



# PLANE TALK

Publication of Statewide Aviation



Winter 2016

## *Thanksgiving Comes Early to Cold Bay*

The small community of Cold Bay responded in a big way when an American Airlines flight from Shanghai, China, to Chicago O'Hare made an unexpected landing at the Cold Bay Airport on October 12th. The airport crew, community of Cold Bay, Alaska Airlines, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Coast Guard pulled together to make the travelers as comfortable as possible and get them on their way to their final destination and the plane back in service in less than 48 hours. On Monday, November 14th, officials with American Airlines, including the pilot of the flight that diverted, returned to Cold Bay to show their appreciation by hosting a Thanksgiving dinner for all residents.



*American Airlines thanked the "good people of Cold Bay" with an early thanksgiving dinner and presented a model airplane to airport manager Hap Kremer.*

## Message from DC Binder:



Seasons greetings! Now that the busy Thanksgiving travel days are behind us both the Fairbanks and Anchorage International Airports are preparing for the second wave of holiday travelers. Decorations adorn the terminals and local school kids will be singing Christmas carols to provide some comfort and joy for one and all. It's truly a wonderful time of year!

A big thanks to the Cold Bay Airport crew and entire town for rolling out the red carpet and taking such good care of the American Airlines passengers that made an unexpected stop there last month. The Cold Bay Airport is capable of receiving large aircraft partly because the Alaska International Airport System provides funding to maintain the airport as an emergency divert location for the multitudes of aircraft that fly in and out of Anchorage as they make their way between Asia and North America. For large aircraft operating in Southeast Alaska, the Sitka Airport is also kept up as a divert location. Over the years Cold Bay and Sitka have provided the extra measure of safety needed to allow air carriers to confidently fly both passengers and cargo along the vital trans-Pacific trade route and to keep Alaska flying and thriving.

The Department continues to focus on budget reductions and efficient operations while still providing the level of service that Alaskans have come to expect. With the reductions in overtime funding, DOT&PF is developing a program whereby after-hours service requests will be funded by the customer. In years past overtime has been absorbed as the cost of doing business in rural Alaska, but in today's environment we need to align airport hours and air carrier schedules as much as possible. Significant outreach is taking place with stakeholders and the final proposal will undergo

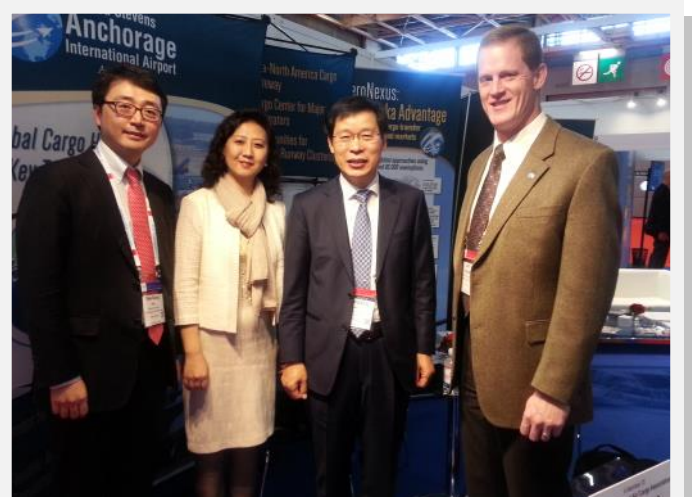
the public notice process in the near future. Thank you to all those involved in the effort thus far.

9.5 hours from 90% of the industrialized world means Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is a busy place this time of year. With nearly 80 wide-body aircraft passing through each day, plane watchers can take in quite a variety of tail numbers and paint schemes during the holiday season. Our airport staff and federal partners do a great job keeping things flowing smoothly at the world's 4th busiest cargo airport. If you will be flying, please take a few moments to review traveling tips posted on the Fairbanks Intl Airport website to help ensure your trip is an enjoyable experience. As always, please don't hesitate to let our staff know if there is anything we can do to improve your travel.

And with the holidays past, the Alaska Air Carriers Conference will be just around the corner. Held in February at the Hotel Captain Cook, we look forward to discussing current issues and this year's accomplishments in our Alaska Aviation System. Swing by the DOT&PF booth and say hi!

Fly safe, and Merry Christmas!

John Binder  
Deputy Commissioner



*Representatives from the Incheon Airport met with DC Binder at the TIACA Air Cargo Forum. The ACF is the premier international air cargo gathering that brings together all elements of the global air freight supply chain. The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is ranked 4th in the world for cargo throughput.*



## *The City of Angoon is One Step Closer to Having an Airport*

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, Commissioner Luiken met with representatives of the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Federal Aviation Administration at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport to tie a ribbon around the Final Environmental Impact Statements (FEIS) for Angoon Airport. With the publication of the FEIS and the subsequent Record of Decision that was signed on October 21st, design will begin on the new airport to serve the City of Angoon which is the largest community in Alaska without a runway.

Efforts to build an airport in Angoon date to the late '70s, but the current project began with a new Reconnaissance Study that was completed in 2003, followed by a Master Plan, and the EIS that began in 2007. The process that culminated in the FEIS required substantial efforts to coordinate and negotiate with federal resource and permitting agencies concerning a process – [ANILCA Title XI](#) – treading a path that none of us had been down before. The Department covered a lot of uncharted territory, sharing a significant learning experience with the federal agencies. The collaboration that resulted in the acceptance of our ANILCA application as a complete document and providing a preliminary analysis will be a useful study for future efforts and is a valuable result of the process. DOT&PF is now able to move forward with building an airport for Angoon, a long desired transportation improvement for the community.

More information available at this link:  
<http://www.angoonairporteis.com/main.html>



## *ENR Northwest 2016 Best Projects Excellence in Safety to Kiewit for Kodiak RSA Project*

Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. received the [2016 Excellence in Safety Award](#) from ENR Northwest. Kiewit managed the \$59-million Kodiak Airport RSA project that extended two runway safety areas 600 ft. into the Gulf of Alaska by constructing an adjacent rock revetment, new service roads and taxiway, and by installing material arresting system. Kiewit worked in collaboration with the DOT&PF's Kodiak Airport, Federal Aviation Administration, and U.S. Coast Guard.

Despite the challenges of working in severe weather conditions and environmental constraints at the remote project site, and more than 100,000 worker hours, there were zero OSHA recordable incidents. "The logistics on this project were by far the biggest challenge—barging materials, remote quarries, limited operational windows and environmental challenges. Add to that the operational airport and you have a tough project," according to one Best Projects judge.

Dustin Lehman, project manager at Kiewit, said the top three high-risk operations were haul-traffic interaction with public and air traffic, drill and shoot operations and confined space operations within box culvert repairs. "There were multiple moving parts associated with the construction of the Kodiak RSA," Lehman says. Engineering News-Record provides the engineering and construction news, analysis, commentary and data that construction industry professionals need to do their jobs more effectively.

**Owner/Developer** Alaska Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities

**General Contractor** Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.

**Design Firm** HDR Alaska Inc.

**Subcontractors** Brechan Enterprises; Belarde Custom Concrete; Little Susitna Construction; Warwick Surveying; Specialized Pavement Marking; RI Trucking; Boyer Logistics; Zodiac Arresting Systems America; Concrete Technology



## AACA Forrest Jones Memorial Scholarship

[Click here](#) to get the application form



AACA established the Forrest Jones Memorial Scholarship in 1999 to honor Forrest Jones, a dedicated aviation maintenance professional and role model who combined innovative thinking and a common-sense approach to everyday problems. Forrest made a significant contribution to aviation in the State of Alaska, actively supporting aircraft operations for over forty years. His maintenance philosophy of "fixing it right, by the book" was combined with a high degree of professionalism and integrity.

The scholarship seeks to perpetuate this attitude and commitment to aviation in Alaska. The scholarship is awarded in early spring at the annual Alaska Air Carriers Association Convention. The amount to be awarded each year will be determined annually by the AACA Scholarship Committee.

There are many scholarships available for aviation education - below are few more to check out:

[Alaska Airmen's Association](#)

[Alaska Air Show Association](#)

## *Airport Improvement Magazine Features Alaska Airports*

The October 2016 issue of *Airport Improvement* magazine has two interesting articles about Alaska airports:



[Crews Use Advanced Systems to Repave Runway at Yakutat Airport](#) - after years of dealing with runway issues related to groundwater the Department developed a plan to address the challenging asphalt conditions.

[Alaska Tries New Method for Repairing Runway Lights](#) - there are 67 airports managed by DOT's Northern Region and maintaining the airfield lights is challenging with the brutal climate and ice buildup in light canisters. Read about new portable equipment that is reducing maintenance time from 2 hours to 15 minutes and reducing costs.

## *Good news for Fairbanks-bound Travelers Global Entry Expands*

The trusted-traveler program that allows participants to avoid the long lines at the customs and immigration booths when re-entering the country is expanding to [nine more airports](#) including Fairbanks International. In addition to a faster international arrival, members also belong to the Transportation Security Administration's Precheck program for expedited screening for domestic flights.

To participate, travelers must fill out an online application with biographical information and their travel history, and pay \$100 for five years. A new Global Entry Enrollment Center has opened at the Fairbanks Airport. Located in the terminal next to the car rental counters, the center is open seven days a week from 8:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call 907/474-0307 for more information.

More info at [www.globalentry.gov](http://www.globalentry.gov)

## Upcoming Events

**JANUARY 25 Aviation Advisory Board** - will meet in Juneau at DOT&PF Headquarters Conference Room #140 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 21-23 Alaska Air Carriers Association Annual Convention** - at the Hotel Captain Cook. Contact AACA for more information - 277-0071

**MARCH 25 Alaska Hall of Fame Gala**, call 248-5325 for tickets and info.



The 18<sup>th</sup> annual Alaska Aviation Hall of Fame celebration will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Egan Center in downtown Anchorage. The Alaska Aviation Hall of Fame celebrates the men & women who shaped Alaska's aviation history, and thus the history of our state. We owe our thanks to these brave pilots and entrepreneurs for laying the foundation for the Alaska that we all know and love.

This year, the Alaska Aviation Museum inducts three special aviators: Holger "Jorgy" Jorgensen, J. Vic "Bud" Brown, Jr., and Sam White. Mr. Jorgensen, along with Bill English, were the first Alaska Native persons to earn their commercial pilot's license in 1948. An extraordinary captain in his own right, Mr. Jorgensen helped break down the racial barriers which plagued Alaska's aviation industry. Mr. J. Vic Brown was a key figure in the growth of the Civil Air Patrol in Alaska, spearheading the CAP rescue and medical missions immediately following the 1964 Good Friday earthquake. Mr. White was Alaska's most famous wildlife agent, and is the world's first flying game warden.

## *New Home For The Alaska Airmen Association!*

Congratulations to the Alaska Airmen Association on their new building at Lake Hood. The building was completely paid for with donations and is ideally suited for hosting meetings up to 100 people, or weddings, birthday parties, and reunions. The Airmen's invites you to stop by for a tour of their new facility and call anytime for rates and availability - 245-1251.



*A Grumman Goose lands in front of the new Alaska Airmen building on Lake Hood.*

*Photos by Rob Stapleton & Alaskafoto*



*Alaska Airmen President Sven Lincke, Governor Walker and AAA Board Members at the Grand Opening ribbon cutting ceremony.*





## *AFD Awards Airport Officers with Public Recognition Life Saver Award*

On February 23, 2016 members of the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport Police and Fire Department helped save the life of a person at the airport who was in cardiac arrest. In route to the call, Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) units were advised that AIAPD had CPR in progress and were applying an Automated External Defibrillator. Three rounds of CPR and two defibrillations were delivered prior to the arrival of AFD. When AFD units arrived at the patient's side, he was awake and talking. The members of the AIAPD's crew, including their dispatch crew, were quick in recognizing the cardiac arrest and the actions taken saved the patient's life and were presented the Public Recognition Life Saver Award by the AFD.



*L-R Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) Chief Dennis LeBlanc, Airport Emergency Service Dispatcher (ESD) Dan Stearns, ESD Heidi O'Connell, Airport Police and Fire Officer (APFO) Eric Horvath, APFO Chief Jesse Davis, APFO Dan Juarez, APFO Arwin Yabut and AFD Dept. Chief Jodie Hettrick. Not pictured: APFO Nicholas Sleeth.*



***The Big Band Bash** was a smash with over 500 people attending the Alaska Aviation Museum fundraiser at the Egan Center on Nov.4. The event included a 1940s costume and dance contest as well as live and silent auctions. It's going to be an annual event so stay tuned for next year's. **Photos by Rob Stapleton/Alaskafoto***

## What is CIMP?

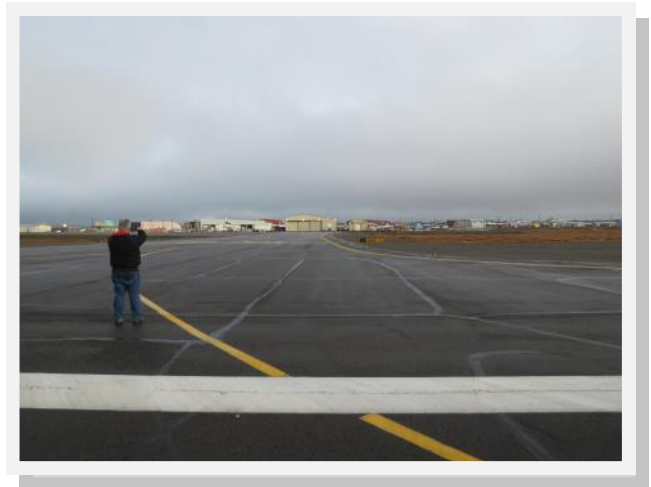
The Capital Improvement & Maintenance Program (CIMP) makes it easier to record and track airport conditions and needs on a regular basis. Now in its fourth year, over 100 inspections have been completed at both DOT&PF and Municipal owned airports. The program helps determine what needs exist on an airport so that future projects can be created through the Airport Performance Evaluation Board (APEB). Using a Microsoft Surface Pro tablet a CIMP inspection reviews: pavement markings, pavement preservation, environmental, gravel surfaces, building, safety non-movement areas, visual aids, equipment and resources, fences and gates, and seaplane and land airports.

## Wrangell Airport Crew Does It Again!

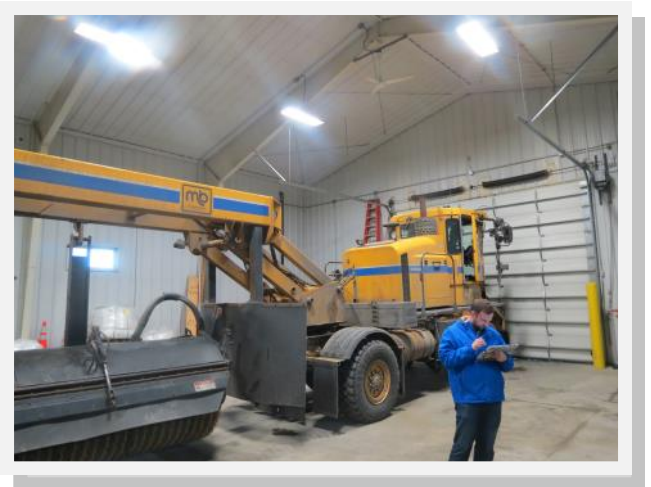


L-R Gary Allen, Jr., Mike Coffey, Dan Gross, William Bloom, and Scott Eastaugh with a plaque from the FAA and TSA awarded to Wrangell Airport for outstanding service. Gary Allen and Scott Eastaugh were also presented with 10 years of service certificates.

Region Director Mike Coffey presented the Wrangell Airport crew with a special plaque for their fantastic success rate of passing annual inspections with the FAA (6 years in a row) and TSA (5 years in a row) without any Letters of Correction or Letters of Investigation. Airport Manager William Bloom, M&O team members Gary Allen, Jr. and Scott Eastaugh, and State Equipment Fleet Mechanic Dan Gross, provided exemplary service which sets a high standard for the rest of our airports. Coffey said, "Well done Wrangell! You should be proud of this great accomplishment - we are certainly proud of all of you." Click [here](#) for more pictures.



Troy LaRue using the tablet for the Barrow Airport inspection.



Duane Hoskins working on the tablet at the Cordova Airport.



*Our mission is to:*

*“Keep Alaska Moving through*

*service and infrastructure.”*

*To learn more visit our website: [dot.alaska.gov](http://dot.alaska.gov)*

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