

# Alaska Academy of Family Physicians NEWS



*Front row: Elizabeth Roll, MD; \*Collette Fetterer, RN; Rebekah Robinson, MD; Kimberly Kapp, DO; — Murray Buttner, MD; 2nd Row \*Micheal Gravedahl, NRP; Carletta Hauck; Jennifer Brown, NRP; Gayle Hornberger, DO; \*Ann Gihl, RN; \*Dan Starka, NRP; \*Ben Leo, MD; Back Row: \*Victor Harrison, PAC; Derek Kockler, RN; \*Stephen Dunlop, Clifton Dalton, Paramedic; Elizabeth Bates, MD; Jesse Echave, Paramedic; \*Brian Chablot, PA-C*  
*\*Denotes Cals instructors from MN*

The President's Letter  
Family Doctor of the Year  
Annual Membership Meeting Details  
Dates for 2022 AKAFP Winter Update  
And more



Spring/Summer 2021

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Bethel

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Girdwood

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Tracy Slager, DO  
Anchorage

Executive Director  
Carletta Hauck  
carletta.akafp@gmail.com



## President's Message

### Elizabeth Roll, MD

### Bethel

Dear Alaska Family Medicine Physicians,

This has been a year of challenges and stress for all. Thinking outside the box on how to provide care safely to our patients has taken much of our energy. Thank you to all of you for the amazing care you have given to Alaska's patients in creative and caring ways. I hope you all found ways to unplug and rejuvenate during these times. Fostering village puppies with my family who are on their way to adoption in Anchorage has been my way to rejuvenate.

The Alaska Academy of Family Practice has been working to help support you in your endeavors over the last year with online activities and access to our amazing AAFP Covid resources on our website.

2021 is off to a great start. Our virtual Alyeska Winter Update in March was a rousing success. We had over 60 participants from Alaska and 10 other states. Dr. Laura Walters from Kodiak and Dr. Bill Eggimann from Bethel gave inspirational Why? Talks about their experiences providing decades of full scale family practice medicine to their rural communities. Thank you both for your sharing your stories and photos about the amazing care you have provided to your communities.

Carletta Hauck- our Executive Director was able to organize a virtual KSA in early November using Zoom. KSA one day CMEs are the most convenient way to move through our ABFM required KSA subjects- with each 4-hour session you are earning 8 CME hours and 10 MOC credits. **Think about signing up for the fall session.**

Due to Alaska's strong immunization rate - some of the Covid restrictions are being lifted and we can move towards a new normal. Thank you all for your efforts to encourage vaccines to all. One of my jobs over the last few months has been to travel by Snow machine/ Plane/ FJ Cruiser on the Ice Roads and by 4-wheeler to move vaccine up and down the Kuskokwim river. Being able to provide Vaccine into the arms of our Elders and village patients has been an honor and an adventure- let's not talk about getting lost in the fog in the Ice road...

Janice Schufelt MD and I will be our Alaska AAFP Delegates to the AAFP Congress of Delegates (COD) in Kansas City in late September for our live COD meeting. Shawn Vainio, MD and Sara Hornberger, DO will be in the Alternate Delegate positions. It will be wonderful to meet with other State Chapter Presidents from all over the US and share ideas in person. The conference was originally set to take place in Anaheim, CA- however with all the travel issues and uncertainty at the time the decision was made, the AAFP leadership decided a Midwest venue would be best.

Continued on next page

In May the AKAFP hosted two full sessions of the Comprehensive Advanced Life Support (CALS) course in Anchorage. Throughout the week two groups of 24 individuals attended both the Trauma and Provider Modules and 10 individuals were trained as instructors. The AKAFP Chapter Executive, Carletta Hauck, applied for and received a \$65,000 grant to bring this training to Alaska. We want to thank Dr. Murray Buttner a family physician member of our organization for helping to advocate for this training to be brought to Alaska. He had just taken the course in Wisconsin when he put his new knowledge to work with patients after a plane crash at Dutch Harbor. He expressed that he felt prepared to handle the trauma situation he faced that day because he had just completed this course. I attended the course and I would recommend it to all of our members. (More on this class on page 5.)

This summer I will move on to being the past president of the AKAFP and Shawn Vainio, MD will move from President Elect to President. I expect many great things from him as president..

Stay Well and enjoy your summer! **Elizabeth Roll, MD AKAFP President**

## AAFP Degree of Fellow

The Degree of Fellow recognizes AAFP members who have distinguished themselves among their colleagues, as well as in their communities, by their service to family medicine, by their advancement of health care to the American people, and by their professional develop-

ment through medical education and research. Fellows of the AAFP are recognized as champions of family medicine. They are the physicians who make family medicine the premier specialty in service to their community and profession. From a personal perspective, being a

Fellow signifies not only 'tenure' but one's additional work in your community, within organized medicine, within teaching, and a greater commitment to continuing professional development and/or research.

For more information go to: <https://www.aafp.org/membership/welcome-center/involve/fellow.html>

**"The AKAFP can  
Confer the  
Degree of Fellow  
at our  
Winter Update  
in March, 2022.**

## 2020 Alaska Family Doctor of the Year Nominations OPEN

Each year the Alaska Academy of Family Physicians chooses from among its' members an Alaska Family Physician of the Year. The award this year will be announced at the July Annual Meeting. The Academy is presently soliciting for nominations of Family Physicians who have made a significant contribution to their Patients and Communities.

Please consider nominating a deserving colleague. Nominations are due no later than **July 7, 2021**. Please send a letter of nomination and a current CV of the physician you would like to recommend for the award. Nominations should be submitted to the Alaska Academy of Family Physicians. [carletta.akafp@gmail.com](mailto:carletta.akafp@gmail.com)

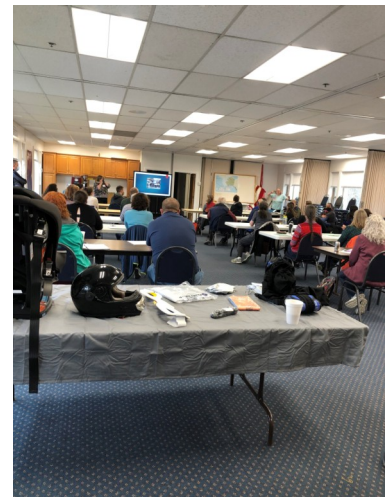
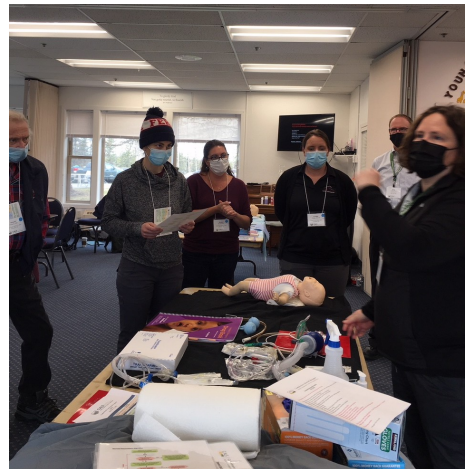


## CALS TRAINING– A PICTURES WORTH 1000 WORDS



This is our second full class of CALS Attendees— Someone forgot to take a picture of the first class.

Below:  
Pictures of class-  
room learning and  
some Hands-On  
training.



## CALS 2021:

In late 2019 Murray Buttner, MD had attended a Comprehensive Advanced Life Support (CALS) session in Wisconsin as part of his CME learning for the year. He chose this rural trauma course because of the location and rural nature of his practice setting in the Aleutian Island of Unalaska. Being very impressed with the comprehensive course he came home and contacted the AKAFP Chapter Executive and expressed his desire to see this course be brought to Alaska for the rural providers.

After a short time a committee was formed and a group of interested physicians and other providers from all over Alaska, began to plan how to not only bring CALS to Alaska, but how to build a team of our own to teach the course in our rural areas. Jenny Brown, MICP from Fairbanks helped to get the equipment lined up and will provide ongoing support in coordinating the instructors and equipment in training sessions moving forward.

Two people at the state, who were instrumental in helping the AKAFP secure a grant to fund the training of 48 individuals and 10 instructors, were Tricia Franklin, MPH and Wendy Allen. Tricia is with the Office of Healthcare Access Rural and Community Health Systems a part of the Alaska -DHHS- Division of Public Health and Wendy Allen, RN, BSN, TCRN is the Trauma Program Manager within the same office of the DHHS. The grant was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U. S Department of Health and Human Services.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with this project-there are to many people to name here, but you can see a complete wrap up on our website after July 1, 2021. We will be planning future courses in Alaska soon! Thank you to the AAFP FMPC for helping to provide funding for this project. Please support the AAFP Dues Check Off!

**FREE!! Friday November 12, 2021 Mark this day off** and join us **live or via Zoom** for a full day of CME! We will be providing 2 lectures and 1 KSA all at NO CHARGE to you!

**Friday Morning 8:30-11:30 AM** we will be providing the KSA Subject and Location TBD

Time: **12:00 PM – 1:00 PM** Time **Advances in Cancer Screening and Detection: What PCPs Need to Know** Commercial Supporter: This activity is supported by an educational grant from Grail, Inc.

Time: **1:15 PM – 2:15 PM** Time **Improving Cardiovascular Outcomes in T2DM: Personalizing Antihyperglycemic Therapy** Commercial Supporter: This activity is supported by independent educational grants from Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Eli Lilly and Company, Merck & Co., Inc. and Novo Nordisk

Because of the support of the Potomac Center for Medical Education we are able to offer this full day of CME where you can earn up to 10 CME Credits and 10 MOC ABFM Credits at **NO CHARGE!**



## Little Bits of News

**The AAFP Congress of Delegates** will be live in Kansas City, MO this fall. **Janice Sheufelt, MD Juneau; Elizabeth Roll, MD Bethel; Shawn Vainio, MD Girdwood and Gayle Hornberger, DO Fairbanks** will be representing the AKAFP as Delegates and Alternate Delegates. If you have any ideas or thoughts to share with them please reach out to the AKAFP office and we will get you in touch with them.

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The AKAFP received a \$10,000 grant from the **ABFM** to create marketing materials for our legislators and other interested groups. It also provided funding for the AKAFP to have a leadership and professionalism lecture at our 2021 Winter Update!

To see the materials that were developed and sent to the Alaska Legislative Representatives please go to our website <http://alaskaafp.org>

**Thank you American Board of Family Medicine!**

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**HOSA-Health Occupation Students of America** is an organization consisting of students in grades 9-12 and is designed for students who are interested in a healthcare career. They do many projects and competitive events in a wide variety of medical situations. We are looking for a few Family Medicine Physicians who would be willing to be involved with the HOSA students in Alaska. Seventeen high schools across the state of Alaska participate in HOSA! Can we count on you to become involved?

**Check out their website to see if a school near you is participating: <http://alaskahosa.org>**

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This is your last chance to attend the 2021 Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS) CME Livestream, **The Role of the Family Practice Provider in the Diagnosis, Management, and Referral of Patients with Ankylosing Spondylitis** featuring rheumatology expert Dr. Marina N. Magrey on **Thursday, July 15, 2021 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM (Alaska time)!** Integrity Continuing Education is happy to provide you with **1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)** upon completion of this activity.

### **We are living in a virtual world!**

Please join us live on Tuesday July 20th as we share what the AKAFP is doing for you! This is our annual membership meeting and we want you to be involved. If you are interested in being on the Board of Directors for the AKAFP we will have **two open board positions**, Member at Large and Treasurer. I look forward to seeing you there!

**Virtual ANNUAL MEETING Tuesday July 20, 2021 from 6:30-07:30 PM**  
**Carletta will email the ZOOM Link on Monday July 19, to all Members.**



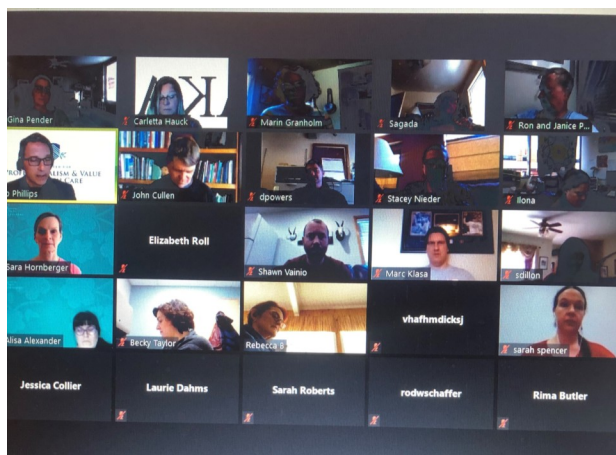
Mask Up, Alaska!

You may have seen this picture, created by Covin O. in the May Issue of the Alaska Magazine! Covin won first place in our AKAFP K-12 Mask Up Competition last fall in the individual category. NEC Alaska helped us spread the word about our competition and we had some very creative entries.

Our first place classroom winner is featured on the back of this publication. We had many wonderful entries and you can see all the winners on our website at <http://alaskaafp.org>

We hope to do more competitions such as theses to help students learn about important and timely issues in healthcare!

**Congratulations to all our winners!**



Thank you to all who participated in our 2021 Winter Update in March of this year. We were sad that we could not all be together at the Hotel Alyeska this year, however we made our Zoom conference as interactive as we could. Thank you to all the speakers and a special Thank You to Dr. Ada Stewart the current AAFP President who gave us a very nice update from the AAFP.

Next year, when we can return to the Alyeska, we will be able to enjoy their new Nordic Spa. It is the first of it's kind in Alaska and we already have a room block for next years conference!! Be sure to book early as I anticipate with all the fun activities we have planned, a world class ski resort and now- the Nordic Spa it will fill up quickly! Call now and tell them you are with the AKAFP. 1-800-880-3880! Be sure to bring the family and we will make memories!

### ALSO COURSE IN ANCHORAGE

**WHEN: NOVEMBER 13, 2021**

**Where: Alaska Family  
Medicine Residency**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND INVITE  
YOUR RN, PA-C COLLEAGUES**

### AKAFP WINTER UPDATE 2022

**WHEN: MARCH 11-13, 2022**

**Where: The Hotel Alyeska  
Girdwood, AK**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**NOW!!**

Alaska Academy of Family Physicians  
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Watertown, SD57201

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**Mrs. Powell's high school class won the 2020 AKAFP Classroom Mask Up K-12 Contest**  
AKAFP with the help of the Alaska NEA hosted a contest for Alaska k-12 students to help them learn the importance of wearing a mask during the COVID 19 pandemic. The AKAFP received funding from the AAFP Foundations Family Medicine Philanthropic Consortium to help award prize money to the winners. Help support the FMPC by supporting your DUES CHECK OFF!