

WISCONSIN AIRPORT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER

*Sponsored in part by Advance Aviation, Aviation, Mead & Hunt, SEH,
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MESSAGE FROM WAMA'S PRESIDENT

From Rachel Engeler

I am honored to be the president of the Wisconsin Airport Management Association, which promotes Wisconsin airports and aviation and serves the individuals within the organization. The last couple of years have flown by expeditiously, and airports across the state have pivoted, changed, and learned a few things along the way. However, one thing that has remained is our passion for aviation and Wisconsin airports.

Over the last year, WAMA has embarked on some fantastic initiatives. The most notable of these is the establishment of regional chapters within the state. Each chapter has a host who will set up meetings to create a network of peers to share ideas and discuss issues. Please take advantage of this opportunity and attend your chapter meeting later this year.

2023 is already off to a busy and productive start. WAMA will continue to engage with state and federal aviation officials throughout the year. We are monitoring the FAA for the approval of a new milspec for F3 foam and the issuance of a Safety Management System Advisory Circular. We are also closely following the [EPA proposed endangerment finding](#) for lead emissions from aircraft engines that operate on leaded gas and [the broadening news coverage](#) on this topic in the

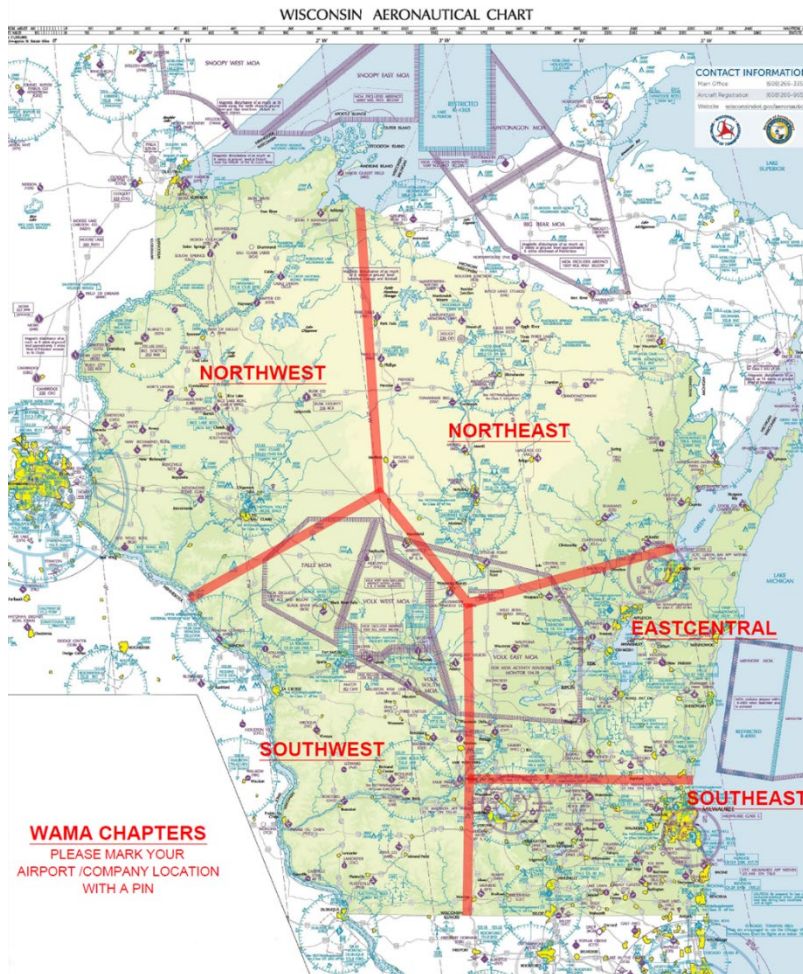
state. And WAMA regularly works with the Bureau of Aeronautics on issues affecting our airports.

For airport members that have already paid their 2023 dues – Thank You! If you still need to or your membership has lapsed, I encourage you to recommit today. WAMA relies on your support to be a strong voice for Wisconsin Aviation.

The board and I hope you continue to be an engaged member of WAMA and if there is anything we can do, please feel free to reach out to me or any WAMA Board member.

WAMA REGIONAL CHAPTERS ENTER SECOND YEAR

The WAMA Regional Chapter Program, started in 2022 to promote more frequent collaboration between airports, now enters its second year. After a spirited competition at last year's Wisconsin Aviation Conference, the Southeast Chapter had the highest conference attendance and won what some have called "the best conference SWAG bag ever assembled." Feedback from those in attendance drew attention to the Southeast region having a few more chapter members than the other regions. Therefore, we've decided to adjust the boundaries to balance each chapter with a commensurate number of members. See the new and improved regional chapter map below.



This year, we are encouraging our chapter leaders to begin coordination on your regional meetings anytime between now and early summer. A draft agenda will be sent out early next month with suggested meeting discussion topics. We hope you attend your regional meeting once it's announced and find great benefit in meeting with colleagues in your area to share information, ideas, and words of wisdom!

ASOS TRAINING 2023

WAMA is looking to provide an Airport Safety and Operations Specialist (ASOS) training opportunity for its members in 2023. Interested airports, please help us by answering a short survey [HERE](#).

HOUSE PASSES BILL TO STUDY FAA ALERT SYSTEM

Last week, the House passed, [H.R. 346, the NOTAM Improvement Act of 2023](#). The bill would establish an FAA task force to determine what improvements should be made to the NOTAM system, which alerts pilots of potential hazards that could affect the safety of flights.

This bill to address the NOTAM (Notice to Air Mission) system follows the Jan. 11 NOTAM system failure. The NOTAM meltdown caused departing flights to be grounded nationwide for about 90 minutes, ultimately delaying thousands of flights.

The agency's administrator would appoint task force members, including representatives of airlines, airports, labor unions, and experts in areas like aviation safety and cybersecurity.

The bill passed with an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 424 to 4. The measure faces an uncertain future in the Senate, where it failed to receive a vote after previously passing the House in 2019 and 2021.

UPDATE FROM THE WISCONSIN BUREAU OF AERONAUTICS

We're happy to announce that several new faces have joined the Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics (BOA) in the last few months. You can view our entire staff directory with contact information on our website [HERE](#).

New BOA Project Managers

Four of the new staff members are BOA Project Managers. In general, BOA Project Managers are responsible for helping airports develop a realistic and achievable capital improvement plan; contracting with consultants for planning, design, and construction engineering services; conducting plan reviews; and working as a liaison between local sponsors and state and federal agencies.

Max Platts- Aeronautical and Technical Services Section Chief

Max Platts joined the BOA as Aeronautical and Technical Services (ATS) Section Chief in October 2022, following Scott Brummond's retirement in July after 25 years with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The section Max leads has twelve team members who manage over a dozen unique programs. The section works with and serves not only the Engineering and Program sections within the Bureau but also a wide variety of external aviation partners and stakeholders. The

ATS section focus areas are aviation safety, operational support, compliance, process improvement, as well as education, and outreach initiatives.

Max comes to BOA from the Washington State Department of Transportation Aviation Division where he led the state's aviation land use planning efforts and was project manager on numerous studies and division initiatives. Prior to state service, Max worked for CubCrafters in Yakima, WA. There, Max helped develop the builder assist program for the Carbon Cub FX series and performed production test pilot and ferry pilot duties. Before moving to Washington state, Max worked at EAA in Oshkosh.

Max holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Lewis-Clark State College along with an associate degree in aviation flight science from Casper College. He also holds a commercial pilot certificate and instrument rating.

Click [HERE](#) to read about all the new BOA staff.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WisDOT Aviation Maintenance Conference

The annual Wisconsin Department of Transportation Aviation Maintenance and Inspection Authorization (IA) Renewal Conference is Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Fond du Lac, WI.

The conference will feature an exhibit hall with numerous industry representatives and displays. Throughout the day speakers will present on a variety of FAA-approved aviation maintenance topics.

Tickets are \$35, which includes breakfast and lunch. A reduced price is available for A&P students. For more information, please visit the WisDOT website [HERE](#).

WisDOT Airport Operations & Land Use Seminar

For the first time since 2019, the BOA will hold a two-day Airport Operations & Land Use Seminar designed to help anyone responsible for managing or developing our state's airports. The 2023 Seminar will take place Wednesday, April 12, and Thursday, April 13, at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids.

WisDOT invites airport managers, airport owners, airport committee members, airport consultants, and anyone else interested in Wisconsin airports to attend.

For more information about the seminar and to register, click [HERE](#).

AIRPORTS IN THE NEWS

If your airport has been in the news and you would like us to share the story, email a link to: director@wiama.org.

[Wisconsin has 80 airports selling leaded gas. That could put nearby residents at risk.](#), Milwaukee, Jan. 25

[Impact of FAA computer outage being felt at Wisconsin airports](#), Spectrum News 1, Jan. 11

[Airlines resume normal service after a morning of delays and cancelations caused by computer outage](#), Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Jan. 11

[Appleton International Airport had a record year in 2022. It hopes to build on that momentum this year.](#) WPR, Jan. 6

[Sun Country Airlines starts Wisconsin route at Southwest Florida International Airport](#), Ft. Myers News-Press, Dec. 20

[Milwaukee airport expects stability in second half of 2023, delays major terminal project](#), Milwaukee Business Journal, Dec. 19

[Southwest Airlines to restore flights between Milwaukee and Kansas City](#), BizTimes, Dec. 15

[Appleton International Airport is on track to have its busiest year](#), Post Crescent, Dec. 14

[Study finds Middleton's Morey Field not significant source of lead in children, but some aren't convinced](#), Channel 3000, Dec. 6

["New and exciting things" at Dane County Regional Airport](#), WKOW ABC-27, Nov. 22

[Delta to add seats, change flights from CWA in January](#), Wausau Pilot & Review, Nov. 18

[Green Bay's airport reports busiest day since 2008](#), Fox 11 News, Nov. 16

[Now Hiring: TSA looks to grow across Wisconsin](#), Spectrum News 1, Nov. 14

[GRB director to speak at international Airports Going Green conference](#), Fox 11 News, Nov. 4

[Yes, Manitowoc has an airport — and it plays an important role in the local economy. Here's how.](#) Herald Times Reporter, Oct. 27

*Wisconsin Airport Management Association
3800 Starr Ave. Eau Claire, WI 54703*

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