

Annual Banquet Celebrates 15 Years

Alaska Natives invited to hear Navajo leader

Peter MacDonald, Chairman of the Navajo Tribal Council, will be the keynote speaker for the 15th Anniversary Banquet of the Tundra Times. The banquet will be held in the Discovery Ballroom of the Captain Cook Hotel in Anchorage, at 8:00 p.m. the evening of November 12.

MacDonald, an internationally reknowned American Indian leader, is tribal chairman of the most populous Indian tribe in the United States. He will speak on a topic related to this year's

theme for the Alaska Federation of Natives convention, "Does one way of life have to die so that another may live?"

The forty-eight year-old Navajo has been tribal chairman since 1971, when he relinquished a successful career as an aircraft engineer to enter tribal service.

When he resigned the job of project engineer with Hughes Aircraft to serve as executive director of the Office of Navajo Economic Opportunity and to seek tribal chairmanship, MacDonald explained, "I do not regret the decision I made. Success is not money. It is not position. It is education and awareness so that you can see and recognize the means to develop your character and enrich this by serving other than your own narrow self-interest."

Raised in a traditional Navajo community, MacDonald experienced problems of poverty and an alien education system similar to those still faced by many rural Alaska families. He dropped out of school out of frustration and a feeling of inferiority.

MacDonald overcame the problems and frustrations to return to school, earn a college degree, and pursue a successful career in aircraft engineering.

The articulate Indian was born in Teecnospos, Arizona on December 16, 1928. He is a combat veteran of World War II, having seen service in the Marine Corps in the Pacific and China.

Tickets for the banquet have gone on sale in both Fairbanks and Anchorage this week. In Anchorage, tickets may be purchased by the book for a table of ten at 250 dollars each at the offices of United Bank Alaska, 645 G Street, attention Gloria Lorah. In Fairbanks, tickets may be purchased at the Tundra Times offices, 410 Second Avenue (in the Paskvan Building above Tommy's Elbow Room).

Reservations may not be made except by purchase of each book of tickets, with first tables sold being closest to the head table. Tickets may also be purchased by mail. Checks or money orders payable to the Tundra Times may be mailed to Box 1287, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.

The Tundra Times board of directors, meeting in Anchorage October 14, authorized that arrangements be made for a dance to be held following the banquet in the Cook's ballroom. Former A.F.N. president Roger Lang has again agreed to perform as master of ceremonies for the banquet.

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Co-chairpersons for the 1977 banquet are Toni Jones, a Tundra Times board member residing in Anchorage, and Carole Drake of Fairbanks. The two chairpersons are currently seeking donations of Native foods to be served as hor'dourves at the dinner. Persons who may wish to donate Native foods are requested to call Carole Drake in Fairbanks at 452-8251, ext. 55, or Toni Jones in Anchorage at 279-0503, or to write the Tundra Times at Box 1287, Fairbanks 99707.

sponsibility for rural sanitation facilities have jointly funded a single project."