



**Aviation Council
of Pennsylvania**

Serving Pennsylvania AviationSM

Pennsylvania Aviation News

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Aviation Council awards Senator Ed Holl (center) its top award. Presenting the award are Council President, Ron Soder (left) and Council board member, Roger Moog (right).

Lancaster & 2001 Annual Conference Perfect Together

Ron Soder, President of the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania, announced that the 2001 Pennsylvania Aviation Conference was a huge success as measured by attendees, exhibitors, and sponsors. The Conference, which is co-sponsored by the Council and the **PENNDOT Bureau of Aviation**, was held in **Lancaster, Pennsylvania**, from October 10-12, 2001.

The Council's Board of Directors extends congratulations to the **Lancaster Airport Authority** for hosting this year's Conference. A special thanks is in order for Conference co-chairs, **Joyce Opp** and **Dave Eberly** who, along with **Cheryl Melhorn** and the Conference Committee, put on one fantastic event.

Annual Achievement Award

One of the highlights this year was the presentation of the Council's Annual Achievement Award. This year's recipient was **Senator Edwin G. Holl**. Senator Holl, who has never missed a single

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Pennsylvania Aviation Advocacy Day 2002 About to Take Off

The Aviation Council of Pennsylvania under the leadership of President Ron Soder is pleased to announce that the 2002 Pennsylvania Aviation Advocacy Day is scheduled for **January 29, 2002**. The one day event will take place at the **Harrisburg Hilton and Towers** beginning at 8:00 A.M.

Barry Centini, Chairman of the Council's Legislative Affairs Committee, states that this will be a historic event for the Council. Never before has the Board of Directors, along with the membership, traveled to Harrisburg to meet with our Legislators and apprise them of the state of aviation in the Commonwealth.

Aviation is a key engine in driving the overall economic health of our great state. It is critical that the system of airports be properly maintained for business and industry as well as for the casual traveler.

The Council's Board of Directors encourages both members and non-members to come to Harrisburg on January 29th to support Advocacy Day and aviation in Pennsylvania. Attendees are being encouraged to set up meetings with their Legislators between the hours of 11:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. A press conference/rally has been scheduled for 2:30 P.M. at the Capitol. This will provide the media with insights into the issues facing the aviation industry in the Commonwealth.

The highlight of Advocacy Day will be a **Legislative Reception** at the Hilton from 5:00 to 6:30 P.M. In order for this event to be successful, it is imperative that everyone personally invite their Legislators to attend the reception.

The Advocacy Day schedule can be found on **page 5** of this newsletter. **Please call the Council office if additional registration forms are needed: 610 797-1133.** ✈

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notes



from the president

The 2001 Pennsylvania Aviation Conference, which was held in Lancaster in October, is now history and by all accounts it was an outstanding success. This success was the result of careful planning and a lot of hard work by the Conference Committee, which was headed by **Joyce Opp**, **Dave Eberly**, and **Cheryl Melhorn** of the Lancaster Airport Authority.

While the Annual Conference is normally an occasion for renewing old acquaintances, networking, and learning about technological advances, the violent acts of terrorism committed against our country on September 11th weighed heavy on the minds and hearts of those who attended. The Keynote speech by **Captain Ed Davis**, Vice Chairman of the Lancaster Airport Authority and former Viet Nam prisoner of war, aroused our sense of patriotism and reminded us that freedom is worth fighting for.

Awards Luncheon

One of the highlights of the Conference was the Awards Luncheon when numerous awards and scholarships were presented to worthy recipients. Receiving the Council's **Annual Achievement Award** was **State Senator Edwin G. Holl** of Montgomery County. Senator Holl, an avid pilot, has been a strong advocate for aviation in the State Legislature.

The Bureau of Aviation presented its service award to **Paul C. Heintz**, also an avid pilot, who was recognized for his leadership in promoting aviation in Pennsylvania as well as nationally. Paul is a member of the Aviation Council Board of Directors.

A Time for Growth

I consider it a privilege to have been elected to serve a second year as President of the Council. The past year was both challenging and rewarding. I am grateful for the support provided by members of the Board of Direc-

tors in carrying out the Council's business. Success can only be achieved by a total team effort.

Last year we established two primary goals:

- Increase the Council's membership;
- Develop a funding initiative strategy for seeking added State monies for development of airport facilities.

While progress was made on both counts, our work is far from complete. The groundwork has been laid; however, we must now bring these initiatives to fruition. More specific information about these endeavors will appear elsewhere in this newsletter. I am excited about these ambitious undertakings, but I also know that we can only succeed if everyone buys into the program and lends a helping hand. Be willing to stand up and be counted by soliciting new members from your workplace and among those you know in aviation or related fields. Support the efforts of the Legislative Committee through your contributions of time and money for the funding initiative.

Keep in Touch

If you have comments or suggestions that you feel will benefit the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania, please contact me at:

Midstate Consultants, Inc.

9 Amherst Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Tel: 717-737-0425 Fax: 717-737-4274

Email: rlsmidstate@aol.com ✈

Ronald L. Soder, P.E.

President, Aviation Council of Pennsylvania



Aviation Council of Pennsylvania

Serving Pennsylvania Aviation™



Paul Heintz (center) receives the Bureau of Aviation Kent Sheaffer Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award. Pictured presenting the award are Bureau of Aviation Director, Bill Shaffer (left) and Deputy Secretary of Aviation, Liz Voras (right).

Aviation Council of Pennsylvania Scholarships and Award Winners

—October 11, 2001

AVIATION COUNCIL OF PENNSYLVANIA SCHOLARSHIPS

DIRON K. BINNS
Philadelphia Professional Pilot (John W. "Reds" Macfarlane) Scholarship—Hortman Aviation

PHAEDRA N. MUSSELMAN
Palmerton Professional Pilot (Arnold Palmer) Scholarship—Kutztown Flight School

GREGORY T. WINKLE
New Brighton Aviation Technology Scholarship—Pittsburgh Institute Of Aeronautics

MICHAEL H. HEGARTY
Finleyville Aviation Technology Scholarship—Pittsburgh Institute of Technology

SERVICE AWARDS

SENATOR EDWIN G. HOLL
PA State Senate Achievement Award

JOHN BUTTERWORTH
Atlantic Aviation FBO Customer Service Award

CARL LAFY
Northern Tier Aviation Airport Service Award

CONFERENCE HOST AWARDS

JOYCE OPP
Lancaster Airport Conference Host Award

DAVID EBERLY
Lancaster Airport Conference Host Award

CHERYL MELHORN
Lancaster Airport Conference Host Award

HONORARY AWARDS

ED SIEFKEN
Aviation Council of PA Honorary Board Member

WILLIAM MUMMERY
Aviation Council of PA Honorary Board Member

PA SPECIAL RECOGNITION

ANGEL FLIGHT EAST Ft. Washington ✈️

Gangwhal Departs US Airways

Rakesh Gangwhal has stepped down as President and CEO of both US Airways Group and US Airways, Inc. to work in the field of private equity and venture capital. Stephen Wolf, currently Chairman of both companies, has taken on the CEO duties for both companies.

There has been speculation by analysts that Wolf and Gangwhal may have had differences in seeing the vision for the future of the companies. ✈️

welcome new members

The Council extends a special welcome to our new members who have recently joined the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania. We appreciate your support and look forward to your participation in our activities and committees.

▶ **CHARLES D. SNELLING**
PA Aviation Advisory Committee

▶ **RICHARD HORSTMANN**
Edwards & Kelcey, Inc.

▶ **JAMES AIELLO**
Buchart-Horn, Inc.

▶ **LORI B. LEDEBOHM**
McCormick, Taylor & Associates, Inc.

▶ **DONALD A. STEPHANIK**
McCormick, Taylor & Associates, Inc.

▶ **CHESTER AMICK III**
A & H Equipment Co.

▶ **PAUL A. MEYERS**
Aviation Mgmt Consulting Group

▶ **TOM RICHARDSON**
Pittsburgh International Airport

▶ **TEREAS COSTRONUOVO**
Urban Engineers, Inc.

▶ **TIM LEWIS**
Valley Oil Company

▶ **RICHARD SHAFFER**
Clearfield-Lawrence Twp Jt Authority

▶ **JOHN FLEMING**
L.B Smith, Inc.

▶ **PEARL L. BACCHUS**
Chester County Aviation, Inc.

▶ **BIJAN PASHANAMAEI**
DMJM + Harris, Inc.

▶ **RON L. GEIST**
PA Highway Information Association

A Special Thank-you to Our 21st Annual PA Aviation Conference Partners



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Taking a picture break outside the Hangar Party at the 2001 Pennsylvania Aviation Conference are (left to right) Bill Shaffer, Larry Krauter, Sharon Daboin, and Ron Soder. Needless to say, the Renaissance-themed costumes were a major hit.

The Aviation Council of Pennsylvania and PENNDOT—Bureau of Aviation thank the following sponsors and exhibitors for their generous contributions which have made the 21st Annual Pennsylvania Aviation Conference a success!

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Wilkes-Barre/Scranton
International Airport

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Chevron
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Delta Airport Consultants, Inc.
DMJM Aviation
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Valley Oil Company

21st Annual Pennsylvania Aviation Conference *from page 1*

legislative session in Harrisburg, graciously accepted the award and thanked the Council for selecting him as this year's winner.

Senator Holl, a pilot himself, has been a strong supporter of aviation within the Commonwealth. He has constantly been an advocate and is never shy about sharing the many benefits that aviation produces, including job creation and retention.

Workshops Premiered in 2001

This year's sessions were diverse and stimulating. One of the new highlights this year was the creation of workshops for various user groups. The FBO Workshop could have run for another two hours based on the feedback from several attendees.

Next year's Conference is scheduled for **October 2002 in Allentown, Pennsylvania.** Conference Chairman **Larry Krauter** has begun the planning and is in the process of forming the 2002 Conference Committee.



Lehigh Valley International Proposes Manual Baggage Searches

Lehigh Valley International Airport has proposed to the U. S. Secretary of Transportation, **Norman Mineta**, that the Airport Authority staff can accommodate manual baggage screening of all carry-on bags. **George Doughty**, Executive Director at Lehigh Valley, has a plan to set up manual baggage search stations before airline check-in. The baggage searches would be conducted while passengers are waiting to check-in for their flights.

The **Aviation and Transportation Security Act** signed into law in November 2001, mandates explosive detection systems (EDS) be in place at all U.S. airports by the end of 2002 with interim measures to be in place by January 18, 2002. ✈

Schedule – Pennsylvania Aviation Advocacy Day 2002

Tuesday, January 29 at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

8:00 A.M. **Continental Breakfast** Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

8:30 A.M. **Welcome**
Ron Soder President, Aviation Council of Pennsylvania

Keynote Address
Elizabeth Sarge Voras
PENNDOT Deputy Secretary for Aviation, Rail Freight and Ports

9:00 A.M. **Senate/House Legislative Session**

- **“WHY IS AVIATION IMPORTANT TO PENNSYLVANIA?”**
- **“KEY POINTS FOR LEGISLATORS”**

Sen. Roger Madigan
Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee

Sen. J. Barry Stout
Minority Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee

Rep. Richard Geist
Chairman, House Transportation Committee

Rep. Keith McCall
Minority Chairman, House Transportation Committee

Rep. Russ Fairchild
Chairman, House Aviation Sub-Committee

10:00 A.M. **Legislative Strategy Session**
“STEPS TO ADVOCACY”

Barry Centini
ACP Legislative Committee Chairman

Charles Snelling
Chairman, Pennsylvania Aviation Advisory Committee

Marvin Miller Lobbyist (Legislative Liaison)

11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. **Attend scheduled meetings with Senators/Representatives and Staff Members**
All ACP members and attendees are encouraged to attend scheduled meetings with legislators between 11:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M.

2:30 P.M. **Press Conference/Rally** State Capitol Rotunda

5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M. **Legislative Reception** Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

council mission statement

To represent the Pennsylvania aviation community in matters involving government and private sector interests; to improve aviation in partnership with the Commonwealth and the Federal government; and to increase public awareness of aviation.

**Pennsylvania
Aviation News**

a publication of the Aviation
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<Several Pennsylvania airports have been informed by at least one airline that terminal rental payments, landing fees, and associated payments will be deferred until further notice.>

Life After September 11

The world was shaken after the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Many people reexamined their priorities and decided to evaluate their personal and/or business goals and objectives. The aviation industry was littered with economic debris. International airlines like Swissair filed for bankruptcy protection. U.S. airlines, already facing difficulty due to the modern day depression, were faced with the largest single event which would reshape commercial airline service in North America.

While an assortment of business segments were already in difficulty, others were feeling moderate weakness. The commercial service airports in Pennsylvania have felt the downturn in passenger traffic and the directly related downturn in revenue from parking lots, car rentals, and food service. Several airports have been informed by at least one airline that terminal rental payments, landing fees, and associated payments will be deferred until further notice.

Good News in the Air

Smaller general aviation airports have also seen major drops in activity which translates to reduced income. Commercial aircraft operators who provide aircraft charter services and flight training were virtually shutdown several times during the months of September and October. Some of these private aviation companies faced very difficult times. The good news according to Vern Moyer, President of Moyer Aviation in Easton, Pennsylvania, is that the aircraft charter business is starting to improve. Flight training has come back nicely and the bright side is that people may decide to finally get that pilot's license that they always dreamed about. The safety record for aviation in the U.S. is excellent and is still the safest way to travel according to Moyer.

Small Operators, BIG Challenges

Several people who own and operate aircraft charter and flight school operations in Pennsylvania noted that their aviation insurance carrier advised them in writing that the underwriter may elect to not renew their insurance. The letters went on to spell out that the annual premium—assuming that the underwriter wished to continue the coverage—would rise a minimum of 35%. This direct increase will have to be passed along to the entire customer base. This will require an increase across the board for aircraft charter, flight training, and aircraft maintenance.

The aviation industry is in need of support. People need to regain their confidence. Simultaneously, it is important that both our Federal and State governments assist to get all businesses, especially aviation, back on their feet. We all need to stand tall and together as we navigate through this very interesting time in our world. ✈



If you have news regarding events or projects at your Airport, Fixed Base Operation (FBO), Flight Department, Flight School, etc. or ideas for future newsletters, please forward them to:

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