



P A P A S E Z

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2003

May 2003 be your best year ever!



SANTA FLIGHT AND TOY DROP HELD 12-14 AT PALWAUKEE

Papa's Annual Toy Drop was held again this year to benefit the "Home of the Sparrow", "W.I.N.G.S. " and "Shelter Inc."

More than 75 happy parents and children were present to greet Santa and Mrs. Claus (Al and Karen Pedersen of Prospect Heights) as they arrived in their special aircraft.

Our special thanks again to all of the members who gave of their time and effort, and who donated gifts to make the holiday special for all.

SANTA AND MRS. CLAUSE WITH TARA WILKES (Madeleine Monaco's granddaughter) AT NAJ

Sometimes the gift is in the giving!

SAVE THE DATE – **JANUARY 25TH** – AVIATION EXPO 2003 – LEWIS UNIVERSITY

SAVE THE DATE – **FEBRUARY 26TH** – PAPA SAFETY PROGRAM – PROPELLER CARE

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PAPA SEZ is published monthly by the Palwaukee Airport Pilot's Association (a non-profit organization). The Palwaukee Airport Pilot's Association (PAPA) was formed in 1987 as a forum for the users of Palwaukee Airport. PAPA's mission is to promote the safety of operations and continued development of the Palwaukee Municipal Airport in a fraternal environment with the pilots, users and community.

Membership in PAPA is open to any user of Palwaukee Airport. Membership dues are \$25.00 annually and include the subscription to PAPA SEZ. Letters to the Editor and any articles submitted for publication must be received by the 20th of the

Visit the PAPA Web Site
[Http://www.pwkpilots.org](http://www.pwkpilots.org)

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!!

JEFF MCLENNAN
HARRY PACYNSKI
S. GURU PRASAD

PAPA MEETING DATES

BOARD MEETING – JAN 8 – 7 PM – NAJ
BOARD MEETING – FEB 12 – 7 PM - NAJ
GENERAL MEETING – FEB 26 – 7 PM - PWK INN
BOARD MEETING – MAR 12 – 7 PM – NAJ
BOARD MEETING – APR 9 – 7 PM – NAJ
GENERAL MEETING – APR 23 – 7 PM – PWK INN
BOARD MEETING – MAY 14 – 7 PM – NAJ
FLY OUT – TENTATIVE
BOARD MEETING – JUN 11 – 7 PM – NAJ
GENERAL MEETING – JUN 25 – 7 PM – PWK INN
BOARD MEETING – JUL 9 – 7 PM – NAJ
FLY OUT – TENTATIVE
BOARD MEETING – AUG 13 – 7 PM – NAJ
HANGAR PICNIC – AUG 27 – 6:30 PM – TBA
BOARD MEETING – SEP 10 – 7 PM – NAJ
GENERAL MEETING – SEP 24 – 7 PM – PWK INN
BOARD MEETING – OCT 8 – 7 PM – NAJ
FLY OUT – TENTATIVE
BOARD & GENERAL MEETING – NOV 12 – 7 PM – PWK INN
BOARD MEETING – TENTATIVE – DEC 3 – 7 PM – NAJ
HOLIDAY DINNER – DEC 10 – 7 PM – TBA
SANTA FLIGHT & TOY DROP – DEC 13 – 10 AM
100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLIGHT – DEC 17 2003

P.A.C.E. MEETING DATES

Palwaukee Airport Community Engagement
Join in the community discussion at the Palwaukee
Municipal Airport Manager's office at 7:00 pm.

JAN 9 FEB 6 MAR 6 APR 3 MAY 1

P.M.A.C. MEETING DATES

Palwaukee Municipal Airport Commission
The Commission meets each month at 7:00 pm to conduct the business of the airport.

JAN15 FEB19 MAR19 APR16 MAY21 JUN18
JUL16 AUG20 SEP17 OCT15 NOV19 DEC17

Joint meetings/workshops with the Prospect
Heights and Wheeling elected officials
MAR 31 SEP 29

FEEDBACK – MEMBER CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS

Keep the comments flowing in. We have an opportunity to raise issues that have remained dormant for way too long. It is time for awareness of these key concerns to resurface with the hope of improvements. Your comments can be mailed in on the feedback form below, filled out at general meetings or emailed through the PAPA Website at papa@pwkpilots.org.

Barry Dainas

FEEDBACK FORM

I HAVE THE FOLLOWING CONCERN/REQUEST REGARDING MY AIRPORT.

NAME _____ (optional)

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Assistant Director of Airport Operations

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An open letter to:

All Palwaukee Airport, -employees, users, pilots, FAA Control Tower personnel, the State of Illinois Department of Transportation-Division of Aeronautics, the President and Trustees of Wheeling, the Mayor and Alderman of Prospect Heights, the Wheeling and Prospect Heights Fire Departments, the Palwaukee Airport Manager, the Chairman-Palwaukee Airport Commission and all Municipal Airport Commissioners, and all concerned citizens interested in the safety of operations at Palwaukee.

Two plus years ago, it was discovered that Mr. Fred Stewart the Palwaukee Airport Manager, had a plan that included a distinct hazard to airport safety; a gap in Taxi-way Lima. This gap was contrary to the Airport layout plan, approved in the early 1990s by the then President of Wheeling and the Mayor of Prospect Heights, the State of Illinois Division of Aeronautics, the Palwaukee Municipal Airport Commission and Palwaukee Airport Engineers, Crawford Murphy and Tilly. In fact, at that time, I was only aware of one Commissioner, Trevor Lehman who pointed out to Mr. Stewart and the Commission, that the Airport Layout Plan always included a full length Taxi-way Lima. When this plan surfaced, members of the Palwaukee Airport Pilots Association (PAPA) sent objections to the Airport Manager and Commissioners. These objections were dismissed. The excuses for dismissal at the time were numerous and included false statements. One such misstatement was that the 104-foot wing span of a Gulfstream G-IV business jet would hit the corner of hanger 9 while taxiing, necessitating the hanger's removal. Hangar 9 is currently leased by Signature Flight Support, the largest Fixed Base Operation (FBO) on Palwaukee Airport. The true wingspan of the Gulfstream G-IV is in fact 94 feet, allowing enough room for the aircraft to taxi safely past hangar 9.

Further, a study was made which determined that the revenue lost to Palwaukee by removing the hanger would run into many millions of dollars. But in reality, hangar 9 would not have to be removed since there are others who are prepared to take over the lease of the Hanger immediately and allow the gap section to be built. So in truth there would be no loss of revenue to Palwaukee Airport. Apparently, the airport commissioners had been convinced that the taxi-way would not have the necessary 400-foot clearance from the centerline of Runway 16/34, to centerline of the proposed Taxi-way Lima. Four PAPA members, including myself, measured the distance and determined that there was adequate room.

In July 2001 I had a lengthy discussion with Mr. Chad Oliver, Airports Engineer, Chicago Airports District Office of the FAA. At that time he was under the impression that a full-length Taxi-way Lima was planned and agreed that a gap was a safety concern. The day after our conversation, I received the relevant portion of the Palwaukee Municipal Airport Layout Plan from Mr. Oliver who had taken the time to insert the necessary clearances for a continuous Taxi-way Lima. The engineering drawings produced by Mr. Oliver clearly showed adequate room to close the taxi-way gap without removing Hanger 9.

After it became evident that the Airport Commission was not correcting the situation, PAPA members including myself began an educational program with the two communities. We demonstrated to them that this gap in Taxi way Lima requires aircraft to cross the main runway 16/34, one or two extra times in order to reach the northwest corner of the field. This directly jeopardizes the safety of operations at Palwaukee airport and is absolutely not acceptable

It is true that a small portion of the ramp adjacent to hangar 9 would need to be used as part of the taxi-way. Additionally an Object Free Area (OFA) would need to be established requiring a fuel pump (not tanks) to be moved. The total square footage of ramp needed by the taxi-way, (approximately 15,000 square feet) could be duplicated on the North side of Hanger 9. This small amount represents only 1% of the approximately one point five million-sq. ft. of Palwaukee Airport land which Signature leases or controls. Further the need for an object free area (OFA) would NOT prevent aircraft from using Hanger 9, anymore than they prevent the use of other hangers at Palwaukee.

Approximately, a year ago, petitions containing around 275 signatures protesting the hazard of the Lima Gap were delivered to the Commission. At around the same time, the insurance agent for Palwaukee Airport was making his presentation for the following year. I requested he stay a few extra minutes for citizen comments. After noting that the Commissioners were aware of the hazard of the Gap in Taxi-way Lima, I asked him, "Who would defend the Airport in case of an accident caused by the lack of a continuous Taxi-way Lima." He responded (and this is paraphrased), "The insurance company would defend and then they would come after the Commissioners for not doing their due diligence." Shortly after his statement, the Commissioners voted unanimously to eliminate the Gap in Taxi-way Lima. Even though the commission had all of the information supplied to them by Mr. Oliver they passed a resolution for the PWK engineers to make a costly study (of their own plans) to be sure of Mr. Oliver's assertions. They confirmed the feasibility of the plan and that should have been the end of the problem. Not so! PWK's attorney now called for an appraisal to be made. Many months ago, the

Continued from page 5

I, along with all the signers of the petitions call upon the President of Wheeling and the Mayor of Prospect Heights to direct the Palwaukee Municipal Airport Commission to implement the plan to close the Taxi way Lima gap immediately: before someone is seriously hurt or killed. That could result in a negligence lawsuit against the Village of Wheeling, the City of Prospect Heights and ultimately the individual members of the Palwaukee Municipal Airport Commission. To do other wise is an irrational and foolhardy risk to life and limb and the limited resources of Palwaukee Municipal Airport and the communities that own the airport.

Sincerely,

Howard D. Levinson

FAA Aviation Safety Councilor
 Certified Flight Instructor
 Director of PAPA
 Paragon Flying Club Safety Officer
 Owner of a Twin based at PWK and
 a pilot for over 59 years.



Signature.
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Signature.
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AVIATION EXPO 2003



JANUARY 25 LEWIS UNIVERSITY

The Chicago Area Ninety-Nines invite you to participate in their 26th annual safety seminar!

Please join them at 8:00 am for registration, and enjoy both
 IFR and VFR classroom presentations from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

They will also present their celebrated "Flying Companion Course" for
 the spouse or friend who flies with you and wants to learn more.

Aviation vendors will show you their latest wares!

The University is on Rt 53. in Romeoville Illinois Take I-55 to the Romeoville exit 269 – Joliet Road.
 Go south approximately 8 miles (Joliet Road joins with Rt 53) Lewis University will be on the west side.

Questions, call Beverlee Greenhill at 847-573-0919
 or Gary Stevens at IDOT 800-554-0247



Palwaukee Airport Pilot's Association
1120 S Milwaukee Avenue Suite A
Wheeling, IL 60090-6392

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Happy New Year
to everyone!!!

SERVICE AVIATION



HAPPY NEW YEAR !

*Warmest wishes to all this holiday season.
We have always been grateful for the
appreciation and support we have
received from our customers.*

*Unfortunately, we are dismayed with
the lack of appreciation from those
officials whose only interest in
Service Aviation has been in trying
to see that we go away.*

*In the spirit of the season, the
Service Aviation family would like to
wish the whole Palwaukee Airport
community a healthy and happy 2003.*

- Dennis P. Jans, President and General Manager

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