

SERUM RUN TO NOME - Re-creation

Jan. 27, 1975

ONE REEL

Nenana Mayor Jack Coghill welcomed guests to the program commemorating the serum (diphtheria) run to Nome held Jan. 27, 1975 in Nenana. It followed a buffet dinner served and cooked by Meda Lord of Nenana (menu: ham, turkey, salads, etc).

Mary Demientieff and Paul George, leaders of the Nenana Dancers, introduce Native dancers and the following dances are sung and performed:

Get Up and Dance	Portage Song
Costume Dance	Porcupine Dance
Gun Hawk Dance	Willow Grouse
Gee Haw Dance	Squirrel Dance (1912)
Trap Line Dance	Seagull Dance and Song
Arthur's (Evan) Dance	Hey, Hey Fast Dance
Skookum Song	Alley's Song and Dance
Paul's Go-Go Dance	Athabaskan Twist
Snowshoe Dance	Invitational (audience joins)
Happy Days	

Coghill recalls Jimmy Duke and his roadhouse in 1900- In 1910 the sourdoughs who climbed Mt. McKinley passed through Nenana. In 1914 the Alaska Engineering Commission came through with railroad survey work. In 1918 there were close to 6,000 people in Nenana. In 1923 the president of the United States Warren Harding came to Nenana to drive a golden spike in the railroad, commemorating the completion of the Alaska Railroad from Seward to Fairbanks.

Coghill recalls the second serum run to Nome with Wild Bill Shannon leaving Nenana. Talks about Seppala's leader Gogo.

Coghill introduces postmistress Joyce Kanabe who give 1,000 letters to musher Joe Reddington to carry to Nome. In 1925 it was minus 57 degrees when the first musher left on the Nome run. Today it is snowing heavily, is warm (up to plus 20), and driving conditions slippery.

Coghill observes that five of the original 20 mushers are still living. They are Edgar Kalland of Kaltag and four more from Galena: Harry Pitka, Bill McCartney, Edgar Nollner, and Charlie Evans.