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GWBAA Announces Standdown, Golf Event Dates for 2016

Start Planning for 2016 GWBAA Events

GWBAA will hold its 10th annual safety standdown on Thursday, May 5 and its 12th annual charitable golf tournament on Thursday, September 8. For more information or to register for/sponsor events, please visit <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2016-gwbaa-safety-standdown-tickets-18685697424> and <http://www.planmygolfevent.com/28435-GWBAAgolf/>, respectively.

GWBAA Regional Outreach Initiative

One of GWBAA's 2016 initiatives is to more effectively cover our region beyond Northern Virginia and the Dulles Corridor. GWBAA is identifying and implementing Regional Ambassadors throughout the Virginia, Maryland, Washington, DC, and West Virginia service area. This will enable GWBAA to more effectively support our existing members in these states and continue to grow the GWBAA membership and sphere of influence. GWBAA has nominated Doug Bellet of Tri-Dent Aviation in Maryland to be the Maryland "Ambassador". Doug will be supported by the GWBAA Board in local outreach efforts including GWBAA sponsored events throughout the state of Maryland. Additional "Ambassador" opportunities exist and will be filled throughout the year. If you are interested in fulfilling this role in your local aviation community, please send an email to info@gwbaa.com so we can follow up with and continue to expand the program to better support our members.

Northern Virginia Pilots' Town Hall Meeting

On Wednesday, January 13 the NoVa "Pilots' Town Hall Meeting" was held at the Terminal Building of the Manassas Regional Airport. GWBAA President, Greg Kinsella and Board Member John Kelley attended the very informative event. Panel members included: Katie Pribyl, Senior VP of Communications for AOPA; Randy Burdette, Director of the Virginia Department of Aviation; representatives from National Business Aircraft Association, the General Aviation Manufacturers Association, and the Washington FSDO; and the directors of the Manassas, Leesburg, Warrenton and Stafford airports. This was a great opportunity to find out what is happening locally, across the Commonwealth and nationally directly from the people that make it happen. **As part of its Regional Outreach Initiative (described above)**, GWBAA also hopes to take a more active role with the state aviation departments in the mid-Atlantic region.

FAA General Aviation News



The January/February issue of the FAA's newsletter for general aviation, FAA Safety Briefing, is now available at https://www.faa.gov/news/safety_briefing/. The theme of this issue is "Compliance Philosophy: The FAA's Evolving Approach to Aviation Safety," and it includes articles on modifications in the FAA's approach to enforcement - "risk-based decision making" or RBDM.

Congressional Hill Update



Congress has passed a short-term FAA funding bill, which funds the agency through May 31, 2016 - but this only delays debate over long-term questions. It is important that the voice of business aviation - and not just airlines and other interests - be heard on Capitol Hill. NBAA offers tools for contacting members about pending issues (see <http://capwiz.com/nbaa/home/>) and also information about the importance of airports and business aviation that can be used "in the field" (see both <https://www.nbaa.org/business-aviation/factbook> and <https://www.nbaa.org/ops/airports/handbook>).

Regional News Round-Up

The **New London Airport** in Lynchburg, Virginia has been purchased by Liberty University, which currently offers aviation programs at **Lynchburg Regional Airport**.



AOPA profiled the Congressional Flying Club - which has been operating at **Montgomery County Airpark** for nearly 60 years - including its social and educational activities and support for the Civil Air Patrol. To read the article, please visit <http://www.aopa.org/News-and-Video/All-News/2015/December/29/Congressional-keeps-flying-club-fun>.

Federal and state grants totaling more than \$2 million will be used to repair taxi lanes and address drainage problems at **Warrenton-Fauquier Airport**.



Chesapeake Sport Pilot at **Bay Bridge Airport** in Stevensville, Maryland will be offering a monthly series of free seminars, on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Feb. 10: "The Drones Are Coming To an Airport Near You!"; March 9: "The Auto-Gyro Gyroplane and the Queen Anne County Office of the Sheriff"; April 13: "Aircraft Accident Investigation, How Do We Learn From The Past"; May 11: "Maryland State Police Aviation Command: When Minutes Matter"; June 8: "White

Knuckles: Why your airline pilots don't have them" For more information and to register, please visit <http://airportprograms.com>.

On December 28, a Piper PA-46 landed short at **Bay Bridge Airport** and crashed into a ditch; no injuries were reported. The NTSB has issued a report on the December 8, 2014 accident near **Montgomery County Airpark** (available at <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/hitlist.cfm?docketID=58153>). As always, fly safely!

Upcoming Events

February 3: Aero Club luncheon, featuring Peter Neffenger, TSA Administrator, at the Capital Hilton. For more information, please visit <http://www.aeroclub.org/events/>.

March 15: U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's 15th annual aviation summit at the Renaissance Hotel. For more information, please visit <https://www.regonline.com/register/checkin.aspx?EventId=1797001&RegTypeID=545579>.

May 5: Save the date for GWBAA's safety standdown. For more information, please visit <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2016-gwbaa-safety-standdown-tickets-18685697424>.

September 8: Save the date for GWBAA's golf tournament. For more information, please visit <http://www.planmygolfevent.com/28435-GWBAAGolf/>.

About GWBAA

GWBAA President Greg Kinsella of Jet Linx (info@gwbaa.com) and GWBAA Secretary Jol Silversmith of Zuckert, Scutt & 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 Greg or Jol.

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