Alvin Kayouktuk Joins Arts and Crafts Cooperative Association

JUNEAU—Alvin Kayouktuk, 35, Eskimo carver and artisan from Little Diomede Island, has joined the staff of the Alaska Native Arts and Crafts Cooperative Association in an on-the-job training program as a management trainee, according to information released by Don Burrus, ANAC Manager.

"ANAC is fortunate to acquire the services of Kayouktuk, whose basic training as a craftsman started over 20 years ago at his home village," Burrus said. "He will travel to Alaska villages to contact individual craftsmen, craft centers, and Native store managers."

ANAC is initiating this program to provide a closer relationship between its source of supply, its patrons, and the delivery of a greater amount of higher quality craft items. Its products are popular with tourists and other visitors to Alaska.

"Our plan is to provide Kayouktuk with the management training that will help him develop and increase his capabilities to take over, on a permanent basis, duties as Assistant Manager, or Field Representative," Burrus said.

Kayouktuk received formal artist and craftsman instruction in a manpower and development training program at the William E. Beltz Vocational School at Nome. He followed this with study at the University of Alaska under Ronald Senungetuk, Eskimo professor of Art, and received training in silver smithing, woodcuts, and design.

He also attended Chemawa Oregon Indian School and Edison Technical School in Seattle. The Alaska Federation of Natives has approved supporting funds for the on-the-job training phase of Mr. Kayouktuks employment.

Kayouktuk is married and has a 4-year old daughter. His family will move to Juneau in the near future.

ANAC is a Native owned and directed cooperative. It is the largest wholesaler and distributor of authentic Native Arts and Crafts products. Its only retail outlet, ANAC Cache, is located in Juneau.



ALVIN KAYOUKTUK