

NEWSLETTER OF THE ALASKA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

28 July, 1989

1989 ANNUAL MEETING

This year's annual meeting will be held in Fairbanks from 17-19 September. All meetings and tutorials will be held in the Memorial Conference Room in the Wood Center on the campus of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. The meetings will begin with a day and a half of tutorials, workshops, and laboratories by visiting lecturers from the University of Florida and The Pennsylvania State University. Presentation of topics by the membership followed by the business meeting are on the agenda for the final day. Agendas with greater detail will be available at the meeting. If you want to present some aspect of your work at the meeting, please contact Pham Xuan Quang at the number listed at the end of the newsletter.

The meeting will begin at 1:30 Sunday afternoon 17 September with the introduction of Dr. Cliff Clogg of The Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Clogg will attend our meeting as a representative of the national organization. He will discuss our relationship with the national organization, their responsibilities to us, and our's to them. Also, Dr. Clogg has consented to present two lectures that afternoon. His topics will be "Latent Class Models" and "Analysis of Sets of Two-way Contingency Tables with Association Models." There is no fee for attending Dr. Clogg's presentation.

We will re-convene at 8:30 Monday 18 September with a day-long tutorial and laboratory on log-linear models by Dr. Alan Agresti of the University of Florida. Dr. Agresti is the author of "Analysis of Ordinal Categorical Data" published in 1984 by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. The tutorial will be titled "Log-linear Models". Dr. Agresti will spend the morning presenting an overview to the analysis of log-linear models similar to the one he presented at the national meeting in 1985. He will begin the afternoon with an overview of computer software that can be used to analyze log-linear models. The afternoon will conclude with a laboratory in which the membership will have a chance to present their work with log-linear models and gain Dr. Agresti's input, advice, and insight. The fee for the day-long session is \$15 for students and \$75 for all others. Send your fees to Dave Bernard, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, payable to "AK - ASA." Please contact Pham Xuan Quang at the number below if you wish to present something at the laboratory.

SHORT COURSE IN MEASUREMENT ERROR MODELS

This past spring the Chapter sponsored a continuing education videotape entitled "Measurement Error Models" by Wayne A. Fuller, Stephen Miller and Dan Schnell (1987). The short course video was viewed by 3 people in Fairbanks, 4 in Anchorage, and 12 in Juneau during May. Turnout for the

course was not as good as hoped due to the late spring showing time and the "Oil Spill Wars". Fixed cost was the usual \$200 for the tapes. Variable costs were quite substantial as the handouts comprising some 700 pages of photocopies of the overheads cost approximately \$25 per student. Total costs were \$528.96. Total potential benefits are \$830. To date 7 attendees have not paid resulting in a total benefits to date of \$480. Accordingly only \$301.04 was raised (assuming the 7 outstanding dues are eventually received). Reaction to the short course was positive, disregarding the usual shortcomings of a video-tape course.

The Chapter wishes to thank Quam Phang of the University of Alaska, and Dan Reed of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) for sponsoring the Fairbanks showing; Allen Bingham of ADF&G for sponsoring the Anchorage showing; and Norma Sands of ADF&G for sponsoring the Juneau showing.

NATIONAL NEWS

The biggest item in the national news is of course the national meeting. The American Statistical Association will be meet during its sesquicentennial year in Washington, D.C. 5-11 August at the Sheraton-Washington Hotel. The meetings in 1990 and 1991 will be in Anaheim and Atlanta, respectively.

LOCAL NEWS

As noted in our last newsletter this is the 150th anniversary of the American Statistical Association. Allen Bingham reports that he is finally writing a history of our chapter in honor of the sesquicentennial of our national organization. Allen will shortly have a draft produced that he will want select members of our membership to review. Be forewarned.

Also, Dave Bernard still has a few mugs left with the logo celebrating the sesquicentennial. The mugs go for \$5 a copy. Dave will bring the mugs with him to the chapter meeting in September.

Who says procrastination never pays! The day the chapter obtained the materials from the Internal Revenue Service concerning tax-exempt status for the chapter was the day we received a letter from the national organization offering their help. Considering the labyrinth of forms needed to obtain tax-exempt status, any help would be appreciated.

The ad hoc committee to study ways to obtain more members for the Chapter from academia and from business met in January. The committee is composed of Allen Bingham (chair), Marianna Alexandersdottir, both of ADF&G, and Don Marx of the University of Alaska-Anchorage. Allen reports that he is working on a rough draft of the report due

LOCAL NEWS
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April (obviously late). The report should be in final for member review by our next annual meeting in September.

In honor of the sesquicentennial, the chapter (through the efforts of Alan Johnson) has asked Governor Steve Cowper to declare November "State Statistics Month." This request is in accordance with the naming of this month as "National Statistics Month" through the efforts of the national organization.

The Executive Committee was canvased for ideas by which the Alaska Chapter can honor the American Statistical Association. The two favorites were 1) a cash award for a (or the) outstanding publication in statistics and 2) a one-time scholarship for an Alaskan in a graduate program in statistics. The topic will surely be discussed at the annual chapter meeting in Fairbanks. Any other ideas are welcome.

Alan Johnson, ADF&G Kodiak, will be attending the National annual meeting of the ASA to be held 5-11 August in Washington, D.C., as our Chapter representative.

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.

The Chapter needs your dues. These monies defray the costs of the annual business meetings and newsletters as well as some of the costs of continuing education. Remembering to pay dues is easy when attending the annual meeting, but the Chapter needs your dues whether you attend the annual meeting or not. Please send your dues directly to Linda or indirectly to the Chapter as part of your dues to the national organization.

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 have in the past included items of interest in the newsletter, but chose to refrain from doing so this issue, because all I had to report were items about ADF&G employees. Since this is a newsletter for our chapter - let's make it about our chapter: NOT just ADF&G. So feel free to pass it (news that is) along to me (Dave Bernard at ADF&G/SF RTS, 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518-1599, 267-2380).

