in Scholarships



Attention, Alaska junior and senior high school students! Need cash for college? The Alaska State Fair wants your help.

**Who:** All Alaska junior and senior high school students who plan to

attend college or vocational school are eligible to apply.

**What:** A total of \$6,500 in scholarships will be awarded, including \$2,000 for first place, \$1,500 for second place and \$1,000 for third place. The Fair will also award up to four \$500 honorable mention scholarships or will increase the award amounts for the first, second or third place recipients. The recipients will be announced on May 1, 2012.

**When:** Act fast! - **The application deadline is 4 p.m. on Friday, April 20, 2012.**

**Where:** Mail or hand deliver your application to the Alaska State Fair, 2075 Glenn Hwy., Palmer, Alaska 99645 by 4 p.m. on **Friday, April 20, 2012.**

**Scholarship packets must include:**

- **Cover letter** including your name, address, phone and email, school name and phone, counselor's name and the name of the college or vocational school you plan to attend
- **Extracurricular resume** including interests, clubs, community service and/or employment
- **Letter of recommendation**
- **A photo** that may be used for publicity purposes
- **Written essay** (1,000 words or less) **Or a creative project** (audio, video, performance arts, visual arts, business plan, social media campaign, arts and crafts, photography, etc.)

Your essay or creative project should address one of the following topics:

- How should the Fair grow to serve all of Alaska?
- How can the Fair showcase Alaska agriculture in future fairs?
- How would you use a 12-foot by 12-foot booth space at the Fair to educate or entertain the public, raise awareness of issues, or sell goods or services?

**More info:** Talk to your school counselor or contact the Alaska State Fair at (907) 746-7164 or [marketing@alaskastatefair.org](mailto:marketing@alaskastatefair.org).

**Don't miss out on big bucks for college! Submit your scholarship application by April 20!**

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## 2012 Regional Wellness & Governance Conference

Logo Contest deadline **EXTENDED!**  
NEW PRIZE AWARDED...APPLE IPAD!



Please attach your logo to this form and submit to:

Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association  
Wellness Program  
1131 East International Airport Road  
Anchorage, AK 99518-1408

**The deadline for submission is:  
MARCH 1st, 2012.**

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

School: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

We need your help and creativity to design a logo that represents our theme "*Standing Together as One*" for the 2012 Regional Wellness & Governance Conference. The winner of the competition will receive a new **IPAD!!!**

Eligible participants include students, 7th through 12th grade who are attending school in the Region. You may use pens, pencils, colored pencils, markers, or paint to design your logo. Please create your logo on a white 8 1/2" x 11" piece of paper. Please include a written description of your logo and why it best represents "Standing Together as One".

For more information, please contact Renee Kochuten at 1-800-478-2742 or (907) 276-2700 or by email at [reneek@apiai.org](mailto:reneek@apiai.org)

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## Got News?

If you have news you'd like to share, please email [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org) or call



AEB Communications Manager Laura Tanis at (907) 274-7579.

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*Thank you for reading In the Loop. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an email to [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org). For more information about our communities, our people, and our fisheries, please visit us at [www.aleutianseast.org](http://www.aleutianseast.org) and [www.aebfish.org](http://www.aebfish.org), and check out our blog at <http://aebfishblog.blogspot.com/>.*

