

MEADOW LAKE AIRPORT (kFLY)

13625 Judge Orr Road, Meadow Lake Airport (kFLY), Falcon/Peyton, Colorado 80831-6051

www.MeadowLakeAirport.com

Newsletter - 1st Quarter, 2013

GRANTS APPROVED ... CONSTRUCTION BEGINS !

On March 14th, the Colorado Aeronautics Board approved a grant of \$400K to the Meadow Lake Airport to be combined with the already approved FAA/CDOT grant carried over from 2012 for initial development of our west side. The project has been designed with 3 schedules:

- I rehab B1, construct new Connector B2, reconstruct Taxiway Bravo between B1-B2, and construct a run-up area at the north end of Bravo;
- II remove and replace ramp leading to the Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) hangar, and construct transient apron (Phase I);
- III reconstruct extension of Taxiway Bravo south to the Johnston (old Penkhus) taxiway.

A request for bids had previously been advertised and three companies bid on the construction project (Jviation remains the lead for design and oversight). Martin Marietta Materials submitted the low bid and has been awarded the contract. Construction is currently scheduled to begin on Wednesday, April 17 and should be completed in 5-6 weeks. **NOTE:** There will be a 5-7 day closure of the Runway 15/33 when construction vehicles are operating within the Runway Safety Area to construct the B1 & B2 connectors. Other short periods of 30 minutes to an hour or more may also occur. Check the MLAA website, the kFLY NOTAMS and AWOS for announcements of these closures. An MLAA member will also advise pilots via radio of these occasions. Tentative plans are for a ribbon cutting of the new facility on May 25th (weather permitting proper construction).

MLAA Annual General Membership Meeting

The Annual MLAA Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm at the MLA O&M Hangar. This is the off-year for elections (the current Board having been elected last year for a two-year term), but a significant By Law revision is being proposed to realign the duties and responsibilities of the MLAA management with respect to development of MLAA owned on-airport properties and private properties having "through-the-fence" access to the airport. The meeting agenda and Bylaw proposal will be published this week and we encourage all members to join in this important discussion over the coming month and at the meeting.

Capital Projects Update

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Our 2013 projects use FAA AIP (Airport Improvement Program) and CDAG (Colorado Discretionary Aviation Grants) as follows:

	<u>FAA AIP</u>	<u>CDAG</u>	<u>MLAA match</u>	<u>total</u>
➤ Turf Rwy Environmental Assessment (CDAG-12)	---	82,800	9,200	92,000
➤ Taxiway Bravo Upgrade (Ph I) (AIP-21 & CDAG-12)	323,406	17,021	17,021	357,448
➤ Bravo Run-up, Transient Ramp (Ph I), Bravo (CDAG-13)	---	400,000	44,444	444,444

Turf Runway The Environmental Assessment is progressing and the draft report is under review. A slight delay was encountered last fall with a requirement by El Paso County to extend the General Aviation Overlay (GA-O) of Meadow Lake Airport to the southern properties purchased in 2004. That extension was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on November 29th and progress on the EA resumed. We expect final FAA approval soon. With April and early May to mow, fill holes and remove cactus, we hope to have the runway open for operations during the second quarter.

**PLEASE DO NOT USE THE NEW TURF RUNWAY UNTIL THE EA IS APPROVED
AND WE HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT IT IS OPEN FOR USE !!**

Access Control (“on airport” fencing, gating and “easement” controls) Steelock Corporation completed construction of the west-side fencing, the Cessna Drive access gate, and traffic management controls throughout the hangar area. We’d like to re-emphasize that the Cessna Drive gate is an access control measure, NOT a security gate. Unlike commercial service airports (with TSA regulations), drivers entering/exiting Meadow Lake ***DO NOT*** have to wait and block the entrance while the gate is closing. Please feel free to allow the other vehicle entering or exiting to continue through after you. During winter weather events, we raise the gate to the open position to prevent drifting and ice buildup on the entrance side of gate. Proceed through the open gate with care. Remote openers are available (\$25) ... contact Jeff Moore (494-9110) or Mike Barr (287-4204)

Taxiway Bravo Upgrade. Bids for a combined contract for fencing/gating and asphaltting last year were much higher than anticipated and unacceptable, so the paving was separated from the 2012 fencing project. The original project included an overlay to B-1, remove and replace the northern part of Bravo, and construct a new B-2 intersection. We worked with the FAA ADO and CDoT/Aero to combine that project with 2013 grants to expand the project to include a Bravo run-up area, Phase I of a transient ramp along Bravo, and an extension of Bravo to the south. Additional expansion of the ramp as well as Bravo and Westside access is programmed in the CIP for the future. Construction should take place in April/May with May 25th as a target completion date (although the paint contractor will return in June to complete striping). The B-1 & B-2 connectors onto the main runway will require short term closure of the runway ... we will try to issue as much advance notice as possible.

Main Runway Overlay. It is too early to report on the actual plans to resurface the main runway, but we want everyone to start thinking about that very significant project for Meadow Lake. Asphalt runways are normally expected to have a 15-20 year life span. Our runway is 23 years old and our CIP currently projects grant funding for 2016-2017 for this estimated \$1.5M project. That includes an estimated \$120K “local” match from the airport sponsor, i.e: MLAA. The Board is attempting to rebuild our runway reserve so that a Special Assessment will not be required, but we need everyone to be diligent in submitting their annual assessments and to look for ways to volunteer where appropriate to help us keep our costs down. One program the Board undertook this past year was to purchase a crack-filling machine, so that we can maintain the runway on our own. We had several members, and some non-members, volunteer their time for an afternoon or two this past October, and we will need additional help each summer to keep this runway in operation pending the overhaul. We have projects in the CIP for 2014 and 2015 that we may defer if rebuilding our reserves becomes a higher priority than spending local funds to match grants. The current CIP will be presented at the GMM on May 14th.

Safety Corner

From time to time, the Board is contacted by pilots and local residents (and occasionally authorities) concerned about some aspect of flying activities. Officially, our public response is that the Board’s responsibility and authority is strictly limited to providing a safe operating environment for a pilot-in-command to exercise their prudent judgment; i.e. we have no direct control or authority over pilots using our facility. Unofficially, and very informally, we have on occasion mentioned to a specific pilot that there is an interest in an event that brought attention to their flying. We will not act as enforcers or pretend to be sky cops, but once in a while there may be something that is significant enough to publish for everyone to consider.

We lost another member of the Meadow Lake airport community this past week in a very unfortunate accident. Our sympathies go out to their family and friends. Our safety comment involves the follow-up to the incident. The aircraft departed Oklahoma Monday afternoon bound for kFLY. A family member contacted us Tuesday afternoon stating that they had not been able to reach the flyers and asked if we could confirm if they had arrived. At first we thought they were a transient visiting the area, but when it was determined that the aircraft was a tenant on Meadow Lake, we were able to use our based aircraft “census” to determine which hangar the aircraft should be in. We confirmed that their vehicle was still here and their aircraft was not. The FAA was then notified of the “overdue” and search and rescue operations were initiated. The mishap site was located Wednesday afternoon. Had the accident been survivable, the following safety considerations could have been significant: (1) although they did get a weather briefing from FSS, they did not file or activate a flight plan;

(2) apparently they did not use flight following (if something abnormal happens in flight, it can help to already have communication with someone that knows who and where you are; (3) their aircraft registration was on file with Meadow Lake (ed. note: in my Coast Guard career, we encouraged boaters to provide a photo to a family member, friend, or neighbor, so we had a description of what to look for if the vessel became overdue). We get 3-4 calls a year from FSS and other search & rescue authorities (not Revenue/Tax Depts!) looking for aircraft (usually one that forgot to close a flight plan) and we do go out to verify the arrival. It really helps to know what and where to look.

EAA CHAPTER 72 (EAA 72)

Please take time to visit our website at <http://eaa72.org>, sign up for the electronic newsletter, and above all **join EAA Chapter 72**. Call me at 719-351-1640 or email sandymartin@earthlink.net if you have questions.

Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 PM.

Visit website for program information, Young Eagle Rallies, and other events.

AVIATION EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF COLORADO (AEFCO)

We encourage you to stop by at the MLLA Hangar and see our students in action or visit our website at <http://aefco.org>.

Applications for the Summer Program, 8 full days in June, are being accepted until May 22, 2013. If you have sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, in high school, and they are interested in flying, have them visit our website and consider applying for this program.

Contact Richard Martin at (719) 683-6587 or email wemartin@sprintmail.com for additional information.

HIGH FLIGHT SOARING CLUB (HFSC)

High Flights is looking forward to getting our tow plane back in the air in early May. After having it returned to service in mid-December, the engine failed to pass annual and had to be overhauled. We have 17 new members, only 2 of which are currently pilots. We are supporting the Soaring Eagle Foundation's Wounded Warrior Project with the flight training of their participants and did fly 8 of the Wounded Warriors the first weekend in April. We looked forward to getting our flight training on track with the return of the tow plane.

More information is available on the website: <http://highflights.com> or contact John Scott.

HYDROWINCH - SOARING EAGLE FOUNDATION (SEF)

Hydrowinch is ready to roll! As soon as the turf runway becomes operational, we will begin operations. In addition to working with High Flights Soaring Club, we will be training Wounded Warriors through Soaring Eagle Foundation.

More information is available on the website: <http://www.hydrowinch.com> or contact Randy Rothe.

Soaring Eagle Foundation has completed ground school for our first class of Wounded Warriors, and completed a highly successful fly day on 6 April using the facilities of High Flights Soaring Club. All SEF students have become HFSC members, and will continue to fly throughout the Spring and Summer, taking their Private Pilot checkrides later this year. There has been a great deal of support for our warriors from ASA publications, Lasergrade, Soaring Society of America and other organizations with contributions of materials.

More info is available on the website: www.soaringeaglefoundationusa.com or contact Randy Rothe

COLORADO ROTORCRAFT ASSOCIATION (PRA 38)

Saturday, March 2nd was our first Quarter 2013 Chapter meeting. We have gained 2 new members ... our total chapter membership is now over 35. Our next chapter meeting – 2nd Quarter – May 4, 10am @kFLY.

Annual Rocky Mountain Rotorcraft FLY-IN ... Sept 13-14-15 @ kFLY

Meeting schedule, calendar and directions published on Chapter 38's web site at: <http://www.PRA38.org>

PIKES PEAK POWERED PARAGLIDER CLUB (PPPPC)

Members of the Pikes Peak Powered Paragliding Club are eagerly awaiting warmer weather and calmer winds that summer promises. We have increased our membership somewhat by training several new PPG pilots, one of which we recruited from the fixed wind ranks that's been flying his airplane at Meadow Lake for many, many years. We are currently training three more potential pilots to add the Meadow Lake aviation community and hope to increase our awareness to the public.

In addition, Standard Operating Procedures for the powered paragliders operating out of Meadow Lake Airport have been approved by the Board and are posted on the MLAA and PPPPC websites.

More info is available on the website: www.poweredparaglidingcolorado.com or contact Mathew Wich

MEADOW LAKE CALENDAR

Apr 16 MLA Airport Operators Group ... 4:00 pm, MLA O&M Hangar
 MLAA Board Monthly Meeting ... 5:00 pm, MLA O&M Hangar
 EAA Chapter 72 ... 6:30, MLA O&M Hangar

Apr 17 Taxiway Bravo & Transient Ramp construction begins (thru May 24th)

Apr 20 EAA Young Eagles Rally (alternate site due to construction: Cessna Drive & Crosswind)

Apr 30 MLAA 2013 Annual Assessments (membership dues) deadline

May 14 ***MLAA Annual General Membership Meeting ... 6:30 pm, MLA O&M Hangar***

May 18 ***“International Learn to Fly Day”***
[kFLY Turf Runway Commissioning \(tentative date\)](#)

May 25 **[EAA 72 FLY-IN ... Young Eagles Rally](#) ... see website <http://eaa72.org> for details**
[kFLY Taxiway Bravo - Transient Ramp Ribbon Cutting \(tentative date\)](#)

Jun 11 MLAA Board Monthly Meeting ... 5:00 pm, MLA O&M Hangar

Jun 19-28 AEFCA Summer Academy

Jun 22 EAA Young Eagles Rally

MEADOW LAKE COMMUNICATIONS

How to Get Information: **Airport Website:** www.MeadowLakeAirport.com (shortcut = kFLY.us)

If you are a member of the MLAA, or a based pilot, please send us your e-mail contact info. We provide info on taxiway & runway closures and TFRs by e-mail. Sign up for news alerts at: info@meadowlakeairport.com

MLAA Scheduled Board Meetings: Second Tuesday of every month at 5:00 pm
 13560 Piper Lane, Meadow Lake Airport. (MLAA Hangar) **All members welcome**

Officers, Directors, Liaisons:

President	Dave Elliott	interagency coordination, ACC	falcon20flier@msn.com	(719) 339-0928 (cell)
Vice President	Mark Shook	MLA website, AWOS	mark@meadowlakeairport.com	(719) 641-0460 (cell)
Secretary	Scott Dedeker	member communications, ACC	sdedeker@coflying.com	(719) 201-0723 (cell)
Treasurer	Jeff Moore	financial management, ACC	jtg.moore@gmail.com	(719) 494-9110 (cell)
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Liaison	Mathew Wich	Pikes Peak Powered Para-gliders	sungwich@me.com	(719) 360-9424 (cell)
Liaison	Lee Wolford	AOPA ASN representative	leefly@sprynet.com	(719) 338-1370 (cell)