



Virginia Aviation

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DOAV receives IS-BAO certification

The Virginia Department of Aviation has become the first state-operated flight department to receive a certification known as the International Standard for Business Aircraft Operations (IS-BAO).

IS-BAO began as a program in May 2002, and since that time only 120 flight operations departments in the business aircraft community have been certified worldwide.

“For more than 40 years, the Commonwealth of Virginia has provided world-class air transportation services for its governors, other elected officials, state agency directors and their staff,” said Secretary of Transportation Pierce Homer. “The Department of Aviation has an extraordinary safety record. I am pleased that we have received this certification and tremendously proud that we are the first state in the nation to do so.”

The parent of the IS-BAO effort is the International Business Aviation Council (IBAC), which

developed it as a code of best practice for the benefit of flight operations departments in the rapidly growing business aviation sector. It serves as a benchmark of professionalism and standardization for the conduct of flight operations departments and addresses such items as SOP’s

(standard operating procedures), while at the same time allowing an outside critique of strengths and weaknesses of the flight department operations procedures.

Safety is the core of the effort, but not the only aspect for review. Business practices, among

others, are also examined. IS-BAO gives DOAV a known and true industry standard of safety accepted worldwide.

DOAV’s Flight Operations and Safety Division employs six full-time and four part-time pilots, two maintenance personnel, flight coordinator and operates two Hawker Beechcraft King Air 350 turbine executive aircraft and one single-engine Cessna 206 to provided executive flight service to Virginia state agencies.



Photo by Trevor Wrayton, VDOT

Gov. Tim Kaine (center), Deputy Secretary of Transportation Ralph Davis (left), and IBAC representative Katherine Perfetti (far right), join DOAV Director Randy Burdette (right) and the agency in receiving the IS-BAO certification in September.

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Director's Corner



It's a well-known fact that aviation is a safe way to travel. In fact, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association reports that compared to automobiles, aviation has about one-tenth as many accidents on a per-vehicle-mile basis, and the accident rate has dropped steadily since 1980.

While that's wonderful news, we, as pilots, should always work to improve our knowledge and skills to continue to reduce the number of accidents in the Commonwealth. One way to refresh our safety focus is to attend Virginia Department of Aviation, Federal Aviation Administration or AOPA Safety Seminars.

In October, DOAV and the AOPA Air Safety Foundation (ASF) presented pilot safety seminars called "Mastering Takeoffs and Landings" at four locations across the state: Blacksburg, Danville, Richmond and Hampton.

According to the ASF, every year takeoffs and landings account for more than half of all pilot-related accidents, and it's not just the new pilots who are having trouble. These seminars gave pilots tips and techniques for making smooth, trouble-free departures and arrivals.

Mark Grady, pilot and professional aviation speaker, emceed the seminars. "Pilots focus on landings the most—that's how we're judged," he said. "But take-off accidents are 10 times deadlier than landing accidents."

And it's the little things that distract us every time. Door latches, trees, buildings, foot placement, wind gusts... It only takes a second for something to go wrong. In an emergency, you're going to react the way you were trained.

A total of 510 aviation enthusiasts attended the seminars, with a record 176 attendees in Hampton. That's outstanding! However, there are 13,940 pilots in Virginia. Only 4 percent attended these seminars.

Those of us who have been flying for awhile have to be diligent and not become a victim of complacency. In our industry, little reminders like these seminars can go a long way. You can teach an old dog new tricks or maybe remind him of tricks he has forgotten. The next batch of DOAV/AOPA safety seminars will be held in the spring. Watch our Web site, www.doav.virginia.gov, for the topic, places and dates. And one more thing--most of us learn something at these seminars and almost all of us have a good time. Bring a friend and enjoy the evening talking about our favorite subject, aviation.

Speaking of safety, I hope you and your family have a safe and wonderful holiday season! There are many exciting things happening at DOAV and in the industry for 2009. We'll certainly keep you posted.

Until then,

Virginia Aviation Board allocates funds to state airports

The Virginia Aviation Board (VAB) approved tentative allocations of Commonwealth Airport Funds for Fiscal year 2009 at its Aug. 20 meeting at the Wyndham Hotel Richmond Airport in Richmond. Approved Air Carrier/Reliever Discretionary funding was \$7,736,036.03; General Aviation Discretionary funding was \$2,309,066.92; and State Entitlement funding was \$11,655,472.72.

Among the 33 airports receiving funding were Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport, which received \$4,544,437.00 for seven projects including runway extension (Phase 1A) design and construction. Hampton Roads Executive Airport received \$2,231,392.00 for three projects including terminal building construction; and Richmond International Airport received \$2,749,179.02 for four projects, including runway 2-20 rehabilitation (design and construction), apron expansion, access gate reconfiguration and access road landscaping.

The VAB also passed a resolution honoring the late T. Randolph Jones. Jones had been instrumental in forming the Mecklenburg-Brunswick Regional Airport and served on the Mecklenburg-Brunswick Regional Airport Commission board from 1982-2008 and as Chairman from 1986-2008.

Virginia students to help design fuel efficient aircraft

Virginia is one of 10 states participating in the U.S. Department of Energy's Real World Challenge, a competition for teams of high school students to develop more fuel efficient aircraft. The competition will be statewide and is open for any high school in the commonwealth to participate. The winning design may be put to use by the aviation industry.

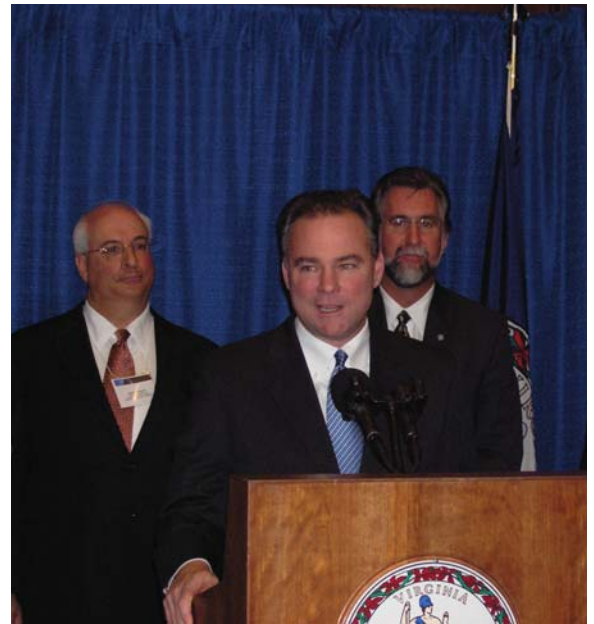
"I encourage Virginia students and teachers to participate in this great opportunity. The challenge will not only help students better prepare for the working world, but will give them an opportunity to showcase their knowledge and innovation," said Gov. Tim Kaine. "This partnership is another way of motivating students to pursue science, technology, engineering and math fields and to acquire the critical knowledge, skills and credentials to prepare them for high-demand, high-skill and high-wage careers in Virginia."

Participating teams will be able to seek advice online from scientists, engineers and aviation/aerospace experts from the Department of Energy National Laboratories, the Federal Aviation Administration Centers and higher education.

Teachers will be provided with \$1 million of the latest engineering software from Parametric Technology Corporation and Mentor Graphics, Mechanical Analysis Division (formerly Flomerics) at no cost.

Halifax County is the first school system to accept the challenge.

Gov. Kaine will announce winners of the statewide competition in early 2009. The winning Virginia team will go on to compete against other state teams on the national level.



Gov. Tim Kaine announced Virginia's participation in the Real World Challenge in October.

~In Memoriam~

Virginia aviation icon passes away at 72



Jean Taylor Waltrip, 72, of Williamsburg, died Oct. 28, 2008. She was co-owner/manager of the Williamsburg-Jamestown Airport.

She married the love of her life, Larry Tucker Waltrip, in January of 1968. Two years later, they opened the Williamsburg Jamestown Airport. Waltrip put her career on hold at that time to help the family business grow. Thirty eight years later, the airport is recognized by people throughout Virginia as well as the country as one of the finest privately owned public use airports. The airport reached this status due to Jean's hard work, dedication and efforts.

Waltrip was past president of the Virginia Airport Operators' Council. The VAOC's goal is to increase the use and improve facilities and services at all public use airports in the state of Virginia.

Waltrip

In 2001, the Waltrips became the first husband and wife team to be inducted in the Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society Hall of Fame. Waltrip was also voted Queen of Williamsburg by the Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce the same year.

In 2005, the couple received the Captain John Smith Award, given by James City County Economic Development Division as the top business in James City County.

"Jean's efforts in airport management, community relations and aviation education made her a true asset to Virginia's aviation industry," said Randy Burdette, director of the Virginia Department of Aviation. "She will be missed."

EAA Chapter 186 members take Top Eagle honors

The Virginia Department of Aviation (DOAV) recently recognized Rick Rahim of Great Falls, George Smith of Purcellville and Richard Largent of Stephens City with Top Eagle awards for their participation in the Experimental Aircraft Association's Young Eagles Program. All three pilots belong to EAA National Capital Chapter 186 based in Manassas.

The EAA Young Eagles program was launched in 1992 to give interested children, ages 8-17, an opportunity to go flying in a general aviation aircraft. These flights are offered free of charge and are made possible through the generosity of EAA member volunteers. Over this past year, in the Commonwealth of Virginia alone, 120 pilots gave 1,707 young people an introduction to aviation through the program. Rahim topped the list with 193 Young Eagles flown, Smith came in second with 117 flights and Largent came in third place, flying 85 Young Eagles.

"This year's participation from Virginia's pilots was outstanding," said Randy Burdette, director of DOAV. "The time and resources they put into the program help introduce a whole new generation to the world of aviation."

The Young Eagles Program passed a milestone in June with its 1.4 millionth flight since the program's beginning. Young Eagles have been registered in more than 90 different countries and have been flown by more than 41,000 volunteer pilots. For more information about Young Eagles, visit www.young eagles.org or call 877-806-8902.



Photos courtesy of the Rahim, Smith and Largent families.



Three pilots from EAA Chapter 186 were recognized as the top participants of the 2008 Young Eagles program. Rick Rahim of Great Falls, top left, flew 193 Young Eagles, George Smith of Purcellville, top right, flew 117 and Richard Largent of Stephens City, left, flew 85.

DOAV hands out 2008 Aviation Awards



Tim Gaylord (left), Virginia Airport Manager of the Year, was honored by DOAV Director Randy Burdette (right) at the 2008 Aviation Awards in August.

On August 8, the Virginia Department of Aviation presented the 2008 Virginia Aviation Awards to individuals who have made significant contributions to aviation in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

William T. "Tim" Gaylord was named Virginia Airport Manager of the Year for his achievements at the Middle Peninsula Regional Airport, including accomplishing numerous runway and facility improvements, important land acquisitions and the construction and leasing of new hangars. He was also instrumental in bringing essential airborne critical care ambulance service to the Middle Peninsula, Peninsula and parts of the Eastern Shore by reaching agreement with Life Evac of Virginia to base one of their helicopters at the airport.

David L. Young received the Virginia Aviation Person of the Year Award for his leadership role in training future aviation professionals and promoting aviation education. As Dean of the Liberty University School of Aeronautics, he has overseen the design and approval of a new facility at Lynchburg Regional Airport that will house the Liberty University aviation program. Young serves on the Lynchburg Airport Commission and is a certified flight instructor who regularly flies with students and teaches the instrument ground school at Liberty University.

George Zahn was honored with the Virginia Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to aviation in Virginia; especially his role in the conversion of the existing West Point Municipal Airport into the Middle Peninsula Airport. After many years of planning, the first official meeting of the Middle Peninsula Airport Authority took place in July 1999. In his capacity as Chairman, Mr. Zahn oversaw approximately six million dollars of capital improvements to the airport and provided the leadership and expertise to bring together three county boards and

one town board to agree on issues related to the airport. His insight and tireless dedication make him an important asset to aviation in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The recipients were recognized at a luncheon organized by the Virginia Airport Operators Council (VAOC) at the Richmond Country Club in Richmond. Randall Burdette, director of DOAV, made the presentations.

New Web site launched to promote air taxi service in Virginia

The Virginia SATSLab (VSATS), in partnership with the Air Taxi Association (ATXA), has officially launched VirginiaAirTaxi.com, a new on-demand flight reservations system.

VirginiaAirTaxi.com allows travelers to book on-demand flights from air taxi and air charter operators instantly. In addition, the site features information on the next-generation air taxi industry, commonly-used air taxi aircraft, a question-and-answer section and a detailed directory of all public-use airports in Virginia.

"Virginia has always been at the forefront of accelerating next-generation aviation," said Keith McCrea, executive director of VSATS. "This Web site will help foster community airport utilization across the 64 local airports throughout the Commonwealth."

The reservations system allows any operator to be displayed on the system via ATXA and Door2DoorAir. Operators that allow customer interaction may be added to the system in as little as one business day.

"In launching VirginiaAirTaxi.com, Virginia has taken a leading role in creating public awareness about on-demand flights from their local airports onward to wherever they need to go," said Joe Leader, president of ATXA. "This opens an opportunity for every community airport to have direct flights to hundreds of destinations. These on-demand, direct flights will be a driver of economic development to communities across the state."

ATXA is an alliance of next-generation air taxi providers that offer direct, on-demand flight service at greatly reduced prices.

Bad weather tries to hamper fall air shows

For some Virginians, September's storms were a welcomed relief to the hot summer sun. But for aviation enthusiasts, the wind and rain threatened to ruin some of the state's biggest fly-ins: the 2008 Naval Air Station Oceana Air Show Sept. 19-21 in Virginia Beach, Wings and Wheels air show at Hummel Air Field Sept. 27 in Saluda and Lunenburg County Airport's "Lunch is on Us" event.

Performers at Oceana's 50th anniversary air show battled heavy winds Friday and Saturday, but only the jump teams, Navy fleet flyby and TAC demos were affected. Most performers were able to still perform, including the GEICO Skytypers, the FA18 Superhornet and Major Paul "Max" Moga in the F22 Raptor.

The weather cleared up Sunday just in time for the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, who headlined the show.

Wings and Wheels, an annual one-day car and air show sponsored by Middlesex County and Friends of Hummel Air Field, felt the effects of the passing fall Nor'easter, which made for rainy conditions most of the morning. When the weather is good, there are usually over 200 show cars, over 100 airplanes and a crowd of about 7,500 people. Because it rained Saturday morning, attendance was down, but most of the vendors and many local citizens still came to the airport for this community event.

In the afternoon, several light sport aircraft flew in, a Life Evac helicopter (from Middle Peninsula Airport) came in for display and a local Cessna 172 gave free rides. Fly Radio Active, based in Danville, conducted an exciting radio controlled aircraft air show.

Unlike its predecessors, the Wings, Wheels and Ducks air show held at the Stafford Regional Airport Oct. 5 had optimal weather. The show featured a car, truck and motorcycle show, the U.S. Marines Silent Drill Team, Young Eagle rides, helicopter rides, a remote control model airplane demonstration, duck drop and aviation show.

At the show, there were 60 Young Eagle flights and 14 helicopter operations. A total of 188 aircraft flew in for the event, including 164 single-engine airplanes, 16 twin-engine (non-turbo) airplanes, seven turbo propellers, and one jet.

On Oct. 20, Lunenburg County Airport's "Lunch is on Us" event was plagued with more winds and rains.



Photo by Mike Likavec

Lunenburg County (above) was one of many airports who experienced wet/windy weather during their fall air shows/fly-ins.

"We had 16 aircraft, but the weather was pretty wicked that day," said airport manager Mike Cocker.

Another "Lunch is on Us" is planned for the spring.

WANT TO BE FEATURED IN VIRGINIA AVIATION?



Submit your story ideas and/or event information to:

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Delicious Destinations: a Mediterranean twist in Louisa

Editor's Note: This is the first installment of Delicious Destinations, a column about the best places to eat located in or near an airport. You can also find this review and future reviews on the DOAV Web site at www.doav.virginia.gov. Have a suggestion? Send to kelly.pruitt@doav.virginia.gov.



Obrigado Restaurant
109 West Main Street
Louisa, VA 23093
540-967-9447
Lunch- 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday
Dinner- 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday
www.obrigadorerestaurant.com

In Portuguese, obrigado means thank you. But to frequent flyers of the Louisa County Airport and its staff, obrigado means good food.

Obrigado, located two miles from the airport, offers a Mediterranean-style menu with dishes such as chipotle pork, Trattoria (Italian)-style pasta and Spanish paella. The restaurant also features tapas, as well as homemade desserts such as panna cotta and crème brulee. Lunch prices range from \$6.50-\$10 and dinner prices range \$8-\$20.

“This place is absolutely amazing,” said Dawn Howard, airport manager. “We’ve even attracted folks from as far away as Allentown, Pa. to dine there.”

The restaurant features live music or comedy on Friday nights and brunch on Sunday from 10 a.m. 2 p.m.

Fly into Louisa and take the airport’s courtesy car (a former sheriff’s cruiser) for lunch, dinner or brunch. “No playing with the siren or lights,” Howard said.

Lynchburg Regional opens new hangar, passenger traffic up

Lynchburg Regional Airport unveiled its new hangar with a grand opening held on Oct. 29.

The new hangar is 13,200 sq. ft. and was built and paid for by Falwell Aviation, who will pay ground rent for the site. The facility will primarily be used for storing business jet aircraft. The Falwell family and friends were on site for the ribbon cutting.

Also in October, the airport reported an increase of 36 percent in passenger airline traffic in September.

U.S. Airways began offering lower fares at the end of July, which helped the airport see a total of 10,445 passengers in September— 2,771 more passengers than September 2007.

The lower fares have also caused more of their peak day flights to be 100 percent full.

Currently the airport offers six daily departures, provided by U.S. Airways and Delta Connection.





Calendar of Events: Winter

The Virginia Chapter Ninety-Nines are collecting new and unwrapped toys for families of military and wounded veterans during their annual Christmas Toy Airlift. Toys will be collected at each airport until Saturday, Dec. 13, when volunteer pilots from each location will fly them into Chesterfield County Airport from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Contact Betty Vinson at 804-541-0590 for more information.

Pancake Breakfast at Mecklenburg-Brunswick Regional Airport takes place the first Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-10 a.m. Breakfast and social hour with regularly scheduled live presentations by FAA and/or NTSB. Sponsored by Mecklenburg-Brunswick Regional Airport and The Club/Lake Gaston Resort. For more information contact 434-729-2591 or AVCAirport@buggs.net

Soup-on-Sunday at Campbell Field Airport (9VG) on the Eastern Shore will take place each Sunday from noon-3:00 p.m. For more information visit www.campbellfieldairport.com or contact Gordon Campbell at 757-442-7519.

Friends of the Petersburg Pilots Association holds a breakfast from 8 a.m.-10 a.m. the third Saturday of each month at the Dinwiddie County Airport. For more information call 804-861-9915.

Lonesome Pine EAA Chapter 1416 invites pilots and guests to attend free "Hotdogs & Hangar Talk" beginning at 11:00 a.m. the third Saturday of each month at Lonesome Pine Airport (follows the EAA Chapter Meeting at 10:00 a.m.). For more information contact Bob Spera, Director, Liberty Flying Service at 276-328-5300 or liberty@mounet.com or visit www.libertyflyingservice.com.

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