

10. MacManus/Armistead/Belts Award

Peter MacManus (1936-1983) taught in Shugnuk from 1972 to 1976 then transferred to Ambler where he taught until his death in an air crash. He was active as an association advocate and organizer in rural Alaska. He was a pioneer of the bilingual "integrated" approach to curriculum and he actively worked to get state funding for bilingual education. During his professional career, he was constantly raising the issue of teacher rights -- both individually and collectively. Peter had a strong desire to enhance the education, rights and benefits for teacher aides in bush Alaska. He was a strong proponent of organizing ESP as members of NEA-Alaska.

Frank Belts (1936-1993) was a teacher and coach in Montana before joining the Montana Education Association staff. In 1978 he moved to Fairbanks to become the business agent for the classified employees union in Fairbanks. In 1991 he joined NEA-Alaska as a UniServ director. Frank was a "union man" in the best sense. As a result of his aggressive leadership and determination to overcome adversity, the lives and working conditions of Alaska's school employees were greatly enhanced. He believed in people and their causes, and he was a tireless and committed fighter against injustice and inequality.

The purpose of the MacManus/Armistead/Belts Award is to recognize a member of NEA-Alaska in the fields of Employee Rights and/or Association Advocacy.

Criteria: A nominee must meet (one or more) of the following:

- a. Have been an outstanding advocate for due process rights
- b. Must be a recognized leader in local association activity
- c. A creditable record in maintaining rights and in policing the contract
- d. Have worked diligently to include employee rights language in bargaining agreement.

Procedures:

- a. Nominations must be received by NEA-Alaska no later than *November 1st*,
- b. Nominations will be solicited from local leaders, state officers, and staff
- c. Local Association may send nomination to the Board of Directors
- d. A committee composed of the a representative from the Board of Directors, Human Civil Rights and Executive Committee shall select the recipient prior to Delegate Assembly.

Award:

- a. The recipient will receive a plaque and a \$200 honorarium
- b. The award shall be announced and presented at Delegate Assembly. If the recipient has no plans to attend Delegate Assembly, NEA-Alaska shall pay expenses and travel and one night's hotel accommodation unless other funds are available.
- c. The recipient shall be invited to attend Delegate Assembly to receive the award.