

The 49th STAR Creating Alaska

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Producer/Director

Mike Letzring

KUAC producer, Michael Letzring has been producing award-winning documentary television in Alaska for the past 7 years on topics as diverse as the Oceanography of Prince William Sound and Prostitution in Alaska's early Gold Rush Camps. Before going to work for Anchorage's PBS station KAKM in 1999, Michael divided his work year between summers in Alaska commercial fishing for salmon and winters working in Vancouver British Columbia's burgeoning Film production industry.

Writer

Laurence A. Goldin

Laurence A. Goldin has been making films in Alaska for 30 years and in 2004 was honored as *Alaska Filmmaker of the Year*. He's produced and directed 25 long-format documentaries, many of which have appeared on national, prime-time television in the United States and abroad. These included Alaska at War, the story of WWII in Alaska and The Land is Ours, the story of Alaska Natives civil rights and land-claims movements of the 1920's-40's. Larry also writes, shoots and directs for national and international clients including *National Geographic Specials* (Amazon: Land of the Flooded Forest and Those Wonderful Dogs). He's been twice nominated for National Emmy Awards for *Best Cinematography for Documentary for Television*. Larry also works as Second Unit Director of Photography for feature films and episodic television series, including John Sayles' Limbo—a feature film shot in Alaska—and a two-hour special for Baywatch.

Project Historian

Terrance Cole

Professor of History and Director of the Office of Public History (Ph.D., University of Washington, 1983). Circumpolar history, Twentieth century America, Alaska native history, world history. His publications include *The Cornerstone on College Hill* (University of Alaska Press, 1994), *Crooked Past: The History of a Frontier Mining Camp* (University of Alaska Press, 1991), *Nome: City of the Golden Beaches* (Alaska Geographical Society, 1984). He won the Edith Bullock Award for Excellence in 1998 and the Usibelli Award for Teaching in 1994.



Script Consultant **Jack Coghill**
Delegate, Alaska Constitutional Convention

Jack Coghill served a term in the Territorial House of Representatives and was elected to the Constitutional Convention. Following statehood, he served in the First through Third and the Fourteenth through Sixteenth Legislatures before his election as Lieutenant Governor in 1990. Coghill also served on the Nenana School Board, and was the President of the Alaska School Board Association

Script Consultant **Vic Fischer**
Delegate, Alaska Constitutional Convention

Victor Fischer was a delegate to the Alaska Constitutional Convention, after which he served in the territorial House of Representatives and the Alaska State Senate. He was born in 1924 in Berlin, Germany, of an American father and Russian mother. Fischer has degrees from Wisconsin, MIT, and Harvard. He held several planning positions after coming to Alaska in 1950. He was a University of Alaska faculty member in Fairbanks and Anchorage, primarily associated with the Institute of Social and Economic Research, including ten years as director. His current ISER work covers local self-governance, Alaska Native issues, and Alaska-Russia affairs.

Script Consultant **Katie Hurley**
Chief Clerk, Alaska Constitutional Convention

Katie Hurley served as an assistant to Governors Gruening and Egan, and served a term in the State House of Representatives. She served as Chief Clerk to the Constitutional Convention and was secretary of the State Senate. Hurley was the first woman to win a statewide election when she was the Democratic nominee for Lieutenant Governor in 1978. She has also served as the Executive Director of the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women, Chair of the Alaska State Commission on Human Rights and the President of the State Board of Education. In 1995, UAS granted Hurley an Honorary Doctorate of Laws in recognition of her service to Alaska.

Script Consultant **George Rogers**
Consultant & Temporary Secretary, Alaska Constitutional Convention

George Rogers received his academic training at the University of California, Berkeley (B.A. 1942, M.A. 1943) and Harvard (M.P.A. 1948, Ph.D. 1950) followed by visiting fellowships at Clare Hall and Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge (1967-68) and the editorial staff of the Sorbonne's center for northern studies (1964-78). He joined the office of Governor B. Frank Heintzleman as an Economist in July of 1953 after working with the Department of the Interior and the Division of Territories. He served as a consultant for the Constitutional Convention, and in the early sixties drafted one of the first comprehensive studies on the economic aspects of statehood with his book "The Future of Alaska; Economic Consequences Of Statehood." Rogers went on to serve as a faculty member at the Institute of Social and Economic Research at the University of Alaska Anchorage from 1961 to 1983. He has published five books and numerous research monographs and

articles and served on seven National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council programs and forty Alaskan, Canadian and national research boards and commissions. The University of Alaska Anchorage awarded him an Honorary Doctorate in Economics in 1986.

Script Consultant **Tom Stewart**
Secretary, Alaska Constitutional Convention

Thomas Stewart served as the Assistant Attorney General for the Territory of Alaska until 1954, when he was elected to the Territorial House of Representatives. While in the House, Stewart played a key role in researching, drafting and gaining passage of the bill authorizing the Constitutional Convention, where he served as Secretary. In 1966, he was appointed to the Juneau Superior Court, where he served until 1981. Since his retirement, he has continued service to the Alaska Court System as a settlement judge and in other capacities.

Script Consultant **George Sundborg**
Delegate, Alaska Constitutional Convention

Sundborg began his career in journalism in 1938 as the city editor for the Daily Washingtonian. Over the course of his career, Sundborg would write for, edit, publish or own the Daily Alaskan Empire, Juneau Independent and the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. In 1955, Sundborg was elected to a Territory-at-Large seat for the Alaska Constitutional Convention. Sundborg served on Ernest Gruening's staff from 1951-53 while Gruening was Territorial Governor and from 1959-68, when Gruening served in the US Senate. Sundborg is the author of several books, including "Opportunity in Alaska," "Hail Columbia," and "Facts About Statehood for Alaska." The US Department of the Interior presented Sundborg with a Meritorious Service Citation in 1973.

2nd Unit Producer **Tim Olson**

Tim Olson has over twenty-five years of experience producing television in Alaska and throughout the country and a strong record as an award-winning producer, director and videographer. His diverse body of work has been recognized for its excellence by the Alaska Broadcasters Association, Alaska Press Club, Margaret Mead and Northwest Film and Video Festivals, and the Museum of the American Indian. Currently, Olson is the general manager and executive producer for Eight Star Communications, Inc.

2nd Unit Producer **Robert Hannon**

Robert Hannon has been telling stories on radio and television for more than two decades. His productions include the award winning series What We Say about Aids and The Prejudice Puzzle. Hannon has planned, reported, and anchored political coverage both locally and statewide. In 2003, he produced two television series: the Emmy-nominated Vital Signs and Inside Alaska.



Creating Alaska Project Executive Karen Perdue

Karen Perdue is Associate Vice President for Health at the University of Alaska. She was named to the position in October 2001 to help develop health and social sciences capacity throughout the university. From 1994 to 2001, Perdue, a Stanford University graduate, served as Alaska's Commissioner of Health and Social Services. During her tenure, she led the state's efforts in welfare reform, the development of Denali Kidcare, Smart Start, a comprehensive initiative in primary care and fetal alcohol syndrome and many other initiatives. Perdue serves on the boards of several national and state boards and has received numerous recognitions for her work. In 2000, the *Alaska Journal of Commerce* named her one of the 25 most powerful Alaskans.

Creating Alaska Project Coordinator Joseph Hardenbrook

Hardenbrook manages the Creating Alaska project. A former student representative and member of the University of Alaska Board of Regents, Hardenbrook is a proud alumnus of the University of Alaska Fairbanks with a degree in political science and history.

Executive Producer

Claudia Clark

A long-time television producer/director, Clark has developed several award-winning TV projects. Prior to joining KUAC and Alaska One, she was UAF Dean of Enrollment Management as well as a UAF faculty member, serving as associate professor of broadcast journalism from 1989-1999 and an assistant professor of marketing 1999-2002. Clark has held university administrative posts in Montana and Alaska and has wide-ranging public and private sector marketing, public relations, and publication design experience, along with a professional background in television, radio and print media production.

