

**Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

**Miller, Rosa, Collector**

**Rosa L. Miller Photograph Collection, ca. 1940-1960s**

**Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood**

**PCA 358**

1 folder  
(39 photographs)

Processed: 1995  
By: E. FitzGerald  
India Spartz

**ACQUISITION:** Rosa Miller loaned original prints to the Historical Collections for copying in September 1994. Rosa Miller retained the originals and donated copies (Acc. No. 1995-005).

**ACCESS:** The photos may be viewed. However they may not be photocopied.

**COPYRIGHT:** Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

**PROCESSING:** The photographs are numbered. No inventory is available.

### **Biographical Note**

Rosa Miller is a member of the Aukwaan (Aak' w Kwaan) Tribe in Juneau, Alaska, who were the original Juneau clan. Her mother, Bessie E. Visaya, who died in 1995 at 97, was the matriarch of this tribe. Rosa is active in the Alaska Native Sisterhood and is the leader of the Mt. Juneau Thlinget Dancers. She is also known for spearheading efforts to keep the NOAA facility out of Indian Point and working to block development of Berners Bay. She has overseen the ousting of an Auk Kwan chief, worked to repatriate ancestor remains, and struggled to gain federal recognition for the Auk Kwan people, currently only recognized as members of the Tlingit and Haida Central Council.

The Alaska Native Brotherhood was started in 1912 by a group of eleven young Indians who had attended Sitka Training School (now Sheldon Jackson College). It is believed to be the oldest regional native organization in the United States. The Alaska Native Sisterhood was formed shortly thereafter, as a contributing partner in their activities and community service projects.

### **Scope and Contents Note**

Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood photographs. The photos were copied from an album belonging to Rosa Miller and her mother, Bessie Visaya of Juneau. Includes 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Camp Convention (1994) (photocopy), group portraits, individuals, snapshots. The photographs are not identified. Other collections featuring the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood include PCA 33, Alaska Native Organizations.

*[No Inventory]*