

November 7, 2007

## Please RSVP by November 20 to attend the GWBAA Holiday Reception on November 30



## YOUR OFFICIAL INVITATION TO GWBAA'S SECOND ANNUAL HOLIDAY RECEPTION

**WHEN?** Friday, November 30th from 4pm to 6pm.

**WHERE?** Signature Flight Support @ DCA.

**WHAT?** Come and enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and wash them down with a glass of holiday cheer with your fellow GWBAA members. (This will also serve as the annual general meeting for GWBAA, with some quick updates on the past year's activities and the road ahead.)

**DOOR PRIZES?** Sure! We have a few things in GWBAA's closet to give away, but let us know (via email at [info@gwbaa.com](mailto:info@gwbaa.com)) if you or your company want to provide a door prize. We will give you all the credit!

**PARKING?** Available (at no charge) in Lot 10 adjacent to Signature. Just follow the signs to "General Aviation" (yes, we are still here).

**Please RSVP** by November 20th to [rsvp@gwbaa.com](mailto:rsvp@gwbaa.com).

**QUESTIONS?** Please call Bob @ (202) 415-1512.

### Third Annual GWBAA Golf Outing a Success

On October 15th the sun was out, the sky was blue, the course was in great shape, and over 80 GWBAA members and their guests enjoyed a wonderful round of golf, an opportunity to network, and an excellent lunch.

The morning started with Dassault Falcon sponsoring a hot breakfast before teeing off. Bombardier sponsored the beverage cart during play, and Gulfstream hosted a wonderful BBQ Lunch after play finished. Specialty hole sponsors included Air Routing International, Signature Flight Support and Welsch Aviation. Hole sponsors were Arcadia Aviation, ARINC, AvCard, Bank of America, Chantilly Air, FlightWorks, FlightSafety International, Landmark Aviation,

MartinAir, NBAA, Sharp Details and Sky Group Associates. Thanks to all our sponsors and volunteers for contributing to the success of this outing!

GWBAA is again proud to contribute a portion of the golf tournament proceeds to the Aero Club Foundation of Washington. The funds will be used to support aerospace education programs at public schools in the District of Columbia, including TransTech Academy at Cardozo Senior High School and Stuart-Hobson Middle School.

## **FAA Reauthorization Bill on Hold – for Now**

The past thirty days have been quiet, as Congress took up other end-of-year matters. The next shoe to drop continues to be the Senate bill (the House passed its version), including its tax and fees provisions. There is a November 16 “deadline,” but that can and, likely will, be extended. The whole business may be kicked into 2008, which might lead to 2009 if there are political provisions in the bill (and there are) that incline the Democratic majority to wait until after Congressional and Presidential elections in November 2008. Risks surrounding such a delay include: (1) user fees may slip into the legislation, where they are now absent, and, (2) necessary funding for NextGen air traffic control is put off. Major airlines would embrace the first risk, but no part of the air community is in favor of the second.

## **GWBAA Participates in Career Day at Frederick Aviation**

GWBAA’s operations, safety and security committee chairman, Jim Lumley, represented the association last month at the second career fair held at Frederick Aviation. Over 100 high school students attended the event. Jim was able to provide career advice to the students and explain just what business aviation is all about. Thanks to Jim for his time and effort in representing business aviation at this important event, and congratulations to Frederick Aviation for sponsoring a successful event.

## **NBAA Newsletter Provides NOTAM News and Winter Season Guidance**

The latest issue of *NBAA Navigator* is now available online. This biannual newsletter, produced by NBAA’s GA Desk, is designed to keep members informed about current and future National Airspace System initiatives. The fall issue describes planned “D” NOTAM changes, part of an effort to modernize the NOTAM product. It also includes winter season guidance and tips on special traffic management programs, playbook routes, and GAAPs. Please visit <http://www.nbaa.org/navigator> to download an advance copy of the issue in PDF format and learn more about the new “D” NOTAM changes.

## **Regional News Roundup**

A Columbus Day weekend airshow at **Hagerstown Regional Airport** was disrupted by the imposition of a TFR due President Bush’s presence at the nearby National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg. At least four antique aircraft were intercepted by F-16s, and additional aircraft cited for violating the TFR. However, according to media reports, the FAA is likely to clear the records of those and other airmen, because they were not properly notified of the TFR. Pilots

may be aware that Lockheed Martin, which recently assumed FSS responsibilities, has been criticized for poor performance. Rep. Jerry Costello (D-Ill.) recently asserted at a congressional hearing that, in this case, Lockheed Martin actually lost its notification of the TFR.



A decision is expected shortly as to whether about 330 trees near **Carroll County Regional Airport** will be harvested. The county says the trees were identified as a hazard to aviation in a 2002 obstruction study and, thus, should be exempted from the limits on tree harvests set out in the county's Forestry Conservation Code. The harvest also has been reported to be necessary for the operation of a new precision lighting system, which will assist pilots in making visual landings.

In other Carroll County news, the Board of Commissioners plans to hold a series of open-houses and a public hearing to discuss plans for the construction of a new runway at the airport. The Board recently agreed to hire Delta Airport Consultants to perform the required environmental study; the contract and scope of work are still being drafted. Additionally, the Board expects the first meeting between Delta, the County, and FAA (to be held in early 2008) will be open to the public, with an opportunity for questions.

The Ocean City Mayor and Council authorized the next stage of planning for an airshow to be held at **Ocean City Municipal Airport** in 2008. The airshow would replace the OC Fly In, which was cancelled this year. The target dates for the show are June 7-8. Mike McCabe of Air Support, LLC, which co-sponsored the proposal, stated that he cannot guarantee the attendance of a military jet team, but the event nevertheless would be beneficial to Ocean City. In other Ocean City news, financial data released by the city recorded a 23% increase in the number of planes parked at the airport between the summers of 2006 and 2007.

**Stafford Regional Airport** expects the first of three 16,560-square-foot T-hangars now under construction will be ready for occupancy in January 2008. All three will provide space for 30 new tenants, but there are already 41 people on the waiting list. Ed Wallis, the airport manager, also has noted other positive indicators for the airport, including a 7.6% increase in fuel sales for the first three months of fiscal 2008 over a year earlier and plans for the construction of a 10,000-square-foot terminal.



The Page County Board of Commissioners has voted to lower the rate of tax on aircraft from \$3.90 per \$100 of value to \$0.50, in an effort to attract more aircraft to **Luray Caverns Airport**. Powell Markowitz, secretary/treasurer of the Airport Commission, says the county plans to build 30 hangars at the airport, noting the lack of hangar space at Manassas, Front Royal, Winchester, and other airports. Fifteen aircraft owners already have put down deposits on space at the airport. The \$2 million project will be financed by grants from the Virginia Department of Aviation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



Dennis Boykin, chairman of the **Leesburg Executive Airport** Commission, last month held a briefing for local business leaders to emphasize the airport's economic impact. Boykin recounted that nearly 180 people work at jobs associated with the airport, receiving \$12 million in wages; overall, the airport is estimated to have a payroll and revenue impact of \$18 million. In a one-month period, 138 corporations flew into Leesburg and some 600 business operations occurred.

The Dorchester County Sheriff's Office has been loaned a RANS light-sports aircraft by the U.S. Department of Justice, which will be based at **Cambridge-Dorchester Regional Airport**. Sheriff James W. Phillips, Jr., says the aircraft will be used for traffic monitoring, fire spotting, and photographing crime scenes, among other missions.

Two entrepreneurs later this month plan to submit a proposal to open a flight school at **Stafford Regional Airport**. Scott Huff and Dave Ellison will propose to operate a school pursuant to the FAA's new Sport Pilot Program, as well as rent and sell the special aircraft. Huff and Ellison are both pilots who own aircraft based at Shannon Airport in Fredericksburg. They estimate there are already about 800 pilots within a 15-mile radius of the Stafford airport, making a flight school viable.



The Washington County Commissioners have approved the allocation of approximately \$500,000 in additional funds for construction at **Hagerstown Regional Airport**. The funds will be used for work on the ongoing runway expansion project.

The FAA has ruled that a proposed 31-story skyscraper near the approach path to **Washington National Airport** would not pose a general hazard to air navigation, although the FAA's ruling relied on certain conditions, including the installation of warning lights. In addition, the FAA noted that the development of additional high-rises along the Potomac in Arlington could have a "cumulative and unacceptable" impact on radar performance.

## Upcoming Aviation Events

- **November 12:** The FAA will host an interactive seminar – "Getting Around on the Ground: Interactive Runway Safety Review" – to review "rules of the road" for operating safely before takeoff and after landing. The seminar will be at the Falls Church Community Center at 7pm. For more details, please visit [http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event\\_details.aspx?eid=16440](http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=16440).
- **November 29-30:** The Fourth Annual FAA International Aviation Safety Forum will be held in Chantilly (at the Udvar-Hazy Center and the Westfields Marriott), with the theme "Safety without Borders - Meeting the Global Challenges." For more details, please visit [http://www.faa.gov/news/conferences\\_events/2007safetyforum](http://www.faa.gov/news/conferences_events/2007safetyforum).

- **November 30:** Mark your calendar for the GWBAA holiday party at Signature @ DCA! See above for more information.
- **December 3-13:** The Bi-annual Safety and Security Certificate Program will be held at the Aviation Institute at George Washington University. Please visit <http://www.gwu.edu/~aviation/safetyandsecurity/safetyandsecurity.html>.
- **December 8:** The FAA Safety Team will sponsor a discussion entitled "42 Years of Flight Experience" in Luray, Virginia at 11am, featuring an air carrier pilot, pilot examiner and general aviation pilot with over 42 years of experience. For more information, visit [http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event\\_details.aspx?eid=16731](http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=16731).
- **December 14:** Aero Club of Washington and National Aeronautic Association's 60th annual Wright Memorial Dinner, honoring Eugene A. Cernan (the second man to walk in space and the last to walk on the moon). For more information, please visit <http://www.aeroclub.org>.
- **April 23-26:** Aircraft Electronics Association's 51st annual convention and trade show at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in Washington, DC. For details, please visit <http://www.aea.net/Convention/DC2008/DC2008default.asp?Category=6>.

## GWBAA Offers Online Benefits

We continue 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 GWBAA Secretary Jol Silversmith of Zuckert, Scoutt & 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:

Mary Miller, Treasurer: [mary.miller@signatureflight.com](mailto:mary.miller@signatureflight.com)

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