



THE DIABLO AVIATOR

JetSuiteX Flying High



JetSuiteX is a success!

Since their inception on April 20th of 2016, JetSuiteX has operated over 800 segments and has flown over 5,000 passengers out of Concord, with November bringing the heaviest loads (over 880 passengers). JetsuiteX is currently operating at around 70% capacity at Buchanan Field with many Monday morning flights sold out.

To accommodate the increasing demand, JetSuiteX has tripled their on-site staff at Buchanan Field and will double their entire fleet by the end of 2017. Helping fuel its fast growing service, JetSuiteX has received a minority equity investment from JetBlue Airways. Alex Wilcox, chief executive officer of JetSuite, highlighted the partnership stating in the press release:

"We are delighted to have JetBlue join us as a strategic partner and shareholder. The partnership with JetBlue will allow us to accelerate our growth and we are excited to work together to deliver new and unique experiences for all JetSuite and JetBlue customers."

JetSuiteX is working hard to get the word out about their services and new seasonal and permanent locations. Current online marketing campaigns have increased

WINTER 2017

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*"Once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return."
- Leonardo da Vinci*

exposure with promotional flights which has included flights for as low as \$59 each way from Concord to Burbank and Las Vegas.

For more information about JetSuiteX services visit, www.JetSuiteX.com.

Contra Costa County Airports, Economic Contributor

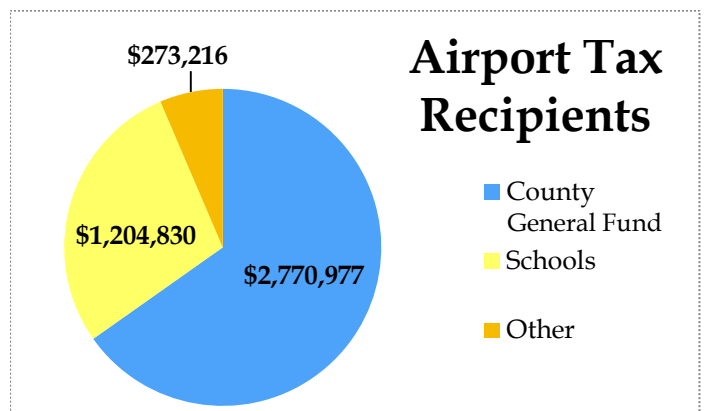
It is a common misunderstanding that Contra Costa County Airports (Airports) is funded by County tax funds. In fact, the Airports are operated as a business, under the Airport Enterprise Fund, without the use of scarce public dollars and is one of the only County functions to contribute back to the local economy. The Airport Enterprise fund is fueled, in large part, by revenue from leasing and renting various areas to others (we have over 725 aviation and non-aviation tenants and businesses).

The Airports contribute millions each year to organizations through the possessory interest tax leveraged on the based aircraft and the rented/leased/developed airport areas. The list of positively affected taxing entities is large and includes a wide variety of recipients such as; Contra Costa County, local schools, parks and recreation districts, BART, fire district, Sheriff, EDMUD, libraries, flood control, and so forth.

A recent economic impact analysis performed for Buchanan Field and Byron Airport show the

Airports are significant economic generators that greatly benefit the region. The results show the Airports are directly responsible for 828 jobs and \$105.9 million in economic output in 2015. This figure includes direct impacts associated with aviation dependent and support businesses, indirect impacts associated with purchase of goods and services in the County, and induced impacts associated with employees of the airport and airport-related business.

The chart below represents positively affected taxing entities.



Buchanan Field Flight School Partners with ExpressJet



Buchanan Field is home to premier aviation facilities and services and flight school services just expanded with the perfect partnership between Pacific States Aviation Flight Academy and ExpressJet. Pacific States has become an official ExpressJet Preferred School Program (PSP) and Airline Pilot Pathway Program (AP3).

ExpressJet’s Preferred School Program provides a clear path for students from partner schools, like Pacific States Aviation Flight Academy, to go from the training environment, to the right seat at ExpressJet with a conditional job offer upon completion.

The PSP program is an informational based educational program that gives students a highly structured path through school, to building hours as a CFI, and eventually a career with ExpressJet.

Participating in AP3 provides students with a network of frontline pilot mentors that can help you grow and develop in your career. The competitive program is aimed at developing the highest quality pilots, while not forcing anyone into a commitment early in their career.

Which Club is right for you?

Concord Flying Club (CFC) provides both a fleet of excellent airplanes as well as a unique social environment. The club currently has a 6-seat Bonanza, 4-seat Cessna 182, and 2-seat RV7-A, so that the widest range of missions are covered. CFC does not provide primary instruction, but with 6 CFI's, IFR and commercial ratings are possible. The club also has an FAA approved Flight Training Device for instrument practice. www.cfc1939.org

EAA Chapter 393 is part of the over 600,000 members of the International Experimental Aircraft Association. EAA is a group of folks who love aviation and try to promote it to the public. A big part of what they do is educating the youth of America about aviation and especially General Aviation through the Young Eagle Rallies. EAA meets the 4th Wednesday of the month for a General Meeting starting at 6:30pm for dinner at the Clubhouse on the Airport's west side at 200 Buchanan Field Rd. They welcome all and their only requirement is an enthusiasm to learn about aviation. www.eaa393.org

Mount Diablo Pilots Association (MDPA) promotes good public relations between general aviation enthusiasts and the local community. Their membership includes people who are interested in airplanes, student pilots, instructors, mechanics, and professional pilots with thousands of hours of experience. Each month MDPA schedules breakfasts, safety seminars, dinner

meetings, public display of airplanes, and fly-outs. www.mdpa.org

Northern California Soaring Association is located at Byron Airport. The club operates, weather permitting, on the weekends, though weekday operations may be scheduled as demand and conditions warrant. www.norcalsoaring.org

NRI Flying Club members often fly together, train together and some fantastic lifelong friendships have been created in the club. NRI holds a monthly meeting on the 3rd Tuesday at the clubhouse and all members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. www.nriflyingclub.com

Valley Pilots Flying Club has been in continuous operations at Buchanan Field since 1958. They currently have two airplanes; a 1974 Cessna 172, and a 1959 Cessna 182B. They provide online scheduling services to students and certified pilots alike. Their Certified Flight Instructors are available to provide instruction or Flight Reviews and they are always looking to talk with potential new members. www.valleypilots.org

184 Flying Club was founded in 1955 and their main function is to provide a means for its members to fly at the lowest possible rates. The 184 Flying Club meets every other month at the east ramp pilot's lounge at Concord and they are always open to interviewing new members. www.184flyingclub.org

Taxiway Echo/Kilo Project Suspended

In August 2016, the reconstruction of the north end of Taxiway Echo kicked off the FAA AIP funded Taxiway Echo/Kilo project. Poor weather conditions, especially numerous days of rain, significantly impacted the work schedule resulting in a temporary project suspension on December 23, 2016 until more favorable weather.

The project was scheduled to be completed in two phases: First, the reconstruction of a portion of Taxiway Echo and second, the pavement overlay of Taxiway Kilo. The project initial estimated completion date for both phases was set for the end of November, 2016.

Major impacts to Buchanan Field operations included the closure of runways 14-32 and associated taxiways. Before the temporary work suspension, all runways were reopened.

Until the completion of the Taxiway Echo phase, Taxiways Echo from Juliet to Runway 14L and Taxiway Bravo west of 19R will be closed.

The Taxiway Kilo phase is expected to be resumed in April, 2017. Airport staff will notify tenants prior to construction commencing.

Thank you all for your cooperation!

CCR Upcoming Project

The Airports is currently underway with the next FAA AIP project. The initial phase of the project is design engineering for the rehabilitation of Runway 14L-32R.

The design project will investigate multiple rehabilitation alternatives for repair, such as; mill and overlay, cold-in-place recycling or full depth reconstruction. Design considerations will be made for hold position markings, signage, and lighting.

Keep an eye out for future emails as the project becomes more defined. Following the award of the grant funding, construction is estimated to begin early 2018.

Contra Costa County Emergency Services Working for You

Buchanan Field is home base for many Contra Costa County emergency services and currently houses two air medical emergency helicopters, two Sheriff's helicopters, and Squadron 44 of the Civil Air Patrol.



CALSTAR and REACH Air Merging Forces

REACH Air Medical Services and California Shock Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR) announced their merger in June of 2016. Together the two companies form the largest, statewide air ambulance network in California, with both helicopters and planes to serve their patients and communities.

The merger brings positive changes for CALSTAR and REACH members in the form of expanded coverage through the AirMedCare Network, the air ambulance membership program. The daily operations of both companies at Buchanan Field will remain unchanged, at this time.

CALSTAR and REACH pride themselves on their team of medical professionals, pilots, maintenance technicians and communication specialists known for having substantial expertise and experience in their fields, thereby elevating the quality of patient care, enhancing a patient's chance of survival, and minimizing the severity of a possible disability in the critical minutes following a trauma or life-threatening illness.



Contra Costa County Sheriff

The Air Support Unit of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office has two helicopters that provide law enforcement reconnaissance, rescue, and support to all public safety agencies within Contra Costa County.

The Sheriff's Office uses STARR One, a Bell 407 Jetcopter and Starr Two, a Bell 206B-3 for aerial patrol of Contra Costa County as well as providing mutual aid support to the surrounding counties and East Bay Regional Park District.



Civil Air Patrol

Buchanan Field is home to Squadron 44 of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), an Auxiliary of the United States Air Force. The CAP may be best known for its air search and rescue function, which includes missions that range from finding lost hikers to downed airplanes. While CAP pilots fly around ninety percent of all inland search and rescue missions and have located over 550 aircraft in the United States, the CAP's role in disaster relief missions is also becoming more prominent. In 2015, the CAP supported one hundred and ninety-six (196) disaster relief operations of all types across the nation.

For the duration of the week following the August 2014 Napa Earthquake, CAP based aircraft were placed on standby to be launched on short notice. Incident commanders coordinated with Cal Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) should Squadron 44 be needed to survey damage of the affected area from the sky and determine where to best utilize government response resources. Buchanan Field's strategic location in the Bay Area and premier facilities has led to its role as the "go to" airport in Northern California for disaster staging and emergency response services. As a result, Squadron 44 is expecting its operations to increase.

Housekeeping Briefs

Stormwater Sampling and the Rainy Season

The rainy season brings stormwater runoff for sampling and the impetus to keep the ramp space clear of debris that may come in contact with stormwater.

Any container that may collect water should be stored inside, or at a minimum temporarily under cover of a tarp, and kept off the ground with a pallet or like object.

As a friendly reminder, please be sure to keep ramp space clear of debris that may come in contact with stormwater, keep spill kits on hand and near fuel and maintenance areas, only wash aircraft at the designated aircraft wash rack, perform minor maintenance in the Owner Maintenance Hangar only (FBOs only for more significant repairs), and do not discharge anything into the storm drain, including uncontaminated water, as only stormwater is allowed in the storm drain system.

Thank you for helping us meet our regulatory obligations under the Industrial General Permit and promoting pollution prevention in our water ways and Bay.

NW Oil Convault Locked

On November 15, 2016, Airport Operations found, during daily inspections, the northwest oil convault had overflowed from an individual dumping over 125 gallons of oil overnight. This type of improper use creates a hazardous environment which may lead to violations for the Airport. The convault is provided for tenants to properly dispose of aircraft waste oil ONLY and should not be used for any commercial waste oil. The convault will be locked until March 1, 2017.



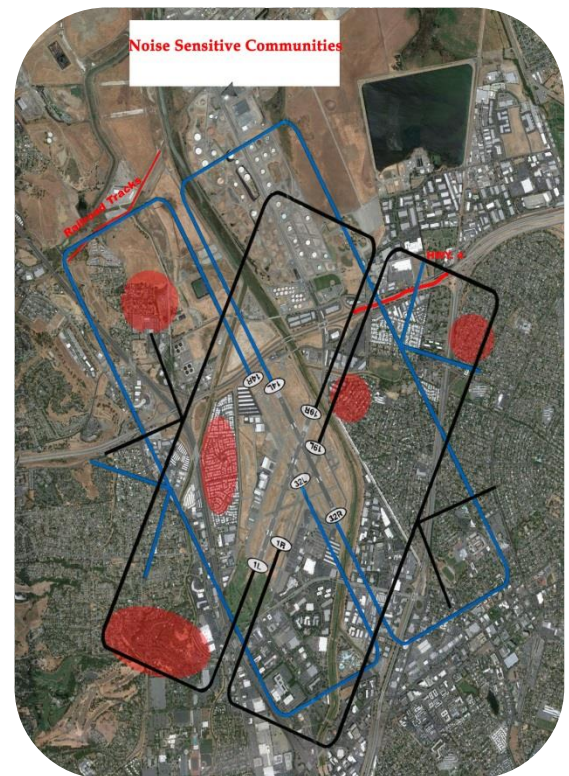
Buchanan Field – Good Neighbor

Airport staff would like to remind our pilots and tenants to support our noise sensitive communities and fly friendly by following Buchanan Field Airport noise abatement procedures. Our noise management program is listed online at <http://www.cccounty.us/3804/Buchanan-Field-Noise-Program> or you may stop in our office for a print version.

An overwhelming majority of noise issues at Buchanan Field relate to flights in the pattern. By requesting specific runways with Air Traffic Control (ATC) for pattern work, we can minimize noise related complaints in our more sensitive neighborhoods.

This time of year our most active runways are 19's and 32's. When departing on 19's for pattern work, noise abatement procedures suggest requesting 19L to avoid our sensitive neighborhoods near DVC and always avoid turns before 700 above ground level (AGL) unless otherwise instructed by ATC. When 32's are running, it is preferable to use 32R. If using 32L please be aware to not make your turn before the railroad tracks at approximately 1.5 miles. This means typically extending your upwind and most likely turning after 700 AGL.

Aircraft are requested to avoid residential areas as much as possible and as always, safety supersedes noise abatement procedures. Contra Costa County Airports greatly appreciates your assistance in being a *Good Neighbor*.



Noise Sensitive Communities

Flight School Highlights - Sterling Flight Training Center

Learn to Fly

Sterling Flight Training Center is a unique flight training school. As a division of Sterling Aviation, they have maintenance, avionics and fuel services seamlessly integrated into their overall operation. Sterling addresses every aspect of equipment services promptly; allowing them top quality, and a stellar safety record for the blend of high wing, low wing, standard and high performance aircraft.

Learn to fly at Buchanan Field. Whether for fun, professionally or to grow your business, their flight school can help you accomplish your flying dreams.

Sterling Flight Training Center

- Flexibility in flight training with set your own pace scheduling.
- Wide variety of training from primary private pilot to commercial pilot applicants.
- Utilize the RedBird full motion flight simulator, helping keep the cost of training down and allowing the instructor pilot to initiate training scenarios that would otherwise be unsafe in the actual airplane.

New Additions to Airports Staff



Judy Evans

After a year and a half as the face of the Director of Airports' Office, Judy has been promoted to Properties - Maintenance and Management. Judy will continue to be your contact for County hangars and tie-downs and she will handle all of your property needs. Airport Staff is excited to be able to provide improved service with our new additions.



Alina Zimmerman

Alina joined the Public Works, Airport Division as the Office Clerk on December 12, 2016. Alina grew up in Martinez, California and is currently taking classes at CSU East Bay in pursuit of a Bachelor's in Business Administration. Alina previously worked in Fleet Services for two and a half years as a Student Intern.

Airport Events Recap

Ford Tri-Motor

The Ford Tri-Motor Tour returned to Buchanan Field on November 17, 2016. Known as the first luxury airliner, the Ford Tri-Motor redefined world travel and marked the beginning of commercial flight.



The Fly the Ford event allowed the general public a rare opportunity to fly in one of the world's first commercial airliners. Revenues from the Ford Tri-Motor tour help cover maintenance and operations costs for the aircraft and aid keeping the "Tin Goose" flying for many years to come.

AAC Tenant Award

CALSTAR/REACH Air

CALSTAR and REACH Air were selected as the 2017 recipient of the Aviation Advisory Committee Tenant Recognition award winner. They were recognized for their extraordinary services provided to both Contra Costa County and many communities throughout Northern California.

The Tenant Recognition program looks to recognize individuals and businesses for unique and remarkable actions. In this case, these businesses and individuals do unique and remarkable things each and every day. Without their commitment and dedication lives would be lost and our communities would not receive the vital services they need.

We thank the owners and employees of both of these fine and outstanding businesses for the tremendous work they do.

Santa Claus at Buchanan Field



On December 3, 2016, Santa Clause flew into Buchanan Field on a RV-7 lead by his trusty Elf.

Santa greeted the multitude of awaiting smiling faces to bring holiday spirit and cheer to one and all. Approximately, 100 children sat with Santa to share their Christmas wish list and some even posed long enough for a photo.

The annual event supports the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano by accepting donations for all participants wanting a photo with Santa. The Airport raised 150 pounds of food and over \$200 in donations which equates to over 150 meals for the Holidays.

Long time tenants Scott Achelis and Rich Johnson once again brought Santa Claus and his Elf to life. Helping kids and their parents get into the spirit of Christmas and enjoy the excitement of the Holidays is one of the ways Scott and Rich find pleasure in giving something back to the airport that serves us so well. In addition, they both participate as pilots in the EAA's Young Eagles program which introduces and inspires youth in the world of aviation.

Mr. Claus and his trustee Elf look forward to visiting with Buchanan Field families and friends again next year, most likely the 1st Saturday in December.



Upcoming Buchanan Field Event

9th Annual Tenant Appreciation BBQ

Save the date! Mark your calendars for the next iteration of the annual Airports Tenant Appreciation BBQ. The 9th Annual event will be held on Thursday May 4, 2017.



The Diablo Aviator is a publication of the Contra Costa County Public Works Airports Division. Past newsletters are available at www.ContraCostaCountyAirports.org. The newsletter editor is Daniel Wick. The Director of Airports is Keith Freitas.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY AIRPORTS

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