



Evergreen Echoes

Washington-Alaska District

Fall
2011

DISTRICT PRESIDENT MARYLYNN HUNTWORK

In This Issue

President's Thoughts	1
LWML & LWML WA-AK	
District News	2
Fall Rally Dates	7
Zone & Society Corner	9
District Roster	11

EVERGREEN ECHOES WINTER

***DEADLINE:
OCTOBER 31, 2011***



Mission Statement of the LWML

The mission of the Lutheran Women's missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

District website:

www.wa-aklwml.org

Greetings from the desert in Washington State,

OK, so we are known as the Evergreen State in some circles. However, as one who travels the highways and trails of this great state, I can safely say the desert people have to import evergreens if they want them in their backyard! Evergreens weren't always in my backyard, I went to the edge and decided with enough love, water and sunshine those beautiful evergreen trees would grow. I just didn't realize how much space they would need to grow. As the Lord calls for workers in the harvest fields, He doesn't tell us how much space is needed to grow or complete the task. He gives us the Bible and instructs us to read and reread, "it doesn't matter how many times you've been through the Bible; what matters is how many times the Bible has been through you." Like the tree that always needs water and sunshine, we need to daily go to the "filling station" for nourishment to go, serve, and proclaim the good news of Christ!



"Being with Jesus...Living on the Edge" The LWML convention in Peoria was a week of asking questions and getting answers to living on the edge for Jesus. We are capable of going to the edge of the diving board and jumping off into a new area of mission simply by taking the Father's hand, speaking and acting with encouragement, and, like Christ, serving where there are needs. We were reminded of the powerful organization of which we are members. Pastors in seminary are told "don't mess with the LWML." "A gaggle of women" they can count on to get things done. We are Barna-babes, encouragers.

As one who knows what it means to have the love of the Father who loves the unlovely, I remain your sister in Christ,

MaryLynn Huntwork, LWML WA-AK District President
*... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...
—Hebrews 12:1b-2a*

Evergreen Echoes is published quarterly by Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Washington-Alaska District, an auxiliary organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. District Editor: Sandi Schauer,



Elaine Perry and Heart to Heart Sisters



Heart to Heart Sisters, District Leaders, and District Presidents

The 34th LWML Convention adopted the Board of Director’s recommendation to make the Heart-To-Heart (H2H) Sisters Task Force a permanent committee. It coincides with the inaugural H2H Sisters Leadership Training for 16 ladies, and the introduction of 23 members into the 5th H2H class. *How much can a heart take!*

Leaders learned that the purpose of each district’s H2H committee is to encourage and ensure participation of its ethnic women in all its activities. These committee members seek out and make contact with these ministries and their pastors, and extend the LWML’s welcome to participate. They aid ethnic women ministries in becoming an LWML society. The committee first asks “*What can we do to support your ministry?*” with their motivation being that each society maintains its unique identity. *How much can the heart take!*

Looking forward, H2H needs *you*. This committee will prepare an event for the 2012 Convention. Will you help to design, plan, and/or produce? We begin in earnest in January to allow enough time. May we hear from you by December at the email below? Will you be your zone’s H2H outreach ambassador? Let us exalt His Name together.

Just think. Really, now. How much...!

♥ 2 ♥

Massie Hicks, Heart-To-Heart Committee Chairman
 Article by Elaine Perry, Heart-To-Heart Committee Leader, Rev 7: 9



WA-AK President, MaryLynn Huntwork



Invite to Pittsburgh, 2013



Terry Strege and Lisa Davis



LCMS President, Matthew Harrison



"God is Everywhere." In Peoria. What a blast. How to recap, so many highlights. One of the best things for me was singing in the choir. We sang familiar songs with different arrangements and more dynamics. The director was very complimentary. I had the benefit of standing in front of ladies who are in the choir at his church. It was great having them in my ear. We sang for the opening service and the Sunday morning service. Great to hang out with friends and make new ones. "Yes, God is everywhere."
—Chris White

Peoria Convention: Why Didn't I Hang Around With My District?!?

Answer: I was working at the national level.

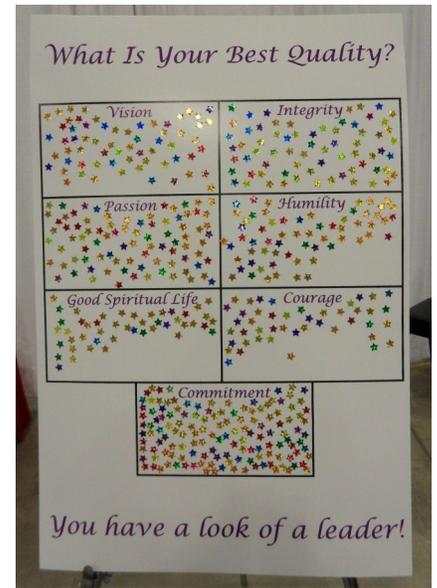
I was a member of the LWML Leader Development Committee that provided leader and mentor information at their exhibit during “free time.” I had the pleasure of reeling people to our booth by catching their eye, then calling them over to take an informal survey to choose their best quality out of the seven leader qualities identified in *Look of a Leader*. Then I quickly told them that resources can be downloaded from the LWML website. See the picture for the final result! We also had a Bible mentor/mentee match-up game. Our own District Leader Development Committee Chairman, Marilyn Schaffer, helped us out, providing relief for committee members to take a break!

I also organized and directed people for their district photos. Imagine three districts taking their pictures at the same time in one large room, with six other groups waiting! It was the first time district photos were taken in one day and in two hours and twenty minutes. I worked with the larger districts, used the bullhorn (until it ran out of battery) and yelled at people (because I had no bullhorn) to get them in and out of the photo location. It looked like some people didn't see others in the same district until they gathered for the district photos! Some districts dressed up for the occasion with identical shirts, hats, or scarves. It was neat.



What great opportunities God provided me to serve at the national level to His glory!

Marie Chow



LWMLer, Kathie Winterstein, and Pastor Jim Matthews at his recent Ordination and Installation as Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Tacoma. The LWML WA-AK District was also represented by Sharon Westman from Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Lakewood. It was a wonderful afternoon!



LWMLers, President MaryLynn Huntwork (left) and Gigi Lutz (2nd from right) attended the installation of Pastor Shawn Neider at Zion, Grand Coulee. He will also serve at Bethel, Coulee City. Also pictured are Tonya and Shawn Neider and Pastor Steve Cook. Pastor Neider vicared in the CROSSings Ministries area. Welcome home, Tonya and Shawn.



Installation of Pastor Shawn Neider.

What's New in Leader Development?

Have you been to the Leader Development link at lwml.org lately? Have you seen pages 16 – 18 of the 2011 – 2012 LWML catalog? Both have new or updated resources to use for society programs and/or Executive Committee/Board of Directors meetings or training.



“Look of a Leader” can be used for personal growth, as well as society and group activities. This resource identifies seven qualities of leadership – vision, integrity, passion, humility, good spiritual life, courage, commitment – and helps us discover how they relate to our LWML mission to serve the Lord with gladness.

“Woman-to-Woman Mentoring” uses Bible studies, devotions, a sketch/skit, and a community building activity to help us recognize our Christian duty to mentor others in the faith. Through Scripture references, and following in the footsteps of those who have mentored us, we can find our God-given gifts, and use them as He wills, and to share Him with those around us. This resource can be used as a unit for retreats or workshops, and also as an ongoing series for Bible study groups, society meetings, etc.

The LWML Leader Development Committee publishes a printable newsletter – “Follow the Leader” – that focuses on timely topics related to leadership. The committee has worked to make user-friendly resources more available to us as we walk the path and follow Jesus.

Your District Leader Development Committee
Marilyn Schaefer, Chairman

Save The Date!

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.
Psalm 119:105



**LWML Washington-Alaska
District Convention
Red Lion Hotel
Olympia, Washington
June 22 – 24, 2012**

Scholarships: We are taking new applications this fall.

The Scholarship Fund was established by the LWML WA-AK District to provide scholarships for individuals in our LCMS who are pursuing church careers by attending one of our LCMS higher institutions fulltime. The fund is supported only by donations made directly to it by any individual or group. As the funds are gathered, they are dispersed each biennium. Please check with your local LWML, if you would like to make a contribution for scholarships.



Those interested in receiving a scholarship as they pursue their career in church work need to apply before March 15, 2012. Applications will be updated and made available by this October (2011). They can be received off the LWML WA-AK District website, local society or zone president. Recipients will be awarded the scholarships at the District convention in Olympia in June, 2012. If you know of someone who qualifies, please have her apply.

Contributions to the fund may be made by:

- *Individuals
- *Local LCMS Churches
- *Local LWML Groups
- *Scholarship Memorial Cards

Send **contributions** to LWML WA-AK District Financial Secretary.

For more **information** contact the Scholarship Committee Chairman.

See your congregational Society President, the Zone President or the LWML WA-AK District newsletter *The Evergreen Echoes* for further information on the current office holders.

Sarah Edwards
Scholarship Chairman

PLEASE COPY THIS ISSUE FOR THE LADIES IN YOUR CHURCH! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE ISSUES VIA E-MAIL, PLEASE CONTACT The CIRCULATION MANAGER, DENISE CRAWFORD.

Recycling



It's been an interesting summer of recycling. My husband and I were on my family farm in MN. In the barn I found some old fishing gear and we enjoyed fish the next night (4 of 6 were given to me). We took two loads of metal to a recycling facility, used left over stone on a porch foundation and used recycled wood and siding to shore up long shed doors. It was "a time to keep

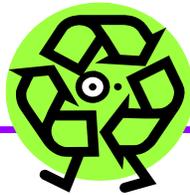
a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend." Eccl 3: 6a-7b.

In May, \$318 was sent to Deb Jones. Currently, there is another \$219 that I'll request in August.

Do you have much success collecting cell phones? It is slow here on that front, but I hope to increase that by telling more people about our program. Funding Factory pays from \$0.20 to \$200.00 (Iphone) for them. Let's see if we can get more – hundreds of cell phones collect dust in closets, shelves or worse yet, in landfills. Ask everyone for theirs. You can bring cell phones and ink cartridges to the district retreat in September, and I will handle the shipping.

A reminder that \$2 extra is earned when using Just Labels and your own box. A minimum of 8 cell phones, 8 laser cartridges or 18 inkjet cartridges is required. Please make sure that no remanufactured or damaged ones are included.

Hope to see you in Post Falls ID!
Judy Peraino, Recycling Coordinator



LWML WA-AK District Counselor West

If you look up the definition of the word "evangelism," you will find it to mean, in its primary sense, "the preaching or teaching of the Gospel" - -the good news of the redemption of the world through Jesus Christ.

That is why we say that all members of a Christian Church are also members of that congregation's Evangelism Committee. Here is where we are often challenged to share our faith in Jesus with others, telling them the Gospel—the Good News of our Savior. Sometimes telling the Good News involves such actions as sending a card or letter, devotional booklet or tract, telephoning someone, making a personal visit, or having a friendly conversation that includes a statement of one's joy in having a personal Savior. Sometimes evangelizing is done by giving money

to help broadcast radio programs or to help buy Bibles or religious literature of our Synod for distribution throughout the world. Evangelism may include assisting in the support of our Synod's missionaries and ministerial students or helping to pay for newspaper or media advertising which proclaim the Gospel and direct people to the Church. Evangelism includes praying for God's blessings upon the outreach program of the Church and offering a friendly greeting to all who come to church to worship the Lord and to hear the Gospel proclaimed. All these actions and many others are part of the Evangelism of the Church.



Alone, we can do little. Working together, helping each other, we can accomplish much toward carrying out our Lord's work! A seed must be planted before it can be nurtured to grow into a healthy plant. God lead us all to do our best to help plant the seeds of the Gospel, and proclaim the truth of the Savior, Jesus Christ.

Pastor Mario Ancira

Greetings from the Human Care Committee,

Along with the many prayer requests, we are busy gearing up for the Ingathering at the retreat on September 30. I hope everyone has received their flyers in the bulk mailing. We are excited about the two agencies that will be receiving our gifts (Olive Crest of Spokane taking care of the needs of foster children and Fresh Start helping the homeless). I hope everyone has been busy gathering items for the agency of their choice. The difference we make in their lives will be profound.

Also look for the display at the retreat for our Friends Into Serving Him. There will be info and other items of interest for those with young teen groups. They are the future faces of our LWML. Our new Friends Into Serving Him chairman, Julie Funfar, will be there to answer your questions and help you to get your group motivated.

Please remember the 52 Weeks of Giving Thanks Ingathering for our district 2012 convention in Olympia. I am eager to hear about your progress at the retreat. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Have a wonderful summer and see you at the retreat, don't forget your GPS (Going Places with our Savior)!

Your sister in Christ,
Sandi Hall-VP Human Care

Christian Life

I was able to participate in the LWML convention through the live stream. It was awesome. I encourage all of you to go to the web site at LWML.org and view the videos of the convention. Some of the inspiration for my article came from the speakers—



Like this from keynote speaker, Deb Burma - We are called to walk in love spreading the sweet fragrance of Christ's love to the world around us. What does a person filled with the Holy Spirit and walking with Jesus look like? According to Dr. Reed Lessing, convention Bible study leader, addressing one another in songs, hymns and spiritual psalms – speech seasoned with scripture; singing – making melody to the Lord with your heart; giving thanks always for everything to God. Spiritual people are joyful and thankful people. Read Colossians 3:12-17.

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!

(Rev 3:15 NIV) These are the words of Christ for the people of Laodicea as given to John in the Book of Revelation. Are you hot with passion, compassion, comforting and nurturing? Or cold - refreshing, uplifting and encouraging? Christ prefers either one. Do not be apathetic and lukewarm. How do we share with others, comfort and refresh? We need to be constantly (re)filled with the Holy Spirit by staying in the Word. The Bible is our source of encouragement allowing us to be people movers encouraging others. Like Barnabas, the encourager, let's all be "Barnababes" (Dr. Lessing), as we walk with Jesus on the edge along side others, encouraging and uplifting. Jesus is our Leader (GPS), we are to follow, walk beside and with Him on the edge.

Bless you for being a blessing to others,
Marilee Ryan, VP Christian Life

Fall Rally Dates, Places Etc.

Alaska: Sept. 16-18 Anchorage Lutheran, Anchorage, AK

"Shaped to Serve" Is. 64:8 District Rep. MaryLynn Huntwork

Blue Mountain: Sept. 10 Trinity Lutheran, Pasco, WA

East Inland Empire: Oct. 15 Christ the King, Coeur d'Alene, ID

District Rep. MaryLynn Huntwork

Hood Canal:* District Rep. MaryLynn Huntwork

Inter-Valley : Oct. 22 Mt. Olive Lutheran, Yakima, WA

Lake Washington: Oct 22, 8:15 am Christ the King, Bellevue, WA

Mount Baker: Oct. 8, 9:00 am Trinity Lutheran, Mt. Vernon, WA
District Rep. MaryLynn Huntwork

North Columbia:*

Olympic: Oct. 8, 9:30 am Messiah Lutheran, Seattle, WA

Rainier: Oct. 15, 9:00 am King of Glory Lutheran, Gig Harbor, WA

South Columbia:*

*Please send info to President MaryLynn



This past Spring, my husband took a job in the Tri-Cities causing us to move and leave Western Washington. I sadly said goodbye to a job I loved, my church family, the ladies in my Society and my Friends Into Serving Him® girls, packed many boxes filled with everything we own, put our house up for sale, and made the journey across the mountains. In the middle of the chaos, I found solace in the fact that although everything around me was changing, one thing was going to stay the same: I am a lady of the LWML. That made me think about the youth girls in our congregations. As they change from middle school to high school to college, one thing can stay the same for them: Friends Into Serving Him®. The relationships they build with the ladies in the society, the accomplishment they feel when they serve others and the knowledge that they are a part of a larger body of the LWML that will be with them forever.



Learn more about how your society can touch the future of LWML by sponsoring a Friends Into Serving Him® group by visiting www.lwml.org. —Julie Funfar

Young Women's Rep Committee

Three standouts at the Peoria Convention from our YWR (Submitted by Elizabeth Cook)

What a joy it was to be your YWR at the Peoria LWML Convention, along with 64 other young women from a total of 38 districts. Many people have asked what I enjoyed about my first National convention experience. There were so many wonderful parts!

Three stand out:

- ◆ Fellowshiping with other YWRs all over the country, women who are "In the Word, Of the Word and Walking with the Lord."
- ◆ Hearing first hand from former national Mission Grant recipients about the impact our mites have had on ministries around the world. I was touched deeply by each missionary who spoke, as well as by hearing about the new grants selected for the next biennium.
- ◆ Experiencing the convention "up close and personal" including sitting with the delegates during the business meetings, walking in the district banner procession and the mission flag procession, meeting women active in LWML at all levels, and getting to know some of the speakers and special convention guests.

In Christ, Amanda Haan

Gospel Outreach

The summer months just seem to fly by. Here we are looking at fall so soon: cooler weather, leaves turning, back to school for children and college students.

One of our seminary students, Shawn Neider, has graduated and has been ordained. We pray continued blessings on his ministry as he and his wife settle into their new home church. Our prayers continue for the men and women heading back to the universities to continue their studies as they prepare for full-time church work!

The application for new Mission Grants for the 2012-2014 biennium is due this fall. The application due date is October 31. This will give the Mission Grants Committee time to review them and decide which will be on our ballot in June of 2012 in Olympia. The forms are on the District website, we hope to see many applications this fall! You wouldn't want us to be bored all winter, would you?

Many of our societies who took a hiatus from meeting over the summer will resume gathering and collecting Mites. Be sure to empty your very full summer Mite box!

I hope to see so many of you at the District Retreat in Post Falls, ID (my neck of the woods!) in September.

LeeAnn Tibbals, Vice President of Gospel Outreach

The Five “W”s (And One “H”) on Bylaws

WHAT are bylaws? Bylaws are the “rules of the game.” They allow the organization to function with order and consistency.



WHERE are the bylaws and

Where should they be? Hopefully not buried or lost! The District Structure Committee should have a copy if your organization has submitted them. The bylaws should be among the official documents of the organization and in the officers' manuals.

WHY do bylaws need to be changed? Times, terminology, process, and traditions change.

WHEN do bylaws need to be updated? Bylaws should be reviewed every two (2) years, following the district convention. New wording, titles, and changes to LWML and district bylaws may require changes in zone and society bylaws.

HOW do we update our bylaws? See “**High-Level Process for Proposed Amendments to Bylaws**” on the website at <http://www.wa-aklwml.org/structurebylawspage.htm> or contact Marie Chow for more information. Her information is in the roster section of the Evergreen Echoes.

WHO do we contact if we have questions? Marie Chow should be able to help you. Keep submitting those proposed bylaw changes!

Your District Structure Committee
Marie Chow, Sandy Geisler, and Ruth Ann Shimoi

Washington-Alaska Zone and Society Corner



FLAT JAN VISITS RAINIER ZONE

Flat Jan traveled over the mountains with MaryLynn Huntwork for a visit to our Spring Rally held at Beautiful Savior Lutheran church in Milton. A special offering in addition to mites totaling over \$400.00 was received for the 2009-2011 biennium of the LWML. —Marianne Bell

Washington-Alaska Zone and Society Corner



The Ladies of Prince of Peace (POP) LWML, Lakewood, recently sent the ladies of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Nairobi, Kenya, a monetary Love gift. They are using the 4000 Kenya dollars to purchase seeds and plants for vegetables to sell to raise money for various ministries. Recently, Nancy Waweru, an LWMLer at POP, returned from a visit to Kenya. She delivered the gift personally, to our sisters in Nairobi. She brought back a handmade wooden cross and a white handkerchief for each Prince of Peace LWMLer. The handkerchiefs were imprinted with the words, "How many loaves have you?" Mark 6:38. These handkerchiefs were especially made for the Day of Prayer celebration.



The POP LWML is planning future LOVE gifts to the ministry in Kenya. Expect to hear more about this ministry.

Nancy Waweru is adjusting the orange garment Gayle is modeling. In Kiswahi, the garment is known as a "Kanga." On the hemline, is imprinted "Mother is always the same—her love does not change until death." These Love gifts were graciously received by our LWML! Pastor Schmidt joins Nancy and Gayle in accepting the gifts. —Gayle Lindeblom



LWML ladies of Zion Lutheran Church, Snohomish love quilting and lovingly share their talents to make quilts for others. They recently sent off 142 quilts to Lutheran World Relief, 200 health kits and 50 personal care kits to LWR headquarters.

Keep the Mity Mite Marching on during the fall!

- ◆ **For every day with temps over 90 degrees (75 in Alaska).....\$.50**
- ◆ **For every wedding you attended this summer.....\$1.00**
- ◆ **For every hug or kiss you received from a child.....\$1.00**
- ◆ **For every new day.....\$1.00**
- ◆ **For every glass of lemonade you drank this summer.....\$.50**



Left bottom: Shirley Heike, Janet Zwar, Barbara Billington, Paula Lauterbach On the tail gate: Thelma Tuengel Top right: Judy Bosse, Myrtle Chase, Theresa Barks-Black, Helen Heck, and Phyllis Reynolds



Laurie Legler, Cheryl Beyer, and Julie Onken, Christian Life committee members planning for the District retreat.

Trinity Lutheran LWML, Republic, WA purchased 100 books for the ingathering at the convention. The books were matched book for book by Concordia Publishing House for a total of 200 books. At the CPH store in Peoria, the cashier said, "WOW, that is a LOT of books; this will make a lot of children happy." Sandi Hall was in charge of this project.

WML WA-AK District Retreat **GPS**  *Going Places with our Savior*
 Sept 31-Oct 2, 2011 *John 14:5-6*
 Ross Point Camp and Conference Center
 Post Falls, ID

Saturday Evening – Special Events
Zone-Mazing entertainment
is happening again!

It was a big hit at the retreat in Gig Harbor two years ago. Each zone is asked to provide five minutes of entertainment on Saturday night...song, dance, skit, reading, etc. Plan something inspirational, humorous and/or witty.

Have fun with it, but remember only five minutes.

Auction

Each zone is also asked to bring something for our live auction homemade items, gift baskets, etc. Proceeds will go to Mites.

Please contact your zone president to participate in both of these events.



Concordia LWMLers from Oak Harbor are portrayed as women martyrs. The Mt. Baker Zone had for it's theme, "Led by God. Women who Walked the Path." All societies had a part, and Concordia's part was "Women Martyrs of the Past." They re-enacted these women for the adult Bible class. The group was reminded that there were some very courageous martyrs in the days of old. Many martyrs today are giving their lives for Christ. Please pray for today's martyrs.

If you wish to attend the retreat, and you haven't sent in your registration form yet, you may

- ◆ Download a copy from the district website.
- ◆ Contact your society president. She received a copy in the bulk mailing.
- ◆ Contact the district editor, and she will mail you a copy.



Evergreen Echoes
Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Washington-Alaska District
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Republic, WA 99166



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Greetings from LWML WA-AK District Alaska Zone,

The National Convention in Peoria, Illinois was fantastic. This was my first national convention, and I really liked meeting women from the different societies around the U. S. My husband, Don, got to attend most of the activities with me and enjoyed the Convention also.

Two of the events that were very precious to me were: (1) Thursday night when all the Pastors gathered and gave over 4,000 people Holy Communion. What a beautiful and inspirational moment especially when the choir sang. (2) When Katie Stamm (former Miss America of 2009) sang the most beautiful and inspirational songs, her grace, beauty and class as she sang made it all the more spectacular.



I could go on and on about so many events that took place, but there would not be enough room for everything. Sitting with the WA/AK ladies and watching our District President, MaryLynn Huntwork, walk down the aisle with our banner representing our district made a person feel very proud to be part of a great national convention.

Our fall rally will be held at Anchorage Lutheran Church on September 16, 17 & 18. We are very busy making all the plans for the big event. We hope to have at least 65 to 75 women attending. Our guest visitor will be our own District President, MaryLynn Huntwork. We are all excited that she will be attending our fall rally.

God's Blessings to all,
Linda Gerdes, Alaska Zone President