



# Newsletter Anoka County Aviation Association ACAA

September, 2020

Next Meeting: **Virtual Town Hall**  
12:00 Noon Via Skype or Phone

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## Calendar

Sept 8, 2020 (Tue)	7:00pm	Fall RAAC Meeting Via Skype or Phone
Sept 14, 2020 (Mon)	12 Noon	Virtual Town Hall Via Skype or Phone
Oct 30, 2020 (Fri)		Newsletter Deadline Want Ads Due
Nov 9, 2020 (Mon)		ACAA Meeting <b>Tentative pending COVID</b>

## From the Director's Chair

By Joe Harris, Reliever Airports Director

What crazy times we're living in. The MAC team continues to maintain and operate a vital system of airports during the coronavirus pandemic. In July, the number of takeoffs and landings jumped 26.6% compared to the previous year at ANE. Operations increased for MAC's Reliever Airports by 4.5% in July compared to the same month last year, even with modified air traffic hours of services at Crystal and St. Paul. This has been a pleasant surprise – keep flying!

We said goodbye to longtime MAC maintenance employee Mark Storlie a few weeks ago. Mark worked 34+ years at MAC, including 27-years in the Reliever Airports department, and 22-years at ANE. I've learned a lot from working with Mark for many years. It was an honor to work with him. Mark noted that one of the highlights working at MAC was Super Bowl week. He loved working with the tenants and controllers. He shared many fond memories on his final day. Thank you to those who stopped by to wish him and family best wishes in his future endeavors.

MAC staff is starting to prepare for winter operations. The winter of 2018 and 2019 were harsh. According to the 2020 *Farmers' Almanac*, this winter will be filled with so many ups and downs on the thermometer, it may remind you of a "Polar Coaster." Effective communication between the MAC team and users are vital to keeping our airport operating at peak efficiency. It takes a team effort, but we need everyone to communicate, coordinate and collaborate to achieve winter operational success. We are here for you if you have any questions, concerns, and suggestions. I can be reached via email at [Joe.Harris@mspm.org](mailto:Joe.Harris@mspm.org).

I will miss seeing everyone at the annual September airport picnic. I sincerely hope that the situation in the world will improve soon. Take care of yourself and stay healthy.

With regards,  
Joe

**[Editor's Note:** It looks like Joe ordered nice weather once again. Too bad we can't use it!]

## September Meeting – Virtual Town Hall

Sadly, our annual airport picnic has been yet another casualty of COVID-19. However, we're doing the next best thing. MAC has offered to lead a virtual Town Hall meeting focused on various aspects of the Anoka County airport.

The meeting is from **Noon to 1pm on Monday, September 14**, and features presentations by several MAC staff members and airport organization leaders, followed by a Q&A session. The objective is to get everyone together after a summer of semi-isolation, and bring us all up to date on what's happening at the airport and what we may see going forward. You'll have to supply your own burgers, brats, beer, etc., and we hope we can get back to our annual picnic next year.

The meeting will be done via Skype on MAC's Skype Business platform. You can also dial in on a telephone bridge to participate.

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Send an email to Joe Harris ([joe.harris@mspm.org](mailto:joe.harris@mspm.org)), and please don't wait until the last minute. We're hoping for a great attendance.

Following is the agenda for the meeting:

### Agenda:

- 12:00 – 12:05 Opening Remarks – Joe Harris (5 min)
  - Attendees joining via Skype are on mute
  - Those calling in are asked to mute themselves, unless asking a question during the Q&A
  - Presentation slides will be shown on the screen and were emailed in advance
  - Advise attendees that they can ask questions in the chat box and will be addressed as time allows at the end
- 12:05 – 12:10 ANE Airport Update – Phil Tiedeman (5 min)
- 12:10 – 12:15 Air Traffic Control Update – Neil Otey (5 min)
- 12:15 – 12:20 FBO Update – Brian Orr (5 min)
- 12:20 – 12:30 MAC Community Relations Update – Jennifer Lewis (10 min)
- 12:30 – 12:35 Anoka County Airport Association Update – Michael Lawrence (5 min)
- 12:35 – 12:40 Reliever Airport Advisory Council Update – John Krack (5 min)
- 12:40 – 12:50 Q&A (Beginning with Questions Submitted in Advance) – Facilitated by Dana Nelson (10 min)
- 12:50 – 12:55 Outstanding Promotion of ANE Award Presentation – Joe Harris (5 min)
- 12:55 – 1:00 Closing Remarks – Chad Leque (5 min)

## RAAC Report

By John Krack, RAAC Chair

The fall Reliever Airports Advisory Council meeting was held on Tuesday, September 8 via Skype. Thanks again to MAC for setting up the Skype meeting on their server. The agenda was:

### AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes and Agenda
2. Issues:
  - A. Reliever Airport Updates - Airport Managers
  - B. Reliever Review July and August 2020 - Joe Harris
  - C. Remote Town Hall Meetings - Joe Harris
  - D. Reliever Communications – Kelly Gerads

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# RAAC REPORT

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3. Tenant Comments/Issues - RAAC Representatives
4. Future Meetings Schedule for 2020 - 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday - December 8, 2020

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## Meeting Summary:

### Reliever Airport Updates

Phil Tiedeman gave an update on ANE and MIC:

#### ANE:

- Pavement work is complete
- LED edge lighting and upgrading taxiway signs to LEDs is in progress. To be done in 7 phases from 8 Sept. to 10 Oct., weather permitting.

#### MIC:

- The new S/S fuel system has been operating since 1 July. There have been a few glitches which were quickly resolved. User feedback is very positive.
- The new runway 14/31 is complete and open for business. Phil complimented the construction crews on their professionalism and attention to detail.
- Phase 3 began August 31. The first part of this phase will include work on the new parallel taxiway, south of Taxiway A, and the new service road on the south end of the airport. This work will run for several weeks and includes grading, electrical work, trenching, paving and other work similar to previous phases.
- There are new hangars on the north side. Plans are being developed for other hangars.

Blaine Peterson updated the group on FCM and LVN:

#### LVN:

- The new restroom is done. Opening is scheduled for 9/18.
- The wash rack completion is expected in October
- The above ground diesel tank for MAC equipment should be done in October

#### FCM:

- The taxiway rehab project is complete

Mike Wilson recapped STP and 21D activity:

#### STP:

- Holman's Table restaurant reopened July 1 for Wed-Sun service. Lunch service remains closed.
- Construction projects include perimeter roads and storm sewer work.

#### 21D:

- The 30<sup>th</sup> street reroute was completed July 3
- Runway work – this fall
- Sites are available for new hangars
- Watershed coordination to deal with runoff is in the works. Doing nothing would send the water to a lake

with no outlet, so MAC is planning to build holding basins and equip them with sprayers to spray the water into the air like a fountain so it can evaporate or return to the ground in small droplets. Only expected to be needed during heavy rain events.

### Reliever Review July and August

Joe Harris reviewed July and August reliever airport activity. I didn't write down the numbers, but ANE and FCM operations have been up substantially. I asked if the ANE controllers were short-handed and stressed given the increased traffic, and Joe/Phil said they'd check with Neil Otey.

### Remote Town Hall Meetings

Joe next talked about doing remote "Town Hall" meetings for each of the reliever airports. ANE is the pilot on September 14, and if the concept works, it will be carried to other airports. This is felt to be an excellent way for MAC staff to communicate directly with airport users, focusing on their specific airports.

### Reliever Communications

Kelly Gerads talked about another action to more effectively communicate with airport users. MAC has implemented a subscription service for bulletins about MIC and FCM, and will be adding the other airports in the near future. We'll let you know when Anoka's becomes available.

You can register for Crystal news at:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNORGMAC/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=MNORGMAC\\_30&pop=t](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNORGMAC/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNORGMAC_30&pop=t)

And for FCM news at:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNORGMAC/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=MNORGMAC\\_31&pop=t](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNORGMAC/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNORGMAC_31&pop=t)

This service will be a huge benefit to airport users, as MAC can send messages directly without having to depend on organizations like ACAA, EAA, Flying Clubs, etc. to get the word out to their groups (or to mail stuff to tenants via the postal service).

### Tenant Comments/Issues

John Grosen said the MIC users are very pleased with the S/S fuel station, though some still miss the fuel truck.

John Krack asked MAC (based on an email from Don Johnson) to look into the possibility of someday providing a turf runway in the area south of runway 36. Don cited a project by EAA and FAA to evaluate a turf runway at Wittman Field, and the FAA determined there was "no hazard finding" with the EAA proposal. They did this through a Safety Risk Management process, and it's not a done deal for Wittman, but it's a significant first step, and it offers a blueprint for evaluating the feasibility of a turf runway at other towered airports. Don't hold your breath for ANE, but it seems like something at least worth looking into. Joe Harris said they'd bring it up with staff.

The items we're currently tracking include:

- Non-aeronautical revenue initiative
- Primary Relievers Visioning Study (currently on hold)
- Reliever Airports Financial Model and Funding Review
- Construction Activity and Capital Plans
- Improving MAC/User Communications
- Ultralights at LVN

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## RAAC REPORT

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You can see past RAAC agendas and minutes at

<http://metroairports.org/general-aviation/advisory-councils/reliever-airports-advisory-council>

The winter meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8. Unless the COVID-19 situation dramatically improves, we'll probably do it again via Skype.

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

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### The View From Here

By John Krack

#### Kudos to MAC Construction

I think it was a fairly easy decision for MAC as the projects had already been researched, approved, and funded, but I think we all appreciate MAC's decision to proceed with some pretty major reliever airport projects in the face of the COVID-19 financial challenges. They could have just as easily said "we're not spending the money," canceled everything. We're very happy they didn't. Thanks, MAC.

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#### Check Out Our Updated Website

We still have some cleanup to do, but things should be ready by Monday's Town Hall meeting.

The site address is [www.aneairport.org](http://www.aneairport.org)

Comments and suggestions are welcome. Send to [aneairport@gmail.com](mailto:aneairport@gmail.com)

Thanks to Craig Schiller for doing the updates.

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#### Hangar Door Inspection/Repair

Two suggestions::

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

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#### 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](mailto: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.

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#### 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.

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#### 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](mailto: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

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#### 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 gobbledygook:

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.**

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### July Meeting Minutes

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

*Respectfully submitted by John Krack, Secretary, ACAA.*

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### Some More ACAA History

By John Krack, ACAA Secretary

Last time, we talked about our first year. This time, we stroll through year 5, highlighting some of the activities and changes at the airport.

On May 19, 1991, the first Blaine Aviation Day was held. This was a 1-day event that extended the EAA pancake breakfast through the afternoon. The main purpose was to improve relationships with the surrounding communities and inform them of the value of the airport and services available. The event featured pancakes in the morning, and lunch-type food in the afternoon. There were static aircraft displays, flyovers, children's activities, and hourly forums and discussions. Bud Erickson dubbed it a "Mini Oshkosh."

In 1992, a lot was learned from the first event, and the second BAD, held on May 17, was a resounding success. The EAA served upwards of 1000 breakfasts, the ACAA served 400-500 lunches, and the (temporary) tower had around 700 operations for the day! Stan Gomoll displayed his antique airplane engines, the Classic Car Club showed up for the morning, people gawked at the warbirds, especially Mike Langer's Mohawk, and kids of all ages landed plastic airplanes on (and off) the "carrier decks." There were homebuilts and classics on the ramp, and exhibits and food inside the building. You could buy T-shirts, sweatshirts, stained glass airplanes, and other neat stuff. Gary Specketer and his committee chairmen did an outstanding job of organizing the event, and all the volunteers made it successful. We were definitely on to something.

#### Also in 1991:

- MAC worked a deal with the City of Blaine to reroute Xylite street so MAC could extend runway 8/26 (now 9/27) to 4000 feet and repave it at the same time. Runway 8/26 was closed for most of the 1991 summer.
- MAC expanded the East hangar area for new construction
- New operating rules were completed and implemented
- The push to get a tower continued

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## ACAA History

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### 1992 brought new improvements and challenges:

- The E/W perimeter road across the south end of the airport was completed
- The ACAA weighed in on MAC's proposal for commercial minimum standards. In a number of cases, they adversely affected small operators. MAC ended up addressing the concerns by offering to consider variances to those adversely affected.
- The Anoka Technical College building next to the tower opened in March
- The Anoka Hennepin Technical College was working on plans to build/operate an air traffic control training center at the SW corner of the airport. (The deal ultimately fell through.)
- We elected new officers:
  - President – John Krack
  - Vice President – Tom Knoll
  - Secretary – Betsy Riley
  - Treasurer – Bud Erickson
- We challenged MAC on their "no ultralight" policy, but they declined to change it
- The tower initiative continued

### 1993 – Another Busy Year:

- The ACAA incorporated, primarily as a liability shelter. Bud Erickson led that effort.
- MAC began a review of their rates and charges, which had not changed for years, and the increasing reliever airport expenses coupled with the extremely low lease rates (\$.05/sq. ft./yr), suggested they needed to be updated.
- The ACAA had a letter-writing campaign to urge Congress to appropriate funding for the FAA to operate a control tower. MAC and MnDOT continued their efforts, and agreed to fund construction of a building if the FAA would staff it.
- Blaine Aviation Day was held May 23. It rained, but it was still successful. The BAD committee recommended going to a 2-day event in 1994.
- The promise of GPS was demonstrated on September 13 when a Gulfstream IV shot a no-hands approach following the Potomac river into Washington National airport, using a Honeywell FMS and GPS system. (Bob Mulcahy, one of our members and an engineer for Honeywell's aviation division, described the event at one of our meetings.)

### In 1994 – Things Got Serious:

- Blaine Aviation Day was renamed Discover Aviation Days and expanded to a 2-day event, held May 21-22. Attendance was estimated at 10,000. Gary Specketer suggested that the event be split off as a separate entity with its own directors.
- MAC proposed increasing the ground rent from \$.05 to \$.15 per sq. ft. over 5 years, plus an increase in the fuel flowage tax. Rates and Charges was a growing issue.
- The tower issue heated up. Serious discussions were held with rep Jim Oberstar, Sen Rod Grams, MnDOT, AOPA, and other key players. Most were in favor, but it was getting bogged down in Congress. Some (particularly

AOPA) wanted to go through the normal process of meeting the FAA's criteria, rather than earmarking/redirecting funds. (ANE movements were around 200,000. The FAA estimates were 65,000, not enough to justify a tower, but they later admitted they erred.) It also seemed that the FAA was escalating its criteria, meaning that we might never qualify. The saga continued. In November, we finally got word that Congress had directed the FAA to staff a tower at ANE! Our efforts finally paid off, thanks to many people who got behind the effort. The final push, we're told, came from Sen. Wellstone's office.

- President Bill Clinton tried pushing FAA privatization. Fortunately, it died.
- Amjet won two awards at Sun&Fun – Grand Champion for their BAC-167 Strikemaster and Best Transport for their Grumman Albatross
- Ed Fiori was appointed the MAC Commissioner for our district. Ed was a strong supporter of the airport.
- At Oshkosh, Stan Gomoll and Greg Herrick each received an award, and Amjet received five
- Noise complaints from surrounding communities began to escalate, and concern was expressed that a tower would worsen noise. We discussed how to address these concerns, and MAC recommended operating guidelines to mitigate noise.

### 1995 – More Change Afoot:

- Blaine Aviation Day (renamed as Discover Aviation Days) was incorporated as a separate non-profit organization
- ACAA changed to a bi-monthly newsletter/meeting schedule starting in April
- Our 5-year anniversary occurred in June
- The old National Guard tower was removed to make way for the new tower
- The west building area (now known as Fox Hollow) was completed and opened for new construction
- We elected some new officers:
  - President – Paul Thomas
  - Vice President – Gary Specketer
  - Secretary – Char Davis
  - Treasurer – Dick Nordquist
- Ground was broken for the new tower on September 28

Like the first year, the first five were pretty eventful. We were well on our way, with more challenges to come.

**Next Time:** The saga continues. We'll take the history lesson to Year 10, and maybe beyond.

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

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

4-gallon case of Phillips Anti-Rust aircraft oil \$90.

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@mspm.com

### Discover Aviation Days

**2021 Dates:** TBD

**Website:** [www.DiscoverAviationDays.org](http://www.DiscoverAviationDays.org)

**Email:** [Info@DiscoverAviationDays.org](mailto:Info@DiscoverAviationDays.org)

**Phone:** 763-568-6072

#### Planning Team:

Craig Schiller Flight Line Enterprise  
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Michael Lawrence ACAA  
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## 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](mailto:treasureracaa@gmail.com). Or send an email to us at [aneairport@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.

