Blue Grass Birthday

Seventy years ago, Blue Grass Airport--then Blue Grass Field--opened its airfield to the first commercial flight to Lexington, forever changing transportation in the Bluegrass. On October 13, 1946, Delta Air Lines flew a 21-passenger Douglas DC-3 from Atlanta to Lexington, en route to Cincinnati. This inaugural flight was met with excitement, and Lexington’s embrace of air service grew stronger with the addition of Eastern Airlines, Piedmont Airlines and others.

Over the past 70 years Blue Grass Airport has witnessed the arrival of Olympia, the first horse to fly in to race at Keeneland in 1948, the landing of a British Airways SST Concorde in 1989, Air Force One carrying U.S. Presidents and an Air Force F18 more recently, among other momentous arrivals and departures.

Today, Blue Grass Airport is serviced by four major airlines: Allegiant, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines and United Airlines, providing 18 non-stop destinations and connecting service to hundreds of locations worldwide.
The Lee County Port Authority is pleased to announce that Jeff Mulder, A.A.E. will become the new executive director at Southwest Florida International Airport and Page Field on Jan. 1, 2017.

Mulder comes to the Lee County Port Authority with a 28-year career in airport operations, marketing, development and administration. For the past 11 years, he served as the director of airports in Tulsa, Okla., which encompasses a three-airport system. From 2009 to 2013, Mulder also served as the director of transportation for the City of Tulsa. Prior to that, he worked in Appleton, Wis., Evansville, Ind., Milwaukee and New Orleans.

“After an extensive national search, we believe Jeff Mulder is an excellent choice to direct the administration and oversee operations at both our airports, as well as provide the leadership and vision necessary to take us into the future,” said Frank Mann, chair of the Board of Port Commissioners.

“I look forward to joining the Lee County Port Authority and working with the Board of Port Commissioners, employees and business partners at Southwest Florida International Airport and Page Field, as well as community and regional leaders to continue the outstanding record of success the airports have demonstrated throughout the years,” said Jeff Mulder, A.A.E.

Mulder has a Master of Business Administration from Cardinal Stritch College in Milwaukee, Wis., and a Bachelor of Science in aviation technology and operations from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich. He is an accredited airport executive (A.A.E.), recently served as the national chair for the American Association of Airport Executives and was named the 2016 Airport Director of the Year by Airport Revenue News. He also holds a commercial pilot license and is a certified flight instructor.
St. Pete-Clearwater International (PIE) Monthly Passenger Report – October 2016 - Biggest October in our History!

PIE’s biggest October in our history resulted in 153,677 passengers, a 12% increase over October 2015. Our year-to-date increase is also 12%. Allegiant recently began flights from PIE to/from Trenton, NJ on November 4th. Portsmouth, NH begins November 17th, and Austin, TX begins February 17th. Additionally, Allegiant will begin service to/from Cleveland on February 15th (and discontinue service from Akron-Canton). Sunwing just resumed seasonal service to Toronto on October 31st and Halifax will resume in February. Sun Country/ Beau Rivage Resort & Casino continues service to Gulfport-Biloxi.
Did You Know The FAA Has A Catchy Theme Song?!?
One Mile at a Time - BoardingArea
As it turns out, the FAA is the only government organization to have a theme song... and it's outrageously catchy.

Ludacris Finally Opens "Chicken N Beer" Restaurant In Atlanta Airport
HotNewHipHop
Ludacris announced his plans to open a "Chicken N Beer" restaurant in Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport nearly five years ago. Today ...

End of the Runway: Rethinking the Airport Improvement Program and the Federal Role in Airport ...
Heritage.org
For decades, the federal government has been extensively involved in airport funding through grants and legal restrictions. The Airport Improvement ...

Augusta Regional Airport Director looking to grow the airport
WRDW-TV
(WRDW/WAGT) -- The new airport director is ready to see flights to D.C. come back here. He'd like to add a few new destinations to the list too.

RDU travelers file hundreds of complaints against TSA
WNCN
But while Transportation Security Administration agents are watching you, CBS North Carolina Investigates looked into who is watching the TSA ...

Airport Plan for Trump Administration
Cato Institute (blog)
During the election campaign, Donald Trump complained that “our airports are like from a Third World country.” Indeed, America’s airports could be a ...

Airport Chairman Resigns with Angry Letter
Southern Pines Pilot
The Moore County Airport Mosaic, designed and created by Denise Baker, was hung up in front of the Moore County Airport in Southern Pines on ...

Happy Holidays from the SEC-AAAE Board of Directors
WHO SHOULD ATTEND:
- Aviation Professionals seeking to move up within the airport ranks
- Mid-Level Airport Professionals
- Corporate/Consultant Partners
- Professionals new to the Aviation Industry

WHAT IS THIS MEETING ABOUT?
The Southeast Chapter of AAAE is pleased to offer instructional and energizing workshops for attendees to learn from the industry’s best:
- Tips to become a LEADER
- Hear SUCCESS and war stories
- HINTS to expand your career

WHEN:
Thursday, December 8, 2016
9:30 am - 3:30 pm
9:30 am - Coffee
10 am - Program starts

WHERE:
Your Host this Workshop:
Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport

Future Workshops:

Watch for 2017 dates coming soon!

COST:
$75 for SEC Members
$125 for non-SEC Members

Join the Chapter now for $35

Online Registration Form

Includes presentations and lunch courtesy of Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport.

Sponsored by the Southeast Chapter’s Member Initiative Program.
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