



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

intercom:

Office of Public Affairs
Alaskan Region
701 C Street, Box 14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513
(907) 271-5296

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Carol Strickland sells tickets to the annual FAA picnic to employees and their families.



Larry Giles (second from left) watches as Master Chef, **Al Bruck** (in chef's hat), prepares food for the annual FAA picnic with his spouse, **Lois Bruck** (on left). **Mike Tarr** (far right) appears to be doing some quality

I am happy to announce the arrival of Mary Lou D. Wojtalik as our new, permanent, INTERCOM Editor. As you are all aware, we have been without a permanent Editor for the past eleven months, and due to that situation, we have had to sacrifice the consistency and frequency with which we provided an INTERCOM to you.

We are busy making plans for continuing improvements with the newsletter, in our effort to provide the best possible information to all FAA employees throughout Alaska.

I would like to request that each of you become alert to any news that would be of interest to other employees, and that you submit those items to Mary Lou. She will welcome any and all news and photos that you would like to share with your co-workers.

Paul Steucke, AAL-5

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EDITOR

Mary Lou D. Wojtalik

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Franklin L. Cunningham

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Paul Steucke

PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST

Ivy Moore

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

If you have questions, suggestions, or complaints, please call the Editor at 271-5293.

INTEREST PAYMENTS ON BACK COLA AWARDS!

Between 1980 and 1983, the United States reduced the COLA for federal employees in the Anchorage area. A lawsuit was filed on behalf of federal employees to obtain judicial rulings that OPM's procedures and methodologies were improper, and to recover monetary damages for the class members. The damages sought included the difference between the 25% COLA rate set by statute and the reduced rates imposed by OPM, interest payments on those impacted COLA rates, and attorney fees and expenses.

In September, 1984, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit held that OPM was wrong and returned the case back to the District Court for purposes of 1) awarding back pay to all class members, 2) conducting proceedings regarding declaratory and injunctive relief, and 3) the setting of attorney fees. All back pay and attorney fees have been paid.

In December 1987, Congress amended the Back Pay Act and, for the first time, allowed interest to be paid on monies owed to federal employees.

Federal employees who received the retroactive COLA payment will now receive an additional "interest payment". We are talking about an 8 to 9 year period; a time in which interest rates fluctuated between 6% and 20%. It's possible that the interest rate may average about 12% over this time period. Back Pay Act language was structured so as to delay payment of this interest until FY-89. Employees will receive their checks sometime after October 1, 1988. While it is impossible to determine exactly how much money each class member will receive, it should be pointed out that unlike the retroactive COLA back payment award, which was tax free, the interest repayment will be totally taxable.

GET YOUR PIN MONEY OUT!

The Civilair Club will again be accepting orders for pocket and pin-on name badges (blue with the FAA logo). The order will be sent on August 8 with delivery during the last week of August. Please forward your order with payment (\$5.00) to Vickie Sherburne, AAL-450a, ext. 5351.

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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Anchorage Federal Executive Association's Civil Rights Committee and its Federal Women's Program Committee are again seeking out four qualified recipients for their \$500 educational scholarships. These scholarships are awarded for part-time or full-time programs of study and may cover tuition, fees, and other school related expenses such as child care and transportation.

Applicants must be a permanent (full-time or part-time) federal employee throughout the entire school year; must be a GS-1 through GS-7 or equivalent pay; and must plan to enroll in at least one three-credit class.

Application forms are available from Chris Williams at 271-5289, and must be postmarked no later than August 5, 1988.

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NOTICE TO ALL EMPLOYEES LOCATED IN THE REGIONAL OFFICE!

Not too long ago there was a theft of several personal items from the AAL-7 area over the weekend. This is just a friendly reminder to all employees that while this might be an isolated case, it would be advisable to keep any valuables locked up during non-duty hours.

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IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE! YES, IT'S A THUNDERBIRD!

Take a break from the usual fishing and camping activities of the summer and enjoy the spectacular aerial demonstration of the Air Force Thunderbirds in their F-16 Falcon aircraft. These daring young men in their flying machines will be performing at the Eielson Air Force Base Open House on August 6 and at the Elmendorf AFB annual Open House activities on August 7. The Thunderbirds are always a big hit with children and adults alike as they fly across the face of the earth. Of course there also will be the impressive static displays of the fighter, bomber, refueling, and rescue type aircraft on hand with their flight crews ready to answer any questions.

Civilian pilots will have the privilege of landing their private aircraft on the air base flightline prior to the beginning of the Open House festivities. They will have access to land from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The Thunderbirds will be conducting a special arrival show from 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Private pilots should contact the Elmendorf Tower at frequency 126.2 to receive permission to enter the segment. Air Force safety personnel will greet each pilot upon their arrival. The air show ends at 1530 hours, and all private aircraft must be off the airfield by 1700 hours.

Two points to remember are:

- 1) There will be no refueling capabilities available for private aircraft.
- 2) If a weapon is maintained on the private aircraft, under no circumstances may it be removed from the plane while at the air base.

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GOOD HEALTH FOR WOMEN

by Mary Grindrod, R.N.

AAL-300

Good health for women means eating right, having your blood pressure checked regularly, getting enough sleep, exercising regularly, practicing good personal hygiene, and relaxing. The following information contains a few special health concerns for women.

Osteoporosis is a condition in which the bones lose calcium and become weak. It is more common among women after menopause. You should exercise and get the recommended dietary allowance of calcium and vitamin D per day. High levels of calcium should be started at an early age. Replacement of estrogen/progesterone hormones might be prescribed for some women. Consult your doctor for his/her recommendation.

Researchers at the Center for Disease Control have indicated that at age 40 there is a natural upswing in breast cancer cases. More than 57 million American women are now 35 or over. A monthly self breast exam should be conducted since early detection is so important. The American Cancer Society recommends women 35-39 get a baseline mammogram for doctors to use as a basic point of reference. As women reach ages 40-49, they should have mammograms every one or two years, then annually after age 50. If you detect lumps, see a doctor without delay. Don't panic! Sometimes the lumps are simply fibrocystic changes that come and go with hormonal changes.

Some women may experience pelvic relaxation and mild stress incontinence. Coughing, sneezing, or laughing may increase pressure on the bladder, causing the bladder neck to open and a leakage of urine to occur. Kegel exercises can help to improve the tone of the muscles supporting the bladder and prevent incontinence. If you suffer from urinary tract infections, remember to drink a lot of water and to not allow the urine to pool in the bladder for long periods of time.

We should be aware of common infections caused by microorganisms that infect the vagina. Symptoms may include vaginal itching, burning, unusual discharge, and frequent urination. Be aware of symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases such as herpes, which is a virus that causes blisters that break open and cause sores in the genital region; or gonorrhea that may produce a milky discharge from the vagina and urethra, frequent urination and pelvic pain; or syphilis that causes cancerous sores in the genital area. Any of these vaginal infections should be treated right away by your physician.

Remember to take good care of yourself, so you can feel good and look good.

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MEDICAL NOTES

by Pat Sanders, RN

AAL-300

Good health for men means taking care of your body and mind by recognizing warning signs of illness, practicing healthy habits, and understanding your body. Men have unique health concerns such as prevention of cardiovascular disease, certain cancers, and sexually transmitted diseases. They also are at risk for sport related injuries and accidents as well as stress related problems.

Take charge of your life by eating right. Eat healthy, well-balanced meals, limit your intake of sodium, eat more fresh fruits and avoid overeating.

Take charge of your life by reducing stress. Learn to relax. Communicate your feelings. Manage your time wisely. Do something enjoyable.

Take charge of your life by exercising regularly. Choose an activity you enjoy, and set reasonable goals. Prevent sports injuries by warming up, cooling down, gradually increasing the time and intensity of activity, and wearing proper clothing.

Take charge of your life by learning about the male reproductive system and recognizing the signs of testicular cancer. Help prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. Practice responsible sex.

Take charge of your life by avoiding harmful habits (smoking, alcohol and drug abuse), get enough sleep, practice good personal hygiene, be alert to your body's warning signs, schedule regular checkups. Good health helps you do a good job and get the most out of life.

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POLICE OLYMPICS

From June 13 to June 17, 1988, the Civil Aviation Security Division personnel (**Jim Derry, Ed Doody, and Larry Petty**) participated in the statewide Police Olympics events: Track and Field, Power Lifting, Pistol Firing, and Arm Wrestling competitions. Twenty-one medals were garnered by the division: 5 gold, 13 silver, and 3 bronze. **Fred Kampfer**, Coordinator for the FBI, commended the team members for their fine showing that resulted in the winning of so many medals.



James Derry (left) and **Larry Petty** (right) show off four fists full of medals their team brought back from the Police Olympics.

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THINK SAFETY—YOUR LIFE MAY DEPEND ON IT!

A new Regional Headquarters Safety Committee has been formed to focus attention on environmental safety and health in our workplace. The initial organizational meeting of the committee was held in March, with one of the first orders of business being the development of a safety checklist. All employees are invited to provide safety related input to the committee through one of the following representatives:

AAL-1-10	Bill Schmidtman
AAL-30	Ann Roberts
AAL-50	Vicki Suboski
AAL-60	Rheta Johnson
AAL-200	Paul Fischer
AAL-300	Mary Grindrod
AAL-400	Chuck Gilmore
AAL-500	Dave Brown
AAL-600	James Perham
AAL-700	Pat Strickland

The safety checklist that was developed by the committee was used last April during a safety check walkabout of the FAA space on the second and third floors of the Anchorage Federal Office Building. One of the main safety hazards that was discovered during that time was the unreliability of the hanging shelves located throughout many offices. Usually due to either overloading or old age, the shelves have caused several injuries to our employees when books, papers, and shelving have come crashing down. Employees are encouraged to beware of stressed out shelving that is in a precarious posture.

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WELCOME COUNSELOR!

We extend a hearty Alaskan welcome to **Attorney Daniel Karls**, who is here on detail from the Great Lakes Region to handle the responsibilities of Acting Regional Counsel for our region. Prior to **Dan's** arrival this past July, **Attorney John Curry** had been detailed from the Southwest Region to serve as Acting Regional Counsel for us here in Alaska.

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OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS EVERY FRIDAY FOR REGIONAL OFFICE BROWN BAGGERS.

Your new editor of the **INTERCOM** had the opportunity to join our Regional Administrator Frank Cunningham and a variety of other FAA personnel for a brown bag luncheon forum at the regional office. This is a terrific opportunity to sit and chat with the man who is influential in shaping our future. The atmosphere of the forum was very "laid back" and informal, thus making it very comfortable for employees to ask any question or comment on any issue they so desired. For those of you who are not familiar with the "Brown Bag Luncheon" concept, let me share with you some information on the subject.

What Is The Regional Administrator's Brown Bag Lunch?

-- The Regional Administrator's brown bag lunch is an opportunity for direct contact by all employees with Frank Cunningham. Employee feedback suggests that many co-workers would appreciate opportunities for more interaction with our Regional Administrator, so the brown bag luncheon was established as one way to increase direct contact while minimizing any work disruption.

When Are These Brown Bag Luncheons Held?

-- Every Friday from 11:45 to 12:45 in the MIC room, whenever Mr. Cunningham is in the office.

What Are The Topics Covered?

The agenda is open. Any co-worker wishing to know more about any subject is free to ask. One topic is usually announced in advance as an icebreaker, but discussion will focus on any item of interest brought up by the employees.

Do I Have To Have A Question In Order To Attend?

-- Absolutely not! Anyone just wishing to listen to the discussions is very welcome. The purpose of the luncheon is simply to provide an opportunity for direct interaction with Mr. Cunningham. If you want to just sit and observe, that's quite all right.

This seems to be a very unique kind of an opportunity since I don't know of any other government or private industrial office where the employees frequently can have a "Fireside Chat" with the "Big Boss!" Every FAA person should take advantage of this wonderful opportunity at least once. You owe it to yourself just for the experience.

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(We know **Marsha** was briefly mentioned in a previous issue -- but here is the rest of the story.)

A pat on the back to **Marsha J. Brown** for her exceptional alertness while performing her duties as ATCS/STN at the Cold Bay Flight Service Station. **Marsha** noticed some fuel streaming from the wing of a departing Navajo aircraft, and quickly notified the pilot that he appeared to have a slight problem. The pilot brought his plane back down to "terra firma" and discovered the fuel cap on the wing had not been connected. Lucky for him that **Marsha** was there and was so alert to every little detail. Had this problem gone undetected, this story could have had a sad ending.



Marsha Brown is presented a Letter of Commendation by **Jim Yakal**, former ATM at CDB FSS.

REORGANIZATION OF FAA

The FAA reorganization plan may not affect many of our employees out there in the trenches; however, we felt a need to share with you the basic scheme of things as of July 1, 1988. FAA's top level organization now consists of four new Executive Directors. With the addition of these Executive Directors, the number of officials reporting directly to the Administrator is greatly reduced since all information is now funneled through them or the five Associate Administrators. The new Executive Directors are:

Robert Whittington, former New England Regional Director, and now Executive Director for Policy, Plans, and Resource Management (AXA).

Wayne Barlow, former Northwest Mountain Regional Director, and now Executive Director for System Operations (AXO).

C.R. "Tex" Melugin, former Southwest Regional Director, and now Executive Director for Regulatory Standards & Compliance (AXR).

Joseph Del Balzo, former Eastern Regional Director, and now Executive Director for System Development (AXD).

This new management structure in Washington provides a more efficient system of operations that decreases the number of managers under the Administrator's direct supervision from 23 to 11. Unnecessary and cumbersome reporting relationships are now reduced in comparison to the old system, thus allowing Washington the ability to handle an increased authority over field operations. Our Regional Administrator now reports directly to Robert Whittington rather than to Administrator McArtor. This national reorganization has not changed the channels of communication within our region, but does change the reporting of program divisions in Anchorage to respective elements under AXO, AXD, or AXR.

ALASKAN REGION AVIATION SAFETY CHECKBOOK

WRITE A CHECK IMPROVE SAFETY

The Alaskan Region Aviation Safety Checkbook program was implemented in an effort to provide an arena through which all employees could participate in conducting our most fundamental obligation to the public. That duty being, to provide a safe and efficient aviation system.

By using these checkbooks, FAA employees have been reporting unsafe aircraft situations as well as commendable aircraft conditions.

As of mid-April, there has been a total of 116 checks received by our Regional Administrator, Frank Cunningham. A categorical breakdown of that total is as follows:

Airports	15
Air Charter/Air Taxi	31
Flight Operations	52
Air Trans. Security	2
General Comments	16

The results of this program have varied from letters of commendation being sent, to warning letters being issued, to mechanics being counselled, to civil penalties being levied, etc., etc.

We are grateful for the support that employees have given this effort in the past, and we want to encourage our employees to keep up the good work they are doing in being alert to the good, the bad, and the could be better sides of aviation safety.

FIVE OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES!

Back in October 1987, five Alaskan Region employees were cited in a group Special Achievement Award for their roles in the cleanup of an oil spill at Summit, Alaska. Seven thousand gallons of diesel fuel were on the loose, and there wasn't time to "staff out" the remedial measure because by the time the spill was discovered it had advanced to within 100 feet of the Parks Highway and the Alaska Railroad. Any delay in corrective action threatened to close down those two vital transportation links. Since oil and highway/rail traffic definitely did not mix, this was when our heroes came into action.

George Tillman (Maintenance Mechanic, SA-AFS) discovered the spill and took swift action to fully apprise management of the situation.

Wayne Eberhardt (Engineering Technician, AAL-463) determined the steps that were required during the cleanup. **Wayne** is the region's Hazardous Waste Program Manager.

Rex Young (Contracting Officer, AAL-55) hired a contractor to accomplish the necessary cleanup work. **Rex** had the contractor on site and working within 18 hours of initial contact!

Bill Allen (Electrician, AAL-463P) assisted in the cleanup effort and assumed the duties of the contracting officer's representative midway through the cleanup effort.

Hank Walters (Civil Engineer, AAL-463) was acting supervisor of the section primarily responsible for the cleanup. He did an excellent job of keeping regional office management informed as he coordinated all cleanup activities with the appropriate entities. He also assisted **Rex** in the procurement process.

Thanks to the efforts of these five individuals, the cleanup was substantially complete within 10 days of the spill's discovery. We can all be proud of this tremendous team accomplishment.

Congratulations **Wayne, Rex, George, Bill, and Hank**, and thanks for a job well done!



Heroes of the day, left to right are: **Rex Young, George Tillman, Bill Allen, Wayne Eberhardt, and Hank Walters.**

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ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN!

GAIL MCWETHY, ATCS Kenai AFSS, was involved in a four-car accident near Sterling this summer, but fortunately she was not injured. **GAIL** was returning home following a vacation to Boston. What a grand finale for a vacation!

DEBBIE HOELSCHER from AAL-31 broke one ankle and while she was at it sprained the other ankle at the same time this past summer. She returned to work this month and is anxiously looking forward to having her bright pink cast removed in mid-August.

COURSE LINES AT FAA

We are happy to report a total of 127 employees enrolled in FAA correspondence courses as of this April. Of that total, the following students have completed all course work and have received their certificates of completion:

Norma Jean Young	Jenifer Hunter
John Carli	Grant Van Bavel
Michael Creager	James Balson
Gail Ferguson	James Cook
Robert Blake	Leslie Habig
Bobby Bracken	Wallace Tharp
Cynthia Brenton	Douglas Haralson
Ted Williams	Robert Bilak
Denise Craviotto	Deborah Hoelscher
Eloise Bowen	Pamela Udelhoven
Catherine Dewar	Laurel Lampard
John Brown	David Bross
Kevin Wastell	Michael Franc
Mark O'Brien	Larry Lescanec
Brian Soosuk	Rose Sherrie
Christeen Williams	Thomas Witcher
David Skieens	Vincent Shobe
Douglas Moehle	Richard Zaleppa
Chandler Carter	Bernice Boykin
Gail McWethy	Jeffry Wheeler
Charles Taylor	Howard Cleveland
Donald Gellerman	Linda Peterson
Robert Wedemeier	Ann Roberts
Helen Couey	Beverly Lavy
Nancy Green	Joseph Strietzel
Gary Stadig	Della Triggs
Linda Lang	Gordon Jones
John McLaughlin	Robert Phillips
	Arlene Phillips

It is very gratifying to see so many FAA employees showing so much initiative to improve their knowledge and skills through their participation in these courses. It requires a good amount of individual persistence and self-discipline to properly commit oneself to these home study courses, and we commend each and every one of these students.

For those persons interested in signing up for some courses, contact one of the friendly folks in the Organizational Effectiveness Branch (AAL-17). They have a catalog chock-full of useful training courses.

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LOU SUDANO from the Regional Operations Center accompanied his wife, **Grace**, to San Francisco where she will undergo back surgery in another month. It sounds like she has the best of care with 15 doctors looking over her at one time or another. **Lou** will remain with **Grace** during this difficult time and expects to return to Alaska sometime near the end of August.

Meanwhile, we all might send some kind thoughts in the direction of **GRACE SUDANO** for the success of her surgery and a speedy recovery.

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When **Don Schultz** (maintenance mechanic with the Fairbanks Sector Field Office) had his gall bladder out in April he probably thought he would get the standard basket of flowers or a plant during his hospital stay. However, **Louise Mackey**, (one of **Don's** friends) knew he wanted to raise a pig as a hobby, so she took up a collection from all of **Donald's** friends to buy him a baby pig. Once the little critter was weaned, **Don** took him to his new home.

We might share some advice with **Don** that we were given years ago by good old Mr. Greenjeans. He said, "Never try to teach a pig to sing. It wastes your time and annoys the pig."

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Don Schultz and his new little buddy.

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KUDOS CORNER!

Congratulations to **Julius (Kalei) Wery** on his recent Letter of Commendation for his exceptional performance as Acting Air Traffic Manager at the Dillingham FSS from October 1987 to February 1988. Due to his skills and professionalism during that time, the Dillingham FSS was able to operate without loss of service and managerial direction during a time of otherwise reduced services.

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Julius (Kalei) Wery with Letter of Commendation in hand.

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Airway Facilities Manager, **Dave Morse**, presented a plaque to the Anchorage SFO in recognition of sustained performance and service over the period of July 1, 1987, through December 31, 1987. The sector field office was selected through a competitive process to receive this award for their accomplishments. Accepting the presentation for the ANC-SFO was Manager **Edgar Billiet**. Individual pins and letters of recognition were presented to the following award winners:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| EDGAR ANDERSON | JAMES HOUSTON |
| EDGAR BILLIET | LESLIE KLEIDER |
| FRANK CHALIFOUR | BEN LECORCHIK |
| ALLEN DUBORD | LLOYD MATHEWS |
| RICHARD EDWARDS | VICTOR MORALES |
| DALE FULLMER | MAGGI GRIER |
| WILLIAM NOBLETT | JAMES SMITH |
| CARL W. FUNDEEN | JOHN HARRIS |
| LARRY VANDEGRIFT | |

Our kudos go to **John W. Williford**, Assistant Sector Manager, NA-AFS, for his receipt of a superior accomplishment award. **John** received this award for his outstanding performance in coordinating the Federal Employee of the Year Award Program on behalf of the Fairbanks Federal Executive Association.

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Congratulations to our three nominees from FAA for the Federal Employees of the Year Awards in Fairbanks. **Diana L. Hinshaw** (Aviation Safety Assistant, Flight Standards District Office 61), **Helen M. Hall** (General Supply Specialist, North Alaska Sector Field Office), and **Paul J. Williams** (FAI-SFO, NAV/COMM Unit, NA-AFS) were each nominated for their professionalism, their positive attitudes, and their dedication to their jobs and FAA. **Paul, Helen, and Diana** each received a certificate in recognition of their efforts. Although the winners of the awards were from other agencies, we all are proud of our three nominees, and we wish them well in their careers.

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Congratulations to **Karen Steen** (Anchorage SFO Electronics Technician) for her On The Spot Award for her research, documentation, and implementation of the TOPAZ printer accessing units.

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Marian Courtney has left her current position as 510 branch secretary in order to commence initial qualification training at the FAA Academy in the FSS program. **Marian** should be back in the region for field assignment around the end of October. Best of luck, **Marian**.

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At the beginning of the year **Hank Elias** travelled to Nome to present a Letter of Commendation to **David Allred** (ATCS) for his completion of a quality assurance task that contributed to an increase in professionalism at the Nome FSS. Good job **Dave**, keep up the good work!

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CHILD CARE CENTERS

An issue of high interest among FAA employees is the possibility of government child care facilities in Anchorage. A survey was conducted this spring by the Federal Executive Association (FEA) for the purpose of determining the needs of federal employees for child care facilities.

The survey showed a concentrated need by government employees for child care facilities in two locations. These two locations were the downtown area and the 36th and New Seward Highway area.

As of this date, there are no final conclusions reached on this subject. However, the FEA is continuing to consider the matter and has asked GSA to schedule a briefing by someone from another area who has already established such a facility.

Some facts that are available at this time are:

- GSA will subsidize the facilities (space).
- A contractor will provide the services.
- With the exception of the facility (space), child care services will be totally paid for by the parent, guardian, or sponsor.

As additional information becomes available on this subject we will be alerting all FAA employees through the INTERCOM.

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Three cheers for **Harry D. Lilley** (Woodcraftsman) and **George R. Govan** (Painter) at the FMSS for their receipt of On-The-Spot Superior Accomplishment Awards. **Harry** was commended for his quick action in preventing a fire in the Bettles composite building at the beginning of this year, and **George** was recognized for his fine work in painting the Fairbanks FSS building.

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FAA EMPLOYEES WIN BICYCLE RACE

William Wuttke (AAL-461T) and **David Bartholomew** (AAL-462) competed in the Denali Classic Stage Race the weekend of June 23-25, 1988. The Denali Classic is really four separate races in which the total time of each race is computed to select the winner. The races include a 7-mile "Hill Climb" up the Hatcher Pass Road, a 10-mile "Time Trial", and a 13-mile and 23-mile "Road Race." **Bill** and **Dave** competed in the C Class Division Veterans (ages 35-45 years) category.

Dave won two first place, one second place, and one third place finishes. **Bill** won one first place, three second place finishes, and the overall first place title. After 53 miles of racing, **Bill** won the race by one second, thus edging out **Dave**. Talk about close!

One more interesting note is that **Bill's** racing number in the Artic Bicycle Club is "737." We thought that was very apropos for an FAA employee.



William Wuttke and **David Bartholomew** are armed with their hard hats, and ready for bicycle action.

CATCH-UP CORNER

Due to the fact that the **INTERCOM** Editor position has not been permanently filled for the past eleven months, there had been times when some news items had fallen between the cracks. This was not because they were uninteresting items, but a person can do only what a person can do. When one-third of a three-person staff is not there, it approaches somewhere near the impossible to accomplish all the tasks of a fully manned office.

Please excuse us for not getting your news items in previous issues, but we haven't forgotten you. In fact, that is why we are using this "Catch-Up Corner" to bring everyone up-to-date on the news that had happened over the past eleven months.

If any employee has items of interest that he or she would like to submit for inclusion in the **INTERCOM**, please send it over to us at AAL-5B; or better yet, drop by our office and leave it with us in person. We always enjoy seeing our co-workers face-to-face.

The **INTERCOM** is your newsletter! We want to print the kind of news (with photos) that you want to read! You are the best resource we have from which to acquire the news -- so keep your personal radar antenna functioning and funnel any news you hear to us. Our motto is, "Your News Is Good News!"

We look forward to hearing from you.

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HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL

Ed Neumann, Chairman of the Alaska Region Human Relations Council presented a plaque to outgoing Employee Participation Group Coordinator, **Dolores Coates**, at the Council's March 24 meeting. **Dolores** served on the staff of AAL-17, HRMD from March 1987-1988, coordinating employee participation group activities throughout the Alaskan Region. Following her good work with the Council, **Dolores** returned to her position at the Anchorage FSS.

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Our condolences to the family of **NORRIS (FRENCHY) CRESSWELL, JR.**, who recently passed away at his retirement home in Kenai. **FRENCHY**, as everyone knew him by at FAA, will be remembered for his friendly and helpful nature during his five years with FAA as a Materiel Specialist in the Kenai and Anchorage areas. Friends desiring to give memorials may send them to the **FRENCHY CRESSWELL MEMORIAL FUND**, care of National Bank of Alaska, P.O. Box 1969, Kenai, Alaska 99611. All funds collected will be donated to a worthwhile sports activity that had been enjoyed so much by **FRENCHY**.

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We also extend our sympathy to the family of **Cecelia Ann (Babs) Pilcher** on her recent death in an auto accident near Bakersfield, CA. Some of you might remember **Babs** from when she worked for CAA as an administrative assistant in the Air Traffic Division back in the early 1950s, or when she was selected as the Anchorage Fur Rendezvous Queen in 1954.

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And now for some happy news!
Jo Gable (ATCS at the Anchorage Tower) was the proud momma of a handsome baby boy last November. She named her new treasure Benjamin James Gable.



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CONGRATULATIONS and three cheers to **Dorea Swanson** (CE, AAL-451) and **Dixie Swanson** (Secretary, NA-AFS) on their recent promotions.

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We hope **JO ANN THOMAS** (ATCS/S) is back to normal by now after her minor accident on the steps near the broadcast/weather observation entrance.

We are sorry to hear that **JOHN BALESKI** from the FAI ATCT QATS was operated on for glaucoma, and we hope he is well recuperated by now.

We are very glad to hear that **CONCETTA CRON** (Realty Specialist) is scheduled to return to Anchorage by the end of July from the AFB Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. We understand she is feeling better, which is always the kind of news we like to hear.

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A fond farewell to **RON DEGARMO**, supervisor at the SRSA contract training unit at Anchorage ARTCC, and **J.C. TUDOR**, a controller at our King Salmon tower.



Last November **Michael O'Donnell** (left) received an on-the-spot cash award from **Juneau AS Al Hester** for his efforts in computerizing the facility traffic count and Master Flight Plan file.

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MOVING MEMOS

MIKE PUMPHREY, area manager at Anchorage ARTCC, has transferred to FAA Headquarters to work in the EnRoute Procedures Branch, ATO-330.

CHARLIE MUHS, Air Traffic Manager, ANCh FSS, is on 120-day detail to the Anchorage Tower where he is the new AATM.

BARBARA ACKERMAN, an account technician from the Financial Management Division, has relocated to the State of Washington.

FRANK PRICE, moved from the Anchorage Tower to take over as Air Traffic Manager, Anchorage Center.

STEVE GROENEVELD, moved from the FSS in Dillingham to be an air traffic controller in Juneau ATCT.

EDWARD T. WILSON, has transferred from Merrill Tower to our McGrath FSS.

We wish them all well in their new homes and jobs.

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Our wishes for a happy and healthy retirement go to:

DONALD BUCKLEY, Maintenance Mechanic, SA/AFS, Sisters Island.

DALE HANSON, Airworthiness Specialist, Flight Standards Division.

KENNETH SMITH, Electronics Technician, AFS/ARTCC

TOMMIE JEAN SHANNON, Secretary, NA/AFS, Fairbanks.

BEN COWART, Senior ZAN Utility Systems Repairer-Operator (USRO) at the ZAN AFS. We might add that **BEN** retired with 40 years of service to the federal government.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

Frank Cunningham, our Regional Administrator, recently shared a piece of poetry that was disseminated at a conference he had attended last month. The author is unknown, but the person sharing it was Colonel Thomas E. Schaefer, who some of you might remember as one of the hostages held by the Iranians for 444 days back in 1979-1981. Think about it!

TODAY

Outside my window, a new day I see
and only I can determine
what kind of day it will be.
It can be busy and sunny, laughing and
gay, or boring and cold, unhappy and grey.
My own state of mind is the determining
key, for I am only the person I let myself
be. I can be thoughtful and do all I can
to help,
or be selfish and think just of myself.
I can enjoy what I do and make it seem
fun,
or gripe and complain and make it
hard on someone.
I can be patient with those who may
not understand,
or belittle and hurt them as much as I
can.
But I have faith in myself,
and believe what I say,
and I personally intend to make
the best of each day.

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Last September ATCS at Anchorage Center, **John Aarnink** (center) was recognized with a spot cash award for his assistance in identifying an audio problem. Presenting the award are **Joe Rollins** (left) and **James Hodges**.

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Last September ATCS **Ted Williams** (ANC ATCT) received an on-the-spot cash award from supervisor **Bob Hoffsetz**.



These specialists at the Juneau FSS received Letters of Commendation for their cooperation and professionalism involving a full facility evaluation. They are (left to right) Larry Fosson, Bob Heitkamp, George Mills, Mike O'Donnell, Brad Nelson, Marge Adams, Al Hester, John Robison, and Brian Clark.



Last October, L.A. Braun (left photo) and Gerald Belts (right photo) each received a special achievement award from manager Steve Bridges (ENA/SFO) for their efforts in the installation of modifications at the radar sites in MDO, SNP, and BKA.



FAA employees enjoy the annual picnic at the Mat-Su Resort.



Sheryl Stinson (left) and Linda Durand (right) enjoy a plate of fried halibut with all the trimmings at the annual FAA picnic.