



JANUARY 14, 2021  
Juneau-Gastineau Rotary

# Channeler

Established 1988

Today's Greeter  
**Kim Champney**

Today's Program  
**Scott Kendall**  
Ballot Measure 2 Election Reforms

January 21  
**Mayor Beth Weldon**  
**CBJ Lobbyist Kevin Jardell**

January 28  
**Fran Ulmer**  
The Strategic Arctic

February 4  
**Dave Scanlan**  
Eaglecrest Update



District 5010 Governor  
**Joe Kashi**  
Rotary International President  
**Holger Knaack**



**Both sides say  
complex elections  
reform initiative  
likely will reduce  
party influence**



Alaska has become the second state, after Maine, to adopt a ranked-choice voting system, thanks to a citizens' initiative which barely passed in November. The 25-page initiative, approved by 50.4 percent, also re-establishes an open primary and limits so-called "dark money" which flows into campaigns under the guise of Political Action Committees without individual donor identification. Leaders from both parties claimed the initiative will destroy the party system. (Nearly 60 percent of registered Alaskan voters are independent.)

Former Chief of Staff to Governor Bill Walker, attorney Scott Kendall (above), was counsel to "Yes on 2 for Better Elections" and wrote the initiative.

The initiative institutes an open primary (after a three-decade hiatus) and the top four finishers, regardless of party, will advance to the general election. The most complicated portion of the initiative establishes "ranked choice" which allows voters to rank other candidates after they've made their first choice. If no candidate has an outright majority, the candidate with the fewest number of "first-ranked" votes is eliminated while the second choice votes on those ballots are distributed (as a first choice) to the remaining candidates. This process of elimination is repeated until a candidate has a majority.

## January Membership Milestones

### January Birthdays

- 6 Jill Ramiel
- 12 Molly Duvall
- 13 John McConnochie
- 14 Dan Bleidorn
- 30 Rosemary Hagevig

**Holiday Giving by JGR**  
Collected 55 sets of gloves,  
hats, sock and hygiene items  
for the Glory Hall  
**Collected and delivered**  
**presents/tree to Pioneer**  
**Home residents**

- 18 years **Kim Kiefer**
- 13 years **Jill Matheson**
- 11 years **Annette Smith**
- 8 years **Jill Ramiel**
- 4 years **Mary Capobianco**
- 1 year **Milo Adkison**