



Letter from Mary Lamie

Fall 2021 has been a busy period for St. Louis Downtown Airport (KCPS) as we continue to see a strong rebound in flights taking advantage of our unmatched location to access downtown St. Louis and the surrounding region. From companies that have resumed business travel to major concert acts that have been rolling into town, we've been pleased to welcome growing numbers of flights each month. Between January 1 and October 31, 2021, KCPS hosted more than 85,600 flight operations, an increase of more than 3,500 operations compared to the same period in 2019. That's a clear sign that we're putting the pandemic-related challenges of 2020 behind us and have emerged stronger than ever.

The strength of the private aviation sector was also very evident at the well-attended 2021 NBAA Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (NBAA-BACE) in Las Vegas last month, which was back as an in-person conference this year, reclaiming its status as the most significant event for the business aviation industry. We were excited to participate and have shared some of the highlights in our recap article.

We also are pleased to share that St. Louis Downtown Airport was recognized as the 2020 Reliever Airport of the Year by the Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Aeronautics. Bi-State Development, which owns and operates the airport for the region, is proud of the accomplishments at KCPS that earned this honor and of our airport's contributions to the vitality of the state's aviation system.

This fall also marked a time of transition for St. Louis Downtown Airport, as we accepted the resignation of Director Erick Dahl. Over the past eight years, Erick's commitment to the airport and achievements set the bar high, but we're in the process of selecting his replacement and happy to report that we have some outstanding candidates in the running. We'll look forward to introducing our new director in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Mary Lamie, Executive Vice President of Multi Modal Enterprises
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Veteran Enjoys Dream Flight from KCPS



Bob Schultz, a 99-and-a-half-year-old World War II veteran from Belleville, Illinois, was able to fulfill a life-long dream on September 6 when he took off from St. Louis Downtown Airport for a flight in a restored 1942 Boeing Stearman biplane.

While he regularly saw planes being launched from the USS California during his time in the Marines, Shultz never got to fly one himself until that morning, when family members including his wife and grandchildren, friends, fellow veterans, supporters and members of the local media gathered to cheer him on. After commencing lift-off with his pilot, Schultz got to fly around the skies over the airport, enjoying the views of the nearby Gateway Arch, Mississippi River and downtown St. Louis for approximately 20 minutes.

Schultz's special flight was made possible thanks to the Operation September Freedom event hosted by Dream Flights, an organization that aims to honor veterans with flights in fully restored planes. According to Dream Flights, the goal of the operation was to honor as many WWII veterans as possible over the course of 61 days. Described

as the largest barnstorming show in U.S. history, and the only Dream Flight Tour of its kind to honor WWII veterans, Operation September Freedom gave Dream Flights to nearly 1,000 WWII veterans, including Schultz. To date, the organization has made more than 5,000 Dream Flights possible for veterans in more than 300 cities. ■



KCPS Awarded 2020 Reliever Airport of the Year



L to R – Erick Dahl, former Director of St. Louis Downtown Airport (KCPS) and Clayton Stambaugh, MPA, Deputy Director of Aeronautics for the Illinois Department of Transportation.

St. Louis Downtown Airport (KCPS) recently received the [2020 Reliever Airport of the Year](#) award from the Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Aeronautics. A special ceremony was held on September 27, during which 12 airports were recognized in different categories. Due to the pandemic-related cancellation of last year's event, this year's awards were based on accomplishments made over the last two years, with consideration given to cooperation and coordination with the state, safety record, maintenance of the facility, and promotion of aviation and educational events.

Taulby Roach, President and CEO of Bi-State Development, which owns and operates the airport, saluted the airport team for working diligently every day to ensure that every customer and pilot flying in and out of St. Louis Downtown Airport has the best experience possible. "This award is a testament to the fact that they continue to deliver exceptional, professional service while maintaining a safe environment," Roach said.

Over the course of its 80-plus year history, St. Louis Downtown Airport has served major corporations and businesses in a variety of industries, ranging from transportation and energy to food and beverage. It also has partnered with numerous others that now operate at the airport, contributing to its ranking as the second busiest general aviation airport in the bi-state region and the busiest general aviation airport in Illinois outside of Chicago. ■

New Guide Highlights Great Attractions Minutes from KCPS

Thinking of visiting St. Louis anytime soon?
We have more than 30 reasons why you should!

We understand that planning a trip to a destination recently named one of the World's Greatest Places of 2021 by TIME Magazine might be a little daunting, but St. Louis Downtown Airport has created a special Visitor's Guide that spotlights what we consider the best the St. Louis region has to offer – all within a 15-minute drive of the airport.

The 37 extraordinary attractions and adventures included were carefully selected to ensure we have something for everyone. Sharks, parks and landmarks? Boats, breweries and a ballgame? Fine dining, local wine and a national shrine? The heart-pounding excitement of NASCAR racing? Wherever your interests lie, you'll find the St. Louis region is the perfect place to embark on your next adventure!

You can access the new guide at stlouisdowntownairport.com or contact Mary Lamie at 314-982-1562 or mclamie@bistatedev.org to request a hard copy. ■



NBAA-BACE Returns as In-Person, Impactful Event

See NBAA TV clips with highlights from the show, along with news, photo galleries and dispatches from each day of the convention at the [NBAA-BACE Newsroom](#).



Several individuals from our team at St. Louis Downtown Airport were among the estimated more than 13,000 members of a resilient business aviation industry who attended the 2021 NBAA Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (NBAA-BACE) in Las Vegas October 12-14.

After a COVID-19-induced hiatus in 2020, the 2021 [NBAA-BACE](#) brought together business leaders, owners, operators, government officials, manufacturers, corporate aviation department personnel, and many others involved in business aviation for a conference that was among the most exciting and impactful ever hosted by the organization.

“Being together at NBAA-BACE was truly exhilarating, from the packed exhibit floor, to the stunning aircraft display, to the epic keynote speakers,” said NBAA President and CEO Ed Bolen. “This entire week was filled with new products and major announcements – underlining our sharp focus on technology and the future – and the enthusiasm of bringing people face-to-face was electric.”

We had the opportunity to connect with other industry professionals, prospective tenants for the airport and prospective customers who may not yet be familiar with the advantages of flying through KCPS to visit St. Louis, which was recently named one of the World’s Greatest Places of 2021 by TIME Magazine.

We also connected with a few folks who have discovered those advantages, including a pilot who has a daughter attending Saint Louis University in midtown St. Louis and used to use a different airport in the region but now appreciates that KCPS is just 10 minutes from campus. That proximity allows him more time with his daughter and family to enjoy the region’s many offerings.

We also met with several developers who were interested in the possibilities of building new hangars at St. Louis Downtown Airport, where there is ample land available for development on site, practically in the shadow of the Gateway Arch.

Companies exhibiting showcased new and upgraded aircraft and new flight planning software, and concepts for hydrogen and electric aircraft were also unveiled. The convention also hosted important conversations about the future of Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), and, as in years past, the convention was highlighted by a variety of firsts. Among them, BLADE Urban Air Mobility made history by providing by-the-seat helicopter flights between the

(continued)



Mary Lamie, Executive Vice President of Multi Modal Enterprises, Bi-State Development, Colin E. Rolerkite, Safety Management Specialist, St. Louis Downtown Airport and Erick Dahl, former Director, St. Louis Downtown Airport at the airport's booth at the NBAA-BACE conference.

Las Vegas Convention Center and Henderson Executive Airport, offering a firsthand glimpse at the future of on-demand AAM. Such on-demand service could be a part of future offerings at KCSP, which could accommodate it at the airport property or our nearby heliport, which is the only FAA-approved heliport in the United States located on a floating barge open to the public. It is centrally located in the St. Louis region, at the base of the Gateway Arch with direct access to the Gateway Arch National Park.

Sustainability was another central theme, and the convention's carbon-offset program made the show one of the world's largest carbon-neutral aviation events. Fuelers and operators spoke about business aviation's leadership in maturing the global market for sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

Of course, no conference would be complete without some rousing keynotes by inspirational figures and trailblazers, and attendees heard from several, including astronaut Dr. Sian Proctor, the first Black woman to pilot a spacecraft; Olympic champion Lindsey Vonn who spoke about her return to Olympic competition

after recovering from multiple injuries, as well as the U.S. Ski and Snowboard team's partnership with Textron Aviation; and motivational speaker Rob Riggle, a Marine Corps veteran, actor, and comedian who talked about the horrors of commercial aviation and the benefits of business aviation. His closing keynote featured a wide-ranging series of riffs on subjects including his experiences flying in such varied aircraft as his early private pilot trainer, a Blue Angels F/A-18D and even Air Force Two, "the second most famous private plane in the world."

"Private aviation is the dream," he concluded. "What you guys provide is aspiration. I always get along with people of the sky; people on the ground, that's another story."

If you'd like to connect with us directly for insight on how KCPS can be your discrete connection to all our region offers, visit stlouisdowntairport.com or contact Mary Lamie at mclamie@bistatedev.org. And if you're planning to attend the NBAA Schedulers and Dispatchers Conference in January, be sure to visit us at booth #1549. ■

TENANT PROFILE

Gateway Jets



Corey Tomczak (L) and Josh
Vinson, Gateway Jets

At a Glance

Gateway Jets offers personal, full-service flight management of corporate aircraft.

Business Type

Aircraft management company offering sales, acquisitions and pilot services.

A Closer Look

Gateway Jets specializes in light jet aircraft and is an expert in its field. Its team values customers' time and freedom as much as the customers themselves do. The Gateway Jets team works hard to remain successful, so staff members match that with their own commitment to excellence. The company is a smaller operation offering flexible ownership structures. Unlike big box companies, Gateway Jets is headquartered in St. Louis and takes the time to learn each client's needs to determine if, and which, aircraft suits their mission and budget best. Specializing in the Citation family of private jets, from the light-jet Mustang to the stand-up cabin XLS, they can help clients acquire and operate as safely and efficiently as possible.

Gateway Jets takes its training and safety responsibilities seriously. Pilots are chosen not just for their skills, but their attitude and commitment to excellent service.

Learn More

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It's Never Too Late to Take Flight!

Jim Moseley dreamed of becoming a pilot as a child, but it was a dream that wouldn't be realized until decades later.

After a conversation with a high school guidance counselor who mistakenly told him pilots had to have perfect vision, Moseley, who did not, grounded his desire to fly and followed a different career path. He enlisted in the Army and served his country before returning to civilian life and working his way to middle management at AT&T, and ultimately owned and managed a construction business for more than a decade. Yet, Moseley's passion to be a pilot persisted, and he learned along the way one could be a pilot with corrected vision.

At 37 years old, with the blessing of his wife, Moseley began his second career journey -- enrolling in the two-year aviation program at Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC), then transferring to Saint Louis University's Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology, the nation's oldest flight school which operates out of St. Louis Downtown Airport. The hands-on program included plenty of flying time, finally taking Moseley to the skies.

After four years, Moseley graduated with a bachelor's in flight science and, a day later, was offered a job as the operations manager at Ideal Aviation. Owner Bill Macon was impressed by Moseley's extensive management experience and wanted him to take the lead in structuring an official flight program. It was the beginning of a career in aviation that enabled Moseley to do what he loves best -- spend time in the cockpit.

When asked about a humorous or scary experience during this new career, Moseley reflected on his second day as a flight instructor, when a student mistook his answer to a question as a command and cut the fuel to the engine. Thankfully, Moseley was able to seamlessly correct the error and returned to the ground safely. It was a prime example of the importance of in-air communication to safely operating a plane and the only time such an incident occurred in his cockpit. Moseley notes the safety component of his job is always front and center.

In 2018, the Greater St. Louis Flight Instructors Association recognized Moseley with the Flight Instructor of the Year award, an honor he is very proud of.

"The people who sit on the board are very, very experienced individuals in the aviation world," said Moseley. "I wasn't young, but as far as



instructing and being in the aviation community, I was pretty new. So, for them to select me for that award, I felt very honored."

While Moseley relished his early years with Ideal Aviation, a part of him remained drawn to the possibility of flying for a commercial airline, in part so that he could leverage the additional experience when training flight students. He left his job at Ideal Aviation to pursue the flight training needed, but, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, opportunities in commercial aviation were limited. Moseley returned to Ideal Aviation, where he serves as Chief Flight Instructor and works part-time as an instructor at SWIC. It's a combination he finds very fulfilling, with no two days being the same. His position involves everything from collaboration with the maintenance team and making sure the planes are safe to fly and that the instructors are operating safely, to record-keeping, meeting with parents and students and, of course, lots of flying time.

Having begun his aviation career later in life, Moseley believes it's never too late to take flight, but also says younger generations shouldn't hesitate about pursuing their dreams and spreading their wings.

"If it's a dream of yours, do whatever you need to do to accomplish that dream and definitely work hard and study hard," said Moseley.

For those drawn to aviation who don't necessarily want to be in the cockpit, he adds that other opportunities abound.

"People, when they think of aviation, they think of pilots, but there's the support structure behind all of that," said Moseley. "Maintenance is an obvious one. But then you have air traffic controllers and people that work on the ramp and gate agents, flight attendants, and even the companies that supply the food on the airlines. It just goes on and on." ■



ST. LOUIS DOWNTOWN AIRPORT



A Bi-State Development Enterprise



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