



### 2017 FALL CONFERENCE RECAP

The holidays are upon us, and that means we have collectively and successfully engaged in another AzAA Fall Conference. Held at the Sheraton Mesa Hotel at Wrigleyville West, we were welcomed with the mild fall weather that we love so much about the Valley.

Our conference kicked off with the Opening Reception in a beautiful open courtyard of the hotel, where lots of stories and laughs were had. Then we all got down to business early the next morning. The lively Honorable John Giles, City of Mesa Mayor, shared a warm welcome and some exciting developments at Falcon Field and Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airports. The welcome was followed by important and timely updates from FAA and ADOT. Mark McClardy, FAA Western-Pacific Region Airports Manager, shared Arizona's good work in grant performance and reiterated FAA's ongoing commitment to Runway Incursion Mitigation (RIM). Don Kriz and Greg Byres, ADOT State Aviation Engineer and MPD Director, gave the latest on expectations on dates for restarting the APMS program and funding state grants. Greg also shared progress on maintaining grants through ADOT's Financial Management System and showing monies as "encumbered" as opposed to simply "obligated" – all of which are positive changes for Airport Sponsors.

One exciting element of the Conference was Bob Bishop's lunchtime presentation, Micro Jet Missile Defense Testing. The stories told by Bob of working with the U.S. Department of Defense and our military to help test our overseas missile detection capabilities were exciting and at times, nearly unbelievable. Bob has been fortunate enough in his career to actually do what people dream about doing! Of note is our President, Ed Faron's, uncontained excitement for this presentation as Ed has followed the adventures of Bob for a number of years.

Our conference was topped off with a new kind of session – Ask Your AzAA Board, where your entire Board of Directors was available to respond to any and all questions from the membership, and even provided answers to some prepared questions, such as, "What is the strangest piece of FOD you've ever found?" and, "What is the thing that excites you most about being on the AzAA BOD?"

A sincere thanks goes out to those in the membership that responded to our post-conference questionnaire and evaluation. Your AzAA Board and Conference Planning Committee will be hard at work very soon to take your comments and suggestions into consideration, and bring you an even better conference experience for Spring 2018 in Tucson, AZ!

### IN THIS ISSUE

- 2017 Fall Conference Recap
- FAA Corner
- ADOT Corner
- Airport Spotlight
- Kenn Potts - A Friend, a Mentor and...a Jokester
- President's Message
- Mark Your Calendars



## FAA CORNER

**Mike Williams, Manager of the FAA Phoenix ADO, has some exciting news and reminders to share with our membership:**

- Holly Dixon has been selected as our new Assistant Manager. Holly brings a wealth of knowledge in airports, engineering and the Phoenix ADO. I am very excited for this new role for Holly, the Phoenix ADO and our customers. Additional information will be forthcoming as Holly transitions to her new role.
- We're pleased to welcome Amy Randall as our new Management Assistant. Amy comes to us from the Air Traffic Organization at Phoenix Tower/TRACON. Amy began with the ADO on November 13th and we look forward to her new role.
- UAS Integration Pilot Program - President Trump and

Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao launched an initiative to safely test and validate advanced operations for drones in partnership with state and local governments in select jurisdictions. Additional information is available at: <https://www.faa.gov/news/updates/?newsId=89007> and [https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs\\_partnerships/uas\\_integration\\_pilot\\_program/splash/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/uas_integration_pilot_program/splash/)

- Advisory Circulars - New and Revised Airports Series are available at [https://www.faa.gov/airports/resources/recent\\_advisory\\_circulars/](https://www.faa.gov/airports/resources/recent_advisory_circulars/)
- SOP 10.0 - Standard Operating Procedure 10.0, "Administrative Closeout of Airport Improvement Program Grants" was published on October 1, 2017. Additional information is available at <https://www.faa.gov/airports/resources/sops/>

## FY18 MILESTONE DATES

October 1, 2017	December 15, 2017	December 29, 2017	January 31, 2018
NEPA request submission deadline	ARIZONA - ACIP submittals are due to the Phoenix ADO	ARIZONA - FY18 AIP Grant Applications due to the Phoenix ADO  NEPA approval	NEVADA - ACIP submittals are due to the Phoenix ADO  FY18 AIP Grant Applications due to the Phoenix ADO

- Construction Safety Phasing Plan (CSPP) - CSPP coordination and review needs to start early. CSPPs should be uploaded between 30 and 60% design, not with final bid set. The project should not be advertised for project until all comments for CSPP have been addressed and the CSPP letter is issued.
- Quarterly Performance Reports - These reports should be provided to the ADO all open grants, even if activity is stopped for winter or construction is complete.

## ADOT CORNER

**And now a message from our friends at ADOT Aeronautics...**

- Program year planning is progressing and on schedule. There are no changes forecast to the last update, but here is a summary for your reference: The FSL program is funded for 2019 and beyond. The SL program is suspended until 2020. The APMS program is suspended until 2019. The Loan program is suspended indefinitely.
- The 5 year ACIP process is underway. ADOT had budgeted \$3.2 million for FY 2018 (FSL) and is anticipating about \$3.8 million for FY 2019 (FSL).
- ADOT has received the updated Pavement Management Reports from Applied Pavement Technology and will be distributing them to each airport in the coming weeks.

The reports contain all the latest PCIs for pavements at each airport.

- ADOT is requesting that all Sponsors copy ADOT with every FAA Grant Application as they are submitted to the FAA. This will help Aeronautics substantially with our planning and budgeting process.
- Matt Smith has accepted a position as the new airport manager for the Grand Canyon National Park Airport. Matt will be leaving Aeronautics and will beginning in his new role before the end of the year. Matt has done a fine job for us here and we wish him the best in his new role! ADOT will be advertising for a new position to fill Matt's vacancy shortly.
- Don Kriz is continuing as the Manager of Aeronautics (and State Airport Engineer) for the foreseeable future.

## AIRPORT SPOTLIGHT

### Lake Havasu Municipal Airport's Hangar 24 Air Fest

On Saturday, November 4th, the Hangar 24 Brewery-Grill and Lake Havasu Municipal Airport hosted the first annual Air Fest – this after a 16-year hiatus from any airshows. The weather was perfect, temperatures moderate (for Lake Havasu), and the event was well-attended. The target attendance was 3,000 people, but that number was more than doubled at an estimated 7,000 to 10,000 actual participants! 250 community volunteers helped make the event a success.

155 room nights at local hotels were purchased. There were 31 total aircraft on display, some of which included a Douglas DC-3, Boeing P-13, North American P-51's, Grumman F6F, Ryan PT-22, Boeing V-22 Osprey, Navy F-18, and a "gaggle" of Yaks among others. A live band played on-site, and there were 17 performing acts over the 4-hour event timespan. Airshow performers were in constant motion for all but 20 minutes of the event. Rides in a World War II Boeing B-17 bomber were available for purchase by guests, and the exciting flights occurred the following day. It is estimated that the Air Fest had an economic impact of about \$220,000 to the Lake Havasu community. It was very much an enjoyable event by all involved, and Lake Havasu is planning on having the second annual Air Fest next year!



## KENN POTTS

### A Friend, a Mentor and... a Jokester



As many of our members know, Kenn Potts – a longtime partner in aviation to many of us in Arizona – is retiring at the end of the year.

Kenn's aviation career dates back to the early 1980's where he was the Assistant to the Airport Director at what was then Kalamazoo Municipal Airport in Michigan. He then stepped into the role of Airport Manager at Albert J. Ellis Airport in North Carolina in the mid-1980's, and then the Director of Aviation at Burlington International Airport in Vermont. Kenn then returned to Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport for a nearly 17-year position as the Airport Director. After his roles in airport administration and management, Kenn moved out west to Arizona, where he took on the position of Airport Grants Manager with ADOT Aeronautics, where many of us got to know him over his 9-year stretch in that role. He left ADOT Aeronautics in 2015 to pursue the role of Airport Administrator at Glendale Municipal Airport where he is today.

Kenn has been a friend and teacher to many of us here in Arizona, and his presence in the industry, and especially in AzAA, will be sorely missed. Who else will take all of the compromising and exposing photos of our members' escapades at our conferences? Or those just-the-right-angle action shots? Some members may or may not be in good standing thanks to Kenn Potts' precision timing!

One thing is for certain: Kenn found the right balance between professionalism and having fun! We wish Kenn and his family the best in their new adventures back in Michigan!

## President's Message



The aviation industry is critically important to the economic health of the state of Arizona as it is a major contributor to the economy. As you know, the State Aviation Fund has been swept of over \$100M in recent years. The revenue streams flowing into the fund include such user fees as flight property tax, aircraft registration, fuel tax, as well as others. The fund was established in

1979 for the purpose of providing funding for planning, design, development, acquisition of land, and construction of public use airports throughout the state. As a result of the sweeps, funding has not been available for its intended purpose and, consequently, ADOT has suspended the Airport Pavement Management System program until 2019, suspended the State/Local grant program until 2020, and has opted out of change orders for Federal/State/Local grants. This presents a significant challenge to airports throughout the state since these programs are primary funding sources for many airport improvement projects. This issue has been a point of focus for the AzAA Board of Directors this year. In October, Past President Brad Hagen and I had the unique opportunity of meeting with Matt Clark, the Governor's policy advisor on transportation, to discuss the importance of preserving the State Aviation Fund for its intended use and the devastating effects that the sweeps have had on Arizona's airports. Brad and I also were able to meet with ADOT Director John Halikowski in November for the same purpose. Both meetings were very positive and productive, and at least as of this writing, it does not appear that there will be another sweep in the near future. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Julie Rees and Lauren King from Triadvocates, one of AzAA's two contracted lobbyist firms, for arranging these meetings. It is clear that Julie and Lauren carry a lot of clout at the Capitol and without their efforts, it isn't likely that either of these meetings would have occurred. Lastly, several AzAA Board members, along with Triadvocates and Racy

Associates, AzAA's other lobbyist firm, have been participating on the Arizona Aviation and Aerospace Caucus. The most recent meeting was chaired by Representative Todd Clodfelter of the Arizona House of Representatives. One of the focal points of the caucus is to protect the State Aviation Fund. To that end, the AzAA Board and lobbyists will continue to participate to ensure that we take every opportunity to remind our elected officials of the intent of the Aviation Fund and its importance to Arizona's airports.

The 2017 AzAA Annual "Walter Burg" Fall Conference was a great success. Those in attendance were able participate in discussions with FAA and ADOT staff, as well as presentations on Part 139 inspections, RFP/IFB best practices, and environmental inspections, among others. One of the wonderful benefits of attending AzAA conferences is that it provides attendees not only the opportunity to listen to such updates, but also to ask questions. Lastly, many among our membership responded to our conference de-brief survey that was distributed out to attendees. We will analyze your feedback to ensure that we continue to give you your money's worth at future conferences. The 13th Annual Arizona Aviation Day at the Capitol will be held on January 16, 2018 on the south lawn of the Capitol. This is typically a very well-attended event that provides a unique opportunity for AzAA members to visit with legislators and other members of state government and remind them of the value and importance of aviation to the state. We're also working on lining up several outstanding guest speakers that you won't want to miss!

The 2018 AzAA Spring Conference will be upon us before we know it. Please save the date. It will be held May 6-9, 2018 at the Wyndham Westward Look in Tucson.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season and healthy and prosperous New Year! See you in 2018!

**Ed Faron, AAE**  
Arizona Airports Association President 2017-2018

### Mark Your Calendars!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for these important events:

- ARIZONA AVIATION DAY AT THE CAPITOL  
January 16, 2018
- SWAAE AIRPORT MANAGEMENT SHORT COURSE  
Monterey, CA | January 28-31, 2018
- AAAE/ACC/FAA PLANNING, DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION SYMPOSIUM  
Denver, Co | February 28 - March 2, 2018
- AZAA SPRING CONFERENCE  
Westward Look Resort - Tucson, AZ | May 6 - 9, 2018

### Contact Us

For more information, contributions or ideas for future newsletters, please contact:

**Ryan Toner, PE**

Vice President / Airport Development Practice Leader  
Dibble Engineering

P | 602.957.1155

E | [ryan.toner@dibblecorp.com](mailto:ryan.toner@dibblecorp.com)