

June 30, 2012

GWBAA Membership Picnic Held at Dulles

Schedulers and Dispatchers Committee Hosts Networking Picnic



On June 15, GWBAA held its first annual membership picnic at the Marriott Dulles picnic pavilion. Under blue June skies, vendor-sponsors and members new and old enjoyed picnic fare, island music and some heated horseshoe matches. Jim Garland, membership chairman, was enthusiastic. “This was a great first event and we’re already planning improvements for next year to make it

better for current members and those new to GWBAA.” GWBAA also thanks its sponsors for their support.

Additionally, GWBAA is pleased to announce that D.J. Skinner of BAE Systems – who took the lead in organizing the event – is the newest member of GWBAA’s Board of Directors, and will chair the Schedulers and Dispatchers Committee.

Regional News Round-Up

A Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) meeting was held at **Washington Dulles International Airport** on May 17. Among other reports, Bill Leary of FAA announced that Runway Status Lights (RWSL) are expected to be operational in early 2013. The system will include Runway Entrance Lights (REL) and Take-off Hold Lights (THL). All clearances will still be issued by ATC, but the lights will provide an additional warning to pilots.

Earlier this month, Scott Coffman was hired as the new Operations Manager at **Leesburg Executive Airport**, effective July 9, 2012. Coffman currently works for TBI Airport Management as the manager of both Macon Downtown Airport and the Middle Georgia Regional Airport. Previously, he was the Airport Services Manager at the Orlando Sanford International Airport. Coffman received a Bachelor’s Degree in Aviation Management and Flight Technology from the Florida Institute of Technology, is a member of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE), and has a commercial pilot’s license.



In May, the FAA issued a report on general aviation (“General Aviation Airports: A National Asset”). The report organized GA airports in four categories – national, regional, local, and basic – although these classifications do not have any official consequences. Notably, three out of the 84 GA airports classified in the “national” category are located in the greater Washington

area – **Easton Airport**, **Manassas Regional Airport**, and **Martin State Airport**. A copy of the report is available at http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/ga_study/.



Bids are now being accepted for general contractors interested in building the new terminal at Stafford Regional Airport. The StudioAmmons-designed building will be approximately 10,000 square feet and be located to the west of the double-wide trailer that now serves as the terminal. The airport hopes to break ground on the \$4 million project by late fall and have it completed within 10 months thereafter.

Earlier this month, the **Culpeper Regional Airport** Advisory Committee recommended lowering the personal property tax for aircraft. According to committee member Bill Flathers, the tax is higher than that in other jurisdictions and unnecessary: 97% of the airport's cooperating costs are now paid for by operating revenue and only 3% from property tax revenues; in contrast, in 1998, only 48% of operating costs were paid for by operating revenue. The Culpeper Board of Supervisors is expected to consider the issue at a future meeting.

A project to extend the runway at **Manassas Regional Airport** is scheduled to begin July 1. The primary runway will be extended by 500 feet, to a total of 6200 feet. Airport Director Juan Rivera stated that: "The extension will give pilots an extra safety margin when they are landing in inclement weather or when there's snow or ice on the runway." Most of the \$4.4 million cost will be paid by FAA and state grants; the target completion date is the end of November.



On May 28, two small aircraft (reported to be piloted by NTSB and FAA employees) collided while flying over Fauquier County near **Warrenton-Fauquier Airport**; the pilot of one aircraft was injured and the pilot and passenger on board the other were killed. On June 15, the pilot of a light sport aircraft was killed in an accident at **Carroll County Regional Airport**. Additionally, on June 11, an unmanned U.S. Navy Global Hawk crashed on Maryland's Eastern Shore, about 22 miles east of Patuxent River. As always, fly safely!

If you're aware of any news of interest to business aviation occurring around the greater Washington area, please let us know at info@gwbaa.com. For links to news stories compiled by GWBAA, please visit <http://www.gwbaa.com/links.html>.

Upcoming Aviation Events

- **July 16-17:** AAAE and ALA legislative issues conference, at the W Washington Hotel. For more information, please visit <http://events.aaae.org/sites/120702/index.cfm>.
- **July 17:** International Aviation Club luncheon at the City Club of Washington featuring Willie Walsh, CEO of International Airlines Group. For more information, please visit <http://www.iacwashington.org/Events.aspx?eventId=494016>.
- **July 19:** International Aviation Club summer reception at the New Zealand Embassy. For information, visit <http://www.iacwashington.org/Events.aspx?eventId=486523>.

- **July 26:** Aero Club luncheon at the Capital Hilton featuring Rosemarie Andolino, Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation. For more information, please visit <http://www.aeroclub.org/luncheons.htm>.
- **August 13-16:** ACI public safety and security conference at the Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City. For more information, please visit <http://aci-na.org/event/1753>.
- **August 14-17:** 38th annual Virginia aviation conference in Hot Springs, Virginia. For information, visit http://www.virginiaaviationconference.com/Annual_Conference.html.
- **September 12:** Hold this date for the eighth annual GWBAA golf tournament at the 1757 Golf Club in Ashburn, VA. For more information, click [here](#).
- **September 15:** “Wings & Wheels” fly-in at Essex Skypark. For more information, please visit <http://www.essexskyparkassn.org/essex/index.jsp>.
- **October 1-3:** ATCA 57th annual conference and exposition at the Gaylord National Resort. For more information, please visit <http://www.atca.org/57Annual>.
- **October 30-November 1:** NBAA 65th annual meeting and convention in Orlando, Florida. For more information, please visit <http://www.nbaa.org/events/amc/2012/>.
- **November 16:** Dulles 50th anniversary gala, sponsored by the Committee for Dulles and the Washington Airports Task Force. For more information, please visit <http://www.celebratedulles.com>.

GWBAA Contacts

GWBAA President Paige Kroner of Signature Flight Support (paige.kroner@signatureflight.com) and GWBAA Secretary Jol Silversmith of Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger, LLP (jasilversmith@zsrlaw.com) write and edit GWBAA News. GWBAA’s success and ability to make a difference depends on the breadth of its support and your participation – so please send any ideas or comments for future newsletters, or for GWBAA, in general, to Paige or Jol.

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