



PLANE TALK

Publication of Statewide Aviation



Summer 2019

NextGen Aviators

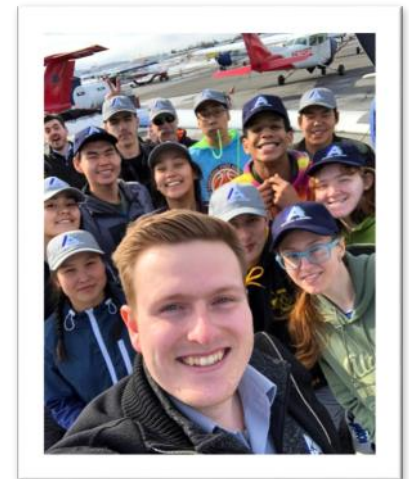
Alaska Airmen Association and Civil Air Patrol Promote Youth Outreach Programs

Youth and young professionals dreaming about becoming a pilot can find inspiration at the Great Alaska Aviation Gathering. At this year's Gathering, a specific area with nine stations offered interactive activities such as airplane design, safety wiring, and a VR Drone Simulator. They had over 500 youth and young professional visitors. The Alaska Airmen Association is steadily increasing their youth outreach programs with their NextGen Aviators group made up of volunteer members and aviation partners. They are launching a Middle School Outreach Program, first in the Anchorage school district and then expanding to other districts out to rural Alaska. The NextGen Aviator group is working on great partnerships to make flight training, ground school, and further specialized education more available to students in Alaska. If you or your child are interested in joining the NextGen Aviators Group contact them at (907) 245-1251 or online at www.alaskaairmen.org/nextgen.



(L) The Gathering has interactive activities to get youth and young professionals excited about aviation.

(R) Airmen Association Outreach Director Oscar Sigl with EXCEL Alaska Ground School Students.

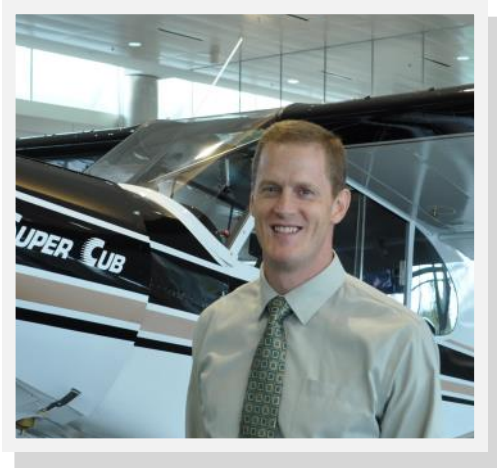


Any student interested in pursuing a career in aviation should check out the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program. This year-round program is open to all students, 12 and up, and is where Cadets fly, learn to lead, hike, camp, get in shape, and push themselves to new limits. CAP cadets and senior members wear the US Air Force uniform since they are an official auxiliary of the Air Force. For more information contact the Alaska Wing of the CAP at www.akwg.cap.gov

The Great Alaska Aviation Gathering draws thousands of aviation enthusiasts. CAP cadet, Sergeant Clover Edwards, and her sister Esther at the DOT&PF booth staffed by Rich Sewell and Kirsten Valentine.



Message from DC Binder:



Now that we're well into summer it's a good time to highlight activities that are contributing greatly to the state's economy. Business is booming at the Anchorage International Airport with \$85 million in construction projects including the north-south runway and air cargo expansion. The airport's runway project is a major investment in critical infrastructure that supports Alaska's air travel and allows us to lead the cargo market as the 5th busiest cargo airport in the world. Passenger activity is also increasing with airlines adding extra summer flights, seasonal carriers returning, and the new arrival of Allegiant Air offering non-stop service from Anchorage to Bellingham.



Rural airport improvement projects are underway across the state from Nome to Dillingham to Gustavus. Additional federal funding has been received to install Automated Weather Observing Systems (AWOS) around the state. Weather reporting and forecasts, and solid air-to-ground communications, are needed to support the expanding aviation industry and its needs for better and safer access to rural Alas-

ka. We thank the Alaska Air Carriers Association, our federal partners, and the congressional delegation for their continued support of Alaska's aviation initiatives.

The recent statewide airport training conference was a huge success with over 150 airport managers, state and federal aviation managers and stakeholder groups coming together for two and one half days. The agenda was packed with presentations covering safety, security, environmental issues, and emergency communications. A huge thank you to all of the presenters, vendors, and Statewide Aviation who made this conference possible. I'd like to specifically thank the air carriers that joined us for a panel discussion and the TSA staff that work closely with our hub airports to protect our nation's transportation systems.

May was a busy month for aviation fly-ins and there are more on the horizon. This weekend is the first [Wings over Wasilla Airshow](#) and the Aviation Festival will follow on July 28th at the Aviation Museum located next to Lake Hood. I hope to see you at some of these events.

Have a great summer and Fly Safe!

John Binder
Deputy Commissioner

A poster for the 2019 Wings Over Wasilla Fly In - Airshow. The poster features a logo with the letters "WOW" in a stylized font, with a small airplane flying through the "O". Below the logo, it says "FLY IN - AIRSHOW" and "WINGS OVER WASILLA". The poster lists planned events for Friday, June 14, 2019, and Saturday, June 15, 2019. It also includes a section for "AFTER OPENING CEREMONIES" and "SUNDAY - JUNE 16, 2019". At the bottom, it says "Check website often for updated event schedule and registration information" and "Please visit: www.cityofwasilla.com/airshow". There are logos for "RIP AIR", "SKY AIRPARTS INTERNATIONAL", and "CLASSIC BOULEVARD" at the bottom.

DOT&PF Promotions

New Airport Managers in Sitka and Nome

Congratulations to Kelly Boddy and Darrin Otton recently promoted to Airport Manager positions in Sitka and Nome. Kelly has over 21 years with the department beginning her career as an apprentice and working her way up through the ranks as an equipment operator. Through the years Kelly has worked for three different foreman at the Sitka Airport/Highway Maintenance station and has gained a lot of knowledge and experience working with them. Darrin Otton started working for DOT & PF at the Nome Airport in 2009 as an equipment operator. He has spent the last 7 years working hard to help better our airport while gaining experience and knowledge in airport operations. Prior to his work with DOT & PF he had 10 years of experience in the Local 302 Operating Engineers Union working as an equipment operator.



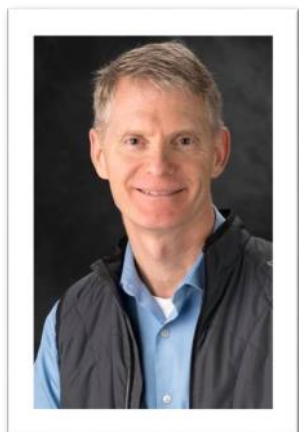
Kelly Boddy, Sitka Airport Manager



Darrin Otton, Nome Airport Manager

New DOT&PF Central Region Director

Congratulations to longtime DOT&PF employee Wolfgang Junge on his appointment to Director of Central Region an area that spans Matanuska-Susitna, Anchorage, Kenai Peninsula, and Southwest Alaska. Wolfgang has over 28 years of professional engineering experience beginning his career at DOT&PF in 1994. He has worked in various capacities most recently as the region's preconstruction engineer. He also has a long and distinguished career in the US Military, retiring in 2019 as a Colonel in the US Army Reserves after 31 years of service. He served in Iraq in 2006 and 2007, his awards include the Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, and Meritorious Service Medal. Wolfgang got his pilot's license in 2005 and purchased his first airplane, an Aeronca Sedan, in 2007. Since then he's owned two Super Cubs and says he's been enjoying flying bush planes in Alaska for over ten years.



*Central Region Director
Wolfgang Junge and his
Super Cub somewhere
cool in Alaska!*



Airport Training Conference

DOT&PF operates 239 airports - the largest aviation system in North America - making it challenging to provide essential training outside of recurring requirements. Aviation is a dynamic industry with new rules, regulations, and requirements coming often from federal agencies such as the FAA and TSA. The department is committed to training rural airport managers as their roles and responsibilities continue to increase. Beginning in 2013, the department held a biennial training conference bringing airport managers together with aviation planners, engineers, M&O specialists, leasing, FAA, TSA, and other aviation stakeholder groups. This year over 150 participants including non-DOT&PF airport managers attended the conference held at the Dena'ina Center with costs covered by vendor sponsorships. The agenda included hands-on airport paint and marking training; airport inspections; the latest anti-icing and de-icing trends; emergency operations and communication guidelines; air carriers' concerns; TSA compliance and security; and unmanned aerial systems.



*Current and former Kotzebue Airport Managers still with the Department!
(L-R) Alvin Werneke, Kotzebue Airport Manager, Calvin Schaeffer, Western District Superintendent,
Kenny Gallahorn, M&O Specialist.*



Harold "Hap" Kremer, Cold Bay Airport Manager, Dale Ruckman, Unalaska Airport Manager, and Kevin Jones, Homer Airport Manager



*Training panels included the department's leasing experts.
(L-R) Jennifer Bailey, Program Manager; and Leasing Chiefs
Lyn Campbell, Vickie Swain, and Penny Adler.*

Airport Training Conference



Tim Lacour, Klawock Airport; Willy Bloom, Wrangell Airport; Matt Boron, Haines Airport; Barry Youngblood, Petersburg Airport

Statewide Aviation Operations Manager Troy LaRue coordinated and led the two and half day conference!



Ty Dushkin, Adak Airport; Sean Montgomery, Peninsula District, Kevin Knotek, Seward Airport; Clint Anelon, Iliamna Airport



*Lots of opportunity for networking!
(L-R) Al Beck, DOT&PF; Matt Stearns, FAA; Meg Jones and Beth Madison with DOWL.*



Tim Bee, Bethel Airport; Norman Heyano, Dillingham Airport; Jeff Doerning, Southwest District; LJ Davis, Bethel Airport; Ricky Ciletti, Aniak Airport; Johnathon Taylor, Dillingham Airport; Steffen Strict, McGrath

*Flybys, Music, and lots of Family Fun
at the Alaska Aviation Festival*



The Alaska Aviation Museum presents their annual Aviation Festival on July 28th. This year they're looking to draw about 1500 people to enjoy live music by Alaska's very popular Carhartt Brothers, lots of food & dessert vendors, beer and wine garden, many booths & family activities, as well as low-level fly-bys with vintage and exotic aircraft, complete with play-by-play commentary.

Look for Northern Air Cargo's low flyover of Lake Hood in one of their 737 cargo jets! They also expect to have a contingent from Frontier Fun Flyers for kids activities, the Medallion Foundation simulator, and Visit Anchorage's Egan the Eagle.

The event will culminate with a drawing for the winner of two hours of dual instruction in the 1944 Stinson V-77 Reliant Gullwing N79458. This airplane is the "new face of the Aviation Museum".

The whole family of Stinsons served Alaska well before and after World War II with the production of 1,327 Reliants. A rugged and reliable work horse, it flew everything from freight, to passengers, to fish and wildlife law enforcement rangers, to military reconnaissance and rescue.

N79458 began life as part of the British Royal Air Force (A-19), originally part of the British Lend-Lease program. After release from military service,

this airplane served 20 owners before its arrival at the Alaska Aviation Museum.



The Stinson Gullwing's Panel

*ANC Police & Fire Chief Jesse Davis
Receives Patriot Award*

Mr. Leverette Hoover, Alaska Chair of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve recognized Chief Jesse Davis with the Patriot Award. Approximately 10 current members of the Guard and Reserve work for the Anchorage Airport Police and Fire. This award reflects the efforts made to support citizen warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed.



(L-R) Leverette Hoover, ANC Officer Schulling, Chief Davis, ANC Officer Contreras, Officer Dorris, Officer Hood and Officer Mullowney.

Airport Security Major Challenge at Small Airports

Tom George, Alaska Regional Manager, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

Keeping airports secure can be a challenge, especially at the smaller airports that lack a dedicated airport police force and in most cases are not staffed on a 24-hour basis, if at all. In these situations, engaging the local users of the airport may be an asset to draw upon. This could include aircraft owners who have planes based there, flight schools and businesses who have staff on the field, organizations such as local pilot groups, EAA Chapters, etc. Pretty much any stakeholder who spends time at the airport. Following the tragic events of 9/11, AOPA partnered with TSA to develop the **Airport Watch Program** as a template to help local airports to look after themselves. The entire concept of this program is for airport management to reach out to local stakeholders and invite them to participate in keeping an eye on the airport. Mostly this means having an idea of what threats to anticipate, and training local users how to spot them—and perhaps most importantly—who to tell when they see something suspicious.

The challenge to starting a program is to contact the stakeholders at a given airport. One approach is to see if there is an organized airport group that could be contacted and invited to participate. Tenants on the airport are prime candidates, but also see if there is a local chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association or Ninety Nines that might be able to recruit members to help. AOPA has an Airport Support Network (ASN) Volunteer program, where they get an AOPA member to be engaged in their airport's activities and help promote the long-term success of the airport. You may do a search on AOPA's website to determine if your airport has an ASN. <https://aopa.org/advocacy/airports-and-airspace/airport-advocacy/asn>

If there is a volunteer, you may send a message directly to the ASN from the website. If your airport has no volunteer, consider helping nominate one.

Holding a training session for whatever interested parties you recruit is an import step to establishing a real program. Hold a training meeting and describe the types of problems or concerns to look for. Knowing how to report a problem or suspicious activity is an essential component of the program. The goal is to have participants at your airport become comfortable reporting to airport staff, local law enforcement, or calling the national hotline (866/GA-SECURE) when they observe certain activities.

After recruiting volunteers and holding a training session, making some Airport Watch signs is a good way to communicate to potential trouble makers that they are being watched. To download a template to generate signs, go to: <https://www.aopa.org/advocacy/airports-and-airspace/security-and-borders/airport-watch-security>

Making use of the eyes and ears that are already on your airport may be one of the best investments in airport security you can make!





Our mission is to:

“Keep Alaska Moving through

service and infrastructure.”

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

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