

SAABAA NEWS

APRIL 2007

DATES TO REMEMBER :

- > NEXT SAABAA MEETING—APRIL 26
- > AUGUST 25—SAABAA WINE TASTING
- > May 24 SAABAA Meeting—Landmark Aviation

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INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS CONFERENCE

The first time that I saw the ocean was on Mission beach in San Diego, CA. It was in June 1972 and I was a know it all 14 year old who had been transported form the west Texas desert to the Arizona desert and had never seen a body of water so immense. It was a truly humbling experience that made me feel the vastness of the world that we live in.



Now, in 2007, Jack Gilbert and I were able to attend the International Operators conference in San Diego. While I did not get to visit Mission beach this time, I did get to see it out of the plane as we departed to come home. It still makes feel small even though this huge planet that we live on is definitely easier to get

around thanks to the efforts of people like the ones at the conference.

It was a very exciting 4 days of not only lectures but a sharing of common experiences amongst the operators. The information from the experts was always prefaced by the

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fact that the real experts were the ones in the audience that were actually out there flying around the world.

You know the kind of pilot stories like “there we were over the North Pole going from Minneapolis to Delhi”. I was fascinated by the distances some of these planes were going and the manner in which they were being operated.

Lectures included topics such as North Atlantic operations, European operations, and great speakers from NAV Canada. The Oakland center shared a wealth of information with us also. Attending were representatives from China, Japan, Russia, Africa, The Caribbean Nations, India, Italy, The United Arab Emirates, our friends from Mexico and many other representatives of numerous service providers. The last day was highlighted with a speech from Ed Bolen, with the NBAA. Ed pointed out that it is now “Crunch time” in our battle to oppose user fees and the approval of this plan in congress. Take the time to write your senators and representatives like your jobs depend on it, because they do.

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Jack and I brought home a large amount of printed information and several CD's that we would love to share with our membership. We also made numerous business contacts with handlers, fuel contract providers, manufacturers, FBO's and with people doing the same thing as you and I, flying airplanes to far away destinations. Everyone we met was very anxious to be of help in our future international operations. We are also very lucky to

have a wealth of people here in San Antonio with vast knowledge of international operations. Please remember to call on one another when you are in need of information about a new destination. And call Jack and I if you would like any information we got from this conference.

San Diego will always be a magical place for me and what a great place to be able to attend the IOC. The only better place I could have hoped

for would be here in San Antonio. What a coincidence, it will be held here next year. I hope all of you can take time to attend this great event.

I am still humbled by the enormity of this world we live in, but I feel confident in my abilities to travel anywhere in the world with help from all of you and the great experts and friends we met at the IOC. I look forward to seeing all of you next year here in San Antonio.

Scott Miller

SAABAA ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBER



Ed's hobbies include hunting, scuba diving, camping and water skiing. Ed is married and he and his wife Kari have a daughter Megann and son Travis.

At a meeting held by the Board of Directors in March, 2007 it was proposed that the SAABAA board be expanded and the new member be chosen from the maintenance part of our aviation industry. Ed Pettit of the San Antonio Citation Service Center was nominated and unanimously approved. We, the SAABAA Board, are pleased to announce that Ed has accepted the position as the newest director of SAABAA. Ed graduated El Dorado High School in Placentia, California in 1981 and continued his education at Mt. San Antonio College in

Walnut, California where he received the Airframe and Powerplant License. He also received his Private Pilot Certification in 1983. Ed's first aviation maintenance position was in general aviation with Aviation Facilities at Fullerton Airport, Fullerton, California where he worked for 5 years, he left that position in 1989 to accept employment with the Long Beach Citation Service Center. During his eight-year tenure with Long Beach Citation Service Center, Ed started as entry-level mechanic, was promoted to Crew Leader in 1991 and Maintenance supervi-

sor in 1993 and there Q.A. Manager in 1994. In 1996 Ed transferred to the San Antonio Citation Service Center (pre-opening) as Q.A. Manager and helped obtain the FAA Certification for the facility to be a Certified Repair Station. In 2005, Ed was promoted to Maintenance Manager of the facility. Ed's hobbies include hunting, scuba diving, camping and water skiing. Ed is married and he and his wife Kari have a daughter Megann and son Travis. WELCOME TO OUR SAABAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ED!!!!

Submitted by Bobbye Scott, HOLT HANGAR

TXDOT AVIATION DEPARTMENT

Thanks to an invitation from Tripp Riedel, I had the pleasure of attending the meeting of the San Antonio Area Business Aviation Alliance on March 30, 2007. I was given the opportunity to talk a little about the Texas Department of Transportation's Aviation Division.

In case you were unable to attend and are not familiar with our office, we are primarily in the business of providing federal and state grants to communities throughout the state for the purpose of improving and maintaining their general aviation airports. The money is used for a variety of purposes such as longer or wider runways, new taxiways, larger

aprons, to name just a few. These grants are usually funded at 90%, either for federal or state funds, and 10% local funds. Our general aviation terminal building program and our routine maintenance program is shared at 50% state and 50% local funding. Our AWOS program is 75% federal and 25% local. Each year, our stateside grant program averages about \$70M-80M. In addition to providing funding, our staff oversees the construction work as well.

We always strive to use the funding we have available as judiciously as possible. As such, we need your help. One of our highest priorities is to do the best we can to

meet the needs of business aviation. No one knows those needs better than you. As you see needed improvements to airports while flying your trips, please let me know about them. I can't promise that we can fix them all and some that we can fix may take time. I do promise that we will do the best we can to meet your needs. If you see something that needs attention, please give me a call at (512) 416-4505 or stop by our office at 150 East Riverside Drive in Austin.

For those of you at the meeting, I enjoyed meeting you and hope that I have another opportunity to join you again at some time in the future.

Dave Fulton
Aviation Division Director
Texas Department of Transportation



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LONDON LUTON AIRPORT TO REQUIRE SLOTS FOR GENERAL AVIATION AIRCRAFT

According to AirRouting's London office, Luton Airport will become an IATA Level 2 coordinated (schedules facilitated) airport, effective March 25. From this date, general aviation aircraft will have to request slots, which

will significantly affect their ability to use the airport, since the number of available slots, especially during peak times, falls short of meeting current demand. Operators should contact their handler to confirm slot availability at

their earliest convenience. For more information, contact NBAA's Operations Service Group at info@nbaa.org.



NBAA COMMENTS ON FAA AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION NPRM
In a recent notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), the FAA proposes a requirement for each applicant for aircraft registration to send the registration application within five days of the sale or transfer of the aircraft. While NBAA supports the FAA's efforts to improve the data quality of the FAA registry, it advises that five days is too short of a timeframe, given the complex nature of most business aircraft transactions and potential global travel of some of the individuals who may be involved in the business aircraft sale or transfer of ownership. NBAA recommends a 14-day timeframe to return the registration after the sale or transfer of the aircraft. Review the NPRM, which explains current applicable regulations and the FAA's rationale for proposing the change, and NBAA's letter commenting on the NPRM, at: <http://web.nbaa.org/public/ops/taxes/registration>

San Antonio Area Business Aircraft Alliance—April 26

The aviation message portion of this luncheon will be aimed at answering avionics oriented questions regarding current equipment upgrades which are under consideration by most turbine aircraft operators. The items of equipment include airborne phone and high speed data systems, WAAS (wide area augmentation system), EHS (enhanced surveillance), EFB and Glass Cockpits. Vendor representatives who will be on hand to answer questions are Air Cell, Collins, ICG and Universal. The managers from Duncan's Houston and Dallas avionics shops will also be on hand.

Customs has changed locations from gate 9 to gate 1.

Gate 1 provides very little movement area so exercise extreme caution when parking. Once again the hours of operation has been discussed. The most recent information is that customs is open until 10:00 pm local time. They would prefer that you arrive so that the flight can be processed by that time. However, according to a supervisor the customs officers should not be telling crews that if you are not on the ground by 9:30 pm they will not accept the flight. Any time after 10:00 pm is overtime for the officer's and they do like to keep that to a minimum. OCC will continue to follow this issue.