

# GWBA A News

Greater Washington Business Aviation Association, Inc.

Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Hangar 7, Washington, DC 20001 / (202) 415-1512 / www.gwbaa.com

April 17, 2006

## GWBA A Lunch Meeting a Success!

### NBAA Senior Vice President, Operations Steve Brown Addresses GWBA A:



The April 7th GWBA A annual meeting and lunch at the FlightWorks facility in Manassas was a success.

Turnout was excellent with 54 in attendance!

The program started with GWBA A's President, Bob Blouin, providing a re-cap of last year's activities and laying out plans for 2006. They include:

- GWBA A's important role in NBAA's regional forum at Dulles, June 8.
- A lunch briefing in July for dispatchers, schedulers, and flight department managers about ARINC's products, sponsored by ARINC at their Annapolis headquarters.
- Second Annual GWBA A Golf Classic on Monday, September 25th (mark the date!) at Herndon (VA) Centennial Golf Course.
- Holiday party at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in early December.

**BOMBARDIER**  
**LEARJET**

Blouin then introduced Steve Brown, NBAA's senior vice president for operations, who re-capped the challenges that lie ahead for business aviation on a national level. Steve's remarks brought home how important it is for all of us in business aviation to become involved on a grass roots level. The challenges before us, such as upcoming FAA Airport and Airways Trust Fund reauthorization, can only be won if the full voice of general aviation operators all over the country is proclaimed loud enough to be heard in Washington. Steve directed everyone to NBAA's "Contact Congress" tool on the NBAA website at <http://web.nbaa.org/public/govt/action/>.

After Steve's remarks there was ample opportunity for the group to network, and Greg Kinsella of FlightWorks kindly conducted tours of his company's very impressive new facility.

Many thanks to Greg and Suzie Fodness of **FlightWorks** for the use of their facility and the door prizes. In addition, a big thanks to George Chapman and Matt Brandon of **Bombardier** for sponsoring the lunch!

## User Fee Debate Continues:

NBAA, in coordination with three other national associations representing the general aviation community, recently unveiled a set of principles for the FAA Trust Fund reauthorization, which must be accomplished by September 30, 2007. The principles include: (1) retention of congressional oversight; (2) development of a modernization and investment plan; and, (3) retention of the current fuel tax system for general aviation in lieu of a probable new user fee scheme. The press release issued by NBAA, General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA), and National Air Transportation Association (NATA) is available online at: <http://web.nbaa.org/public/news/pr/2006/20060308-009.php>.

## NORAD Orders Deletion of ADIZ Meeting Transcript; Transcript Restored Unedited:

GWBAA News readers will recall that, in January 2006, FAA held an open forum to solicit public comments on the impact of the Washington Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) on local businesses. However, in an unusual follow-up, the Defense Department ordered that a transcript of the hearing be removed from the FAA website. Maj. Gen. M. Scott Mayes, the head of the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD), reportedly expressed concern that comments made by Lt. Cmdr. Tom Bush, a U.S. Navy F-18 Hornet pilot who was speaking as a private individual, could compromise national security.

According to attendees, Bush's remarks were not out of the ordinary, as he noted that a terrorist could easily defeat the purpose of the ADIZ by filing the required paperwork, talking to air traffic controllers, and then turning toward Washington, D.C., at the last moment. Shortly after the DOD's request, a FAA spokesperson stated that the transcript would be reposted after it reviewed DOD's concerns. GWBAA can now report that the transcript was reposted last week – with no changes made. You can read the transcripts for yourself at [http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf96/383929\\_web.pdf](http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf96/383929_web.pdf) (afternoon transcript) and [http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf96/383930\\_web.pdf](http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf96/383930_web.pdf) (evening transcript).

## Regional News Roundup:



The Council of Dorchester County, Maryland has approved spending \$485,000 to acquire a five-acre property next to the **Cambridge-Dorchester County Airport**. The acquisition will facilitate the lengthening of the airport's 4,500 foot runway by an additional 900 feet. The airport, which is outside of the Washington Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ), hopes to attract charter operators that currently serve or previously served airports within the ADIZ.

GWBAA News previously reported that the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("SCC") held hearings in Loudoun County on the proposed construction of overhead power lines west of Leesburg by Dominion Virginia Power. One of the issues raised was whether the construction of towers would create problems for pilots taking off and landing at **Leesburg Executive Airport**. Additional hearings on the matter were scheduled to be held in Richmond in March, but have been delayed until May or June.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved the selection of Ahern & Associates of Charleston, West Virginia as the lead contractor for the second phase of improvements to Runway 9-27 at **Hagerstown Regional Airport**. The work will include approximately \$2.4 million of excavation and paving, to be funded primarily by FAA and the Maryland Aviation Administration.

Queen Anne's County reportedly is close to a deal to purchase for a 24-acre plot on Kent Island for \$7 million that was slated for a new Wal-Mart. If finalized, the deal would permit the extension of the north taxiway at county-owned **Bay Bridge Airport**, which would enable aircraft to reach hangars without crossing the runway, as well as construction of new hangars. Airport officials said the improvements would be 95% funded by FAA and would reduce noise for neighbors.



### **ARINC Up For Sale:**

ARINC – the 77-year old communications company formerly known as Aeronautical Radio, Inc. – has put itself up for sale in order to raise capital for its growth. The company, which is based in Annapolis, provides the backbone for 95% of the U.S. airline industry's air-to-ground communications, and roughly 70% of the global air-to-ground market. However, about two-thirds of its annual revenue (\$890 million in 2005) is now derived from business with the U.S. military and other government agencies.

ARINC was established in 1929 as a neutral party to manage the U.S. airline industry's radio frequencies. Its principal stockholders continue to be U.S. airlines, including all of the "big six." However, according to ARINC, these airlines' own financial troubles have limited their ability to finance the further growth of ARINC - but they would profit from the sale of the company, which could raise as much as \$1 billion. The sale is being managed by Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

### **Upcoming Aviation Events:**

- June 8: NBAA will hold its annual business aviation regional forum at Landmark Aviation at Dulles. This is a day-long learning and networking event designed to meet the needs of the regional business aviation community. For more information, visit: <http://web.nbaa.org/public/cs/forums/20060608>. GWBAA will be represented at the opening session of the event and will staff a booth with volunteers distributing information about our regional group.
- June 9-25: Studio Theatre will present "Charlie Victor Romeo," a play that re-enacts actual cockpit voice recorder (CVR) recordings. For more information, visit: [http://www.studiotheatre.org/plays/plays\\_details.php?plays\\_id=94](http://www.studiotheatre.org/plays/plays_details.php?plays_id=94).
- July 6-8: World Airline Historical Society will hold its 30th Anniversary Collectibles Show in Tysons Corner, Virginia – an opportunity to socialize and add to one's stock of memorabilia. For more information, visit: <http://www.ai2006.com>.
- July: Watch this space for more details about the lunch briefing sponsored by ARINC.
- September 25: Watch this space for information about GWBAA's golf outing.

# *GWBAA News*

## **GWBAA Is On The Move:**

Effective immediately, GWBAA has a new mailing address:

GWBAA  
c/o Sky Group Associates, Inc.  
Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Hangar 7  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 415-1512 (no change)  
[info@gwbaa.com](mailto:info@gwbaa.com) (no change)

## **GWBAA Offers Online Benefits:**

We are continuing to add member information for GWBAA's electronic membership directory – <http://www.gwbaa.com/directory.html>. This service is available to GWBAA members at no cost. Please contact Bob Blouin ([info@gwbaa.com](mailto:info@gwbaa.com)) if you want to post your company's information.

## **GWBAA Contacts:**

GWBAA President Bob Blouin ([info@gwbaa.com](mailto:info@gwbaa.com)) and Jol Silversmith of Zuckert, Scutt & Rasenberger, LLP ([jasilversmith@zsrlaw.com](mailto: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 Bob or Jol, or any of the following people:

Cassandra Bosco, Communications Chair : [cbosco@tailwindscomm.com](mailto:cbosco@tailwindscomm.com)  
Greg Cirillo, Events Chair: [gcirillo@wrf.com](mailto:gcirillo@wrf.com)  
Bob Rockwood, Membership Chair: [racersblue@earthlink.net](mailto:racersblue@earthlink.net)  
Fred Anderson, Operations Chair: [kanderso2@generaldynamics.com](mailto:kanderso2@generaldynamics.com)

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