

**NEWSLETTER OF THE ALASKA CHAPTER
OF THE
AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION**

1986 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The 1986 annual business meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Statistical Association was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) on November 5 & 6th, 1986, at the Captain Cook Hotel, in Anchorage. During the morning of November 5th, the following new officers were elected:

President Earl Becker
Vice President Allen Bingham
Secretary/Treasurer Linda Brannian
Board Member Rich Ender
Executive Board Member Hal Geiger

The membership at the meeting voted to direct the executive committee to propose changes to the Chapter constitution, which would alter the terms of office and method of election for the Chapter offices. The terms of office will change so that the current Vice President will become the President in their second year of service; the Secretary/Treasurer will hold office for two years. Accordingly, the office of Secretary/Treasurer will only be filled every other year. The office of President will not be open for elections, in that the Vice President will automatically become President. One additional board member will be elected yearly.

Several additional issues were discussed at the business meeting. The membership passed an advisory vote (to the next Vice President, as program coordinator) that the 1987 annual meeting be held in Juneau (with the alternative to meet jointly with the AFS or the Arctic Science Conference, if either meet in Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Juneau).

Discussion regarding speaker(s) and short courses for the 1987 meeting resulted in an advisory vote that both a speaker and a short course were desired (not necessarily on the same topic). The following topics and speakers were mentioned and prioritized (with highest priority first):

Topic Speaker

Multivariate analysis Johnson
Resampling methods R. Tibshirani

Density estimation David Scott

Another topic mentioned was the analysis of survival data. The membership further advised the next Vice President that the 1987 meeting should have a three day maximum duration.

Additional discussion involved the status of the requirements for the State of Alaska biometrician's register; a time series short course (see section, below); and an honorarium for this year's guest speaker.

During the afternoon of November 5th a general paper session was held, followed by an excellent and thought-provoking presentation by our guest speaker, Paul A. Tukey of Bell Laboratories. Paul's first presentation was "Some Graphical Methods for Analyzing Data in Three and More Dimensions". Paul presented an additional topic on the morning of November 6th, titled "Examining High-Dimensional Data Using Cognition and Kinematics". Both of Paul's talks were well attended by both ASA and AFS members. An additional general paper session was held after Paul's second presentation, followed by a book review session.

The general paper sessions included talks by Steve Thompson, University of Alaska, Fairbanks (UAF) ("Determining sample size for multinomial proportions", this paper will be published in the February 1987 issue of The American Statistician); B. Alan Johnson, Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Kodiak (one talk on an overview of the "Bootstrap", another talk on an overview of density estimation using shifted histograms; Earl Becker, ADF&G, Anchorage ("Using probability sampling to estimate furbearer population size"); and Pham Xuan, UAF ("Kernel estimation with applications to line transect sampling").

Following the book session, an enjoyable and lively lunch with Paul was attended by ASA members present at Simon and Seafort's.

Report from the New President

Several proposals to amend the current constitution were made at the November 1986 chapter meeting. The amendments dealt with the

changing the way in which officers are elected. It was proposed that nearly all terms of office be 2 years, the Vice President will become President in the second year, the President will become an executive board member the second year, and the secretary/treasurer will hold office for two years. One additional member will be elected yearly, as a way to get new members involved. These amendments will be voted on at the 1987 chapter meeting, scheduled for this fall. An affirmative two-thirds vote of the full and associate members present at the meeting will be required to amend the constitution.

SHORT COURSE IN TIME SERIES

Our chapter will be sponsoring a short course jointly with the School of Fisheries and Science at the University of Alaska, Juneau (UAJ). Classes will be held February 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, and March 4th. We will be using a video tape of a class put on at the 1984 National meeting by Johannes Ledolter and Bovas Abraham. A text by the same individuals will be used. It is titled Statistical Methods for Forecasting, and is part of the Wiley series. Each video lesson will also be shown in Anchorage at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) office with a two week lag beginning February 17th and running weekly through March 17th. There is a possibility that the course will also be presented in Fairbanks.

Those interested in attending the Juneau showing should contact Hal Geiger ADF&G, Juneau (465-4230). Those interested in a possible Fairbanks showing should contact Dana Thomas (474-6103). Please contact Linda Brannian (267-2118) concerning the Anchorage showing. The cost will be \$40 and those interested in the Anchorage showing should send checks, payable to AK ASA, to Linda Brannian (see section on dues for Linda's address).

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The Alaska Chapter of ASA is required by its constitution to publish a membership directory at least every five years. The first such directory was published when the Chapter was organized in 1982. The second edition will be published later this year. Compilation of returned survey forms is being done by Don Marx. A last request has been sent to members from whom survey forms have not been received. Upon its completion, copies of the directory will be provided to all

members. It will also be made available to government agencies and other groups that request information about our Chapter or inquire about statistical expertise in the State.

DUES

Please note that the number next to your name on the mailing label is the last year for which we have received dues and the letter represents the type of membership (R=Regular, S=Student). Please renew your membership. Dues may be sent to Linda Brannian, ADF&G Div. CF, 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518 or included with your membership dues for the national organization. Regular membership is \$10 and \$1 for students, make checks payable to AK ASA, and send to Linda Brannian.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Sport Fish Division of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Research and Technical Services (RTS) unit is sponsoring an elementary statistics course (emphasizing sampling) open only to Sport Fish Division staff. The tentative dates for the course are February 2-6, 1987. The primary instructor will be Dave Bernard. Dave can be reached at 267-2369.

The Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will most likely be sponsoring a short course in scientific sampling to be given sometime in May, in Anchorage. The instructor will be David C. Bowden, of Colorado State University. Questions regarding the course should be directed to Randy Bailey, USFWS, 78466.

FROM YOUR NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

As your new newsletter editor, I wish to ask the membership to please inform me of any and all chapter (or other pertinent) news of which you know about. I plan to distribute at least two more issues of the newsletter in the upcoming year, and I am considering adding a "gossip" section (which will contain virtually anything the membership wants distributed). So feel free to pass it along to me (Allen Bingham, at ADF&G/SF RTS, 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518, 267-2327).

Chapter Officers

OFFICE NAME PHONE NUMBER

PRESIDENT EARL BECKER 267-2407

V PRESIDENT ALLEN BINGHAM 267-
2327

SECR./TREAS. LINDA BRANNIAN 267-
2118