'Subsistence' feast held in Anchorage

A "Feast for Subsistence" earned more than \$15,000 for the movement to defeat an initiative on subsistence which will appear on November's election ballot.

The "Feast," organized by the Alaskans for Sensible Fish and Game Management group, was held in Anchorage last week and featured a hearty meal of King Salmon from the Chugach Region, reindeer stew from the NANA region, corn, beans, bread and refreshments.

The Feast drew a crowd of more than 300 people at the VECO warehouse in Anchorage.

Appearing at the Feast were

the heads of several of the Regional Corporations and some politicians.

Lt. Gov. Terry Miller, who is running for the governor's job, showed up to talk and shake hands as did House District 12A candidate Phil Smith.

SENSIBLE is the non-profit political action group which is opposing the Initiative Number 7 on this fall's ballot.

If passed by voters, the initiative would abolish the state law which says that rural subsistence users of fish and game must be given priority over non-subsistence users if a shortage of fish and game exists.

If the initiative is approved, all prospective hunters and fishermen — state residents or non-residents — would have an equal chance to hunt and fish anywhere in the state.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior James Watt already has warned the state that he would enforce the federal Alaska National Interest Lands ConserThese youngsters relax after downing a feast of salmon, reindeer stew and other delectables at the recent Feast for Subsistence. More than 300 people gathered at the fund-raising dinner in Anchorage.

vation Act provision and have federal authorities enforce a subsistence law on federal and possibly state lands.

Almost every public official in the state including Gov. Jay Hammond and the former governors and the Congressional delegation have opposed the initiative on the grounds that federal control would ruin the fish and game resources.