

Pioneer Air Museum

December 2017 Newsletter



WINTER

Letter from the Curator

Hello All,

Here we go again. It's been a cold, dark month and it's above freezing and with a bit of rain.

Anyway it's time to wish everyone a joyous Christmas and a happy New Year. The Christmas gathering here at the museum will be on the 14th of December starting at

5:30 P.M. It will be a BYOB event so that we won't have to have a liquor license from the State or City. We will have water and coffee on hand, along with some food. We (the Board) hope to see you here. Come hungry and enjoy!

There will also be a Board Meeting tomorrow, December 12th at 6:30 P.M.

Erin continues to catalog the contents of the Museum and is staying busy doing so. She is willing to train people to help out with the cataloging progress and displays. Follow our ongoing projects at the Museum on our blog and Facebook page!

Inside this Issue:

1. Letter from the Curator
2. From Our Blog by Leanna Williams; Letter from the Curator, Continued
3. A Thank You for Grants Received



From Our Blog

What's that Wednesday?: Mystery Map



If you are a follower of our Facebook page, you may have seen this tattered map featured in last week's "What's that Wednesday" post.

This is a geologic survey map of the Koyukuk-Chandalar region, which was used by Sam O. White, an Alaskan wildlife agent and bush pilot. White arrived in Alaska in the 1920s and became a game warden in 1927. Alaskan author Jim Reardon wrote White's biography, based largely on White's own writing: *Sam O. White, Alaskan: Tales of a Legendary Wildlife Agent and Bush Pilot*.

You might notice that this paper map is fixed to a muslin-type fabric. Why would that be? White began his flying career in open-cockpit planes, first a Golden Eagle Chief monoplane, soon replaced by a Swallow biplane. Flying around 80 miles per hour, a paper map on its own just wouldn't hold up in open air, so pilots often fixed maps to fabric so that they would hold up.

To learn more about this map, find the full blog article on our website:

www.pioneerairmuseum.org.

The full blog post was written by Leanna Williams, the Museum's Social Media manager. Leanna is a graduate student in the UAF Arctic and Northern Studies department, where she focuses on Alaskan and polar aviation history.



Letter from the Curator, Continued

On another, much sadder note is the loss of a real pioneer in so many ways. We are saddened to hear of the passing of Cliff Everts on December 7th. Cliff was born in 1922, in Yonkers, New York. He came to Alaska to fly for Alaska Star Airlines in 1943, beginning his career in a Ford Trimotor. Cliff had a 35 year career at Wien Airlines, retiring with over 30,000 flight hours. After his retirement from Wien, Everts started his own business, Everts Air Fuel. His fleet of C-46

and DC-6 aircraft are a frequent sight in the skies over Alaska, delivering fuel to our state's rural areas. In 2013, he was awarded the Aviation Entrepreneur Award by the Alaska Aviation Hall of Fame. Cliff was a "Gem in the Rough," and the Fairbanks and aviation community will miss him dearly. Our condolences to his family and his friends.

Rest in Peace Cliff.

Pete Haggland, Curator



Fred Meyer Community Rewards

If you have a Fred Meyer Rewards Card, you can be helping the museum just by shopping! All you have to do is link your card to the Pioneer Air Museum through the Community Rewards Program.

Through this program Fred Meyer will donate a percentage of funds to the museum, quarterly, depending on how many people have signed up.

You can do this by logging on to your account online, and choosing the Pioneer Air Museum under Community Rewards. If you need help doing this, please contact Erin directly at collectionsmanager@pioneerairmuseum.org.



A Thank You for Grants Received

We at the Pioneer Air Museum are grateful to have received funding from the following organizations this year:

- The Golden Valley Electric Foundation awarded the Museum grant funds to support technology updates. These funds will be used to improve and safeguard the Museum's care of its digital collections and records.
- The Bill Stroecker Foundation awarded the Museum with a Small Project Grant to support our ongoing Collections Cataloging Project. With these funds, the Museum has been able to continue documenting and caring for the collections objects through the Museum's off-season.
- The Museum's Collections Cataloging Project has also received support towards supplies, storage shelving, and staffing. This project was made possible by a grant from the Collections Management Fund of Museums Alaska, with generous support from the Rasmuson Foundation.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the above organizations for their support. These funds have made a tremendous impact on the Museum's level of stewardship of its collections. We appreciate our community's continued support as we work to collect, protect and preserve the history of interior and arctic Alaskan aviation. Thank you!

We want your feedback!

What kinds of events would you like to see?
How often would you like to meet?
What can we be doing to better serve you?
Please send your responses by email or by mail to:

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The Pioneer Air Museum is a 501(C)(3) Non-profit Organization. It is our mission to collect, protect, and preserve for the public objects pertaining to the history of Alaska aviation history.

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Thank you for your support!