

THE ASTAC MESSENGER



Quarterly Newsletter

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www.astac.net



ASTAC calls on North Slope basketball fans

Enter the Swoosh competition and win a free trip for two to the Great Alaska Shootout.

ASTAC knows how much basketball means to the villages it serves. It's a sport all ages enjoy and is at the heart of North Slope communities. That's why you may have noticed basketball as the theme of this year's advertising campaign with the 2010 Pt. Hope boys state champs at the center.



To highlight basketball, ASTAC is holding the Swoosh competition, a free-throw contest, in each village this fall. The winner of each village will be entered into a drawing. The grand prize is a trip for two to the famous Great Alaska Shootout basketball tournament in Anchorage Thanksgiving weekend. The prize includes airfare, hotel, and tickets to the games. All ages are welcome to take part in the Swoosh competition, but if the winner is under 18, he/she must be accompanied on the trip by a parent or legal guardian.

See website for details.

Village SWOOSH Calendar*

Pt. Hope	Sept. 1
Anaktuvuk Pass	Sept. 7
Pt. Lay	Sept. 13
Wainwright	Sept. 14
Atqasuk	Sept. 16
Nuiqsut	Sept. 20
Kaktovik	Sept. 22
Barrow	Oct. 13 Final Drawing

* Dates subject to change

Co-op update: Annual meeting wrap up. Another success story.

by Steve Merriam, CEO/General Mgr.

Someone once noted, "Even a broken watch is right twice a day." That sums up the beginning of our annual meeting trek across the North Slope. Bad weather made it difficult to get to some of the villages, but the good news is it eventually cleared and we made all nine stops.

I want to update you on some of

the highlights of the meetings and answer some questions that came up. It's refreshing to hear what's on your mind, validating your ownership of this cooperative and allowing us to better serve you.

I would like to welcome our new board member, Paul Bodfish, Sr. from Atqasuk, who was elected to carry on the fine work that

Herman Kignak Sr. has provided the ASTAC board for the past six years. In other election news, Ella Kowunna of Point Hope and Marie Tracey from Point Lay retained their board seats. Also, the bylaws amendment revising director compensation passed by majority vote in all nine ASTAC villages and is now in effect.

cont on back

Product Highlights

- Texting \$5/month
- Sept. 15th Wainwright launches wireless data. Watch for details.



Update: Annual meeting wrap up cont.

As part of ASTAC's scholarship program, two \$1,500 awards were given. Alison Akpik of Barrow and Tommy Lee Koonuk of Point Hope are the proud recipients. Alison plans to study child development and psychology at Arizona State University this fall. Tommy is headed to the University of Alaska Fairbanks where he'll major in pre-med.

There were some questions asked regarding local hire, pertinent during these economic times. ASTAC has a long history of hiring locally. We have six part-time representatives that provide daily maintenance for our villages and for other technical tasks. We also employ two Barrow customer service agents, two Barrow technicians, and a resident exchange manager. Other North Slope ASTAC hires include Daisy Swisher, who now works in the Anchorage office, and Flossie Swanson who is one of our employees in Deadhorse. As for job opportunities, we currently have an opening for a village representative in Nuiqsut.

Thanks for participating in your co-op!

Testimonial

Word of Mouth

"My son Jerry called me from about 25 miles out at sea to tell me Wainwright caught a whale. What's so awesome is that he was calling from his ASTAC phone. My son-in-law John uses our competitor's service and couldn't get a signal. I just wanted to share how our cell phones are working out there. This makes me happy. By the way, Walter Nayakik Jr. also caught a whale. My son-in-law has since switched to ASTAC." - Daisy Swisher



Wainwright Alaska 2010 Captian John Hopson Jr and crew, 1st whale.

Check out our Facebook page!

ASTAC now has its own Facebook page and it's a great way for us to better connect to our customers. Please check it out for new services, emergencies, and upcoming events. Post comments and let us know your likes and dislikes so we can better serve you.



Board of Directors

Marietta Aiken
President - Barrow, AK

Marie Tracey
Vice-President - Point Lay, AK

Noreen Kaleak
Secretary/Treasurer - Kaktovik, AK

Paul Bodfish, Sr.
Atqasuk

Ella Kowunna
Director - Point Hope, AK

Ella Kowunna
Director - Point Hope, AK

Terry L. Tagarook
Director - Wainwright, AK

Margaret Pardue
Director - Nuiqsut, AK

Debbie Bernard
Director - Prudhoe Bay, AK

Patrick Mekiana
Director - Anaktuvuk Pass, AK