

UA Alumni Picks Al Polet '73 Distinguished Alumnus

FAIRBANKS — Alvin (Al) Polet, a graduate in the class of 1932, has been selected by the University of Alaska Alumni Association as its Distinguished Alumnus for 1973.

The selection was made by the association's Board of Directors from nominations submitted by the members. The

award was made at the annual Alumni Banquet held in Wood Center on Friday (May 18).

Born in Nome in 1909, the son of pioneer merchant Antonio Polet, Al received his grade and high school education in that city. He attended the University of Washington for two years, then came to the

University of Alaska (then the Alaska College) and graduated in the Class of 1932 with a degree in business administration.

With his bride, coed Louise Meals of Valdez, he returned to Nome to manage the family store and soon to become "Mr. Airlines" of that city, first as

manager of Mirow Air Service and then of Alaska Star Airlines.

In 1944 the Polets came to Fairbanks where Al was station manager for Alaska Star until 1947 when he became manager of the Pan American office, a post he held for 12 years. In 1959 he joined the staff of the First National Bank.

In November, 1967 he joined the staff of the Disaster Office of the Small Business Administration and handled many of the relief requests resulting from the Fairbanks Flood of that year.

A year ago he was transferred to the Seattle section of the SBA. At present he is a member of the Disaster Cadre of SBA and is on call to go to the aid of disaster victims throughout the nation.

Polet has been mayor of Nome, president of the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, president of the Alaska Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Fairbanks United Fund, President of the Western Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and president of the University of Alaska Alumni Association.

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BLM Survey Crews Gearing Up for Work

Survey crews from the Bureau of Land Management will be setting up camps in several areas of the state this month in preparation for a rectangular land survey program to accommodate native allotments and State of Alaska land selections.

The survey program will take about five months to complete.

Survey crews will be working in four major areas around the state including Dillingham, Kiana, Bethel, and Kodiak, said Hobart Hyatt, supervisor for the 22-man Dillingham team.

In addition, there will be survey crews in the Cordova area, Tangle Lakes region, Tongass National Forest, in South east Alaska, and along various highways throughout the state.

All allotments and other land selections must be surveyed before title can be transferred from the federal government to the party or individual who claims the land.

Approximately 200 parcels of land in the Dillingham area alone will be surveyed in a 50 square mile area from the village to Lake Aleknagik.

In the Kodiak area the surveying will take place around Sitkanak, and the Kiana-based crew will survey along the Kobuk River.

The crews have been flying in supplies and equipment both last week and this week.

Native allotments to be surveyed are those that are already on file with the BLM's Land Office.

Meals, Lodging for Native Students

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has awarded a contract to the Gold Rush Motel in Anchorage to provide meals, lodging and transportation for Native students coming and going between school and their villages, according to Senator Ted Stevens.

The amount of the award made recently is \$11,520.

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