



Newly-chartered Virginia Airport Owners Association unites privately-owned airports

A group of private airport owners and aviation enthusiasts recently formed the Virginia Airport Owners Association (VAOA) to address issues concerning privately-owned, private use, airports within the state. The organization, thought to be the first of its kind in the nation, will provide a united voice for this segment of the aviation industry. There are 226 private owned, private use airports currently registered in Virginia.

VAOA is being commended by the Airport Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), and the Virginia Department of Aviation (DOAV) for its efforts to foster the continued growth and development of private airports in Virginia. VAOA is providing networking, communication, security awareness and economic opportunities for airport owners and aviation enthusiasts throughout the state.

“The purpose of the VAOA is to become the recognized voice for all issues concerning privately-owned airports within the state,” said John Mazza Jr., president of the VAOA.

Future plans for the VAOA include ensuring that local and state governments understand the value of privately owned airports. The VAOA will also work to streamline the zoning process of new, privately owned airports as well as work to ensure that neighbors of privately owned airports understand the operations and value of these airports.

“The creation of the VAOA is a great opportunity for the aviation community. It will improve communications between this segment of aviation and DOAV,” said Randy Burdette, director of DOAV. “It will allow us to work together to promote a safer and more secure aviation system for the citizens of the Commonwealth.”

For more information, contact Mazza at 804-526-7665, Kevin Murray, treasurer, at 540-297-6754 or e-mail VAOA@live.com.

The Virginia Airport Owners Association is a 501(c)(6) corporation chartered in the Commonwealth of Virginia.