



PLANE TALK

Publication of Statewide Aviation



Fall 2013

Alaska International Air Cargo Summit

Representatives from 18 air cargo carriers from North America and Asia as well as key cargo industry players gathered in Anchorage for the 3rd Alaska International Air Cargo Summit. Speakers included aviation experts from The Boeing Company, Nippon Cargo Airlines, China Aviation Management Institute, and Airforwardsers Association. Panel discussions covered the state of the air cargo industry to facilitating cargo transfers in Alaska. Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) Deputy Commissioner Hatter emphasized maximizing air cargo opportunities is a top priority for the International Airports. Russell Tom with The Boeing Company reported that economic and trade forecasts point to improvement in the air cargo business especially in the Asia to North America market.

Did You Know:

- ◆ The economic impact of the Alaska International Airport System is huge! ANC supports 15,557 jobs or 1 in 10 jobs in Anchorage, and FAI supports 1,900 jobs or 1 in 20 jobs in Fairbanks
- ◆ ANC is ranked #2 for cargo in North America and #5 in the world for cargo throughput
- ◆ Airline cargo activity accounts for 65 –70% of AIAS annual operating revenue



(L-R) John Parrott, ANC Airport Mgr., Pat Kemp, P.E., Commissioner ADOT&PF, Daniel Patrick O'Tierney, Deputy Commissioner DCCED, Steve Hatter, Deputy Commissioner ADOT&PF, and Jesse Vanderzanden, FAI Airport Mgr. welcomed participants to the 2013 Alaska International Air Cargo Summit.



Russell Tom, Regional Director, The Boeing Company discusses the World Air Cargo Forecast.

Message From Deputy Commissioner



Greetings and Best Wishes to All!

I'm pleased to report that the Alaska International Airport System has once again hosted a very successful [Air Cargo Summit](#). Both the Anchorage and Fairbanks International Airports serve as gateways for trade between North America and Asia and it's our goal to maximize the potential of these airports and grow aviation-related commerce.

Just as the international airports serve as key hubs for cargo and passenger travel, so do our statewide rural airports. In fact, Bethel is our state's 2nd busiest cargo hub supporting 56 villages in the Y-K Delta. It's important for us to keep telling the story of how vital Alaska's airports are and we're accomplishing this goal through publications, videos, and by taking government officials and legislators out to see first-hand the rural aviation system.

I recently accompanied several key state legislators, plus their top staff on a full day trip to visit Bethel and three of our village airports located in Chefnak, Kwigillingok, and Tuntutuliak respectively. We experienced perfect weather conditions and I'm confident our state elected leaders found the tour meaningful and of value as they look ahead to consider myriad transportation topics in the upcoming legislative session.

With Alaska having the largest aviation system in the United States it's no wonder that countries such as Russia and China continue to visit us to learn how we manage and operate such a vast system. It was our pleasure to accommodate a visit this summer from the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC), North China Regional Administration. Their plans are to grow general

aviation and expand operations at their airports. While here they toured many general aviation airports and met with air carriers to better understand winter operations.

ADOT&PF Statewide Aviation (SWA) and the Alaska International Airport System (AIAS) remain on mission and passionate to pursue excellence in serving you.

Fly Safely,

Steve Hatter



Alaska legislators are greeted upon arrival at the Chefnak Airport. (ADOT&PF Photo)



John Binder, Statewide Aviation Division Operations Manager (L) and Steve Hanson, Talkeetna Airport Manager (R) brief members of the CAAC on general aviation airport maintenance and operations.



Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) is excited to announce that Embry Riddle is offering each member of the winning National Team a \$50,000 scholarship to Embry Riddle! Last year Highland Tech High represented Alaska. The state challenge will be announced at the end of September. Teams can register now and begin learning the software.

The RWDC is an annual aviation design competition for teams of high school students. Each teacher that signs up a team will receive professional engineering software and access to mentors from industry, government, and academia.

Teams can register by going to:
www.realworlddesignchallenge.org



The latest news from the Talkeetna Build A Plane project is they are nearly finished with their Cherokee 6 project and have lined up a PA-18 for their next effort. Students from the program had summer jobs at various Alaska aviation businesses and one of them is now attending UAF working on his A&P license.

Larry Rivers is the Project Manager and reports the program is receiving excellent industry support. It now has its own 501(c)(3) and was featured in the June issue of Popular Mechanics.

Build A Plane is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting aviation and aerospace by giving young people an opportunity to build real airplanes. Aircraft construction and restoration is not only exciting

but also provides a real-world application for learning science, technology, engineering and math.

Around the State News:

- The Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD) will have their ACE Academy November 4 through 8, 2013.
- Several of the Bethel CAP Cadets will attend the Civil Air Patrol Wing Conference in Anchorage October 11-13. They will also have a SPRING ACE Academy this year April 28 through May 2. Julie McWilliams of the LKSD is coordinating the aviation program. LKSD is working with Chantelle Rose, Director at the Challenger Learning Center in Kenai to develop a digital online aviation course that can be used in the 22 rural schools in the district.

For more information on the FAA's Aviation and Space Education programs please contact:

Angie Slingsluff
Aviation Space & Education Coordinator
(907) 271-5228
www.faa.gov/education



Talkeetna Build A Plane students and mechanics meet twice a week learning practical work skills while rebuilding a Piper Cherokee. Parts and tools have been donated with many hours of labor to teach and involve kids in aviation.

(Photo courtesy Larry Rivers, Project Manager)

Aviation Stakeholder Spotlight

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Supporting Aviation Communities

With a membership base of nearly 400,000 pilots and aviation enthusiasts in the United States, AOPA is the largest, most influential aviation association in the world. AOPA has achieved its prominent position through effective advocacy, enlightened leadership, technical competence, and hard work. Providing member services that range from representation at the federal, state, and local levels to legal services, advice, and other assistance, AOPA has built a service organization that far exceeds any other in the aviation community.

AOPA established an Alaska region in 2001 and appointed Tom George as the regional manager. Since that time, he has worked with government and industry stakeholders to improve safety and access for general aviation. He works on a diverse range of issues, from preserving our ability to fly over Denali National Park to painting “practice runway” markings on gravel strips.

More than 4,000 of Alaska’s 8,000 pilots are AOPA members. Follow issues that AOPA is working on in Alaska at: www.aopa.org/region/ak

AOPA operates an **Airport Support Network**, and is looking for volunteers to help promote, protect and defend community airports. To see if your airport has a volunteer, or to sign up for the program go to www.aopa.org/asn. Just explaining the value of your airport to other members of the community can make a big difference!



Tom George at the Alaska Airmen’s show in May. Tom solicits pilot feedback on proposed changes to the assignment of CTAF frequencies in the Mat Su Valley.



Volunteers from AOPA, Alaska Airmen’s Association, FAI General Aviation Association, FAA and DOT&PF, repainted the ski strip at Fairbanks International Airport.



Soon after the 9/11 attacks, AOPA partnered with the Transportation Security Administration to deploy a nationwide Airport Watch Program similar to the successful neighborhood watch anti-crime programs. Local pilots and people at the airport are often the eyes and ears to detect suspicious activity. If you don’t have an Airport Watch program at your airport, think about organizing one. For more information check out: <http://www.aopa.org/airportwatch>

General Aviation Appreciation Month

Governor Parnell proclaimed September as General Aviation Appreciation Month, recognizing the vital role aviation plays by providing access to 82% of Alaska's communities and our state's celebration of a century of flight. Read full proclamation [here](#)



Photo Courtesy Ryan Air

Celebrating 100 Years of Flight in Alaska

The [Alaska Air Show Association](#) organized barnstorming and fly-in activities across the state this summer to celebrate a century of aviation history that began in Fairbanks on July 3, 1913. The public had a great time participating in the local events.



Hundreds of people patiently wait for aircraft to arrive at the Bethel Airport.

Photo Courtesy Alaska Air Show Association

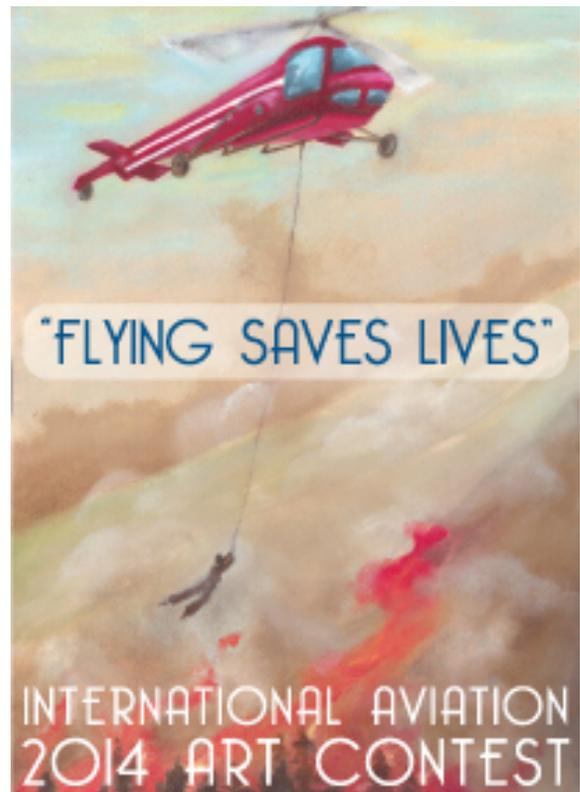
Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 30th

Aviation Advisory Board Meeting, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Anchorage International Airport

FEBRUARY 18th-20th

Alaska Air Carriers Association [Annual Convention](#) -Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage



2014 International Aviation Art Contest

The 2014 International Aviation Art Contest is underway! The theme this year is "Flying Saves Lives" open to youth ages 6 though 17. Entries must meet specific requirements and be mailed and post-marked no later than January 17, 2014, to Statewide Aviation, 4111 Aviation Ave., Anchorage, AK 99502 - Attn: Linda Bustamante.

More information available here:
[NASAO International Art Contest](#)

Emmonak Airport Taxiway Emergency Repairs

By Jeff Roach, Transportation Planner, DOT&PF

A team effort between the ADOT&PF and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) brought a prompt response to major damage at the Emmonak Airport. Yukon River spring flooding severed the taxiway between the runway and the apron. Airplanes weren't able to leave the runway. The taxiway was washed out during the June 5-7 flood event when an ice jam blocked the flow of the Yukon River, backing up water into the community.

An approximately 50-foot wide section of the taxiway was washed out and the electrical and communication lines to the FAA navigational equipment, runway lighting, and approach lights were damaged. Other facilities in and around the community of Emmonak were also damaged by the flooding.

The lack of available construction materials threatened to significantly delay emergency repair efforts. Culverts were flown in, but gravel embankment fill and surfacing material were in short supply in the community. Barging in material would take too long. However, there was a source of fill and gravel in the airport's aircraft parking apron that could be used to make the repairs to the taxiway and still allow a large portion of the apron to remain usable.

Because the airport's apron was constructed with federal aviation improvement program funding, the FAA would have to grant approval to deconstruct a portion of the apron. FAA Alaska Region Manager Byron Huffman granted approval for the use of the apron material and ADOT&PF maintenance and operations crews, FAA electricians and the local electric utility worked together to complete the emergency repairs.

With the emergency repairs completed, the airport is now back to being fully operational. These emergency repairs were critical to the community of Emmonak. Commercial fishing season was only a few weeks away and interruption to fish hauls by air carriers would have been devastating to the community and the region's economy.

Additionally, the movement of materials and equipment to Emmonak via air to complete other flood repairs and the normal building needs of the community was extremely limited by the damage to the airport. The level of cooperation that ADOT&PF and the FAA exhibited allowed the airport's emergency repairs to be completed in time for commercial fishing and the summer building season.



Taxiway Repairs underway at the Emmonak Airport



50-foot wide section of Emmonak Airport taxiway was washed out and electrical and communication lines damaged during spring flooding. (Photos courtesy of E. Weingarth)

Meet the Team



Jessica J. Della Croce has worked as an aviation planner for Statewide Aviation since 2010. Her primary responsibility has been to the continuing Alaska Aviation System Plan (AASP), which supports Alaska’s public aviation system by continuously evaluating and planning for statewide aviation infrastructure and policy needs. Additionally, Jessica manages the Airport Safety Data (aka Form 5010-1) Inspection Program, which enables each registered public-use aviation facility to be visited and inspected every three years.

Jessica received her bachelor’s degree in geophysical engineering, with a minor in public affairs for engineers, from the Colorado School of Mines and worked in the fields of geotechnical and civil engineering before following her true calling to the field of aviation. During her studies with the University of Alaska Anchorage, Aviation Technology Division, she worked in flight operations for UPS and began her aviation planning career with DOWL HKM in 2008. Della Croce is an aviation romantic and is delighted her job involves working with an excellent team of people to support and enhance the safety and efficiency of Alaska’s aviation system.

Jessica and her husband, John, live in Birchwood, Alaska. They are both members of the Chugiak Volunteer Fire Department and enjoy hiking, hunting, traveling, and adventuring in the magnificent state of Alaska.

Deputy Commissioner Hatter says, “Jessica is a truly outstanding performer! She tirelessly leads disparate groups of stakeholders through myriad Alaska

Aviation System Planning tasks while always achieving superb results. She is uniquely able to translate complex, multi-layered issues into easily consumable problem statements and proposed courses of action. Jessica is simply invaluable to the Deputy Commissioner's office and Statewide Aviation's success. We are very fortunate to have her!”

Boeing 787 at Cold Bay Airport



The Boeing Company used the Cold Bay Airfield to perform a tail wind operational study last month. The information will be used when building performance standards for the aircraft. (Photo CDB Airport Staff)

New Runway Opens in Manley Hot Springs



ADOT&PF opened a new longer runway in Manley that will make passenger, mail, and freight service possible with twin-engine aircraft. The old, shorter runway is now closed to takeoffs and landings and has been converted into a taxiway leading to an aircraft parking area. (Photo credit ASRC Project Manager Paul Kari)



Our mission is to:

“Keep Alaska Moving through

service and infrastructure.”

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

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Return Service Requested

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