



PLANE TALK

Publication of Statewide Aviation



Spring 2013

Springtime Challenges for Airport Crews

Springtime brings warmer weather and also challenging conditions for the department's maintenance and operations crews. Ice jams and flooding are annual occurrences at Alaska's rural airports. 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 - the village lifeline.



Effects of flooding - damaged runway lights



Stevens Village new runway is the high spot during flooding.



Spring challenges



River ice on the runway

Message From Deputy Commissioner



Greetings and Best Wishes to All!

Spring is here and I can look out of my office window and see flying activity ramping up at both Lake Hood and the Anchorage International Airport.

My personal focus this fine month of April is primarily on the Alaska International Airport System (AIAS) because we are moving full speed ahead in getting a long term Operating Agreement with our valued signatory carriers in place by 1 July 2013. We're also working hard to assess both passenger and cargo aircraft activity levels in order to set our 2014 rates and fees. We're still looking for the Asian cargo traffic levels to improve, but in the meantime we remain steadfast providing superb and dependable service to our customers.

A good benchmark that affirms we're doing this mission well, in partnership with the myriad service and support agencies active at the airport, is the recent announcement that Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is the recipient of the 2012 Air Cargo Excellence Award for the airport category of 1,000,000 or more tons by Air Cargo World. The Air Cargo Excellence Award is the result of quantitative feedback from ANC's cargo customer base of airlines. It is earned by achieving superior ratings from customers in four key areas: performance, value, facilities, and operations.

As we look carefully at our air cargo traffic market share from a management perspective, it is critical we strive to remain a high value stop for our current highly valued customer base, but we also must remain "on message" with both current airline customers and potential new ventures about our unique cargo transfer rights here in Alaska. As such,

we're pleased to be planning our upcoming 2013 Alaska International Air Cargo Summit, the only invitational executive level conference in the world focused exclusively on the North American – Asian air cargo market. Immediately following the Summit, the AIAS team will facilitate a full day of opportunities for key participants to meet one on one with potential cargo transfer partners, to conduct individual meetings with ground handlers, and to meet with airport staff.

The Summit, expected to take place in late August, plans for featured experts from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the US Department of Transportation, and the AIAS legal counsel who will discuss the unique Alaska Expanded Air Cargo Transfer Rights and Service Opportunities. This year we will expand on this theme with panel discussions on how to make cargo transfer happen in Alaska through the integration of logistics services into their traditional airline business model. As in past years, the Summit provides a unique venue for domestic and international airline partners to meet and exchange ideas and business opportunities. We look forward to robust participation.

Additionally, a key process that ensures wise planning for the future of both the Anchorage and Fairbanks International Airports is the public airport master planning process. Airport master plans set a course and provide guidance for future aviation investment in support of communities and the state. The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport Master Plan will position the airport for the future by maximizing operation efficiency and business effectiveness. The [Anchorage Master Plan](#) Update was initiated in June 2012 and is anticipated to conclude in December 2013. The [Fairbanks Master Plan](#) will address the aviation needs of the Fairbanks area for the next 20 years. I encourage you to participate in the process.

Fly Safely,

Steve Hatter

Flying Companion Seminar

The Ninety-Nines, Inc. are presenting a seminar designed for the spouse, friend, or frequent passenger who would like to learn more about flying to make them a more comfortable, helpful passenger, especially in an emergency situation.

Participants will receive instruction in basic navigation and navigation instruments, basic flight controls, use of aircraft radios and terminology, emergency procedures and survival. In addition participants receive hands-on experience with a flight simulator and hand-held radios.

All instructors are licensed local women pilots with both instructional and flying experience. A Certificate of Completion will be presented at the end of the course.

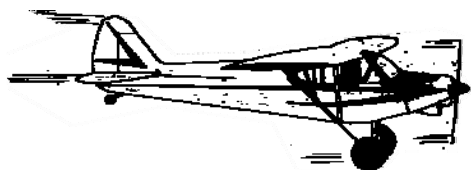
When: Saturday, May 18, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Where: UAA Aviation Technology Building, Merrill Field

Course Fee: \$99 includes continental breakfast, lunch, aircraft simulator exercise, radio exercise, and all supplies.

Contact Angie Slingluff, 907-337-0253 or Patty Livingston, 907-746-2919 for more information.

The Ninety-Nine, Inc. is an international organization of licensed women pilots from 35 countries - with over 6,000 members throughout the world. Flying Companion Seminars are held biannually in the spring and fall at various locations in Alaska by the 99s. Income from these seminars is used to fund flying scholarships.



FAA 22nd Annual Pancake Breakfast and Youth Aviation Adventure Event June 1st—Palmer Airport

Fly-in or drive to the Palmer Municipal Airport on June 1st for the 22nd annual FAA pancake breakfast, 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. at the New Horizons Hangar. Visit with FAA Management while they prepare a breakfast for you, followed by industry presentations. Rob Carte with the Rescue Coordination Center will be speaking at 8:30a a.m. on “Before and After the Mishap - Survivability”.

The Youth Aviation Adventure program begins at 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is open to ages 10 and up. This event is a great opportunity for kids to learn about airplanes, airport operations, careers in aviation, and professional piloting AND to take a young eagles flight!

Contact Angie Slingluff at 271-5228 for more information on YAA. The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Young Eagles program offers youth free of charge flights in a general aviation airplane. Contact Ed White at 230-6332 for EAA Young Eagles details.



(R-L) The FAA management team - Allen Kenitzer, Greg Holt, Bob Lewis, and Byron Huffman serve up breakfast and talk with the public at last year's event.

Airport Spotlight

BARROW “Wiley Post - Will Rogers Memorial” Airport

By Jeff Roach, Northern Region Planning Manager, DOT&PF

Residents of Alaska’s rural communities who are not connected to the road system rely on their community airports to provide access, goods and services. The state-owned Wiley Post-Will Rogers Memorial Airport serves this need as the regional hub for Alaska’s North Slope communities and the only year-round access to Barrow.

State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) Airport Manager John Olsen describes the importance of the airport to the community. “Barrow's freight options are by barge in August, or rolligons (all terrain freight carriers) in the spring,” Olsen Said. “Otherwise, all other amenities, medevacs, commercial public transportation, freight, all come through the airport year-round.”

The North Slope Borough Search and Rescue is based at the airport. They operate four aircraft (two helicopters and two airplanes) to provide airborne response to medevacs, search and rescue, and other emergencies throughout the borough. There are four additional general aviation aircraft based at the airport.

During a recently completed construction project several improvements were made to the airport. The centerline of the 7,100 foot by 150 foot asphalt runway was moved 210 feet to the south, the runway safety areas were expanded, new airport lighting was installed, and the runway, taxiways and apron were repaved. Taking nearly ten years to complete, this project was the culmination of improvements recommended under the current airport master plan.

ADOT&PF began updating the master plan for the airport in December 2012. The purpose of this project is to evaluate the use, role, and impact of the Barrow Airport in supporting aviation and the local economy, and to promote efficient, orderly improvements to airport facilities. Details about the airport master plan process and opportunities for public input can be found at: www.dot.alaska.gov/nreg/barrowmp.



Alaska Airlines jet departing from Barrow Airport. Runway and apron paving project completed in 2010.



DOT&PF’s snow removal equipment building also used for storage of deicing chemicals and application equipment.



Snow removal in action at the Barrow Airport!

2013 International Aviation Art Contest

Many Alaskan students submitted artwork to this year's International Aviation Art Contest. The theme was "My Favorite Air Sport" and the contest was open to youth ages 6 through 17. The artwork of the winners of the State awards was submitted to the National Association of State Airports where national winners were selected and their artwork forwarded to the international competition in Switzerland.

All Alaskan participants received a signed certificate from Deputy Commissioner Hatter. More information about the contest available here: [FAI Young Artists Contest](#)



First place winner in the Junior Division



First place winner in the Intermediate Division

Upcoming Events

APRIL - 20 [Seaplane Safety Seminar](#) 8:00a.m., Tom Wardleigh Hangar/OAS

MAY 4-5 [Great Alaska Aviation Gathering](#), FedEx Hangar, Ted Stevens Anchorage Int'l. Airport

JUNE - 1 FAA Pancake Breakfast and Youth Aviation Adventure Event - Palmer Airport, Call 271-5228 or 271-5292 for more information.

JULY - 10-12 [3rd Cargo Airships for Northern Operations Workshop](#)

Over \$15,000 in Scholarships Available to Alaska's Aviation Students!

Alaska Airmen's Association

\$2,500 - John P. Culhane Professional Pilot Memorial Scholarship

\$2,500 - F. Atlee Dodge Maintenance Scholarship

\$2,500 - Bob Reeve Aviation Mgmt. Scholarship

\$500 - Bob Ellis Memorial Scholarship - Southeast

Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation

\$1,500 - Tom Wardleigh Memorial Scholarship

\$1,500 - Ginny Hyatt Memorial Scholarship

\$1,000 - Ellen Paneok memorial Scholarship

Alaska Chapter and the Mat-Su Valley Chapter of the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots

\$1,000 - Student Private Pilot Scholarship awarded by Alaska Chapter

\$1,200 - Student Private Pilot Scholarship awarded by Mat-Su Valley Chapter

\$1,500 - Advanced Rating Scholarship awarded by Alaska Chapter 99s

Aviation Stakeholder Spotlight

University of Alaska Fairbanks Aviation Maintenance Program

By Kevin Alexander, Program Coordinator

Over the past 40 plus years, the University of Alaska Fairbanks College & Technical College (UAF CTC) 12-month aviation maintenance program has prepared, on average, 12-18 mechanics per year for aviation maintenance employment, most of whom stay in Alaska.

The goal of UAF CTC Aviation is to prepare Alaskans for Alaska's jobs and we've been very successful in that. The intense program not only trains mechanics, but with a 40 hour per week schedule with strict attendance rules, it prepares employees for the job market. It has a very high graduation rate and an employment rate of 100%. (Even some students who cannot complete the intense program often begin working as a mechanics helper somewhere in the state).

The program's focus has been primarily on smaller aircraft since that's what has been the backbone of the state's fleet. Since we entered the new millennium, we've seen the airports around the state increase in size and with it, an increase in the size of aircraft serving them. We're seeing older transport category fleets get upgraded to more modern aircraft from DC-6s to DC-9s, B-727s etc.

UAF CTC Aviation faces the challenge of increasing the training it provides on these more modern transport category aircraft. An aircraft of the magnitude that's been donated by FedEx will absolutely allow us to meet that challenge and better prepare Alaskan mechanics for the state's commercial fleet.

Thanks to FedEx students in UAF and the University of Alaska Anchorage Aviation Maintenance Programs now have actual cargo jets for essential hands-on training. Aviation maintenance graduates are in high demand in Alaska and many hope to work on this type of aircraft in their future careers.

Being able to familiarize students with the Boeing systems, not just through computer-based training, but through hands-on operation and maintenance of a fully functioning aircraft, will ensure that our graduates stand poised to meet the needs of not only

the small aircraft market used by hunting guides and smaller villages across Alaska, but also these larger aircraft that serve the world.

UAF CTC will host an open house of its new facility at Fairbanks International Airport on May 1st at 4:30pm. For more information call 907/455-2809. The University of Alaska system consists of three hubs—University of Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and University of Alaska Southeast. System-wide, offering 500 degree, certificate or endorsement programs. For more information on the UAA and UAF aviation programs visit www.uaa.alaska.edu/ctc or www.ctc.uaf.edu



UAF's new cargo jet will be parked at UAF CTC's hangar located on the East Ramp of Fairbanks International Airport.



UAF's mascot Nanook guides the FedEx 727 to the terminal at Fairbanks International Airport.

Photos courtesy of Todd Paris, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Meet the Team



Megan Byrd has worked for the State of Alaska for 12 and a half years. She has held various accounting and administrative positions within DOT&PF working for Statewide Materials, Finance, the Commissioner’s office, and now Statewide Aviation.

Megan is the executive assistant to Deputy Commissioner – Steve Hatter and provides administrative support for Statewide Aviation. She is also the program administrator for the Alaska Air Carrier Certificate of Compliance program. This program ensures that commercial air carriers are in compliance with proof of financial responsibility and meet requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration.

“Megan is professional, highly competent, and efficient in helping me stay on top of a fairly hectic schedule. She is also warm and engaging with our myriad Statewide Aviation clients, department co-workers, and customers. We’re very blessed to have Megan as a key member of the team,” said Deputy Commissioner Steve Hatter.



Over 900 people attend Alaska Aviation Careers & Airport Job Fair!

The annual Airport Job Fair was a huge success with over 300 jobs available and many aviation companies represented. Over 900 people participated in this year’s event held in March at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport. The “career” part of the job fair features speakers providing insight into their personal career paths and even offering helpful tips for job interviews.



L-R) Bob Rieth with Northern Air Cargo (seated) and Rick Koch and Della Triggs-Koch with the FAA speak with students at the Careers & Airport Job Fair.

3rd Cargo Airships for Northern Operations Workshop

Workshop Announcement

Save the Date: July 10-12, 2013

Logos for UAF, INE, AUTC, UAA, ISOPOLAR, AIA, and NASA.

The graphic features a large cargo airship flying over a mountainous landscape. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font. The logos are arranged horizontally at the bottom.

The 3rd workshop will focus on business incentives for cargo airship companies in order to meet the needs of airship service customers in Alaska and other Northern areas. For more information contact Karen Felts at 907/266-2787.



Our mission is to:

“Get Alaska Moving through

service and infrastructure.”

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

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