Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Arctic Winter Games Team Alaska

Records relating to Alaska’s Participation in the Arctic Winter Games, 1967-

MS 187

8 boxes
9 linear ft.

Processed By: George V. Smith
March 2000
Rev. June 2016

Acquisition: Arctic Winter Games Team Alaska (AWGTA) donated all materials in March 2000. George V. Smith accepted personal donations of papers and memorabilia on behalf of AWGTA to fill in missing material prior to donation of the collection to the Alaska State Library.

The AWGTA office adds records to this collection on a biennial schedule, transferring them as soon as possible after the Games (usually held in March) in even-numbered years. Office records (Series 1) are retained in the AWGTA office for the two previous Games’ cycles plus the current cycle, i.e., 1996-1997 records transferred to the Alaska State Library in 2002. Team Alaska transfers materials for Series 2 through 4 after the completion of each Games.

Access: The collection is unrestricted.

Copyright: Request for permission to publish material from the collection must be discussed with the Librarian. Photocopying does not constitute permission to publish.
**Processing:** Files in the AWGTA office were somewhat out of order but papers within any given folder retained their chronological integrity. The processor has maintained folder-level chronological integrity but has separated the body of records into separate series, based on the originator or format of the records. Artifacts, e.g., clothing, badges, buttons, were transferred to the Alaska State Museum. Photographs form a separate collection, PCA 399. Audio visual materials were moved to separate collection: AV 005.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

In 1968 Governor Walter Hickel, Alaska, joined Commissioners Stuart Hodgson, Northwest Territories, and James Smith, Yukon Territories, in incorporating the Arctic Winter Games Corporation. One of the main objectives of the Games was to involve as many athletes as possible and to provide a forum of competition for those other than elite athletes with competitive opportunities in the southern provinces and states. The underlying philosophy behind the Games is to promote athletic competition, cultural exhibition and social interchange. The first Games were held in Yellowknife in 1970 and have been held biennially in even-numbered years since then in the various participating areas.

Initially, six directors, two each from Alaska, the Yukon Territory, and the Northwest Territory, headed the Corporation. In addition, to their responsibilities to the international corporation, the two Alaska directors also coordinated Alaska’s participation in the Games. As the number of sports and participants grew, it became too burdensome for Alaska’s directors to oversee both the international and Alaskan programs. In order to address this problem, Alaskans incorporated the Arctic Winter Games Corporation of Alaska in 1977 to coordinate the Alaska contingent in the Games. This organization changed its name to Arctic Winter Games Team Alaska in 1991.

A Board of Directors, composed of private citizens, oversees the corporation and hires a Chef de Mission to coordinate the selection of sports coordinators, coaches and athletes. The Chef also selects a Mission staff to assist during the weeklong competition. Although selected by the Board, the Chef de Mission was a volunteer position through the 1990 Games and usually began work about six months before the actual staging of the Games. In 1992 the Board hired a paid Chef on a temporary, part-time basis. Since 1996 the Board has hired a Chef on a contractual, permanent basis. AWGTA derives its income from capital appropriations and grants from the state, private and corporate donations, and membership dues. It also receives in-kind income from sponsors and donated time.

The Games have been held in Alaska four times: 1974 in Anchorage; 1982 and 1988 in Fairbanks; and 1996 in Chugiak-Eagle River. The Games will be held in Kenai in 2006. AWGTA is never involved in putting on the Games in Alaska. Separate non-profit
organizations incorporate to carry out the preparation, fundraising and staging of the Games themselves. These organizations are known as Host Societies.

**SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE**

Materials in the AWGTA office included records created by itself, the AWG International Committee and the various Host Societies. The processor retained materials not created by AWGTA, if they related directly to the staging of Games or if they pertained to AWGTA. He also included the final reports of the 1982 and 1988 Fairbanks Host Societies and 1996 Chugiak-Eagle River Host Society. He has not been able to locate the final report of the 1974 Games. Photographs form a separate collection, PCA 399.

The collection contains four series:

Series 1 Correspondence and other documents relating to the formation and incorporation of the Arctic Winter Games Corporation (1967-1970); the management of Alaska’s participation in the Games by Alaska’s International Committee directors (1970-1977); and the incorporation and management of Arctic Winter Games Corporation of Alaska (Arctic Winter Games Team Alaska from 1991) (1977--).

Series 2 Material directly related to the biennial AWG. This includes participant and staff lists of AWGTA and final reports of the Chef de Mission and other staff members; brochures, schedules, programs, competition results, etc., produced by the International Committee and Host Societies; and newspaper clippings.

Series 3 Final Host Society reports for 1982, 1988 and 1996, when the Games were held in Alaska.

Series 4 The *Ulu News*, the AWG newspaper published during each Games, and audio and video productions of the Games.

**INVENTORY**

**Series 1**
**Correspondence and Administrative Records**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1</th>
<th>Folders</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1968 International Committee Organizational papers</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968 Correspondence: Alaska directors</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969 Correspondence</td>
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</table>

http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/MS187.pdf
1970  Correspondence  4-6
1971  Correspondence  7
1972  Correspondence  8-9
1973  Correspondence  10-11
1974  Correspondence, reports, history  12-13
1975  Correspondence  14
1976  Correspondence  15
1977  AWG Corporation of Alaska incorporation materials  16-18
       Correspondence  19
       Newsletter; IRS, board member list  20
1978-1979
       Correspondence  21
       Newsletters, board and member lists, IRS  22
1980-1981
       Correspondence of Chef de Mission  23
       Correspondence of director, et al.  24
       Newsletter, membership list, IRS  25
1982  Correspondence  26
       Chef de Mission’s manual for 1982 Games  27
1983  Correspondence  28
1984  Correspondence  29
       Membership list, IRS, misc.  30
1985  Correspondence, membership list, IRS  31
1986-1987
       Correspondence, audit, IRS filing, membership list  32

Box 2  Folders

1988  Correspondence, audit, IRS, board list  1
1989  Correspondence, budgets, newsletters, IRS, 1990 pin design  2
1990  Correspondence, budgets, newsletters, membership lists  3
1991  Correspondence  4
       Board minutes, Chef reports  5
       Newsletters, IRS, board and membership lists  6
1991-1992
       Chef correspondence with coaches, staff and sport coordinators  7
1992  Correspondence, newsletter, board list  8
       Board minutes  9
       Historical data on state support, correspondence with sponsors  10
1993  Correspondence, newsletter, membership list  11
       Board minutes and Chef’s reports  12
1994  Correspondence  13
       Board minutes, Chef’s reports, amended by-laws  14

http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/MS187.pdf
1995 Board minutes 15
1995-1996
   Correspondence 16
   Information on uniforms, pins and merchandise 17
1996-1998
   Correspondence, grant report, payments, newsletter, retreat 18
1996-1997
   Chef de Mission Reports 19
1996-1998
   Correspondence & Contracts: logo, pins, transportation, uniforms 20
1998-1999
   Board minutes, Chef de Mission Reports & expenditures 21
2000-2001
   Board Minutes and Chef de Mission Reports 22
2000-2002
   Correspondence; financial reports; brochure 23
2002-2004
   Board Minutes and Chef de Mission Reports 24

Series 2
Games’ Related Material

Note: Material in this series is organized chronologically by Games. The volume of material varies. The first folder for a given Games always has a list of Alaskan participants and other lists, such as Mission staff, if extant. If newspaper clippings exist, they will be in the last folder and always separate. Intervening folders have booklets, handbooks, programs, results, reports, etc.

Box 3 Folders

1970 Games in Yellowknife 1-4
1972 Games in Whitehorse 5-6
1974 Games in Anchorage 7-10
1976 Games in Schefferville, Quebec 11-14
1978 Games in Hay River-Pine Point, NWT 15-17
   Folder 17 has 81/2” by 11” posters of 12 of the sports-excellent humorous graphics, similar to Mad magazine’s cartoon characters
1980 Games in Whitehorse 18-20
1982 Games in Fairbanks 21-23
1984 Games in Yellowknife 24-26
1986 Games in Whitehorse 27-31

[Note: Folder 28 has correspondence, black and white drawings and watercolor paintings of Team Alaska’s 17 individual sport pins.]
Box 4

1988 Games in Fairbanks
1990 Games in Yellowknife
1992 Games in Whitehorse
1994 Games in Slave Lake, AB
1996 Games in Chugiak-Eagle River
1998 Games in Yellowknife
2000 Games in Whitehorse
2002 Games in Iqaluit, Nunavut and Nuuk, Greenland

Box 4a

2004 Games in Wood Buffalo (Fort McMurray), Alberta
2006 Games in Kenai Peninsula, Alaska
2008 Games in Yellowknife
2010 Games in Grande Prairie, AB
2012 Games in Whitehorse
2014 Games in Fairbanks
2016 Games in Nuuk, Greenland
2018 Games in Hay River & Fort Smith, NWT

Note: Folder 4 has excellent color mock ups of the Host Society sport pins]

Box 5

1982 Fairbanks Host Society
1) Large binder with final reports of all committees
2) Medium binder scrapbook of Tula Belton, Chair of Hospitality and Color Committee. Includes photos, letters, clippings, forms and ribbons.

1996 Chugiak-Eagle River Host Society
1) Bid package submitted in 1992
2) Large binder with final reports of all committees and programs
3) Medium binder with results of competition.

Box 6

1988 Fairbanks Host Society
Vol. I: General Manager’s Report
Vol. II: Administrative Committees’ Reports
Vol. III: Sport Coordinator’s Report
Vol. IV: Final Sports Reports.

Series 4
AWG Newspaper and Audio and Video Materials

Box 7

The Ulu News, published during each Games, by the Host Society or local newspaper. Volumes are complete unless otherwise noted.

1970 Vol. 1, Nos. 1-6, March 9-14
1972 Vol. 1, Nos. 1-8, March 5-12.
    [Note: There may be a No. 9, March 13.]
    [Note: No known copy of No. 3]
1986 Vol. 9, Nos. 1-6, March 17-21(?). No. 6 is a souvenir issue.
    [Note: Univ. of Alberta also has a Jan. 1990 special issue on microfilm.]
1994 No numbering sequence, 7 issues: March 6-12.

Bound copies of miscellaneous newspaper accounts of the organization of the Arctic Winter Games and the 1970 Games, May 6, 1968//April 6, 1970.

Box 8

1998 No numbering sequence, 7 issues: March 16-21 and 30.
    [Note: There is also a special issue for Dec. 3, 1999. There may also be a special issue for February 4, 2000.]
2002  Games staged in Iqaluit, Nunavut & Nuuk, Greenland with issues in both locations, neither with a numbering sequence.
Nuuk:  4 issues: March 18-21, 2002.  In Eng.  There may have been a Greenlandic edition, also.
[Note: Missing for March 22 and possibly 23]
[Note: Issues are in color.]
2006  Host Society issued 1 (?) edition prior to the Games, dated Winter 2005 and 7 during the Games, numbered 1 through 7, March 5, 2006-March 11, 2006.
2008  Host Society published 4 issues prior to the Games and then 6 during the Games. Collection has pre-Game issues #1 (June 2007), #2 (October 2007), and #4 (March 2008) and March 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15. Missing Wednesday March 12.
2010  Host Society published 8 issues: March 5 and March 7-13.
2016  Host Society published only 2 issues in paper: #2 March 6, 2016 and #6 March 10, 2016. Other issues were available only on line.

**INVENTORY OF AUDIO VISUAL MATERIALS**

Audio visual materials were moved to a separate collection: AV 005.

1970  (1)  Audio tape interview by Terry Brown, CBC, with various AWG officials in Whitehorse, September 19, 1971 (7" reel, ¼" tape)
1978  (1)  Recording (45 RPM) of 1978 AWG theme song
         (2)  Video tape (¾") of 1978 AWG in Hay River-Pine Point, NWT 58:50 minutes
1980  (1)  Recording (45 RPM) of 1980 AWG theme song
         (2)  Video tape (¾") of 1980 AWG in Whitehorse, produced by the CBC 56:34 minutes
1982  (1)  Video tape (¾") of 1982 AWG in Fairbanks
         (2)  VHS video cassette tape of 1982 AWG, produced by Alaska Video Productions, Fairbanks, June 1983: Summary Program
1984  Video tapes of 1984 AWG in Yellowknife
         (1)  Video tape (¾") Shows 1 and 2, March 19 and 20
(2) Video tape (¾”) Shows 3 and 4, March 21 and 22
(3) Video tape (¾”) Show 5, March 23 and “Focus North,” Special Item
(4) VHS video cassette tape of 1984 AWG, produced by Alaska Video Productions, Fairbanks: Summary Program
(5) VHS video cassette tape of 1984 AWG: Public Service Announcements (4 at :30; 1 at :60)

1986
(1) VHS video cassette tape of 1986 AWG in Whitehorse: Summary Program 29:50 minutes
(2) VHS video cassette tape of 1986 AWG in Whitehorse: Summary Program, Alaska Video Productions, 23:45 minutes

1988
Video tapes (VHS) of 1988 AWG in Fairbanks
(1-6) Six days of 1988 AWG competition
Note: DVD copies of Day 2, Day 3, and Day 4
(7) 1988 AWG Summary Program
Note: DVD copy of Summary Program
(8) “The Cutting Edge,” a 24-minute production of 1988 AWG

1988
Video tapes (¾”) of 1988 AWG in Fairbanks
(9) “The Cutting Edge”
(10) Five ads for 1988 AWG
(11) Five updated vignettes for 1988 AWG

1994
(2) Audio tape (reel to reel) of 1994 AWG theme song

1996
(1) Video tape (VHS) “In the Spirit of Adventure,” 1996 AWG in Chugiak-Eagle River
(2) Audio cassette of 1996 AWG theme song

2000
(1) CD of 2000 AWG theme song and dance mix, “Seize the Spirit,” from games in Whitehorse

2002
(1) CD of AWG music from games in Nuuk, Iqaluit, and Nunavut; Greenland
(2) Video tape (VHS) “An Arctic Winter Games Keepsake”
## PARTICIPANT GROUP BY SITE AND YEAR

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>R</th>
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*Greenland sent a contingent in 1972 but only 15 made it to Whitehorse due to bad weather.

Nunavik used the name Arctic Quebec in 1972-1976 and 1986.
## ARCTIC WINTER GAMES
### COMPETITIVE SPORTS

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**Total**  | 10 | 12 | 16 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 20 | 20 | 19

**Notes**

**Dene Sports** separated from Arctic Sports in 1990.

**Ski Marathon** was included under X-Country skiing, rather than as a separate sport.

**Women's Hockey** in 1986 was recognized as a separate sport. When resumed in 1994, it was not.

[http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/MS187.pdf]
### ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

#### COMPETITIVE SPORTS

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**Total**               | 18 | 17 | 20 | 20 | 19 | 20 | 20 | 15 |

**Notes**

- **Snowboarding** was initially included under Alpine skiing, rather than as a separate sport.
- **Indoor Soccer** became **Futsal** in 2016 to reflect the change in the field
- In 2016 **Hockey** competition was held in Iqaluit, Nunavut due to the lack of an ice rink in Nuuk.
CONTRIBUTORS TO THE COLLECTION

Ulu News, programs and handbooks

Cliff Fuglestad, Alaska Director (1977-1984)
AWG International Committee
Programs, Ulu News, newspaper articles, and 1982 Host Society Final Reports

Janet Halvarsen, Chair (1982)
Fairbanks Host Society
1982 photo and letter album, compiled by Tula Belton

Al Olsen, Alaska Director (1974-1976)
AWG International Committee
Correspondence, programs, Ulu News and newspaper articles

Jim Pollock, Yukon Director (1976-1978)
AWG International Committee
Programs for 1972, 1976 (2), and 1978 (2)

George V. Smith, Mission Staff (1992-1996) and Director (1996-2005)
AWG Team Alaska
Programs and videos