



OUR TIME

FAA ALASKAN REGION
RETIRED & CURRENT EMPLOYEE PUBLICATION



CHARLIE MUHS - EDITOR
DOTTYE MUHS - ASSISTANT EDITOR

VOLUME NOVEMBER 2014



United we stand.

Editor's Notes

Our Time is now seen by all Regional Employees. Pam Trudell, Manager, AAL Regional HR Services Division, has made the Newsletter available to all employees. In the spirit of unity we enthusiastically welcome our new readers and look forward to hearing from them.

To this end, the **OUR TIME** Mast Head has been changed.

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### MEET ALASKA'S NEW REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR<sup>1</sup>

Kerry B. Long is the new FAA Regional Administrator for the Alaskan Region. Prior to joining the ARC senior management team, he served as the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) Designated Agency Ethics Official, responsible for establishing, maintaining, and carrying out the NTSB ethics program. Mr. Long is no stranger to the FAA, having previously served, by Presidential appointment, as Chief Counsel from 2007 to 2009. As Chief Counsel, he led 270 lawyers and staff and was responsible for all aspects of the agency's legal workings, including its regulatory program, administrative and judicial litigation, nationwide

enforcement activities, legislation, alternative dispute resolution, ethics compliance, and legal relations with foreign civil aviation authorities.

Mr. Long served as a partner in the Washington law office of Fulbright and Jaworski L.L.P. beginning in 2001, focusing his practice on aircraft finance. He also served as an associate and partner at Perkins Coie L.L.P. in Washington from 1985 to 2000, also focusing on aircraft finance. He began his legal career as a corporate associate at White and Case L.L. P. in New York from 1980 to 1985.

Mr. Long received his law degree magna cum laude from Cornell Law School in 1980, and his bachelor's degree in political science from Colgate University in 1972.

Prior to his legal career, Mr. Long served in the U.S. Navy aboard the frigate USS Thomas C. Hart (FF-1092) as a division officer and navigator. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant and qualified as a Surface Warfare Officer. Mr. Long was recognized for his role in the rescue efforts following the collision of USS Belknap (CG-26) and USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) in the Mediterranean Sea in 1975.

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COLA

In case you missed it, this year's COLA will be 1.7%; which will be reflected in your January Annuity.

¹Mr. Long joined the ARC as the new Alaskan Regional Administrator, effective June 29, 2014.

Health Premiums to Rise

[Government Executive News](#)

By Eric Katz ~ October 7, 2014

Federal employees and retirees will pay an average of 3.8 percent more toward their health insurance premiums in 2015, the Office of Personnel Management announced Tuesday.

Federal Employees Health Benefits Program enrollees with self-only coverage will contribute an average of \$2.93 more per paycheck, while those with family coverage will pay about \$6.89 more.

Read More @

<http://www.govexec.com/pay-benefits/2014/10/health-premiums-up/96014/>

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## THE ALASKA HONOR FLIGHT

FROM

ALICE SALTZMAN

The Honor Flight is a national program whose goal is to take our Military Veterans to Washington DC to see their Memorials. Alaska just got their own chapters, one in Fairbanks in 2012 and one in Anchorage (Big Lake) 2013. Weve taken 4 trips total, the last was in May 2014. Another trip is planned for October 2014. The trip is completely free to Veterans, our goal is to take as many WWII Veterans as we can but welcome those who are from the Korean War as well.

To learn more about the program please contact the following people or go onto the website: Anchorage (Big Lake) Ron & Lynda Travis The Last Frontier Honor Flight, Inc.

Toll Free: (866) 790 7994

Phone: (907) 892 6097

<http://www.tlffhonorflight.org/>

Fairbanks Julie Jones

Honor Flight Alaska, Golden Heart

907.456.1984

Cell 907 322.4112

<http://honorflightalaska.org/>

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July 7, 2014 -It has been 25 years since I left Anchorage for a promotion to the DC office as the Manager of the Public and Employees Communications Division. A great move. My DC FAA job was great. I retired early in 1994.

Alaska and the FAA was good to us. We still have pleasant memories. Annette and I live in Olympia, Washington. Came here after retirement to

be near the grandchildren. I have written two memoirs, *Burbia Boy* - My family history and my youth - and *Burbia Man* - a lengthy description of my FAA experiences. I also have a third book, *The Artwork of Paul Steucke*. 122 pages in color.

My wife Annette and I are volunteer art teachers at the Olympics West Retirement Inn located in Tumwater, Washington. **Paul Steucke**²

steuckeart@comcast.net & www.paulsteucke.com

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Charlie, did you know **Jerry Thompson** had died as reported in Our Times this month? I wrote an email to a member of the new company who was on staff in headquarters when I was on the 80's Modernization project. He passed it on to Jerry's wife who is on the Board of Directors of the company and she wrote to me. He had died 7 years ago. They were married 50 years. Told of her trip with Jerry to Alaska and Bruck took them on a tour to several radar sites in a cute small corporate-type jet. Would that be the Saberliner flight check aircraft or a rental? Dave Zeller - [dave.zeller@outlook.com](mailto:dave.zeller@outlook.com)

*{I did not know Jerry. Unfortunately the only person who could answer your question, Al Bruck, is not longer with us....Editor}*

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How Health and Safety Rules Have Grounded the Dakota, the War Workhorse

By Michael Williams

Daily Mail On Line

'It groaned, it protested, it rattled, it ran hot, it ran cold, it ran rough, it staggered along on hot days and scared you half to death.

'Its wings flexed and twisted in a horrifying manner, it sank back to earth with a great sigh of relief. But it flew and it flew and it flew.'

This is the memorable description by Captain Len Morgan, a former pilot with Braniff Airways, of the unique challenge of flying a Douglas DC-3. (Cont)

(Cont) You Can Read the Complete Story @;

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-518349/How-health->

² **Paul's Steucke** artwork has been published as limited edition prints, the most popular being paintings and prints of cadets at the U.S. Army Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Duty-Honor-Country, Cadet Prayer, The Red Sash, Pershing Sallyport, Crossing the Plain, Hidden Treasures, West Point 1812, Bicentennial, and Reservoir Reflections are a few of his West Point titles. *Duty-Honor Country, Cadet Prayer* and *Bicentennial*, are on permanent display at the Academy.

His most recent work is a commissioned piece commemorating the combining of the Air Force's McChord Air Base and the Army's Fort Lewis Army Post into a Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM).



*Since the last issue of
OUR TIME
we have learned the following friends and
co-workers have passed away*

Fred Campbell, 80, former Regional Office Logistics Specialist passed away September 24, 2014 of Non Hodgkins Lymphoma at the Mount Joseph Senior Village in Concordia, Kansas. He is survived by his wife Patience who worked in the Accounting Division. Both Fred and Patience returned to the Soldotna area every summer.

Henry Dodd, 92, former Air Traffic Division Branch Manager, passed away October 26, 2014.

Ross May, 81, former AF electronic technician at King Salmon, AK in the mid 60s died July 2014 in Clovis, CA.

Walter Parker, 87, former Anchorage ARTCC specialist (1946-1971) died June 26, 2014. After retiring, Parker, played multiple roles in the assessment and development of resources and infrastructure in Alaska.

Dr. Robert William Rigg, Sr., 83 Former Alaskan Region Flight Surgeon, passed away on August 23, 2014 at his home in Colorado.

Herbert H. Stanley, 96, former Alaskan Region Air Traffic Division Manager, passed away October 27, 2014 at Providence Hospital in Anchorage. A Celebration of Life will be held in the summer of 2015 in Soldotna. Herb was a veteran of WWII, serving in the Army Air Corps. He moved to Anchorage in 1946. He was employed for 32 years by the FAA. From 1960 to 1965 the FAA sent him to Egypt to help the Egyptian Government establish their Air Traffic Control system. He retired in 1973 as Chief of Air Traffic Control of the Pacific Region. Upon retirement he settled in Mesa, Arizona for 37 years before moving back to Soldotna, Alaska in 2010.

{On a personal note, Herb was a great friend to Dottie and I. He was also my boss and mentor. He nurtured a culture within the Air Traffic Organization that honored loyalty, honesty, hard work and above all a sense of Family. For those who served with him, it goes on to this very day. He will be missed. Charlie}



ANNUAL CAKE & COFFEE
**Rumor has it - there is interest in hosting a
June 2015 Retiree/Employee get together.**
**Watch for the latest in the May 2015
OUR TIME**

OUR TIME Received the Following Email

**A New Day for the Civil Service ~ Federal
Benefits Open Season**

**Federal Employees Health Benefits and
Federal Employees Dental
&
Vision Insurance Programs**

November 10, 2014 through December 08, 2014
**If you are satisfied with your current health plan,
you do not need to do anything**

It's quick and easy to request health benefit changes and plan information.

Go to Open Season Online at <https://retireefehb.opm.gov>
Call Open Season Express at 1-800-332-9798

Write to us at: FEHB Open Season Processing Center
P.O. Box 5000
Lawrence, KS 66046-0500

For General Open Season information, click the above link to use Live Help or send a secure webmail message.

For information on comparing health plans visit <http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/plan-information/compare-plans>.

For more information regarding the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's requirement www.irs.gov/uac/Questions-and-Answers-on-the-Individual-Shared-Responsibility-Provision.

For information on the Federal Employees Dental & Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) visit the secure enrollment website www.benefeds.com or call 1-877-888-3337, TTY 1-877-889-5680.

For more information on Open Season or health care reform legislation, visit www.opm.gov/insure.

For information on Medicare, visit www.medicare.gov.

This is the only notification you will receive unless you request additional information be mailed to you.

United States Office of Personnel Management



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