UAF and the UAF Alumni Association celebrated the Nanook Rendezvous, the annual reunion weekend, July 18-20. This year’s reunion was well-attended by alumni from near and far, continuing the increase in participation since transitioning to a summer-time reunion in 2017. Alumni and friends returned to campus from across Alaska and as far away as Massachusetts and Florida to participate in the weekend activities.

The summer reunion focused on ways for alumni to re-engage with their alma mater, rekindle friendships and reminisce with events like the Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization Open House and tour of the new ASUAF Student Media Center featuring a brand new studio for the KSUA-FM radio station and Sun Star student newspaper. Nanooks also represented the University in the Golden Days Parade.

In addition, UAF co-hosted hockey night at the Goldpanners with alumnus and St. Louis Blues defenseman, Colton Parayko ’16. The Panners saw double the number of attendees than normal at Hockey Night, and alumni night drew in about 200 additional attendees.

Other 2019 events included a welcome picnic in the Georgeson Botanical Gardens and a Last Hurrah at Salty’s on 2nd.

If you were unable to attend this year’s Nanook Rendezvous, you can reunite with UAF alumni at other events hosted throughout the year.

For more information on alumni events, membership or giving to the UAF Alumni Association, please visit: www.uaf.edu/alumni/.

Bering Air recently donated a King Air 200 business class twin turboprop aircraft to the UAF Community and Technical College Aviation program. The King Air 200, or Beech 200, will be used strictly for maintenance training for CTC students.

“This is exciting,” said Kevin Alexander, associate professor with the aviation maintenance program. “To have the direct industry support like this, to have an aircraft that modernizes our fleet, that makes us better equipped to train mechanics.”

Ben Koelsch, director of maintenance with Bering Air, said, “UAF was really excited about the possibility of getting it. It really seemed like they wanted it and it just kind of felt like that was the right thing to do.”

The plane led quite the adventurous life with Bering Air. Since flying to Nome, this plane has completed thousands of medevac flights, charter flights, flights to Russia and has been in temperatures lower than 70 below. It comes to UAF with 22,840 total flight hours and more than 6 million miles flown.

For more information on how to make a gift in kind, please visit www.uaf.edu/giving.
UAF APPRECIATES YOUR ADVOCACY

For over a century, UAF has been a part of the Fairbanks community. Your support of UAF has paved the way for higher educational opportunities in our state and beyond. Recently, we have had a tremendous opportunity for UAF students, alumni, faculty, community members and friends to come together and advocate for not only the university, but all those who are connected to it.

In our 102 year history, UAF has grown into a premier institution for higher learning and an international center for research, education and the arts. And we are proud of the skills and talents of our more than 30,000 alumni who have made, and continue to make, a difference in Alaska and around the world.

UAF has been a cornerstone of Alaska and connects us all in many ways. It is your friendship, combined with our purpose and mission that ensures a successful future. Alaskans are no stranger to adversity, yet we possess the resilience to overcome even the most daunting odds through the collaboration and generosity you all so graciously display year after year!

Thank you so much for your continued support of UAF, our students and mission. Donors like you truly make a difference. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to call Development and Alumni Relations at (907) 474-2619.

Achievements

This report reflects gifts and donations totalling $25,000 or more to the University of Alaska Fairbanks between April 16, 2019 to July 22, 2019.

* Indicates Deceased.

CORPORATE

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company gave to the Alyeska Pipeline Alaska Native Scholarship, the Chef Frank Davis Jr. Memorial UAF CTC Culinary Arts Scholarship, and the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company RAHI Support fund.


NANA Regional Corporation gave to the GeoFORCE Alaska Support Fund.

Northrim Bank gave to the School of Management.

The Pollock Conservation Cooperative, comprised of Trident Seafoods, Glacier Fish Company, American Seafoods Company, and Starbound, gave to the Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center Endowment.

Wells Fargo gave to the Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI) program and the UA Museum of the North Military Appreciation program.

INDIVIDUAL

William ’73 and Andrea Benitz gave to the Jack Distad Memorial Scholarship.

Dr. Gary A. and Mary E. “Beth” Laursen gave to Dr. Gary Laursen Fellowship in Mycology and the Biological Sciences.

Alan R. Straub ’57 gave to the Alan Straub Student Ice Arch Project, the Alan Straub Student Competition Support fund, and Alan Straub Civil Engineering Scholarship.

Ted W. Tisdale created the Ted W. Tisdale Scholarship in support of students enrolled at the UAF Community and Technical College.

FOUNDATION

Crankstart Foundation gave to the Crankstart Reentry Scholarship.

The Bill Stroecker Foundation gave to the UA Museum of the North Whale Mount project.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation gave to the Kuskokwim Campus Rural Health Services fund.