



Washington Airport Management Association

June 2016

Fellow WAMA Members,

As I write this, it has been slightly over a month since attending my first WAMA conference. If you were unable to attend this year's conference, I hope you will work it into your schedule for next year. What a fabulous conference! To make a conference successful takes many hands, and we have a lot of people to thank. Among those were:



- The conference planning team: John Haakenson, Kelly Thompson, and Dianna Beeler
- Our master of ceremonies, President Ryan Sheehan
- The 14 conference presenters who provided interesting, informative sessions
- Vancouver's Pearson Field for hosting an enlightening tour
- Our many sponsors who made this conference possible
- The Heathman Lodge staff for their attentiveness, warmhearted welcome, and their beautiful facilities
- Special thanks to our webmaster, Sandy Engstrom, who kept the website updated with our many additions and changes.

In addition to this list, a number of committee members and those behind the scenes worked to make this a fun, informative, and memorable conference. Thanks to you all!

Below are some of the activities I have been involved with.

June is General Aviation Month:

Governor Jay Inslee has proclaimed June as "General Aviation Appreciation Month." Although the month is nearly over, summer is the time when the General Aviation community dusts off the cobwebs, buffs up the plane, and takes advantage of the good weather to fly to as many airports and events as possible. Let's welcome those fliers, as they are the ones who rent our planes, buy our fuel, use our services, and keep our airports viable.

Speaking of Airports:

Speaking of airports, I am working toward visiting as many airports as I can. This past month, I flew in to Grant County Airport in Moses Lake and met with Director of Facilities and Operations Rich Mueller. He gave me the grand tour informing me of the many business operations taking place on or near the airport. It was quite an eye opener to learn that right here in Washington we have companies quietly refurbishing large Boeing planes into luxury suites for foreign sheiks, Takata Industries manufacturing propellant and airbag systems, and flight testing facility for the MRJ-90 Mitsubishi jets out of Japan, and much more.



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Prosser AIP and the Pilot Connection:

For eight years I served as the state secretary of the Washington Pilot Association. I was also the Governor of the Northwest Section of Ninety-Nines Women Pilots Organization covering eight states, and now I am the International Director of the Ninety-Nines. I tell you this because I have an extensive data base of pilots with whom I can connect if you ever need to call on them. As the Port of Benton begins the process of updating its Airport Improvement Plan for the Prosser Airport, I have been able to assist through my own flying background and through my connections with other pilots, aiding the Port of Benton with feedback from the airport users. If you need to connect with pilots, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Legislative News

During the summer months, there seems to be a lull with legislative activity, but stay tuned. Our legislative committee is gearing up for this fall and watching for new proposals that affect aviation. The FAA just came out with enhanced rules for Unmanned Aircraft Systems and there is still the unsettled decision on contract towers.

October 2016 is the date slated to begin the new Take-Off and Landing Performance Assessment (TALPA), which brings standardization for determining and reporting surface contaminants according to a standardized contaminant list. A matrix list from the FAA shows contaminant type/depth which correlates to the effect on airplane braking performance when determining and describing the runway surface conditions. More information on this topic, along with the matrix can be found on the WAMA website under conference presentations. See the presentation by Joelle Briggs, Kevin Latschaw, and Jennifer Kandel. http://www.wama.us/2016_Conference

Passport Program

I am very excited to be working with Lizz Slabaugh of WSDOT on the newly proposed "Fly Washington Airports" Passport Program. This is a win-win for both airports and pilots. Pilots receive a "passport" book, fly to airports in Washington, and receive a stamp for each airport they visit. The goal is to visit as many airports as they can. Prizes serve as incentives for those who reach certain milestones. This encourages pilots to fly into your airport and use your services and it gives pilots a destination and reason to fly. A win-win for all! The details are still being worked out, but we will keep you posted.

Job Openings Link:

I occasionally receive requests from outside sources to post job opportunities on our website or requests from people looking for jobs in the aviation field. If you have jobs available, don't forget about the link on the WAMA website for job postings. There are people out there who are using this tool to find a work position in the field of aviation.



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All the best,
Marjy Leggett
Executive Director, WAMA