



Newsletter

Anoka County Aviation Association

ACAA

January, 2021

Next Meeting: **January Meeting Canceled**
Due to COVID

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Calendar

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|--|
| Jan 11, 2021 (Mon) | | ACAA Meeting Canceled |
| Jan 20, 2021 (Wed) | Noon-6pm | Blood Drive at Lynx FBO |
| Feb 26, 2021 (Fri) | | Newsletter Deadline Want Ads Due |
| Mar 8, 2021 (Mon) | | ACAA Meeting TBD |
| Mar 9, 2020 (Tue) | 7:00pm | Spring RAAC Meeting Via Microsoft Teams or Phone |

January Meeting – Canceled

The January meeting has been canceled due to COVID.

Meanwhile, keep flying (at least it's a good social distancing activity) and stay healthy. And have a safe and happy winter.

From the Director's Chair

By Joe Harris, Reliever Airports Director

Make way for 2021!

Waiting is something we have done a lot of in 2020. We have done an awful lot of it this year.

Initially, we waited for information, guidance, and leadership on the coronavirus and exactly how our lives will change. We waited for school learning model announcements, national election results, and vaccine updates and distribution details.

The one thing I didn't mind waiting for was the recognition of all the men and women who found themselves as essential required to keep Anoka County Blaine Airport in motion.

I celebrate our airport workforce as we ring out the old and ring in the new year. These men and women inspired us to see the good in each other and conveyed reasons to be optimistic for a bright future.

Thank you to those who get up before sunrise and burn the midnight oil to keep airplanes in flight. I salute the mechanics, avionics techs, flight instructors, service workers, air traffic controllers, pilots, airport staff, entrepreneurs and countless others doing work in the front and back of the house.

Let your dreams take flight in the new year.

Safe flying,
Joe

From the Tower

By Neil Otey, ANE Tower Chief

[Editor's Note: Thanks, Neil, for the kind words about our organization. From our end, we greatly appreciate what you and your crew do to keep us all safe. I hear nothing but good words about the controllers and the services you provide. I think that

when it comes to a tower team, we won the lottery. Keep up the good work.

And thank you to all of you who have supported the ACAA over the years, and to the MAC staff, for helping to make our airport the extraordinary place that it is. Here's to a healthy and happy 2021, with lots of flying!]

Hello John. Thanks for what you and your association do! I know the airport tenants, airport operators, MAC crews and FBO appreciate it as well.

Not unlike many of your people, I started flying at a very early age with my father. I have operated through many airports over the years, and I believe a large part of what makes ANE one of the very best, is reflected in what your association does. Thank You, and all your members for what they do!

To all of our flying clubs, flight school, students, instructors, commercial operators of every type, and airport supporters, in whatever capacity, I congratulate you! Our airport is safe and enjoyable because of you! Hardly a day goes by, that we don't receive valuable input from our users. We frequently observe, from the tower, examples of tenants helping tenants, or receive offers of help with an issue. *We know you are listening too!* The efforts of all of you, do not go unnoticed by your tower crew. Our greatest asset is "your eyes and ears"!

It is our pleasure to serve you.

Congratulations...and Thank you, for all you do!

Have a safe and happy new year...and come fly with us!

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Thank you,

*Neil F. Otey
Air Traffic Manager
Anoka Tower
ANE FCT*

Around the Airport

By Phil Tiedeman, ANE Airport Manager

Hardship and Achievement

I hope you all enjoyed the holiday season and are looking forward to 2021 as much as I am. As we enter the New Year, it is important we remind ourselves that not only was 2020 a year of hardships but it was also a year of achievement. Think of all the things we have been confronted with and overcome. Each of us has had a different struggle, some more than others and some even severely. Here at the MAC, we both showcased and strengthened our resilience, creating and executing plans for sustaining our workforce, operations and business partners through the most challenging year in the history of aviation. I have also been told of several stories of tenants, some who choose to remain anonymous, that made sure their neighbor or friend was okay and provided assistance. I would like to take this time to thank everyone who has embraced the changes, stepped outside of your comfort zone, and gone a little further to help others who needed a little more

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Around the Airport

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support. Those receiving the help appreciate your efforts no matter how small. On their behalf and anyone else with similar stories, I would like to thank you.

Fire Truck

A group within the Twin Cities is looking for an older fire truck that was last reported at or near the airport. I do not have too much information, but the truck is believed to have two turrets and is fairly unique. Their intent is to restore the truck to some of its former glory and make it operational for demonstrations. If anyone has any information about the whereabouts of this truck, please reach out to me.

Snow and Ice

Once again, I ask for your assistance in keeping the airport looking its best. Please remove any unnecessary items from outside your hangar, maintain the proper aeronautical use of your hangar, and report any unsafe or unauthorized activity. As a word of caution, items placed between or next to hangars may be damaged by snow and ice sliding off the roof. This could force water into your hangar as the snow melts as well.

Now that winter is in full swing, maybe. Our Maintenance Crew is working hard making sure the airport is operational and safe. If you have a known departure or arrival during a snow event, please contact the crew at 612-919-5065. They will do their best to have the snow cleared off your route if the conditions permit it. Please check NOTAMs for current conditions. Our goal is to update NOTAMs every four to six hours or more often as conditions are rapidly changing.

If you would like to get in touch with me, I can be reached at philip.tiedeman@mspmac.org or at (cell) 432-556-9009.

RAAC Report

By John Krack, RAAC Chair

The spring Reliever Airports Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 9, probably once again via Microsoft Teams. More details in the March ACAA Newsletter.

Following is a summary of the meeting that John Grosen wrote for his Crystal community:

The MAC Reliever Airport Advisory Council met virtually on December 8th at 7pm. All members were in attendance along with a few tenants. I had trouble getting connected to the video stream so I ended up having to call in and thus missed the slides that were presented. I've asked for a copy but haven't received them yet.

Airport Manager's Reports

Philip T gave a quick update on Anoka and Lake Elmo. He mentioned that the construction schedule for 2021 will be light. The only thing on the schedule is continuing to work on taxiways. At Lake Elmo there are 4 new hangars under construction. The construction work for the LTCP is starting this fall but the major work will be done in 2021.

Mike Wilson updated on Crystal and STP. He started out by emphasizing the effort that staff throughout the reliever system are making to avoid Covid issues. It's been paving off. Crystal has two new hangars under construction and letters are being sent to a few tenants who aren't in compliance with the MAC's aesthetics ordinance. Overall, he praised Wiley Company, Wentworth, and Maxwell's for the good job they are doing in maintaining their property which was nice to hear. Construction plans for 2021 are light and consists of installing taxiway edge lighting. The FAA is scheduled to conduct a flight check on December 22nd which, assuming things go well, should result in the restoration of the instrument approaches and the PAPI for runway 14. The REILS should be installed also by 12/22. Fuel sales have been very strong;

better than expected (50% higher than forecast) and there has been some Jet A selling lately too with some turbine traffic and air ambulance helicopters refueling there now. The MAC's operations agent, Robert Dockrva, is working out of the tower building Monday through Friday now and monitoring the fuel system for problems. If there are any issues and Robert is around please let him know otherwise let Mike Wilson know.

Blaine Peterson reported that little in the way of construction will be underway in 2021 but several tenants have various kinds of improvement projects underway. He acknowledged that there is very high demand for hangar space but no space available for lease. The area to the south is not available because it creates line-of-site issues for the tower.

Airlake's wash rack project has run into issues with a valve and thus opening will be next spring. There is a new hangar under construction and services for four more are being installed. There is no update or change in status with the issue on ultralight/powerful parachutes sharing airspace.

Activity Based Revenue Update

Kelly Gerads gave an interesting report on the reliever airport revenues. The relievers generate activity-based revenue from three primary sources: fuel flowage, landing fees, and percentage sales.

All commercial businesses on the field pay 1.5% of their gross sales to the MAC. As you can imagine, gross sales are down but not as much as you might think and this revenue stream is only down five percent for the year.

Fuel flowage (a fixed amount per gallon of fuel) is included in the per gallon price paid at any of the relievers which goes to the MAC. Overall, the 100LL side of the equation is doing well with flight training remaining strong and a lot of private flights (more recreational than business). However, Jet A sales are down substantially because of the significant decrease in corporate flight. Since Jet A is typically the largest portion of the fuel sales flowage fees are off by 24% for the year.

Finally, landing fees, which correspond to larger, corporate aircraft, are, like Jet A sales, down for the year resulting in a 32% decrease in these revenues.

Overall, activity-based revenues generally track business traffic and are down. The dollar amount this adds up to is roughly \$478,000. While this is a significant amount of money, it is not having any impact on services at any of the relievers. The MAC has undertaken cost-saving measures (limiting overtime, etc.) and strong operations rental income is limiting the impact of this drop in revenue. The MAC has also received some CARES act revenue which is helping, too.

I think it is really important to emphasize that there have been and will be no decrease in service levels from the MAC as a result of the decrease in activity-based revenue. The managers point out that it's been a mild winter after an early start which is making it easy to keep overtime under budget. The flip side is that the MAC will not be raising rents to cover this either. The management should be commended for what they've been able to do, in my opinion, under very difficult circumstances. Imagine what it would be like to deal with the issues at MSP!

Relievers Manager Report

Joe Harris rounded out the meeting with a really upbeat presentation focusing on the new efforts to improve communications with tenants. In particular, the Virtual Lunches that have happened at Anoka, Lake Elmo, and Crystal were discussed. I know that many of you were able to sit in on the session for Crystal and I thought it went well and Joe said the feedback he's gotten was positive, too. In addition, newsletters are now being published for Crystal, Flying Cloud, and Lake Elmo, and they will be coming for the rest of the relievers soon. If you're interested in subscribing here are URLs that will take you directly to what you need: [MIC](#), [FCM](#), and [21D](#). I'd encourage you to sign up if you haven't already.

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RAAC Report

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Flight operations, overall, are on par with 2019 which is really surprising considering the pandemic and changes in tower hours which is how (by whom) most of the operations are being counted. November saw double digit increases in operations overall.

Final Update

I continue to ask about the status of runway 32 after the changes including the new GPS approach. Mike Wilson said that they are finishing up some tree clearing of the approach end of the runway. Also, the new PAPI system has yet to be installed which needs to be relocated as a result in the change in runway length and then flight tested. His best estimate is that the approach should be available sometime this summer. I know it's not as quick as any of us would like but the FAA is not the speediest bunch when it comes to things like this.

Also, I brought up the somewhat goofy runup area for runway 14. Apparently FAA regulations wouldn't permit the runup area to be put on the north side of the taxiway which is why it's the way it is. It sounds like the centerline stripe for the taxiway may be moved to the south (through the extended section) which would make it possible to move the runup area back on the north side with some striping to make that clear. Awkward, yes, but probably better than doing your runup with the tail into the wind!

As always, if you have any comments or concerns talk to Mike Wilson or me or both!

Happy Holidays!

John Grosen
Crystal Airport RAAC Representative

To add to what John wrote, Phil noted that staff is working with several ANE tenants to resolve aesthetics and hangar use issues; that there's some new hangar development at the south end of the airport; that the old Univ. of MN building has a new roof and siding; and that 2021 construction will involve taxilane pavement replacement from Massachusetts to the control tower.

I also think it's important to underscore that MAC staff has worked diligently to keep their costs, and ultimately our costs, under control given the big revenue drop in 2020, while still completing some major improvements at the reliever airports, and without compromising service. I've asked for some details, and will share them when I get them.

Flight operations at ANE for October and November were:

| | 2019 | 2020 |
|------|-------|-------|
| Oct: | 5,212 | 5,929 |
| Nov: | 4,598 | 5,654 |

If you have reliever airport questions or concerns, please contact Phil Tiedeman.

If you have anything that you'd like me to bring up at the March RAAC meeting, let me know.

The View From Here

By John Krack

Aesthetics Ordinance Compliance Required for Lease Renewal

At the December RAAC meeting, MAC staff emphasized once again that they will require compliance with the Aesthetics Ordinance 112, available at https://metroairports.org/sites/default/files/ordinances/Ordinance_112.pdf, before they will renew your lease. I asked Robert Dockry, who has been doing the periodic hangar inspections, what the most common issues are, and he said rust on door hinges, doors, and roof panels, as well as deteriorating paint.

Many leases will come up for renewal in 2022, so the spring/summer/fall of 2021 would be a good time to correct any problems. If you have questions about what you might need to do, contact Phil Tiedeman.

In an effort to make things easier, we'd like to compile a list of contractors who do the sort of work we might need – painting, roof repair, sheet metal repair, door repair, etc., and if there's enough interest, maybe try to get a quantity discount if a number of buildings can be done at one shot. **SO... if you know any contractors that you'd recommend, please send the information to Phil, and I'd appreciate it if you'd copy me.** Two references for door repair are noted below.

Although our building appearance may seem unimportant to some, it really is important. We have neighbors living close to the airport, particularly on the south and east, and we don't want our buildings to be eyesores. We need to take pride in our airport and our investments, and show our neighboring communities that we care.

January 20th Blood Drive at Lynx FBO

Bryan Orr reports that Lynx FBO will be hosting a Red Cross blood drive in their lobby from 1200-1600 on Wednesday, January 20th. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter **Lynx FBO** to schedule an appointment.

Airport Newsletters

MAC has begun a subscriber service to periodically publish airport-specific newsletters to registered subscribers. Newsletters have been initiated for Flying Cloud, Crystal, and Lake Elmo, and are planned for the other three relievers. You can subscribe using the following links:

Crystal Airport News:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNORGMAC/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNORGMAC_30&pop=t

Flying Cloud Airport News:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNORGMAC/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNORGMAC_31&pop=t

Lake Elmo Airport News:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNORGMAC/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNORGMAC_33&pop=t

You need to subscribe to each of these individually. MAC is working on a change to allow users to select their desired newsletters from a list, rather than having to register separately for each one.

The newsletters are written by the respective airport managers, and are sent to your email. They're a great way to for MAC to communicate timely information on airport activities. Sign up and get on the distribution list. The newsletters are not being archived (yet) so you won't see the past ones, but you'll be set up for future editions. We'll let you know when the Anoka newsletter becomes available.

Community Education/Outreach

Several weeks ago my wife, who monitors a local neighborhood bulletin board, pointed out some questions/comments that people had about the airport. Some people expressed concern about noise, and correctly noted that there was increased activity last summer. Some wondered why we use certain runways, and others said they thought it was because of the wind. One person suggested that there was some kind of agreement to keep aircraft from flying over the high-end houses in north Blaine. I was preparing a response to clarify some things, but then the discussion played out and the posts went away.

It occurred to me that there's some misunderstanding among the general public about how we operate around airports, and why we do it that way. This also ties in with Jennifer Lewis' comments at the September Town Hall meeting about flying neighborly. I'm thinking that it might be useful if we could put together either a written paper or a YouTube video that would answer some of these questions and make people more aware about what goes on at our local airport, and what to do if they have concerns (MAC's noise line, Flight Tracker), as well as communicating our noise abatement guidelines. The goal would be to have a comprehensive resource that we could shop around to the local

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The View From Here

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newspapers and community newsletters, and point people to when they have questions about our airport.

I received some references from Kyle Lewis at AOPA and haven't done an in-depth search, but most of it seems to be pilot-oriented, or promoting, rather than explaining, aviation and airports to the general public. I also did some Google searches with the same result. In any case, though, I think it might be more useful to have something more specific to our area.

Another thing I've been kicking around in my mind is a short (2-4 hour) program that could be offered through local community education programs on what it takes to become a pilot. It would focus on adults and youth who are interested in learning to fly but don't know what all it entails or how to get started. It would include an overview of General Aviation, the requirements for and privileges of various types of licenses; an overview of flight training (what you'll learn); where to get training; what it costs; opportunities such as the EAA Eagles and Young Eagles programs, flying clubs, Civil Air Patrol; reading and on-line resources, etc. – basically a primer on what light aircraft flying is all about and how to get started.

I'm not prepared right now to put something like this together myself, but I wanted to throw the idea out to solicit feedback:

- Are you aware of anything like this that could be picked up, with some local content added, and presented to the general community?
- Do you think there's a need for something like this from the general public standpoint?
- Is there a need in the aviation community as a way to funnel more people into aviation? (I've heard that the flight schools are overloaded right now, but they won't always be.)
- Would you be willing to work on something like this?
- Any other comments?

Let me know what you think. I'll contact some of our local community ed folks to see if there's interest from their end.

MAC Flight Tracker

If you haven't tried it yet, check it out. It's pretty slick. I'm talking about the Flight Tracker app on the MAC website at <https://www.macnoise.com> and click on Flight Tracker. Here, you can see in near-real-time (1 minute delay) all of the aircraft activity in the local area. And, if you select the right overlays and flight information, you can see tail numbers, aircraft type, altitude (AGL), flight track, and speed. If you select 'Animated,' you can select a past start date and time, and see historical movements. You can see your previous flights – when you departed and when you returned. It's really pretty neat, and is a wonderful tool for following up on noise complaints.

ACAA Website – Past Newsletters Added

We're still tweaking the website, and we've added links to past newsletters from November, 2010 to July, 2020. Check it out.

The site address is www.aneairport.org

Comments and suggestions are welcome. Send to aneairport@gmail.com

Thanks to Craig Schiller for doing the updates.

Hangar Door Inspection/Repair

Two suggestions:

- Jerry Becker. beckergm57@gmail.com, Phone: 763-269-2120
- Merle Marshall. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/merle-marshall-86047894>, Phone: 612 703-0845.

You Can Now Pay Your Membership Dues Via PayPal

If you would like to join or renew using a credit card, email us at aneairport@gmail.com and let us know. We will send you an invoice with a link to enter your credit card information for payment. Or, you can still mail the form with a check.

Newsletter Input Solicited

I'd like to bring more variety to the content, so if you have any interesting stories, experiences, or tips to share, please send them along.

Email Distribution

If you are receiving this via email and would like to discontinue your paper copy (and haven't notified me already), please send an email to aneairport@gmail.com indicating that you're OK with email only.

If you're not getting an electronic copy and would like to do so, please so indicate with an email to the above address, include your name as printed on your address label, and also indicate whether you'd like to discontinue your paper copy

Looking to Buy/Sell/Rent Hangar Space?

Check out the hangar space clearinghouse on the MAC website:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScE5S3eyAwO20p1wv4nbWY0bVIMxPtI-lyLZe5oBA3N6gbWGA/viewform> or

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScE5S3eyAwO20p1wv4nbWY0bVIMxPtI-lyLZe5oBA3N6gbWGA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1>.

Depending on which browser you use, you may have an easier time opening the alternate link. Or, you can click this QR code.



If you're working from a hard copy, here's how To get to the site without having to enter the above string of gobbledeygook:

1. In a browser, Google **MAC Hangar Portal**
2. Click on **Prospective Tenants | Metropolitan Airports Commission**
3. Click on the link under **Reliever Airports Hangar Listings**.
4. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click the **Next** button

NOTE: The website includes a "Hangar Wanted" category. You can use this also if you're looking for rental space.

November Meeting Minutes

Due to the coronavirus, no meeting was held in November, hence no November minutes.

Respectfully submitted by John Krack, Secretary, ACAA.

ACAA History

Will resume in the March edition.

WANT ADS

FOR SALE:

Brand new Appareo *Stratus Power* Certified USB Charging Port. Sells at Sportys' for \$249 plus tax and shipping. \$200. Check it out at:

https://www.sportys.com/pilotshop/stratus-power.html?_SID=U

John Krack 763-786-5876 or av8r00@gmail.com

ACAA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President: Michael Lawrence 763-780-2802
V. Pres: Don Johnson 651-407-3403
Secretary: John Krack 763-786-5876
Treasurer: Mike Miller 763-267-8729
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 TBD

Newsletter

John Krack 763-786-5876
av8r00@gmail.com

Safety

TBD

Public Relations (Proposed)

Taxes

Vivian Starr 763-559-4683
John Krack 763-786-5876

Membership

John Krack 763-786-5876
av8r00@gmail.com

Commissioner: James Deal

Airport Manager:

Phil Tiedeman 432-556-9009
Philip.tiedeman@mspmac.org

Discover Aviation Days

2021 Dates: TBD

Website: www.DiscoverAviationDays.org

Email: Info@DiscoverAviationDays.org

Phone: 763-568-6072

Planning Team:

Craig Schiller Flight Line Enterprise
Email: cschiller@flightlineltd.com

Craig Hass AWAM
Email: dlhass@comcast.net

Mark Bakko Flywell Flying Club
Email: mark.bakko@gmail.com

Michael Lawrence ACAA
Email: michael.lawrence.ane@gmail.com

ANOKA COUNTY AVIATION ASSOCIATION

The ACAA is an association of hangar owners, hangar renters, FBO owners, pilots, flight instructors, commercial operators, and anyone 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 Golden Wings Museum 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.

Or:

Pay via **PayPal** to treasureracaa@gmail.com. Or send an email to us at aneairport@gmail.com and let us know. We will send you an invoice with a link to enter your credit card information for payment.

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.

Anoka County Aviation Association

7629 Lakeside Rd. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

ANOKA COUNTY AVIATION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ - _____

Work Phone (____) _____ - _____

Cell Phone (____) _____ - _____

Email Address _____

Check Here for Email Distribution Only (No Print Copy)

____ New Member

____ Renewal

Please tear off this information sheet and mail along with a check (payable to ACAA) for:

\$15 - 1 Year \$27 - 2 years \$35 - 3 years

(Please check desired membership term)

To: John Krack
7629 Lakeside Rd. NE
Fridley, MN 55432

Your renewal date is shown on your mailing label.

Do you have any special concerns or issues you would like to communicate?

To help us keep current with our members' interests, please fill out this survey.

Are you an: Aircraft Owner? _____

Type of Aircraft? _____

Hangar Owner? _____

Hangar Street and #? _____

Pilot? _____

FBO? _____

Do you have any special interests, such as:

Aircraft Restoration? _____

Homebuilding? _____

Recreational Flying? _____

Other? _____

Office Use Only: Check #: _____ Entered: _____