



BUSH SCHOOL MEET AT UA

Sheldon Jackson Receives 2 Year Fisheries Grant

(Special to the Tundra Times)

Sheldon Jackson College has received a two-year grant of \$137,584 from the Louis W. and Maud Hill Family Foundation to develop an applied fisheries science program for native Alaskans.

According to John D. Taylor, the foundation's executive director, the grant will be used 1) to promote native Alaskan education by providing an educational career ladder for Indians, Aleuts and Eskimos; 2) to improve salmon fishing by moving SJC into an established place in fisheries science and to demonstrate the feasibility of salmon ranching as a source of self-sustaining funds for the program; 3) to promote interagency cooperation and 4) to provide technical assistance and advice to various Indian, Aleut and Eskimo and other private groups.

Utilizing this grant, Sheldon Jackson College will become Alaska's first non-governmental agency involved in private fishery development.

Derek Poon, SJC fisheries instructor, developed the program submitted to the Hill Family Foundation.

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DID YOU HEAR IT ?

If you saw or heard an airplane flying between Anchorage and Fairbanks early in the morning of Tuesday, July 15, 1924, Wien Air Alaska wants to know.

The airlines is on a people hunt for those who were in the Territory on that historic day 50 years ago when Noel Wien made the first flight ever between the two cities in a Hisso-powered Standard J1 airplane.

Now Wien Air is celebrating the Golden Anniversary of Noel Wien's achievement and they want to share with old-timers who remember the event.

Anyone who remembers — and doesn't mind telling that it was half a century ago — is asked to communicate with the nearest Wien Air Alaska station manager.

In Fairbanks it is 452-2171 and in Anchorage 279-8657.

Wien Air wants to know who you are, where you were during that flight and what you remember of it.

The water-cooled open cockpit plane had been shipped to Alaska by steamship and rail and assembled at Anchorage during June that year by Wien and mechanics William B. Yunkers and Art Sampson.

Jimmy Rodebaugh, an Alaska Railroad conductor, had hired Noel to fly for the Fairbanks Airplane Co.

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GETTING READY FOR THE BIG EDUCATION MEETING at Fairbanks July 16-17 are at left, Gordon Jackson, vice president for Human Resources, Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. and Mitch Demientieff, conference chairman. The cooperative conference on "Education and the World of Our Children" was organized by the AFN Human Resources. — Photo by MARGIE BAUMAN

Home Is Where the Heart Is, BUT— Land Allotments Can be Lost

By LAEL MORGAN

Eskimo Fred Gordon was born in 1905 in the Barter Island area. As a boy he camped and hunted with his family, traveling all along the coast from Canada to Barrow, but there was one spot they called home. His family built a log cabin there and an ice house and a smoke house. He honeymooned on the site and one of his daughters was later born there.

It was natural that, when Gordon picked a spot for his native land allotment, he chose this site, but now it looks like it may never be legally his.

Before the Congressional Land Claims Settlement, Alaskan natives were given the opportunity to claim land that they had traditionally used and occupied. The act was rather like the Alaskan homestead act but instead of clearing and planting 160 acres, natives were required to show they had used the land for a continuous five-year period.

Although the act existed for years, few natives ever heard about it until just before the land claims bill passed. Knowing passage of the Land Claims Act would revoke the land allotment act, a number of native organizations and the Rural Alaska Community Action program made a concerted effort in 1971 to inform natives of their opportunity to acquire their hunting and fishing grounds.

Although many filed at that time, very few patents have been granted to date and many applications have been refused.

In areas unincumbered by

government land withdrawals such as Anaktuvuk Pass, it appears title will be granted eventually. To date only five Anaktuvuk claims have been turned down and those mainly because the land claimed had oil shale which had been withdrawn by the government.

"Some of the people purposely took oil shale not knowing it had been withdrawn. They went for the big money instead of staking their hunting ground,"

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Strategy Session To Discuss Bush Education

By MARGIE BAUMAN

A strategy session billed as a conference on bush education gets under way at the University of Alaska July 16, in hopes of making recommendations for improved rural education a reality.

At the heart of the conference is a report recommending that enabling legislation

for the Alaska State Operated Schools System be amended to make the system a transition one and laying out the steps of transition.

The report was prepared by the University of Alaska's Center of Northern Education on request of the Alaska Legislature Interim Committee on Pre-Higher Education and the Alaska State Department of Education, in cooperation with the AFN Human Resources Committee.

More than 1,000 copies of the Pre-Higher Education Report have already been distributed and the July 16-18 conference at the Fairbanks campus will deal mainly in strategies to make recommendations with in the report a reality.

"Hopefully some recommendations will go in August to the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee and candidates (for political office) will take a position on pre-higher education in the unorganized borough," said Gordon Jackson, one of the key organizers of the conference.

Jackson is the vice president for Human Resources, Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., which is the major sponsor of this conference on "Education and the World of Our Children."

Mitch Demientieff of Nena, who was hired on a contract basis to organize the conference,

will serve as its chairman. Given full participation from the regional Native corporations, "I don't think the Alaska Legislature or state administration can deny the rural Alaska people control over the educational system," Demientieff said. "Therefore, I would encourage everyone to come and participate," he said.

Over 700 invitations to the conference have been mailed out, to individuals and organizations involved in rural education.

"The strategy (for implementing these recommendations) will be developed by the whole conference," said Jackson. "The Human Resources Committee will take a look at its recommendations and do everything in its power to implement them."

What troubles Jackson most, he says, is the present "tri-partite system" of delivering educational services to the bush.

"The State Department of Education deals with about 29 municipalities; SOS provides education to over 100 rural communities in the unorganized borough and the Bureau of Indian Affairs also funds several schools in the unorganized borough," he said.

"Delivery in a tri-partite system can only be an unequitable way of providing services in the

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ZACK HUGO with BLM man Chuck Larson at Hugo's land allotment site near Anaktuvuk Pass. The caribou horn is Hugo's marker. — Photo by LAEL MORGAN