



FLY2PIE NEWS

**St. Petersburg-Clearwater
International Airport**
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Spring 2005

If you are not currently a subscriber on our Fly2PIE Newsletter list and would like to receive this quarterly e-newsletter automatically in the future, please visit our website www.fly2pie.com and click on "Subscribe" or email us at info@fly2pie.com.

Highlights from the Director

Is PIE's air service beginning to rebound? On the heels of losing ATA Airlines and Jetsgo in the past two months, we already have two new airlines on board. Lehigh Valley Air began flights to Allentown, PA in late March. Hooter's Air has now acquired this route and indicated plans to expand service by year's end to new destinations. In addition, a familiar name to air travelers returns to PIE, the Pan Am Clipper Connection; it will begin service to Columbus, Ohio and Newburgh, NY in June. These announcements are significant given the challenges of marketing during a period of almost catastrophic, aviation-industry financial distress. There is more to come on the air service front as we start to gain new service into the winter season.

Communication is an important focus area for the airport, as there are many items of interest to our customers and community members. We are expanding our outreach efforts, particularly to those persons living in communities affected by aircraft operations. We will include direct mail and Channel 18 television spots as well as other public information sources. If you want to receive information about airport issues such as noise, why not get your information directly from the source. Please check our website for updates about the airport and subscribe to our email news. Just log on to www.fly2pie.com and click on "Subscribe".

In the coming months, we will bring two projects to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for consideration. One is the selection of a terminal design consultant. You may wonder, why now, after just losing 74% of our air service? The simple answer is our terminal building is aging and needing renovation. Long-term planning is critical to meet future growth. We will also bring forward a consulting services agreement for an environmental assessment and cost benefit analysis for a new general aviation runway. Public participation will be an important part of the Environmental Assessment Project over the next 18 months. For more details on these projects and more, please see page 2.

So far, 2005 has been very challenging for the airport, particularly as we move to replace lost air service. PIE is beginning to rebound, but it will still take some time to rebuild air service to levels enjoyed over the past two years. Even as we focus on air service development and maintaining a high customer convenience, we continue to initiate programs aimed at being responsive to community concerns.

Hope you and yours have a good summer. Until the next time,
Noah Lagos

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Airport Employee of the Year

Rufus "Bar" Jones received the **2005 Airport Employee of the Year Award**. Bar is a Facilities Supervisor and has been tasked to lead many projects to give our aging facility a new and refreshing look. Time after time, deadlines are met with yet another amazing improvement. Nominated by Facilities Manager Nancy Pass, she states, "It is my pleasure to nominate Bar Jones for his leadership, hard work, dedication, and "can do" attitude." Congratulations Bar and thank you!

Airline Service News

Welcome Pan Am and Hooters Air!

Hooters Air began flights to Allentown, PA (taking over Lehigh Valley Air's route) on May 8th.

Contact 1-888-FLY-HOOT (1-888-359-4668) or www.hootersair.com for reservations.



Pan Am Airlines announces service at PIE

Pan Am begins flights to Columbus, OH on June 23rd and Newburgh, NY on June 30th. Contact 1-800-359-7262 or www.flypanam.com for reservations.





AIRPORT PLANNING STUDIES & PROJECTS

The latest updates regarding ongoing planning studies and projects at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport.

Runway Extension - The design for the Runway Extension Project has been completed. We plan to advertise for bids in May 2005 with construction to be completed in mid 2006.

Environmental Assessment - The airport plans to perform an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the need for and feasibility of relocating the general aviation north/south runway to improve airfield capacity. The agreement will be brought to the BCC in June. The first task for the consultant will be to validate the capacity constraints of the airport and the benefits of increased safety by the relocation of the runway as recommended in the 2004 Master Plan Update. The County, in conjunction with the consultant, will involve the public by conducting at least one public information meeting and scheduling small neighborhood meetings to address local community concerns. There will also be a public hearing where the findings of the draft environmental assessment will be presented, and the public will be provided the opportunity to comment.



Terminal Design – Final negotiations were completed with the LPA Group Architectural firm. The Board of County Commissioners will be asked to approve the contract in June. The first task is to survey our terminal and interview our tenants. The information gathered will be valuable in determining the present and future requirements of our terminal. The terminal design project will solidify a direction for terminal improvements that is demand driven and includes a short-term improvement program. These terminal improvements will be based on what we can afford without incurring debt.

Security Improvements – Consultant Kimby-Horn has completed design on the security project, planned for bids in May. Elements of this project include intrusion detection equipment and closed circuit televisions that can be viewed on portable wireless real-time displays, which will be carried by law enforcement officials.

REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT - *The latest on projects at the Airport and surrounding Airport-owned real estate.*

T-Hangers - PIE selected the MEA Group, Inc. of Sarasota, Florida as our T-Hangar Development consultant. The new hangars will house single-engine and small twin-engine aircraft. The proposed site for the additional T-hangars is located in the northeast corner of the airport adjacent to approximately 122 existing T-hangars and had been previously designated for this use. The exact number of new hangars will be determined during the engineering and design phase. It is anticipated that construction will be completed during 2007.

If you are interested in T-Hangars, contact Director of Properties Bob Humberstone for more information or to place your name on a prospect list. He may be reached at 727-453-7820 or rhumber@co.pinellas.fl.us.

Airco Golf Course will not be affected by the development of these additional T-Hangars. The new T-hangar complex is essential to the Airport's ability to generate new revenue as a self-sustaining operation.

AvAero becomes new PIE tenant—On April 27th, AvAero Services, LLC (AvAero) became the new owner and operator of the Pemco Hangar facilities and will soon begin renovations of the existing buildings. For further information regarding these facility operations, contact Kevin McKamey @ (727) 235-1368.

Welcome Cracker Barrel! PIE's newest tenant, Cracker Barrel Restaurant, opened the first week in May on Ulmerton Road. Retail Manager Deb Mikels reports, "We have opened to unbelievable business. It's been great!"



NOISE AFFAIRS UPDATE

For questions about PIE's Noise Abatement and Mitigation Program, contact Jason Schwartz in the Office of Noise Affairs, (727) 453-7880 or jschwartz@co.pinellas.fl.us.

Airspace & Noise Studies – Both the Airspace and Noise Studies are well underway. Jeppesen Inc. (Airspace Study) and Wyle Laboratories (Noise Study) met with the Aircraft Noise Abatement Task Force in March to outline their scope of work. Since the kick-off meeting, members of Jeppesen have been collecting data from the FAA Air Traffic Control and Airspace Divisions. Their findings and resulting recommendations (i.e. new approach and departure procedures) will be presented in a feasibility report to the Airport and Task Force later this summer.

Earlier this month, Wyle Laboratories began the first phase of the Noise Study, which included noise level monitoring in surrounding communities. Task Force members representing their communities selected the locations of the ten (10) noise monitoring sites. The data collected will provide real-time noise levels and identify current and future (5 year) noise contours.

Airport meets with local Piaggio Avanti operator to address noise complaints - Over the past several months, the Airport received a number of complaints related to the Piaggio Avanti aircraft and consequently, requested a meeting with the operator to discuss reducing the noise impact to the surrounding community. Avantair, which operates Piaggio Avanti aircraft exclusively, has been located at the Airport for over two years. Due to changes in Federal Aviation regulations, Avantair had to provide supplemental training to their entire flight department, including over 70 pilots. This training required repeated touch-and-go operations, which lead to the high number of complaints from residents. Avantair's training is largely complete and the number of training flights has been reduced drastically. They also intend to install a new flight simulator to reduce the number of future training operations using the Piaggio. Avantair stated their commitment to remaining a "good neighbor" to the residents of Pinellas County.

Operations

Emergency Preparedness Drill – The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires that all certified commercial service airports conduct a full-scale emergency exercise once every three years to assess their emergency response capabilities in the event of an actual air disaster. On April 2nd, approximately 200 participants, including volunteers staged a response to a simulated crash involving a United States Coast Guard C-130 aircraft. Agencies involved in the exercise included Airport Rescue and Firefighters, 911, Airport Operations, FAA Air Traffic Control, Emergency Services (Municipal Fire/EMS), Transportation Security Administration, Coast Guard, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Medical Director's Office, Office of Emergency Management, and the FL-3 Disaster Medical Assistance Team. By all accounts, the drill was a success. The exercise provided the Airport and surrounding mutual aid agencies the opportunity to test their communication and response skills.



Did you know... The St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport joins with other Tampa Bay Area airports and businesses to recognize an outstanding pioneer in the commercial aviation industry at the Tony Jannus Awards. Each October, the awards draw local and international aviation leaders to recognize the historic world's 1st scheduled commercial passenger flight of Tony Jannus in 1914 and honor a contemporary innovator. For more information or sponsorship opportunities, visit www.tonyjannus.com

Noise Abatement Task Force Schedule

All meetings are held bimonthly on a Wednesday at 3:00 PM in the Airport Conference Room and are open to the public.

Dates for 2005

January 25
March 30
May 25
July 27
September 28
November 30

Airport's Noise Affairs Webpage

www.fly2pie.com/noise

For updates and information on Noise Affairs, including meeting minutes for the Noise Abatement Task Force, visit this section of the airport website. A new subscribe feature delivers you automatic email notification when the noise homepage is updated.

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PIE'S FEATURED TENANT

Sheltair Aviation Services is pleased to announce their newest acquisition, Jet Executive Center at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport. Sheltair is planning to expand and exemplify their commitment to customer service by remodeling their new facility and offer the only 24 hour service on the field. Their pledge, "We will continue to grow and exceed customers' expectations".



TRAVELER UPDATE

Visit www.tsa.gov/public for Transportation Security updates.

TSA now prohibits lighters from passing through the security checkpoint. Lighters and matches are also prohibited in checked baggage. Passengers are strongly encouraged to leave these items at home to avoid delays.

AIRPORT FUNDING - The Airport, although a department of Pinellas County Government, operates as a self-supporting Enterprise Fund. One of the most common misconceptions is that taxpayer funds support the airport. In fact, no tax dollars flow to the airport, not at the county, state or federal level. Even the federal grants that the airport receives come from passenger user fees. During this past quarter, PIE was one of the few airports to receive a grant from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to assist the airport with law enforcement costs. The grant will help offset the rising costs associated with airport security. Grants from the TSA and FAA are two sources PIE pursues to help fund operations and capital projects.

Community Relations - PIE is seeking volunteers to assist our passengers in our Visitor Information Booth. If you enjoy welcoming and providing information to tourists, you can help get their visit to Pinellas County off to a great start! For more information, contact Michele Routh at (727) 453-7879 or email— mrouth@co.pinellas.fl.us



Fairmount Park Elementary School visits PIE

Montessori Preparatory School tours PIE



PIE welcomes WWII aircraft from the Collings Foundation. Pictured here is the B-17G Flying Fortress.