

# Northwestern Villages Attend In-Service Workshop at UA

By EMILY IVANOFF BROWN

The Inupiat Eskimos, of Northwestern Alaskan coastal villages attended an In-Service Training Workshop at the University of Alaska's Wood Center for a three-day orientation, November 19-22, to the new Cultural Awareness Program for the present and future presentation of their own language, Inupiat, and of English, to the

Eskimo-American students, beginning in lower level village schools.

The Cultural Awareness Program objectives' overall goal is: "to reduce chronic and severe academic retardation of elementary students in target villages."

To obtain this overall goal, the following sub-goals were planned:

— Increased knowledge of cultural heritage

- Increased interest in school.
  - Increased self-pride.
  - Increased satisfaction in inter-group relations.
  - Increased understanding of other cultures.
  - Increased incentive.
  - Increased initiative.
  - Increased academic achievement in reading and mathematics.
- It is hoped that in the future all our young students among

our Eskimo-Americans will be proud of new accomplishments in:

- Eskimo language development and facility of translation to English and back to Inupiat.
- Arts and crafts products using Inupiat and English.
- Knowing Eskimo Heritage as well as ordinary American Heritages.
- Knowing how to survive in

Arctic elements.

Mrs. Bertha Lowe, the Coordinator of the Alaska State-Operated School System, based at Anchorage, reported the above Short Session objectives to the Eskimo representatives from the nineteen villages, and oriented them to the main objectives.

The conclusion of the In-Service Training Workshop attendees stated that the value of this new Cultural Awareness Program will show its real social usefulness when:

- Teachers can report that Eskimo-American students are happy and smile in relating their experiences.
- Parents can report that Eskimo-American students in their family are happy and smile in relating their experiences.
- Students can indicate expression of their feeling happy now about being Eskimo.

## Study of Sea Ice Organisms

FAIRBANKS — The University of Alaska's Institute of Marine Science has received a grant from the National Science Foundation for continued support of a project studying ecology and metabolism of sea ice organisms.

The project, now in its second year, is directed by Dr. Rita Horner and Dr. Vera Alexander. The grant, in the amount of \$7,800, brings total NSF support to \$48,000.

Dr. Alexander explained the project is studying the algae population that grows in sea ice near the shore of the Arctic Ocean.

She explained a thin layer of algae grows in the bottom two centimeters of ice. "We have devised a new way of looking at its metabolism and rate of photosynthesis," she said, "using divers to study the organisms where they grow."

Research is being conducted near the Naval Arctic Research Laboratory at Barrow, on the north coast of Alaska.

Chief diver Robert Clasby will continue gathering data throughout the winter, in diving stints of 20 minutes or less. Duration must be limited because of cold temperatures.

Dr. Alexander said this layer of algae and its metabolism and rate of photosynthesis is a vital link in the food cycle of the Arctic Ocean.

## Anch. Contractor Found Guilty

An Anchorage-based contractor who failed to eliminate a draining lake of sewage from a Juneau trailer court has been found guilty of a criminal violation of the State's environmental protection laws, Attorney General John E. Havelock said.

Havelock said that Dave Stock, president of Stock and Grove, Inc., was convicted late Friday of polluting Duck Creek in the Mendenhall Valley.

The district court jury verdict, returned after a two-day trial, marks the State's first successful criminal prosecution under its environmental statutes, he said.

The criminal charge against Stock was filed on August 8, "after it became clear that more than half a year of negotiations had produced no result," Havelock said.

Stock, who is scheduled to be sentenced, faces a maximum possible sentence of \$25,000 fine and a year in jail.

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