



NEWS RELEASE

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Pilots recognized for completion of aviation ambassador program

SUFFOLK—The Virginia Department of Aviation (DOAV) recognized 28 pilots for completing its Virginia Aviation Ambassadors Program (VAAP) at the Virginia Regional Festival of Flight in Suffolk on May 30.

The VAAP encourages people to experience all of Virginia's public-use airports, visit the aviation museums, participate in at least one safety seminar and attend the Virginia Regional Festival of Flight. To participate in the program, pilots must get their Virginia Aviation Ambassador passport stamped at each location, earning recognition along the way. Bronze recognition for 25 airports, four aviation museums, a safety event and attendance at the Virginia Regional Festival of Flight is an Ambassador Cap and lapel pin. Silver recognition as the Ambassador reaches 50 airports is a pilot flight bag. The Gold recognition for visiting all 66 airports is a leather flight jacket with the Virginia Aviation Ambassador logo embroidered on the front.

"This program is an extraordinary opportunity for pilots, aviation enthusiasts and the general public to see the valuable economic assets in our system of airports," said Randall Burdette, director of DOAV. "It gives pilots and riders alike an opportunity to set and meet goals in their flying and sightseeing, and experience all that Virginia aviation has to offer while having fun with friends and family."

The following people were recognized for completing the program at the Festival of Flight:

Shannon and Tessa Beebe of
Invergrove, Minn.
David A. Bernarckt of Gates, N.
C.
Robert C. Brammer of Roanoke
Joyce Chewning of Partlow
Peter Coen of Poquoson
Hubert Compton of Orange
Wayne Derrington of Gates, N.C.
Richard Dykes of Culpeper

Dale Fowler of Smithfield
Debbie and Chuck Gallaway of
Fairfax Station
David Grow of Gloucester Point
Greg Hermanson of Alexandria
Martin and Alexander Hobson of
Clifton
Clifford Jordan of Woodbridge
James R. Maliwauki of
Mechanicsville

Brian McKeehan of Mechanicsville
Kevin Moore of Oakton
Mary C. Mott of Chesapeake
James L. Murphy of Fredericksburg
Jennifer Price-Singleton of Salem
Jeff Williams of Partlow
Cathy and Dudley Wireman of
Stafford
Lloyd Wood of Colonial Heights
Ronald E. Wray of Chester

Since the program's start in 2005, 191 people have become Gold-level Virginia aviation ambassadors. A special thanks goes to Heart of Virginia Aviation, Hanover Airport and Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society for their assistance in sponsoring the Virginia Aviation Ambassador Program.

To see the entire list of Gold Level Aviation Ambassadors or learn more about the Virginia Aviation Ambassador Program visit us on our web site at www.doav.virginia.gov.

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