

RurAL-CAP

ACTION REPORTS

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VILLAGE EQUIPMENT MOBILIZATION MEETS

Credit Union Awarded--

Anchorage Fed. Credit Union Gets 'Thrift Honor Award'

The Anchorage Area Community Action Federal Credit Union has earned a Thrift Honor Award for its success in stimulating savings among small savers, according to James M. Gratto, Regional Director of the National Credit Union Administration.

The community action credit union attained a monthly rate of growth of 18.6 percent in accounts under \$20,000. This growth rate was above average for Federal credit unions of similar size, according to Gratto.

On January 41, 1972, the credit union had 337 members who had saved a total of \$27,280. The credit union serves persons participating in the programs of the Greater Anchorage Community Action Agency and employees of RurAL CAP. The credit union was chartered in 1969.

Mr. Craig Anderson is president of the credit union and Mr. Stan Walters is treasurer. Joe Mead, RurAL CAP's Chief of

Personnel Services, is the secretary of the board.

The National Credit Union Administration conducts its Thrift Honor Award Program to provide an incentive for officials of Federal credit unions to encourage members with small accounts to save regularly as part of their family financial management plans.

The Administration charters, supervises and insures over 13,000 Federal credit unions in the United States.

Nine Governmental Agencies Confer With RurAL CAP

A planning conference was held at the State Economic Opportunity Office in Anchorage January 12, 1972, to determine the future of the Village Equipment Mobilization Program (VEMP) now being sponsored by RurAL CAP.

As VEMP has been on a pilot program basis which is scheduled to end June 30, 1972, the conference was called for the purpose of discussing ways & means of refunding the program. Agencies represented at the meeting were: RurAL CAP, State Economic Opportunity Office, Division of Vocational-Technical Education, Federal Aviation Administration, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alaska State Housing Authority, Alaska Area Native Health Service, Alaska Village Electric Co-op, Department of Military Affairs, Division of Aviation.

And, Department of Labor, Department of Highways, Community Enterprise Development Corporation, Rural Development Agency, and Congressman Nick Begich's Office.

These agencies indicated their

willingness to cooperate and plans to direct letters in support of the program.

Following the date of that meeting, a continuation program proposal was drafted by Oliver Amend, Director of the VEMP, and John Trautner, Management Specialist, SEOO.

One of the new concepts written into the program was not only the continuation of acquiring equipment for rural village use, but also the implementation of equipment maintenance and operational training at the village level by a team of mobile instructor mechanics.

A follow-up meeting was held March 1, 1972, and support of the program was shown by the participation of many of the same agencies represented at the first conference. One of the main purposes of the meeting was the coordination of efforts of the agencies working in the rural areas.

Funding commitments and pledges for maintenance and training were discussed at that time.

NANA Board Holds Hearings--

Gathering Discusses Claims at Buckland and Deering

The Northwest Alaska Native Association Board of Directors held hearings on the land claims legislation in the villages of Buckland and Deering on February 24 and 25.

Representatives of RurAL CAP traveled with the Board to assist in clarifying points of concern to the village people.

RurAL CAP representatives were: Mike Harper, Planner for

RurAL CAP; Bob Schaeffer, Regional Director for the Kikiktu-gruk Area Development Corp. and Willie Goodwin, Jr., Area Community Developer who aided the members of the NANA Board in the explanation of land selection, incorporating and finance.

An intensive question and answer session took place in each village. Committees were ap-

pointed consisting of village people who met separately to discuss housing, health and family services, local government, land selection, and education problems.

Robert Newlin from Noorvik translated the presentation into the language of the people. Discussion also took place on the enrollment contract with BIA and withdrawal of lands.

Ralph Amouak Coordinator--

Alcoholism Training Coordinator for RurAL CAP

Ralph Amouak has recently been employed as Alcoholism Training Coordinator for RurAL CAP in Anchorage. Born in Tanana, Alaska, Amouak resided in Fairbanks and attended the University of Alaska before coming to Anchorage.

He also attended Weber State College in Ogden, Utah and the University of Iowa for a year, graduating with top honors.

In 1971, he received certification for completion of courses in Southwestern School of Alcohol Studies at the University of Arizona.

Amouak served on the Board of Directors for Valley Rehabilitation Camp at Ogden, Utah; as an outside sponsor for Alcoholics Anonymous to Fairbanks Correctional Institution and as-

sisted in establishing AA programs at the Tama Indian Settlement in Tama, Iowa.

It is anticipated that RurAL CAP's program will benefit greatly from the extensive experience and education of the new coordinator in alcoholism.

Amouak replaces Peter Kunuk who resigned from the position to return to his hometown, Nome, Alaska.

Colorful Native Foods to Be Shown at Winter Games Booth

WHITEHORSE — Ever had moose meat, mukluk, seaweed, eulachon grease, reindeer sausage, . . . ?

These delicacies and others are part of the northern food booth at the second Arctic Winter Games, March 6-11, in Whitehorse.

His Excellency, Roland Michener, Governor-General of Canada, officially opened the Games at 7:30 p.m. on March 6.

The northern food booth is part of the Special Events Program held in conjunction with the Arctic Winter Games. The program is a series of cultural and artistic events to promote better understanding and goodwill among the participating areas.

Arctic Winter Games is held every two years in communities north of the 60th parallel. Ath-

letes come from the Yukon and Northwest Territories, Arctic Quebec and the State of Alaska.

This year, more than 900 athletes will take part in 12 sports.

Nearly two-thirds of the operating budget of the Games has been provided in a grant from the Federal Government, through

Hon. John Munro, Minister of National Health and Welfare.

The Canadian Fitness and Amateur Sport Directorate provides special technical assistance to the Games.

Other events on the Special Program include displays of northern art, photography, clothing

and crafts along with demonstrations of native sports.

There are Eskimo and Indian dances, dramatization of an Eskimo legend, a vaudeville show, a can-can competition and, of course, that special food of the north, . . .

. . . dried whitefish, lake

trout, smoked salmon, Alaska King crab, dried caribou, smoked moose, whale meat, . . .



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