

Call number: 02-00-133-01 PT. 3

Tanana Nuchalawoyya Celebration, 6/10/72

Summary created by: Varpu Lotvonen

Date of summary's creation: 12/03/2013

Series: Satellite Project Tapes

Notes: Original on 7-inch tape, master copy on CD

The interviewer and Glen Butler, the organizer of the Nuchalawoyya, are sitting on the banks of Yukon. Glen says it is his second year organizing the event. They have [unclear] racing, grease pole walking, native dancing and singing, covered dish or a potlatch [dinner] and a J. Howard Marathon, which is a foot race. The interviewer asks where the money for prizes comes from and Glen tells that it's from having bingo games all winter long. That's why they have \$1,700 dollars' worth of prizes. The food for covered dish and potlatch is donations of meat, fruit and vegetables from the community. They asked for meat donations. The interviewer asks what they had last night and Glen says they had caribou, moose, and moose head soup. That's about all they had: moose head soup, caribou soup and little moose, crackers and fruit.

At 2:11 the interviewer asks how Glen became the organizer and he tells that they just decided to start Nuchalawoyya again in 1971. Nuchalawoyya means "where two rivers meet." That's the Yukon and the Tanana. J. Howard started Nuchalawoyya in 1962.

The interviewer asks if there was a seasonal celebration even before that, but Glen says there wasn't. Then the interviewer asks how they decided to have the races that there are. Glen tells that he has been helping them off and on for 4-5 years and that he just knows how to fix the events. The interviewer asks how long ago the community hall was built and Glen tells it was built in 1970 and that before that, the events were held in the old community hall.

At 4:50 the interviewer asks how many people came out of town to current year's Nuchalawoyya. Glen estimates at least over a 100, which is more than before. They advertised in the radio in Fairbanks to get more people to join. He says it's

been a very successful celebration. The interviewer thanks for the interview.
[Break in the recording.]

At 5:47 the recording happens in a noisy place. The interviewer asks somebody [Alice Thompson, according to notes] what kinds of dances were performed the previous night. She says they are just Native dancing. Interviewer mentions a dance where dancers went around with a cloth and Alice says that that's how they used to do it years ago. "They welcome everybody. Of course everybody has to be out there dancing with that cloth, all the outsiders." She continues by telling that there will be another cloth dance tonight. The interviewer asks what groups were dancing the previous night but the interviewee says she wasn't present during dancing because she was too tired.

At 7:13 singing and drumming starts. [End of the recording.]