



Chapter 736 Newsletter for June 2009

AOPA and EAA work to protect, grow GA

Two of the nation's largest aviation associations, AOPA and [EAA](#) will be collaborating on issues and programs that protect, support, and grow general aviation as the result of a June 3 working session at the EAA Aviation Center in Oshkosh, Wis.

EAA Chairman/President Tom Poberezny and AOPA President Craig Fuller, along with senior staff from each organization, met to discuss how they can work more closely to support GA. They agreed to a collaborative, three-pronged commitment to protect GA interests, promote GA safety, and grow the GA community in the United States.

“This is a logical collaboration that makes sense for the greater good of general aviation,” Fuller said. “Each of our associations has been an effective advocate for GA. But now I look forward to EAA and AOPA working more closely together at all levels to protect and grow general aviation, and to keep it safe.”

AOPA and EAA leaders identified a significant number of near-term opportunities for collaboration, which will be evaluated over the next few weeks. In addition, the organizations agreed to jointly host a GA roundtable in early 2010 that would include a wide spectrum of the GA community.

“What evolved during the meeting was the mutual respect for the strengths of each organization, which will be used in ways that are mutually beneficial, and address aviation growth and preservation,” Poberezny said. “The majority of our nation's pilots belong to one or both of these organizations, so our members expect us to utilize these strengths in a way that addresses the long-term vitality of general aviation.”

Additional information regarding future collaborative efforts will be announced in coming weeks as details are finalized.

House passes TSA authorization, tells agency to consult GA

The House of Representatives on June 4 passed the Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act (H.R.2200). AOPA supported the bill, which sends a strong message to the TSA to increase general aviation industry participation on security initiatives.

H.R.2200, the first comprehensive roadmap for the TSA to pass the House since the creation of the agency in 2001, authorizes TSA programs and funding levels for the next two years. It includes provisions to create a GA security working group to ensure that the agency consults stakeholders before imposing security initiatives and to establish a grant program for \$10 million in security improvements at GA airports. An amendment to the bill revises the standard for when the TSA can use emergency procedures to issue regulations or security devices.

During the discussion of the bill, members of Congress acknowledged the contributions of GA to the nation's economy and said that the TSA should collaborate with the industry.

“Members from both sides of the aisle have expressed serious concern about TSA's approach when it comes to general aviation,” said Homeland Security Committee Chairman Bennie G. Thompson (D-Miss.) in his opening statement. “Until recently, TSA displayed a lack of understanding of the uniqueness of the general aviation environment. H.R.2200 takes some major steps forward, with the authorization of a strong General Aviation Working Group and the establishment of a new grant program for security improvements to general aviation airports.”

A chorus of voices spoke on behalf of GA during the discussion of the bill, including other members of the newly formed caucus. An [amendment to the bill](#) reinforces that security directives—such as the controversial SD-8F, later clarified in SD-8G—should only be used to respond to emergencies and immediate threats, not as an alternative to the normal regulatory process. Amendment sponsor Rep. John Mica (R-Fla.), along with cosponsors Rep. Vern Ehlers (R-Mich.) and Rep. Sam Graves (R-Mo.), all spoke in favor of the amendment. GA Caucus co-chair Rep. Allen Boyd (D-Fla.) worked the House floor to ensure the amendment's success

TSA Airport List Contains 454 Airports

EAA has obtained the list of U.S. airports that have commercial flight service, making them subject to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Security Directive 1542-04-08G (SD-8G). These 454 airports (also including commercial airports in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Guam) may have implemented security procedures under the SD, but since implementation is up to the individual airport, pilots need to do a little extra flight planning in the event their flight includes one of the airports listed.

Airports in Maine that are on the list are:

Augusta (KAUG)
Bangor (KBGR)
Hancock County (KBHB)
Northern Maine Regional (KPQI)
Portland International Jetport (KPWM)
Knox County Regional (KRKD)

Aviators Marketplace, EAA's New Searchable Online Directory, Now Live

EAA, in partnership with MultiView Inc., has launched the *Aviators Marketplace*, a unique online search tool that will give EAA members quick access to an extensive directory of aviation-specific products and services. It's a one-of-a-kind tool specifically geared to aviators and their online search needs.

The *Aviators Marketplace* is accessible at www.aviatorsmarketplace.com or from www.eaa.org. Within the *Aviators Marketplace* users can easily locate products and services unique to the aviation industry - without the clutter of a general Internet search engine.

Key features of the directory will include easy access to members-only special offers and AirVenture specials from exhibitors during this year's show. The specials will continue to grow in number as we approach AirVenture, so check back often. Users will have the option of performing keyword-driven searches, or a category-specific search. Both methods will produce the most industry relevant results on the web.

The guide will also include Request for Information (RFI) functionality. This feature allows users to contact participating suppliers with a single mouse click. With the available downloadable desktop search application, EAA members will have the ability to search for items directly from a small search window on their desktops - making the search process as convenient and time-efficient as possible.

EAA members can now easily find the goods, services, and news information they need using individually tailored Online Supplier Directories and E- News Briefs provided to them at absolutely no cost as a value added benefit of their on-going membership.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held at OWK on Tuesday, June 16, 2008 at 7:30 pm.