BSNC PROVIDES DESCENDANT BENEFITS

Descendants encouraged to become involved

Did you know that BSNC descendants receive many of the same benefits as BSNC shareholders? Descendants are eligible to receive scholarships from the Bering Straits Foundation and qualified job applicants are eligible for the same hiring preference offered to BSNC shareholders. Descendants who meet academic qualifications are eligible to participate in BSNC’s Summer Internship Program. Staff has grown the summer internship program into a competitive professional development program with training workshops on leadership skills, public speaking, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, cultural awareness, policy issues that impact Alaska Native people, speed mentoring, professional writing, resume/HR tips and business structure.

Descendant use of BSNC’s lands for recreational and subsistence endeavors is allowed and encouraged. For any commercial activity Land Use Permits should be submitted to the BSNC Land and Resource Department. Please visit www.beringstraits.com/lands to learn more.

In addition to these benefits, BSNC issues bereavement benefits provided to families to assist after the death of an original BSNC shareholder, spouse of an original BSNC shareholder, or lineal descendant of an original BSNC shareholder.

Continued on page 3...

BOARD INCREASES BEREAVEMENT ASSISTANCE

Benefit helps defray funeral and burial costs

BSNC is pleased to announce that the Board of Directors recently voted to increase bereavement assistance from $500 to $1,000. The payment is provided to families for the death of an original BSNC shareholder, spouse of an original BSNC shareholder, or lineal descendant of an original BSNC shareholder. The new payment is effective as of Feb. 27 for those individuals covered by the bereavement policy who pass away on or after Feb. 27. The benefit may be applied for by a surviving family member either in the Nome or Anchorage office.

A note about Stock Wills: some people find it easy to think about wills, while others prefer to avoid the subject entirely. Having a Stock Will on file with BSNC lets you decide who will inherit your stock after your death. If you pass away without a Stock Will, your stock will be distributed according to state law, and may be distributed to individuals you do not intend to benefit. To encourage shareholders to complete their Stock Wills, BSNC continues to have monthly drawings for those shareholders who submit a Stock Will, with a prize of $200. Visit beringstraits.com/shareholders/forms/ or call (907) 443-5252 to update your stock will today.

BSNC NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015
10 a.m., Nome, Alaska
Mini Convention Center, 102 River Street

Voting shareholders who are at least 18 years of age and wish to run for one of the five Board of Directors’ seats open for election are requested to send a letter of intent, including current address, telephone number and a resume listing qualifications to:

Nominating Committee
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008, Nome, Alaska 99762

IMPORTANT: All letters of intent and resume must be postmarked by June 16, 2015.
This is a great time of year in our Region. The days are getting longer and warmer, the snow and ice are melting, and our hunters have begun harvesting the subsistence bounties that have sustained our way of life for thousands of years. There have been many recent posts on social media showing hunters returning home with their harvests of seals, walruses, and many different kinds of migratory birds. With the shore ice melting or being blown out to sea, herring will soon arrive, and the eggs they lay on kelp will be harvested and stored for future use. Migratory birds will also begin laying their eggs, and these too will be gathered and eaten. Salmon will be harvested and dried, smoked, jarred or frozen for the winter. As the summer progresses, salmonberries, blueberries, cranberries, and blackberries will be carefully gathered and frozen or made into jams for winter use. I am thankful for all that our lands and the seas provide us, and proud that we respect our traditional values by sharing our abundant subsistence harvests with our Elders and others.

The continuation of our subsistence way of life is central to BSNC's mission: "To improve the quality of life of our people through economic development while protecting our land and preserving our culture and heritage." These key components of our mission are important considerations when management and the board meet to plan and set goals for the future growth of BSNC.

With our mission in mind, BSNC's involvement in Arctic issues at the national and international levels continues to grow. The United States is an Arctic nation because of Alaska, and we will play a strategic role as Arctic development and shipping through Arctic waters increases. I was recently appointed to the Arctic Economic Council (AEC), an organization composed of business representatives from the eight Arctic nations. AEC was formed by the Arctic Council to foster business development in the Arctic, provide a business perspective to the Arctic Council, and facilitate circumpolar cooperation among the eight Arctic nations. The formation of the AEC at this time is critical, as the United States has just assumed the chairmanship of the Arctic Council. The U.S. State Department has stated that the focus of our nation's chairmanship will be environmental stewardship, including protection of the marine environment, conservation of the rich Arctic biodiversity, improving conditions in Arctic communities and addressing the rapidly changing climate in the Arctic.

Because of our strategic location in the Arctic, we continue to seek title under ANCSA to approximately 2,000 acres of land at Port Clarence. Senator Murkowski and Congressman Young both recently introduced legislation in the Congress that would transfer land to BSNC, retain land by the federal government for current and future needs of the U.S. Coast Guard, and transfer land to the state of Alaska for its needs.

BSNC's goals with Port Clarence are clear, both as a Native Corporation whose lines of business and whose shareholders rely on marine transportation in Northwest Alaska, and as an investor developing plans for port infrastructure, ship services, mining, and mining support in the Region. We support improvements to, and expansion of, the Nome port facilities in conjunction with development of the natural deep-water port and harbor at Port Clarence. Investment in Port Clarence infrastructure, in addition to Nome, will enable greater safety in the Region while supporting much needed economic development for the Region. Nome and Port Clarence are both vital to meeting the needs of residents, itinerant shippers, and resource development in Northwest Alaska.

We are proud to note that we have hired sixteen shareholders and descendants as Protected Species Observers (PSOs) as a part of Shell Oil's offshore exploration and development. BSNC's leadership recognizes that responsible offshore oil and gas development in Alaska's Outer Continental Shelf will provide economic opportunities for our Region, as well as well-paying employment opportunities for shareholders and descendants.

I hope everyone has a safe and fruitful Summer.

BSNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Henry Ivanoff
Chairman

Gail R. Schubert
President & CEO

Roy Ashenfelter
Secretary

Lee Ryan
Assistant Secretary

Clara Langton
Treasurer

Percy Nayokpuk
Assistant Treasurer

Eugene Asicksik
Director

Robert (Bobby) Evans
Director

Neal W. Foster
Director

Louie Green, Jr.
Director

Homer E. Hoogendorn
Director

Steve Ivanoff
Director

Fred Sagownick
Director

Tim Towarak
Director

HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT: THE TWO ESKIMO BOYS MEET THE THREE LUCKY SWEDES

Most Alaskans have heard of the “three lucky Swedes” who found gold in Nome - the legend behind the gold rush of 1899. In 2000, Sitnasuak Elder and Sitnasuak Native Corporation Board Member Jacob Ahwinona told an often overlooked part of that story to a visiting children’s book writer, Jeff Kunkel. The three Swedes did not find the gold on their own, they did so with the assistance of two young Eskimo boys, Constantine Uparazuck and Gabriel Adams. This story was passed on to Jacob Ahwinona by oral tradition; he is a direct descendant of Constantine Uparazuck. The Nome Beltz Native Youth Leadership Organization erected a large bronze statue to commemorate the two Eskimo boys in Nome’s Anvil City Square in 2010.
SHAREHOLDER NEWS

SHAREHOLDER ID CARDS
Nome headquarters are open during business hours for shareholders who wish to walk in to receive a shareholder ID card. Shareholder ID cards can be used to verify shareholder status. Proof of identity must be presented. Acceptable forms of identification include a passport, driver’s license, military ID card or other current government issued ID. Shareholders not residing in Nome who wish to receive a shareholder ID card are asked to email shareholders@beringstraits.com.

Photo courtesy of Jolene Nanouk.

...Continued from page 1 BSNC Provides Descendant Benefits
Descendants can learn more and sign up to receive e-Newsletters by visiting www.beringstraits.com/shareholders/bsnc-descendants/.

Gifting stock to descendants
Under the 1991 Amendments to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), shareholders may give stock to a person who is their child, grandchild, great-grandchild, niece, nephew, brother or sister and who is also a Native or descendant of a Native. H.R. 3157 “The Alaska Land Status Technical Corrections Act of 1992,” allows for gift of stock to siblings. The law defines a Native as a person who is at least one-fourth degree Alaska Indian, Eskimo or Aleut blood, or any combination; a descendant of a Native is a lineal descendant (child, grandchild, great-grandchild, etc.) of a Native or an adoptee of a Native or descendant of a Native who is adopted before the age of 18. Once your gift is completed on the corporate books, the recipient of your shares will own and have all the stock rights for those shares, including the right to vote the shares at the shareholder meetings, to receive dividends and distributions on the shares, to bequeath the shares upon death, or to give the shares to a relative. Once gifting is completed, you will have no rights with respect to the shares you gave away.

If you are interested in the gifting process, please contact the BSNC Shareholder Department at PO. Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762 or call us at (907) 443-5252 or toll-free at 1-800-478-5079.

Please note that if you are a shareholder of the village corporations of Stnasuak (907) 443-2632, Unalakleet (907) 624-3411, Stebbins (907) 934-3281 or Shishmaref (907) 649-3751 and you wish to gift at the village level, you must contact the respective village corporation to request information and forms directly from them.

41ST LONNIE O’CONNOR IDITAROD BASKETBALL CLASSIC RECAP

The 41st Lonnie O’Connor Iditarod Basketball Classic was held March 15 – 21 at the Nome Recreational Center. Thirty-four teams in five divisions played during the week-long tournament. This year’s tournament was held in memory of Al Bond and Dean Pushruk.

Through his work at Anchorage Cold Storage (Odom Corporation), Al Bond was an important supporter of Iditarod activities and the Basketball Classic. He was instrumental in providing the t-shirts, trophies, medals and hosting the banquet.

Dean Pushruk played in and volunteered for Iditarod Basketball from the early days. Over the years, it did not matter what he was asked to help out with. Whether it be coaching, keeping score, refereeing, running errands, fundraising, admissions, and concessions or cleaning up, Dean had a passion for promoting and was instrumental in starting elementary basketball in the region.

Results:

DIVISION: MEN’S OVER 35
1st Place: Yellowfooters
2nd Place: Grumpy’s
3rd Place: Norton Sound Health Corporation

Wells Fargo/NSEDC Sportsmanship Award Honoring Al Bond: Yellowfooters

DIVISION: LADIES B
1st Place: Fish River
2nd Place: Beah’s
3rd Place: Kawerak

Wells Fargo/NSEDC Sportsmanship Award Honoring Beah Katongan: Fish River

DIVISION: MEN’S B
1st Place: CWR
2nd Place: Fish River
3rd Place: TUNDRATEE.COM

Wells Fargo/NSEDC Sportsmanship Award Honoring Dean Pushruk: Tundra Warriors

DIVISION: LADIES OPEN
1st Place: CARQUEST
2nd Place: Gabe’s Gals
3rd Place: Chukotka

Wells Fargo/NSEDC Sportsmanship Award Honoring Emily Lane: CNC Sherman

DIVISION: MEN’S OPEN
1st Place: Gabe’s Boys
2nd Place: CNC Sherman
3rd Place: Golovin Beachcombers

Wells Fargo/NSEDC Sportsmanship Award Honoring Otis Hukill: Pt. Hope AJ’s

Teams and players represented Nome, White Mountain, Golovin, Unalakleet, Shishmaref, Savoonga, Gambell, Anchorage, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Kotlik, Kotzebue and even Washington D.C.

The Iditarod Basketball Classic was started in honor of Lonnie O’Connor, who passed at the young age of 42 while serving as the president of BSNC.
WINNERS OF THE 2015 PHOTO CONTEST

BSNC is pleased to announce the winners of the 3rd annual photo contest. Thank you to all who submitted photos; there were many excellent entries. The grand prize winner of the iPad mini is Samuel Towarak who submitted a photo of “Lorena Paniptchuk’s dried fish hanging.”

SUBSISTENCE

1st Brianne Gologergen - “Eggs”
2nd Jolene Nanouk - “Boy Gathering Berries”
3rd Wilfred Olanna - “Hunting on the Ice”

HISTORICAL

1st Sophie Arthur - “Nelli Kigrook Forbes”
2nd Jasmin George - “Dog mushing”

SCENERY/ LANDSCAPE

1st Jasmin George - “Winter Gold Mining”
2nd Jessie Huett - “Walk on Beach”
3rd Jasmin George - “Eskimo Dancing on Ice”

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

1st Brianne Gologergen - “Men butchering a bowhead whale.”
2nd Brandi Oquilluk - “Baby Eskimo Dancing”
3rd Heather Payenna - “Inupiaq Name”

VILLAGE LIFE

1st Jolene Nanouk - “Riverboat”
2nd Brandi Oquilluk - “Young Girl Climbing on Rocks.”
3rd Holly Miowak Guise - “Visiting Benise”

THE LU YOUNG CHILDREN’S FUND

The Lu Young Children’s Fund provides the necessary resources to the Native children of Alaska affected by hardships to succeed in life. Created in 2004, the Lu Young Children’s Fund helps Native children experiencing grief, provides assistance with mental health challenges, nurtures healthy child development, reduces the effects of trauma from temporary housing and helps children understand the effects of suicide and how to cope. To learn more about the Lu Young Children’s Fund, visit www.lycf.org

MONTHLY STOCK WILL DRAWING WINNERS

MAIL IN YOUR UPDATED STOCK WILL TODAY AND BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING TO WIN $200!

The Stock Will Drive provides a monthly drawing of $200. The Stock Will Drive is an incentive for shareholders to have a current Stock Will on file with BSNC, whether it is a first one or a revised one. Each month, BSNC will draw a lucky winner to receive $200 from those shareholders who have submitted a new or revised Stock Will during the previous month.

January - Andrew Kunayak, Nome
February - Mary Nicklie, Anchorage
March - Thomas Ahgupuk, Shishmaref
April - Eva B. Paniptchuk, Anchorage
This rewriters any questions of the stock, described above, in any previously existing will or codicil. If I now own more shares than I have bequeathed above, I direct that the remaining shares shall be split pro rata among the persons named above. BSNC recommends that all existing fractional shares of stock be given to one person, Bering Straits Native Corporation and ______________________________________________________village corporation to:

I, _______________________________________________________________, having attained the age of eighteen (18) years and being of sound mind, and solely

Print name:
New mailing address:
City:
State:
ZIP:
Social security number:
Date of Birth:
Contact phone number:
Email address:
If (Applicable)
Email address:
I am also a custodian for:
Signature:
Date:

Visit http://beringstraits.com/shareholders/forms/address_name_change.pdf to update your address today or use the form below.

For name changes, BSNC requires that you attach a legal document with your new name, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

New name:
Former name:
Social security number:
Date of Birth:
Signature:
Date:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762
You may also call our Nome or Anchorage offices at (907) 443-5325 or (977) 563-3788 or use our online tool at:
shareholders@beringstraits.com

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762

I, _______________________________________________________________, having attained the age of eighteen (18) years and being of sound mind, and solely for the purposes of AS 13.16.705(b) and ANCSA of 1971, Sec. 7(h)(2), freely and voluntarily execute this will and hereby devise and bequeath my shares of stock in Bering Straits Native Corporation and ______________________________________________________village corporation to:

This instrument shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Alaska.

Dated at ____________________________

City ____________________________ State ____________________________

this day of ____________________________ 20______

Signature of Testator ____________________________

I, being first sworn, declare that the testator signs and executes this instrument as his/her last will and testament and that the testator signs it willingly, and I sign this will as witness of the testator's signing, and that to the best of my knowledge the testator is 18 years or older, of sound mind, and under no constraint or undue influence.

Notary Public or Postmaster ____________________________
In and for the State of ____________________________
BSNC REGION NEWS

KAWERAK ANNOUNCES 32ND ANNUAL RURAL PROVIDERS’ CONFERENCE

Will take place in Nome June 1-4

Kawerak will hold a Rural Providers’ Conference June 1-4 in Nome, Alaska. The Rural Providers’ Conference is an annual gathering and cultural celebration designed by rural Alaskans who are substance abuse treatment providers, youth, Elders and family members interested in an opportunity to share information, address substance abuse and promote wellness.

This year’s conference is held in conjunction with the Kawerak Regional Conference and will feature hands-on cultural events, talking circles, workshops, keynote speakers and more! Each evening will be filled with Traditional Native Dancing, other entertainment and a potluck on Wednesday evening. Please bring a dish from your community to share.

Participants can register at www.ruralcap.com. Please contact Barb Nickels at (907) 434-1833 or rc.coord@kawerak.org with any questions.

UPCOMING VILLAGE CORPORATION ANNUAL MEETINGS

White Mountain Native Corp. Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 28, 1 p.m., White Mountain High School Gym
Contact: nr.advoc@kawerak.org

Sitnasuak Native Corp. Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m., Nome Elementary School
Contact: meagle@snc.org

BERING STRAITS FOUNDATION NEWS

BSF ACCEPTS DONATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Your gift benefits BSNC shareholders and descendants

For the 2014-2015 academic year, the Bering Straits Foundation (BSF) awarded a total of $234,643 in educational funding to BSNC shareholders and their descendants. Since its inception in 1994, BSF has provided more than $2 million to the Alaska Native shareholder beneficiaries of BSNC to participate in post-secondary education.

Are you interested in learning more about BSF scholarships or making a tax-deductible donation? Applications can be found at www.beringstraits.com under the Foundation tab. BSF encourages students to check online before each term to get the most up-to-date application.

If you would like to send a monetary donation to BSF, please send a check addressed to the Bering Straits Foundation PO Box 1008 Nome, AK 99762; donations can also be made via Wells Fargo account #8938527739.

Should you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Koezuna-Irelan by email at mkoezuna-irelan@beringstraits.com or by phone (907) 443-4305 or Chrystie Salesky by email at csalesky@beringstraits.com or by phone at (907) 443-4316.

BSF sincerely appreciates your donation and support!

BSNC Chief Operating Officer Krystal Nelson and Director Tim Towarak enjoy the sunshine while attending Shishmaref’s Annual Meeting. As a function of the BSNC Board of Directors’ Shareholder Outreach Committee, members of BSNC’s executive team and the Board will be present at various village annual meetings on a rotating basis. BSNC President & CEO Gail Schubert, Director Bobby Evans, Vice President of Media and External Affairs Matt Ganley, Vice President of Lands and Natural Resources Larry Pederson, Director Eugene Asicksik, Vice President of Lands and Natural Resources, Chief Financial Officer Laura Edmondson, Vice President of Finance (Nome Operations) Jerald Brown, Special Executive Assistant Kimberly Gooden and Shareholder Technician Renee Parker were also in attendance.
BSNC NEWS

BSNC Hires Andrew P. Hall As Vice President and General Counsel

BSNC has hired Andrew P. Hall as its Vice President and General Counsel. Hall will oversee all legal matters of BSNC and its subsidiaries. Hall has 30 years of experience. He joins BSNC from CIRI, where he served as Sr. Director, Legal and Compliance Officer. Hall graduated cum laude with a Juris Doctorate from Seattle University School of Law in 1985.

“I warmly welcome Andrew to BSNC’s executive team,” said Gail Schubert, BSNC President & CEO. “Andrew’s skills and many years of experience are a valuable addition to our Company and we look forward to benefiting from his legal expertise.”

BSNC Invites You To Submit Events for Website Calendar

Did you know that BSNC has a calendar on its website of upcoming events? BSNC invites shareholders, descendants and BSNC-region community members to submit news of upcoming events of interest to media@beringstraits.com.

Village Life Stories

Shareholders encouraged to submit stories

BSNC has launched the Village Life Stories Project, an initiative to share the Bering Strait region’s rich cultural history. BSNC shareholders are invited to submit stories of personal experiences about growing up and life in the village to media@beringstraits.com. Photos are not required but encouraged. Story entries must be accompanied by the author's name, hometown and a story title. Selected stories will be shared on a BSNC web page and our Facebook page. Submit stories to media@beringstraits.com.

Pilgrim Hot Springs: Unaatuq, LLC Moving Forward with Improvement Plans

In 2010, BSNC, Sitnasuak Native Corporation, Kawerak, Inc., NSEDC, and the village corporations from White Mountain, Teller and Mary’s Igloo came together and purchased Pilgrim Hot Springs. Together, they formed Unaatuq, LLC which owns the 320-acre parcel, located some 68 miles from Nome. Residents of the region have long used the Springs as a place to recreate and to soak in the geothermal waters.

Over the past 4 years, Unaatuq, LLC and the Alaska Center for Energy and Power (ACEP) have worked toward identifying the source of the hot waters, and drilled a well in 2013 that can be used for generating power on-site and providing heat for the growing produce. BSNC is the managing member of Unaatuq, LLC and is now working with ACEP staff and independent contractors to develop a business and marketing plan for growing and distributing fresh produce throughout the Bering Straits region. We have also been working with a company that is evaluating the possibility of generating electricity from the geothermal heat and building a transmission line to Nome to further reduce that City’s dependence on diesel generated electricity.

This summer and fall there will be a great deal of activity at the springs with soil studies being done, planning for greenhouse construction, improvements to the pools, and directional drilling to further characterize the subsurface geothermal resource. There will be a need for volunteers to assist in projects at the springs. For information on how to be considered as a volunteer, please send an email with a letter of interest to: pshvolunteer@beringstraits.com. (Unaatuq, LLC is not able, at this time, to provide transportation costs to and from Nome for volunteers that live outside the region).

Geothermal energy at Pilgrim Hot Springs could be harnessed to offset costly power.

Geothermal energy at Pilgrim Hot Springs could be harnessed to offset costly power.

BSNC is Hiring

BSNC, its subsidiaries, affiliates and joint ventures continue to actively seek to hire qualified shareholders, descendants, shareholder spouses and Alaska Native people to fill available positions. In addition to career opportunities in Alaska, BSNC has open positions at locations across the United States. Learn more about joining BSNC’s team by visiting www.beringstraits.com/careers.

BSNC invites you to submit events for the website calendar.
BSF SEeks Art Auction Items

The Bering Straits Foundation (BSF) Board of Directors is pleased to announce that it will hold its annual Art Auction at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Mini Convention Center in Nome. BSF is currently accepting art, handmade clothing items, jewelry, knitted goods and ulus for the auction. The proceeds will benefit BSF’s goal to provide education and training opportunities for shareholders and descendants.

BSF asks that donation items be sent or delivered to the Bering Straits Foundation, PO Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762 or delivered in person to the Bering Straits Native Corporation headquarters on Front Street in Nome. Items may also be dropped off at the Anchorage office located at 4600 DeBarr Road, Suite 200. BSF kindly requests that donations be accompanied with artist’s biography and description of the art.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR YOUNG PROVIDERS AWARD

BSNC seeks nominations for the Young Providers Award, which honors young people from the BSNC region who contribute on a daily basis to the health and well-being of their families, communities and culture. These young people serve as positive examples and provide for their community in one or more of the following ways:

- He/she cares for family through subsistence activities, Elder care, or mentoring of young people in traditional activities and values or education.
- He/she is involved in activities that benefit the community such as suicide prevention programs, youth sports, and community well-being and health.

The deadline is July 24, 2015. Nominations will be accepted from family members, tribal and corporation board members, school teachers and administrators, and other community members. Forms are available online at beringstraits.com/young-providers and through your Village Corporation or tribal office. Forms are also available by calling BSNC at 907.443.5252. Completed forms should be mailed to:

Young Providers Award
BSNC Nome Headquarters
PO. Box 1008
110 Front Street, Suite 300
Nome, Alaska 99762
Faxed to: 907.443.2985
Emailed to: kgooden@beringstraits.com