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Best Wishes for 2015

GWBAA Celebrates the Holidays



GWBAA hosted its annual holiday party at the Dulles Jet Center on December 4 with over 60 members enjoying hors d'oeuvres, food, beverages and each other. GWBAA also took this opportunity to welcome new board members John Kelley and Jennifer Needham. Thanks to Bombardier, United Aviation Services (UAS), Signature Flight Support, and Aviation Manuals for providing wonderful door prizes for those lucky members in attendance. Special recognition goes to Dulles Jet Center for not only supplying its own prize but for use of their well-decorated facility. GWBAA wishes all its members a happy, safe and prosperous New Year! We look forward to seeing you in 2015.

Regional News Round-Up

The FAA has approved plans to test UAVs at **Crisfield-Somerset County Airport**. The University of Maryland plans to conduct tests of a Talon 240 UAV starting this month.

The appropriations bill now under consideration by Congress would ensure funding for the ATC towers that previously had been threatened by sequestration, including at **Frederick Municipal Airport, Hagerstown**

Regional Airport, Martin State Airport, Easton Airport, and Salisbury-Ocean City Wicomico Regional Airport.

AOPA has expressed concerns about the height of a hotel proposed to be built by the University of Maryland near **College Park Airport**, and has urged the City Council to require a reduction in its height.

The Virginia Department of Aviation has provided a \$12,000 grant for repairs to the security fence at **Manassas Regional Airport**.

The Chair of the Stafford Airport Authority disclosed that he had received a letter on Stafford County letterhead, but unsigned, which asserted that the expansion of the airport's runway could endanger students at a nearby school, and stated other complaints regarding **Stafford Regional Airport**. The county public information officer stated that it had no knowledge about the document.

Chantilly Air is currently looking to fill several positions, including Flight Operations Coordinator, Scheduler, and Scheduling Manager, and Learjet 60 Pilot in Command. For more information, please visit <http://media.chantillyair.com/careers>.

As has been widely reported, a Phenom 100 crashed near **Montgomery County Airpark** on December 8, killing all three on the aircraft and three on the ground. Another fatal accident occurred in Fauquier County on December 14, involving a kit-built Tornado II. And a Piper PA-31 landed short of the runway at **Leesburg Executive Airport** on December 4; no injuries were reported. As always, fly safely!

FAA General Aviation News



The most recent edition of the FAA's newsletter for general aviation, FAA Safety Briefing, is available at https://www.faa.gov/news/safety_briefing/. The theme of the issue is "Winter Operations" and it includes articles on topics such as flying with ski-equipped aircraft, how cold weather affects the performance of the body and mind, icing conditions and systems, and generally how to prepare aircraft and pilots for winter flying.

Schedulers and Dispatchers Committee Holds TRACON Event

Schedulers and dispatchers gathered earlier this month for a tour of the FAA TRACON/Command Center in Warrenton, Virginia, organized by D.J. Skinner of BNT International and Moranda Reilly of ProJet Aviation.

The Committee would like to thank the TRACON/Command Center folks and give a special thanks to Matthew Sullivan (NATCA President for Potomac) for hosting and dedicating the time to give us some insight on what goes on behind the scenes. They presented the S&D group with valuable information along with a VIP tour of both facilities. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend and we look forward to seeing everyone at the next event!

The focus of the S&D group is to have bimonthly social gatherings that will concentrate on topics and subjects as it pertains to the world of scheduling and dispatching. The next event will be in early February 2015 - an email with all the details will be sent after the New Year.

Upcoming Events

January 10: Potomac TRACON tours, in the morning and afternoon, sponsored by the FAA Safety team. For more information, please visit http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=59175 and http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=59177.

January 17: "Selecting the Right Approach" seminar regarding the considerations in addition to minimums for instrument flying; at 10am at Shannon Airport in Fredericksburg, Virginia. For more information, please visit http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=58970.

February 19: NBAA southeast regional forum in West Palm Beach. For more information, please visit <http://www.nbaa.org/events/forums/2015PBI/>.

About GWBAA

GWBAA President Harry Houckes (info@gwbaa.com) and GWBAA Secretary Jol Silversmith of Zuckert, Scouff & Rasenberger, LLP (jasilversmith@zsrllaw.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 Harry or Jol.

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