

August 21, 2008

## **TSA Announces Policy to Allow DCA Access Standard Security Program (DASSP) Operators Access to Republican Convention Airspace**

### **Also: Register for October 20th Golf Event!**

#### **TSA Letter Outlines Approval Process for Access to Convention Airspace**

Earlier this month TSA issued a letter outlining the approval process for DASSP operators to operate during the upcoming Republican convention in Minneapolis. Below is the letter:

Good afternoon!

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA), in conjunction with other federal agency security partners, would like to announce the eligibility of DCA Access Standard Security Program (DASSP) operators to operate in to Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR) surrounding the Republican National Convention (RNC) in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area September 1-4, 2008. Only current DASSP operators (as of August 1, 2008) will be eligible for this initiative.

*(Note: No similar program is necessary for the Democratic National Convention, to be held in Denver, Colorado August 25-28, 2008. The applicable TFRs should have no negative impact on general aviation flights, due to airport location and an allowance made for safe approach and departure from Centennial Airport (APA)).*

DASSP operators must follow the existing requirements of the DASSP, including carriage of an armed security officer, screening of crewmembers and passengers, and all other conditions stipulated in the program, with one exception: Flight authorizations, including passenger information, must be submitted 96 hours prior to the intended flight to be permitted access to the RNC TFR. Flight authorizations will be available online next week. A link will be provided to you at that time.

As you can imagine, this sensitive event requires considerable interagency coordination, and we appreciate your assistance in implementing this initiative. TSA has pursued this initiative in an effort to recognize your commitment to security and provide your operation with increased flexibility. FAA NOTAMs 8/1196 and 8/1094 reflect the eligibility of DASSP operators.

Please contact me with any questions regarding DASSP at RNC. Please contact Reggie Rhodes at [reginald.rhodes@dhs.gov](mailto:reginald.rhodes@dhs.gov) with any questions regarding the flight authorization process.

Best regards,

Lindsey C. McFarren, Assistant General Manager, Programs, Office of General Aviation  
Transportation Sector Network Management, Transportation Security Administration  
Office: 571-227-5168

## **SAVE THE DATE! GWBA Golf Tournament to Be Held on October 20**

The fourth annual GWBA golf outing will be held at Herndon Centennial Golf Club in Herndon, Virginia on Monday, October 20. Breakfast at 7am and tee off at 8am. Participants in past events have been very happy with the layout of the course, its central location, and the luscious BBQ Lunch, and our Sponsorship Opportunities so we decided not to change a good program. For more information on sponsorship opportunities and player information visit the link at <http://www.gwbaa.com> for details.

## **FAA Adopts Special Awareness Training Rules for Washington, DC**

The FAA has issued a final rule requiring “special awareness” training for any pilot who files under VFR within a 60-nautical mile radius of Washington, DC effective February 9, 2009. The training will be provided online via <http://www.faasafety.gov>, and pilots will be able to print out a certificate of training. The training will focus on procedures for flying in and around the Air Defense Identification Zone (“ADIZ”) and Flight Restricted Zone (“FRZ”) and is intended to reduce unauthorized flights into those airspaces. A copy of the final rule is available online at <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/ContentViewer?objectId=09000064806bf340&disposition=attachment&contentType=pdf>.

## **Headed to NBAA2008? Help Build a Playground!**

NBAA is partnering with several organizations to build an aviation-themed playground for the children of Orlando, the host city of NBAA2008. KaBOOM!, a national non-profit organization that envisions a great place to play within walking distance of every child in America, will design and orchestrate the build. The project will take place on Saturday, October 4 (remember, this year the convention’s main events will be held Monday-Wednesday). For more information, please visit <http://web.nbaa.org/public/cs/amc/2008/build/>.

## **DOT Adopts Proposed Landing Fee Rules, but Few Changes Expected**

DOT has adopted most of the so-called “congestion pricing” rules that it first proposed in January, and solicited public comments (for a copy of the final policy as adopted, please visit <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/ContentViewer?objectId=0900006480672263&disposition=attachment&contentType=pdf>). Although the proposal was opposed by virtually all general aviation trade groups, including NBAA, as well as other aircraft operators, the DOT found that they were both lawful and necessary. In doing so, however, the DOT acknowledged that they were likely to have limited effect.

The theoretical ability of an airport to impose a landing fee based on both operations and weight first was recognized in the Massport case twenty years ago, although the two-part fee that was at issue in that case was held to be unlawful. The new rule re-states the general principle that airports can assess two-part fees – but at the insistence of NBAA and other interested parties, makes clear that a two-part fee can only be imposed during demonstrably congested hours and must be both justified in detail and discussed with operators before it is imposed.

The other two policies approved by FAA – one that allows work-in-progress to be included in landing fees for congested hours and another that allows the costs of secondary airports under common ownership and control of a congested airport to be included in landing fees for congested hours – also are expected to have little, if any, practical impact.

## FAA Safety Team News

The FAA Safety Team publishes a monthly newsletter that may be of interest to GWBAA members. The most recent issue discusses the FAA's new policy on sport aircraft certification, runway status lights, and other issues. For the August 2008 newsletter, please visit <https://faasafety.gov/files/notices/2008/Jul/AVNewsUpdateAugust2008.pdf>, and for more information about the FAA Safety Team generally, please visit <http://www.faasafety.gov>.

## NBAA Joins Coalition for Lower Oil Prices

NBAA has joined a diverse coalition with the purpose of finding ways to reduce fuel prices. The Stop Oil Speculation Now (S.O.S. NOW) coalition includes among its members airlines and other general aviation groups, but also highway, agricultural and other interests. "The people in business aviation are subject to challenging economic conditions and high fuel costs, just like everyone else," NBAA President and CEO Ed Bolen explained. "We need to find ways to try to address rising fuel costs, and this group is committed to doing just that." For information, visit [http://web.nbaa.org/public/govt/issues/fuel\\_costs.php](http://web.nbaa.org/public/govt/issues/fuel_costs.php) or <http://www.stopoilspeculationnow.com>.

## Regional News Roundup

Several historic farm buildings near **Hagerstown Regional Airport** may be moved, after FAA and TSA expressed concern about their location, 500 feet from the end of the airport's recently-extended runway. Because the farmstead - which includes a late 19th-century brick house, an 18th-century smokehouse and a rare pierced-brick barn - was given historical designation in 2001, federal law requires efforts be made to relocate or otherwise preserve them, rather than demolish them. The Washington County Commissioners are scheduled to discuss the available options, and whether federal funding would be available.

The Albemarle County Supervisors have approved a plan to extend the runway at **Charlottesville-Albemarle Regional Airport**. The current 6,001-foot runway will be extended by 800 feet. The extension is necessary because some aircraft which regularly serve the airport can't land fully loaded during times of high humidity and temperature. The project will require re-arranging some neighboring wetlands and runoff areas.



Warren County officials plan to hold a hearing on the removal of trees near **Front Royal-Warren County Airport**. According to Deputy County Administrator Richard J. Magnifico, the trees could become obstructions in the future. In an interview with the Northern Virginia Daily, he said that "[t]he issue is this is something we would like to be proactive rather than reactive." The trees stand along the southerly boundary of the airport. The hearing would also include a

presentation on the airport's 20-year layout plan, which includes plans for the acquisition of additional property.

## Upcoming Aviation Events

- **August 30:** The FAA Safety Team will present a seminar, "Practical Risk Management for Pilots," at Leesburg Executive Airport starting at both 11am and 1pm. For information, please visit [http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event\\_details.aspx?eid=20103](http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=20103) or [http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event\\_details.aspx?eid=20446](http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=20446).
- **September 6:** 17th Annual Louisa County Air Show. For more information, call (540) 967-0050 or email [dawnp@firstva.com](mailto:dawnp@firstva.com).
- **September 10:** NBAA Regional Forum at Hanscom Field in Bedford, Massachusetts. For more information, please visit <http://web.nbaa.org/public/cs/forums/20080910/>.
- **September 10-12:** Maryland Airport Managers Association's Maryland Regional Aviation Conference at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center in Frederick, Maryland. For more information, please visit <http://www.marylandairportmanagers.org/conference.html>.
- **September 12-14:** Warren County Balloon & Airstravaganza at the Front Royal Airport. For more information, please visit <http://warrencountyairevent.com>.
- **September 25:** Aero Club of Washington luncheon featuring Stephen N. Finger, President, Pratt & Whitney. For more information, please visit <http://www.aeroclub.org/luncheons.htm>.
- **October 4-5:** EAA Chapter 186 Flyin' & Cruisin' Festival at Winchester Regional Airport. For more information, please visit <http://www.eaa186.org/186falin.htm>.
- **October 5:** Stafford Rotary Wings Wheels and Ducks at Stafford Regional Airport. For more information, please visit <http://www.staffordrotary.org/WingsWheelsandDucks.cfm>.
- **October 6-8:** NBAA's 61st annual meeting and convention in Orlando, Florida. For more information, please visit <http://web.nbaa.org/public/cs/amc/2008>.
- **October 11:** 9th Annual Airfest at Culpeper Regional Airport. For more information, please call (540) 825-8280 or email [twoodward@culpepercounty.gov](mailto:twoodward@culpepercounty.gov).
- **October 16-18:** National Conference on Aviation and Space Education at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. For more information, please visit <http://www.ncase.info>.
- **October 20:** Please hold the date for GWBAA's fourth annual golf tournament at Herndon (VA) Centennial golf course ("our place") and visit <http://www.gwbaa.com> for more details.

- **November 2:** Air Traffic Control Association 53rd annual conference at the Marriott Wardman Park Washington, DC. For more information, please visit [http://www.atca.org/activities/event\\_items.asp?month=11&year=2008&item\\_id=1088](http://www.atca.org/activities/event_items.asp?month=11&year=2008&item_id=1088).
- **December 1-3:** FAA 5th annual international aviation safety forum at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. For more information, visit [http://www.faa.gov/news/conferences\\_events/2008safetyforum/](http://www.faa.gov/news/conferences_events/2008safetyforum/).
- **December 4:** Airports Council International-North America International Aviation Issues Seminar at the Westin Embassy Row. For more information, please visit <http://www.aci-na.org/conferences/detail?eventId=118>.
- **February 24-25:** Air Charter Safety Foundation Symposium, at the NTSB Training Center in Ashburn, Virginia. For more information, please visit <http://www.acsf.aero>.

## 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 ([bob\\_blouin@hawkerbeechcraft.com](mailto:bob_blouin@hawkerbeechcraft.com)) if you want to post your company's information.

## GWBAA Contacts

GWBAA President Bob Blouin ([bob\\_blouin@hawkerbeechcraft.com](mailto:bob_blouin@hawkerbeechcraft.com)) and GWBAA Secretary Jol Silversmith of Zuckert, Scutt & Rasenberger, LLP ([jasilversmith@zslaw.com](mailto:jasilversmith@zslaw.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:

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