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This Is Your University: Hugh Longly, The Property Control Auditor, and His Job; The University-Fairbanks Community Symphony Orchestra; Paul McCarthy – University Archivist; Creative Writers Workshop; Development of ISEGR

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FIRST EPOSODE: Hugh Longly, The Property Control Auditor, and His Job

Announcer: Paul Quist

Hugh Longly became the University's Property Control Auditor after retiring from forty years of service to the YMCA and finding that retirement didn't suit him. He is now retiring for a second time. Mr. Longly joined the university staff so that he could be of some use to somebody. His job requires keeping track of university property and equipment - thousands of items scattered in various location around the state. This includes furniture: desks, chairs, lamps, beds, tables and other furnishings. One of the more challenging times for him is Engineer's Day when there is a tradition among the students to move entire classrooms of desks and furniture. Though most students are willing to help replace the furniture afterward, tracking down the movements of some of the furniture demands detective work. Dorm furnishings tend to move from room to room as well. He used to be in charge of the faculty living quarters on campus, as well. With such a demanding job it is surprising that Mr. Longly has the energy left to play volleyball and badminton after work and to organize volleyball, badminton teams. In 1963, Mr. Longly suffered a mild heart attack and had to cut baseball and ice hockey out of his activities.

During his second retirement, Mr. Longly plans on taking a trip with his wife around the United States and then Europe and beyond before returning to Alaska.

SECOND EPISODE: The University-Fairbanks Community Symphony Orchestra

Announcer: Paul Quist

The University Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra is entering its 9th year bringing full symphony concert productions to Alaska's interior. Under the guidance and direction of the University of Alaska's Department Of Music, members of the Fairbanks Community Orchestra have refined their ability until they have been able to bring professional quality symphony productions to music lovers in the community.

In 1958. Fairbanks lacked an orchestra. Jack Lynn(?), a local high school music teacher thought that a volunteer community orchestra might work in Fairbanks. The next year a group of amateur musicians from Fairbanks, the university and nearby military bases met to form Fairbank's first concert group. The early practice sessions were rough until the University's music department started taking a strong part in directing the orchestra.

A few of the original musicians from 1959 are still playing regularly with the group. One is Robert Dryden who began playing the violin while he was still a junior in high school and who is now an engineering student at the University of Alaska. Another is Angela Teagarden, also a violinist, who is now a Fairbanks housewife. There are some 50 people in the orchestra. Mrs. Dorothy Wood, University President Dr. Wood's wife, plays first violin along with Joe Fejes, owner of an art supply and hobby center in Fairbanks. Dr. Jack Penejohn(?), a neurologist with Fairbanks medical clinic, is concertmaster. His wife plays the flute. Elizabeth McNabb(?), the wife of a graduate student, plays the violin along with Mrs. Mary Tome(?) wife of the Eielson air force base chaplain. Mrs. Tome's daughter, Elizabeth, also plays violin. Robert Metveldt(?) plays the trombone and operated heavy equipment at Fairbanks International Airport. Professor Duane Mikow of the University's music department conducts the group. Many of the musicians in the group are music students at the University. Members of the U.S. Army's 9th Army Band are also members of the orchestra.

When and where the concerts this year's will be held is mentioned.

A pilot program is being continued this year. The program involved sending musicians to tour small, isolated, rural communities, providing some rural Alaskans' with their first chance to hear live, classical music. A concert at the Clear Missile Early Warning Station and a concert at Fort Yukon are being planned for next year.

THIRD EPISODE: Paul McCarthy – University Archivist

Announcer: Paul Quist

McCarthy became the University's archivist in 1965 after being a historian and a librarian. He is highly trained in archive work and manuscript preservation, the rest he picked up along the way. Running a canoe through rapids on the Upper Yukon River was a skill learned unexpectedly last summer. McCarthy and Ted Ryberg, Director of the University library, began a Yukon River historical hunting trip 100 miles above Circle City near the border of Alaska and Canada. They paddled to the sites of old prospectors and trappers cabins which have been deserted since the gold rush days. They used directions given them by veterans of the gold rush and by old navigation charts used by river boat captains. In nearly a week spent on the trip, they managed to locate some 14 cabins. Old abandoned newspapers, diaries and letters were brought to the University for permanent preservation. McCarthy and Ryberg plan to continue the Yukon canoe voyage next summer and visit more historic towns and cabins along the Yukon.

Upon arriving at the University, the documents undergo chemical treatment to preserve the paper and repair some of the damage from severe weather. A variety of treatments may be used to neutralize harmful acids in paper. McCarthy has been experimenting with cyclohexylamine carbonate, hoping to come up with a dusting powder that will neutralize the acids.

The collections in the University of Alaska archives date back almost to the year 1700. The oldest collection is made up of regimental records of a Russian military garrison moved from Siberia to Alaska. Other collections include early records of the Alaska Commercial Co. (now the Northern Commercial Co.), and the collections from well-known public figures such as Judge James Wickersham and former Alaska Congressman Ralph Rivers.

FOURTH EPISODE: Creative Writers Workshop

Announcer: Paul Quist

Creative Writers Workshop, an idea transplanted from the University of Iowa in 1962, is a Monday night informal meeting of people interested in creative expression through writing poetry, fiction and other genres.

It was started in 1962 with 12 people when Dr. Edmund Skellings joined the university faculty as an associate professor of English and started the group. The Monday night sessions have grown to include almost 60 people. In leading the workshop, Skellings has since been joined by Dr. Donald Kaufman, Dr. Robert King, Lawrence Wyatt, and Ken Warfel, a student and the author of "Fow! and other fingerprints."

"The Writer's Worksheet", created by the writer's workshop, is a mimeographed bulletin. Over 500 copies are picked up each week. Each Monday night contributions of verse, fiction, life-sketches, and other writing forms in the worksheet are criticized by Skellings, Kaufman, Wyatt and Warfel. The criticism ranges from cold analysis to hot emotional expressions of like or dislike. Attendees of the workshop range from radical, bearded students from Berkeley to Alaskans just in from a summer of firefighting and Fairbanks residents of almost every occupation.

The creative writing program has recently been extended into a series of trips for the five writer-poets by airplane to high school classrooms in small communities around the state.

Last year an award of \$1,000 from the National Humanities Foundation brought national recognition to the university.

FIFTH EPISODE: Development of ISEGR

Announcer: Robin Marks(?)

The Institute of Social, Economic and Government Research (ISEGR) is sometimes nicknamed the "Institute of Everything". Greg Ericson(?) is a research assistant at the University's Institute of Social, Economic and Government Research.

The institute was founded in 1961 by the state legislature to provide basic research information on Alaska's economy and population to solve current and future development problems. This year, the institute has a staff of about 50 people researching things such as Japanese trade potential with Alaska, the study of electric power needs for industry in the state, a review and analysis of state and federal mineral laws, a survey of water quality requirements for Alaska campgrounds, a study of Alaska agriculture, a social study of hunting methods used by Native subsistence hunters in the state, and an analysis of Alaskan politics and government.

The scope of the research covers almost all facets of activity in Alaska. Research assistants are specialized in a diverse variety of fields.

Victor Fischer is director of the institute. He says that most of the problems facing Alaska are so interrelated as to require the participation of researchers in all relevant disciplines.

One study currently underway is pilot research into the problem of development in northwestern Alaska.

Besides fulfilling research requests from a variety of agencies and other institutions, another purpose of the institute is to promote and stimulate the sharing of knowledge covering Alaska's development problems.

The ISEGR has grown a lot since it was founded, but has been hampered because of lack of funds. Last year the Ford Foundation granted \$50,000 to the institute as a supplement to state appropriations and other support. This grant opened up new avenues of research.