



# PLANE TALK

Publication of Statewide Aviation



Winter 2018

## *Mentoring and Developing Alaska's Youth to Meet Aviation Demand*

Alaska's aviation industry is huge, contributing \$3.5 billion dollars and over 47,000 jobs to the state's economy. Aviation provides rewarding and fulfilling career opportunities requiring various skills, interests and backgrounds. High schools, flight schools, and vocational schools across the state are preparing students for careers in aviation. Industry support is integral to the success of these programs.

The Alaska Air Carriers Association supports and advocates for the aviation industry. AACA provides scholarships and placement with carriers for mechanic helpers interested in earning an A&P Mechanic license and commercial pilots who desire to earn hours and wage as a second in command pilot with an Alaska air operator. For more information contact AACA at 907/277-0071 or visit [www.alaskaaircarriers.org](http://www.alaskaaircarriers.org)

The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport for many years has been host to the [King Tech](#), (formerly King Career Center) Public Safety and Emergency Medical Technology courses helping students with law enforcement training, interviewing techniques, and providing tours of the police and fire station each year. After many years of supporting the program, a recent graduate of King Tech, Kaelan Paulsen, has joined the ranks of the Anchorage Airport's Police and Fire Department.

[Alaska Career College](#) located in Anchorage, offers an aircraft dispatcher program where you can earn a diploma and FAA certification in six months. Employment opportunities for this career include the FAA, air taxis, regional and major airlines, shipping logistics, and flight operations. ACC advises that job placement with airlines is usually immediate with these credentials.

[Yuut Elitnaurviat](#) a vocational school located in Bethel, is recruiting students for their new FAA Certified Aviation Maintenance Technician Program, one of aviation's most sought after credentials. Classes begin in February 2019.



Officer Kaelan Paulson recently joined the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport Police and Fire Department. Preparation for this position included completing the King Tech EMT program.



Students from Chugach School District met with DOT&PF representatives to learn more about the state's aviation system. Luke Bowland, Sean Montgomery, and Rich Sewell discussed DOT's role with designing, building, maintaining and operating airports. The students are from Big Lake, Wasilla, Fairbanks, Metlakatla, Russian Mission, and Marshall and were accompanied by Jerry Casey with SEND North.

## Message from DC Binder:



The hardworking men and women of Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport jumped into action after a 7.0 earthquake jolted Southcentral last month.

The due diligence of airport operations to inspect and reopen the primary runway allowed the first flight to land within 15 minutes after the earthquake.

The South Terminal was evacuated in a calm and orderly manner, cleared, re-sterilized, and back to processing passengers through the TSA checkpoint in 1 hour and 45 minutes. While passengers waited some airport concessionaires offered free snacks.

Airport facilities and engineering were able to isolate leaks from water and heating systems, clean debris in passenger areas and inspect the terminal structure, allowing for passenger operations to begin 2 hours and 12 minutes after the earthquake.

Airport Manager Jim Szczesniak reported that less than 24 hours after the earthquake, the airport was operating normally and looked as if nothing had ever happened.

The entire airport community accomplished an amazing feat. It's my privilege to work with them and add my heartfelt thanks on behalf of all Alaskans that depend on this vital airport.

In this issue of Plane Talk we're sharing accomplishments by many of our airport/aviation employees. The DOT&PF employee recognition program is a peer-to-peer recognition program that encourages co-workers to spot and recognize one another's exempla-

ry work. When peers take the time to notice and recognize work that's well done in one another, it powerfully affirms that work and can create a culture of engagement and respect.

The department's strategic [plan](#) includes the following core values:

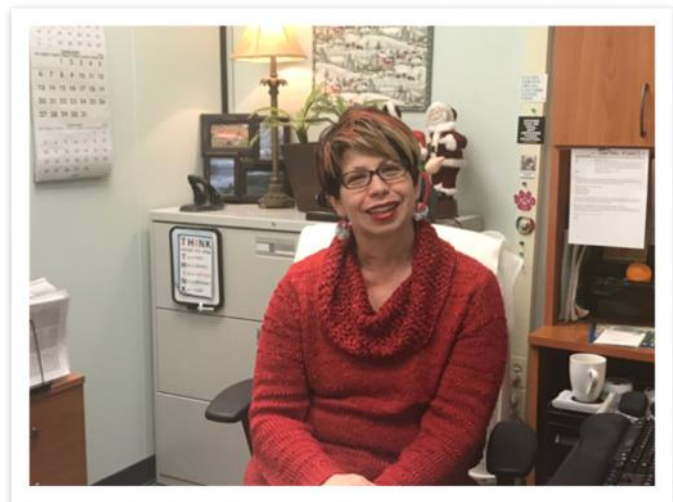
**Integrity:** Doing the right thing even when no one is watching. Doing what you say you are going to do.

**Excellence:** Commitment to continually improve.

**Respect:** Positive regard for customers, stakeholders, investors and colleagues.

We strive every day to serve Alaska by our core values, with the ultimate focus on "getting it right", not necessarily being right. I couldn't be prouder of our aviation team, and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays as we fly into the New Year!

Fly Safe,  
John Binder  
Deputy Commissioner



### ***Statewide Aviation Leadership and Employee of the Year!***

*Congratulations to Vickie Swain, Statewide Aviation's Leasing Chief for Central Region. Vickie has demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities and shows a commitment to motivating and inspiring those she supervises, and serves as a role model of excellence for others to strive toward.*

## *REAL ID and Air Travel*

Beginning October 1, 2020, the Department of Homeland Security requires your driver license or identification card be REAL ID compliant if you wish to use it as identification to board a domestic flight or enter military bases and most federal facilities.

To prepare customers, the Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has created an interactive checklist to provide you with the documents you will need to apply for a Alaska REAL ID driver license or ID card.

The REAL ID Act, which Congress passed in 2005, requires states to establish minimum security standards for state-issued driver's licenses and other forms of identification.

TSA has been posting signs at airports notifying the flying public of REAL ID airport enforcement at security check points. Adult passengers 18 and over must show valid identification at the airport checkpoint in order to travel. Acceptable forms of ID other than REAL ID include the following:

- U.S. passport
- U.S. passport card
- DHS trusted traveler cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST)
- US military ID (active duty or retired military and their dependents, and DoD civilians)

<https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification>

### Important Dates

**JANUARY 2, 2019** - REAL IDs available through Alaska DMV

**OCTOBER 1, 2020** - REAL IDs become required



## *TSA Holiday Travel Tips*

Planning ahead and packing properly can facilitate the screening process and ease your travel experience at the airport. Know what you can pack in your carry-on and checked baggage before arriving at the airport. Even if an item is generally permitted, it may be subject to additional screening or not allowed through the checkpoint if it triggers an alarm during the screening process.

Familiarize yourself with TSA procedures - visit [TSA's travel tips](#) website and use the "[What Can I Bring?](#)" website to confirm what items are allowed in carry-on and checked luggage.

**In your carry-on bag** - Pack liquids, aerosols, gels, creams, and pastes in containers no larger than 3.4 ounces (100 ml) to ensure compliance with the 3-1-1 liquids rule. All liquids must fit in a one-quart clear bag. Passengers who violate this rule will also cause delays at the security checkpoint for themselves and everyone behind them. This rule does not apply to checked baggage.

**At the Security Checkpoint** - Remove all electronics larger than a cell phone and the 3-1-1 compliant liquids bag from carry-on baggage.

**Gifts** - Wrapped gifts are permitted in checked or carry-on baggage. However, if a wrapped gift alarms the security screening equipment, appears to have been tampered with, or poses other security concerns, it may need to be unwrapped for additional screening. Consider using a gift bag instead of traditional wrapping paper to simplify the screening process for gifts.

### *Before you Leave for the Airport*

**Check Flight Statuses** - Before you leave for the airport, check flight statuses or sign up for flight alerts.

**Arrive Early** - It is recommended that passengers arrive at the airport two hours prior to their scheduled departure.

## *FAI Employees Recognized*

DOT&PF's employee recognition program is a peer-to-peer recognition program encouraging coworkers to notice and recognize work that's well done in one another. The FAI team was thanked and presented certificates of appreciation by former Commissioner Luiken.



### *The Leadership Award*

*The Fairbanks Airport needed to take immediate steps to address PFAS contamination and impacts to surrounding water sources. Airport Manager, Angie Spear was able to gather and lead her team and communicate to the affected residents to achieve the best possible outcome. Spear exhibited prodigious leadership skills by being engaged and acting swiftly to create a team of stakeholders assuring the contamination issue was addressed fully.*



### *Team Achievement Award and Employees of the Year*

*FAI Police & Fire Department underwent numerous changes in a short amount of time. (L-R) Chief Aaron Danielson, Tresa Duffield, and Deputy Chief Roger Stevener worked tirelessly as a team to move the department forward in a positive direction.*

### *FAI Officer Mount Presented Youth Support Award*



*FAI Officer Mount received the Youth Support award at the 3rd Annual "No One Left Behind" Awards Banquet. The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District and Fairbanks Rescue Mission present awards to exemplary first responders in law enforcement, firefighting, dispatch, and emergency medical services.*



### *Outstanding Employee*

*Lewis Allen was nominated for his dedication to being an exemplary employee and coworker. Long time coworkers expressed they have never heard him say no to a job or complain of the work load put on the crew. After Lewis became a supervisor he remained by his coworkers sides during every job to help guide, encourage and make them laugh.*

## *Upcoming Events*

**FEBRUARY 6th - Anchorage Transportation Fair**, Alaska Airlines Center, 3:00pm to 7:00pm. Learn about ongoing and upcoming projects in the Anchorage area.

**FEBRUARY 27, 28 - Alaska Air Carriers Association Annual Convention & Tradeshow**, Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport

**APRIL 30th - Alaska Aviation Film Festival**, Bear Tooth Theater

**MAY 4th & 5th - Alaska Airmen's Great Alaska Aviation Gathering**, FedEx Hangar, Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport.

### *United Airlines to Begin Nonstop Service Fairbanks to San Francisco and Denver!*



*United Airlines will begin new nonstop service next summer from Fairbanks to San Francisco and Denver.*

*Denver service will operate Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday departing Denver at 6:56 p.m. arriving in Fairbanks at 10:37 p.m. and will depart FAI at 11:37 p.m. arriving in Denver at 6:52 a.m.*

*Service from San Francisco will operate Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday departing at 7:51 p.m. arriving in Fairbanks at 11:56 p.m. and will depart FAI Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 12:47 a.m. arriving in San Francisco at 6:42 a.m. The route will begin June 6 and operate through Aug.18, 2019.*



*Queen of Dago Lake  
Photo Credit Ted Spencer*

### *Alaska Aviation Film Festival 2019 AMIPA Historic Aviation Films*

The Alaska Moving Image Preservation Association (AMIPA) is asking for support for a Historic Aviation Footage Film Festival to be screened at the Bear Tooth Theater on April 30, 2019 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. See the films of Russ Merrill, Noel Wien, Ben Eielson, Historic image of Will Rogers and Wiley Post in Alaska, the Queen of Dago Lake, and rare footage taken by the CAA in the 1930s, 40s, and 50s.

This film festival is a fundraiser for the Non-Profit AMIPA who is trying to raise \$15,000 dollars. These funds will add to a recent gift of \$10,000 to create an endowment fund intended to sustain AMIPA into the future. These funds and future donations are being managed by the Alaska Community Foundation.

AMIPA is a non-profit entity that collects, houses, preserves and digitizes historic Alaskan moving images. AMIPA has 17,000 different historic film segments in its collection housed in a climate-controlled vault at the University of Alaska Consortium Library on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor across from Providence Hospital.

Rob Stapleton, Chairman of the Board of AMIPA invites any and all aviation or film enthusiasts to view these historic aviation films. Tickets will go on sale soon. For more information contact Rob at 907.230.9425 or [rob@alaskafoto.com](mailto:rob@alaskafoto.com)

### *ANC Recognizes Employees*

“The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport ranks at the top among airports in North America in large part because of our employees, says Airport Manager, Jim Szczniak. “When you look behind the scenes you get to see the heart and soul our employees put into their jobs. They deserve these awards and we’re proud to give them this deserved recognition.”



#### ***Suggestion Award***

*Officer Robert Bentler researched and implemented a new air compressor for ANC Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Station One. His thorough research provided the station with a new easy to use system for filling self contained breathing apparatus for firefighting and training purposes. Officer Bentler was able to think outside the box and realized with a few modifications the new compressor could also be used to re-service the Nitrogen tanks on the airport’s Striker 4500 fire trucks. This suggestion and implementation has saved money, increased productivity and efficiency and has helped to keep the ANC airport open with the required ARFF equipment on hand 24/7.*



#### ***Cheryl McDowell is an Outstanding Employee!***

*Cheryl is the single point that Lake Hood depends on for tiedown permits, waitlists, transient parking, and leasing issues for a combined total of 1000+ individual customers at Lake Hood Seaplane Base, the world’s biggest & busiest seaplane base.*



#### ***The Leadership Award***

*Dennis “Beav” Deering who leads by example, always striving to go far beyond what’s minimally expected. His well-known efforts associated with air-field lighting safety are a great example. His employees’ safety and the safety of all airport employees is always his first consideration when tackling a new challenge.*



#### ***Team Achievement Award***

*Numerous airport employees organized and assisted with the airport’s massive Emergency Exercise. The complex exercise is a multi-agency event that requires extensive pre-planning, and coordination 12 months in advance. The exercise lasts less than two hours, but the work of the entire team begins well in advance and continues well beyond the termination of the exercise.*

*Welcome Aboard  
Commissioner MacKinnon*



John MacKinnon has been appointed the DOT&PF Commissioner. As a fourth generation Alaskan; former DOT&PF Deputy Commissioner of Highways and Public Facilities; and Executive Director of the Associated General Contractors of Alaska, he brings a wide breadth of experience and knowledge to this position. Commissioner MacKinnon's duties started in the midst of the 7.0 earthquake recovery efforts!



*Commissioner MacKinnon and Bob Anderson, DOT&PF Chief of Maintenance at the Emergency Operations Center at JBER.*

DOT&PF oversees 239 airports, 10 ferries serving 35 communities, more than 5,600 miles of highway and 731 public facilities throughout the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to “**Keep Alaska Moving** through service and infrastructure.

*Ralph Gibbs New Airport Director  
Merrill Field*

Donald “Ralph” Gibbs is the new director of the Municipality of Anchorage’s Merrill Field. Ralph has more than 30 years of experience in both military and civilian aviation most recently as the Director of Aviation at UAA.

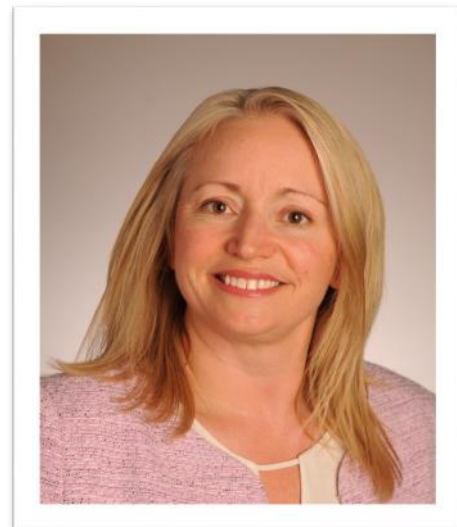
Merrill Field is one of the busiest in the country. Its highest rank was at fifteenth in 1984. Eight years ago, it was ranked number 72 with more than 140,000 flight operations.

Contact info:

Ralph Gibbs  
Airport Manager  
(907) 343-6301



*Melissa Osborn Appointed to  
AAAE Board of Examiners*



*FAI Operations Superintendent, Melissa Osborn, A.A.E. has been named the Northwest AAAE Chapter’s Representative to the American Association of Airport Executives Board of Examiners. The Board ensures integrity, continued development and advancement of organization’s prestigious Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.) program.*



*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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