

BAYOU AVIATION



LA DOTD Aviation Newsletter Volume VI

December 2016

Let's Whirl in 2017

By: Janet Gonzales

Louisiana Regional Airport Manager

On March 11, 2017 the NOLA 99s are again organizing a Fly it Forward event at Louisiana Regional Airport. The NOLA 99s have been supporting the World Wide Week for many years with the goal of introducing more girls to aviation. <http://www.womenofaviationweek.org/get-involved/fly-it-forward-flights/>



The NOLA 99s are pleased to have EAA 244 volunteer pilots assist with the flights. Jointly our goal is to introduce 108 girls of any age to aviation during our 2017 WOAW activities. Together we challenge more pilots and airports to join us. Across Louisiana there have only been two airports where WOAW activities have been held. Organizing the Fly It Forward activities has become increasingly easier over the years, even for flying events. If you have any questions about how to get started here is the official iWOAW site: <http://www.womenofaviationweek.org/about/women-of-aviation-week/#>

The 2017 iWOAW theme should motivate lots of Louisiana aviation interest, considering the large helicopter industry in the state ... it was 1937 when Hanna Reitsch took the controls of a Focke-Achgelis 61 helicopter and became the world's first female

helicopter pilot. In celebration, the theme for the 7th annual Women Of Aviation Worldwide Week, March 6-12, 2017, will be "Let's whirl. 80 years of female helicopter pilots."

To celebrate Hanna Reitsch's breakthrough and highlight helicopter aviation, the Institute for Women Of Aviation Worldwide (iWOAW) will broadcast interviews of women involved in all aspects of helicopter manufacturing and operations throughout the Week and encourage event organizers to share them with their local guests.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

AVIATION SECTION

1201 Capital Access Rd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Phone: (225) 379-3050

www.dotd.la.gov/aviation

AVIATION TEAM

Bradley Brandt	Director
Michael Burrows C.M.	Assistant Director
LaToya Joseph	Administrative Asst.
Allen Taylor	Airways Manager
Danielle Gaylor	Program Manager
Jason Duet	Program Manager
Christina Wilson	Program Manager
Joshua Duplantis	Program Manager
Tonjia Summerell	Asst. Program Manager
Heidi Higginbotham	Asst. Program Manager
Robert Sehon	Safety Officer
Jason Ball	Safety Officer





From the Director's Chair

By: *Bradley Brandt*
Aviation Director

In September 2016 the staff and I had the privilege of attending the Annual Louisiana Airport Managers and Associates Conference in Covington, LA. It is very important to me that we as a staff can attend these important events to have a chance to learn from presenters and vendors at the conference and to refresh and strengthen our relationships with our stakeholders. It also allows opportunities to put a name with the face in regards to new staff members, airport managers, and new state officials to name a few. This year it was my pleasure to announce that under the newly created Office of Multimodal Commerce, Governor Edwards appointed Mr. Tommy Clark as our first Commissioner of Multimodal Commerce. Commissioner Clark will lead a team housed in DOTD that consists of the Aviation Division, Rail Division, Ports and Waterways Division, and Commercial Trucking Division. It is an exciting time in Multimodal Commerce as Commissioner Clark has begun developing and implementing his plans and goals moving forward.

He has challenged us to adapt our management and administration of our programs to consider more of a commerce component and return on investment to the state of Louisiana and the various modal systems. We have also been challenged to demonstrate adaptability in fulfilling and implementing the Statewide Airport System Plan and incorporating the goals and objectives of the system into our multimodal commerce plan.


In an effort to work towards achieving those goals and objectives, our staff has started work on the 2017-2018 Airport Construction and Development Priority Program. We are currently evaluating the project applications and applying the scores to effectively prioritize our list of projects for the 2017 Legislative Session which begins in April. We will again be prioritizing \$28.4 million of state funding in construction and infrastructure investment projects

at 70 public airports throughout the state. Many of these project are also funded by the Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Program (AIP) at an annual average amount of \$60 million. For more information of previous funding programs and projects that may have been funded in your area or at your airport, please visit our website at www.dotd.la.gov/aviation.

During the conference, I also made a presentation on the Airport Safety Inspection Program. To date, our inspectors have inspected over 27 private heliports, 64 public airports, 17 private airports and have worked approximately 20 new landing area facility registrations.

Please be reminded that when our inspectors come out to inspect your airports, they are inspecting for: Exposed Pavement Edges > (3 inches), any runway or taxiway lights out, navigational aids, obstructions in the approach corridors, and basic airfield maintenance. You should receive a letter from your inspector advising you of your upcoming 5010 inspections approximately two weeks before the actual inspection. Following the inspection, you will receive a detailed follow-up report with any deficiencies that were found during the inspection. To better assist in incentivizing the airport owner of these issues, we request the airport send a letter of response to the inspector to acknowledge the deficiencies and how the airport plans to resolve them. If a letter is received within 30 days of the inspection, our team will be able to award an additional 10 points to your project requests that are prioritized in our funding program in accordance with state policies. When we rank projects—those 10 points can make a big difference!

If you have any questions or need further information regarding our programs please do not hesitate to contact our office.

In closing, I wish all of you a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. 

Bradley R. Brandt
Aviation Director



Allen Taylor Honored with the Charles E. Dunbar Award

Allen Taylor, Engineering Technician DCL in the Aviation Division, has been chosen as one of twelve Charles E. Dunbar recipients this year.

The Dunbar Award is the highest honor classified state employees can receive for their service to the citizens of Louisiana. The Civil Service League bestows the award on local, state and municipal civil service employees who distinguish themselves through unselfish service to the citizens of Louisiana. Nominees are judged on commitment to the classified service, contributions toward workplace improvement, personal initiative and volunteer community service.

The award is named after the founder of the League, Charles E. Dunbar, Jr., who is responsible for spearheading the effort to establish a classified workforce that would be governed through merit system principles.

Allen began his DOTD aviation career in 1994. He is responsible for airport obstruction analysis, instrument approaches, navigational aids, lighting, R & D, developing standards, inspections, final acceptance for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and State funded projects. He budgets and administers expenditures of over \$950,000 of State Aviation Trust Funds annually. He coordinates the work of a multitude of contract technicians at over 70 publicly owned airports, plus giving guidance to numerous aviation facilities statewide. "Safety First" is Allen Taylor's motto when planning and completing projects for the Louisiana system of airports. He sits on national boards establishing standards for aviation equipment and safety. He shares his expertise by many times taking the lead as project officer for the Airport Operations and Maintenance Workshops. These are highly effective in expanding the knowledge and skills of airport managers and maintenance technicians throughout the state. He works with the FAA to develop new instrument approach procedures using new GPS technology. He reviews, interprets, and applies the published federal advisory circulars, proposed guidelines, and regulations to statewide airport's Airport Layout Diagrams (ALD), which are highly complex and contain critical safety considerations. Each and every project impacts instrument approach procedures to increase operational safety and enhance the utilization and economic development potential

of Louisiana's system of airports. As a nationally recognized expert, he is often called upon to author articles that are used to develop the FAA's Advisory Circulars. Exploring multiple funding sources and consolidating contracts to reduce mobility cost, he increased the number of NAVAID and lighting projects by over 300%. Constantly in pursuit of new technologies, he instituted the state-wide FOD BOSS sweeper acquisition, giving airports the ability to keep pavements free of aircraft damaging debris. Over 50 letters of appreciation attest to the gratitude the aviation community has for Allen's service. His extensive experience and integrity insures a degree of credibility with our investors. What he does, better than anyone else is to simply make flying safer. Allen is married to his wife Nancy of 41 years and they have a son, James, who is 27 years old. January 2017 will be 23 years employed with the State of Louisiana.

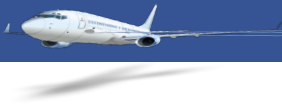


Tommy Clark Commissioner Multimodal Commerce

Mr. TommClark was recently appointed by Governor John Bel Edwards as the first Commissioner of Multimodal Commerce, a newly formed office within the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to enhance the state's focus on multimodal transportation.

Mr. Clark commenced a 25 year career in 1978 with Kansas City Southern Railway Company, a class-1 rail transportation company, providing transportation solutions throughout North America. He led and directed various management positions, including industrial development, total quality management, electronic data interchange, interline service management, highway/rail grade crossing safety, government affairs and community relations.

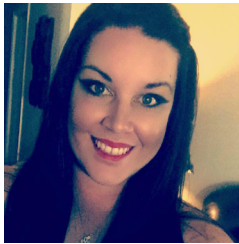
He voluntarily left KCS in 2000, forming his own consultancy firm, Clark & Associates, LLC, specializing in government affairs, community/ stakeholder engagement, multimodal transportation, and economic development. During this time, Clark represented several governmental organizations, NGO's, small, medium and large companies, was involved in several political campaigns, ran for political office, and was appointed by two Louisiana Governors to four gubernatorial boards and commissions, among them, the LIIEP Commission and Chairman of the I-49 North Funding and Feasibility Task Force. In addition, Mr. Clark was a member of or served as chairman to numerous civic and community boards, as well as executive



committees of various industry trade associations.

Clark was recruited to join Petrohawk Energy in 2011, responsible for managing community and government relations in the Haynesville Shale. He was subsequently appointed and relocated July 1, 2013, as Head of Corporate Affairs, Shale for BHP Billiton's Petroleum headquarters office in Houston, Texas, responsible for strategy and policy development, issues management, government affairs, community relations and stakeholder engagement.

Mr. Clark and his wife, Marie, have two children, Justin and Danielle, and three granddaughters.



Shelly Cummings St. Landry Parish Airport Manager

Shelly is originally from Opelousas and began working for St. Landry Parish four years ago in the parish president's office. Eight months later she received a promotion and began working at the St. Landry Parish Airport as the finance assistant / assistant manager, where over the next three years she received management training from the previous airport manager. She has enjoyed working with DOTD and the FAA on various projects. She is looking forward to the future, working with the aviation community and continuing to grow the St. Landry Parish Airport.



Anthony Marino Retires from his position as Director of Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport

Anthony Marino recently retired from his position as Director of the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport; a position he held for 21 years, from 1995 until October of this year. Prior to becoming the airport's Director of Aviation, Mr. Marino worked in the City of Baton Rouge, Parish of East Baton Rouge finance department from 1971 until 1974. In 1974, Mr. Marino transferred to the airport as an accountant. In 1976, Mr. Marino became the administrative assistant to the Director of Aviation, and became the Assistant Director of Aviation in 1981.

As Director, Mr. Marino initiated a comprehensive master plan for the future development of the airport. Under his leadership, the antiquated airport terminal building was completely renovated and expanded to a 200,000 square foot, \$42.0 million modern facility with three multilevel parking garages serving more than 800,000 passengers annually. Realizing that the airport could not be totally dependent on airline revenues, he diversified a revenue stream and developed a multitude of non-aeronautical revenues sources, including the Delta/ASA Regional Jet Maintenance Facility, Western Operations; a Transportation Security Administration training facility; \$180 million Coca Cola Bottling distribution facility; an air cargo and air carrier parking area; and hangar facilities for Shaw Group and Albemarle Corporations and Dow's corporate jet facility. Mr. Marino also led the effort to have the airport recognized as a foreign trade zone and enterprise zone.

As a result of his innovative strategies in revenue development, the airport's revenues have increased by 64 percent since he became Director of Aviation in 1995. With no local funding available from the City of Baton Rouge, Parish of East Baton Rouge, Mr. Marino embarked on a campaign to raise funds for projects from more than 16 different sources including the U.S. Congress, the Federal Aviation Administration, and Louisiana Economic Development, while incorporating ingenious traditional and alternative financing methods. As a result of his efforts, the airport has \$87,960,147 in projects funded and underway, and completed \$238,616,127 in projects from 2005 to 2008.

Mr. Marino has been married to his wife Susan, for 43 years. Together they have two daughters, Marissa and Christy.



Inspector's Report: Let's Talk Dirty

By: *Robert Sehon & Jason Ball*

Aviation Safety & Compliance Officers

Let's get down to the nitty gritty, or in this case, the down and dirty. Are your airport's markings faded or are they just dirty??? Mold, mildew, and algae on your runway markings can cause you markings to all but vanish and could be causing many negative effects on your airport's performance. Not only will your markings look faded or non-existent, but the friction coefficient of your pavement could be severely reduced. Mold, mildew and algae attach to the pavement and markings, identified by a black residue clinging to all of the surfaces. How can you tell if it is one of these or something else? Here's one of the simple tests you can perform for determining your specific issues and some possible solutions.

Self- test: The first thing you can do is test your



markings on your own to verify that it is indeed mold, mildew, or algae that is present on your pavement marking area. A small amount of water and a brush or in my usual scenario, a shoe, can remove a small bit of the dark area covering the paint. If you see brighter paint coming through, you are more than likely dealing with mold, mildew, or

algae.

If you determine that you do indeed have this problem, there a few different things you can do to try and remedy the issue and restore your markings back to intended visibility. The first thing you can do is spray the markings with a diluted bleach solution, let sit, and agitate with a brush. Historically we have seen this neutralize the growth and after rain or water hits the markings, the mold/mildew should wash away. This may not entirely rid your markings of their shroud but it should make a significant difference in partial visibility of your markings and pavement. There are companies that sell chemicals that are environmentally friendly to remove the mold/mildew from your pavement as well.

The most effective way to remedy the effects of mold, mildew, and algae on your airfield is using a power washer to wash away all of the dark colored material. The power washer will remove most, if not all of the mold/mildew but over time the surface will again be covered. This solution works the best but it is not without a lot of effort. There are companies who have built special trailers with water operated brush heads to increase the efficiency of this process, but they come with a high price tag.



One solution we are currently looking into is including an additive into the paint that would deter the mold, mildew and algae from growing there. Early estimates show that this process is not a large addition to typical pricing and would benefit most airports in the state.





2017 Louisiana Art Contest

By: Tonjia Summerell

Assistant Aviation Program Manager

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) is pleased to announce the 2017 Louisiana Aviation Art Contest sponsored by the Aviation Section. The theme for this year's contest is "Beyond the Clouds."

Students, ages 6-17, are encouraged to create artwork based on the use of this year's theme in relation to the aviation world. Participants are encouraged to visit and learn more about their local airports by visiting our website and locating the airport nearest to where they live. The intent of the contest is to encourage young people throughout Louisiana to become more familiar with and participate in aeronautics, engineering, and science.

Entries will be judged in six classes as determined by the age of the participant on December 31, 2016. The contest classes will contain the following age groups: Class I-Ages 6 to 7, Class II-Ages 8-9, Class III-Ages 10-11, Class IV-Ages 12-13, Class V-Ages 14-15, Class VI-Ages 16-17.

Completed artwork must be received by the Aviation Section no later than Friday, January 20, 2017. Entries must be sent to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Aviation Section, Attention: Ms. Tonjia Summerell, P.O. Box 94245, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245. Local and state aviation officials will select three winners per age category, resulting in a total of eighteen winners. Winners receive aviation-related prizes appropriate to the age group and will also earn the opportunity to compete in the National Aviation Art Contest in Washington, D.C. Please visit our website to view the official contest brochure or contact the Aviation Section for additional information at 225-379-3053.



*2016 Winners from Sacred Heart High
Ville Platte, LA*



*2016 Winner from Elton High School
Elton, LA*



*2016 Winners from St. Theresa Middle
Gonzales, LA*

Contest Deadline

Entries must be received by **Friday, January 20, 2017**. Entries must be sent to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Aviation Section at the following address: Questions call: (225) 379-3053

**LA DOTD Aviation Section
Attention: Ms. Tonjia Summerell
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245**

Theme

This year's theme is "Beyond the Clouds." We live beneath the clouds. We look up and see them stand stationary or speed across the sky. We see them reflect the bright colors of the sunrise or sunset. They turn dark and purple, letting us know a storm is coming. We see almost every aspect of clouds, except what they look like from above.

Above the clouds is a space known only to those who dare to break the bounds of earth. Some soar in hot air balloons, gliders and hang gliders, floating across the sky with the clouds. Others fly in planes, as pilots or passengers, watching the clouds and earth race by below. Specially trained pilots in rugged aircraft fly into storm clouds, taking measurements that help those on the ground predict where the storm will go. Those in helicopters can stand still, like clouds on a still day, or can fly across the sky high and low. Aerobatic pilots love clear skies, so those below can watch their amazing feats of flight. Intrepid aviators on the ground send up weather balloons almost to space, both for science and for the amazing pictures that can be taken only when you get above the clouds.

The world of aviation is always changing as each new generation of pilots and designers bring their vision of flight to the world. Now it's your time to grab your favorite art supplies and turn your imagination loose!

Good Luck! **We encourage you to visit an airport near you that is having an aviation event and experience for yourself the joys aviation has to offer.** Art work will be judged, at least in part, for its creative use of this year's theme in relation to the aviation world. For more information about Louisiana aviation or aviation in general, please visit the following web sites:

- <http://www.LaAviator.com>
- <http://www.eaa.org>
- <http://www.aopa.org/av8rs>
- <http://louisianairports.org>
- http://www.dotd.la.gov/intermodal/imt_airport_directory.asp
- www.nasao.org

Phone: (225) 379-3050
Fax: (225) 379-3072



2016 2nd Place-Ages 10-11
Jenna Tramonte-St. Theresa Middle



2016 2nd Place-Ages 8-9
Jordan Wingerter-St. Theresa Middle

Eligibility

All children in the age groups shown below are encouraged to participate in the contest. Entries will be judged in six classes (determined by age of the entrant on **December 31, 2016**).

Class I-Ages 6 to 7 / Class II-Ages 8 to 9/ Class III-Ages 10 to 11 / Class IV-Ages 12 to 13 / Class V-Ages 14 to 15/ Class VI-Ages 16 to 17

2017 Louisiana Aviation Art Contest



2016 1st Place-Ages 8-9
Lola Avery-St. John Primary



2016 1st Place-Ages 12-13
Paola Alarcon-Chateau Estates



2017 Louisiana Aviation Art Contest



Contest Rules

Format

The required format for artwork is 11 x 17 inches or, if this is unobtainable, the nearest possible equivalent. Artwork must NOT be framed or outlined with borders.

Medium

All artwork must be done by hand (or, in the case of physically challenged children, by foot or mouth).

Any of the following media are permitted: Watercolor, acrylic, oil paint, indelible marker pens, felt-tip pens, soft ball-point pens, indelible ink, Crayola or similar indelible medium.

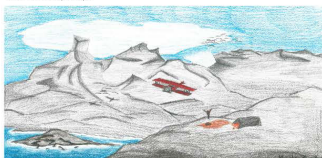
The following media are NOT permitted: Pencil, charcoal or other non-permanent medium, computer generated artwork, collage work involving the use of photocopiers.

Markings

The following details should be clearly shown on the back of the art: Title, family name, given name, address, date of birth, parish of residence, name and address of school which child attends, certificate of authenticity.

Reproduction Rights

Once received, entries will become and remain the property of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Aviation Section and may be used for a variety of reasons. Those forwarded for national judging become (and remain) the property of the Federation of Aeronatique Internationale (FAI).



2016 3rd Place-Ages 14-15
Martin Bustos-Chateau Estates

Contest Supporters

The 2017 Louisiana Aviation Art Contest is sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Aviation Section. In cooperation with the support of the Louisiana Airport Managers and Associates (LAMA), Local Chapters of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), and the Aircraft Owners and Pilot's Association (AOPA), we are engaged to encourage young people to become more familiar with and participate in aeronautics, engineering, and science. For more information, contact the local EAA Chapter or the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Aviation Section.



1201 Capitol Access Road
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

<http://www.dotd.la.gov/aviation>

Certificate of Authenticity

Name*(Please Print Legibly) _____
 6-7 8-9 10-11 12-13 14-15 16-17
 Age Group (age on 12-31-2016)

Date of Birth* _____ Home Phone Number* _____

Home Address* _____

City* _____ State* _____ Zip* _____

School Name* _____

School Address* _____

City* _____ State* _____ Zip* _____

Teacher's Name & Email* _____

School Phone Number* _____

I/We certify that this is the original and unassisted artwork of:

Name of Entrant (Please Print Legibly)* _____

is a resident of: _____
 Name of Parish* _____

Name of Teacher, Parent, or Guardian* (Please Print Legibly) _____

Teacher, parent, or guardian's signature* _____

T-Shirt Size of Entrant* _____

Certificate signed by artist's: Teacher Parent Guardian

Entries must be received by the LA DOTD Aviation Section by January 20, 2017.

When affixing this certificate (or a photocopy) to the artwork, make sure it is fastened by tape or gluestick (please affix registration form after artwork is completed). **In addition, please legibly print the name of the artist on the back of the artwork.** Artwork should be sent to LA DOTD Aviation Section.

*The artist's date of birth, address, and telephone number are required for contest eligibility. Adult entrants please make certain these fields are filled out correctly.

*Required Field



A Gaylor Scoop : Southland Field

By: Danielle Gaylor
Aviation Program Manager



Everyone is aware of the struggle the aviation community is currently undergoing with the slow decline of aviators. A southwest airport, Southland Field, who is managed by West Cal Airport Managing Board has a history of trying to replenish the aviation community by conducting outreach to local area schools in their community. Their mission statement is “If we can influence our youth at an early age to inspire them to further their mind and learn new things, our goal has been fulfilled”. The board brought on Tim LaFleur, a retired Louisiana State Trooper as Airport Manager to assist them with this endeavor. Along with duties of managing the airport he also has hosted a Louisiana Aviation Career Education (ACE) camp and conducts approximately 6 airport tours a year that can include up to 60 students in each. He learned the importance of reaching out to the youth from his days with the State Police. He was constantly enlisted to participate in numerous school activities along with the Troop D/PPG annual kid camps.

Tim doesn't do it alone. He relies on his trusted staff and the tenants of the airport, especially a group called Friendships Unlimited. They are a Christian based non-profit organization that assists worldwide with disaster relief and assistance. Friendships have a volunteer group called “Seahawks” who have young men and women between the ages of 18-25. Seahawks are an elite force of people helping build character spiritually, mentally and physically while being trained and participating in domestic and international relief. They have assisted Tim with dressing up as Disney characters to entertain the children as they are taken around the airport and introduced to aviation for the first time. The students have the chance to see up close how an airport works and how it can give back to the community. Now the newest tenant, First Flight Holdings, affiliated with the employee village has joined the endeavor in providing local schools monetary donations and free lunches in the new state of the art cafeteria located on airport property, along with lodging to ACE camp staff. It seems to be a great

team effort in southwest Louisiana to bring the youth into the aviation industry.

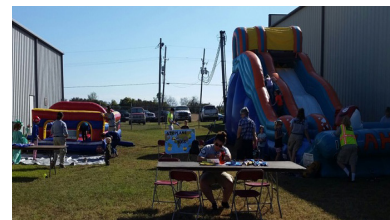
A Gaylor Scoop: Airshow



Vicksburg-Tallulah Regional Airport was host to Southern Heritage Air Foundation's Best Little Air Show in the World on October 14th and 15th. The interest has grown over the years but no one could predict that just the twilight show would entice over 400 times what it had in 2014, per the foundation's president Patty Mekus. The airshow itself welcomed beautiful weather and some great shows.

This year's event featured new aerial acts along with an expanded kids' zone which featured inflatables and activities to teach children about aviation and its history. The show had more vendors with a selection of food that anyone could find something they liked. For the people who like speed but not necessarily height you could drive a Lamborghini or Ferrari down the same runway that the P-51 Mustangs used. In addition to everything new the show had the staples like the AeroShell aerobatics team and the fire jet truck.

It was especially a nice treat to be entertained by the Victory Bells from the National WWII Museum in New Orleans, LA which took us on a nostalgic journey through the WWII-era musical classics. All proceeds for the Best Little Air Show in the World supports the Warrior Bonfire Project, an organization that benefits members of the U.S. Military who have been wounded in combat.





Flooded Roads Do Not Stop Pilots

By: Newsletter Editor

Southern Louisiana suffered from unexpected amounts of rainfall in a short period of time that led to one of the most devastating floods in history. After the rains subsided, pilots from North Louisiana took to the skies in hopes to help their friends and neighbors. Six aircraft full of supplies, donated by locals in North Louisiana, arrived at the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport ready to give hope to those affected by the flood waters.



“Having witnessed the flooding disaster in the Baton Rouge area, Philip, volunteer pilots and their families, generously gathered three plane loads of supplies to donate to area flood victims. While not considered part of their usual mission, the selfless actions of these volunteers speak volumes of their generous spirit.

After meeting Pilots for Patients President, Philip Thomas, and the other pilots at the Baton Rouge airport and receiving their generous donation, the items were immediately driven to our Catholic Charities Distribution Center where they were sorted and packaged for delivery to area shelters. Days later, I had the opportunity to accompany Bishop Robert Muench, Bishop of the Diocese of Baton Rouge, on a visit to the Baton Rouge River Center shelter and witnessed firsthand the impact of Pilots for Patients’ generosity and kindness. Evacuees were provided with needed supplies and they repeatedly expressed their sincere gratitude for the compassion of others.”

*Tammy V. Abshire, CFRE
Director of Stewardship
Diocese of Baton Rouge*



All pilots were part of the Louisiana Based Non-Profit, Pilots for Patients. They reached out to the Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge, whom sent several vehicles to the airport to pick up the supplies. The Director of Stewardship for the Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge would like to express her gratitude for the selfless acts of kindness and generosity that was received by Pilots for Patients in support of flood victims in the area.



Pilots for Patients was not the only group of pilots to help during the floods. Gulf Coast Aviation collaborated with Lakefront Airport in New Orleans to fly two aircraft with \$300 worth of supplies to the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport.

We are very proud of the Aviation Community we have in Louisiana for stepping up and using their skills to help others in times of need. Louisiana has some of the most elite pilots with such generous hearts and we thank you all.





2016 ACE Camps

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD), Aviation Section, in its continuing efforts to reach out to young people and introduce them to aviation and flying, held its 4th annual Louisiana Aviation Career Education (ACE) Camp Program. DOTD Aviation, in partnership with LaAviator.com and Louisiana Airports, co-sponsored two, week-long camps that were aimed at high school students between the ages of 15 and 18 considering a career or hobby in aviation.



Louisiana Regional Ace Camp Tours the Baton Rouge Air Traffic Control Tower.

This year's Ace camp host airports were Louisiana Regional in Gonzales and Southland Field in Sulphur. Both camps were a huge success in educating the youth of Aviation.

During the course of the week, participants were introduced to a wide variety of aviation career opportunities, from commercial pilot to airport management. They participated in hands-on activities related to various aviation topics, such as power plants, flight instruments, airports, flight safety, aeronautical charts, airspace, pilot math, and leadership training. The content of the material presented focused on four major components: Airplane & Aviator, Airport Environment, Weather Environment, and Airport Design.



LA DOTD Southwest Program Manager, Tina Wilson, educates campers on Airport Planning, Project Management and Funding.

The ACE Camp was taught by an elite group of college professionals who are majoring in Aviation at the University of Louisiana at Monroe and Louisiana Tech University. The college students were great motivators and educators to the campers.



Overall the camps were a huge success and both campers and counselors were sad to see the weeks end. LA DOTD Aviation would like to thank both airports for hosting these educational camps, all of the sponsors, guest speakers and staff who helped make this educational experience possible. We hope to continue the effort in educating the future of

"My Favorite part of the ACE camp was visiting the tower and seeing how radar and communication technologies work"

-Camper at Southland 



Are you interested in a career in aviation? Louisiana has wonderful colleges with great aviation programs to kick start your career!



Louisiana Tech University:

B.S. in Professional Aviation &
B.S. in Aviation Management



University of Louisiana at Monroe:

B.S. in Aviation &
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in UAS
Management



Southern University Shreveport Louisiana:

Certificate in Airframe and Powerplant
Maintenance



SOWELA Technical Community College:

FAA-Certificated AMTS Associate of
Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance
Technology



Baton Rouge Community College:

Associate of Applied Science in Helicopter
Pilot Operations