

METROPOLITAN Airport NewsTM

APRIL 2022

The Journal of the Metropolitan New York Airport Community

Volunteers – Stepping Forward

Charitable & Trade Organizations in
the Metropolitan Airport Community



Also Inside:

Fast Five: Jane Mrosko
Program Manager at Travelers Aid

The Transatlantic Jet Race

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A Three Day Trip to Panama City

Including Local Airport News & Updates



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April is National Volunteer Month, and there is no better time to highlight the hard work and dedication of the volunteer and trade organizations operating at our airports. You may be surprised to learn how much gets done by these organizations and how many of these volunteers work with you at the airport.

They are dedicated groups of people that work well together across multiple organizations to put forward kindness and support those most in need. If the airports themselves are a community, the volunteer organizations are a community within that community. There is a lot of hard work that goes on for sure, but there is also a lot of fun, friendship, and networking.

Most people find that giving of time and talent is done at home, but as you will learn after reading this month's feature article, ("**Volunteers – Stepping Forward**" see page 12), there is also much to be done surrounding the places we work.

While civic support is often baked into the business plan of many large operators at the airports, it also takes a 'boots on the ground' effort from small businesses and individuals to make a positive difference in people's lives. This is where these volunteer organizations come into action.

If you haven't considered volunteerism or think you don't have the time or the talent, please reconsider. You might be surprised how much your life changes for the better when you are in service to others.

I hope you enjoy this issue and consider which organization would be a good fit for you. Check out their websites, projects, charities they support, and members you may already know. There are so many different organizations; you need to find the right fit for you!

Katie Bliss

Katie Bliss, Publisher

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." – Mahatma Gandhi

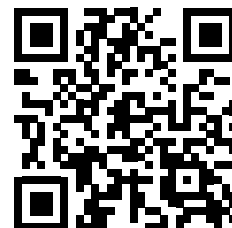


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ON THE COVER

Sunrise view from Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) in New Jersey with the Manhattan skyline in the background.



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Time: 9AM-3PM



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FAST FIVE

"Fast Five" is a succinct Q&A examining topical airport subjects of importance to the interviewee.



Jane Mrosko

Program Manager at Travelers Aid, John F. Kennedy International Airport

Jane Mrosko is the caring and creative manager of volunteers and volunteer programs with Travelers Aid at John F. Kennedy International Airport. She is dedicated to the mission of helping others and enhancing the volunteer experience. Jane is passionate about welcoming, assisting and advocating for travelers, helping them navigate and feel supported on their journey.

1 Tell us about your background. How did you become involved with Travelers Aid; what is its mission, and who and what areas does it serve?

I earned my MSW (Master of Social Work) from the University of Minnesota; originally pursuing social work in the medical field. I was given the opportunity to work with an amazing team of health care providers, leading the way for immigrants and refugees to receive and navigate the health care system.

I'm originally from the West Coast and then the Midwest. I joined the Travelers Aid International team at JFK Airport in October 2001. Travelers Aid is a non-profit organization with programs all around the country, including Puerto Rico, Australia and Canada. We serve the traveling public and people in local communities through our mission of aiding people in transit who are in distress, through our direct services and through services provided by our member organizations.

2 How does Travelers Aid benefit the airport and surrounding community, and what type of outreach or networking programs does it have, either at the airport or outside airport perimeters?

Volunteers bring incredible energy and joy to their roles, and they return home sharing stories of people they have helped and about their time in the airport.

Travelers Aid staff and volunteers have helped passengers connect with family, navigate from terminal to terminal, calm nerves, listen, support, welcome and offer knowledge and information. We provide referrals to shelters, information about hotel options, direct passengers to embassies or consulates, offer tourism tips and so much more. We thoroughly assess situations in order to offer helpful solutions.

3 How did the pandemic affect the ability of Travelers Aid volunteers to function during the height of the crisis?

Most of our volunteer corps paused their service during the pandemic variants. Travelers Aid staff continued to connect regularly with emails, phone calls and monthly newsletters that captured updates from around the airport.

Travelers Aid volunteers at JFK and EWR provided continued service from the onset, practicing social distancing and following all CDC guidelines. The Port Authority did a tremendous job of creating a safe and clean environment, allowing our program to continue serving the traveling public.

4 Who makes up the membership of Travelers Aid, and what does it entail to become a volunteer with the organization?

Memberships include social services, and airport programs. Travelers Aid has programs at JFK, Newark (EWR) and several other large U.S. airports that are directly operated by Travelers Aid International which is headquartered in Washington, D.C. Agencies and organizations such as Heartland Alliance in Chicago, or Upward Transitions in Oklahoma City are members that provide services within the community, including meal assistance, housing support, refugee and immigrant support services, and travel to medical appointments.

Our diverse volunteer group encompasses aviation lovers, retirees, and those who simply want to serve or give back. Students, 16 years and over, wishing to earn community service hours can expect to gain soft skill experiences and develop confidence as they assist airport guests and passengers. In addition to uniform and minimum weekly hour requirements, we look for volunteers with the desire to provide outstanding customer service.

It is a privilege to work in this capacity with people who give their time to help others. The airport is a unique setting for such service, and an important place to make a difference. People are going on vacation, traveling for work, visiting a sick family member, fleeing an unsafe situation, starting a new chapter – whatever the reason, we are witness to people's lives.

5 Tell us about an interesting story that ended well with the assistance of Travelers Aid.

There are many....a working mom from Ghana who came to the United States to be a nanny but discovered she didn't really have a job upon arrival. There was a young girl from Pakistan with a rare disease who arrived here for medical treatment, and a woman that was reported missing by her family on social media who had skipped her medication.

Recently, a 70-year-old man returning to his home in Ghana became stranded when he couldn't complete his health declaration form. A Boston agency assisting refugees and immigrants had notified Travelers Aid seeking our support at the airport. Travelers Aid navigated rebooking, getting a new Covid test for him, provided food and overall emotional support while he waited for his new flight several days later. Without our intervention and guidance, the man would have needed to go to a shelter until an alternative plan could be arranged.

Visit Travelers Aid John F. Kennedy International Airport online for additional information. www.travelersaid.org/jfk ■

AIRPORT INTEL

PANYNJ Board Meeting March 17th Recap

At the March PANYNJ Board meeting held on March 17th, Chairman **Kevin O'Toole** and the Board of Commissioners awarded **Dr. Harold Fisher** with the Robert Wagner Distinguished Public Service Medal for his tireless and dedicated work throughout the pandemic in service to PA employees and their families. Dr. Fisher is the Chief Medical Officer for the Port Authority of NY/NJ.

PAPD Officers **Romano, Duran** and **Herbert** along with Sergeant **Suarez** received Commendations from the Board for their heroic life saving efforts performed on an unconscious traveler at EWR. The patient is alive and well due to the quick thinking and coordinated efforts of the PAPD officers.

At the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, **Cardinal Dolan** bestowed a blessing upon the Port Authority Police department as they passed St. Patrick's Cathedral in honor of the 20th anniversary of 9/11.

Executive Director **Rick Cotton** announced that as of March 14th, the mask mandate in Non-Public areas of PANYNJ facilities was lifted. Masks are still required in public areas.

The Board announced the appointment of a new Treasurer, **Sherien Khella** while honoring retiring treasurer **Cheryl Yetka** with 40 years of service to PANYNJ.

LaGuardia Airport Mass Transit Update

In October 2021, PANYNJ committed to undertake a full review of transit options with the goal of reducing car traffic to LGA Airport. On March 2nd 70 key stakeholders in the community were asked for input on 14 potential mass transit options. There were 2 additional public workshops in March for the community to discuss the options being represented. For information about the fourteen options being considered, go to www.anewlga.com.

PANYNJ Financial Analysis

Rick Cotton provided an analysis for 2021 finances, "\$2.1 billion dollars represented a year over year increase of nearly \$1 billion over 2020. These 2021 financial results represent a substantial recovery from the low of 2020 driven by both increased activity related revenues and continuing reduced expense levels." These financials still reflect a \$1.7 billion loss of expected revenue for 2021 based on the 2017 through 2026 Capital Plan.

Port Volumes

For the week of March 7 through March 13, 2022 compared to the pre-pandemic week in 2019:

- Airports are down ▼ 18%
- Bridges and Tunnels are down ▼ 3.8%
- Path is down ▼ 50%
- Seaport is up ▲ 22%

TSA Announces Gender-Neutral Airport Checkpoint Screening

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced new standards for screening transgender, nonbinary, and gender-nonconforming airline passengers at TSA checkpoints to improve the screening experience for all passengers.

"TSA is proud to announce significant initiatives as a direct result of close partnership with community stakeholders," said TSA Administrator **David Pekoske**. "Over the coming months, TSA will move swiftly to implement more secure and efficient screening processes that are gender-neutral, as well as technological updates that will enhance security and make TSA PreCheck enrollment more inclusive. These combined efforts will greatly enhance airport security and screening procedures for all." TSA will continue to remain in close coordination with key community stakeholders and will continue to announce updates. ■

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AIRPORT BRIEFS



OTG Announces UNICEF Initiative Allowing Travelers to Donate to Ukraine Relief

OTG Will Match Up To \$100,000 in Donations Made From Its Airport Technology

Airport hospitality group OTG and UNICEF USA (United Nations Children's Fund) announced an initiative to allow travelers to donate to Ukraine relief directly from the airport iPads as well as OTG's mobile ordering technology. OTG will match up to \$100,000 in donations that are made from its airport technology.

OTG manages hundreds of dining and retail locations in airports across the country including Newark, LaGuardia, JFK, Philadelphia, Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport, and George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston. This campaign will allow passengers to make a UNICEF donation when ordering or when paying the bill on the airport's iPad ordering system or through the OTG mobile ordering technology. The donation will go directly to UNICEF.

UNICEF is working with partners in the war zone to reach vulnerable children and families with essential services including healthcare needs, education, protection, clean water, sanitation, and other life-saving supplies.

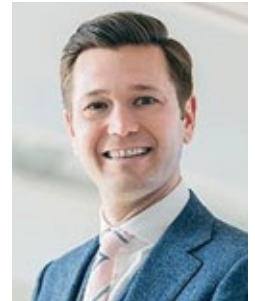
"We are all watching the situation unfold in Ukraine. We wanted to make it easier for our customers to help those in need, and that's why we started this initiative," said Rick Blatstein, Founder and CEO of OTG. "UNICEF has been working day and night staffing essential programs in Ukraine and neighboring countries, delivering essential provisions, and working with women and children who are still being evacuated.

UNICEF has an incredible operation, and we are proud to support them by making it easier for our customers to donate and by donating ourselves."

Visit www.unicefusa.org/OTG to learn more about UNICEF's response in Ukraine. ■

JetBlue Announces Leadership Appointments

Don Uselmann has been appointed vice president, inflight experience. In this role he will lead and support JetBlue's best-in-class inflight team, ensuring new and current crewmembers have the tools and training to safely deliver and advance JetBlue's award-winning hospitality onboard every flight.

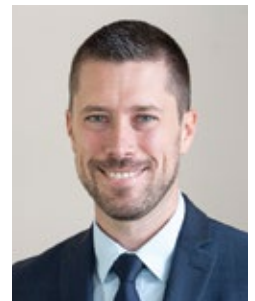


Don Uselmann

Since joining JetBlue in 2006, Uselmann has served in a variety of roles across sales, marketing, business development, customer experience, and operations, including as director, JFK airport operations. Uselmann most recently served as vice president, loyalty, personalization, and marketing communications, where he led the continued evolution of the TrueBlue loyalty program and co-branded credit card portfolio. Previously, he was a leader in some of JetBlue's highest-profile innovations, including the development of Even More Space products, the refresh of JetBlue's aircraft interiors and onboard products, the creation of Mint, the design of self-tagging airport lobbies, and the launch of Fly-Fi broadband.

"We are very excited to welcome Don to inflight. Since joining JetBlue in 2006, Don has developed a deep understanding of the customer journey and his focus on delivering powerful human interactions is noticeable throughout his own journey with JetBlue," said **Ed Baklor**, JetBlue's head of customer care and programs.

As JetBlue executes a plan to enhance the value of its loyalty program and deliver more benefits to its loyal customer base, **Chris Buckner** has been promoted to the role of vice president, loyalty programs and partnerships. Buckner will be responsible for continuing to evolve TrueBlue, JetBlue's award-winning loyalty program, and evolve JetBlue's co-branded credit card portfolio.



Chris Buckner

Buckner joined JetBlue in 2020 as director, customer loyalty and partnerships where he's played a key role in rolling out enhanced TrueBlue benefits, including Mosaic and the launch of JetBlue's Mosaic+ in 2021. Before joining JetBlue, Buckner spent 16 years in commercial roles across the aviation industry.

"This role is strategically important to JetBlue's success as we work to better know our customers and deliver the experiences and interactions they want," said **Jayne O'Brien**, head of marketing and loyalty. "With Chris' experience in aviation, he brings an invaluable wealth of industry knowledge with him that will benefit our customers and JetBlue. He's been an incredible leader since joining the team and is the natural choice to help us continue building on the success of our loyalty team." ■

JFK T4 Launches Experiential Pop-Up Selfie Station

JFKIAT, the operator of Terminal 4 at John F. Kennedy International Airport, has launched a Selfie Station, an experiential pop-up activation conceived in collaboration with local Harlem and Brooklyn-based entrepreneurs.

The activation features original brands **Project 96**, **Bag Shop NYC**, and **Against Medical Advice**, and their unique perspective of New York while incorporating elements of their own brand identities. The Selfie Station is located at Gate B27 and will be available through April 29.

“As part of our commitment to engaging local communities, we are thrilled to launch a new installation that not only offers our customers an exciting activity to experience during their travels but also raises awareness of several fantastic businesses in New York City,” said **Ed Midgley**, VP of Customer Experience and Commercial at JFKIAT. “We hope all of our customers traveling through the terminal will stop by, snap selfies, and check out our partnering businesses.”

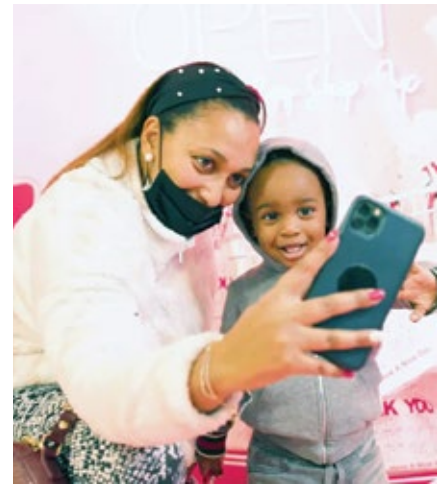
“The installation is a celebration of the human experience, which is a vivid representation of the human-centric brand that is Project 96,” said **Peter Johnson**, Project Fulfiller and Owner of Project 96, a fashion

brand aiming to achieve a balance between traditional and modern ways of living. “Our booth design is intended to mirror a cross-cultural space that allows people to break down feelings of displacement, whether they call New York home, or they’re many miles away from home.”

Bag Shop NYC, also featured in the Selfie Station, is a reusable bag brand whose designs are inspired by iconic New York City imagery.

“We hope that travelers feel a sense of nostalgia as they are met with the classic ‘Thank You Bag’ design and shopping carts, all while being inspired to make the permanent switch to reusable bags,” said **Aisha Ndiaye**, Co-Founder, and Owner of Bag Shop NYC. “We would like our booth to be an example that we can bring ideas and imagery from the past into a present and future that is more inclusive, sustainable, and better for all.”

Against Medical Advice – a fashion brand founded and owned by **Oluwale Olosunde** and inspired by his work as a registered nurse – incorporated a 20-foot-tall AMA 3D Human stretched across the Selfie Station booth, representing human beings. The figure’s blueprint depicts the vital organs essential to the body, demonstrating



the functions that support daily life.

“JFK’s Terminal 4 is a clear depiction of the melting pot that is New York City, with so many travelers from many parts of the world, all with different languages, cultures, clothing, and cuisine,” says **Oluwale Olosunde**. “Although on the surface we may appear as different and live different lives, the similarities below the surface are what make us all the same. This blueprint is a reminder of that.”

The Selfie Station is JFKIAT’s latest pop-up experience for customers. “Where Will You Go Next?” was unveiled last July, which invited passengers into the page of a life-sized coloring book, calling for participants to tap into their creativity and take part in creating a 35-foot mural. ■

Spirit Airlines Completes LaGuardia Marine Air Terminal Move

Spirit Airlines announced the completion of its terminal move at LaGuardia Airport (LGA) with all Spirit flights now calling Terminal A home. Over the past year, Spirit maintained a split operation between Terminal C and Terminal A, also known as the Marine Air Terminal.

The move has enhanced the LGA Guest experience with all flights now consolidated in one of the most convenient locations at LaGuardia. Additionally, the move also benefits Guests by streamlining Spirit’s operation at the airport.

“We sincerely thank all parties who helped make this terminal relocation a reality, especially the Port Authority of New York New Jersey who supported our transition between the two terminals,” said Matt

Klein, Spirit’s Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer. “At Spirit, we are committed to our Invest in the Guest initiatives. The consolidation of our operations at LGA is yet another important achievement for our airline as well as our Guests. We are excited to see our brand continue to grow in New York and, most importantly, it’s a true honor to now serve all of our Guests from the historic Marine Air Terminal.”

“As LaGuardia Airport continues its transformative redevelopment, we are delighted to welcome Spirit Airlines to Terminal A, the historic Marine Air Terminal,” said LaGuardia General Manager Tony Vero. “We look forward to working with Spirit to provide best-in-class service to a growing number of air passengers.”



The Marine Air Terminal was built in 1939 and is one of two passenger terminals in the country remaining from the first generation of air travel. The terminal is also home to a massive 12-foot-high, 235-foot-long mural “Flight” by James Brooks that encircles the interior wall of the terminal’s rotunda and tells the story of human flight. ■

JetBlue and Mayor Eric Adams Announce 5,000 New Jobs Coming to New York City

Mayor Adams Kicks Off Hiring Event and Workforce Partnerships as JetBlue Gears Up for Busiest Season On Record



New York City Mayor Eric Adams speaks at JetBlue's hiring event at JFK Airport, announcing a new partnership in growing the airline's workforce.

JetBlue and New York City Mayor Eric Adams announced that the company will be adding 5,000 jobs in New York City in 2022. JetBlue will also work with the city to create a new workforce partnership to connect more New Yorkers with high-quality JetBlue jobs and to develop a strong pipeline for future careers at the airline. Mayor Adams joined JetBlue leaders at a major hiring event to assist in filling many of these new positions.

The JFK hiring event facilitated on the spot interviews and conditional hiring of diverse candidates for a variety of positions within the JetBlue operation based in New York City, including roles in airport operations, ground operations, technical operations, inflight, information technology and other support center roles. JetBlue currently employs around 8,000 crewmembers based in New York City, at the airports as well as in JetBlue's Long Island City Support Center, its corporate headquarters. The airline's growth and hiring as well as its low fare expansion is due in great part to the Northeast Alliance, a partnership it has entered into with American Airlines. Those

seeking information about future JetBlue hiring events and careers at JetBlue should visit jetblue.com/careers.

"As New York's Hometown Airline, JetBlue's commitment goes well beyond the flights we operate here," said **Robin Hayes**, chief executive officer, JetBlue. "We're thrilled to partner with Mayor Adams to support his administration's Blueprint for New York City's Economic Recovery by encouraging travel to New York City. We'll do that by hiring thousands of new JetBlue crewmembers in 2022, and through our continued engagement in the community to create a strong pipeline for future JetBlue crewmembers and a more resilient workforce for New York City as a whole."

"New York City is coming back, and we are working with our business community to invest in our people, restart our economic engines, and give New Yorkers pathways to quality jobs," said New York City Mayor Eric Adams. "Not only is JetBlue one of our largest home-grown employers, but the company is creating 5,000 new jobs in our city. I look forward to working with them on a new workforce partnership that

will provide more New Yorkers with career pathways and opportunities in this critical industry."

"Getting visitors back to the five boroughs and supporting our tourism industry are critical in our efforts to drive an equitable economic recovery," said New York City Deputy Mayor for Economic and Workforce Development **Maria Torres-Springer**. "Not only is JetBlue adding thousands of jobs in New York, but they are also making it easier for people to access the amazing attractions our city has to offer."

"As the tourism and travel industry bounces back from COVID-19's disruption, initiatives like Mayor Adams' and JetBlue's workforce partnership program will ensure New Yorkers of all backgrounds share in the industry's recovery and growth. Furthermore, this initiative will open doors for qualified diverse professionals who – although highly skilled – may lack the connections and access often key to securing an offer," said Rep. Gregory W. Meeks. "Breaking down such artificial barriers in employment is key to ensuring communities like the one I represent can share in our nation's prosperity. I look forward to seeing the positive outcomes of this program, especially here in Queens at JFK, the gateway to America."

The partnership announced today builds on JetBlue's long history of supporting community programs and fostering local aviation talent in New York City. JetBlue partners with a range of community organizations and schools, including the Council for Airport Opportunity, CUNY's Aviation Institute at York College, and Vaughn College, to develop and attract crewmembers to join the airline. As part of JetBlue's mission of Inspiring Humanity, the airline works to inspire students and open their eyes to a range of aviation career options, from pilots and engineers to air traffic controllers and more. The organizations JetBlue partners with and supports

Continued On Page 12



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Continued From Page 10

helps not only to spark interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), but also break down barriers that block or prevent underrepresented youth from achieving their dreams. The JetBlue Foundation provides grants benefitting STEM education and has supported the Aviation High School in Long Island City, which introduces aviation science to students from a variety of backgrounds.

"Today's hiring event is just the first step in JetBlue's workforce partnership with New York City," Hayes said. "In partnership with Mayor Adams and his team, we'll be able to attract even more high-quality talent to JetBlue even as we invest in nurturing the next generation of aviation professionals."

JetBlue is also committed to creating development opportunities for current front-line and operations crewmembers to prepare for and pursue corporate opportunities in JetBlue's Long Island City Support Center. Participants in the JET OPS to Support Services Pathway Program receive holistic



NYC Mayor Eric Adams appears with JetBlue leadership and other elected officials.

on-the-job training in skill areas they may otherwise not be exposed to, including finance and marketing. Current JetBlue crewmembers at all levels can pursue a path to a JetBlue pilot or maintenance technician position through the industry-leading JetBlue

Gateways development programs. JetBlue Gateways creates opportunities for external candidates as well, and as part of the program in 2021, the airline partnered with Vaughn College to work in creating a direct pipeline of local pilots. ■

JetBlue's Busiest Summer Travel Season Yet

The latest hiring event comes as JetBlue, thanks to its Northeast Alliance with American Airlines, is preparing and staffing for what it expects to be the busiest summer in the company's 22-year history. With more than 500 NEA operated flights arriving into New York City expected per day at the season's peak and millions of customers looking to travel, this summer is poised to help tourism rebound.

To encourage even more travel to New York City, JetBlue Vacations is launching a travel promotion to remind customers that the city is ready and waiting for them. JetBlue Vacations is offering \$200 off vacation packages for those heading to New York City. With world-renowned theaters, museums and unbeatable dining, summer is the time to visit New York.

"It is clear that our customers want to travel and New York City is back to welcome them," said **Joanna Geraghty**, president and chief operating officer, JetBlue. "We are committed to doing everything we can to assist in the economic recovery of our hometown. This city has so much to offer, and as we employ its incredible talent as crewmembers, we will continue to promote this great place as a top destination."

JetBlue recently announced its strengthened commitment to New York and its decision to keep its corporate

headquarters at its current home in Long Island City. In addition, the airline continues to further plans to bring more air service to New Yorkers across the region's three main airports. Its flagship Terminal 5 at JFK has been celebrated for its customer-friendly design and facilities, and plans are in place to develop a \$3 billion world-class terminal on the Terminals 6 and 7 sites.

"We are proud of the work our team at NYCEDC did to keep JetBlue's headquarters in NYC and expand Terminal 6 at JFK," said Andrew Kimball, president and CEO, New York Economic Development Corporation. "We believed if JetBlue would remain our hometown airline, it would mean good jobs for New Yorkers and that's what we are seeing here with the promise of 5,000 new jobs for our families and communities. The combination of access to talent at all levels, creating a strong pipeline, along with New York City's culture of innovation and dynamism is a perfect draw for all companies to locate and grow here."

The new Terminal 6 project will seamlessly integrate with Terminal 5, building on JetBlue's award-winning customer experience while expanding the airline's footprint farther into the north side of the airport. It helps secure JetBlue's long-term future at JFK with opportunities for new gates starting in 2025, and offers partner airlines the ability to collocate with JetBlue to improve connectivity for customers. ■



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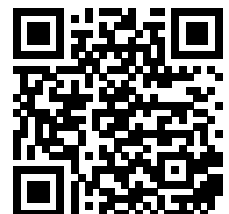
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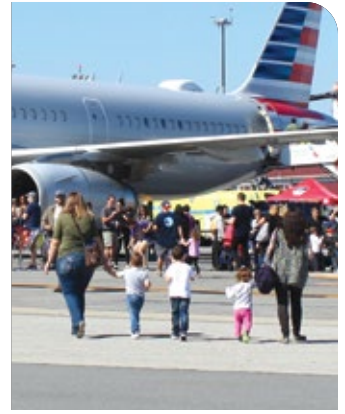
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Volunteers – Stepping Forward

Charitable & Trade Organizations in the Metropolitan Airport Community

BY JULIA LAURIA-BLUM

jblum@metroairportnews.com

Cultural anthropologist Margaret Mead once said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Mead’s quote speaks of the powerful impact people can have when they mobilize in an organized manner to create change that is often rooted from the bottom or from other sources that may offer their support to a cause or a mission. Every day of the year, non-profit organizations and trade associations nationwide make a difference in countless people’s lives and the communities they serve or conduct their business. However, these organizations would not be successful in pursuing their mission without the support of their most valued asset... volunteers.

AmeriCorps most recent New York-New Jersey-Pennsylvania Volunteer Cities Highlights report shows that in this metropolitan region, 3,735,794 volunteers (23.3% residents) contribute 253.7 million hours of service worth an estimated \$6.1 billion in economic value.

Airports throughout the country and in the cities they serve are vibrant economic engines in their communities. Service to those less fortunate is provided by charitable organizations that operate within and around the airport. Many not-for-profit organizations in the New York Metropolitan area provide these services, and they rely on volunteers and donations to continue their philanthropic efforts.

Charitable organizations and donors are a team that helps to keep vital community efforts in place.

Trade associations are voluntary associations of business firms organized on a

physical or industrial basis to develop commercial opportunities within their area of operation. The most prevalent trade organizations are chambers of commerce, boards of trade, and development associations. The long-standing commitment of the metropolitan airport business community’s trade organizations has been exceptionally generous due to their core of dedicated members and volunteers.

JFK Airport Rotary Club

The JFK Airport Rotary Club improves people’s lives locally and globally through community service. Its president, Nancy Vargas describes its members as “the most giving and loving members in Queens,” comprised of men and women from local businesses, airlines, and other professionals within or near the JFK Airport community. With the mission statement ‘Service Above Self,’ the JFK Rotary focuses on

fellowship, friendship, networking, vocation awareness, and continuing education. In addition, the Rotary Club works closely with organizations in the surrounding community that impacts their residents by providing support and fundraising.

A few of the programs provided by the JFK Rotary Club include their annual Christmas Party for local children with special needs, held at the JetBlue hangar at JFK Airport. Santa Claus arrives by airplane and provides the most magical party with gifts galore and regular drop-offs to the Saratoga Family Inn, supporting the resident's needs. In addition, the JFK Rotary Club sponsors many organizations, including 'The Gift of Life Program,' an offshoot of a local Rotary Club that sponsors terminally ill children from countries with limited medical and technological services for life-saving heart operations. In the past, JFK Rotary members had arranged to meet and assist these children and their families at JFK Airport.

Funding has been distributed to several charities such as:

- Airline Employees Children's Cancer Victims
- JFK U.S. Customs Explorer Program
- Safe Haven
- Lupus Foundation
- School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Center for Women
- Life Camp
- Queens Center for Progress
- The USO of Metropolitan New York



JFK Airport Rotary Club preparing to hand out presents during the annual Christmas Party for local children with special needs



On the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the JFK Chamber of Commerce unveiled the JFK Airport 9/11 monument, honoring the lives of the Port Authority Police and Civilian staff, United Airlines, and American Airlines crews that lost their lives that day.

- Patient Airlift Services
- Aviation High School Education Foundation

Their most notable fundraising events are the annual JFK Run the Runway 5K held on April 24, and the annual Golf and Spa Day held on August 1.

The Rotary club leadership includes **Nancy Vargas**, President; **Katie Bliss**, Vice President; **Georgette Dennis**, Secretary; and **Frank McIntyre**, Treasurer.

Members meet on the first Wednesday of the month for a dinner meeting. The Advisory Board meets once a month and regularly manages membership, events, and administrative tasks. To learn more or become a part of the organization, visit their website at www.jfkrotaryclub.org.

The Semantics

Since 1970 The Semantics has been helping people in need. Founded by a group of businesspeople from the JFK Community, this charitable organization has expanded its good works throughout the New York metropolitan area. The principal goal of The Semantics is stated as "Benevolence to Those Less Fortunate." Membership includes principals, managers, and employees of customs brokers, freight forwarders, airline personnel, truckers, cargo container stations, U.S. Customs & Border Protection employees, insurance agents, printers, industrial machinery and food suppliers, and florists, lawyers, and others.

The Semantics raises tens of thousands of dollars annually for people in need, and the organization operates all year, relying solely on its volunteer members to accomplish its mission. There are no paid employees, which allows 100% of all dollars derived from donations and fundraising efforts to go directly to those less fortunate. Beneficiaries of the organization are:

- The Mosaic Food Pantry
- School Sisters of Notre Dame
- Mondays at Racine
- Challenger Little League
- Sh'ma (assisting with those suffering developmental difficulties)
- Helping Hands of Islip
- Tunnel to Towers

On June 25, the Semantics will host their Annual Fishing Trip, and a Golf Outing at Harbor Links on August 18, 2022.

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Continued From Page 15

The club leadership includes **Wanda Sample**, President; **Nick Mascia**, Vice President; **John McPartland**, Treasurer; **Noreen Caro**, Corresponding Secretary; and **Terry Bastow**, Recording Secretary.

For additional information consult their website at www.thesemantics.org.

Kennedy Airport Airlines Management Council

Kennedy Airport Airlines Management Council (KAAMCO) is an association of scheduled airlines and service providers operating at JFK International Airport.

The purpose of KAAMCO is to foster, encourage and stimulate cooperation among the scheduled airlines and service providers at JFK and to cooperate with the PANYNJ and any other agencies, governmental or otherwise, located at JFK International in the advancement and development of the airlines' interests and air transportation.

KAAMCO reviews developments at JFK Airport as they may affect the operations of its member airlines and makes recommendations to the respective management of each member airline. KAAMCO serves the community by working closely on common interest issues. In the past, the organization was active in the fund drive to create the former Tri-Chapel complex. Members have also helped each other during blizzards, strikes, weather difficulties, and accidents.

KAAMCO hosts one general meeting per month on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. It comprises two committees,



Aviation High School Education Foundation board members presenting a scholarship check to school administrators.

Interline/Ground Ops and KAAMCO Cargo, which holds its own monthly meetings. Additionally, KAAMCO is represented at the JFK Security Council and the JFK Redevelopment Groups. In addition to its meetings, KAAMCO will host two events this year - the KAAMCO Golfouting on June 20, at the Garden City Country Club, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting Angel Flight NE and its annual Black-Tie Dinner on November 18.

KAAMCO leadership includes **Mark Flug**, President; **Roger Scott**, Executive Committee; **Julie Emond**, Committee Chair Interline/Ground Operations; and **Brian Cooley**, KAAMCO Cargo.

Additional information can be found online at www.kaamco.org.

Aviation High School Education Foundation

The recently formed aviation-related organization Aviation High School Education Foundation (AHSEF) provides material and non-material support to Aviation High School students and alumni.

Steve Mikhlin, Class of 1989 and president of AHS Education Foundation, explained its mission, which is to "support their network of graduates with the aim of bringing together like-minded individuals who in turn help to support the continued growth and success of the school."

Even during the pandemic, this new Foundation successfully raised money to provide scholarships for Aviation High School students and procure tools, equipment, and supplies to further projects in the school. With the Foundation's many plans over the last two years, the organization's near-term goal is to help get as many resources to Aviation High School as possible to help it fulfill its promise to its students and the aviation community.

In addition, the AHSEF is developing a professional aviation network with hopes to reconnect Aviation High School alumni. Whether a student, alumni, industry professional, or aviation enthusiast, all are welcome to join and volunteer in the organization.

Additional information can be found online at www.aviationhsef.org



LGA Kiwanis Club leadership during a meeting at the LGA Marriott Hotel.

Continued On Page 18

Sunday, April 24, 2022



JFK Rotary Club Presents the Return of
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JFK International Airport Chamber of Commerce

The JFK International Airport Chamber of Commerce was chartered in 1978 to bring local businesses together to expand their product reach within the airport community. John F. Kennedy International Airport is the only U.S. airport to have its own Chamber of Commerce solely dedicated to representing the interests of the airport business community.

The JFK Chamber of Commerce regularly holds networking events, allowing all members to promote their products and services to other members rather than outside the community. In addition, these events have successfully enhanced the airport community's general welfare by fostering better relationships between one another and various governmental agencies at all levels.

Notably, the JFK Chamber of Commerce spearheaded the installation of the 9/11 Memorial located at JFK's Building 14.

JFK Chamber of Commerce leadership

includes **Al DePhillips**, President; **Joe Morra**, Vice President; **Noreen Carro**, Secretary; **David Siewert**, Treasurer; **Frank McIntyre**, Business Manager; and **Clorinda Antonucci**, Executive Director.

General meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 9:00am, usually at JFK Airport, Building 14.

Information on becoming a member of the JFK Chamber of Commerce can be found on their website at www.jfkcoc.org.

Kiwanis Club of LaGuardia Airport

The Kiwanis Club of LaGuardia Airport is part of a global organization dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. The Kiwanis Club at LGA has supported many community projects over its long history.

Notable events include the LaGuardia Kids Day, a full-on aviation extravaganza where visitors are allowed on the airside of LGA to get up close with various aircraft and other airport vehicles.

The Club sends twenty-five local children to Kamp Kiwanis for a week each

summer and provides Vaughn College students scholarships through the Pierce Scholarship Fund.

Other programs include:

- Garden School Writing Program,
- Valentine's Day Senior Project
- Flushing Meadow Soap Box Derby
- Holiday Food Basket Program
- Kiwanis Circle K at Vaughn College

Last year, the Club introduced a car wash at the LGA employee parking lot; it was a fantastic event that the airport employees were happy to support.

The primary fundraiser for the year is the Annual LGA Kiwanis Gala. The Gala is being held on June 10 at Leonards of Great Neck this year.

The leadership of the LGA Kiwanis Club includes **Cheryl Jones**, President; **Neisha Joseph**, Vice President; **Bill Huisman**, Secretary; **Zendrea Spence**, Treasurer; **George R. Dixon**, Immediate Past President; and **Anthony Vero**, Board Member.

Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at the LaGuardia Marriott at 12:00pm. For additional visit them online at www.lgakiwanis.org ■

Additional Airport Organizations

■ Council of Airline Maintenance Managers (CALMM):

To collaborate and serve as an intermediate partner for the New York area aircraft maintenance community

– www.calmm.com

■ **Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Falcon Squadron:** A senior member unit (adults only). Based at JFK International. Volunteers for the USAF Auxiliary, proudly serving the nation, state, city, and local communities by performing missions for CAP in the areas of Air Search and Rescue, Aerospace Education, and Cadet Programs.

– www.falconsquadron.org

■ **Global First Responders:** To support the families of first responders who lost their lives while in the line of duty. Through the use of different events, fundraisers, and community service, they help develop a positive outlook in local communities and nationwide.

– www.globalfirstresponders.org

■ **LaGuardia Airport Airline Management Council (LAAMCO):** To enable the airlines that operate at LaGuardia (LGA) to work together on shared concerns and speak with a unified voice on issues that impact the commercial aviation industry related to LGA. – www.laamco.com

■ Newark International Airport Managers Council

(NIAMCO): To stimulate fellowship among airline, airport, and business colleagues. NIAMCO supports charitable assistance to aviation-related organizations that provide humanitarian services to area communities through fundraising events. – www.niamco.org

■ **The JFK Air Cargo Association:** To educate and serve various air cargo industry components. Monthly events are hosted to educate members allowing them to network and support philanthropic endeavors. – www.jfkaircargo.aero

■ **The USO of Metropolitan New York:** The USO provides programs, entertainment, and services at more than 200 USO locations worldwide, including six centers in the tri-state area. Whether visiting the area for the first time, or being stationed in NYC, knowledgeable USO volunteers can help make your visit memorable. USO centers provide a warm and comforting place where service members can connect to loved ones online or phone, play a video games, catch a movie, snack, or just put their feet up and relax. Local centers include JFK Airport, Newark Liberty Airport, Fort Hamilton, and Times Square. All the centers are staffed with amazing and dedicated volunteers. – metrony.uso.org

Travelers Aid JFK Airport: A Helping Hand Along the Way

252,739......that is the number of passengers assisted by Travelers Aid at JFK Airport in 2021.

Operated by Travelers Aid International (TAI), the mission of this 501-c-3 non-profit organization is to aid people in transit who are in distress or are experiencing unexpected challenges in making cross-country connections.

Travelers Aid at John F. Kennedy International Airport is part of a network of 20 other Travelers Aid Transportation Centers, which includes airports, train stations and bus terminals. The JFK Airport program provides direct services and services provided by their member organizations and is funded by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Since 1957, when Travelers Aid opened its first information booth at what was then New York International, more commonly known as Idlewild Airport, Travelers Aid

has assisted passengers at the airport who experience problems such as missed airline connections, flight delays and lost luggage.

At the heart of Travelers Aid are its dedicated core of volunteers who staff their information desks and can guide passengers with answers to questions about the airport or the New York metropolitan area. In the year 2016 alone, volunteers at JFK Airport assisted more than 440,000 passengers. With a warm welcome, volunteers help passengers navigate the airport by providing flight information, lodging, transportation options or guidance on making a connecting flight. The Travelers Aid professional staff manages the volunteer program and offers social service referrals to individuals and families that are stranded or encountering challenges while at the airport.



Travelers Aid International exists with a constant vision to ensure that people in transit receive assistance when and where it is needed in communities and travel hubs throughout the country. TAI remains committed to uplifting the human experience, using the skills and talents of a diverse group of volunteers and trained staff and their programs share a combined passion and desire to create a culture of caring and support.

Visit www.travelersaid.org/jfk for additional information about volunteer opportunities. ■



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Port Authority Announces New Girl Scout Patch Program

Partnership to prepare young women for careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

On March 7, 2022 the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey announced a new partnership with Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey (GSHNJ) for a new educational patch program to educate and prepare Girl Scouts for careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The program kicked off with a virtual panel in celebration of International Women's Day and Women's History Month and is designed to build a pipeline for the next generation of women leaders.

The new initiative stems from a comprehensive report by the Port Authority's Leadership Steering Committee on Race Dynamics, which outlined 25 actions and recommendations to be implemented as the agency continues working toward new standards of excellence in achieving racial and cultural diversity in the workplace. Those recommendations included fostering increased engagement between the Port Authority and communities in which the agency operates. This new program with GSHNJ will help expand leadership and STEM-focused educational opportunities for New Jersey Girl Scouts.

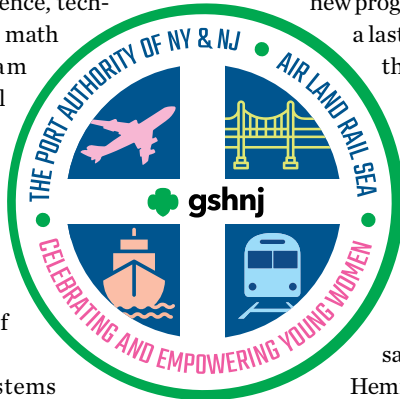
"We are excited to embark on this new partnership with the Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey to bring STEM-focused educational opportunities to Girl Scouts throughout our region," said Port Authority Chairman Kevin O'Toole. "We are especially proud of the work of the Port Authority Women's Council and Leadership Steering Committee for their vision to create a program to prepare and empower the next generation of women leaders."

"The new patch program will enable the Port Authority to educate and inspire countless young women on the amazing opportunities that exist in the STEM fields

throughout the agency," said Port Authority Executive Director Rick Cotton. "We want to deliver on our promise to increase engagement and opportunities for communities in which the agency operates and this new program will allow us to make a lasting impact in the lives of these future leaders."

"The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has created a world-class transportation infrastructure, which is essential to the economic growth and vitality of our region," said GSHNJ CEO Natasha Hemmings. "We are thrilled to partner with an entity that places emphasis on diversity and inclusion and supporting a sustainable environment.

And we look forward to collaborating on ways to educate and inspire our next generation of female leaders. Together we will shape the future of our female workforce one Girl Scout at a time!"



"It has been privilege to work alongside the Leadership Steering Committee members to create and establish this wonderful program for future young ladies to be interested in STEM," said Cynthia Lindner, immediate past President of PAWC. "We are so proud to have this lasting legacy that we can leave within the agency."

The new Port Authority patch and program with GSHNJ will include activities in partnership with the Port Authority Women's Council, whose mission is to enable and empower women to thrive in their careers at the agency. The program will allow Girl Scouts the opportunity to meet and learn from PAWC members. Activities will include mentorship, virtual workshops on leadership and career development, STEM topics, community service, and entrepreneurship opportunities.

The new patch program is open to any member of the Girl Scouts and will provide scouts with the opportunity to learn from agency staff, develop life and critical thinking skills, and provide for engaging activities that will enable participating Girl Scouts to earn a patch for their success.

As a leader in regional transportation systems, the Port Authority has championed trailblazing women in various STEM fields and beyond.

To learn more about the new Port Authority patch program for the Girl Scouts, visit www.gshnj.org. ■

About the Port Authority Women's Council

The Port Authority Women's Council (PAWC) is one of eight Employee Business Resource Groups that assist the agency with core business objectives such as recruitment and retention of employees, internal employee outreach, and establishing nurturing community relationships. The PAWC seeks to prepare members for opportunities and programs at the Port Authority to advance in leadership roles; to provide networking and information sharing platforms to aid in career development; help women navigate through the agency and to address issues specific to women in the workplace; to celebrate women role models; to educate about different career journeys and lessons learned along the way, and to inspire women to own their careers and find their unique career paths.



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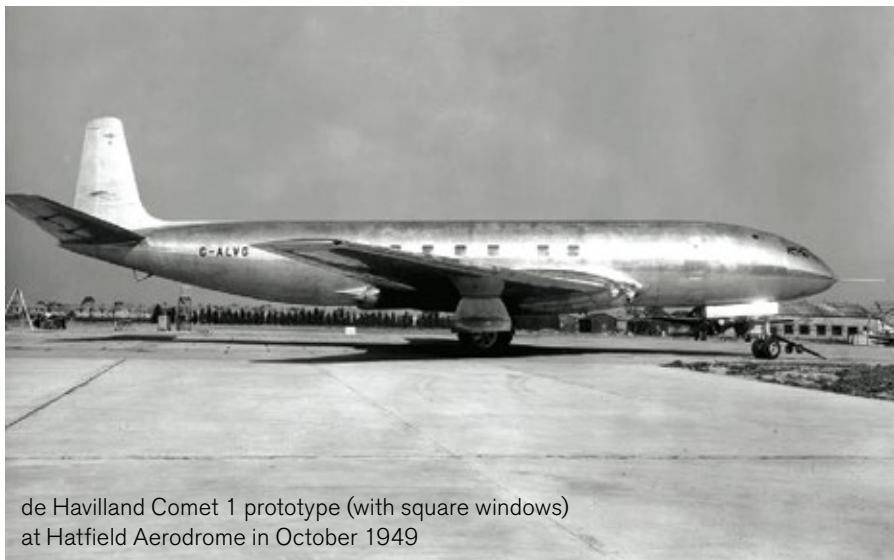
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The Transatlantic Jet Race



de Havilland Comet 1 prototype (with square windows)
at Hatfield Aerodrome in October 1949

BY ROBERT G. WALDVOGEL
robert077@optimum.net

If the Atlantic could be considered a vast aquatic race track, then the US and the UK were the countries that competed to cross it. Both battled to be the first to reach the other's side in what became the transatlantic jet race, pitting flag carrier BOAC British Overseas Airways Corporation against "chosen instrument" Pan American World Airways. New York served as the former's destination and the latter's origin. But the supplier of their aircraft seemed the least likely to do so--the UK's de Havilland Aeroplane Company, whose last major airliner, the DH.95 Flamingo, only attracted 16 sales because of World War II, and the Boeing Commercial Airplane Company, whose B-247, B-307 Stratoliner, and B-377 Strato-cruiser orders were hardly higher.

Pinnacle-of-Piston Airliners

Although aircraft such as the Douglas DC-7C "Seven Seas" and the Lockheed L-1649A Starliner represented the pinnacle-of-piston engine types and could cross the Atlantic in both directions without payload restrictions or the need for intermediate-stop refueling, their speeds had reached a plateau. Anything higher, which would

reduce travel times, required a new power-plant type--in this case, the pure-jet engine, whose limited application had so far only been of the military kind. Both de Havilland, with its DH.106 Comet, and Boeing, with its 707, would change that.

The de Havilland Comet

Conceived as an Atlantic mail plane and named after the DH.88 Comet racer to reflect its speed, the DH.106 Comet featured 20-degree swept-back wings, four 4,450 thrust-pound Ghost 50 Mk 1 centrifugal turbojets installed in the wing root, a conventional tail, and accommodation for 36 four-abreast passengers.

"The first flight, conducted by aircraft G-ALVG on July 27, 1949) lasted 31 minutes," according to "The Comet Emerges" article in the *de Havilland Gazette* (No. 52, August 1949, p. 17). "In the course of it, (Chief Test Pilot) Cunningham climbed to 10,000 feet, tried out the general handling qualities of the aircraft over a range of low and medium speeds, and flew along the runway at 100 feet in salute to several hundred members of the de Havilland technical and experimental departments... Handling was thoroughly satisfactory in every respect..."

BOAC inaugurated the first scheduled Comet 1 jetliner service, in cooperation with South African Airways, on May 2, 1952, carrying 30 passengers on the Springbok route from London to Johannesburg and completing the multi-sector flight in 12 hours, 37 minutes. The type replaced the piston-powered Handley Page Hermes.

While the Comet took "the first pure-jet airliner" title, its success was not sustained.

On January 10, 1954, when aircraft G-ALYP, the first production example, took off from Rome at 10:31 after a refueling stop on the multi-sector routing from Singapore, now bound for London, it inexplicably exploded off the island of Elba, bursting into flames and plunging into the ocean and taking the lives of all 35 on board with it. Three months later, disaster once again befell the aircraft and once again during a climb-out from Rome. On April 8, 1954, aircraft G-ALYY, operated by South African Airways, took off at 18:32, ascending through 28,000 feet, bound for Cairo, when it exploded and plunged into the Mediterranean Sea off of Stromboli, also killing all on board.

Four days later, the Comet's certificate of airworthiness was withdrawn and it was grounded. Had the jet age come before its time, it could only be wondered?

The Boeing 707

Some 5,000 miles across the very Atlantic that the Comet had hoped to conquer, another contender was taking shape to do so--the Boeing 707.

Significantly differing from the DH.106, it featured 35-degree swept wings and four cowlings-encased, pylon-mounted, 9,500 thrust-pound Pratt and Whitney JT3P turbojets.

Piloted by A. M. "Tex" Johnston and R. L. Dick Loesch, the aircraft, at a 110,000-pound gross weight and sporting its brown and canary yellow livery, was "cleared for a north takeoff" and rotated at 125 knots, disengaging itself after a 2,100-foot acceleration run at 14:14 local time and executing its initial climb out over Lake Washington.

It served as the prototype of the first production version, the 707-120.

Continued On Page 25



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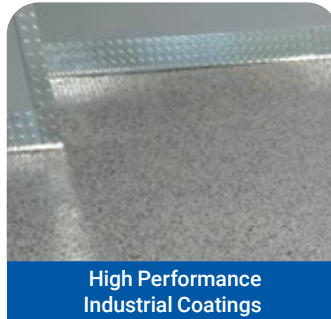
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The Transatlantic Race

Although the Comet appeared to have been defeated, it achieved ultimate victory. Neither jet engine technology nor the speed it brought had been the culprit behind its inexplicable accident history, but the insufficiently thick fuselage skins, subjected to double piston airliner altitude pressurization, had—its very design flaw.

After a four-year grounding and the most extensive aircraft accident investigation ever undertaken, the definitive, extensively modified version, the Comet 4, appeared with thicker, fatigue-resistant aluminum alloy skins, a 111.5-foot length, 15 oval windows per side to eliminate sharp cutouts, a 76-passenger capacity, and four 10,500 thrust-pound Rolls Royce Avon 524 engines.

The way the Comet 1 had launched the jet age and inaugurated scheduled jet service, it only seemed logical, to do the same across the Atlantic, perhaps achieving the aircraft's rightful reward, which it did on October 4, 1958.

Piloted by Captain Roy Millichap, aircraft G-APDC was accessed by a mobile boarding stair at London-Heathrow Airport that day, in front of which was an arch that proclaimed, "BOAC Comet 4: First-Ever Transatlantic Jet Service."

It symbolically represented the re-established jet age and the beginning of a new era—that of pure-jet service across the Atlantic Ocean.

Jet flight was like no other. Because of the lack of propeller vibration, the smoother air of high-altitude cruise, and the increased vertical distance between the aircraft and the ground, de Havilland described the experience as "motionless travel eight miles high."

"There is a strange sensation of being poised motionless in space, which is quite a new experience, and intensely pleasurable....," according to the "Simplicity: The Secret of the Comet" article in *Enterprise: The Internal Magazine of the de Havilland Companies* (April 1950, p. 8). "Instead of being in a vehicle, one seems to be seated in a room, which is located above a painted scene. In a turn it is the scene which appears to move around."

The New York Times touted the Comet's



The Boeing 707 prototype aircraft built by Boeing to demonstrate the advantages of jet propulsion for commercial aviation.

ultimate technological triumph in a headline that read, "British Gloat as Their Comet Wins Race to Inaugurate Transatlantic Jetliner Service."

Aircraft G-APDB, operating the first eastbound transatlantic crossing from then-named Idlewild International Airport, did so nonstop, touching down in London after a mere six hours, 12 minutes, competing with and beating Pan American.

Twenty-two days later, that very carrier's aircraft N711PA, named "Jet Clipper America" and operating as Flight PA 114, made its own historical oceanic crossing. Powered by four Pratt and Whitney JT3C-6 engines, it departed New York-Idlewild with four cockpit and seven cabin crew members and 40 first class and 71 coach passengers, touching down in Paris-Le Bourget eight hours, 55 minutes later after a one-hour, seven-minute refueling stop in Gander. 707-121 service was subsequently extended to Rome on November 9 and London on November 16.

Stephen Eastman, a Boeing employee who took the inaugural flight, wrote, "Some (of the passengers) were veterans of air travel who normally would have been settled down with ear plugs, blankets, and pillows to endure the 12 or more hours of punishment from noise, vibration, and buffeting in rough air at lower altitudes (in propeller aircraft)," as noted by Sam Howe Verhovek in *Jet Age: The Comet, the 707, and the Race to Shrink the World* (The Pen-

guin Group, 2010, p. 205).

During the first two weeks of Pan Am's transatlantic 707 service, it carried 1,098 first and 1,853 coach class passengers on the route, achieving more than a 95-percent average load factor.

Long-Term Runner

Although Boeing lost the race, it perfected the long-term run. Because neither the Comet 4 nor the 707-120 were considered true transatlantic airliners and therefore required their intermediate refueling stops, BOAC operated its last New York service with the British type on October 16, 1960, replacing it with the Boeing 707-420. Pan American replaced its own original short-body 707-121 with the 707-320. Both introduced increased-capacity fuselage stretches, modified wing planforms, and higher rated engines for true transatlantic-range capability, demonstrating that, while Boeing's contender failed to win the coveted "first across the Atlantic" award, it succeeded in achieving the "sustained one." ■



Robert G. Waldvogel has spent thirty years working at JFK International and La Guardia airports with the likes of Capitol Air, Midway Airlines, Triangle Aviation

Services, Royal Jordanian Airlines, Austrian Airlines, and Lufthansa in Ground Operations and Management. He has created and taught aviation programs on both the airline and university level, and is an aviation author.



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FAA Gives the Green Light to Privatize East Hampton Airport

Town of East Hampton Special Procedures Expected to Be Available Upon Opening of New, Private Use Airport on May 19



As owner and sponsor of East Hampton Airport on Long Island, the Town of East Hampton is in the process of changing the airport's status from public-use to private-use. When the new private-use airport opens, it will do so as a prior permission required (PPR) facility. In coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration and navigation charting cycles, the deactivation will occur at 11:59 pm on May 17th and activation of the new private-use airport will occur at 9:00 am on May 19th.

The Town is committed to ensuring that the status change is as least disruptive to aviation as possible. As part of this status change, the Town of East Hampton is working with an FAA-approved third-party vendor, Flight Tech Engineering, as well as the FAA itself to develop and implement Special procedures—privately owned instrument flight procedures that are approved by the FAA—in order that instrument flight rules operations will be available and permitted at the new private-use airport. Flight Tech is a third-party Navigation Services Provider and flight operations consulting firm with expertise in assessing, designing, implementing, and flight validating instrument flight procedures.

Flight Tech has designed and implemented instrument procedures at airports throughout the United States and works with airports and operators of all sizes to improve access to their facilities. Flight Tech uses the same tools as the FAA and other government organizations which allows it to recreate the actual flight paths

and obstacles each aircraft encounters which are different than those covered by PART 77 protection surfaces. Additionally, Flight Tech provides airport and aircraft operators with a broad array of survey, feasibility, performance, and other consulting services for both private and public applications.

Following the completion of an aeronautical study conducted by the Federal Aviation Administration under the provision of Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulation, the FAA issued 'Notice of Airport Airspace Analysis Determination Establish Private Use Airport **Conditional No Objection**'

The notice issued to the Town of East Hampton on March 18, 2022 states, 'This private use airport will not be eligible for FAA funded Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs). Private Use airport sponsors must either enter into a reimbursable agreement with the FAA and pay for all development and maintenance costs associated with new requested special instrument flight procedures, or the airport can work with an FAA approved 3rd party instrument flight procedure developer directly and pay all associated Page 2 of 4 costs related to development and maintenance costs to that 3rd party developer for special instrument flight procedures.'

In both cases, such developed special IFPs will not be published in FAA publications, nor will they be available to the general public for use. Only those entities specifically authorized by the airport owner will have access to use those special IFPs. The airport operator will provide the IFR procedures to the authorized users. Based upon data from the prior public-use airport, use of the Gulfstream-IV (Cat D) required a Cat D traffic pattern. No traffic pattern overlaps were discovered with neighboring private-use airports, 49NY, NY03 and 80NY, therefore No Objection.'

Visit www.ehamptonny.gov to read the report in its entirety ■

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NON-REV TRAVELER

A Three Day Trip to Panama City



Delta Airlines recently began flying nonstop from JFK to Panama City, Panama, four times a week. Since the flights were new and an easy non-revenue standby, we decided to visit this city. Truthfully, we were so disappointed with our previous visit to Panama's other canal city, Colon, that we were compelled to visit what is called "The Dubai of Central America", Panama City.

Panama City is a very worthwhile destination and is very different. Colon is devastated and under major construction, whereas downtown Panama City has many modern tall buildings with unique architecture.

We stayed at the Westin Playa Bonita Beach Hotel, a 20-minute drive from

downtown Panama City and 17 miles southwest of the Tocumen International Airport. Even though this hotel's location is considered in Panama City, it is not a city-type hotel. It is located on the beach with beautiful tropical foliage and is in a remote area outside of the city. There are six pools overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Unfortunately, this part of the beach is not enticing for swimming. There are significant tide swings, and at low tide, the water seems to disappear from many parts of the ocean close to shore. You can see this problem all over Panama City during extensive low tides.

We arrived in the afternoon on our first day, so we decided to relax at the pool. A Delta co-worker from Panama has a close friend who lives in Panama City. This friend

became our tour guide as we explored downtown Panama City. We were first driven around the entire city to view the vast number of buildings. We then proceeded to the Casco Viejo (Old City), a World Heritage site by UNESCO. This part of the city is great for walking, with its narrow streets and influences of Spain.

We viewed historic cathedrals, plazas, quaint restaurants, bars, and shops. We then proceeded to an area named Amador, a short drive from the downtown via a causeway over the Pacific Ocean. Amador consists of mostly marinas, with walkways that have beautiful views, restaurants, bars, and a major duty-free store that we shopped in.

The COVID protocols still prevail in Panama. Masks are required everywhere inside. However, we noticed that a lot of people wore masks outside. Also, COVID Tests for international travel back to the United States were hard to come by. The airport offered the test for \$50.00 a person, and the Westin hotel offered the same test for \$75.00 a person, administered at the hotel. Luckily, we packed 2 Abbott Diagnostics Binax Now COVID Ag Card Home (Zoom) tests which are approved for travel. We used them for the first time, and they worked very efficiently and at the cost of \$64.00 for two tests. Negative COVID tests are not required for entry into this country, but vaccinations are.

The Tocumen International Airport has built a beautiful new addition to the old terminal, and very soon, the airport will offer a modern train directly to downtown at the cost of \$1.00 each way.

Two additional facts about Panama are to be noted. The sun rises in the Pacific and sets in the Atlantic. The capital is only 9 degrees north of the equator, and therefore, the average temperature is 75 to 90 degrees all year round. **MAUREEN KATZ**



UPCOMING EVENTS

The most comprehensive listing of New York & New Jersey airport and aviation events found anywhere online. www.metroairportnews.com/airport-events

April 6 – 10:00am

LAAMCO Monthly Meeting
LaGuardia Airport, Terminal B,
Queens, NY 11371
www.laamco.com

April 6 – 11:30am

**2022 Bishop Wright Aviation
Industry Awards Luncheon**
Russo's On the Bay
Howard Beach, NY 11414
www.christfortheworldchapel.org

April 11 & 25 – 7:00pm

**Civil Air Patrol
Falcon Squadron Meeting**
JFK Airport, Building 14, Jamaica
Jamaica, New York 11430
www.falconsquadron.cap.gov

April 12 – 6:00pm

**Republic Airport
Commission Meeting**
VIRTUAL EVENT
www.republicairport.net

April 12 – 5:30pm

**PAPD Emerald Society General
Membership Meeting**
Harbor Light Pub
Rockaway Park, New York 11694
www.papdemeraldsociety.com

April 13 – 10:00am

KAAMCO Members Meeting
TWA Hotel
Jamaica, New York 11430
www.kaamco.org

April 14 & 28 – 12:00pm

**LGA Kiwanis Club
Monthly Meetings**
LaGuardia Airport Marriott Hotel
East Elmhurst, New York 11369
www.lgakiwanis.org

April 14 – 5:30pm

**JFK Airport Rotary Club
Dinner Meeting**
RSVP to admin@jfkrotaryclub.org
Vetro Restaurant & Lounge
Howard Beach, NY 11414
www.jfkrotaryclub.org

April 18 – 9:00am

JFK Airport Security Hiring Event
CAO - New York Career Center
Jamaica, New York 11432
www.caonynj.com

April 20 – 9:00am

JFK Chamber of Commerce Meeting
JFK Airport, Building 14,
Main Conference Room, Jamaica, NY
www.jfkccoc.org

April 21 – 9:00am

Customer Service Hiring Event
CAO - Newark Career Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
www.caonynj.com

April 24 – 9:00am

**JFK Airport Rotary Club
Run the Runway 5K**
JFK Airport, Jamaica, NY 11430
www.jfkrotaryclub.org

April 24 – 6:00pm

**PanAm Museum Foundation
Presents: Operation BabyLift**
Cradle of Aviation Museum
Garden City, New York 11530
www.thepanammuseum.org

April 28 – 6:00pm

**JFK Air Cargo Association
Monthly Meeting**
VIRTUAL EVENT
www.jfkaircargo.aero

April 28 – 11:45am

**The Wings Club Foundation
April Luncheon**
Yale Club of New York City
50 Vanderbilt Ave, New York, 10017
www.wingsclub.org

April 28

**School Sisters of Notre Dame
Shuffle into Spring**
Honoring Cheryl Jones, Royal Waste
Villa Russo
Richmond Hill, NY 11419
www.ssndecwomens.com

April 29 – 6:00pm

F-14 50th Anniversary Reunion
Cradle of Aviation Museum
Garden City, New York 11530
www.thepanammuseum.org

May 18

**Global Foundation for
1st Responders Golf Outing**
Stonebridge Golf & Country Club
Smithtown, NY 11787
www.globalfirstresponders.org

June 2

Casino Night at Vaughn College
Benefitting The Thomas A. Broschart
Memorial Scholarship
TWA Hotel
New York, New York 11430
www.vaughn.edu/casinonight

June 8

LIBAA 18th Annual Golf Outing
Rock Hill Country Club
Manorville, New York 11949
www.libaa.org

June 10

LGA Kiwanis Club Annual Gala
Leonard's Palazzo
555 Northern Blvd
Great Neck, NY 11021
www.lgakiwanis.org

June 20

2022 KAAMCO Golf Tournament
Garden City Country Club
Garden City, NY 11530
www.kaamco.org

June 25

**The Semantics
36th Annual Fishing Trip**
Sailing out of Freeport, NY
www.thesemantics.org

August 1

JFK Rotary Club Golf Outing
Brookville Country Club
Glen Head, NY 11545
www.jfkrotaryclub.org

August 18

The Semantics Golf Outing
Harbor Links Golf Course
Port Washington, NY 11050
www.thesemantics.org

September 10

**LGA Kiwanis Club
Kids Day at LaGuardia Airport**
LaGuardia Airport
East Elmhurst, New York 11369
www.lgakiwanis.org

September 12

**JFK Chamber of Commerce
Golf Outing**
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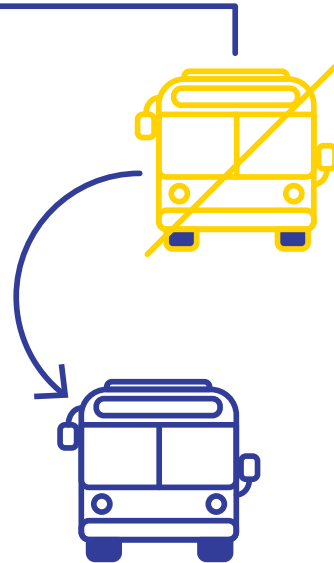
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Bus Stop Relocation

As we build a Whole New JFK, the bus stop currently serving Terminal 5 will be relocated.

STARTING MARCH 27



B15, Q10 and Q10 LTD service will no longer stop in the Central Terminal Area and will be relocated to the Lefferts Boulevard AirTrain Station. Free transfer to AirTrain JFK serving all terminals will be available. Customers wanting to go to the North and South Service roads can transfer to the Q3 at Lefferts Boulevard AirTrain Station or the PA Shuttle route at Federal Circle AirTrain Station.

Q3 service will no longer stop at Terminal 5 but make a new stop at Terminal 8. The route will also extend to the North and South Service Roads terminating at the Lefferts Boulevard AirTrain station. Passengers will be able to make a free transfer between bus routes at Lefferts Boulevard.

Relocation of the bus stops is necessary to begin work on the new Terminal 6. We apologize for any inconvenience as we build a better JFK.

