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November 30, 2021

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## **GWBAA Donates for the Holidays**

In lieu of a holiday party this year, GWBAA is donating to two aviation charities - \$1250 will be given to both the [Aero Club Foundation of Washington](#) as well as [Angel Flight Mid-Atlantic](#).

The Mission of the Aero Club Foundation is to “foster interest in the principles and development of aviation, aeronautics and the science of aerodynamics by establishing and sponsoring educational programs at public and charter schools in the District of Columbia.”

The Mission of Angel Flight Mid-Atlantic is “removing the barrier to medical transportation with flights flown by volunteer pilots.”

Both of these charities are within the GWBAA geographic area and deserving of support. We appreciate the support of our members and sponsors throughout the year and are pleased to be able to continue the philanthropic nature of the association.

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## **"Stork Lift" and Toys for Tots at HEF**

One of the tenants at Manassas Regional Airport, Commonwealth Aviation, is collecting baby items to take to needy communities in Southwestern Virginia - e.g., lightly used toys, clothes, blankets, car seats, cribs, and other supplies. Please see below for details. Additionally, the airport is also support the Marines' Toys for Tots program,. with donations also due on December 10.

**2021**  
**STORK LIFT** Nova to SWVA



*An airlift of infant/toddler supplies to communities in need*

**Donate new or gently used:**

-  **Cribs**
-  **Car Seats**
-  **Strollers**
-  **Toys (1-3year old)**
-  **Bottles**
-  **Diapers**

**Supplies can be donated to:**



**Commonwealth Aviation**  
 9998 Wakeman Dr,  
 Manassas, VA 20110

**Final collection on December 10th**  
**Airlift December 11th**



*make a difference*  
 donate a new, unwrapped toy!



Come Support Toys for Tots this year at the Manassas Regional Airport. Bring an unwrapped new toy for the US Marines to distribute to children. A box will be in the Terminal Building until December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Terminal Building is at 10600 Harry J Parrish Blvd.

## **GWBAA Scholarship Recipient**

Rafael Garcia-Rodriguez was recently awarded a scholarship by GWBAA at the October 29, 2021 [Aviation Expo](#) hosted by ProJet Aviation at Leesburg Executive Airport. Rafael is an Aerospace Engineering major at Virginia Tech and a member of the Class of 2024.

Unsure of when his love of aviation initially began, Rafael says that it flourished as a youth with some of his favorite memories being regular visits to the [National Museum of the United States Air Force](#) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. He also had the opportunity to see the U.S. Navy Blue Angels perform at their home in Pensacola, Florida. An aspiring test pilot and astronaut in the future, one can

see that Rafael's ambitions and dreams are certainly attainable after just a few minutes spending time with him.

He currently has his private pilot's license and is working on his instrument rating at this time. He also has a current internship with Collins Aerospace, is a member of the Society of Flight Test Engineers (he proudly shared that the Virginia Tech Chapter is the only one in the world that is at a college), and upon graduation plans to enter Officer Training School with the U.S. Air Force.

Balancing his studies and aviation passion, Rafael is also a member of the Virginia Tech Marching Band and plays intramural soccer. He plans to use the funds from the scholarship for both his tuition at Virginia Tech and to continue working on his instrument rating.



Left to Right: Bob Zuskin (GWBAA), Rafael Garcia-Rodriguez, Chris Younger (GWBAA), and Shye Gilad (ProJet Aviation).

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## AIN Sustainability Event

Aviation International News (AIN) is hosting a sustainability event in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on December 8, 2021. The event, titled *Building a Sustainable Flight Department*, is specifically tailored to corporate pilots, maintenance professionals, FBOs, and flight departments. AIN has graciously offered a \$50 discount to GWBAA members with the code **GWBAA21**. For more information, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ain-events-building-a-sustainable-flight-department-dec-8-fl-registration-152110210735>.



**AIN EVENTS**

**BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FLIGHT DEPARTMENT**

December 8, 2021  
Westin Ft. Lauderdale, FL

**MEET THE SPEAKERS • REGISTER TODAY!**

 NANCY BSALES FAA	 SCOTT CUTSHALL, CAM City of Fort Lauderdale	 STEWART O'LEARY, CAM AOPA	 MARC EHDOUN AOPA	 DARREN B. FULLER Accent Aviation Group, LLC	 DAVE SMITH Northrop
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## Regional News Round-Up

The FAA has announced that the remote tower system at **Leesburg Executive Airport** is "operationally viable" and authorized its continuing use, although final certification of the Saab system is not expected until 2024.

An agreement with a developer of an industrial park near **Frederick Municipal Airport** will require the developer to ensure that trees do not interfere with airport flight paths.

The latest issue of the FAA's newsletter for general aviation, *FAA Safety Briefing*, is now available at [https://www.faa.gov/news/safety\\_briefing/2021/media/NovDec2021.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/news/safety_briefing/2021/media/NovDec2021.pdf); the theme of the issue is "preparing the aviation workforce of tomorrow."



Dynamic Aviation in Rockingham County, Virginia is sponsoring a "NEXTGEN Aviators" program to introduce middle and high school students to aviation, through a mixture of on-the-ground and in-the-air experiences. For more information, please visit <https://www.nextgenaviators.aero/> and <https://www.cooliving.com/lifestyle/spotlight/>.

**Winchester Regional Airport** expects to use the \$1.48 million in grants that will be made available to it by the recent federal infrastructure bill for its terminal relocation project.

## Upcoming Events

The National Aeronautic Association will hold its fall awards dinner on December 6 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott; the online registration deadline is December 1. For more information, please visit <https://naa.aero/event/naa-fall-awards-dinner/>.

The Aero Club will hold its annual Wright Memorial Dinner at the Marriott Renaissance Downtown on December 17; for more information, please visit <https://www.aeroclub.org/events/wright-memorial-dinner/>.

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## **About GWBAA**

GWBAA President Jamie Wilson ([jamie.wilson@fbopartners.com](mailto:jamie.wilson@fbopartners.com)) and GWBAA Secretary Jol Silversmith of KMA Zuckert LLC ([jsilversmith@kmazuckert.com](mailto:jsilversmith@kmazuckert.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 Jamie or Jol.

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## **NBAA Membership Discount**

As a new GWBAA member benefit, if you are not currently a member of NBAA, you can now join at a discounted rate using promo code GWBAA100. When you join NBAA not only will you receive \$100 off your first-year NBAA membership dues, NBAA will return 50% of your dues to GWBAA, allowing us to keep working on regional issues on your behalf.

NBAA members enjoy a direct line to industry experts, career development opportunities, discounts to all NBAA events, and much more. Learn more - <https://nbaa.org/membership/>.

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