

### Company Adventure - Train to Denali



On Friday, September 2, Design Alaska closed and gave employees the opportunity to ride a train to Denali and back. Employees and guests boarded the Wilderness Express at 8am, arriving in Denali around noon. Train riders had the afternoon to explore. Some employees went hiking, grabbed lunch, visited a dog kennel, or took in the beautiful fall scenery. At 4, employees boarded the train and headed back to Fairbanks to enjoy the rest of their four day weekend.

Pictures continued on page three...



# President's Corner

## ACEC Senior Executive Institute – Alaska Reunion

In 2012 I took part in a class put on by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) called the Senior Executive Institute (SEI). The purpose of the class was to bring a group of leaders in the Architecture and Engineering industry and further develop our skills in such topics as: public policy politics, personal leadership skills, strategic thinking, transforming learning organizations, and innovation and partnership.

As part of this class, I made close friends with 23 leaders in our industry that work from coast to coast and in a variety of markets. Design Alaska was one of the smaller firms in the group where there were leaders from firms with up to 2,500 employees. We have stayed in contact with each other and continually discuss our experiences on topics within our industry and how to keep our firms strong and vibrant.

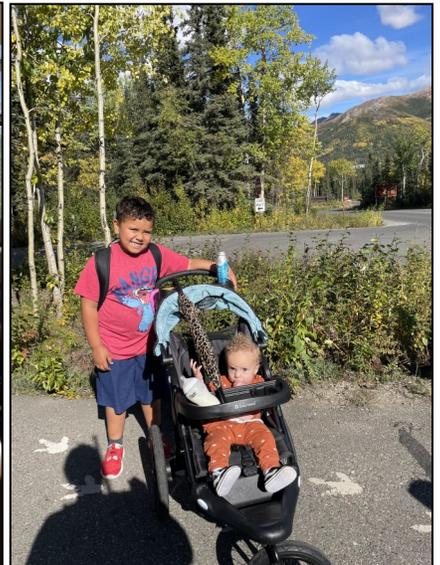
Each year we get together in person in the hometown of one of the classmates to keep up the personal connection that is so important to our engineering work. This year was my turn to host and 12 of the classmates met here in Fairbanks. Our education sessions focused on climate change and the built environment. We had presentations from UAF about climate affects and discussed such topics as the road collapse in Denali Park for example. It was amazing to see how well Alaska problems focused the leaders on the bigger picture of a changing climate and what can be done to address and adapt to the changes for the good of our communities.

The picture to the right is of my classmates on a quick walk-through office tour. They all really appreciated the uniqueness of our great state, and are able to share with their colleagues what they experienced, and have further insight on the impact of how the world thinks about climate and the built environment.

Chris Miller, PE  
President, Design Alaska



# Company Adventure Pictures Continued..



# Employee Question of the Month

How did you spend your four day weekend? Please share highlights and pictures.

Marina Jones



Submitting my application for Leadership Fairbanks in a coffeehouse, preserving garden goodies and making sauerkraut, and spending Labor Day trail running/hiking Granite Tors with a friend (which was beyond beautiful). A wonderful weekend spent!

Blake Burley



Rode the train to Denali, went to the antique auto museum, visited with a good family friend, and took David on his first flight!

Eric Gabrielson



Stacking fire wood, smoking salmon strips, and smoking spare ribs!

Mary Sue Dates



Friday – Company Adventure  
 Saturday – Rest  
 Sunday – Downtown outreach ~ Evangelizing and Church  
 Monday – rest and housework

Jay Baxter

Tried to climb a rocky knoll. Part way up, realized I wasn't sure if I was going to be able to climb back down. Made it to the top and back with some exciting memories!

How did you spend your four day weekend? Please share highlights and pictures.

Kym Pihlaja



A weekend trip with family to Valdez .

Molly McGuire



I went to Lincoln City, Oregon and hiked The Knoll and High Meadow trails, then spent the holiday with my mom and sister. The Knoll provides a great view of Lincoln City.

Chris Miller



It was our 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary weekend (Adam was able to guess the location of our wedding photos!). We really love the fall colors, cool days, and long walks around our community. We even went for an evening airplane trip with Angie doing the flying (and me doing the training).

Ryan Morse



We enjoyed the company train trip to Denali on Friday and then headed down to Hatcher Pass on Saturday to camp. On Sunday we checked out the State Fair including the record setting pumpkin and an aging but still very fun BNL. We went back to Hatcher Pass to camp that night and then went on a nice hike Monday before working our way back home.

# Employee Question of the Month

How did you spend your four day weekend? Please share highlights and pictures.

Dantasia Baum



We explored the Visitor's Center and the Murie Science and Learning Center in Denali on Friday, and apple picking on Saturday.

Deanna Woods



We went to Wasilla to see my Dad's band play, and to meet up with DJ's bestie, who recently moved to Anchorage.

Josiah Alverts



My little sister came up to Fairbanks to visit my other sister and I, and we all went rock climbing and camping!

Sabrina Davis



Spent the long weekend with my sweet grandsons. Got to enjoy the Washington State Fair, playing outside, reading books, building rocket ships for Buzz Lightyear and of course, lots of snuggles!

# September 2022 ~ Upcoming Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Company BBQ Managers' Meeting	2 Company Adventure	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Food Truck	23	24
25	26	27	28 Table Massages	29 Managers' Meeting	30	

## September Birthdays      October Upcoming Events

Sabrina Davis	September 7	
Florian Kienle	September 21	
Josh Clifton	September 24	

United Way Kick Off	October 4
Table Massage	October 5
Table Massage	October 19
Managers' Meeting	October 27
United Way Wrap Up	October 31



The end of summer also brings the end of BBQ and food truck season at Design Alaska. Staff enjoyed the last BBQ on September 1. Jim grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, Dantasia made macaroni and cheese, corn, and quinoa. September 22nd is the last food truck, Meg's Eats and Treats.

