



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**



# Alaskan Intercom

FAA—Alaskan Region  
Anchorage, Alaska

July 1993  
93-7

*JB 7/24*

## Detailers Are Special Achievers

Congratulations to **Jan Girard** and **Linda Durand** who recently received special achievement awards associated with detail assignments involving space management and other real estate functions.



*Linda Durand (left) receives award from Jim Oliver.*

**Linda Durand** was detailed to the Real Estate & Utilities Branch, Management & Disposal Section to Jan Girard's position for 3 months. Duties included arranging for space for meetings, classes, conferences, and team building sessions; maintaining the Real Property Record System and building number assignments; and providing assistance to senior realty specialists.

Various FAA Divisions requested acquisition of conference space. Linda handled them very professionally and maintained a good rapport with the hotels.

Real Property Records involved filling out forms for changes, additions and deletions to the system and coordinating with accounting. Linda was able to do this with minimal guidance.

The people in Real Estate and Utilities Branch were very pleased and felt fortunate to have Linda as a part of the team.

*Jan Girard (left) receives award from Vicki Suboski.*



During a detail to the Space Management Specialist position, **Jan Girard** demonstrated an exceptional ability to pick up tasks in mid-stream and follow through with all necessary action. The duties include planning and directing the Regional Administrative Space Management Program consisting of acquisition, disposal, alterations, utilization, management, layout, decor, budget management, and financial review.

Jan met with division managers to discuss preliminary layouts, resolving some of their concerns by providing practical alternatives. She was able to convey RMT decisions, space assignment policies, and safety considerations in an effective, professional manner normally reflected only in a person with years of space management experience. She coordinated the vending machine request with GSA officials, the Human Relations Committee (HRC), and the vending contractor and suggested locations for placement.

Furniture requests are handled on a case-by-case basis, requiring ability to use sound judgment and make impartial decisions based on priority needs. Jan was able to work effectively with space coordinators, office services personnel, and contracting officers, and the Complex contractor to process requests for furniture in a minimal amount of time.

A major office relocation was in progress, requiring difficult negotiation and coordination with various divisions, GSA officials, and a private contractor. This project was ongoing for many months, with numerous phases occurring concurrently. Jan made significant progress with this task, paving the way for an efficient, timely move with minimal interruption to the Region's mission.



# Olsen's Hard Work Pays Off



*D*ave Olsen, electronics technician at Sitka (right) was presented an On-the Spot Superior Accomplishment Award by Sitka supervisory electronics technician **R. Spike Arnold** (left). Dave received the award for his work developing improvements for the Biorka radar remote maintenance system.



“

Toleration and diversity are not about special privileges for any group. They are about an end to discrimination and an end to harassment.

”

— **Federico Peña**, DOT Secretary,  
at the kickoff celebration in the  
DOT courtyard for Gay Pride Week

## Intercom

Office of Public Affairs  
222 West 7th Avenue, #14  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513  
(907) 271-5296

EDITOR  
Ivy P. Moore

Regional Administrator  
Jacqueline L. Smith

Public Affairs Officer  
Joette Storm

Intercom is published for the employees of the Alaskan Region by the Public Affairs Office. Articles and photographs are welcomed.

The submission deadline is the first Friday of each month.

If you have questions, suggestions, or complaints, please call the Editor at 271-5169.



# PASS Representative Training



photo by Kris Conquergood

Thirty-two PASS representatives from the Airway Facilities Division recently received training in the roles and responsibilities of a representative. AF and PASS jointly sponsored three 2-day training sessions. **Joy Krison**, Labor Relations Program manager, and **John Carli**, PASS Region III Assistant, designed and taught the classes. Two sessions were held in Anchorage and one in Fairbanks. Attendees expressed appreciation for the training and complimented Joy and John on their instruction. **Rich Little**, PASS Region III Vice President, and **Robie Strickland**, AF Division manager, announced the training with a joint memo stressing the importance of the training and highlighting their commitment to encourage and strengthen the partnership between PASS and this Region.



“

*Learning a new way of doing things is always hard in the beginning.*

”



PROFESSIONAL AIRWAYS  
SYSTEMS SPECIALISTS

# Flight Standards Hi-Flyer To Public Affairs



photo by Ken Smith

*Tom Stuckey presents the plaque to Joette Storm, Public Affairs Officer, (right) and Ivy Moore. Mary Lou Wojtalik was not available for the photograph.*

The Alaskan Region Public Affairs Office, AAL-5, is the latest recipient of a Flight Standards Hi-Flyer plaque.

As he presented the award, **Tom Stuckey**, Flight Standards Manager, praised the professionalism and service provided by the three Public Affairs employees, **Ivy Moore**, **Mary Lou Wojtalik**, and manager, **Joette Storm**.

Said Stuckey, "Our Public Affairs Office handles a wide array of challenges with professionalism and aplomb. They must quickly grasp the significance of agency, regional, and divisional policy and actions and communicate effectively to an audience whose knowledge may be quite limited. Added is their responsibility for the regional history, aviation education, and both external and internal communications. The three-member staff does an excellent job and continually strives to contribute to the region. Flight Standards appreciates all they do."

Stuckey elaborated by explaining there are actually two Hi-Flyer awards: the external award made to those in the aviation community who provide excellence in aviation safety, and the internal Hi-Flyer presented to those FAA offices and individuals who go the extra mile in supporting the Flight Standards effort. Since the first internal presentation was made to AAL-14 in June 1991, 10 others in the Alaskan Region have received the honor.



# Concetta Cron New Federal Women's Program Manager

Concetta Cron, recently selected as Federal Women's Program Manager for the Alaskan Region, began her career with the FAA in 1975. Her present position is Support Services Section Supervisor, Logistics Division.

Concetta had experience as secretary at an Airway Facilities sector office, Air Route Traffic Control Center, and as division secretary for three divisions: Air Traffic, Logistics, and Management Systems. "The knowledge and insight I gained from working in these positions has been an invaluable help to me in comprehending the whole of FAA from a field and regional perspective," she says.

In 1981, Concetta chose a downgrade and entered the discipline of real estate for the FAA, where she began learning the fine art of negotiating for the Federal Government. Later, she became the Housing Officer for the Alaskan Region. In this position she dealt not only with FAA employees, but also with their families.

In 1985, she accepted a position in the Acquisition and Utilities Section, negotiating numerous contracts with lessors for land, space, and utilities. She worked closely with engineers, read construction drawings, utility drawings, space layouts, etc. This endeavor in FAA real estate was so interesting that she remained in that field for 11 years.

To achieve career diversity, Concetta applied for and was selected as the supervisor of the Support Services Section. "In this position, I wear about seven different hats and am constantly interacting with FAA employees at all levels of the organization," she says. "The challenges are many; however, the rewards of knowing I helped our FAA folks are incalculable."

Throughout her FAA career, Concetta has continuously gone to night school, not only to enhance her opportunity for career growth, but also to grow intellectually on the personal level. She graduated from Alaska Business College in May 1975, earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in business administration in May 1985, and in July 1992, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in organizational administration with a minor in human resource management.

In May 1991, she attended the Secretary of Transportation's Seminar for Prospective Women Managers. "I learned more than I ever imagined and increased my knowledge base significantly, not only from the seminar content, but also from the broad exposure to the DOT women and their career, skill, and cultural diversity," Concetta reports.

Concetta graduated from the Women's Executive Leadership (WEL) Program in May 1993. "I believe the total WEL experience and interaction with so many on such an immense spectrum will assist me immeasurably in becoming a competent, caring, and well-respected manager for the FAA."

Her future career plans are to become a branch manager and then a division manager for the FAA. Her academic strategy is to enter into a masters degree program in public administration.

Concetta's hobbies are country/western/ballroom dancing and clogging. She currently belongs to a clogging club called the Chugach Mountain Range Cloggers, who perform for many social functions and institutions in Alaska.



photo by Ivy Moore



# Nome Flight Service Station Receives National Honor



*E*mloyees of Nome Flight Service Station recently received national recognition from the Office of Air Traffic Systems Effectiveness. During a recent full-facility evaluation, the facility earned an outstanding conformity index of 98 with at least one commendable item in each section of the evaluation. Nome Air Traffic Manager **Jeff Wheeler** (right) is shown receiving the national award from Alaskan Region Air Traffic Division Manager **Henry A. Elias**. Also pictured are ATCS's **Lucy Lorenzen** and **Eugene Pachelli**.

---

# Sushi Demonstration Went Swimmingly



photo by Mary Lou D. Wojtalik

*K*en Kusano of Yamato 'Ya restaurant demonstrates the art of sushi making at Asian Pacific Islanders event in the Anchorage Federal Building in May.

---





# Bethel Airway Facilities Hosts Village Students

**J**ed Williams (left) accepted a certificate of appreciation from **Frank Hensch** of the Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD) for the Bethel Sector Field Office. The SFO hosted several students from various villages to assist personnel with field duties. Many of the students in the area are aware of the FAA but actually have no idea what "those funny round buildings with the teepee on top" have inside them. It is the goal of Bethel SFO to increase awareness of the agency in the area by exposing the students to our day-to-day work. The students worked in three separate areas.



- Administrative staff assistance
- Electronics maintenance
- Plant maintenance

The students who participated in the program during the 92/93 school year were: **Summer Frost** from Atmaultluak, **Joe Chikoyak** from Bethel, **Chris Docke** from Kipnuk, **Roy Charles** from Bethel, and **Jimmy Kokrine** from Mountain Village.

During the course of a conversation about what a VOR does, one student mentioned that he used to stand on the roof to get a better view of birds when hunting. A technician explained that the equipment monitors would shut down the VOR when anyone was on the roof. The student

promised to relay the information to his friends at home. Our "mystery outages" at this site will probably be reduced somewhat. The student asked if it would be okay if he still hung his swimming trunks on a monitor antenna to dry after swimming in a nearby lake. Regrettably, the answer was, "No."

The SFO plans on continued involvement with LKSD throughout the coming years. We hope to eventually see students from this program become FAA employees.



## Aviation Facts

- *Phoebe Fairgrave Omlie was the first woman to obtain a Federal pilot's license: Transport License No. 199, issued on June 30, 1927.*
- *Federal operation of airway traffic control began on July 6, 1936.*

# The Juneau AFSS Second Annual Invitational Open

## *Best Ball Scramble Golf Tournament, Barbecue, And Wetting-Down Get-Together*

submitted by Herb Hinman

*F*or weeks, the Juneau metropolitan community had been throbbing with anticipation. On the mind of everyone was — golf. The social and athletic event of the season was imminent.



*Getting psyched up for the first tee.*

Many long hours had been put in by the tournament director **Linda (Lag Putt) Lang** and her helpers on the rules committee, **Rosey (Cheat Sheet Rodriguez) Vasquez**, and **Bob (Water Ball) Wastell**. The course marshals had been selected, press cards issued, and crowd control volunteers in place.

The festivities were kicked off on Friday evening with a spaghetti feed, along with suitable libations, at the Wendell Wassmann home. After getting properly motivated, a long series of pre-tournament interviews with the competitors was televised. These interviews, conducted by **Linda Lang**, featured a plethora of lame excuses, sour grapes, and rash promises from last year's winners, along with a few of us more rational

players providing intelligent, logical, insightful answers to the interviewer's questions.

The big day dawned bright and sunny, an unexpected condition that altered everyone's game plans. A hush fell over the gallery as the first team approached the tee. Because this team was the crowd's favorite, autograph hunters had to be gently pushed aside to allow play to begin. Play was momentarily delayed as Team Captain Al Hester explained to one of the less experienced players that a "10:15 tee time" was not the type of social occasion he had envisaged. After the silver service for four, the hot water, and the crumpets were removed, play began. From this experience it was determined that this person had all the qualifications to be the team score keeper.

Following this momentary misunderstanding, play began by the four 4-person teams amidst vituperative invective, caustic comments, mild threats, and intense ridicule. Play was greatly affected by the outstanding course condition. Not only had the sun partially dried out the goose droppings which blanketed the course, but the tournament was played on the outgoing tide. Although having an adverse



*"America's Team."*







*The winning team accepts the 1st place trophy.*

effect on the bottom fish catch rate on the third fairway, it did allow a full nine holes to be played.

Because of the arid conditions, play was faster than normal. Scores still were somewhat high as even the seasoned tour players were encountering difficulty reading the grain of the mud greens. (Grass is not indigenous to the Mendenhall Golf Course.) Still, the large crowd of spectators, both of them, were in awe of the skill level of most of the competitors. Although some players were confused over the tournament rules, they still showed well. One in particular was under the mistaken impression that this was a "skins"! game, rather than match play, and acted accordingly. Nonetheless, this player was awarded a trophy for the best shot of the day.

Interest was centered on the second team to tee off because of the dubious reputation of most of their players. Although this team went on to win first place, it was generally conceded among the other teams that this resulted from creative score keeping by **John "New Rules" Newell**. The actions and philosophy of **Brad "Boom-Boom" Nelson** typify their strategy. "It's not how often you hit the ball that counts but whether it felt like a two or a three; that's what you put on the score card." **Steve "Shank Shot" Geoghegan** will go down in tournament history for hitting a little 15-yard chip shot which sailed over the green, across the next fairway, caromed off a foot bridge, and finally came to rest on the tee for the adjacent fairway. The team then discussed at great length whether that felt like a par or a birdie.

Following the tourney, a relatively short debriefing was held at one of the local meeting places. After attitudes became properly adjusted, all of the competitors adjourned to the Wehe home where **Gene** and **Carol** graciously hosted the awards banquet and closing ceremonies.

Again **Linda** made the televised interviews and presentation of awards. **John Newell** somewhat arrogantly accepted the First Place Trophy for his team amid a chorus of catcalls and other obscene noises and gestures, while the previous year's winners pouted in a corner. Awards were presented for longest drive and closest to the hole on Number 7, both won by **Rosey** as the other players sought to appease him, and such feats as most "best balls," largest divot (in bad taste and totally uncalled-for), and the "Albert Hester Memorial Trophy," awarded to



*One calm winner with two unhappy losers.*

the player who felt the worst but still played in the tournament. This coveted trophy was won this year by **Jeannie Wassmann**.

Plans are already in the works for next year's tournament. A great deal of planning and logistical support is necessary for an undertaking of this size, as it is rapidly becoming known throughout the world as the "in" social event of the season. Many important decisions have to be made such as which lucky Cable Channel will get to carry the action next year, and whether it will be pay-per-view. As one of the more well-known players so aptly put it — "Bubba, it don't get no better than this, even down on the Brazos."

# On-the-Spot Awards at ZAN Airway Facility Sector



Jim Johnson



Richard Zaleppa (2 awards!)



Ken Burgener



Ed Pool



Tammie Wagner



Tom French

## Alexander Recognized by Business Women

*Terry Alexander* has been named 1993 American Business Woman of the Year by the Arctic Nugget Chapter of the American Business Women's Association. Terry has worked for the Federal Aviation Administration for 26 years and is the special projects officer for Air Traffic Division in Anchorage.



# 30 Years Each

Congratulations to **Jim Oliver**, a supervisor in the Real Estate and Utilities Branch, Logistics Division, upon reaching the 30-year milestone of Federal service. Jim and his wife were recognized by Regional Administrator **Jacque Smith** (left) at the weekly RMT staff meeting.



photo by Bob Lewis

**Manny Hernandez** (center), supervisor at Nome Sector Field Office, received his 30-year plaque from **Dave Morse** (left), deputy regional administrator, and **Robie Strickland** (right), manager of Airway Facilities Division.

## "Let's draw the line."



photo by Ivy Moore

*A*viation Medical Division's display for FAA Alcohol Awareness Day urged all employees to draw the line on alcohol abuse.

# Awards



**Mike Shearer** (right) received a Letter of Commendation with a plaque for his EEO efforts while employed by Department of Defense, Ft. Richardson. **Ernie Fleece**, manager of Labor Relations Branch, presented his award.



**Carol Hugh** (left), supervisory personnel management specialist, and **Ellen Cook**, classification specialist, received a Washington group award for superior accomplishment.

**Sherrie Patterson** (right), electronics technician at the Kenai NAVCOM Unit, received an On-the-Spot award for her excellent coordination work during the cutover on the large facility demarc at Kenai. **Bob Fairchild** presented her with the award.



**Jackie L. Tomlinson** (right) was presented an On-the-Spot award by Air Traffic Division Manager **Henry Elias**. Jackie was assigned to the in-flight position at Anchorage FSS when he observed that a pilot preparing to depart neglected to remove the plywood gust lock from the rudder of the aircraft. He informed another specialist who was able to catch the pilot as he taxied for departure.



**Joe Buckingham** (left) and **Paul Grubb** (right) received Superior Accomplishment Awards from their previous supervisor, **Stan Gerlitz**, for their many contributions toward making the Iliamna facility and living area a better place to be. The awards were presented by traveling supervisor, **Dennis Sheehan**, during his initial visit to Iliamna FSS on April 26, 1993.



**Ed Billiet**, Kenai SFO manager, presented a group award from AAL-450 to the team of radar electronics technicians for assistance in the installation and checking out of the CD-Z for St. Paul Island. Pictured left to right: **Billiet**, **Gerry Beltz**, **Al Van Horne**, **L. A. Braun**, **Steve Lefler**.

