FAC Board of Directors hosts State Legislative fly-in

On February 5, 2019, the Board and 10 other airport and corporate members gathered in Tallahassee to meet face-to-face with legislators preparing for the 2019 Legislative session. The J & B Lobby Team did an outstanding job facilitating meetings with 14 House members, including the leaders of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, House Ways and Means Committee and House Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee, six members of the Senate including leaders of the Senate Infrastructure and Security Committee, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Finance and Tax.

Meetings were also held with key staff directors and legislative aides working on committees that will be reviewing and working on legislation that will impact our industry. On February 6th, FAC attended the House Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee meeting where a presentation was given regarding the Governor’s $91.3 billion budget announcement. Following the subcommittee meeting, we met with the new Secretary of Transportation, Kevin Thibault. All totaled 28 meetings were held by 20 FAC airport members and 1 corporate member, Doug Fuller, Quantum Spatial.

This year, we deployed new communication materials and added social media announcements regarding our Fly-in to our approach. Follow FAC on twitter @FLAirports and go to the FAC State Affairs Committee web page for a copy of the new leave behind.

Thank You to all that participated. We had more time with more legislators than ever before.
Federal Affairs Legislative Fly-in –
March 6-8, 2019, Washington, DC

The FAC Board of Directors, airport and corporate members will meet with key legislators, FAA officials and staff to advocate for Florida airports and to bring attention to the Council’s key Federal Legislative priorities. The Fly-in will begin with a welcome reception at the Florida House, a beautifully restored historic home near Capital Hill with art work from Florida artisans and a relaxing setting. The reception begins at 6:00 p.m.

Sponsorship opportunities are available, and we greatly appreciate your support!

Please join us – Florida Airports’ influence is in our strong numbers and loud voices! Come to Washington and walk with us to meet face-to-face with important lawmakers and staff. It makes a difference. Below is a list of FAC's 2019 Federal Legislative priorities. Click here to register as a participant or sponsor…

**POLICY:**

**Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) - SUPPORT** modernizing the PFC fee and lifting the cap; SUPPORT the elimination of the significant contribution requirement.

**Infrastructure Package - SUPPORT** an Infrastructure plan to fund infrastructure/capacity projects to meet future needs.

**Airport Improvement Program - SUPPORT** funding the Airport Improvement Program at no less than $3.35 billion

**Contract Tower Program - SUPPORT** funding that protects and maintains the contract tower program in its entirety for Florida’s and the nation’s airports.

**General Aviation User Fees - SUPPORT** the use of fuel taxes as the method for the general aviation community to pay their fair share towards Air Traffic Services. OPPOSE the assessment of charges and fees to any general aviation flight to include those operating as Air Taxis (14 CFR Part 119) and On Demand Charters (14 CFR Part 135).

**Pilot Shortage - SUPPORT** addressing the national pilot shortage to prevent impacts to US carriers and airport operations.

**SAFETY AND SECURITY:**

**Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Staffing - SUPPORT** the continued hiring and training of CBP officers for deployment at Florida airports to meet demand. FAC SUPPORTS the continued deployment of innovative technologies and procedures for efficient processing and to minimize passenger wait times.

**Explosive Detection Systems (EDS) Reimbursement - SUPPORT** Congress’s efforts in ensuring that the TSA finalize the required review process that was outlined in FY '16 House and Senate appropriations report language directing the TSA to implement the required review process and propose sufficient funding to begin reimbursement to airports. FAC requests that Congress appropriate the funds for the claims that TSA has validated in the amount of $218 million.

**TSA Canine Program - SUPPORT** a robust Passenger Screening Canine program.

**TSA Exit Lane Staffing - SUPPORT** TSA continuing to fulfill their obligations of staffing the exit points from the sterile area at security checkpoints as directed in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, section 603.

You're Invited!

Please join the members of the Florida Airports Council for a Reception at the Florida House on Capitol Hill, a beautifully restored home that celebrates the best of Florida’s sunshine-warm hospitality.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 6th, 2019
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.
**Location:** Number One Second Street Northeast Washington, DC 20002
**RSVP:** By Wednesday, February 27th, 2019 to gina@floridaairports.org
**AROUND THE NATION**

_A revolution in a sentence – the future of human spaceflight in America_ (Source: AP.com)

“This year, American astronauts will go back to space in American rockets.”

This one sentence from the 2019 State of the Union address may have escaped your notice. It ended a paragraph in which the president paid tribute to astronaut Buzz Aldrin of the Apollo 11 mission to mark the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. From that point, the speech transitioned to increasing the standard of living for Americans in the 21st century. A small sentence, perhaps. Maybe perceived by some as a throwaway line. But behind these 12 words lies a revolution in how Americans will get to space in the future.

Americans have not flown to orbit aboard an American rocket or from an American launch pad since July 8, 2011. This gap of nearly eight years and counting is the longest in our history, eclipsing the six-year gap between Apollo-Soyuz in 1975 and the Space Shuttle program in 1981. Since the retirement of the Space Shuttle in 2011, the United States has paid Russia approximately $75 million per seat to launch US astronauts to the International Space Station aboard Soyuz spacecraft from a launch site in Kazakhstan.

However, as noted in the State of the Union, things will change in 2019. American astronauts are scheduled to fly to space from US soil this summer, aboard three separate launch systems, developed not by the US government and its contractor workforce, but instead by commercial spaceflight companies. It is a change that heralds a new era in manned space travel. SpaceX, Boeing and Virgin Galactic are all planning to send American astronauts into space in 2019. For SpaceX and Boeing - if the schedule holds and near-term test flights go well - their voyages will be orbital flights to the ISS launched from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. SpaceX will fly two NASA astronauts in their Dragon Capsule on a Falcon 9 rocket, and Boeing will fly a crew of three in its CST-100 Starliner aboard an Atlas-V booster. Read more about the new era of American Spacecraft….

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<th>DATES TO REMEMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>FAC Commemorative Poster Competition</td>
<td>Click here for more information</td>
<td>January 14, 2019 - March 22, 2019</td>
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<td>CFASPP Round 2019-1 Steering Committee Meetings</td>
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<td>2019 Washington, DC Fly-In</td>
<td>Washington, DC Click here to register Click here to make your hotel reservations</td>
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| FAC Leadership Development Training Courses | Marriott Orlando Lake Mark / Sanford Int’l Airport 1501 International Parkway, Lake Mary, FL 32746 Click here to for more information Click here to register  
Registration deadline has been extended:  
ASL - February 22, 2019 / ALD - Registration CLOSED | March 11-15, 2019 |
| Education and Training Summit | Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate 1500 Masters Blvd., Championsgate, FL 33896  
Registration information to be posted soon | May 22-24, 2019 |
| 2019 FAC 50th Anniversary Conference & Exposition | Ft Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa  
Registration information to be posted soon | August 4-7, 2019 |

Please email lisa@floridaairports.org with calendar updates.
From the Airmail archives...JANUARY

1979

Gainesville Opens New Terminal, Airmail reported that the $2.3 million terminal is the first in the nation heated and cooled by solar technology. Airport Manager Jerry Sealy projects the system savings will pay for itself within 17 years.

1990

The FL Department of Revenue reports in the five years between 1974 and 1979, aviation related activity generated $43.5 million in taxes and fees for the State of Florida. The DOT reported the expenditure of $21.7 million on its airport / aviation system over the same period.

1992

Herb Godfrey resigns as Executive Director of the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority; Norm Glass is named Acting Executive Director.

1996

Gov. Jeb Bush takes office January 5th and derails the Bullet Train, ending Florida’s flirtation with high-speed rail.

1999

Bill Sherry becomes the fourth head of the aviation office of the FDOT, succeeding Bill Johnson, who moved on to the position of Director of Aviation for the City of Tallahassee.

2004

Data from the Travel Industry Assoc. of America reports that domestic travelers to California spend $59.5 billion; Florida visitors spent the second highest amount- $40 billion for the same period.

2005

JAA announces it has been granted a license by FAA to operate a commercial, horizontal launch spaceport at Cecil Field. Cecil Field is the first FAA-licensed horizontal launch commercial spaceport in Florida and the 8th to be licensed in the US.

2010

Uber and Lyft emerge as a challenge for airports working to meet customer demands and accommodate new transportation technology networks.

2014

FAC Education Foundation Scholarship Awards reach $353,100 benefiting 143 students since 1990; Internship awards total $412,306 benefiting 110 students. $765,406 has been dedicated to the education and training of upcoming youth in the industry.

2015

FAC’s Ed Cooley, HCAA, is honored by the NATA as the recipient of their 2005 Airport Executive Partnership Award, recognizing an airport manager for outstanding efforts to foster relationships between aviation businesses and airport operators.

2015

FAC celebrates 45-years of service to the FL airport industry; first flight from Key West to Cuba in more than 50-years takes off.
The very first Boeing 747-100 makes its first flight. By July 1979, one million passengers had flown on the 747, shrinking the world.

**1979**

**February 2013**

Two bills were proposed to create an airport/aviation trust fund collected from taxes on jet fuel. Governor Bob Graham submits a plan to create a trust fund for all transportation modes, to be fed by increased gasoline taxes.

**1980**

**Florida Legislature** calls a meeting in special session to consider new sources of revenue, including ending the sales tax exemption on aviation jet fuel. A shortcoming of discussions, nowhere is it proposed that monies collected from aviation fuel sales be dedicated to the airport/aviation program.

**1983**

**Doug Wolf**, one of FAMA’s pioneer members steps down from his duties at Daytona Beach Regional Airport.

**1980**

**FAMA Board** members Bob Ball and Mack Lazenby present a report of the Airport Safety & Land Use Compatibility Study Commission, reinforcing the call for compatible land use planning around airports within runway and safety areas.

**1991**

**Bill Crouch**, long-time manager of FXE retires. Bill was the first co-chair of the Education Foundation and worked tirelessly to raise funds for the scholarship program.

**1999**

**City of Tampa** strikes a deal with Hillsborough Aviation Authority for the purchase of Peter O’Knight Airport for $4.2 million.

**2003**

**FAC airports** join the Southeast Airports Disaster Operations Group, SEADOG

**2004**

**DOT** reports that 19 commercial service and 112 GA airports provide $89.7 billion annually in economic activity and 1 million jobs.

**2005**

**VRB** celebrates opening of new $6.1 million Airport Traffic Control Tower

**2006**

**FDOT** opens the Aviation Test Center at TLH

**2013**

**FL Governor Rick Scott** addresses FAC members at the State Affairs Legislative Summit in Tallahassee.

**2014**

**Greg Donovan**, Airports Director for Okaloosa County and FAC Past President announces his return to PNC, taking over for Melinda Crawford.

**2015**

**FAC Board of Directors** announces the selection of Lisa Waters as the new President/CEO of FAC, succeeding Bill Johnson.
Planes strike birds more than 40 times a day, FAA data show
(Source: USA Today)

Ten years after a collision with Canada geese forced airline pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger to make his dramatic emergency landing on the Hudson River, pilots and airports report as many bird strikes as ever. Civilian flights based in the US reported 14,661 collisions with wildlife in 2018, a USA TODAY analysis of Federal Aviation Administration data shows. That's more than 40 a day, tying the previous year's record.

The strikes have been blamed in more than 106 civilian deaths worldwide over the past two decades, according to British and Canadian researchers. They cause about $1.2 billion a year in damage. Why so many collisions? Analysts cite several factors: an increase in flights; changing migratory patterns; bigger, faster, quieter turbofan-powered aircraft, which give birds less time to get out of the way. One of the biggest factors might be better reporting. The FAA has worked to improve the voluntary reporting system since Sullenberger guided U.S. Airways Flight 1549 – and all of its 155 passengers – to safety after a flock of geese took out both engines in 2009.

"That number has certainly been steadily increasing ever since the 'Miracle on the Hudson,'" says Chris Oswald, vice president of the Airports Council International-North America. "A lot of that – and I can only say a lot because it's hard to know – has to do with outreach activities."

He says the industry is concerned that a change in bird populations – and especially a boom in larger species – could pose a continued danger to aircraft. Biologists and aviation safety officials are engaged in a never-ending cat-and-mouse game in an effort to shoo, move or kill birds in the nation's flight paths. Read more...

FAC seeks all photos and memories!

Do you have any photos of FAC events or member recognition that we can include in the FAC Archives? If so, please send them to gina@floridaairports.org with the subject "FAC Photos."
United Airlines to invest $33M in new facility at TPA

United Airlines Inc. is seeking to develop a new maintenance facility on the airport’s property. The airline, which has 277 weekly operations from Tampa International Airport, is proposing to lease 9.5 acres east of the airfield for construction of a two-bay maintenance hangar and apron to accommodate 737 aircraft used in United’s operations, according to a Feb. 14 meeting agenda item.

United stated it would invest $33 million for construction of the hangar on the southwest corner of Martin Luther King and Westshore boulevards. The agreement, if approved, would last 20 years with two, five-year renewal options. Ground rent for the first year would be roughly $300,000. United has also agreed to finance the site work, which the airport authority would typically cover, in return for the rent credit not to exceed $1.24M, according to the document. United Airlines is one of the larger airlines at the airport with seeing 2,174,107 passengers in and out of Tampa in 2018, which represents a 10.21 percent market share at the airport. It recently announced it will increase its nonstop Tampa to San Francisco service from one flight a day to twice daily with service beginning June 6.

VPS eyes $33 million expansion

Major expansions to its parking, airplane apron and concourse areas and the possible construction of an office building help make up a total of more than $33M worth of future planned and potential projects at Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport. Those and other anticipated changes, some of which could get underway this year, will help the infrastructure at the 62-year-old VPS meet growing demands, county Airports Director Tracy Stage said Monday. We are the fastest growing airport in the country,” said Stage, who noted that all four airlines — Allegiant Air, American Airlines, Delta and United — at VPS have recently added flights to new destinations and more frequent trips to existing destinations.

The newest flights were announced last month. Starting June 6, Allegiant plans to offer non-stop service from VPS to Omaha, Nebraska and Tulsa, Oklahoma. Those flights will bring VPS’s total number of nonstop destinations to 30. Of those, 22 are provided by Allegiant. Overall, “I fully expect the growth to continue,” Stage said. “These are tremendous additions to our airport and the airport system, which has put a lot of challenges on us.”

In fiscal 2018, VPS set yet another new passenger count record with a total of more than 1.4M passengers. That total represented 21 percent growth over 2017 and a near-doubling of its total passengers since 2015, with 82 percent overall growth in three years, according to Stage. “We’re doing good. We can’t move fast enough” to keep pace, he said. The county’s current lease of about 130 acres of Eglin Air Force Base land for commercial airport operations at VPS expires July 30, 2063. Updates to the airport’s master plan, which serves as a blueprint for airport growth over the next 20 years, are nearing completion. The updated document will include revised airport layout and terminal plans.

The video provides a very good overview of the projects, and many people will be happy to see the public parking garage get developed, said Ketchel, who is the liaison between the commission and the county Airports Department. Click here to read more...

MCO, Florida’s busiest, had 47 million travelers in 2018

Florida’s busiest airport had a record-breaking 47 million passengers passing through it in 2018. MCO officials said Wednesday that the 47.7 million passengers last year marked an almost 7 percent increase over 2017.

The overwhelming majority of those passengers, or 41 million people, were traveling domestically, which was up more than 6 percent from the previous year. The airport had 6.6 million international travelers, an increase of more than 11 percent. MCO now flies to 150 non-stop domestic and international destinations.
Wings of Freedom tour engages community with “Student Day” event

January 23rd was an exciting day at the Boca Raton Airport as hundreds of students from Palm Beach and Broward County schools joined area veterans and local dignitaries for the Wings of Freedom Tour “Student Day” festivities.

This year’s “Student Day” was as moving as ever, from Mayor Scott Singer’s inspiring speech to the Presentation of Colors by students representing the Boca Raton High School’s JROTC. The event gave hundreds of students a chance to meet and speak with WWII veterans while exploring rare WWII-era bomber and fighter aircraft, including a Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress “Nine O Nine” heavy bomber, a P-51D Mustang “Toulouse Nuts” fighter, and a Consolidated B-24 Liberator “Witchcraft” heavy bomber.

Now an annual tradition in January, “Student Day” is an integral part of the Airport’s efforts to engage and educate students. This event has become a favorite of students and veterans, giving them a chance to interact with each other while reveling in the spectacle that these incredible aircraft provide. During the event, students learned about the critical role that aviation has played throughout American history. “Student Day” also exposes students to a number of career opportunities that they may not have known existed to them. By educating students about these opportunities, it opens doors for them to grow and prosper within the aeronautical field which benefits them and the greater community over the long term.

The Airport’s role transcends transportation, aligning itself as a partner in educating, engaging and enabling students to reach their full potential. Now in its 70th year of operation as a general aviation use airport, the Boca Raton Airport will continue to engage students, business and the greater community so that everyone can enjoy the value of this Boca Raton asset.

Arround the State

The Florida Aviation Business Association announces 2019 legislative priorities

FABA is meeting with legislators and the executive branch this month to push for changes in Florida law. Our focus this year is a reduction/elimination in the Florida Sales Tax on aircraft sales and changes to laws affecting mechanic’s liens on aircraft.

Sales Tax Exemption on Aircraft Sales

FABA is encouraging the Florida legislature to follow the lead of other States such as New York and offer an exemption to sales tax on aircraft. In essence, Florida is losing a great deal of aviation business and opportunity to other states. For example, other states such as New York have little or no sales tax on aircraft. Numerous transactions are closed in other states where the aircraft are simply flown out of Florida for the closing. Moreover, any work done on these aircraft after closing is performed in other states to the detriment of aviation businesses in Florida. The FAC supports this legislation.

Amendment to Mechanic Lien Laws

A Florida appeals court ruled that possession of the aircraft is required in order to file/perfect a “statutory” lien under Chapter 329 (namely s. 329.41 and s. 329.51, as applicable). This interpretation has been problematic in that a Fixed Base Operator (FBO), fuel supplier, or aircraft service provider is now in bind where they either have to insist on payment prior to releasing an aircraft (which is not good for business – especially for long term credit worthy customers) or release the aircraft (and consequently relinquish their lien rights). It seems that the revisions are rather simple in that the two statutes would need to be changed to specifically state that possession of the aircraft is not required in order to perfect the liens.

Moreover, courts have made rulings that make a possessory lien under Chapter 85 ineffective (namely s. 85.031). 85.031 allows a “possessor” lien where the aircraft can be held for three months and then states that it may thereafter be sold at published non-judicial sale.
Courts have ruled that an aircraft must be returned after the three months under s. 85.031 (thus, depriving the opportunity to sell the aircraft). We feel this is a misinterpretation requiring an amendment to clarify that possession can be maintained until the non-judicial sale.

FABA is requesting specific factual examples, actual narratives from businesses, as to how these laws adversely affected your business as they currently stand. Please send an email with your specific story to FABA at info@faba.aero by February 15, 2019.

Lawmaker seeks to end Florida Transportation Commission
(Source: The News Service of Florida)

A House Republican has filed a proposal aimed at eliminating the Florida Transportation Commission, a decades-old panel that oversees transportation issues and helps select transportation secretaries. Rep. Ardian Zika, R-Land O’ Lakes, filed the bill (HB 681) on Wednesday.

The measure filed for the upcoming 2019 legislative session, would remove references to the commission from state law. The commission is perhaps best known for its role when a new secretary needs to be hired for the FDOT. The commission conducts interviews and provides a short list of candidates to the governor, who then selects a secretary -- a process that recently took place when Gov. Ron DeSantis named Kevin Thibault as secretary of the department.

The nine-member commission also is supposed to do such things as recommend transportation policies and periodically review the state of the transportation system. The commission’s website says it was created in 1987 to “serve as a (citizens') oversight board for the Florida Department of Transportation.”

FAC COMMITTEE NEWS

Environmental Committee accepting nominations for J. Bryan Cooper Awards

Two awards will be presented at the 50th Annual Conference and Exposition, August 4-7, 2019 in Fort Lauderdale: The Airport Project Environmental Award and the Vision Award.

The Airport Project Environmental Award recognizes FAC member Airports for promoting, implementing or undertaking environmental projects and programs that have a positive effect on the Florida aviation system and is presented to a Commercial Aviation or a General Aviation Airport at the annual conference. Criteria for selection:
1. Project or program utilizes or implements positive environmental practices within the state-wide Florida aviation system.
2. Project or program demonstrates a balance between environmental benefit and financial viability.
3. Project addresses environmental issues of local, regional or state-wide concern, providing increased environmental awareness and/or partnerships with entities outside of the aviation industry.
4. Project or program must have been completed, constructed, or reached a meaningful state (for long-term or multi-year projects) within the last 12 months.

The Vision Award recognizes outstanding leaders, whether individuals or agencies, that have exemplified vision, inspiration, leadership and significantly contributed to environmental standards in aviation design, permitting, and construction or innovations in balancing airport development and protecting the environment and is presented to a person or agency at the annual conference. Criteria for Selection:
1. Person or agency that has made extraordinary contributions to the FAC Environmental Committee and FAC in general.
2. Person or agency that championed an environmental cause that benefited the aviation industry.
3. Person or agency that has exemplified commitment and dedication to protecting the environment while balancing airport development and growth.
4. Person or agency that has developed a product, procedure or program that contributed to the development of state or federal regulatory policy that benefited the aviation industry.
5. Person or agency that has demonstrated exemplary application of partnership with the local community to raise awareness on aviation environmental issues of local, regional or state-wide concern, thereby providing increased environmental awareness.

Deadline for submissions for both awards to FAC is at 5 p.m. Friday, June 7, 2019. Click here for more information, or visit the Environmental Committees’ web page to download a copy of the award brochures.
Palm Beach County Notice
RFQ-LN 19-4

Pursuant to Florida Statutes 287.055, NOTICE is hereby given that Palm Beach County requires professional services as follows:

Professional Services for the Palm Beach County Department of Airports in support of the preparation of a Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study for Palm Beach County Park Airport (LNA).

Additional information may be obtained by visiting the County's Vendor Self Service website at https://pbcvssp.co.palm-beach.fl.us/webapp/vssp/AltSelfService or by contacting the Dept of Airports at (561) 471-7400.

Position: Project Inspector
Summary: Under general supervision, provides Resident Project Representative (RPR) services for Airport construction projects in accordance with the project construction plans and specifications. In addition; assures Airport wide environmental regulation compliance, conducts periodic inspections of Airport stormwater and utility facilities, updates Airport GIS/CAD files, and general assistance with project management of Airport’s Capital Improvement Program.

If interested in this position, please send your resume to Human Resources at hr@flypgd.com or fax to 941-639-4792.

For more information, click here.

Position: Director, Airport
Salary: $73,403.20 - $168,604.80 annually
Applications requested by March 1, 2019

This is responsible managerial work directing the operation, maintenance and security of the City's international airport. Work involves responsibility for the efficient and economical management, operation and maintenance of the airport and coordination of airport activities with federal and state agencies. Work is performed under the administrative direction of an Assistant City Manager and considerable independent judgment, discretion and initiative is exercised in carrying out the daily operations of the department with efficiency and effectiveness.

Visit http://www.talgov.com, -job openings link, for instructions on how to apply.

Position: Real Estate Financial Analyst
Job Description:
The position will be actively involved in supporting the Real Estate and Development department with extensive financial analysis ranging from analyzing and expanding on existing business acquisitions, budget preparation, construction project fiscal management and controls.

For more information, and to see this posting in its entirety, visit the Classified section of the FAC website.

Contact Saika Begani at Sbegani@sheltairaviation.com to apply or need additional information about his job.