

Air Currents

SUMMER 2012

New York Aviation Management Association



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2012 Fall Conference and Exhibit Show

We are eagerly preparing for NYAMA's 2012 Fall Conference and Exhibit Show this year on September 19-21. It will be hosted by the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority at the Conference Center Niagara Falls, NY. Register online at www.nyama.com or through our Registration Brochure, also found on NYAMA's website. You may also contact NYAMA's administrative offices at 518-432-9973 for more information. Be sure to look out for our weekly 2012 Fall Conference email updates!

2012 Fall Conference highlights include:

- › **Keynote Speaker:** Hugh Neeson, a Trustee and Executive Committee member for the Niagara Aerospace Museum, will be giving the Conference's keynote address entitled "Our Local Aviation History". You can view a short preview of what Hugh will share on NYAMA's Facebook page!
- › **Featured Speakers:** Topics this year will include Safety Management Systems Implementation, Air Service Development, and Contract Management and Privatization.
- › **Corporate Technical Sessions:** An opportunity to showcase your products and services to Conference attendees.
- › **Exhibit Hall:** Focus on exchange of knowledge, networks and relationship building--a great opportunity to showcase your company!
- › **Golf Tournament at Seneca Hickory Stick Golf Course:** Enjoy the Niagara Falls scenery and some competitive fun at this exquisite golf course.

continued on page 3...



Word on the Wing

Message from the President



Chad G. Nixon
NYAMA President

Dear Friend of Aviation:

It has been a busy and productive year for NYAMA. I am pleased to announce that we recently held our annual GA Airports and FBO Roundtable Peer Review at Westchester County Airport on July 11. The turnout was excellent! The roundtable hosted 33 guests from over 15 different airports, FBOs, engineering and consulting companies. Some great presentations were given that will prove instrumental to maintaining the vitality of general aviation in New York. NYAMA places great value on General Aviation airports and FBOs, which have a tremendously positive impact on our transportation system and overall commerce in the state.

Our state advocacy efforts remain strong as we continue to engage our elected officials at the highest levels to promote the benefits that aviation provides in New York State. In May, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed a proclamation that declared May 2012 as Aviation Appreciation Month in New York State. This public declaration is a clear indication of the governor's recognition of the significant economic contributions to New York State's economy made by its aviation industry.

NYAMA has been active in other advocacy endeavors. In the past few months, we have:

- › Held our annual advocacy day in Albany, which hosted 45 attendees who met with more than 75 legislators.
- › Continued to advocate for favorable tax exemption on the purchase of general aviation aircraft.
- › Reached out to legislators to boost the effectiveness of the New York Legislative Aviation Caucus to promote the aviation industry in New York State.

I am looking forward to seeing you at NYAMA's 2012 Fall Conference and Exhibit Show from September 19-21 in Niagara Falls. The conference, hosted by the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, will include timely presentations on air service development, implementation of FAA's Safety Management Systems, Contract Management and Privatization at airports and Airport Sustainability Planning to name a few. The Annual Fall Conference always provides a great opportunity for us to help each other by sharing ideas and exchanging knowledge.

See you in September!

Sincerely,

Chad Nixon
NYAMA President
McFarland Johnson, Inc.

Fall Conference



2012 Fall Conference and Exhibit Show, *continued from cover*

› **Niagara Falls International Airport:** A free technical tour of one of the nation's most historically significant airports, home to the first commercial helicopter and super-sonic plane!

Display Tables

NYAMA's Fall Conference and Exhibit Show is a great opportunity to network and promote your company's latest products and services to prospective customers! NYAMA goes to great lengths to encourage attendees to visit the exhibitors through prizes and promotions.

Exhibit tables will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. **Please note that vendors reserving display tables must also register for the conference.** All exhibitors will be provided a standard 6' skirted exhibit table, one chair and access to a standard 110 volt electrical outlet upon request. Additional supplies, including audio-visual equipment or telephone lines, are available from the hotel at the exhibitor's expense. When completing the registration form, please refer to the table layout on the third to last page of the Early Registration Brochure to select your preferred location. ✈️

Conference Sponsorship Opportunities

It's not too late to be a sponsor!

Sponsoring NYAMA's 2012 Fall Conference and Exhibit Show will provide your company with an opportunity to promote its latest developments to over 100 professional aviation managers, engineers, consultants and others who strive to advance New York's aviation industry.

All Platinum and Gold Sponsors may receive additional recognition for the conference event of their choice. Preferred events include: Cocktail Reception, Whirlpool Walk, and the Niagara Falls International Airport Tour. Contact Mark Agnello at NYAMA headquarters at 518-432-9973 or info@nyama.com with questions or for more details:

Sponsorship levels

Platinum: \$7,500 | Gold: \$5,000

Silver: \$2,500 | Bronze: \$1,000

Thank you to our
current 2012 Fall
Conference Sponsors!

PLATINUM

- Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
- Delaware North Companies

GOLD

- C&S Engineers
- McFarland Johnson
- The Louis Berger Group

SILVER

- Albany International Airport
- AvPorts
- Elmira Corning Regional Airport
- ESCO Zodiac
- Passero Associates

BRONZE

- Fritz Kass
- Greater Rochester International Airport
- SheltAir
- Standard Parking
- Stantec Consulting Services
- Syracuse Hancock International Airport

OTHER

- National Business Aviation Association (NBAA)



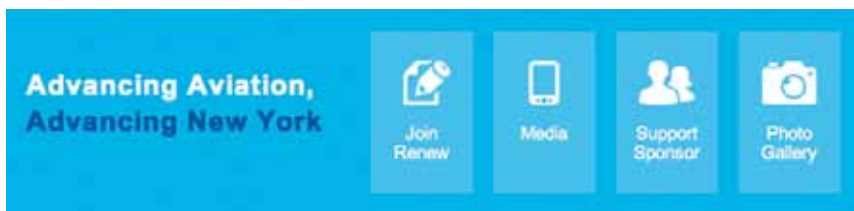
Association News

Welcome to NYAMA's New Website

www.NYAMA.com

The New York Aviation Management Association is excited to introduce its new website! NYAMA's new electronic identity replaces the old "blog style" with a fresh, brighter look. It includes an updated photo gallery, media and legislative centers, archives, and an enhanced section for members.

Our new website features easy-to-find buttons (*below*) and menu bars with all the information you'll need. With our Quick Links feature and social media icons on the home page, you'll have access to the latest information on New York aviation right at your fingertips!



NYAMA is Online—Connect With Us!

NYAMA has been soaring online! Check out our re-energized Facebook page, which is receiving more views and likes every day, as well as our LinkedIn and brand new Twitter page!



Like us on Facebook! Join the state's premier aviation industry's social network and connect with your colleagues.



Follow us on Twitter! Follow our Twitter page for the latest NYAMA and aviation industry updates.



Join the Group! Targeted specifically towards industry professionals, there is no better place to network, build and maintain professional relationships, and share best practices and important industry news. Start expanding your professional network on LinkedIn today!



E-Currents Complementing our social networks, NYAMA has also started a convenient supplement to Air Currents. *E-currents* is NYAMA's new weekly, informative email filled with the aviation industry's latest news and product information. Check your inbox every Thursday morning for the latest edition!

Association News



Staff Update: Meet Mark Agnello, NYAMA's New Communications Director



Michael Thompson will be stepping out of his role as Communications Director for NYAMA. Michael came to us from InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, where he mentored college students in their faith and careers. Combining that background with his diverse association management experience, Michael has been asked to serve as Director of Communications for Columbia Theological

Seminary in Decatur, Georgia—a great opportunity for him and his family. We wish Michael and his family all the best in the move ahead.

Many of our members have met Mark Agnello at recent meetings. It is our pleasure to let you know that Mark will continue to serve NYAMA as the new Communications Director. Mark, among other things, has a passion for aviation! It is a personal interest and love of his, and he would like to get his pilot's license one day. Originally from Geneva, NY, Mark joined NYAMA in June after earning his Master of Public Administration from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany.

During his time as a student, he work with United University Professions as a Legislative Intern, contributing to UUP's legislative messages and talking points, and organizing advocacy days for its members. He has previously worked as a substitute teacher and for the U.S. Census Bureau as a Field Operations Clerk in Albany for the 2010 Census, where he processed and coordinated data collection efforts with Census enumerators. Mark is an Eagle Scout and former Assistant Scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts of America. He has visited nearly two dozen countries, and has lived in Chile and England, where he participated in a local gliding club. When not at work, you'll either find him traveling or camping. ✈️

Phil Brito Award Update

We would like to thank everyone involved with this year's Phil Brito Project of the Year Award. The categories for awards include both design and non-design projects.

Award application fees are used to fund scholarships for students in aviation-related educational programs.

The New York State Department of Transportation Aviation Bureau is the administrator of the awards program and is currently reviewing the 2012 entries.

The winning entry will be announced in early September and presented with the award at the Fall Conference.

NYAMA's 2013 Advocacy Day

Save the date—NYAMA's 2013 Advocacy Day will be on **Tuesday, March 12 in Albany.**

More details to come!



Association News



NYAMA

2012 Peer Review Training Sessions Round-up



NYAMA has had a terrific round of Peer Review training sessions so far this year. We would like to thank everyone who made the Airport CEO Summit, Airport Snow Removal, and the General Aviation Airports and FBO Roundtables possible!

We had a great turnout for the General Aviation Airports and FBO Roundtable, which was held at Westchester County Airport in White Plains, NY on July 11. The Roundtable drew 33 attendees from over 15 different airports, engineering and consulting firms, and FBOs. The Roundtable, sponsored by URS Corporation and SheltAir Aviation, centered on improving the functionality of New York's General Aviation airports and their Fixed Base Operators.

"There was a tremendous group of aviation professionals from throughout the state who gave extraordinary presentations about the latest trends in the industry," said Shelley LaRose-Arken of Republic Airport. LaRose-Arken moderated the roundtable along with Bill McShane of SheltAir Aviation, an FBO. Topics for discussion included the economic impact of General Aviation airports in New York, alternative planning strategies for GA airports, safety management systems implementation, emerging green technologies in the aviation industry, and public relations efforts for General Aviation airports. Copies of the presentations are available at the "Members" section of the NYAMA website, located under Management Resources/Training Documents. Photos from the event are available on the NYAMA website as well.

The roundtable discussion also highlighted some of the aviation industry's latest news and pressing matters. "The precipitous reduction in airmen certificates over the last 20 years has been a significant concern to flight schools, aviation businesses and membership organizations. The statistics are striking given the 64% reduction in FAA issued pilot certificates combined with the average student pilot dropout rate at about 80%", explained Craig Dotlo, Eastern Regional Manager of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), who discussed these issues at the conference. Gerardo Mendoza, acting director of the NYS

Association News



2012 Peer Review Training Sessions Round-up

Department of Transportation's Aviation Bureau, covered details of the last and final round of Transportation Bond Act funding through the Consolidated Funding Application and an overview of the Regional Economic Development Councils.

General Aviation (GA) airports continue to be significant to regional economies not only in New York, but also throughout the entire United States. Their sporadic locations throughout each state stimulate regional economies through a variety of diverse job types that include aviation management, engineering, and maintenance jobs, the latter two of which are provided by Fixed Base Operators. GA airports outnumber commercial service airports by nearly four to one in New York State alone. ✈



Center Right: Dennis Yap of DY-Consultants discusses new planning strategies for GA airports.


Bottom Right: Moderators Shelley LaRose-Arken and Bill McShane.

Top Left: Craig Dotlo presents AOPA's report on pilot numbers and enrollment in flight schools.

Bottom Left: NYAMA's Legislative Representative Bruce Geiger summarizes 2012's legislative progress.



Association News



NYAMA
PEER REVIEW
TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Save the Date: Wildlife Management Plan Peer Review Session

NYAMA is excited to introduce its upcoming Peer Review on airport wildlife management. This seminar will be held on Wednesday, September 12 at the Westchester County Airport (HPN), White Plains, NY. It will focus on airport best practices in line with FAA and USDA recommendations and requirements.

Highlights include:

- › Representatives from several airports and staff from the USDA who will discuss the specifics of their respective wildlife management plans.
- › A session to discuss the latest information about wildlife management plans.
- › A tour of Westchester County Airport to observe wildlife management practices and procedures, conducted by staff from Westchester's Airport Operations.

This event is sponsored by NYAMA and hosted by Westchester County Airport AvPORTS staff.

Date:

Wednesday,
September 12, 2012

Time:

10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
(lunch is included)

Where:

Jet Systems
(formerly Avitat)
Westchester
County Airport
85 Tower Hill Road
Hangar E
White Plains, NY 10604

Register:

www.nyama.com

Price:

This program is being offered for \$60/person. For organizations with three or more people attending, the cost is \$45/person.

Registration includes lunch.

Legislative Update



Albany Legislative Update

On May 21st, Governor Andrew Cuomo issued an official proclamation to proclaim the month of May as “Aviation Appreciation Month” in New York.

The Governor continues to demonstrate his support for aviation in New York, recognizing the critical role that aviation plays in the economic prosperity of the State.

The Governor’s proclamation was in part a response to a resolution adopted by both houses of the legislature to support and celebrate aviation in New York. The NYAMA-crafted Legislative Resolution was sponsored by Senator William Larkin (Cornwall-on-Hudson) and Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo (Endwell), who are the co-chairs of the NY Legislative Aviation Caucus, which has 100 members from among the state legislature.

Of particular satisfaction to NYAMA is the proclamation’s featuring business aviation as a critical tool for companies in New York, as NYAMA endeavors to promote policies to attract such aircraft to NY airports as a way to improve efficiency, save money, and open up opportunities for rural areas not served by commercial aviation. These jets bring new businesses, private sector investment and jobs to all areas of New York State.

The Proclamation was highlighted at the 2012 Bethpage Air Show at Jones Beach State Park. The Air Show, which was held Memorial Day Weekend, May 26 & 27, was attended by nearly 400,000 people and broadcast live on the radio. Organizers reported that this celebration of aviation event brings in over \$12 million to the Long Island economy. ✈️

Proclamation for Aviation Appreciation Month

Whereas, the aviation industry plays a critical role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the economic prosperity of the State of New York; and

Whereas, the Empire State is home to over 400 commercial, public, and private airports and heliports; and

Whereas, the state’s aviation industry contributes a significant amount of economic benefit to the state; creating over \$50 billion in annual economic activity, employing more than 394,500 New York State residents, and generating \$18 billion in payroll tax revenue and \$4.5 billion in state and local tax revenue annually; and

Whereas, the aviation sector’s contributions to the economy are fueled by a vibrant and supportive aviation community consisting of airports, general aviation, commercial aviation, cargo transport, manufacturing partners, hospitality businesses, vendors and contractors, engineers and consultants, pilots, mechanics, educational institutions, and other aviation organizations; and

Whereas, the State of New York has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organizations, community airports, and airport operators; and

Whereas, the business aviation is a critical tool for companies in New York to improve efficiency, save money, and open up opportunities for rural areas not served by commercial aviation, thereby bringing new business, investment, and jobs to all areas of the state; and

Whereas, many communities in New York State depend heavily on their commercial and general aviation airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists, and visitors to our state, and are responsible for over 40 million enplanements per year;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as **AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH** in the Empire State.



Industry News

From Airport to Spaceport

States across the country are beginning to think about their futures...in space. With the highly publicized launch of Space X's Dragon capsule to the International Space Station in May—the first privately funded program to do so—some states and their respective airports are already putting forward blueprints to house and launch the next generation of commercial spacecraft.

Florida has become the latest state to enter the space-craze. In early August, its governor officially designated Cecil Airport in Jacksonville a spaceport. The airport has served primarily as a military and public facility throughout its tenure. There are no rockets or space shuttles at Cecil yet, but there is sincerity behind its new designation: it is an investment. The airport is in competition with dozens of others to win the right from the Federal Aviation Administration to be called a spaceport.

Other states have been preparing for what seems to be a promising future in the blooming commercial space industry. Colorado and Virginia are only two of many that have been negotiating with the FAA to designate spaceports in their territories—moves that will create jobs and generate significant revenue if successful—and to secure an early foothold in what promises to be a flourishing industry for those who invest in it first.

Some states have gone a step further and created their own space authorities. The New Mexico Spaceport Authority has been conducting sub-orbital test flights at Spaceport America near Truth or Consequences, New Mexico for over a year. A visitor's center for the up-and-coming spaceport has recently been approved for what its investors, engineers, and visionaries believe will be a crowded space center one day. There is no reason to believe that it won't be.

For states desiring to build a spaceport, airports are the logical places to start. They have runways, vendors, hangars, and the infrastructure to house fixed-base operators (FBOs), some of who may also be thinking about taking the next leap forward from aviation to aerospace. Spacecraft—current and future—



will need maintenance, fueling, and every other facet of the industry that FBOs provide for today's aircraft.

For the time being, commercial spaceports are, for the most part, more interested in delivering cargo beyond the atmosphere than they are humans. It will be some time before any kind of space passenger service will be FAA approved and affordable to the general public. The race to be the next state to build a reliable commercial supply line to the International Space Station is far more realistic today, but that will certainly change.

Considering how far we've come in the last decade—SpaceShipOne, Spaceport America, SpaceX—imagine how far we'll go in the next. It might not be too long before you'll have the option to choose between the aviation and space-bound terminals at your local airport. ✈️

Sources: *The St. Augustine Record*, *The Republic*, *Virginia Chamber of Commerce*, *Denver Post*



NextGen Technology is Emerging

The Next Generation Air Transportation System, or NextGen as it is known in the aviation industry, is beginning to make an appearance in airports throughout the country. So far, only a handful of them have implemented or tested NextGen—which replaces conventional radar guidance systems for aircraft with more accurate signals from satellites—but those currently using it have shown promising results. If successful, satellite guidance systems could begin to replace radar towers at a brisk pace in a few years time.

NextGen's accuracy over radar reduces aircrafts' flight paths by allowing them to fly closer together. The less accurate ground systems currently in use forces planes to give one another wide berths in the sky in order to avoid potential collisions. This entails more flight time for aircraft, more fuel consumed, and more money spent by airlines and their passengers to keep those planes in the air.



Aside from transporting passengers at a faster rate and airlines squeezing in a couple more flights each day accordingly, NextGen provides the added benefit of reducing carbon emissions from each aircraft that uses it. The unused fuel not only translates to cheaper operating costs and lower ticket prices, but it also earns airlines credit toward reducing their carbon footprint, which is a significant public relations boost in time when companies are ferociously competing with each other to be “green”. The financial incentives alone have long been the main driver behind the aviation industry's advocacy efforts to transition to NextGen from the current antiquated radar technology that is still the norm, which hasn't changed much over the last 50 years.

Seattle Tacoma and John F Kennedy International Airports are two of the newest testing grounds for NextGen. In June, Seattle-Tacoma (or Sea-Tac, as it is known) began testing NextGen on a limited basis. The time and distance a single flight saved was marginal on its own—only a few minutes and about two dozen miles—but if Sea-Tac continues to use NextGen and implement it for the entire airport, the flying and fuel saved in the long term can significantly reduce annual operating costs and boost ticket sales for airlines.

Cheaper airline tickets could prompt Sea-Tac and other airports linked to satellites to see more enplanements, increased revenue, federal funding, and job creation should they expand operations.

The permanent transition is already starting: at about the same time Sea-Tac began experimenting with NextGen, the FAA approved JetBlue Airlines to use the technology on a regular basis at JFK International Airport in New York—the first carrier at JFK to do so. Although only authorized to use NextGen with two specific runways, JetBlue is estimated to save over 15 gallons of fuel for every one of its flights that uses satellites. Marginal on an individual basis, but something that will add up in the long term.

As fuel costs rise, computer and satellites are becoming cheaper and more sophisticated. Industry experts hope to see hundreds more airports using NextGen over the next decade. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has been steadily advocating funding for its use through the National Alliance to Advance NextGen. Be sure to visit www.panynj.gov/airports/nextgen-sign-up.cfm to sign up and show your support. ✈

Sources: USA Today, The Seattle Times, Federal Aviation Administration, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

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