

Banquet honors NSB health aides

A banquet was held on June 18, 1982 to honor the Health Aides of the North Slope.

Those Health Aides able to attend were: Lucy Segevan of Wainwright, Irma Hunnicutt and Helen Stein of Pt. Hope, Betty Kignak of Atkasuk, Bobbi Smith of Anaktuvuk Pass and Lillian Akootchook of Kaktovik.

For people who had completed at least Session III of the training program, the awards were an engraved stethoscope and a white snowshirt. They went to Lucy, Betty, Lillian, Irma and Kate Aiken of Atkasuk and Beverly Hugo of Anaktuvuk Pass.

Each of the other Health Aides received watches. They were Bobbi Smith of Anaktuvuk Pass, Susie Oktolik and Amy Nukapigak of Pt. Lay, Mae Clow and Maggie Hopson of Nuiqsut, Sandra Ahmaogak of Wainwright, Rebecca James of Kaktovik and Helen Stein of Pt. Hope.

Everyone should be aware that these are a small token of recognition for the hard work and dedication each Health Aide has given to her community.

Many people from the Health Department, hospital and interfacing and sponsoring organizations were able to attend. A greeting and introduction was given by Elise Patkotak, the Director of the Health and Social Services Agency. This was followed by a greeting in both English and Inupiat by

the Mayor of the North Slope Borough.

Guest speaker for the evening was Walter Johnson, CHAP Liaison from the University of Alaska. He is a former instructor in the Health Aide Program in Anchorage, so many Health Aides know him.

Marvel Bramwell, Village Health Services Coordinator, spoke briefly. Then she called on each Health Aide in turn to stand up and comment on some particular aspect of their experience working in the village clinics.

This was probably the high point of the evening as each one warmed to her subject. Their comments hit home to many of us attending the banquet who have worked with the Health Aides in various capacities.

Finally, the awards were distributed by Kathy Palmer and Lois Henderson, Health Aide Coordinator/Instructors. In a special presentation, Bonnie Livesay was given a snowshirt in appreciation of her many years of service and work with the Health Aides.

In further recognition, the Mayor proclaimed the week of June 13-19, 1982 to be "Health Aide Week" and June 18 to be "Health Aide Day."

It was a chance for us to show special appreciation for the work they do and the year-round service they give to their communities.

As they leave their homes for training sessions and when



PHOTOS BY SONYA H. LEAVITT

From left to right: Helen Stein, Lucy Segevan, and Irma Hunnicutt

they and their families get calls in the night, it is up to each of us to lend them a bit of support and encouragement for their dedication. Thank you, Health Aides!

We would like to express our appreciation to people who sponsored the banquet. They were: Ukpeaqui Inupiat Corporation, Lions Club of Barrow, North Slope Borough Mayor's Office, Lionness Club of Barrow and Pepe's North of the Border. Again, our thanks for your support.

Lois Henderson
Health Aide Coordinator
Instructor



From left to right: Lucy Segevan, Irma Hunnicutt, and Walter Johnson.