

New faces' contribute \$58,000

Lounsbury says 'Fun Raiser' plan works

The people who attended were from all walks of life; carpenters and grocery clerks mingled with bankers and executives to raise more than \$58,000 in funds for the campaign to elect Walter J. Hickel as the next Governor for Alaska.

Three fundraising parties, held in Fairbanks, Juneau and Anchorage in the past month, drew more than 1,400 Alaskans who contributed from \$10 a person to \$100 a couple, 30.5 percent of all of the funds raised to date, according to Loren Lounsbury, state finance chairman.

Lounsbury said that the large amount raised from individuals making small contributions "represents unheard-of success for political fundraising in Alaska."

"But we decided to call ours a 'Fun Raiser,' instead of a 'fund raiser,' said Lowell Janson, Juneau Hickel for Governor Committee chairman. The May 15 event included food, dancing and a raffle where a "dinner for ten with Ermalee and Wally in the Mansion" was one of the prizes. The event raised \$3,890 to assist in the campaign effort.

In Fairbanks, boosters provided dance music, hula dancers and master of ceremonies. Frank

Murkowski in a May 24 event drawing 150 persons and \$10,850 in contributions, according to chairperson Alice Lundquist. Wally and Ermalee Hickel flew to the Interior city to take part in the event.

"I am amazed at all the new faces and people we're seeing at these events," Mrs. Hickel said to the *Alaska Spirit*. Each fund raiser has brought a real cross section of the community."

An "Honest To Goodness, Old Fashioned Fun, Entertainment and Almost Political Rally" brought more than 980 persons to the National Guard Armory in Anchorage on May 11, netting \$44,300 from admission contributions and the sale of Hickel T-shirts and campaign hats.

"In all three events, our Hickel volunteers didn't know that it couldn't be done — so they did it," stated Loren Lounsbury, state finance chairman. "They are capturing the groundswell of support and the excitement of the campaign to elect Wally Hickel as the next Governor for Alaska."

Other contributions for the Hickel for Governor campaign are arriving daily by mail, from people all over Alaska, in response to coupons on the back page of

the *Alaska Spirit* and in response to our mailings, according to Lounsbury.

"More money is needed because we are facing the almost unlimited resources of the incumbent Governor where the state is paying his commissioners and their travel to make speeches throughout the state, and the Governor's staff (costing taxpayers more than \$1 million a year) is working actively without need of campaign support. With our volunteer program — workers and fund raising — we are still winning," stated Lounsbury, "and it is worth it."



A JAM-PACKED CROWD and a band of bagpipes greet Wally and Ermalee Hickel at an Anchorage "Old Fashioned Almost-Political Rally."