Welcome to On Approach

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Columbus Regional Airport Authority’s General Aviation e-Newsletter! We value General Aviation (GA) as a vital component of a complete aviation system locally, regionally, and nationally. Our vision for this twice-yearly electronic newsletter is to create an informative resource specifically tailored for our GA business partners, stakeholders, and friends who have an interest in this unique segment of aviation at Port Columbus, Rickenbacker, and Bolton Field airports. The airport authority has placed a renewed emphasis on this important part of the industry by creating a position within our Business Development group to be engaged with the GA community, promote GA at our airports, and to seek new opportunities for additional GA development. Learn more about the person assigned to this dynamic new role below.

Meet Mark

Many of you may already know Mark Mulchaey from one of his previous assignments with the Airport Authority. His 15+ years with the Authority has included many key roles including Supervisor and Manager of Airport Operations, General Manager at Bolton Field, and now, Manager of Customer Service & General Aviation Business Development. This new role allows Mark to blend his knowledge of GA with his experience in operations and customer service. Mark is based at our headquarter offices at Port Columbus, but his GA business development responsibilities extend to all three of our airports. Reach out to Mark at (614) 239-5036 to say hello, or if you’d like to talk about all things GA!
CMH – Lane 75th

Happy Anniversary Lane Aviation! Founded in 1935 by Foster Lane, Lane Aviation Corporation is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. A full service FBO at Port Columbus and Rickenbacker International Airports, Lane Aviation has a rich history in central Ohio aviation. From his early beginnings as a barnstormer, Foster and his wife Ruth built Lane Aviation to become a well known and well respected aviation services provider. With services ranging from aircraft maintenance and parts and airline fueling, to charter, aircraft storage, and aircraft sales, Lane has been an integral part of general aviation from its origin. "We congratulate the entire Lane Aviation team on this special occasion, and wish them the very best for the next 75!" said Elaine Roberts A.A.E., President & CEO of the Columbus Regional Airport Authority.

LCK – 2010 Marks the 100th Anniversary of Air Cargo

Did you know November 2010 marks the 100th anniversary of the first commercial air cargo flight? The flight took off from Dayton and landed in Columbus with bundles of silk. Plans are under way to commemorate this moment in history that gave birth to today's global cargo industry, including international cargo flights at Rickenbacker International.

Here are some interesting facts about the first air cargo flight relayed in Cargo Flight - an Adventure into Flying History by Foster A. Lane:

- The first air cargo flight occurred on a cool morning on Nov. 7, 1910.
• Orville and Wilbur Wright designed and created the Model B airplane which carried bundles of silk and newspaper articles.
• Philip O. Parmelee was the pilot and was only 24 years of age and had just finished his flight training during the summer of 1910.
• Upon delivery some of the silk was cut into tiny pieces and sold on post cards. The post cards had both a picture of the Wright airplane and the tiny pieces of stamped silk. The stamp read, "This is a piece of the first merchandise ever carried in an airplane, Dayton to Columbus, Nov. 7, 1910."

Be on the lookout for more information in upcoming editions of the authority's community e-newsletter, Regional Approach about celebrating the November anniversary.

TZR – Bolton Field Home of Two-Day Aviation Maintenance Symposium

Columbus State Community College, the Central Ohio Professional Aviation Maintenance Association and the Federal Aviation Administration co-sponsored the Ohio Aviation Maintenance Symposium on March 17th and 18th at Bolton Field Airport.

The symposium was held at Columbus State's Aviation Maintenance Technology Facility at Bolton Field. The annual symposium attracts more than 450 aviation maintenance technicians and students who attend recurrent training as part of the symposium. Participants also have the opportunity to visit over 35 vendor displays.

Having qualified aviation maintenance personnel is critical for a healthy local aviation system. A strong base of these highly trained specialists is important for robust general aviation activity, and for airlines to maintain passenger and cargo service in the Columbus market. Learn how you can become a crucial part of the aviation community through Columbus State's FAA-approved Aviation Maintenance Technician Program with day and evening classes.

Did You Know?

Did you know that CMH was officially designated as an authorized "Gateway" airport for the 2010 Winter Olympics? Thanks to the efforts of one of our flight departments based at CMH, the airport was recognized as one of 16 US airports meeting the strict security requirements to allow GA aircraft to enter the special use Olympic airspace for the 2010 winter games. "This was a great opportunity for Columbus to support GA customers traveling to Vancouver for the games", said David Whitaker, VP Business Development & Communications for the Columbus Regional Airport Authority. Our thanks to everyone who worked to make this happen!

Aviation Industry Trade Association Memberships and Participation - CRAA supports GA

The Columbus Regional Airport Authority is a proud member and supporter of a number of aviation trade associations, including the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE); Airports Council International - North America (ACI-NA); National Business Aviation Association (NBAA); National Air Transportation Association (NATA); the Ohio Regional Business Aviation Association (ORBAA); and the Ohio Aviation Association (OAA). Many of
our talented team members participate in these groups’ various events, committees, and activities each year, and enjoy being an engaged partner in all aspects of our industry.