

Introduced: 3/2/83
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY BENNETT AND FAHRENKAMP

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 10

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Designating Festival Fairbanks as the

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entity responsible for producing a radio

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and television simulcast to begin the

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25 Alaska's statehood.

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For more information, call or write: Festival Fairbanks '84

"A non-profit community service organization"

456-1984 or 456-1980 P.O. Box 74086, Fairbanks, AK 99707

Design, Bill Inman • Copywriting, Pam Minsch

Photography, Sabra K. McCracken, UAF & The Daily News-Miner

Festival Fairbanks '84

Celebrating 25 years of Alaskan Statehood.



ALASKA'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Fairbanks in Celebration

Festival Fairbanks '84 is more than a salute to twenty-five years of statehood. It's Alaskans celebrating the richness of life in a land that allows each of them the freedom to pursue individual dreams. It's a community-wide exhibition of the spirit of Alaska, a proclamation of pride in the heritage of the Interior, and an expression of appreciation for the opportunities offered by this unique Northern region. Festival Fairbanks '84 is a showcase of Fairbanks' fascinating and diverse culture, its historical development, its natural scenic beauty, and its hopes and plans for the future.

The year-long celebration of Festival Fairbanks '84 encompasses a broad range of local, national, and international exhibits, performing arts and sporting events. Highlighted by these major events and projects, the year is filled with activities whose emphasis is on the people of Fairbanks, "The Golden Heart City."

Festival Fairbanks '84 also recognizes the anniversaries of other historic events: The Bicentennial of the first Russian settlement in Alaska, the Centennial of congressional authorization for a Territorial Governor for Alaska, and many other occurrences which have affected the destiny of the Tanana Valley and its central community, Fairbanks.

In addition to the festival activities, four commemorative projects are to be completed during 1984: A video history of the first twenty-five years of statehood, an historic monument depicting the spirit of Fairbanks, the "Bridge of Flags," and the writing of a book of major historical significance on the pre-history of the Tanana Valley and the Athabaskan peoples who have lived in it for thousands of years.

As Alaskans, we invite you to join in these and all the festivities of Festival Fairbanks '84 by planning your vacation, convention, annual meeting, or other event in Fairbanks during one of the four seasons. There'll be no better time.





WINTER

A season for Fun and Recreation — Jan., Feb., Mar.

The Winter Season is especially significant to the celebration of statehood, since it was on January 3rd, 1959 that the Statehood Act was signed. The kick-off for Festival Fairbanks '84 is scheduled for Tuesday, January 3rd, 1984. The Opening Day Ceremonies will include the first-time showing of a specially prepared video tape document on the history, people, places and events of the first twenty-five years of statehood. A state-wide television/radio simulcast presentation is planned so that as many Alaskans as possible can view this exciting historical document. A "Silver Anniversary Ball" is planned, as well as other events to toast the anniversary of the signing of the declaration of statehood.

Festival Fairbanks '84 dedicates the Winter Season to the great recreational opportunities found in the Interior. During 1984 as many of these events as possible will be featured on the calendar so that everyone can get out and enjoy the fantastic Alaskan winters. On the schedule for 1984:

-Senior Men's Hockey, featuring Fairbanks Gold Kings
-NCAA Men's and Women's Rifle competitions at the U of A
-International Combined Curling Bonspiel
-Cross-country skiing competition
-Racquetball championships
-The North American Sled Dog Championship Races
-Bowling
-Swimming
-Basketball

And in our surrounding communities:

-The North Pole Winter Carnival
-Salcha cross-country skiing
-Tok Race of Champions (dog sled)
-The Iditarod race to Nome.



SPRING

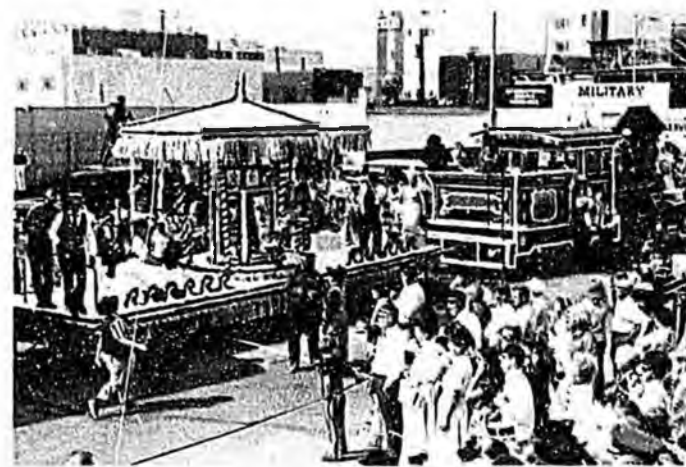
A tribute to Our Ethnic Origins — April, May, June

Part of the Alaskan Spirit is the high regard its people have for individual liberties and lifestyles. It's this spirit that brings people from around the world to live in the community of Fairbanks. Festival Fairbanks '84 celebrates the Alaskan Spirit and all the peoples who live and work together in its freedom.

The Spring Season will be dedicated to the cultural diversity of all the ethnic groups that call the "Golden Heart City" home. Special events are planned to feature the history, traditions, and folklore of each of these groups. A gigantic "Ethnic Cultural Festival" will be held so that each culture can share its crafts, dance, music, costumes and food. At the festival, Fairbanksans may sample Puerto Rican Surullitos, Greek Baklava, Philippine Leche Flan, Japanese Sashimi, German Spritzgeback, and other tempting fare. They may join others in traditional costumes dancing the Polish Mazurka, Indian Kathak, Italian Tarantella, Scottish Reel, and other folk dances. The festival will provide an opportunity for people to express pride in their ethnic origins and to share that pride with others.

Invitations have gone out to foreign dance troops, artists, ambassadors, consuls and others to join in this celebration of the people. Their participation will help bring better cultural understanding and closer ties between Alaska and its international neighbors.

As a symbolic representation of this bringing together of peoples from around the world, the national flags of participating cultures will be flown together on the "Bridge of Flags."



SUMMER

The People of Statehood — July, Aug., Sept.

Alaska is a land of stark contrast. Its modern computer-age cities are surrounded by millions of wilderness acres where the struggle to survive goes on as it did in pre-history. Its natural beauty, wildlife and vastness are treasured by the Alaskans who live here, yet threatened by the ever-increasing need for the natural resources stored in its mountains, valleys and streams. The legacy left by those who have worked to keep a delicate balance is one which Alaskans are proud to carry on.

The Summer Season will be dedicated to those individuals who have given of themselves to Alaska, especially those who led the statehood movement. Men like former Governor Bill Egan, the Constitutional Convention members, the Congressional Delegation, and other Alaskans who fought for, and against, entry into the United States. Each of the summer's activities will follow the Silver Anniversary theme.

The first of the larger summer events to take part in the Festival Fairbanks '84 celebration will be "Golden Days." The second scheduled event is the Indian-Eskimo Olympics. The Alaska State Fair is next, in mid-August. The fair plans many Silver Anniversary exhibits complete with special Anniversary ribbons and awards.

The Equinox Marathon heads up the list of sporting events already scheduled for the Summer Season. Organized and unorganized summer sports include bicycling, golf, fishing, hiking, canoeing, white-water rafting, and so much more. For those whose idea of sport is a little less stimulation, there are blueberries, raspberries, lingonberries and cranberries to be picked in late July and August.



AUTUMN

A season of Cultural Events — Oct., Nov., Dec.

Fairbanks has an abundance of talent when it comes to the creative and performing arts. The variety of shows and performances presented in Fairbanks covers a full range of styles, from country music to light opera, bluegrass and rock 'n roll to complete symphonies. Sculpture, painting, charcoal and pastels, by Alaskan artists and others from outside the state, can be viewed at the Alaskaland Civic Center Gallery, the University of Alaska Fine Arts Gallery, and in private galleries in town. Theatre, mime, dance and performing arts groups from around the state and the world entertain enthusiastic audiences regularly.

Dedicated to cultural activities, the Autumn Season seeks to stimulate the creative talent latent in each individual. To this end, in early fall, a preview of the visual arts, literary arts, and performing arts season is planned. Included in this three day event are performances, workshops, master classes, clinics, lectures, readings, recitations, demonstrations, and exhibits intended to give the participant a sampling of the entire arts spectrum.

Also planned for fall, a combined musical-dramatic presentation of "Peter Pan." The joint production will be the work of the Fairbanks Light Opera Theatre, the Fairbanks Drama Association, and the University of Alaska Drama Department.

Many other groups have performances planned during this season. *In all, Fairbanks expects to see a full calendar of cultural activities during Festival Fairbanks '84.*

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MAR 14 1983



File

March 8, 1983

Senator Don Bennett
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Don and Bettye:

Right on! Both on the Concurrent Resolution 10, which you two introduced, and your excellent letter, Don, to the Governor. Things are shaping up for 1984, but time is certainly pressing in on us. We have less than ten months in Fairbanks to raise in excess of \$400,000 from the private sector. We have had good support from the local government to cover our general office operating expense, where, as you know, we have only one paid employee.

The Congressional Resolution No. 42, and the State Concurrent Resolution No. 10 are basic for a successful 1984 recognition of Alaska Statehood. In addition, we very much need to have the strong support of the Governor. The suggestions that you make in your letter to him of February 26th I hope will trigger something positive and soon. If it were only a proclamation, I think it would stimulate a good deal of attention all over the State.

Dr. William R. Wood, Executive Director · 456-1984
102 Lathrop Building · 514 - 2nd Ave. · P.O. Box 74086 · Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

One thing, of course, leads to another. The major radio and television simulcast statewide for the 3rd of January 1984 is a big undertaking in itself, but this we now believe with your good support is going to work out very well. We have already invested some \$60,000 in the project, none of it state money. We are now undertaking to raise an additional \$25,000 to \$40,000 from the private sector only in order to pull together an hour long broadcast around the twenty-minute documentary. This will require the services of a professional who knows both radio and television and is experienced in putting intricate programs together. Incidentally, we have been assured that our entire Congressional Delegation will be in Fairbanks on 3 January 1984. Through them we are seeking to invite the President of the United States and are, perhaps foolishly, optimistic to think that a combination of circumstances might indeed bring him here. One, Congress will not be in session; two, the State Legislature will not be in session; three, we will not be overrun at that time of year by visitors, and four, 1984 is the beginning of an election year. It might be the one chance that the President could visit a "remote province." If it is not possible for him to come, we feel rather confident that he will send a high ranking representative of the White House.

To make the occasion even more special, we are now discussing very seriously at FF '84 the possibility of holding a Statehood Dinner on the same evening, perhaps simultaneously with the broadcast. To this we would like to invite not only the Alaska Congressional Delegation and Henry Jackson, who was very instrumental in the Statehood drive, but the Interior State Delegation, and all of the former governors, plus Territorial Governor Stepovich. The host for the occasion, of course, would have to be, protocol-wise, Governor Sheffield. Perhaps we should include, also, in our invitation list all of the living members of the State Constitutional Convention. We would like to invite the legislative leadership, both the majority and minority leaders of the House and Senate from all of the State Legislatures since Statehood. To make it a total state affair, we should, perhaps working through the Municipal League, invite all of the mayors of the state to attend. Added to the list, of course, would be other people who have made outstanding contributions to twenty-five years of Alaska Statehood, newspaper publishers, people in broadcasting, industry, and the like. It will take some doing to put such a list together, but we believe it can be done tactfully and tastefully. In all, we would anticipate a dinner

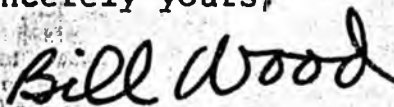
for approximately 500 people, including spouses.

We have made arrangements with Chancellor O'Rourke that the broadcast will emanate from Regents' Great Hall on campus. There will be full backup from KUAC personnel and equipment. On the same day Chancellor O'Rourke advises that the proposed plaque commemorating the new Constitution Park on campus will be unveiled. We expect to have military searchlights playing on the scene. The dinner would be held at Wood Center and a part of the broadcast would be done from there. This will take extraordinary coordination, but it can be done.

All we are asking of the Governor is to be the host. Putting together properly a "Statehood Dinner" is not exactly the easiest job in the world, but we think we can do it. If we are able to bring it off, we shall have extensive national network coverage, as well as national press coverage. It is an opportunity to bring all Alaska together to demonstrate the fact that we are "Proud To Be Alaskan."

Don and Bettye, none of this has been announced and really can't be until Concurrent Resolution 10 is passed and the Governor is on board. How can we move this along promptly? We really need your good help in getting started and time is running out on us.

Sincerely yours,



William R. Wood
Executive Director

WRW/kb