

Bering Straits Elders to meet this month to share wisdom,

By Veronica Iya

The Fourth Annual Bering

Straits Elders Conference will be held Feb. 22-26, 1982. The

Elders of villages throughout the Bering Straits region will

come to Nome to share their wisdom and their memories of our ancestors, passing that knowledge on to us so we can record and remember it for future generations.

Kawerak, Inc., the non-profit arm of Bering Straits Native Corporation, is again sponsoring this event, in which approximately 150 senior citizens will discuss topics ranging from: Repeal of the Subsistence Law, Land Issues, Education, Survival Needs, Healing Arts and Social Norms before the introduction of Western culture.

Senior citizens 55 years or older from 16 villages will gather in Nome at the National Guard Armory for the general sessions. Information-giving sessions will be at Northwest Community College.

Meetings at the five-day event will be from 9 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. Evening

entertainment will begin at 7 p.m. and will include Native dancing, featuring dancers from St. Lawrence Island, King Island, Stebbins, Diomedes, Barrow and Kotzebue.

We will also be featuring the one and only St. Lawrence Island Comedy Players. Children are encouraged to attend the evening entertainment if parents could have the courtesy to control them.

The conferences held in the past have been very successful. We could not have experienced this without the cooperation and willingness of our people. Working in harmony, uniting the people of our region, the conference will give all of us a new outlook.

Anyone wishing to donate food or interested in housing our guests, please contact Veronica Iya at Kawerak, Inc., 443-5231.