

GWBAA announces its first event of 2014 and updates from around the region.



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Bowling, Brats, and Beverages

Please Join GWBAA for a Social Event on March 12



Please join us on Wednesday, March 12 at Bowl America-Dranesville (46940 Woodson Drive, Sterling, VA) for an evening of bowling and networking with aviation peers, colleagues, and friends. To register, please visit <http://www.gwbaa.com/events.html>.

GWBAA Safety Standdown Scheduled for May 1



The eight annual GWBAA safety standdown will be held on Thursday, May 1 at the NTSB Training Center in Ashburn, Virginia. The keynote speaker will be Greg Feith, a former member of the NTSB and an aviation safety and security expert. Other planned topics include the ISBAO program and sleep apnea/fatigue. Additional information and speakers will be posted soon at <http://www.gwbaa.com/standdown.html>.

Regional News Round-Up

The FAA has initiated a nationwide study of control towers' lightning protection systems, after a lightning strike damaged equipment and injured a controller at **Baltimore-Washington**

International Airport on September 12, 2013. The agency described the incident as "the first of its kind in FAA history."



Chris Lawler, who recently became the Manager at **Frederick Municipal Airport**, has resigned. Rick Johnson will be the Acting Airport Manager until the position is filled. Rick Griffin, Director of Economic Development for the City, told the Frederick News-Post that: "He did a fine job and we're sad to see him go." The new manager will be responsible for overseeing the extension of the airport's runway, a project expected to spur economic development.

Talbot County Council members recently met with FAA representatives to discuss the removal of trees neighboring **Easton/Newnam Field Airport**, which have been a matter of concern to the agency for several years and for which an FAA grant previously was awarded.



An article in the *Carroll County Times* discussed the importance of expanding the runway at **Carroll County Regional Airport** to attract new business, as well as the challenges that lie ahead in implementing the plan adopted by the Board of Commissioners in April 2013. An initial traffic study has been submitted to the FAA by Delta Airport Consultants on behalf of Carroll County. Notably, Surdex Corp. - an aerial photography specialist - announced plans to leave the airport when it appeared that no expansion would be authorized, and is proceeding with its plans despite the county's later decision to proceed.

The St. Mary's County Planning Commission has approved a plan for a major expansion of **St. Mary's County Regional Airport**. If built, the plan would add 77 general aviation hangars, to meet growing demand. However, the target date for the start of construction is not until 2019-20.

Leo Schefer, the long-time President of the **Washington Airports Task Force**, will step down at the end of March; his successor will be Keith Meurlin, a former Manager of Washington Dulles International Airport and currently a Senior Vice President of WATF.

Upcoming Events

March 4-5: Air Charter Safety Foundation safety symposium at the NTSB Training Center in Dulles, Virginia. For more information, please visit www.acsf.aero/symposium.

March 4-5: NATA aviation business and legislative conference at the Gaylord National Resort. For more information, please visit <http://www.nata.aero/Events/2014-NATA-Aviation-Business-And-Legislative-Conference.aspx>.

March 6: Aviation Week Laureate Awards at the National Building Museum. For more information, please visit <http://atwonline.com/aviation-week-laureate-awards>.

March 10: International Aviation Club luncheon featuring Captain Lee Moak, President of ALPA. For more information, please visit <http://www.iacwashington.org>.

March 13-14: Federal Aerospace Forecast Conference at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City. For more information, please visit <http://events.aaae.org/sites/140202/index.cfm>.

March 18: National Aeronautic Association spring awards luncheon at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. For more information, please visit

<http://naa.aero/html/events/index.cfm?cmsid=110>.

March 25: Aero Club luncheon featuring Congressman Frank LoBiondo, at the Capital Hilton. For more information, please visit <http://ww.aeroclub.org>.

March 26-27: ACI-NA and AAAE Washington Legislative Conference at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill. For more information, please visit <http://www.aci-na.org/event/2014-aci-na-aae-washington-legislative-conference>.

April 3: U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Annual Aviation Summit at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. For more information, please visit <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1301870>.

April 19: Virginia Airstrip Owners Association membership meeting at Dinwiddie County Airport in Petersburg, Virginia. For more information, please visit http://vaoa.us/?page_id=189.

May 12: Greater Washington Aviation Open golf tournament at the Landsdowne Resort. For more information, please visit <http://www.gwao.org>.

June 4-7: Maryland Regional Aviation Conference in Frederick, Maryland. For more information, please visit <http://www.marylandairportmanagers.org/conference>.

About GWBAA

GWBAA President Paige Kroner of Signature Flight Support (paige.kroner@signatureflight.com) and GWBAA Secretary Jol Silversmith of Zuckert, Scottt & 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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