

April 19, 2007

Standdown Addressed Safety & Security

Review Matt Thurber's Wrap-Up of our Standdown in AIN

The March 8th Safety and Security Standdown was a resounding success by all measures. Eighty-five were in attendance and the feedback was very positive – primarily due to the wonderful presenters and sponsors, and Jim Lumley's organizational skills. In this month's Aviation International News, Matt Thurber has done a great job of capturing the highlights of the event; his article can be found on page 58 of the print edition of AIN or online at: http://ain.gcnpublishing.com/content/news/single-news-page/article/standdown-addresses-safety-and-security/?no_cache=1&cHash=9bc68aafa.



Bob Agostino, Bombardier's director of flight operations, provided a thought provoking and stimulating opening presentation for those in attendance at March's safety and security standdown.



GWBAA President Bob Blouin presents Susan Sheets, Vice President of the Aero Club of Washington, with a donation to the Aero Club Of Washington Foundation during March's safety and security standdown.

TSA Appoints New General Manager for General Aviation

Michal C. Morgan has been appointed as the new TSA General Manager for General Aviation. Morgan previously served as the Manager of General Aviation for TSA's Office of Operations Policy and as TSA's Director of Special Operations. Morgan commented that:

"We have many developments on the horizon with regards to general aviation. The GA team has laid a solid foundation for progress and improvement. Many of those individuals still work on the team and will continue to provide the support and open communication which you have come to expect. We also expect additions to the team in the upcoming months that will add valuable subject matter expertise with regards to GA.

Rob Rottman is now working with DHS and takes with him his knowledge of the industry and ability to serve as an advocate for the industry at the Department.”

Morgan also announced that there has been a change in regard to the Twelve-Five Program Office. Lon Siro and his team continue to oversee the Twelve-Five Program; however, they now do so under the supervision of Ed Kelly, General Manager, Air Cargo. All air cargo functionality now rests with the office of Air Cargo. Morgan explained that this organizational change is expected to assist in streamlining issues relating to the Twelve-Five Program.

9/11 Compensation for Greater Washington Area GA Operators

DOT has finalized rules governing how fixed-based general aviation operators and general aviation ground support service providers in the greater Washington area can apply for compensation for financial losses they incurred while five airports were closed, or GA operations were limited at those airports, in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks. Congress has allocated \$17 million for such entities, and DOT last year solicited public comment on issues such as the methodology that should be used to calculate their losses and the time period in which GA operations should be understood to have been limited. As adopted, the rule provides that compensation applications must be submitted to DOT by **June 8, 2007**. A copy of the final rule is online at http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf101/464682_web.pdf.

Regional News Roundup

The Government Accountability Office has released a report, which concludes that **Ronald Reagan National Airport** has the capacity to support an added four slots per hour. From the standpoint of business aviation, the report is notable because it is observed that there currently are only about 200 business aviation operations annually at DCA; that DHS has not conducted its promised one-year review of the procedures which allowed business aviation operations to resume at DCA, and that DHS would not commit to any timeframe for further easing of the restrictions. The report is available online at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07352.pdf>.

Manassas Regional Airport has expanded its website to include a summary of its voluntary noise abatement procedures at <http://www.manassascity.org/index.asp?NID=1062>.

The Capital Region Airport Commission, which oversees **Richmond International Airport**, reported that new rules for fuel-truck safety and training appear to have been successful. Since they were adopted in December, three verbal warnings have been given for minor violations. The rules were adopted after two incidents in 2006 in which fuel trucks struck aircraft, and authorize the commission to ban an operator for up to a year in the event of a serious incident.



Leesburg Executive Airport has proposed to demolish ten outdated hangars; the majority of the \$1.4 million project would be funded by the FAA. In the short term, they will be replaced by tie-downs. Funds to replace the hangars – which would require an estimated \$2 million – have not yet been allocated by the Leesburg Town Council. In other news, the Council at a budget

meeting debated whether the computation of the Airport's financials should be revised, since certain costs were assigned to the Town even though they were actually funded by the FAA.



Sage Policy Group issued a report on the economic benefits of expanding **Carroll County Regional Airport**. Sage's report concludes that an expansion would spur additional use of the airport and create new jobs in nearby industrial parks. However, the report also noted that the concerns of airport neighbors about increased noise and lowered property values were legitimate. The county has proposed a \$85 million project to expand the runway and to build a new terminal and new hangars at the airport.

On March 27, the **National Transportation Safety Board** held a forum on runway incursions, marking the anniversary of the collision of two 747s in Tenerife thirty years earlier. Several panelists criticized the FAA for not moving more quickly to address the problem; an advanced ground radar system – known as Airport Surface Detection Equipment Model X – was planned to be installed at 35 airports by the end of 2007, but last year the deadline was moved to 2011.

Jimmy's Flying Grille has opened for business at the **Salisbury-Ocean City Wicomico Regional Airport**, filling a void in food service at the airport that had existed since 2005. The opening coincides with construction to upgrade the terminal, as well as planned work in 2008 to extend one of the runways by 1,000 feet. The airport hopes that the new facilities will attract new air service to Baltimore, supplementing its existing US Airways flights to Philadelphia and Charlotte.



Hagerstown Regional Airport announced that the construction on new entrances to the airport from Byers Road and Air View Road are expected to be completed in late May or early June. Other improvements, including the extension of one runway to 7,000 feet, are scheduled to be completed in December 2007.

The Frederick County Board of Aldermen reviewed next year's budget for **Frederick Municipal Airport**. The \$2.2 million budget proposes an average fee increase of 15.5%, the first increase since 2001. Among other changes, the airport budget proposes to increase the monthly fee for the storage of more than one aircraft in a hangar from \$25 to \$30.

AOPA reports that FAA, TSA, and DOD are considering changes to the Washington, DC **Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ)** that include the possibility of replacing the current "Mickey Mouse"-shaped ADIZ with a smaller 30-nautical mile radius circle. For additional details, visit <http://www.aopa.org/whatsnew/newsitems/2007/070409adiz.html>.

Upcoming Aviation Events

- **April 21:** The **1st Semi-Annual National Capital Region Airline Collectible Expo** will be held at Holiday Inn Washington Dulles Airport, from 8am-3pm. For more details, visit http://www.specialtyexpo.com/Washington_IAD_Airline_EXPO.html.

- **April 24:** John Byerly, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Transportation Affairs, will be the speaker at a luncheon sponsored by the **International Aviation Club of Washington**. For more details, visit <http://www.iacwashington.org>.
- **April 30:** John J. Nance will speak on aviation safety issues, as a featured part of **Virginia Aviation Safety Week**, at 7pm at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center. For more details, visit <http://www.doav.virginia.gov/calendar.htm> or call (804) 236-3639.
- **May 7-17:** George Washington University's Aviation Institute will offer its **Aviation Safety & Security Certificate Program** at its Ashburn campus. For more details, visit <http://www.gwu.edu/~aviation/Flyers-v2.pdf>.
- **May 15:** The **Washington Air Cargo Association** will hold its annual golf tournament at Pleasant Valley Golf Course in Chantilly, to benefit Children's Hospital. For more details, visit <http://www.washaircargo.org/documents/WACAgolf2007.pdf>.
- **June:** GWBAA is planning to hold a general meeting at or near Dulles; please watch the website and next month's newsletter for details.

GWBAA Offers Online Benefits

We continue to add member information for GWBAA's electronic membership directory – <http://www.gwbaa.com/directory.html>. This service is available to GWBAA members at no cost. Please contact Bob Blouin (info@gwbaa.com) if you want to post your company's information.

GWBAA Contacts

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