

'08 Wrap Up

As we start to look forward to 2009, we want to take an opportunity to look back at 2008, and the accomplishments achieved during the year.

The accomplishments started shortly after the year began when the Airport Authority executed a contract for the exploration and extraction of oil and gas minerals beneath the surface of the airport. This was the culmination of over a year and half of work, in an effort to diversify the revenue streams the airport receives annually. Actual drilling operations on the airport started late in the year, and although regular revenues are not expected to be received until well into 2009, the test results from each of the wells drilled are very promising. Because these revenues are highly unpredictable from year to year, the Airport Board decided to place them into long term investment accounts for the time being. The intent is to build up enough reserve funds so that the annual interest from those accounts can potentially be used to help cover certain expenses, such as capital improvements, equipment replacement, or matching funds against future federal and state grants.

An added benefit from the oil well project was that almost 70 new trees were planted around the main entrance areas, which were paid for by the oil company. This allowed the airport to make significant progress on its multi-year entryway landscaping project, at almost no cost other than the labor to plant them. Additional progress on the landscaping project was completed at the main entrance earlier in the year, utilizing materials donated by a local contractor, and volunteer help in planting the dozens of new plants and flowers that now greet visitors at the main entrance. The total cost of materials for all of this work combined was approximately \$20,000.00. However, with the donation of the trees and materials, as well as the assistance from volunteers from both the Civil Air Patrol and Aims Flight Training Center, the actual cost was close to nothing.

Several airport improvement projects were also completed during the year, the most obvious being the seal coating and re-striping of the Runway 9/27 and Taxiway A complex. The total cost of this project was approximately \$170,000.00, which was funded by a combination of federal and state grants, with local matching funds coming from the City of Greeley and Weld County. The other significant project, although a bit less obvious, was the replacement of 25,000 linear feet of four foot tall barbed wire fence with eight foot tall high tensil woven wire game control fence. This work was mainly around the northern airport boundaries, so it was not very visible to the main portion of the airport. This work will further the efforts to limit the access of animals such as deer and coyotes into the aircraft operational areas of the airport. This project was also funded mostly by federal and state grants. The total project cost was approximately \$210,000.00, of which the Airport Authority put up just over \$10,000.00 of its own funds.

Another significant accomplishment for the year was the release of the latest economic impact figures for the Greeley-Weld County Airport. The 2008 Economic Impact Study was funded entirely by the Colorado Aeronautics Division, and identified that the Greeley-Weld County Airport was responsible for almost 121 million dollars in annual economic impact to the local communities it serves.

Other notable accomplishments include the zero deficiency safety inspection of the airport performed by the Federal Aviation Administration, the hosting by Aims Flight Training Center of the National Intercollegiate Flying Association Championships in October, and complete retro-fit of all hangar doors on building 13. There were many other smaller accomplishments too numerous to mention here. Airport staff works diligently throughout each year to achieve these and many other accomplishments which often may go unnoticed, although important to the operation of the Greeley-Weld County Airport. The Airport Board and Staff of the Greeley-Weld County Airport Authority hope that each of you experienced a joyous holiday season, and we look forward to serving your needs in the upcoming year.

Looking Forward to '09

As we begin to focus on our 2009 goals, several projects are anticipated which we look forward to:

The final phase of the perimeter fencing project is expected to be complete. Approximately 4,000 linear feet of perimeter remains to be upgraded from four foot barbed wire to eight foot game fence. This is mainly along the eastern perimeter of the airport, and is expected to cost around \$150,000, with funding coming primarily from a Colorado aviation grant.

Repairs conducted to Hangar 13 in 2008 are now planned for Hangar 6. The exact method of the retrofit is as yet unknown. Affected tenants will receive ample notification of this work in advance of it beginning.

Miscellaneous asphalt pavement repairs throughout the hangar areas will be undertaken during the first half of the year, along with the annual crack seal maintenance program, and the re-striping of certain airfield paint markings which are showing wear.

A number of other administrative or longer term planning projects are planned as well, the results of which may not always be evident, but nevertheless, will have an impact on the manner in which the airport operates.

Please feel free to contact airport administration with questions concerning these or other projects.

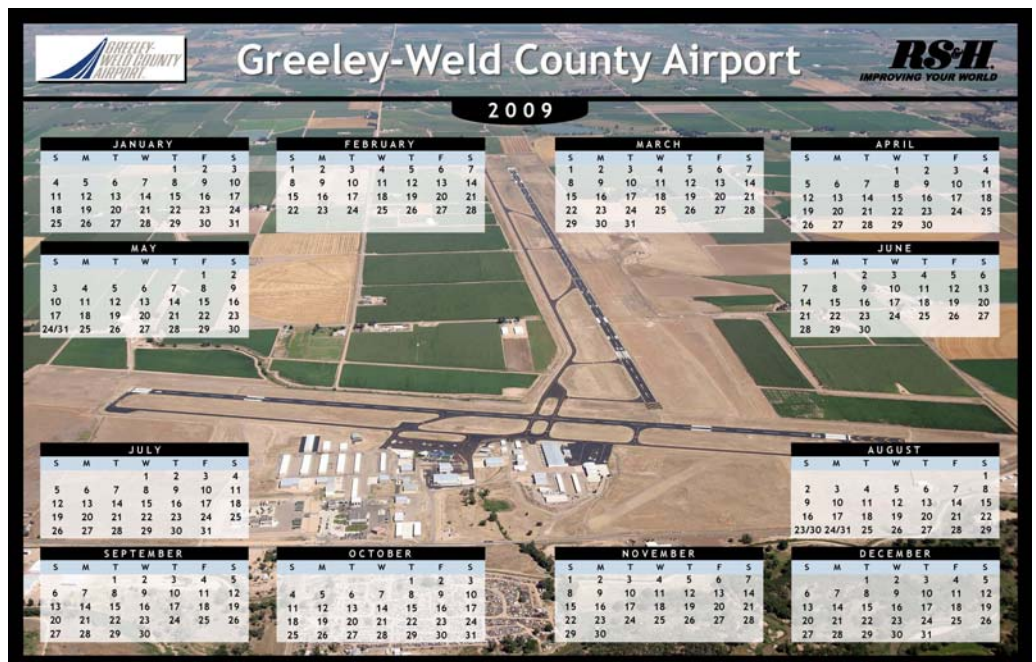
Better Schools Changes

Many may recall that the Greeley-Weld County Airport has participated in the Better Schools Better Community Program for the past six years. The airport has partnered with Bella Romero Elementary School to give kids in grades K-5 their first exposure to aviation. As this partnership has progressed, the specific needs of the school have changed, and the airport was no longer able to provide the type of resources that the school actually needed. For that reason, another business partner from within the community stepped forward to fill that need. Likewise, the airport has also been re-partnered with a school which has the type of needs which can be fulfilled by the airport's resources.

Northridge High School is the new Better Schools Better Community school partner of the Greeley-Weld County Airport for the 2008/2009 school year. This new partnership will focus on bridging the gap between potential career paths for teens, and the need to have basic reading and math skills in order to succeed in most career fields. The program will focus on aviation careers, and the basic educational system requirements needed in order to achieve success in this exciting field. Over the next few months, students from Northridge High School will be visiting the airport, as well as several tenant locations on the airport, and learning about different aviation career paths, from airframe and powerplant mechanics, to corporate and commercial piloting careers, and of the importance of having basic reading and math skills.

The 2009
Greeley-Weld
County
Airport
Calendar is
now
available!

Download
yours at
www.gxy.net



More Notam Changes... Better this time?

The national Notam system has seen several different attempts at improving the manner in which Notams are issued and disseminated by airports over the past year or so. The system initially went through a stage where it was nearly impossible to get a Notam entered into the national database in time for it to be useful to any pilot. Then came the great fax experiment of early 2008, which was better, but still lacked the efficiency this system really needed to be both useful and user friendly. By mid year the fax program was dumped, and we were back to making a phone call to a flight service specialist in another state, who we were not sure had ever even heard of Colorado.

Lockheed Martin however, which runs the AFSS system under contract to the FAA, recently debuted its new E-Notam system, which allows for the filing, cancellation, and administration of an airport's Notams through a web based portal. The system recognizes GXY through our login information, provides us with our history, current Notams, and allows us to issue or cancel Notams with efficiency and speed. Previously, a Notam took hours to work its way into the system. With the new web based portal, we are seeing dissemination times that average ten minutes or less, even when the system is being used heavily due to weather conditions.

The configuration of Notams which we broadcast email to our tenants is now slightly different than what you may be used to. This is due to the direct copy and paste function between the E-Notam system and our email list, which makes our notification directly to you by email even faster than it was before. Hopefully as pilots, most of you have also noticed an improvement in the dissemination of Notams through the AFSS, especially during snow events. We will continue to utilize our broadcast email network to notify you of changing conditions on the airport, as we have in the past.

Changing of the... Intern?

Over the past year, many of you have come to know Monique Widener, the airport's intern. Monique was conducting an airport management intern program which was funded through a grant by the Colorado Aeronautical Board. Monique completed all of the requirements of her internship at the end of October, and promptly was hired into the Airport Operations Department of the Aspen-Pitkin County Airport, where she has been working for the past six weeks.

The Colorado Aeronautical Board has agreed to once again fund an airport management intern position at the Greeley-Weld County Airport for the 2009 calendar year. Recently hired into this position was Aliza Wilson-Wheeler, a student in her senior year at Metropolitan State College of Denver. Aliza also seeks a career working in airports, and will be joining the Greeley-Weld County Airport staff beginning January 5th. Aliza will be working in all areas of the airport, and we expect her to have a visible presence on the airport, working with maintenance, assisting tenants, and handling daily requirements of the airport.

and also... the Changing of the Commissioners

Change is inevitable as we all know. With the end of 2008, we say goodbye to Airport Commissioner Bill Jerke, who served on the Airport Board for eight years. Bill's seat on the Airport Board was that of a Weld County Commissioner. His final term as a Weld County Commissioner ended at the end of 2008, which also required him to give up his seat on the Airport Board.

During his tenure on the Airport Board, Bill was responsible for helping the Board work through a number of difficult situations. His experience and guidance when it came to such things as the airport's farm properties, and the program which ultimately led to the new oil and gas exploration project, were invaluable in the airport ultimately achieving its goals in those respects.

Bill will be replaced on the Airport Board with newly elected Weld County Commissioner Sean Conway. Sean was most recently the Chief of Staff for Colorado Senator Wayne Allard in Washington, DC, and his knowledge of legislative issues and practices is expected to be of great benefit to the Airport Authority.

Large Aircraft Security Program Proposed by TSA... airports affected

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recently released its long awaited Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning large aircraft. At the present time, this rule will affect every operator of an aircraft that meets the FAA's definition of a large aircraft, being over 12,500 lbs. Operators of these aircraft under the proposed rules would be required to comply with a variety of new security requirements for the operation of their aircraft, and also conduct background checks and verification of passengers through TSA certified clearinghouses. Additionally, each operator will be required to have a TSA approved security plan.

Also included in the proposed rules, are security requirements for airports that serve aircraft over 12,500 lbs. This would obviously include the Greeley-Weld County Airport. Such airports would be required to adopt security plans approved by the TSA, have designated security coordinators, and carry out certain procedures concerning the operation of these aircraft at their airports. Although pilots and passengers of aircraft under the 12,500 lb. limit are not targeted by the proposed rules, it is not hard to see that some effect on those persons is inevitable as it relates to their presence and activities when large aircraft may be present on public ramp areas.

Every major organization representing general aviation is jumping in on this, and the comment period for these proposed rules has already been extended. There is an expectation by some that given the thousands of comments the TSA is expected to receive, that it may be some time yet before any form of these rules can actually be adopted and put into place.

The document itself is 260 pages in length. A copy is available for review in the administrative offices of the Greeley-Weld County Airport Authority, or, simply follow the link below to download or view it for yourself.

www.tsa.dhs.gov/assets/pdf/nprm_lasp.pdf

2009 Airport Board of Commissioners

Ed Phillipsen

Greeley City Council

Bill Garcia

Board of Weld County Commissioners

Charles Archibeque

Greeley City Council

Sean Conway

Board of Weld County Commissioners

Ernie Crownover

Joint City/County Citizen Appointee

Darrel Dilley

Weld County Citizen Appointee

Ed Fickes

City of Greeley Citizen Appointee

REMINDER

The Greeley-Weld County Airport Authority is able to charge your credit card for monthly rent. If you would like to take advantage of this convenient service, and get the points on your credit card account, contact Mandy Longstreth at (970) 336-3003 during normal business hours.

*The Board and staff of the
Greeley-Weld County
Airport Authority hopes you had a
great holiday season, and we look
forward to serving you
in 2009!*

To remove your name from our mailing list, [click here](#)

We want this newsletter to be of value and interest to our tenants and users. If you have an issue or idea you would like us to report on, email it to us at mlongstreth@gxy.net. Also, if you would like to share your news with others, email that to us and we'll put it in the next issue of The GXY FLYER.