

April 6, 2009

Registration Now Open for GWBAA Safety Standdown

GWBAA to Hold Third Annual Safety Standdown on Thursday, May 7

GWBAA will hold its Third Annual Safety Standdown on May 7 at the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Training Center in Ashburn, VA. **Captain Alfred C. Haynes**, of United Airlines flight 232, will be the keynote speaker. It was twenty years ago this year that Captain Haynes and his crew, against all odds, crash landed a United DC-10 into Sioux City, Iowa with no hydraulics; there were 184 survivors.

Captain Haynes' presentation is not just for pilots, but for flight attendants, maintenance personal, dispatchers, air traffic controllers, emergency crews, and others. His 75 minute presentation will captivate, inspire, and motive you.

After his address, Captain Haynes will participate in a Q&A and sign books.



Other speakers and topics include:

- Jim Burin, Flight Safety Foundation - "Aviation Safety Challenges"
- Bob Hobbi, ServiceElements - "Customer Service Tools for Surviving the Current Environment"
- John Rahilly, Former VP, Dassault Falcon Jet – "Aviation Maintenance - Obtaining the Best Pricing and Highest Quality"
- Dr. Paul Schuda, NTBS - "TWA Flight 800 Briefing"

The standdown will also include an opportunity to see the reconstructed portion of the fuselage of TWA 800. For directions to the NTSB, visit <http://www.nts.gov/tc/trainingcenter.htm>.

The standdown is eligible for credit towards NBAA's Certified Aviation Manager (CAM) qualification.

The cost of the Safety Standdown is **\$50** and includes a continental breakfast sponsored by Welsch Aviation, lunch sponsored by Bombardier and a raffle with great prizes. Other sponsors include: Gulfstream, Dassault Falcon, SATCOM Direct, Signature Flight Support, Sharp Details, Flight Safety, Landmark Aviation, Universal Weather & Aviation, and NBAA.

Contact Jim Lumley, GWBAA Safety Chairman, for more information at (443) 534-1219, or visit our website at <http://www.gwbaa.com/standdown.html> to register.

ARINC Hosts Luncheon and Tour for GWBAA



On March 19, ARINC hosted a luncheon and tour for about 20 members of GWBAA and other guests at its facilities in Annapolis. Mike Shearer provided the audience with an overview of the services provided by ARINC (which is this year marking its 80th year of providing aeronautical communications) and the specific services available for business aviation through ARINC Direct. ARINC provided a tour of its control center and other behind-the-scenes operations after lunch. GWBAA thanks ARINC for its hospitality!

No Plane, No Gain

The NBAA, in coordination with GAMA, have launched an advertising campaign and a website (<http://www.noplanenogain.org>) to educate the public about business aviation. "[P]olicymakers and opinion leaders need to understand that business aviation is essential to America," NBAA President and CEO Ed Bolen has stated in connection with the campaign. "This advertising reminds our target audience that business aviation works for America by creating over one million jobs, providing a lifeline to communities without airline service, helping companies be more productive and providing humanitarian support for people in need."

Members of GWBAA should promptly contact their members of Congress to emphasize the importance of business aviation and express their dissatisfaction with recent unwarranted attacks on the industry. NBAA provides a tool on its website to identify representatives and senators and to send messages to their offices (<http://capwiz.com/nbaa/home/>).

GUEST VIEWPOINT: *The Audacity of a Private Jet*

David R. Allen, President of the Florida Aviation Trades Association, recently sent an open letter to President Obama in response to recent efforts to vilify business aviation. GWBAA reproduces his remarks below, which we believe represent the views of many in the industry.

Dear President Obama:

"Do we participate in a politics of cynicism or a politics of hope?" Those were your words as you answered a question about the book you wrote, *"The Audacity of Hope."*

I would like to talk about the **Audacity of Owning a Private Jet** and ask for your support for this institution we call aviation. Yes, it is more than an industry; it is an institution that is rooted in history and victories not only in war but also in personal dreams. Dreams of young boys and girls who look up in the sky with anticipation of becoming a pilot or astronaut and of entrepreneurs who wish to reach new heights.

Are all private aircraft owners the same? No! Unfortunately your cynical remark of CEO's and private jet owners in the same sentence during your address has negatively impacted many private aircraft owners and the many businesses that support aviation. Behind every airplane is a manufacturer, a flight instructor, a pilot, a mechanic, a community airport, a Fixed Base Operator (FBO) that services the aircraft, a caterer, an aircraft cleaner, a municipality, an insurance company, a flight training company, and a university to name a few. There are many of us whose livelihoods are at stake.

I would like to also point out that **NONE** of the American aircraft manufacturers received any TARP money but had to lay off thousands of employees in response to this economic downturn and the negative stigma attached to private aviation. Americans who can afford NOT to participate in the recession are now being forced to cut back, because spending in this difficult time has been labeled as irresponsible. Furthermore, private aviation supports many charitable causes such as Angel Flight, which arranges transportation of those people who are financially distressed, or who are in a time-critical, non-emergency situation due to their medical condition.

Are there corrupt, irresponsible, self-serving and inept business leaders? Absolutely! However, I remind you that there is failure in every role in life including politicians, doctors, teachers, police officers, clergy as well as mothers and fathers. But for every abuse we can count thousands of unsung heroes who do the right thing day in and day out unceremoniously.

There are two types of failures; one is done with malicious or hurtful intent and the other is a byproduct of progress. One truth remains about failure. Without failure, there is no progress. Without progress there is no success and without hope there is no future progress or success.

John Maxwell said it best when he stated, "When there is hope for the future, there is power in the present." Let's harness that power today to get us through these difficult times. However, if we keep saying it's going to get worse before it gets better it will. You, Mr. President, have the power to change that with your words.

Who could argue with Norman Vincent Peale the great author who wrote "*The Power of Positive Thinking*?" He said, "Attitude is more important than facts. " The fact is that we are in a mess but the attitude of the American spirit cannot be denied.

Mr. President, I am respectfully asking that you not bring down an entire institution, an entire industry, with your remarks; I am asking that you apologize for those remarks and more importantly I am asking you to give America **HOPE** as you did in your campaign.

I would like to point out the comments of another author who said, "When you focus on solving problems instead of scoring political points, and emphasize common sense over ideology, you'd be surprised what can be accomplished."

You scored a political point during your address at the expense of the diligent, hard working people who proudly serve aviation and the business leaders who provide thousands of jobs in the aviation and related industries.

This same author said:

"Hope in the face of difficulty, hope in the face of uncertainty, the audacity of hope: In the end, that is God's greatest gift to us, the bedrock of this nation, a belief in things not seen, a belief that there are better days ahead."

These are your words, Mr. President. I believe in them and I believe in the American spirit who have seen tougher times and have prevailed. Words have tremendous suggestive power; please use them responsibly as the leader of the greatest nation on earth.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Allen, President, Florida Aviation Trades Association

Regional News Round-Up

On March 17, the Board of Supervisors of Stafford County voted 5-2 to lower the personal property tax on aircraft from \$3 per \$100 of assessed value to 10¢. According to representatives of **Stafford Regional Airport**, the reduction is critical to attract aircraft since the taxes for aircraft based at other regional airports are even lower; the rate at Manassas is 1¢. County data indicates that, in 2008, 46 aircraft were based in Stafford and collectively were assessed \$84,369.30 in personal property taxes. Stafford Regional Airport Authority Chairman Walt George told the Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star that "[o]ur underlying concern is that it may take two to three years to reinvigorate business interest in the airport. But I feel good about the rate. It is a positive step in the right direction."



A forum was held in advance of the start of a runway expansion project at **Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport**. According to media reports, Bill Pahuta, airport director stated that: "We have a considerable amount of fill that needs to be put into this project. But the first phase is just to prep it and get it ready, clearing and the area designed for the project." The initial phase is expected to take six to eight months.

BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport has received a \$15 million grant to reconstruct two aprons at the airport. The Airport Improvement Program grant will be used to improve aprons C and D as well as for markings, airport signs and lights, drainage improvements and the installation of a new deicing collection system.

A Cirrus SR22 crashed shortly after departing **Montgomery County Airpark** on March 15; the airframe parachute was deployed, and the pilot reportedly was not injured. Another Cirrus, landing at **Bay Bridge Airport**, hit a deer while landing on March 25; again, the pilot reportedly was not injured. As always, fly safely!

Upcoming Aviation Events

- **April 15:** The Royal Aeronautical Society will host a lecture on "The Helicopter – Thinking Forward, Looking Back," featuring Dr. J. Gordon Leishman, at the University of Maryland, College Park. For more information, contact Alan Hickling at (703) 693-1564 or hickling3903@aol.com.
- **April 18:** Potomac Consolidated TRACON Operation Raincheck and Open House, with sessions at both 10am and 1pm, in Warrenton, VA. For more information, please visit <http://www.faa.gov/ato?k=pct>.
- **April 22:** The Committee for Dulles will host a luncheon celebrating United Airlines' new service to Geneva, Switzerland. For more information, please visit http://www.committeefordulles.org/current_lunch.html.
- **April 22:** The FAA Safety Team will host a seminar "GPS From the Ground Up" at 7pm at the Sheraton Baltimore North. For more information, please visit http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=24612.
- **April 30:** The Aero Club of Washington will host a luncheon featuring Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood at the Capital Hilton. For more information, please visit <http://www.aeroclub.org/luncheons.htm>.
- **May 4:** Greater Washington Aviation Open at the Lansdowne Resort. For more information, please visit <http://www.gwao.org>.
- **May 5:** The International Aviation Club will host a luncheon featuring Geoff Hoon, the U.K. Secretary of State for Transport, at the Grand Hyatt. For more information, please visit <http://www.iacwashington.org>.
- **May 7:** Third Annual GWBAA Safety Standdown. See above for more details.
- **May 15-17:** Joint Service Open House Air Show at Andrews Air Force Base. For more information, please visit <http://www.jsoh.org>.
- **May 26-28:** ATW Eco-Aviation Conference at the Marriott Metro Center. For more information, visit <http://www.atwonline.com/events/ecoAviationConference09.html>.
- **May 28:** The National Aeronautical Association will present the 2008 Collier Trophy to the Commercial Aviation Safety Team at a black tie event at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. For information, visit <http://www.naa.aero/html/events/index.cfm?cmsid=106>.
- **June 6-9:** The Airport Minority Advisory Council will hold its 2009 Airport Business Diversity Conference at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront. For more details, please visit <http://amac-org.com/annualconference.html>.
- **June 8-10:** NATA Air Charter Summit at the Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles. For more information, visit <http://www.nata.aero/Event.aspx?page=1259§ionid=553>.

- **June 9-11:** NATA FBO Leadership Conference at the Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles. Visit <http://www.nata.aero/Event.aspx?page=1260§ionid=553> for more information.
- **June 13-14:** Ocean City air show, featuring the USAF Thunderbirds. For more information, please visit <http://www.ocairshow.com>.
- **August 24-26:** Airport Council International-North America public safety and security conference at the Ritz Carlton Pentagon City. For more information, please visit <http://www.aci-na.org/conferences/detail?eventId=149>.
- **September 9-11:** Sixth Annual FAA International Safety Forum at the Omni Shoreham. For information, visit http://www.faa.gov/news/conferences_events/2009safetyforum.
- **October 3:** Wings, Wheels and Ducks at the Stafford Regional Airport, from 10am until 4pm. For more information, please visit <http://www.staffordrotary.org>.
- **October 10:** 10th annual Culpeper Air Fest, from 10am until 4pm. For information, visit <http://web.culpepercounty.gov/CountyGovernment/Airport/tabid/108/ModuleID/800/ItemID/7/mctl/EventDetails/Default.aspx?selecteddate=10/10/2009>.
- **October 20-22:** NBAA's 62nd annual meeting and convention in Orlando, Florida. For more information, please visit <http://www.nbaa.org/events/amc/2009/>.
- **November 1:** 32nd Gaithersburg Transportation Show at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. For more information, please visit <http://www.gserr.com/shows.htm>.
- **November 2-5:** Air Traffic Control Association 53rd annual conference at the Marriott Wardman Park. For information, visit <http://www.atca.org/annualconference.aspx>.
- **December 3:** Airport Council International-North America international aviation issues seminar at the Fairfax Embassy Row. For more information, please visit <http://www.aci-na.org/conferences/detail?eventId=153>.

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 Jol Silversmith (jasilversmith@zsrlaw.com) if you want to post your company's information.

GWBAA Contacts

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