



Google Street View

## Lamplight Bar

52136 Holt-Lamplight Road, Nikiski, AK (907) 776-5866  
60°44'07"N 151°14'53"W

**CLOSED 2018**

License Issued: 1963 to Paul Costa

Amenities: TV, liquor store

Web site: None

History and Notoriety: People who live in the Nikiski area north of Kenai are known as “North Roaders” and the Lamplight is the furthest north of the remaining Kenai Peninsula bars. This area was once called Port Nikiski, and this bar has served the longshoremen, fishermen, and homesteaders since 1963. Back in the days when few people in the area had TVs, the Lamplight served as a neighborhood gathering place. The bar was named after an old kerosene lamp that was in the window of a local homesteader named Joseph “Milo” Wolding who lived on what is now known as the Holt-Lamplight Road.

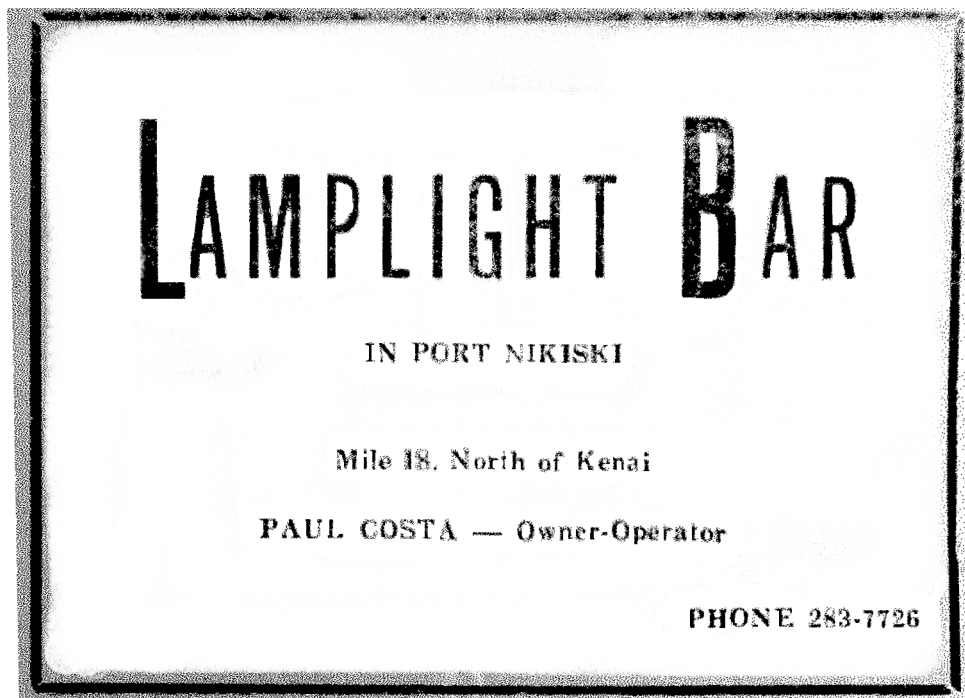
Paul Costa sold the bar to Irving Molander in 1967 and then bought it back in December of 1969 after Molander passed away. On January 11, 1971, the bar burned down. Costa sold the

property to Ronald Mika in 1972, who rebuilt the bar. Ron and his wife Louise have managed the Lamplight ever since.

A few years ago, Ron decided to raise the ceiling of the Lamplight. He accomplished this by removing the entire roof, literally in one piece. The roof sat on the ground not far from the bar, which prompted many of the locals to ask Ron if he had constructed a home for a family of very short people.

Visiting the Lamplight: The Lamplight is patronized by locals who prefer to purchase their liquor rather than drinking it in the bar. If you are in the area, don't be surprised if the liquor store is open but the bar is not.

**Author's Note:** Ronald A. Mika died in June of 2017. The licenses were transferred to Louise Mika in June 2018, who did not renew them, and the bar and liquor store closed.



*From the Kenai Peninsula Cheechako News - 12/27/1963*

# Turkey



# Shoot

Men and  
Womens

Eliminations

at

## The Lamplight Bar

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12 Noon - Sunday, Feb. 16

**FREE COLD CUT BUFFET**

*From the Kenai Peninsula Cheechako News - 02/14/1969*

THE THOS. D. MURPHY CO. - RED OAK, VA.

**IN THE KNOW!**  
Now, a pretty young lady named Flo  
Had a date with a fellow called Joe,  
When Joe asked her—Where?  
She said—Why be a square?  
It's the LAMPLIGHT for those

**Where the Smart Set GO - GO!**

**Lamplight Bar &**  
Liquor Store  
The Chalet Room  
Is the Most  
There Is Jordon Polite  
Performing Each Night  
**GRUENING, ALASKA 99611**  
**Tel. 283-7726**

CLOSE COVER  FOR SAFETY

Lamplight Bar matchbook property of Jim Taylor





Interior of the Lamplight Bar – 09/01/2012  
Photo by the author



Lamplight Bar jacket.  
Photo by the author.