

Mural Depicts Missionary Activities in Alaska



MURAL DEPICTING MISSIONARY ACTIVITY IN ALASKA now hangs permanently in the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library on the University of Alaska's Fairbanks campus. Looking over the

new acquisition are, from left, Ted Ryberg, the university's director of libraries, and Sister Judy E. Morin and Robert Nelson of the United Campus Ministry. (UA Photos)

FAIRBANKS—A mural painted for the Alaska Purchase Centennial depicting missionary activity of the Christian churches in Alaska is now on permanent display in the University of Alaska's Elmer E. Rasmuson Library here.

Done by well-known Alaska artist Rie Munoz of Juneau, the mural is on loan to the university from the Alaska Christian Conference and the United Campus Ministry at the university.

It was commissioned for the 1967 centennial by the Alaska

Christian Conference (then known as the Alaska Council of Churches) under a grant from Mr. and Mrs. Rasmuson.

The mural hung in the old Presbyterian Church (the first church built in Fairbanks in Alaskaland, then known as A67,

during the centennial year. Then it toured Alaska and the other states and was last displayed during the jubilee celebration of the Russian Orthodox Church in Alaska and at a private showing of the artist's work at the Alaska State Museum.

Bob Groseclose Pulls Reward

"It is felt that because of its historical and ecumenical value it will make a significant contribution to the collection at the library and to an understanding of the role of the churches in building of Alaska," said Bob Nelson, director of the United Campus Ministry.

"It is also appropriate that the mural hang in the Elmer Rasmuson Library because Jennie Olson Rasmuson is one of the missionaries featured in the mural. Mr. and Mrs. Rasmuson commissioned the painting originally, and the library is named for Mr. Rasmuson, former president of the university's Board of Regents," he said.

Mrs. Munoz' work is based largely on the book, "Cry in the Wilderness," by Tay Thomas. The design was selected by a committee composed of Mrs. Norma Hoyt, Mrs. Thomas, Bert Hall and the Reverends Ken Smith and Walter Hays, in co-operation with the Alaska Council of Churches and Mr. and Mrs. Rasmuson.

Bob Groseclose, brother of missing nurse Peggy Groseclose, today withdrew his reward offer of \$2000 for information leading to the recovery of his sister.

Despite the reward offer, posted on March 17, additional search efforts have failed to find Miss Groseclose, who left Fairbanks last February with Dr. Tom Carter in a four-passenger Belanca 300 bound for Whitehorse.

Groseclose reported that another intensive search effort is expected to recommence shortly by the Canadian Search and Rescue Team which conducted a 2 week search in the Klavane Lake-Whitehorse area immediately following the February 11 report that the plane was missing.

Carter who is known to have made the flight on several past occasions had filed a highway flight plan. Miss Groseclose and Dr. Carter are both from Fairbanks, employed at the Tanana Valley Clinic.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WANTED

The Copper River Native Association is seeking applicants for the position of executive director; preferably an Alaskan native with knowledge of rural Alaska. The executive director is required to participate in community activities, demonstrate leadership, have a working knowledge of program proposal writing, be able to analyze programs related to problem areas, outline alternatives and monetary results, and have an overall knowledge of planning, business administration and leadership, both regional and statewide.

Send a complete resume to Robert Marshall, pres. Copper River Native Association, Box 823, Copper Center, Ak. 99573.

Application closing date is June 15, 1972

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