

ORAL HISTORY 78-40-08

Mike Dalton

Pioneer Women of Alaska

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Mike continues to read from the registers of the Pioneer Women of Alaska.

Evaleana Ferguson was born in West Virginia and arrived in Alaska in 1902 with her husband, W.C. Baker and two children Forbes and Dorman. She came to Fairbanks in 1906. Her husband died in 1907. She married R.W. Ferguson in 1908. Roberta was born in 1911. They lived in Tolovana and lived in a tent while Roy prospected. Dorman died at Camp Lewis in 1918. Mike comments that the American Legion Post is named in the memory of Dorman H. Baker.

Leona Foster came to Skagway in 1899.

Marie Harriet Friss was born in London, England in 1879 and arrived in Alaska in 1904. Mike reads from a newspaper article dated May 19, 1941. She died at the age of 62. Her husband was Bernard Friss. Her daughter was Mrs. Edwin Zapple. Another article is read describing her internment.

Mrs. Beatrice Gasser was married to George W. Gasser in 1909. She came to Fairbanks in 1921. Her husband worked on agricultural research including research on barley and wheat varieties.

Minnie Fraser Gillette was born in New Brunswick and came to Juneau, Alaska in 1904.

She arrived in Fairbanks in 1911 when her husband L.R. Gillette was appointed assistant U.S. attorney of the fourth judicial division. She lived briefly in Tanana in 1912. Her children were: Margaret Elizabeth Thomas (1902), Louis Crosley Gillette (1912), Lewis Fraser Gillette (1913), Mary Lakeman Gillette (1914-1918), and Carol Suzanne Gillette (1918). She joined Igloo no. 3 in 1920.

Louis Gilmore was born in Ohio and arrived in Skagway, Alaska in 1899. She returned to Ohio briefly and returned to Skagway and then Dawson. She arrived in Fairbanks in 1904.

Bertha Grill was born in Hawaii and arrived in Skagway, Alaska in 1913.

Minnie Dall Geis was born in Kentucky and came to Alaska in 1901. Her father came to Circle City in 1897. Her father was lost in the wreck of the steamer Islander in 1901. She married Robert J. Geis at Circle in 1901. Her children are: Charles, Charlotte, Dorothy and Josephine.

Willamina Gebhart Gobracht was born in Germany in 1865 and was married 1887 in New York City to William Gobracht. She and her husband moved to Dawson, Y.T. in 1898 and then came to Fairbanks in 1904. She died in 1938. Her husband was a well-known musician. Mike reads an article about her funeral service.

Dorothy Pet Green was born in 1890 in Tacoma, Washington and came to Juneau in 1898. In 1953 the News-miner wrote an article about her when she was the queen regent. She lived in the Fortymile District when her husband B.B. Green was a commissioner for the United States.

Elizabeth Griffith joined the Pioneers of Alaska Igloo no. 3. She was born in England and arrived in Alaska in 1904.

Florence Kling Harding was granted honorary memberships when she visited Alaska with

President Harding in 1923. She was born in 1860 and died in 1924.

Amante Tonseth Hanson was born in Portland, Oregon in 1900 and arrived in Chena in 1907. She was a school teacher in Eighteen Mile Roadhouse, Tofty, Fox, and Napamut. She married Fred Hanson in 1921. She had two sons Robert Lloyd and Stanley Howard. She was queen regent in 1965.

Alice Hanley was born in Pennsylvania and married William Hanley in 1907 in Fairbanks. She moved to Fairbanks from Dawson. She was queen regent in 1939. She died in 1959 in Sitka
Jessie M. Rose Howard was born in 1868 in Castroville, California and arrived in Alaska in 1896. She lived in Dawson, Coldfoot, Tanana and Ophir.

Mary Hahche arrived in Alaska in 1898. She was born in Wales. Her husband came over the Chilkoot Pass in 1898. She joined her husband in Fairbanks in 1908.

Agnes Potts Hering was born in 1874 in Ireland and arrived in Dawson in 1899. She had eleven children: George Edward, Muriel Estelle, John Lee Victor (died 1905), Alan Reed (died 1913), Arthur Everett, Donald Murry, Agnes Gladys, Hazel Patricia, Thomas Alexander, Walter Andrew (died 1945), and Betty Jane. Hering auditorium is named after Walter Andrew.