



Newsletter
Anoka County Aviation Association
 ACAA

Next Meeting: **Monday, November 8, 2010 7:00 PM**
 EAA Chapter 237 Hangar Anoka County Airport.

November, 2010

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Calendar

November 8, 2010 (Mon)	7:00pm	ACAA Meeting EAA Hangar
December 7, 2010 (Tue)	7:00pm	Aviation Career Night Key Air
December 31, 2010 (Fri)		Newsletter Deadline Want Ads due
January 10, 2011 (Mon)	7:00pm	ACAA Meeting EAA Hanger

November Meeting

Join us at the November meeting for an update on what's happening at ANE and the MAC. We'll also be soliciting nominations and electing officers for the coming year.

Family, friends, and members of other airport associations are cordially invited. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM on Monday, November 8, at the EAA 237 Hangar on the west side of the field. Doors open around 6:45. Refreshments will be provided.

Around the Airport

By Joe Harris, Airport Manager

[Editor's Note: We welcome the return of Joe Harris, and his always informative and insightful Newsletter column.]

The Anoka County/Blaine Airport once again lived up to its reliever airport moniker the week of October 26th. As you may recall, a powerhouse storm produced wind gusts over 50 mph and delivered the Twin Cities area cooler temperatures. This storm caused flight delays at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport as arriving and departing aircraft were only able to use one of the four runways.

Several corporate jets destined to MSP elected to divert into ANE instead of waiting their turn in line into MSP. The aircraft types included a Hawker 800, Challenger 600, Citation X, a Falcon 50 and Falcon 900. This was made possible through the marketing of the FBOs, ILS, runway length and world-class air traffic control service.

The ANE stakeholders will be prepared to assist flight crews again this winter when they are searching for an alternate airport if MSP's capacity is limited and other nearby airports close or are not an option.

Food for thought - the MAC owns and maintains 150 runway lights, 250 taxiway lights and 110 guidance signs, PAPI's, MALSR, 4-electronic gate access controls, an airfield and ATCT generator, airport beacon, wind cone light, the interior and exterior lights in MAC buildings, hangars and ATCT, as well as two master electrical vaults at ANE. Did you know that one MAC electrician maintains all of these systems? Moreover, this electrician maintains all of the MAC owned electrical components at the other reliever airports, too. This is remarkable when you consider all of these systems, not to mention the travel distance

between airports. So, if you hear 'MAC Electric' on the frequency, please thank him for his service.

The airport lost one of its greatest ambassadors last week. Sig Berg, former ATCT manager passed away. Sig was a close friend, and I will certainly miss his friendship. Please keep his family in your thoughts.

With regards,
 Joe

RAAC Report

By John Krack

Things have been pretty quiet on the RAAC front, and I've been totally consumed with a major house project so haven't had much time for much else, but I did get an update from Kelly Gerads on the major items we're tracking:

Aesthetics/Maintenance Ordinance

I attended the Maintenance/Aesthetics Ordinance Public Hearing on October 6, and was the only one who spoke in response to the ordinance. I thanked the MAC staff for involving the RAAC early on, and for working with us to develop an ordinance that we feel is workable. I noted that the tenant community generally recognizes that times have changed, and that it's important that we do our part to reflect local community standards. I also said that we applaud the provisions giving a great deal of flexibility to the airport managers to deal fairly, yet in a controlled way, with the inevitable exception cases that are legitimate but don't quite meet the letter of the ordinance. I also offered several comments and suggestions as we move to the implementation phase:

- a. At the Informal Meeting following the Notice, we suggest that the tenant be given the option to request that two RAAC members attend the meeting as observers. This helps the RAAC to better understand where the issues lie, and with another set of tenant ears listening to the complaint, helps to counter the perception of "you're picking on me."
- b. For tenants facing serious repairs, we believe it is better to try to retain them as tenants rather than drive them out. Toward this end, we suggest that MAC offer a low-interest loan program to help these tenants over the financial hump.
- c. Nevertheless, there will likely be tenants who are near the end of their flying career and want to get out. We have two suggestions for these situations:
 - i. Provide a clearinghouse for people who want to buy up leaseholds, repair or demolish the buildings, and sell or rent the lots or repaired/rebuilt structures, to hook up with those who want to sell out.
 - ii. For a limited time, offer to cover or share the demolition cost for those who choose to simply abandon their leaseholds. The cost would be recovered when the lot is re-leased.

- d. I have agreed to develop a sourcebook of contractors and approximate costs for various repairs.

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RAAC Report

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- e. Identify, and notify as soon as possible, those tenants with buildings deemed to have exceeded their useful life.

Kelly advised that the next step is to issue the Hearing Officer's report, and hold a public meeting to review the report. She expects the Hearing Officer's report to be finalized next week, with the meeting to be held at the December M&O meeting on December 8th, and submission to the Commission for approval at their December 20th meeting. Recognizing that winter is not a good time to be doing repairs, the effective date is still to be determined.

I'm still on the hook to do a sourcebook, and have several contractors lined up to talk with, but that's on hold right now until I get my house project under control.

Financial Model

Kelly advised that some of the assumptions made in the Financial have not turned out as expected, (i.e., the current version doesn't look good) and they are working with Commissioner Monaco (who is an FBO operator in Duluth) to review the whole picture of the Reliever Airports, how they're funded, what services they provide to whom, and how they fit into the larger picture). They're also visiting a number of GA airports in the "extended" local area (Princeton, Cambridge, Rush City, Winsted, Fleming, among others) to understand how they operate, how they're funded, what GA segments they cater to, etc., and to get ideas that might apply to the MAC airports. This activity is expected to result in business plans for each of the Reliever Airports (which Glenn Weibel has been urging for some time) and changes to the Model to put the Reliever Airports on a better financial footing. Kelly noted, and I agree, that it doesn't make sense to publish an updated Model which they know has challenges that they are taking steps to address. This is a welcome development, and we'll keep you posted as the project progresses. We both agreed that we need to avoid triggering the onerous "surcharge" that's written into the current ordinance.

Parcel 64 Lease (FlightLine). MAC and Flight Line are continuing to work out a detailed development agreement.

Blaine Ballfield Lease. Discussion continues to try to reach an agreement. Several other items are being included in these discussions, as sort of a "package deal."

Lease Policy Changes and Lease Forms. MAC Staff is extremely close to a final draft, which they expect to share with the RAAC later this month. As we did with the Aesthetics ordinance, RAAC reps will solicit input from the tenant community, prepare our concerns and comments, and work with Staff to address them.

Revisions to Commercial Minimum Standards. Commercial Minimum Standards will be addressed as part of the airport analysis project outlined above.

We'll keep you posted as things develop.

As usual, if you have any concerns, issues, or suggestions regarding the Reliever Airports, let me, or any of the other RAAC reps, know.

The View From Here

By John Krack

He's Baaaaaaack!!

Welcome back Joe Harris! We look forward to your continued excellent stewardship of ANE.

ACAA Website

One of our near-term initiatives is to populate the ACAA website (www.ane-acaa.org) that was set up awhile back. We are looking

for ideas, suggestions, pictures, events, and stories to be added and updated on this website. Take a look at the website, and send your information to mlawrence@keyair.com.

Another airworthiness hoop to jump through

From the MnDOT Aeronautics Website

FAA Requiring Re-registration of Aircraft on a Three Year Recurring Basis

The first re-registration notices will be sent on or shortly after October 1, 2010, for aircraft that were registered in March of any year. These aircraft are assigned an expiration date of March 31, 2011. The owners of these aircraft must apply for re-registration between November 1, 2010 and January 31, 2011, their assigned timely filing window.

Details are available at the MnDOT website (www.dot.state.mn.us/aero/), but basically, it works like this:

- Your aircraft registration will be assigned an expiration date based on its month of original registration. Aircraft registered in March of any year expire March 31, 2011. Aircraft registered in April expire June 30, 2011. May registrations expire September 30, 2011, and so on through February registrations, which expire December 31, 2013. (You can find your registration month by looking up your N number on the FAA website.)
- Approximately six months before your expiration, you'll receive a notice from the FAA, and will have 3 months to file on line (or by mail) starting with the 5th month before expiration.
- During the last two months before expiration, you can only file via mail, and if you wait too long, you risk not having your new certificate before your old one expires, which means you can't legally fly the aircraft.
- Approximately 90 days after your (unrenewed) certificate expires, the FAA will retire the N number and you can't get it back for 5 years, which means you'll have to re-register your aircraft with a new N number.
- And three years later, you get to do it all over again!

Isn't it fun owning an aircraft???

Airport Promotion Team

The Airport Promotion Team continues to hold monthly meetings to find and implement ways to promote the airport. At the October meeting, Janese Thatcher, manager for Aviation Education for MnDOT, shared with us the materials her department has developed for teachers to incorporate aviation education into their classroom curricula. The program is very complete, and walks the teacher step-by-step through the material. It includes theory of flight, and simple experiments to demonstrate the theory, as well as the kinds of careers available in the industry. It can also incorporate field trips to airports and other aviation-related venues. She noted that most people know very little about aviation beyond the airlines, and this program is designed to train the teachers and through them, get young people (and their parents) oriented to and interested in aviation. Janese can be reached at janese.thatcher@state.mn.us.

She said that the near-to-mid term outlook for aviation jobs is very bright, and suggested that a Career Day is a good way to reach high school students looking for further training and ultimately a career. In response to this suggestion, an Aviation Career Night has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 7. See the article on the next page for details. If you know anyone who might be interested, urge them to attend.

If you're interested in participating on the Airport Promotion Team, contact Harvey Karth at hkarth99@comcast.net.

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The View From Here

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Elections

Due to the cookout replacing our general meeting in September, elections have been postponed until the November meeting. We'll be electing a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Not that the current officers aren't doing a great job, but a little competition is always welcome. The duties of these offices are:

President: Conduct Executive Committee meetings as needed, and bi-monthly General meetings. Act as the primary contact person and spokesperson for the ACAA.

Vice President: Fill in for the President when unable to attend meetings. No other specific activities.

Secretary: Record minutes of the Executive Committee meetings and General meetings and forward to the Newsletter editor. Maintain Association records. Act as the primary correspondence person for the Association.

Treasurer: Keep the Association books, pay bills, deposit checks.

Volunteers for all offices are welcome. The time commitment is not great – a General meeting every two months, with a little preparation beforehand, and other activities and meetings that may come up from time to time. Beyond that, it's whatever you want to put into it. We are effective as an organization, but we can always use new blood, with new ideas, energy, and skills, to continue what we've started. And there are lots of interesting challenges ahead: Keeping tabs on Reliever Airport finances, Development of non-aeronautical property, and updating the Reliever Airport Long Term Comprehensive Plans, to name a few. We can influence any or all of these if we put our minds to it and work together.

So give it some thought. Step up and get involved. Volunteer for an office and help make a difference. Contact any officer (listed inside the back page), or show up at the meeting, to throw your hat in the ring.

In Memorium – Sig Berg

It is with sadness that we note the October 30th passing of Sig Berg, our ANE tower chief for 10 years. Sig was a great asset to our aviation community. As Joe Harris notes, he was a great ambassador for the airport, and was instrumental in continuing the tradition of excellence that we have become accustomed to from our tower crew. Following is a quickie bio, from Sig's first Newsletter column in January, 2000:

My name is Sig (Herb) Berg and I'm filling in behind Mr. McKinley, as the new Air Traffic Manager. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I retired from the FAA in June 1997 after 32 years government service (28 yrs. FAA). I live in Burnsville, MN. I'm married to my wife Debbie and we have two children, Sig 14 yrs. and Samantha 11 1/2 yrs. I've been a controller here at ANE since Ed persuaded me to come on up and be part of a unique aviation community. I did...here I am... and he was right. Not only are the aviation tenants the friendliest and nicest people to work for, but the Tower Controllers are second to none to work with.

As soon as I get more acclimated to my new duties, I hope to get out and meet many of you. In the mean time, don't hesitate to drop in and say hi.

As we approach the end of an era and move into the 21st century, we at the tower, wish you the best, Be safe, always use your checklist and keep your speed up!

Our condolences go out to Sig's family.

Westerberg Wins!

By John Krack

Congratulation to Andy Westerberg on his election to the Anoka County Board of Commissioners. Andy has been a big supporter of General Aviation and the Reliever Airports for years, and his extensive experience in aviation policy through his legislative work and his service as a MAC Commissioner will bring a valuable perspective to the county board as they work to leverage the potential of ANE for the benefit of the county.

We look forward to working with Andy in his new role.

Aviation Career Night – Tuesday, December 7, 7PM

By John Krack and Michael Lawrence

Are you, or someone you know, looking for an interesting, challenging, and well-paying career? Are you a parent, teacher, or career advisor looking for career opportunities for your sons / daughters / students?

Janese Thatcher of MnDOT aeronautics says that the aviation jobs picture has done a 180, and is expected to grow dramatically in the next few years. Here's a chance to get on the bandwagon early and start training for a career in aviation.

An Aviation Career Night will be held on **Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00PM at the Key Air facility**, 10188 Radisson Rd. NE, in Blaine. (Enter the airport through the north entrance off of Radisson Rd.)

Parents, students, teachers, and career advisors are strongly urged to attend, where they can meet aviation industry professionals and learn the truth about the tremendous growth and jobs available. (Remember that aviation is not all airlines; there are lots of other opportunities out there.) Attendees can:

- Learn about high quality, affordable aviation programs in MN
- Talk with employers about the demand for qualified professionals
- Learn about the excellent salaries and benefits
- Ask questions – get answers
- Apply to aviation programs on site

For more information, call 651-234-7183.

MAC Committee and Commission Meetings

By Vivian Starr

MAC Committees 6 October 2010

Finance, Development, & Environment (FD&E)

The FD&E Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the Full Commission that the Long Term Comprehensive Plan for Flying Cloud Airport, dated February 2010, be adopted as the Final 2025 Plan. The Full Commission will vote on this at their meeting later this month.

Management & Operations (M&O)

At the beginning of the M&O meeting, there was a Public Hearing on the proposed Reliever Airports Maintenance Standards Ordinance. Kelly Gerads presented the proposed ordinance to the Committee members and used a Power Point slide show to illustrate various issues the ordinance will cover. She also showed many improvements that are currently being made by tenants throughout the system.

There were only two Reliever tenants in attendance: John Krack, Chair of the Reliever Airports Advisory Committee (RAAC), and Vivian Starr, writer of this article.

Kelly Gerads told the Commissioners that staff and members of RAAC had cooperated throughout the process of writing this ordinance. RAAC had made many good suggestions for modifications to the original draft. Throughout the process, she said RAAC had looked out for tenant's best interests.

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MAC Committee and Commission Meetings

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John Krack, as RAAC Chair, spoke to the Commissioners and thanked the staff for involving RAAC early in the process. He described many cooperative meetings that produced positive results. He said tenants recognize the importance of bringing the Reliever Airports up to community standards. He said that a positive factor will be the authority and flexibility given the Reliever Airport managers. He went on to suggest that the MAC should consider making low interest loans to tenants facing major repairs. This idea was not included in the Ordinance.

Staff now has a period of time to address any issues raised by the verbal or written testimony. This will be followed by a Hearing Officers meeting where staff will present a final draft. The Hearing Officers meeting will be open to the public and staff will send a written notification to all tenants.

Anyone with questions can contact Kelly Gerads at 612-726-8142. Vivian Starr

September ACAA General Meeting (Cookout)

The September General meeting was the cookout on September 16. There was no business meeting, hence no minutes.

The event was well attended; the food was good, and all seemed to have a good time.

Thanks to Kelly Gerads and Michael Lawrence for getting it organized, and to the ANE maintenance team (Trini and Mark) for setting up the grill and doing the cooking. Also thanks to the MAC for supplying the food.

Any Budding Journalists Out There?

By John Krack

Now that my wife and I are both retired, I expect that we'll be traveling a bit more than before. There are times that we'll be out of town when Newsletter time rolls around, and it would be nice to have someone to pull things together and get it out on those occasions. If anyone is interested, contact me to discuss.

WANT Ads

**1/4 SHARE- ANOKA BASED 1976 NAVION
RANGEMASTER AVAILABLE:**



Roomy, 285 hp, IFR certified, long range (6 hr) cruiser (145K) offered at \$17000 for quarter-share. Guaranteed buy-back after one year for full purchase price. Heated hangar for year round flying ease. Initial checkout, Flight Reviews, IPC's and other proficiency training at no charge by professional pilot/CFI co-owner. Call Paul Thomas, 612-804-9792

HANGAR FOR SALE: 2173 Kentucky Ave, on west side, south of tower. 2 story with office & bath room. End hanger with office overlooking the airport. Great view. 16 foot bi-fold door. 40x60. Call Paul at 651-483-3938.

HANGAR FOR RENT: South facing tee hangar with an overhead bi-fold door available for a Cessna type aircraft. The address is 2143 North Carolina, about 5 hangar rows south of the tower on the west side of the airport. Call George at 651/699-9133.

MnDOT is looking for donations to provide the awards for completing the three levels of the Fly Minnesota program. Contact Janese Thatcher at janese.thatcher@state.mn.us or 651-234-7183.

ACAA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President: Mike Lawrence 763-780-2802
V. Pres: Paul Thomas 651-483-9808
Secretary: John Krack 763-786-5876
Treasurer: Vivian Starr 763-559-4683
RAAC Rep: John Krack 763-786-5876
RAAC Alt: Don Rosacker 651-633-1751
Legal Adviser Hal Hitchcock 651-717-0859

Committees & Members

Fire, Building Codes, and Environmental

Gary Specketer (Chair) 770-403-3450
Randy Huyck 753-1918
Roger Wyatt 755-7544
Dick Schoen 646-7539
Mike Holmquist 651-633-6525

Newsletter

John Krack 763-786-5876

Safety

TBD

Public Relations (Proposed)

Taxes

Vivian Starr 763-559-4683
Paul Thomas 483-9808
John Krack 763-786-5876

Membership

John Krack 763-786-5876

Commissioner: Andy Westerberg 763-754-1600

Airport Mgr.: Kelly Gerads 763-717-0001

Discover Aviation Days

Craig Schiller 763-786-5004

Email: golden@minn.net

Ron Barrows 651-784-7131

Cell: 763-458-4055

Email: ronniebee@aol.com

Jerry Degenaar 651-906-0628

Email: topdegs@earthlink.net

Lyle Peterson

Dick Houck

Nancy Carter

Jim Pothen

ANOKA COUNTY AVIATION ASSOCIATION

The ACAA is an association of hangar owners, hangar renters, FBO owners, pilots, flight instructors, commercial operators, and else with an interest in the future direction of the Anoka County Airport. Our mission is to actively promote a variety of interests and activities relating to the Anoka County Airport operation including:

- Safety
- Airport improvements
- Hangar use, lease contracts, and building/fire codes
- Relations with MAC, MnDOT, and adjoining communities
- Business and commercial interests
- Recreational Aviation
- Any other areas of interest to the membership

To get results, we need your support.

To join, either:

Attend the next meeting at the EAA Building, just north of the University of Minnesota facility. See the calendar on page 1 for the date and time of the next meeting.

Or:

Fill out the membership form on the back page, and send it with \$15 for one year, \$27 for two years or \$35 for three years to the address indicated on the form.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES REQUESTED

Please send newsletter articles to:

John Krack
7629 Lakeside Rd. NE
Fridley, MN 55432
(h) 763-786-5876

Email: av8r00@gmail.com

Articles may be typewritten, handwritten or on disk in Microsoft Word format or text file. See the calendar on page 1 for next newsletter deadline.

Newsletter Want-AD Service

As a benefit to members, a free want-ad service is available. Rules are:

1. Ads must be received by the date indicated in the calendar notes to be guaranteed to appear in the next newsletter.
2. Anyone or any business may submit an ad.
3. There is no charge for paid-up members.
4. Graphical images are OK if in a standard computer image file format (.gif, .jpg, .bmp, etc.). Hard-copy images are also acceptable.
5. Send ads to the Snail Mail or Email address shown above.
6. Want Ads will run for 3 issues, unless canceled early or renewed to run longer.

Email List

Vivian Starr maintains an extensive email list of people interested in what's happening in the Minnesota aviation community. She keeps us up to date with timely reports on MAC meetings, and other activity of interest. In fact, many of the articles in this Newsletter were originally distributed via email. If you're not on the list and want to be, send your email address to Vivian at DVStarr@aol.com.

