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## SAVE THE DATE...

**OCTOBER 21, 2016**

Alaskan Aviation Legends and Medallion Safety Awards Banquet at the downtown Marriott Hotel!

We are very excited to be honoring up to six more Aviation Legends. In the hangar, in the cabin, in the cockpit, on the ground, and behind the scenes, aviators have impressively impacted the course of Alaskan history. Do you know an Alaskan aviator you would like to nominate for next year? Fill out our online Application and forward to [office@alaskaaircarriers.org](mailto:office@alaskaaircarriers.org) or contact AACA at 277-0071 for details

**FEBRUARY 20-25, 2017**

Alaska Air Carriers Trade Show & Convention

The AACA Annual Convention and Trade show will be held at the Hotel Captain Cook in downtown Anchorage February 20-25, 2017. For registration details contact AACA at 277-0071. Sponsorships are welcome!



## FAA FSS Creates VREPS

FAA-FSS provides for Visual (photo) PIREPs (VREPs) via Twitter – The FAA Weather Camera Program to Offer an AP by Fall 2016

- VIA Twitter use **#GOTWX** or **#GOTWXVREP** and the VREP should become available quickly to all followers of those hashtags.
- Non-Twitter-members can submit VREPs to [Earl.Valley@faa.gov](mailto:Earl.Valley@faa.gov) or text to (907) 750-4208 (also Earl) at any time (within reason).
- Any information regarding an airport surface will always be forwarded to the responsible party, regardless of source.
- There may be times when a VREP sent to FAA may be delayed before it is visible on social media. FAA-FSS is working to improve availability of staff for that issue.
- There is no requirement to be a Twitter member to submit VREPs, and no requirement to view the Twitter addresses.

## AACA to Offer Two Jim Snead Memorial Scholarships at the Alaskan Aviation Legends Banquet, October 21, 2016

Jim Snead was a highly respected businessman in Anchorage for over 20 years. He got his start in the transportation industry in 1959 working for Northwest Airlines in Seattle. Subsequent jobs in the industry included a stint at Alaska Airlines and over eleven years with Pacific Air Freight/Airborne. In September of 1976, Air Land Transport was formed as a partnership between Jim and his brother John. Together they built a trucking company highly respected in the industry.

Almarene Snead has offered to sponsor one scholarship and the second scholarship will be taken from the Jim Snead Memorial Fund previously managed by the Anchorage Air Cargo. The value of each scholarship is estimated at \$2500. Anyone interested in a career in transportation or related field and plans to attend an accredited vocational school, college of university within the year is encouraged to apply! [Download the application here.](#) The deadline to apply is September 1, 2016.

## Importance of the FAA Reauthorization

Long-term authorization bills are important to delivering certainty to the aviation industry. According to ARSA, in order for that certainty to translate into success, it is critical for Congress to recognize the United States is home to a \$43 billion manufacturing and maintenance market and nearly 200,000 maintenance professionals, with a substantial presence in every state. In the growing global market, North American firms "export" \$3.4 billion in maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services to foreign customers. To support this growing industry at home and around the world a stable funding source is vital to support the national airspace system and marketplace.

AACA continues to advocate for passage of a FAA Reauthorization bill.



*Advocates and supports  
the alaskan commercial  
aviation community*

## PIREP Technical Work Group

Andy McClure, FAA FSS, recently noted discrepancies in how PIREPS are plotted. McClure speculates there may be confusion between navaids and airports which use the same three-letter identifier, but are generally not co-located. PIREP originators MUST begin to use 4-letter airport identifiers, especially in light of the upcoming conversion to all-ICAO flight plans.

## Airport Field Condition Assessment Updates

FAA Airports Division recently forwarded notification to 139 airport sponsors and sponsors for other paved airports of proposed changes to AC 150 5200-30D, Airport Field Condition Assessment and Winter Operations Safety. At this time the draft AC indicates Mu values will NOT be provided to pilots only the new Runway Condition Code calculated by the new NOTAM matrix formula.

AACA encourages carriers to review the draft AC 150-5200-30D and forward comments so we may reach out to FAA regarding your concerns.

[http://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Advisory\\_Circular/draft-150-5200-30d.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Advisory_Circular/draft-150-5200-30d.pdf)

## Enroute Navigation, Equipage, and Communication GAPS Survey

FAA Operations Support Group Staff and AACA jointly prepared a survey to help everyone better understand Alaskan air carrier navigation equipage and communication issues. [The survey is available at HERE.](#)

Please forward your comments to [office@alaskaaircarriers.org](mailto:office@alaskaaircarriers.org)

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