

# letters

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between village and trailer court.

Raise questions or answer them, contribute recipes (ever have beaver tail soup?), or show-off a piece of craftsmanship and share your building secrets with us.

In short, consider the Mosquito Press a reflection of the great diversity of talents, interests, and personalities that is Alaska.

Everyone is a contributing editor and each contributor will assume the risk for what is printed. If you have recently come across a piece of writing that strikes your fancy, pass it along. Unless space limitations require, all contributions will be printed in full. All works will stand or fall on their own merit. Thus we have minimized the possibility of subverting the Mosquito Press to suit the whims of one particular ideology or of limiting the genre of material printed to one form.

The only limitations will be imposed by you, the contributing editors of Mosquito Press. It will be your responsibility to maintain a steady flow of information, art, and ideas; we will see that it gets printed and out before the Alaska Community.

H.L. Mencken called Americans "cowards of the word." Generally that has not been true of Alaskans. But it may be that because of self-consciousness and the fear of committing our feelings and our talents to some public expression that the experiment will fail. If so, I fear we may remain in the dismal state of having the professional Mouthpieces of government and the economy speak for us according to their priorities. If not, we may yet prosper as a community in control of our affairs.

We hope that you feel the same sense of excitement about the Mosquito Press as we who have worked on this first edition.

Sincerely,

Carol, Karen, Paul, Joe, Gary, Monte, Elstun, Stony, Debbie, Fritz, Dick, Dave, and Others involved but unseen.

p.s.: If you don't like the first

issue, . . . then YOU write the second issue!

p.s.s.: The Mosquito cannot now, nor may it ever be in a position to pay for contributions. If the Mosquito ever suffers from an embarrassment of riches we might consider giving you contributing editors an honorarium. We'll keep you informed of our financial status with each issue.