

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center
Bob and Evangeline Atwood Resource Center
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Guide prepared by: Julie Varee, Community Outreach Archivist

TITLE: Brian and Sharon Davies Collection

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2021.007

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: March 1993

Extent: 58 items, including photographs, correspondence, documents, and ephemera

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Sharon Davies

Administrative/Biographical History:

The following biography was provided by Sharon Davies on August 2, 2022:

Brian Davies came to Alaska as an expatriate employee of British Petroleum (BP) in 1971 when the Prudhoe Bay field was just beginning to be developed, before the pipeline was built. Sharon came to Alaska in spring of 1967 and was hired by the Anchorage School District. They met May 1 of 1971 and married that August. In summer of 1976 Sharon resigned from teaching and became involved in community activities.

Sharon was a board member of the Anchorage Symphony and Brian and she were co-chairs of touring for Nordic Ski club for three winters until she and Brian were moved to San Francisco in 1979. This was a time when oil companies were building staff and many newcomers to Alaska came out to learn cross-country skiing. Some of them joined long-time Alaskans on the weekly tours.

When they were transferred to San Francisco in 1979, the Davies chose to keep their house in Anchorage and rent it out. Brian was promoted to Vice-President in 1984 when BP closed its San Francisco office and moved the staff to Alaska. They were transferred to Houston in 1986 and returned to Alaska in 1990. After his return in 1990 Brian became more involved in the community

joining the Anchorage Symphony Board and subsequently that of Cook Inlet Historical Society, the Anchorage World Affairs Council and The Nature Conservancy of Alaska. And in 2000 Brian became Chair of the Building Committee for a large addition to the Anchorage Museum. He had retired from BP in 1995. Sharon was a member of the Anchorage Symphony League and chaired a library committee at UAA for several years in the 2000's. She spent a lot of time developing their landscape garden. After Brian's three weeks mushing tour on Joe Redington's Iditarod Challenge in 1993, they did many other dog-mushing trips in Alaska and Canada.

Scope and Content Description:

A journal, photographs, letters, and ephemera from Brian Davies' participation in the Joe Reddington's Iditarod Challenge in 1993

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged in two series. Series 1 Anchorage Museum Building Committee (1998-2010). Series 2, Folders 1-3 Brian Davies' participation in Joe Redington's 1993 Iditarod Challenge

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: None

Physical Access: Original items in good condition, journal in fair condition and fragile

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

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Preferred Citation: Brian & Sharon Davies Collection, Anchorage Museum, B2021.007

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Processing Note

Original items were kept in their original order

Separated Materials

Series 1 is located with Museum records

Notes

RELATED MATERIALS

SUBJECTS

Chitiea, Joan
Davies, Brian
Davies, Sharon
Dog mushing
Elliot, Nan
Gabbard, Bryan
Hall, Max
Hall, Lena
Iditarod
Iditarod Sled Dog Race
Joe Redington's Iditarod Challenge
Rasmuson, Cathy
Redington, Joe Sr.
Turner, Harry
Nome (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series 1 Anchorage Museum Building Committee – Located with Museum records

- .1 – Anchorage Museum Building Committee, 1998-2010
- .2 – Museum expansion ribbon cutting ceremony, 2010 [Mary Louise Rasmuson in wheelchair pushed by Ed Rasmuson, cutting ribbon]

Series 2 Joe Redington's Iditarod Challenge, 1993

Folder 1

- .3 – Brian Davies' journal, 1993 Iditarod Challenge [Includes names of other mushers and dogs, transcript included]

Folder 2

- .4 – Form letter to Joan Chitiea from Brian Davies, December 28, 1996 [detailed plan for reunion of 1993 Iditarod Challenge participants]
- .5 – Letter to Max & Lena Hall from Brian & Sharon Davies
- .6 – Form letter to "Challenge Reunioners," January 21, 1997
- .7 – Chart of Iditarod trip with mileage [Handwritten chart on yellow ruled paper]
- .8 – Copy of newspaper clipping "Old Joe and the Cheechakos," *We Alaskans*, April 11, 1993 April 11, 1993
- .9 – Letter from Brian Davies to Mr. Oleson [Letter with fax machine receipt attached]
- .10 – Letter from Brian Davies to Bryan Gabbard about reunion mushing trip, December 28, 1996

- .11 – Letter from Brian Davies to Joan Chithea about reunion mushing trip, December 28, 1996 [Phone number written on back: 619-756-4299]
- .12 – Letter from Brian Davies to Max and Lena Hall about reunion trip, January 19, 1997 [Handwritten letter with fax receipt attached]
- .13 – Form letter about cancellation of Challenge Reunion
- .14 – Handwritten note with calculations [Small piece of paper, blue ink]
- .15 – Handwritten cost estimates [Notes on white ruled paper, black ink]
- .16 – Handwritten list, including of mushers and mushing supplies [Notes on plain white plain paper, black ink]
- .17 – Handwritten miscellaneous notes, including food prices [Notes on plain white paper]
- .18 – Handwritten incomplete budget items list [Notes on white ruled paper, black ink]
- .19 – Handwritten notes, including costs [Notes on white ruled paper, blue ink]
- .20 – Handwritten notes, including list of mushers and budget figures [Notes on small plain white paper]
- .21 – Handwritten notes, including distance calculations [Notes on ruled white paper]

Folder 3

- .22 – Large embroidered patch, Joe Reddington’s Iditarod Challenge, Alaska, 1993
- .23 – Autographed envelopes, quantity=9, from Joe Redington’s Iditarod Challenge, 1993 [Envelopes for mushers to use along the route, Iditarod Challenge logo included]
- .24 – Hand drawn chart of dog teams
- .25 – Photograph of mushers from Joe Redington’s Iditarod Challenge, 1993
- .26 – Certificate, Joe Redington, Sr.’s First Iditarod Challenge, Number 06 of six, certifying Brian Davies’ participation
- .27 – Brian Davies’ membership card, Iditarod Trail Committee, June 1996
- .28 – Embroidered patch: 1907 Nome Kennel Club
- .29 – First page, Joe Redington’s Iditarod Challenge newsletter, Volume 2, October 25, 1992
- .30 – Alaska’s Iditarod Member, JVZ1985, embroidered patch
- .31 – First page, Joe Redington’s Iditarod Challenge newsletter, Volume 1, August 16, 1992 [Handwritten note with Bryan Gabbard’s address in Malibu, California]
- .32 – Certificate: Congratulations Brian Davis (sic) 1993 Iditarod’s “Semi-Red Lantern Winner” and 1993 Good Samaritan Award – 1st Place, 100%, signed and stamped Harry
- .33 – Iditarod Train Committee, inc. Checkers Report, Mile 1,049 Race Mileage – Mile 929 Historic Trail Mileage, End of the Iditarod Trail, Nome, Alaska, Checkers: Leo B. Rasmussen, Mayor John K. Handeland [Mushers listed: Harry Turner, Joan Chithea, Max Hall, Bryan Gabbard, Brian Davies, Cathy Rasmuson, Joe (Redington) Sr
- .34 – First page, Joe Redington’s Iditarod Challenge newsletter, Volume 5, January 25, 1992
- .35 – First page, Joe Redington’s Iditarod Challenge newsletter, Volume 3, January 12, 1993
- .36 – Letter to mushers from Cathy Rasmuson, January 27, 1993 [Two-pages, typed on plain white paper]
- .37 – Invoice from Nan Elliot to Brian Davies, for 63 prints from slides, July 12, 1993 [Some lines highlighted in green or pink]
- .38 – Faxed letter to Brian Davies from Max Hall, cover note from Michelle Crick
- .39 – Handwritten list of mushers and support team [List on yellow ruled paper, blue ink and pencil]
- .40 – Color copy of four photographs featuring mushing dogs and several people [Note on the front: I’m the one in Red Suit.]

- .41 – One-page advertisement for Wiggy’s Inc. outdoor wear available at Northern Security Supply, Anchorage, Alaska [Ad includes illustration of parka with features marked and described
- .42 – Handwritten letter from Joe Redington, Sr. to Brian Davies [Letter on Knik Kennels letterhead]
- .43 – Application from Brian Davies to participate in Joe Redington’s Iditarod Challenge 1993
- .44 – Letter and Challenge information from Joe Redington, Sr. to Brian Davies, May 27, 1992
- .45 – Letter to Challenge mushers regarding planning, September 6, 1992
- .46 – Letter to Brian Davies from Max Hall, August 20, 1992
- .47 – Credit card receipt for mushing trip supplies, REI Anchorage, March 13, 1993 [Total: \$145.55]
- .48 – Credit card receipt for mushing trip supplies, REI Anchorage, March 15, 1993 [Total: \$97.93]
- .49 – Credit card receipt for mushing trip supplies, REI Anchorage, January 23, 1993 [Total: \$299.95]
- .50 – Credit card receipt for mushing trip supplies, REI Anchorage, November 13, 1992 [Total: \$132.00]
- .51 – Credit card receipt for mushing trip supplies, REI Anchorage, March 5, 1993 [Total: \$226.40]
- .52 – Credit card receipt for topological maps, USGS/ESIC Anchorage, March 5, 1993 [Total: \$56]
- .53 – Cancelled check to Arctic Welding Supply for mushing trip supplies, February 27, 1993 [\$147]
- .54 – Cancelled check to Northern Security for Wiggy Boots, March 18, 1993 [\$195.96]
- .55 – Iditarod Trail Alaska trading card, Joe Redington, Sr. #109 [The number, 4, written over Career Iditarod Record]
- .56 – Commemorative card, Joe Redington, Sr. Iditarod Challenge 1993 [Brief description of Challenge on back of card]
- .57 – Letter to Brian and Sharon Davies from Max Hall, Iditarod branded envelope includes: “. . . carried over the Iditarod Trail by Max Hall and his Shapachka Husky team, Iditarod 1995
- .58 – Full color commemorative envelope, Femundlopet 1994 [Signed by Joe Redington, Sr.]

Guide written: August 2022