

Skyword

A CORPORATE PUBLICATION BY THE AUGUSTA REGIONAL AIRPORT

Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



January 26th, 2008 was a historic day for the Augusta Regional Airport! Airport staff and the Aviation Commission hosted a huge celebration to commemorate the first new

terminal ever built at Augusta Regional Airport at Bush Field. Thousands of area residents turned out to enjoy the festivities and get a look at the beautiful new terminal.



Congressman John Barrow, Senator Saxby Chambliss, State Senator Ed Tarver, State Representative Quincy Murphy and Mayor Deke Copenhaver all came out to show their support.

The outdoor celebration boasted such entertainment as the Ft. Gordon Band, Gary Ward AirShows, and the Garden City Chorus. Many local restaurants were on hand to show their support and enthusiasm by setting up booths and



handing out free food. A very dramatic presentation of the colors was given by the sky diving team Paratainment. Inside the terminal there were Gospel singers and bands

performing in the new baggage claim area, while prize drawings continued throughout the day. Prizes included coupons for rental cars, logo items and area restaurant



gift certificates. The grand prize was two roundtrip airline tickets sponsored by US Airways Express. Mr. Troy Wright of Grovetown, GA. was the lucky winner. Mr. Wright has never flown



before and was extremely excited to win the tickets. Congratulations Mr. Wright!

In conjunction with the Grand Opening Ceremony the airport sponsored a local art contest for CSRA school children. The theme of the contest was "Flying".



The airport received hundreds of entries from

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local elementary, middle and high school students. The entries were showcased throughout the airport terminal and remained on display until mid-February. First place winners received laptop computers, second place winners received iPod Nanos and third place winners received iPod Shuffles. Art contest winners:

First Place: High School - **Dominique Prater**
Middle School - **Morgan Barry**
Elementary - **Kaitlyn Bernier**

Second Place: High School - **Kristen Williams**
Middle School - **Courtney Middlebrook**
Elementary - **Savannah Parsons**

Third Place: High School - **Monique Hill**
Middle School - **Susanna Bondar**
Elementary - **Devonte Roberts**



A big thank you to all the students who participated and congratulations to all the winners!

We are now into Phase Four of our construction which includes removing all the temporary facilities, completing the concourse between the main terminal and the airline gate area and installing landscaping. If you have not yet visited our airport, we invite you to come out and have a look. Take a tour of our terminal and you will be impressed with its beauty! We are very proud of our progress!

On-Line Booking Engine:

The Airport has recently added an on-line booking engine to our website. Log on to www.augustaregionalairport.com and check out this new high-tech feature. Users will be able to log in, search flights and book and pay for their flight immediately. Anyone using the new feature will be asked to register before being allowed to use the program. Privacy is strictly protected. Keep checking our website as we continue to make improvements. There is a customer comment section on the site. Please be sure to forward any suggestions or comments on improvements.



Our Airport Family

Comings:

Deputy **Steve Hammond** of the Marshal's Dept. re-joined our staff on January 28th, 2008. Welcome back Deputy Hammond.

Ken Hinkle welcomed three new employees to his ASA family. We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following people: **Basya Joyner, Shirley Napier, and Tyrele Green.**

Goings:

Airport Director **Willis Boshears** retired on Feb. 22, 2008. **Willie Lacy** retired on December 31, 2007 after 18.5 years of service with the airport's custodial department.

Fond Farewell Willis "Buster" Boshears

On February 22, 2008 airport staff wished a fond farewell to Mr. Willis "Buster" Boshears. After 5 years of holding the position as Airport Director, Mr. Boshears retired from his service. He will be missed by all. The airport held a luncheon in his honor and presented him with a few parting gifts. We wish him well in his future endeavors!

This Quarter's Employee SPOTLIGHT

This quarter's employee spotlight shines on Ms. Augustine Rhodes, affectionately known as "Tina". Tina has been the Wildlife Management Agent for the airport since 2001. She completed her training in Dover, Delaware where she spent time learning how to handle her co-worker, Mayday, who is a specially trained Border Collie Mix. Mayday and Tina have been together since January 2001. They begin their day by inspecting the airport grounds; chasing away birds and animals that may be on the runways or taxi ways. They also inspect the perimeter fencing that surrounds the airfield for any damage or holes.

Tina states that the types of birds that affect the airport depend on the season. In the Fall and Winter the airport sees an influx of starlings, while Spring and Summer bring the Egrets. Birds and wild-life can pose a danger to any aircraft they come in contact with.



Tina and Mayday work hard to keep our airport safe and our taxiways and runways "bird and animal free".

Other News...

Congratulations to Safety-Training Officer, *James Slater* on his recent nuptials. We wish you and your lovely bride Kim much happiness!