

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

## **1987 ANNUAL MEETING**

The chapter met in late September 1987 in Juneau. The primary thrust of this year's program was the bootstrapping technique. Prior to the meeting we sponsored the ASA video short course titled "An Introduction to Bootstrapping" by Drs. Bradley Efron and Robert Tibsharani. The short course was held in conjunction with the University of Alaska-Southeast's Juneau Center for Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

The 1987 annual business meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Statistical Association was held during the afternoon of 30-September, the following new officers were elected:

President	Allen Bingham
Vice President	Dave Bernard
Secretary/Treasurer	Linda Brannian
Board Member	Marianna Alexandersdottir
Executive Board Member	Earl Becker

The membership at the meeting voted to approve changes to the Chapter constitution which would alter the terms of office and method of election for Chapter offices. The terms of office were changed so that the current Vice President will become the President in their second year of service and the President will become an Executive Board Member. The Secretary/Treasurer will hold office for two years. The term of office for the additional Board Member remained the same. This schedule will begin with the 1987 elected officers.

Several additional issues were discussed at the business meeting. Alan Johnson summarized the 1987 National ASA meeting, which he attended in August. ASA is considering restructuring JASA and merging American Statistician and Amstat News. National ASA is also very interested in our responses to their continuing educational videos and is distributing surveys. Barbara Bailar, National ASA president was scheduled to be in Anchorage the week of 4-November and would like to meet with interested members. She works for the Census Bureau and would be on business and would be willing to discuss her current work

involvement with the 1990 census (Editor's note Ms. Bailar had to cancel her visit).

The "1987 Directory of Alaskan Statisticians" produced from surveying our chapter membership was available to those attending the meeting. A vote was passed to send Don Marx, editor, a letter in appreciation for his work. The membership also passed an advisory vote (to the Vice President, as program coordinator) that the 1988 annual meeting be held in Anchorage in late September or early October.

Discussion regarding speaker(s) and short courses for the 1988 meeting resulted in an advisory vote that a speaker and perhaps a short course were desired for next year. The following topics and speakers were mentioned and prioritized (with highest priority first):

Topic	Speaker
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1. Multivariate Methods: Ken Wachter, Johnson or Wichern, Jerome Freedman, Paul Tukey
2. Loglinear models Alan Agresti, Richard McCormich
3. Measurement error model Wayne Fuller
4. Density Estimation Burnie, Silverman, David Scott

Several all around speakers who might be interested in visiting Alaska were recommended, Bruce Lindsay of Pennsylvania State University, teaches in the Statistics department with experience in fisheries and wildlife management (recommended by Terry Quinn) and Ken Wachter, a demographer (recommended by Bob Fagen). It was also decided to rent the ASA continuing education videotape "Data Analysis of Multivariate Observations" for viewing in Anchorage, Juneau, and Fairbanks this spring.

Our guest speaker at our annual meeting was Dr. Stephen Buckland (previously of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, LaJolla, California). Dr. Buckland presented two papers titled: "Bootstrap standard errors and confidence intervals" and "Applications of the bootstrap to quantify precision in the field of animal abundance estimation".

Additional papers presented by Chapter members included the following talks: Dan Reed discussed "Ratio estimation with small sample sizes"; Bob Conrad presented a paper titled "Bootstrap estimation of standard errors for angler catch rate data"; Alan Johnson discussed "Bootstrapped classification matrix for discriminant analysis and confidence intervals through percentile methods and density estimation techniques"; Earl Becker talked about an "Overview of mark-recapture estimation of Brown Bear populations"; Linda Brannian presented an "Overview of an application of mark-recapture in western Alaska fisheries"; Hal Geiger made "Some spontaneous comments on the application of bootstrap to an Alaska coded wire tag problem"; Mike Thomas's paper was on an "Overview of hunter economic surveys"; and Steve Thompson talked about "Adaptive sampling in fisheries and wildlife". All talks were well attended by Chapter members and students from the University. - Allen Bingham and Linda Brannian

#### **Bootstrap Shortcourse Statistics**

Juneau Showing: Total of 45 people signed up and 17 registered for credit. Of those not registered 2 were students, 17 were affiliated with ADF&G, and 7 were affiliated with the National Marine Fisheries Service. Eight ADF&G staff members viewed the video in Anchorage. - Linda Brannian

#### **ASA Short Course**

We have tentatively scheduled the ASA continuing education video tape, "Data Analysis of Multivariate Observations" for the first 3 weeks in May. The course will cost \$40 for non-students and \$10 for students, this price includes the lecture notes. The location of the course, time offerings, and contact person are as follows:

Time	Location	Contact Person
May 2-6	Fairbanks	Dan Reed (456-5156)
May 9-13	Juneau	Hal Geiger (456-4210)
May 16-20	Anchorage	Earl Becker (267-2407)

People interested in attending the course should inform the appropriate contact person ASAP.

The authors of this 1977 video tape are: Ron Gnanadesikan, Jon Kettenring, and Paul Tukey. The tapes are approximately 12-13 hours long, and follow the 1977 Wiley book "Methods for Statistical Data Analysis of Multivariate Observations", by Ron Gnanadesikan.

#### **Farewell from your past president**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to the chapter last year. I would especially like to thank Allen Bingham for editing the newsletter and performing the duties of the vice-presidency, Gordon Kruse and Allen Bingham for organizing our chapter meeting, Linda Brannian for performing the secretary/treasurer duties (she made Alexander Hamilton look like a rookie) and Alan Johnson for representing us at the ASA Council of Chapters. I would also like to thank all the members who gave talks at our chapter meeting, I personally enjoyed listening to them and learned a lot. Hopefully, we will have lots of good talks by the members at next years' meeting. Do you remember the constitutional changes? Well there was an itsy bitsy clause in there that allows the vice-president to draft speakers for talks. If needed I'll be happy to talk about U.S. history. - Earl Becker

#### **Council of Chapters report**

The item of business from the Board meeting in December that is of utmost interest to our Chapter members is the 50% rule. The Board voted to remove the 50% rule that previously required 50% of our members to be members of ASA. The vote was a direct result of a recommendation from the Council of Chapters that was made in August at the San Francisco meeting. There has been a lot of work on this issue by our members and to list those that I can remember, we need to thank past Presidents Dana Thomas, Steve Thompson, and Hal Geiger.

In other news, Donald Guthrie withdrew his name as a candidate for ASA Executive Director, so the search committee is at it again; the Board voted to establish an Office of Scientific and Public Affairs in 1988; there will be changes to JASA in the future that should be of interest to the members; and a student publication is going to be started. - Alan Johnson

#### **Report from the new president**

As noted previously, immediate past president of the National ASA, Barbara Bailar, was not able to visit in November as she had planned. However, she indicated to me that Robert Hogg, current national president of the ASA was extremely interested in visiting our chapter, preferably during our annual meeting. I have directed Dave Bernard, chapter vice president, to coordinate details of such visit. - Allen Bingham  
items of interest

**JOB CHANGES:** Hal Geiger recently transferred from the Fisheries Rehabilitation and Enhancement (FRED) Division to the Commercial Fisheries Division (Office of the Chief Fisheries Scientist) of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). The transfer resulted in the physical movement of Hal from the Douglas regional office to the Juneau Headquarters office. I haven't seen Hal in his new office, but I can't imagine Hal in a suit and tie. ... Speaking of headquarters, Mike Thomas, Game Division (ADF&G), has also moved from the Douglas office to headquarters.

Recently, Linda Brannian transferred from the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim (AYK) region to Region II of the Commercial Fisheries Division of ADF&G.

**JOB OPENINGS:** Biometrician II, State of Alaska, ADF&G, Commercial Fisheries Division, Kodiak, contact Dana Schmidt, Regional Research Supervisor, 486-4791. Enumerator/Census Takers, United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Regional Office, Seattle, Washington 98109, contact Gloria Lewis (206) 442-2361. Members are encouraged to "nominate" qualified candidates.

**TRAVEL AND CONFERENCES:** Dana Thomas and Pham Quang will be attending the WNAR Biometric Society meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, from 15-17 June 1988. Dana is chairing two sessions on wildlife statistics. Steve Thompson will be traveling to Copenhagen for a year, in an exchange program. He will be attending the International Biometric Conference in Namur, Belgium, from 18-23 June 1987. Allen Bingham and Alan Johnson will be attending the 1988 Joint Statistical Meetings in New Orleans, from 22-25 August 1988.

#### Treasury Report

Currently the chapter has a balance of \$2,207. A total of \$1,370 was spent hosting Dr. Stephen Buckland as our guest speaker at this year's annual meeting. This included travel (\$750), per diem (\$320) and an honorarium (\$300). Thirty-three attendees have paid out of the 34 non-students signed up for the ASA Bootstrapping videotape, eight attendees viewed the video tape in Anchorage. - Linda Brannian

#### 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 annual membership is \$10 and \$1 for students, make checks payable to AK ASA, and send to Linda Brannian. - Linda Brannian

From your newsletter editor

Chapter Officers

OFFICE	NAME	PHONE NUMBER
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PRESIDENT	ALLEN BINGHAM	267-2327
V PRESIDENT	DAVE BERNARD	267-2380
SECR./TREAS.	LINDA BRANNIAN	267-2118