

AU to Welcome Alumni for Reunion Weekend

5/30/00

Alfred, NY -- An estimated 400 Alfred University alumni, their families and friends will gather for in Alfred this weekend for the annual alumni reunion. Activities begin Friday with a golf scramble at the Hornell Country Club, and conclude Sunday with a Service of Remembrance and a breakfast buffet. In between, there will be everything from bus tours of campus and ball games to swing dance lessons and dancing, dinners for honored classes, and tethered hot air balloon rides (weather permitting), according to Mark Shardlow, director of Alumni Relations. Among the highlights of the three-day weekend is Saturday's luncheon, when the Alumni Association presents its annual awards. Recipients this year include Alan Littell of Alfred, a 1953 graduate of the University, who will receive the Lillian T. Nevins Alumni Recognition Award, the highest honor bestowed by the association for "distinguished service" to Alfred University. In the early 1960s, Littell was a news desk copy editor for the Paris edition of the New York Herald Tribune, now the International Herald Tribune. He later worked as editorial writer for WCBS radio in New York City, and from 1968 until his retirement in 1985, he headed the Alfred University News Bureau and edited The Alfred Reporter. Littell is now a nationally known travel writer whose articles have appeared in such publications as The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times and The Chicago Tribune. He has also been bibliographer for the University's Openhym Collection. Recipients of Alumni Service Certificates for distinguished service to the Alumni Association will be: Patrick Donohue, a member of the class of 1978 who is producing sales manager and vice president at Merrill Lynch. He is an Admissions volunteer and corporate liaison between the University and Merrill Lynch. Joseph C. McLarney, a member of the class of 1961 who is plant manager at AVX Corporation in Olean. For more than 20 years, he has welcomed students at the plant for tours and discussions. Mary M. Giles, a member of the class of 1980 who is retired as dean of the School of Health Sciences at Hudson Valley Community College. For several years, she has hosted prospective student receptions, and represented the University in scholarship presentations at high schools in her area. Donald T. DeCoursey, a member of the class of 1954 who is retired as director of electronic materials at E.I. Dupont de Nemours International. For many years, he has been an alumni club leader. Distinguished career achievement awards will be presented to Mark V. Parish, a member of the class of 1979, who is founder of Cera Nova Corporation, Specific Surface Corporation and several other companies in Massachusetts, and Marina R. Pascucci, a member of the class of 1977, who is now president of Cera Nova Corp. Dan Napolitano, a member of the class of 1993, will receive the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. He is director of Student Activities for the University. As a student, he founded the popular Friday Night Live show which is still a mainstay of campus life. His innovative programs such as the Cultural Caf, have won national awards, and continue to draw students. The Faculty Friend Award is being presented to Dr. Joe Gow, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and an associate professor of mass media, as well as director of the Communication Studies program. His Honors courses on the blues are among the most popular on campus. Bruce A. Kulp of Rochester is being named an honorary alumnus of the University. He is co-president of the Parents Association, has helped to coordinate alumni events, has co-chaired the Parents Fund segment of the Annual Fund, designed the Parents Association web pages for the AU web site, attends many AU events, hires AU students, and serves as a guest speaker for classes. His wife, Christine Pinto Kulp, is a member of the class of 1971, and their daughter, Rachel, was graduated from AU in 1999. Their daughter Devon is a current student.