



Pioneer Air Museum

June 2022



PIONEER AIR MUSEUM OPENING WEEKEND WAS A SUCCESS!

Pioneer Air Museum opening weekend was a success! The Memorial Day weekend coincided with Alaska Museum Day on the 28th and The Littlest Airplane book signing with author Brooke Hartman on the 29th. The weekend ended with Memorial Day celebrations on the 30th. We had over 1,200 people come through the museum over the weekend. The success of this opening weekend allowed visitors, families, and friends to see what the museum has to offer. We are looking forward to seeing everyone throughout the season!

Upcoming Events...

30 Jul 2022 **JBER Arctic Thunder Open House Air Show, 29 July is rehearsal and special needs day**

Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson Public Affairs, 907-552-7477
(<https://www.arcticthunderopenhouse.com/contact/>)

Aviation in History...

04 Jul 1899 **First balloon flight in Alaska**

Though no official record of the event, it is well documented Leonard conducted several balloon events in the Yukon and Alaska.

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31 Jul 1913 First powered flight in Alaska

A series of five flights were made between July 3-5. While thrilling for Fairbanksians, it was a commercial disaster for the businessmen. The further plan had been to sell the aircraft in Alaska, but given the limited performance, there were no takers and the plane was taken apart and shipped back to Seattle, where it disappeared from the historic record. Martin's aircraft required high-octane fuel that had been ordered but didn't arrive for several days forcing him to operate on low-octane fuel. The poor engine performance required securing the tail with a spring setup which was released by his wife when full power was developed and even then he barely made it into the air.

17 Jul 1922 First flight up Inside Passage

Jones made the first flight up the Inside Passage from Seattle to Ketchikan, landing in the Tongas Narrows where floatplanes now swarm like mosquitoes.

06 Jul 1924 First flight from Anchorage to Fairbanks

On 6 July Wien and Bill Yunker made the first flight from Anchorage to Fairbanks flying from Delaney Park Strip to Weeks Field. They completed the flight in under 4 hours while the trip via Alaska Railroad took 2 days.

19 Aug 1929 Anchorage Air Transport, Wien Alaska Airways, and Bennett-Rodebaugh Company joined to form Alaskan Airways Inc.

Anchorage Air Transport was sold and joined Wien Alaska Airways and the Bennett-Rodebaugh Company in forming Alaskan Airways Inc.

28 Aug 1935 First Seattle to Fairbanks Flight

03 Jun 1942 Japanese attack Dutch Harbor

The attack in Alaska was designed to divert American air and naval strength northward during a simultaneous effort at destroying America's fleet in the center Pacific.

07 Jun 1942 Japanese land on Attu and Kiska

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Summer 2022 Hours: Wednesday through Sunday and some holidays, 11am to 7pm

Appointments for group visits at other times - Please call (907) 451-0037 or email info@pioneerair.museum to arrange your visit in advance.

2300 Airport Way, Gold Dome, Fairbanks, Alaska
PO Box 70437, Fairbanks, AK 99707
(907) 451-0037

*Information for the newsletter? Send me the electrons!
alohadustoff@gmail.com*



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