



Fairbanks  
Industry  
Update Forum  
October 2023

AKOGHS – To  
connect Alaskans  
and the Broader  
Community to the  
History of Oil and  
Gas in Alaska

- November 2022 Incorporation
- January 2023 501(c)3 Status
- March 2023-December 2023 Founding Members Campaign

# AKOGHS – To connect Alaskans and the Broader Community to the History of Oil and Gas in Alaska

- **Collecting** – materials that help establish and illustrate the history of oil and gas in Alaska
- **Preserving** – providing for appropriate archiving/handling/housing of material collected
- **Sharing** – historical displays, exhibitions, publication of historical material, meetings with lectures, papers and discussion

# AKOGHS - Sharing



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# AKOGHS Sharing



## Early Days of Alaska's Oil & Gas Industry

- 1902**  
First Commercial Production  
*Occurs on private land near Katalla. This led to Alaska Territory's first refinery.*
- 1923**  
President Harding Creates National Petroleum Reserve No. 4  
*Sets aside 23 million acres in Northern Alaska to provide an emergency oil supply for the U.S. Navy.*
- 1957**  
Swanson River Oil Field  
*Field discovered on July 19, 1957, after 165 consecutive unsuccessful wells had been drilled in Alaska.*
- 1959**  
Statehood  
*First offshore Cook Inlet lease sale, Kenai gas field discovered.*
- 1960**  
ANWR Established  
*President Eisenhower establishes 8.9 million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.*
- 1961**  
Cook Inlet Gas Field  
*Sterling gas field discovered in Cook Inlet, Production begins at Swanson River oil field.*
- 1962**  
Beluga River Gas Field  
*Beluga River Gas Field discovered on Kenai Peninsula.*

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## **1837 – First Indication of Petroleum on the North Slope**

Thomas Simpson with Hudson Bay Company (first white man to reach Point Barrow from the east) finds “two pieces of pitch coal” in the flood plain of the Babbage River that had washed down the river.

## **1853 – Oil in Cook Inlet**

Fur traders for the Russian-American Company notice oil seep on the west side of Cook Inlet.

## **1869 – First Published Report of Petroleum in Alaska**

William H. Dall, Ph.D., writes “Alaska and Its Resources.” On page 259 of that book, he writes “The first inlet of importance on the Alaska Peninsula is Katmai. Here Jurassic fossils were found. On a lake in the vicinity petroleum is floating.”



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## **1882 – First Samples Collected on the Iniskin Peninsula**

A Russian named Paveloff collects samples from an oil seep near Oil Bay on the Iniskin Peninsula on the west side of Cook Inlet.

## **1892 – Oil Claims Staked – First Attempt at Petroleum Development in Alaska**

A prospector named Edelman stakes oil claims in the Iniskin Peninsula. His claims are near the low divide between the headwaters of Bowser Creek. Bowser Creek flows past at least one oil seep into Oil Bay.



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# AKOGHS – Collecting

- Oral history is a field of study and a method of gathering, preserving and interpreting the voices and memories of people, communities, and participants in past events. Oral history is both the oldest type of historical inquiry, predating the written word, and one of the most modern, initiated with tape recorders in the 1940s and now using 21st-century digital technologies.

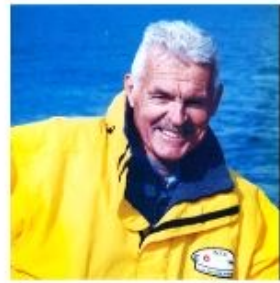
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## Ross Leslie Warner

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*June 7, 1931 - September 11, 2023*

### Obituary

Ross Leslie Warner

Jun 7, 1931 -

Sep 11, 2023

Ross Warner of Anchorage, Alaska, died in his home surrounded by his family on Sept. 11, 2023. He was 92 years old.

He was born on June 7, 1931, in Dubuque, Iowa, to Cleona and Walter Warner.

Raised in Duluth, Minn., he graduated from Central High School, class of 1949. He received a B.S. degree in physics and mathematics from Gustavus Adolphus College and married Elaine Winquist in 1953. After serving in the Marine Corps, Ross spent 12 years with Schlumberger Inc., in several capacities in the Rocky Mountain region. He moved to Alaska in 1969 and, in 1978, began working for British Petroleum Alaska. He retired from BP as Well Interventions Team Leader and continued working with Petrotechnical Resources of Alaska as a contractor for BP after taking time off for a bucket list ski trip through Canada. He left the industry at age 83.

# AKOGHS Sharing -



## Alaska Oil & Gas Historical Society Membership

The Alaska Oil & Gas Historical Society (AOGHS) is meant to be a community of individuals passionate about preserving and sharing the rich history of Alaska's oil and gas industry. As a member of AKOGHS, you will be joining a network of like-minded individuals, who share a love for Alaska and an appreciation for its unique history.

By becoming a founding member, you will be providing the support needed to ensure that Alaska's oil and gas history is preserved and shared.

Join AKOGHS today and become a part of a vibrant community dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of Alaska's oil and gas industry.

### Tom White Founders Society

Named after the first man to drill an oil well in Alaska.

To join the Tom White Founders Society as a founding member, kindly utilize the blue payment buttons corresponding to your preferred membership level for online payment. [Alternatively, you may submit a request for an invoice by completing the form provided below.](#)

<p><b>Katalla Founding Member</b> (site of first production)</p> <p><b>\$25,000</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Company or Individual name/logo prominently displayed on all Society publications</li><li>Company or Individual name/logo displayed at all Society events</li><li>Company or Individual name highlighted on Society website</li></ul>	<p><b>Chilkat Founding Member</b> (Alaska's first refinery)</p> <p><b>\$20,000</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Company or Individual name/logo prominently displayed on all Society publications</li><li>Company or Individual name/logo displayed at all Society events</li><li>Company or Individual name highlighted on Society website</li></ul>	
<p><b>Beluga River Founding Member</b> (Kenai gas field discovered in 1962)</p> <p><b>\$2,500</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Company or Individual name/logo listed on Society website</li></ul> <p><a href="#">Become A Founding Member</a></p>	<p><b>Prudhoe Bay Founding Member</b> (largest field in North America discovered in 1968)</p> <p><b>\$1,000</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Company or Individual name/logo listed on Society website</li></ul> <p><a href="#">Become A Founding Member</a></p>	
<p><b>\$500</b></p> <p><b>TAPS Founding Member</b></p> <p>(800-mile pipeline authorized by Congress in 1973 and completed in 1977)</p>	<p><b>\$250</b></p> <p><b>Billion Barrel Founding Member</b></p> <p>(one billionth barrel of oil that flowed through TAPS in 1980)</p>	<p><b>\$100</b></p> <p><b>1002 Founding Member</b></p> <p>(area in ANWR set aside by Carter in 1980 for oil and gas development)</p>

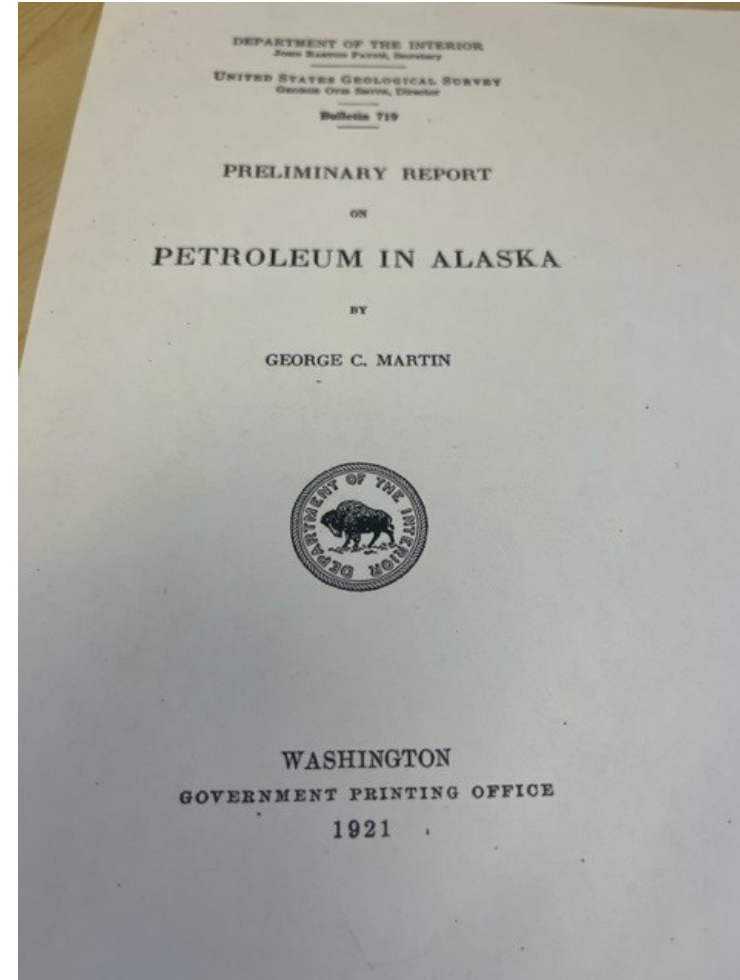
# AKOGHS – Become Involved



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Alaska Oil and  
Gas Historical  
Society -  
Thank You

- Questions?