



PLANE TALK

Publication of Statewide Aviation



Spring 2018



2018 Great Alaska
AVIATION
GATHERING



FedEx Hangar at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport
May 5th & 6th...Please stop by the DOT&PF Booths 154 & 155

Message from DC Binder:



As we head into spring, airports across the state are readying for the busy summer flying season. That means different things to different groups depending on which one of the 242 state owned and operated airports we're talking about.

For runways in rural Alaska, springtime brings challenging conditions where ice jams and flooding are annual occurrences. Once the ice is gone, gravel and other supplies can be barged or flown in and DOT&PF airport staff travel to remote airports to perform critical maintenance and repair tasks. They often work long days that end with them camping overnight in the airport's equipment storage building which has no facilities or running water. The resourcefulness of the staff to maintain the rural airports under extremely challenging conditions, with minimal support and resources, is accomplished because they are committed to their jobs and know the communities depend on their airports - their village lifeline.



Stevens Village runway is the high spot during spring flooding.

At some of the state's larger general aviation airports such as, Lake Hood Seaplane Base "*the busiest seaplane base in the world*" and the Talkeetna Airport, springtime means getting ready for the thousands of tourists flying out of them to view Alaska's wilderness, heading out on fishing trips, and visiting numerous back country destinations.



Big Johnstone Lake east of Seward is a popular destination for a spring getaway. Throw in two folding bicycles, a wooden sled, and off you go!
Photo courtesy of the Lake Hood Pilots Association

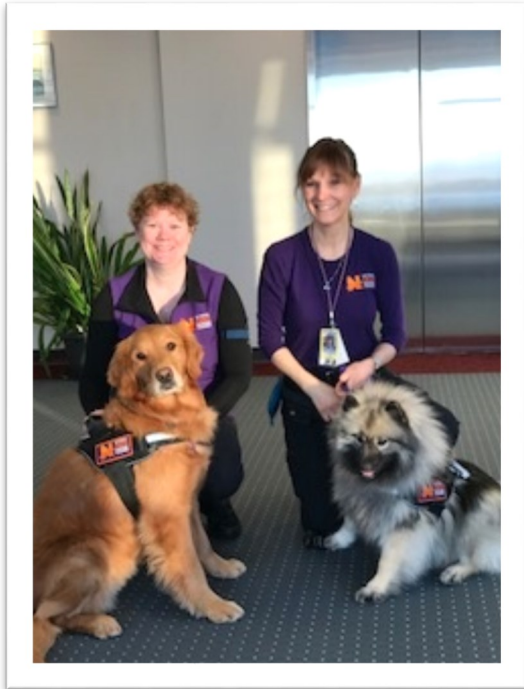
If you're not climbing into an airplane anytime soon you can still enjoy the thrill of aviation by attending one of the many events happening around the state in May. I encourage everyone to come out to the Great Alaska Aviation Gathering on May 5th & 6th and take part in one of the nation's premier aviation events held at the FedEx hangar at the Anchorage Airport.

There are many more events happening in April and May highlighted in this newsletter. I hope to see you at some of them.

Have a great summer, and Fly Safe!

John Binder
Deputy Commissioner

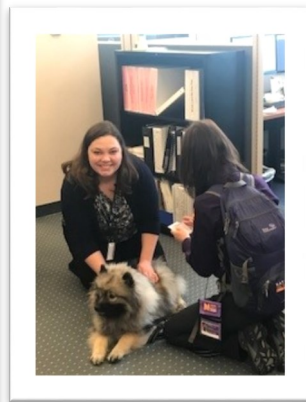
Meet Alix & Kali Dogs Helping People



(L-R) Handlers Melissa & Debbie with Alix & Kali

Lynden Air Cargo Recognized for Humanitarian Efforts

Lynden Air Cargo received the [Governor's North Star Award](#) for its long history of assisting in humanitarian relief and environmental disasters worldwide. "We are honored to receive this prestigious award which we share with our employees and the Lynden family of companies," said Rick Zerkel, Lynden Air Cargo President. "All of our employees – in the air and on the ground – pride themselves on providing safe and reliable service while opening new international markets and opportunities to Alaska. We are also proud of our service in assisting victims of natural disasters and our environmental cleanup response. Wherever Lynden Air Cargo flies, it proudly represents Lynden, but also its home state of Alaska." Lynden pioneered service to Alaska in 1954 and today serves customers in every sector of the Alaska economy, including energy, mining, seafood, retail, military, and government.



A new program at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is providing stress relief for travelers and bringing much joy to animal lovers. The [National Crisis Response Canines](#) organization is all about dogs helping people. They are trained to provide safe compassionate support to people effected by crisis or when someone is hurting. The canine teams are specially trained and are distinguished by the purple tops they wear. Please say "hi" next time you are at the airport!



*LAC Hercules delivers supplies to St. Martin after the devastation of hurricanes last September.
Photo credit: Mason Gaines, Lynden Air Cargo*

DOT&PF Deploys Emergency Runway Lights to Anaktuvuk Pass Airport

This winter a fire destroyed a public works building in Anaktuvuk Pass also destroying the electrical system that powers the runway's lighting system. In the winter, no runway lights means no access to outside emergency medical care and medevacs during the long dark nights - a potentially dangerous situation.

The fire raged in the early morning hours between a Wednesday and Thursday in February. On Thursday morning, the Alaska Department of Military & Veteran Affairs contacted DOT&PF requesting emergency runway lighting. DOT&PF sprang into action coordinating with the North Slope Borough right away and by Friday evening, a set of DOT&PF emergency Landing Lights had been delivered to the village from Anchorage by Ryan Air with only ten minutes of daylight to spare. The next day, Rich Sewell, with DOT&PF Statewide Aviation arrived and conducted training on how to use the lights with about a dozen first responders and public works employees in the community.

This fast-moving and collaborative effort between DOT&PF, the North Slope Borough, DMVA, and the community of Anaktuvuk Pass prevented a potentially dangerous situation in a village where aviation is a lifeline. Anaktuvuk Pass, a village of 355 residents is located 250 miles northwest of Fairbanks in the Brooks Range. It is only accessible by air. The airport is owned by the North Slope Borough.

DOT&PF's emergency runway lighting program grew out of an FAA "Study for the House and Senate Appropriations Committees" in May 2001 titled "Aviation Access to Remote Locations in Alaska." FAA funded the research, development, and acquisition of the Emergency Landing Zone lights. The individual lights are battery powered and use a military grade light bulb that is compatible with night-vision goggles. Various lights were tested in cooperation with the U.S. Coast Guard. Originally there were 782 emergency lights purchased divided into full-runway lighting systems and helicopter landing lights.



Richard Sewell, DOT&PF Transportation Planner provided training about the use, operations, and maintenance of the emergency lights to employees with Public Works, North Slope Borough and First Responders.



New Manager at Kodiak Airport Phil Smith

Born and raised in California, Phil came to Kodiak as an aviator with the Coast Guard. He served two tours in Kodiak and chose to make it home upon his departure from the Coast Guard. He operated heavy equipment for a shipping company for 8 years before starting with the Department of Transportation 19 years ago as an equipment operator on the airport.

He enjoys all things aviation and obtained his pilot's license in 2003. Prior to accepting the airport manager position, Phil served as Lead for the last several years on federal projects in Kodiak. He is a Certified Member and Airport Certified Employee of the American Association of Airport Executives. Congratulations to Phil!



About Kodiak:

Situated in the Gulf of Alaska, the Kodiak Island Borough is located in the Kodiak Island Archipelago, an area comprised of sixteen major islands paralleling the Katmai Coast along the Alaska Peninsula for 177 miles. At 3,588 square miles, Kodiak Island is the second largest island in the United States, second only to the Island of Hawaii.

The City of Kodiak is 250 air miles southwest of Anchorage and is the tenth largest city in the state. Kodiak is the transportation hub for southwest Alaska and its fishing port ranks third in the country. Additionally, Kodiak is home of the nation's largest US Coast Guard base, and the state owned [Pacific Spaceport Complex - Alaska](#) rocket launch facility. (more on this in the next issue of *Plane Talk*)

DOT&PF owns and operates seven airports on Kodiak Island - Port Lions, Ouzinkie, Larsen Bay, Karluk, Old Harbor, Akhiok, and Kodiak. A \$59 million project was completed in 2015, that extended the runway safety areas (RSA) for two runways at the Kodiak Airport by building into the tumultuous Gulf of Alaska. Contractors moved an estimated 1.1 million tons of rock to fill a portion of the Gulf of Alaska in order to create enough surface area for an engineered material arresting system (EMAS) on one runway and to lengthen another runway to allow for an EMAS bed on its other end.



***Kodiak Airport - RSA extended into the Gulf of Alaska.
Photo Courtesy Mike Brown***

One of the larger events bringing many tourists to Kodiak is the annual Crab Festival. The event on Memorial Day weekend is a five-day celebration of spring. More information available [here](#).



April & May - All About Aviation!

GREAT ALASKA AVIATION GATHERING



ALASKA AIRMEN ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, MAY 5
9AM-5PM

SUNDAY, MAY 6
10AM-5PM

TED STEVENS ANCHORAGE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

FEDEX MAINTENANCE HANGAR

FREE ADMISSION • FREE PARKING • YOUTH ACTIVITIES

With over 275 nationwide aviation exhibitors with indoor and outside static displays featuring light sport, general aviation, vintage, experimental, commercial, corporate and military aircraft, and 25,000 attendees the Great Alaska Aviation Gathering has become one of America's largest free-entry aviation trade shows!

For information call (907) 245-1251 or email Gathering@alaskaairmen.org or visit www.GreatAlaskaAviationGathering.org

Follow us!   @AlaskaAirmen

Anchorage Travel and Tourism Industry Job Fair

10 am to 3 pm
Saturday,
April 7, 2018

Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, North Terminal

No cost to attend! Free parking!

For more info, call (907) 266-2119.






Sponsored by Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and Northern Air Cargo.

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33rd Annual Seaplane Safety Seminar

Saturday, April 28, 2018

UAA Aviation Technology Center
2811 Merrill Field Drive
Anchorage, Alaska

0800-0830 Sign In

0830-0840 Master Pilot Award to John Brown

0845-0935 Brice Banning (NTSB) Float Plane Accident(s) Lessons Learned

0945-1035 Brian Horner (Learn to Return) Survival Strategies for Float Plane Pilots

1045-1135 Craig Ketchum (Ketchum Air Service) Float Plane Operations

1135-1245 Lunch provided by Alpha Eta Rho Aviation Fraternity (Fund Raiser)

1245-1330 Steve McCaughey (Exec Dir. Seaplane Pilots Assoc) Seaplane Flying: Past, Present, Future

1340-1430 Harry Shannon (Seaplane Pilots Assoc Corrosion Expert) Corrosion Prevention

1440-1530 Dave Swartz (FAA Aeronautical Engineer) Aging Aircraft Issues & Initiatives





2018 annual convention and trade show

may 2 & 3

new venue!

Convention & Banquet will be held at Ted Stevens International Airport Concourse A Upper Level

special workshops:

NTSB Disaster Assistance Program
Initial and Recurrent Hazmat Training & More!

live auctions:

- 2 RT Tickets on Alaska Airlines
- Professional Design & Marketing Service with Trunk Creative (\$1000 value) Valid until December 31, 2018
- El Capitan Lodge - Southeast Alaska: Deluxe Fishing Adventure For Two! Three Days/Three Nights \$7,700.00 Value + Valid for 2018 or 2019

scholarship:

Forest Jones Memorial Scholarship
Application due: March 31, 2018
For more info visit: www.alaskaaircarriers.org/scholarships

this event brought to you by:





Convention Schedule & Registration available at www.alaskaaircarriers.org

Cold Bay Airport Crew Does It Again!



Hap Kremer, Russell Ruta, David Lyons, and Paul Schaack

The award winning crew at the Cold Bay Airport have been recognized again by DOT&PF with a “Team Achievement Award” for their efforts documenting the Cold Bay King Cove Road route and an “Honorable Mention Award” for assisting with an aircraft rescue. Congratulations to All!



Where: East Ramp, Fairbanks International Airport, 3504 South University Ave.
When: Saturday, May 19th, 7:00 a.m. - 2:00p.m.
Who: Youth, adults, and anyone who is just “plane crazy”
Free Admission



Anchorage International Airport
May 4th
10:00am - 12:00pm
Meet at the old Field Maintenance Facility on Aircraft Drive

75th Battle of Attu COMMEMORATION



Join the National Park Service, US Fish & Wildlife, Alaska Veterans Museum, Japanese-American Citizenship League, Aleutian Pribilof Island Association, Consulate of Japan, veterans, historians and other interested parties for the grand opening of Attu 75, a long-term exhibit at the Alaska Aviation Museum recognizing 2018 at the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Attu. More info here: www.Attu75.org



ANCHORAGE'S PROMISE
& KIDS DAY



HEY, KIDS

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Free Admission

Radio Controlled Models, Drones, Rockets Swap Meet

Municipality of Anchorage’s annual Kids Day has partnered up with Anchorage’s Promise in 2018. Events will go on at various Anchorage area locations, including the Alaska Aviation Museum. At the museum, free admission gets everyone in to see and participate in the Radio Controllers’ swap meet (10:00 am – 4:00 pm) for the latest in RC airplanes, drones, and rockets.



Our mission is to:

“Keep Alaska Moving through

service and infrastructure.”

To learn more visit our website: www.dot.alaska.gov

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Division of Statewide Aviation
4111 Aviation Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Return Service Requested

TO: