



FOUNDATION FOR RURAL  
EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

# 2007 Summer FRED Event

## Evening at the Alaska Native

## Heritage Center

Anchorage ,Alaska

Tuesday, July 17 7:00 - 10:00 PM



More than 400 OPASTCO Convention attendees enjoyed the sights and sounds that Alaska has to offer at the Alaska Native Heritage Center. Attendees enjoyed a lavish buffet which included local salmon. Following dinner, guests had the opportunity to walk around the grounds and learn about life for the six traditional culture groups of Alaska. Storytellers, dancers and artisans performed. Exhibits with reindeer, a bald eagle, a hawk, and an owl delighted the crowds.

A special thanks goes out to CoBank for their underwriting of the event. Thanks also to the attendees, sponsors and volunteers who worked before and during the event. An estimated \$40,000 was raised in support of FRED Programs.

### **Grand Sponsor**

CoBank

### **Dessert Buffet**

RTFC

### **Hosted Bars**

John Staurulakis Inc.

JSI Capital Advisors, LLC

### **Reindeer Exhibit**

Comporium Business Solutions

### **Avain Exhibit**

Bennet and Bennet, PLLC

### **Storytellers**

Sierra Telephone

### **Programs**

Gensoft

Geneseo Telephone Company

### **Native Dancers**

Network Services Group

### **Native American Artisans**

Cisco Systems

### **Rain Ponchos**

Riazzi Rhyne Investment Group

### **OPASTCO Staff**

### **Appreciation Sponsorship**

Chris and Christine Becker

The Middleburgh Telephone

Company

# FRED's Fundraising Cruise

On July 6th, 42 OPASTCO members set sail on the Holland America MS Volendam. The 7-day cruise started in Vancouver, B.C., and arrived in Seward, Alaska— just in time for participants to take part in the OPASTCO summer convention in Anchorage. On-board activities for the group began with a private Wine & Cheese Sail-Away Party as the ship left Vancouver. Throughout the week, OPASTCO members participated in activities on the ship and in ports-of-call. One of the highlights of the cruise was the close inspection of Hubbard Glacier for half of a day. The trip from Seward to Anchorage, for some by motor coach and for others by train, offered spectacular views of glaciers, waterfalls, and wildlife. Participants not only had a wonderful, scenic beginning to the Alaska convention, they also provided FRED with a donation of approximately \$8,500. FRED received a 10 percent donation from each cabin sold on this cruise. The money raised from this cruise will benefit students and enhance projects in OPASTCO rural communities. Special thanks goes out to FRED Board Member and Fundraising Chairperson Karen Kohne for organizing the cruise and helping to make the substantial donation possible.

