AWAPS GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7TH
PLAN TO ATTEND!

AWAPS to Recognize Congressman Young at General Meeting
December 7th

Albert Whitted Airport Preservation Society has arranged to present Congressman C.W. Bill Young The Preservation and Enhancement Award at our upcoming General Meeting. The award is presented to special individuals who through their leadership and dedication have helped preserve and enhance Albert Whitted Airport. This year’s recipient Congressman C. W. Bill Young has been recognized for his steadfast and ongoing commitment to Albert Whitted airport. The award acknowledges the time and effort Congressman Young has contributed to ensuring the funds available for a new control tower, providing the support necessary for bringing Military Aircraft to the Suncoast AirFest and all his past efforts in preserving and enhancing Albert Whitted Airport. Please plan to attend the presentation acknowledging a fellow aviator who truly believes that Albert Whitted Airport should be preserved and enhanced for all the past, present and future aviators as well as for the St. Petersburg community.

Other items on the December 7th agenda include a gift to all in attendance from the AWAPS Board of Directors, AWAPS Board elections, committee updates, an opportunity to meet the newest business at Albert Whitted, a presentation from AV-STACK Systems, Inc., (multi-story aircraft hangers), an update on all the AWAPS projects and long range planning for the airport, giveaways (theater tickets, Busch Gardens Adventure tickets, gift certificates, hats, t-shirts and holiday refreshments and cheer.

AWAPS Moves to New Home

The AWAPS office has been newly located at 451 8th Avenue SE. The new facility provides expanded work/project areas, committee and board meeting space, storage, kitchen, restrooms, parking and designated area for an aviation museum. We have many development plans and the need for volunteers to assist with painting, landscaping, small construction/building projects (bookshelves, reception area, displays for museum and brick laying). A schedule will be posted in the office on the bulletin board and on the website at albertwhittedairport.org. beginning Jan 2nd. If you have available time before Jan.2nd just ring the office at 727 822-1532 and we will provide a task. Maybe the tasks above are not things you can do but you still want to volunteer, great! We have envelopes to stuff, cards to organize, calls to make, staffing the office (a few hours a day), errands to run, copies to make, lists to alphabetize, data to enter, food to cook/serve, events to set up, events to clean up, tickets/merchandise to sell, and committees to join. We need and want everyone who believes in Albert Whitted Airport to become an AWAPS member, committee member and/or a volunteer in 2006.

It’s the combined efforts of everyone that will preserve and enhance our community airport.
Volunteer Spotlight

Some of our AWAPS volunteers work behind the scene assisting AWAPS in daily-weekly tasks that keep our organization running smoothly. With the guidance and incredible knowledge of Jody MacKercher we have the technical, data and accountability systems our organization needs. He works countless hours updating and expanding our systems and technical equipment. Jody comes to everyone's call whether it's a committee member working on the database, assisting with a computer that won't work, solving a fax or phone problem, providing/solving a solution to a Board Members, Committee Chair or President new idea/problem. He always provides an answer. Jody is a pilot, a member of AWAPS and has just been elected President of EAA Chapter 47. He dedicates a lot of time to Albert Whitted and we truly are grateful for that. On behalf of the AWAPS Board of Directors and membership we say “Thank you, Jody” for all you've done and will continue to do for our airport.

AWAPS Elections at General Meeting

A priority for the Dec. 7th meeting is election of the AWAPS Board of Directors. Dr. Eric Whitted, ad-hoc Nominations Committee Chair, will lead the AWAPS membership through the process of electing board members. Please submit nominations to Dr. Whitted by Dec. 1st to be considered by the nominating committee. Forms can be faxed to 727-820-0303 or mailed to Dr. Whitted. Please call 727-343-6890 or dwhitted@netscape.net for address or any questions.

According to the Albert Whitted Airport Preservation Society Articles of Incorporation:

“...Directors shall be elected by the membership of AWAPS. Voting for the election of Directors shall be by written ballot. Each member shall cast one vote per candidate, and may vote for as many candidates as the number of candidates to be elected to the board. The candidates receiving a majority of the votes of the membership attending the general meeting shall be elected to serve on the board.

Selection of candidates for office: Ad-hoc Nominating committee begins in August of each year.

Nominations shall be submitted to the Board of Directors in November of each year.

Elections shall be held in December of each year.

Directors assume office in January of each year.

Term of office is for three years.”

Nominations may also be submitted from the floor at the general membership meeting.

Volunteer Jody MacKercher looks after AWAPS computers and technical equipment. We are truly grateful for all his help and expertise!
Just some of the images of fun and hard work on behalf of AWAPS in 2005

Glenn Ramsey boards his RV-8

Pre AirFest prep by Sherri Weaver, Brianna Pellett, Fran Burke, Dave Oliver, Lori Burke, Bill Buston, Betty Danison Dombusch, Anna Maria Pellett, Karen Padgett

Jamie Bennett & John Bryan, St Petersburg Council

Volunteer coordinators Lori and Fran Burke

Jamie Bennett and Virginia Littrell with 2 Civitans from SPHS

Steve Lange and his sons, 2nd generation AWAPS supporters

Bobbi O’Malley, Bill Buston on patrol for AirFest

Dr. & Mrs. Eric Whitted, nearly omni present in support of AWAPS

Clowning around at the AirFest

The Osprey was a big hit at Suncoast AirFest 2005

Come See Santa arrive at Albert Whitted Airport by Helicopter & enjoy a special Holiday Lunch!

Join us Sunday, December 11th
12:00 noon - 2:30 pm
Santa will arrive 1:00 pm
Holiday Stories & Activities
Photos with Santa

Lunch Menu:
Spaghetti
Salad
Bread
Beverage
Dessert

Tickets: $5.00 per person

RSVP 727-822-1532 by Wednesday, December 7th

Proceeds benefit the Albert Whitted Airport Preservation Society

Thank You to our Wonderful Sponsors:
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Spartan Italian Restaurant

Graphics work for AWAPS and our gem of an airport has truly been a labor of love these past few years, but it’s time to pass the mouse to another. This is the last Airport Flyer I will be able to layout for AWAPS. I must express my sincere thanks to the many columnists, advertisers, and AWAPS members who have supplied photos and content for the newsletter, and especially to Susan Oliver for her eagle-eyed proofreading. And, like so many things, no newsletter would ever get out if it weren’t for Terri Griner’s diligence to pull it together and get the job done.

Shelley Manes
PILOTMALL.COM WAREHOUSE STORE
Albert Whitted Airport (Now Open)

We are now located at Albert Whitted Municipal Airport (SPG) in St Petersburg, Florida. This prime location at Albert Whitted offers PilotMall.com customers the convenience of being able to either fly or drive in to shop for a wide assortment of aviation supplies. Our warehouse store is now open, next door to the Bay Air FBO.

PilotMall.com is a stocking reseller of ASA, Bose, David Clark, FAA, Flightcom, Gleim, Icom, Jeppesen, LightSPEED, Lowrance, Sennheiser, Sigtronics, Vertex Standard, and hundreds of other product lines!

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JOIN AWAPS!
Send in your membership info and dues in the envelope enclosed with this newsletter!

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Pilots & Vertigo
Vertigo is a condition that produces a sensation of rotation. Patients describe swaying or falling. This may be accompanied by altered gait (walking), nausea, vomiting and sweating. The origin may be from problems affecting the brain stem or, more commonly, the inner ear. Some patients complain of fullness in the ear, tinnitus (ringing of ears) or hearing loss. Sudden change in body or head position may exacerbate the symptoms (e.g. arising from a supine position.). Some common names for vertigo are Benign Positional Vertigo (BVP), Labyrinthitis, and Meniere’s Disease. The origin ranges from suspected arterial ischemia (lack or blood flow) viral, bacterial or autoimmune disease.

Obviously, pilots who experience vertigo should not fly. The FAA will allow pilots who have experienced vertigo to fly again if the etiology is clearly defined and treated. A waiting period will be requested in order to be sure there is no recurrence. Most cases of BVP and Labyrinthitis are treated with antihistamines, steroids or antibiotics. Depending on the cause for the vertigo, the majority of pilots that experience short-lived vertigo can safely return to flying.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me.

Thomas F. Beaman, D.O.
Senior Aviation Medical Examiner
727-462-0225
www.faaomedex.com

What’s your Vector, Victor?
In this installment of Pilot Points we delve into the age old question... “Do you know where you are going?” Pilots have many tools at their disposal to help them get where they are going, since it is a bit difficult to stop and ask for directions! Of course, looking out the window is a key to successful navigation. Pilotage involves looking out the window and comparing geographic features you see with those on a chart. Lakes, roads, certain buildings, bridges, etc., all give the pilot a point of reference to figure out which way is which. Technology has long been the friend of the pilot; and as time goes by the navigational toys get more accurate and to be honest, really cool. Pilots can use the VOR (Very high frequency Omni-directional Range), to help guide them along their way. The VOR is basically a radio signal set at a particular frequency. Using a receiver, a pilot can tune in that frequency and follow the signal either TO or FROM the VOR. So the VOR allows pilots to travel to specified locations and use two VORS to obtain a current position.

Now, for the really cool stuff: GPS (Global Positioning System) uses fixed satellites in space to figure out where we are. The GPS receives signals and determines how far away the satellites are to tell us where we are; GPS units can even tell us our altitude. The greatest thing about GPS is not just knowing your exact location, it is knowing your ground speed, direction of travel, distance to destination, time to destination; the list is almost endless. Integrated GPS units now include radar for weather and airborne traffic as well as databases with airport information and other pieces of useful information.

Every year the tools for assisting with navigation get more accurate and useful, so pilots now have no excuse to not know where they are going, although what they are going to do when they get there is another story.

Josh Shulman
AWAPS Communications Chair

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ALBERT WHITTED AIRPORT Flyer • Winter 2005
Remember Whitted When...

"History is a vast early warning system," wrote Norman Cousins.

I was reminded of this quote when I made the acquaintance of a lifelong airport enthusiast, Stewart C. “Sonny” Jones, down at Albert Whitted Airport. In fact he remembers Albert Whitted Airport being built! With his 81st birthday coming up in December, Sonny has a lifetime of airport memories including his Dad riding in the blimp Goodyear. He said that the blimp pilots regularly got into trouble for hovering over the old Solarium on Spa Beach where nude sunbathing was practiced.

Born in Colorado, he moved with his parents to St. Petersburg when only six months old. “Dad got out of the cold and brought me along.”

When he started flying he was actually too young to fly solo legally. His first pilot certificate was called a “ticket” to fly and was a full sheet of paper. He is the first pilot I have known who flew Clyde Cessna’s first commercial airplane model, the C-3. Pictures of it remind me of a flying bathtub. Sonny remembers helping his friend Bob Frances rebuild a Cub which was the first to tow banners from Whitted. At that time, Frances owned Flight, Inc., a flight school where he taught and towed banners. Sonny recalled that after doped the wings he felt totally drunk from the fumes. Later he flew the two Cubs that were purchased new in 1946 as rentals, one of which is still flying at Whitted for Tom Merrifield’s Advertising Air Force. Along the way, he flew J-2, 3 and 4 Cubs, Aeronca’s and Taylorcraft. Over the years he owned or shared ownership in a Cessna 150, Cessna 172 and a 182. He had an airplane hangared in one of the first T-hangars on the field.

But I was struck most by his story of the St. Petersburg Aviation Association (SPAA). In the early 60’s the airport was under attack by the politicians, the Times and developers. (Does this story sound familiar?) A strong group of people, primarily pilots, came together as the SPAA to be a force to keep the airport as an airport and fight the detractors. The group met regularly at the airport or one of the local restaurants. They had parties, hired bands and had dances, and sponsored dinner parties, all for the purpose of raising funds to defend the airport. Most pilots involved all wore wing patches which identified them as SPAA members. And they proudly displayed their SPAA insignia on license plate signs on the fronts of their cars. Sonny said the group started strong and lasted 8 to 10 years when it slowly died for lack of interest. But, while they were active, no more airport development threats came.

So, what’s the message here? Will AWAPS stay strong and help keep airport advocacy alive? History shows that these developer threats come when it looks like airport support is weak. History continues to warn us.

By Glenn Anderson

AWAPS T-Shirts, Polos, Hats, Pins, Airplanes, Flashlights, Lip Balm, Ornaments and Patches make great holiday gifts & stocking stuffers! View them on line and AWAPS office to purchase. All AWAPS merchandise will be on sale at a 50% discount during the General Membership meeting on December 7, and when Santa drops in on December 11, too!

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