

# WHITEMAN AIRPORT



American Airports Corporation

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## *State of Aviation...*

Dear Fellow Pilots,

As *Chairman of American Airports*, I wanted to write you a quick note about the state of our industry, and more specifically, the Los Angeles County Airport System.

As background, American Airports Corporation began operating the Los Angeles County Airport System in November of 2000 when we acquired the contract from Comarco. However, our background in aviation began in the mid-1980s with the development of Supermarine of Santa Monica, a full-service FBO.

My passion for aviation extends far beyond those dates, having become a Navy pilot in 1955, and since that time have accumulated more than 5,000 hours. The first plane I bought was a T-34, and since, I have owned a variety of planes including a Cessna 210, Jetstar, P-51, Stearman, Zero, ME109, and most recently, a King Air 90. In fact, I even founded and funded the *Museum of Flying* in Santa Monica, which you may have visited, and which I hope to reopen in 2007. Needless to say, I love aviation.

Unfortunately, the cost of aviation has risen dramatically: first, with the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks and their impact on insurance; and then with the recent hurricanes and their impact on fuel prices. As a company, we deplore these cost increases because they discourage our customers from flying. However, on a more positive note, pilots have benefited from the relatively nominal increase in rents, especially when you consider what has happened to all real estate types in California. Specifically at the LA County airports, month-to-month hangars are only increased annually by the CPI, which, when compared to double-digit home appreciation of the last 5 years, is very reasonable. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about fuel costs.

Today's fuel is extremely expensive (consider what you pay for auto gas). On occasion, we have had complaints about our pricing of fuel at the County airports. American Airports performs monthly surveys to determine local competitive airports' fuel prices.



David G. Price  
AAC Chairman  
& CEO

Typically, our pricing falls somewhere in the middle of the group, in spite of the fact that we pay a fuel flowage fee per gallon of \$.25 more than most airports. Although American Airports is currently the only fuel seller in the County system, it is not an exclusive arrangement. The margins in the retail fuel business are very small, and when you consider the small amounts of fuel that are bought at each of the airports, the ability of multiple operators to survive is remote. In fact, in the last 5 years, we were approached twice about this possibility, and both operators declined when they learned the fuel volumes.

The good news is that we are working hard with the County to improve the airports. Our contract with the County requires that we provide maintenance, and the County pay for replacement items and major capital projects. I'm certain you have noticed the beautification projects we have performed around the airports as well as the new furniture that we have provided in the pilot lounges. We are in discussion with the County about building a new terminal at Whiteman, and hope that over time, we can provide significant improvements to other airport facilities.

Since we began operating the System, we have paid to the County over \$14,000,000 in rent and fuel flowage fees, which have been deposited in the Airport Improvement Fund. We strongly believe that if the County itself ran the airports, there would be no monies available for this Fund.

We continually strive to replace non-aviation users with aviation users, recognizing that they don't buy fuel. However, this is an ongoing battle as many non-aviation types have been at the airport for an extended period of time or are not honest about their use. This problem seems to be growing, simply because the non-airport real estate is so much more expensive than airside real estate.

We care immensely about these airports and you, and solicit your feedback for making them better. Also, it seems like every month there is a battle to close an airport for real estate development. Rest assured, that we will always fight to keep the Los Angeles County airports open to general aviation. Thank you for your commitment to aviation and our great system.

~ David G. Price, Chairman

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## News & Announcements:

### **DEFEAT AB 2501 NOW!**

AAC joins AOPA in its call to action to defeat a measure that could negatively impact GA aircraft operations in CA. For more details on this issue, read AOPA's article at: [www.aopa.org/whatsnew/newsitems/2006/060530ca.html](http://www.aopa.org/whatsnew/newsitems/2006/060530ca.html) and then *please* contact your state assemblyperson and urge him/her to oppose AB 2501!

**No July Commission Meeting** – See you in August!

## For Sale or Lease:

### Brackett Airport: (909-593-1395)

- Tie Downs – From \$52.00 / month
- D Row Hangar – From \$381.68 / month
- L Row Hangars – From \$251.39 / month
- Commercial, Terminal and Office Space for Lease
- Land for Development

### Compton Airport: (310-631-8140)

- Tie Downs – From \$71.00 / month
- M Row Hangar – From \$443.75 / month
- D Row Endroom – From \$219.84 / month
- M Row Endroom – From \$158.76 / month

### El Monte Airport: (626-448-6129)

- Tie Downs – From \$60.00 / month
- For Available Hangars, Call the Airport Office

### Fox Airfield: (661-940-1709)

- Tie Downs – From \$54.00 / month
- 700 Row Hangar – From \$337.92 / month
- Land for Development

### Whiteman Airport: (818-896-5271)

- Tie Downs – From \$76.00 / month

## From the Manager:

### Runway Closure:

Whiteman Airport is scheduled to have the runway closed for three consecutive days for the completion of a new slurry seal project. As soon as I have the exact construction dates, I will post notices and issue a NOTAM. At this point, the runway closure will be on the days of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, to be completed sometime during the period of July and August. The taxiway portion of the project will be completed in two phases, and this will take longer than the three-day runway closure. I will keep all users posted as soon as the information is issued to me.



**Hangar Waiting List:** Whiteman Airport currently has a hangar waiting list of approximately 30 people. Though we will be conducting hangar inspections later this year, if anyone is aware of any non-aviation use of a County hangar on their hangar row, please report the hangar number to Airport Administration. It is our goal to accommodate those people on the hangar waiting list who have airplanes.

**Calling for Fuel:** When calling for fuel, please remember to use either the **Unicom Frequency (122.95)** or the fuel phone number **(818-312-2911)**.

**Driver Safety:** This is always an important safety issue here at the airport. We are all aware that driving your vehicle in the taxiways can cause an extremely dangerous situation to quickly materialize. Please remember that aircraft have the right of way at the airport. Please drive slowly.

**FAA Monthly Seminars:** There is an FAA Safety meeting every month. To find out the date and topic of the meeting, please go on the web to: <http://faasafety.gov>. It will be held in the CAP trailer.

**Support your Airport Association:** Please come out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month to **Rocky's Restaurant**, and join the Airport Association. For \$10 a year in dues, you can help provide input on how to better run your airport. July's meeting is on the 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 pm.

*Christine Elwess, Airport Manager*

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### **Need Fuel?**

Call on UNICOM 122.95 or by phone at  
818.312.2911

**AAC Customer Service:** (310) 752-0578  
or email [AACService@americanairports.net](mailto:AACService@americanairports.net)

**Accounting Customer Service:** (310) 752-0559

**Our website:** [www.americanairports.net](http://www.americanairports.net)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1/2 - Compton Antique Aircraft & Auto Display: 9am-4 pm @ CPM
- 3 - Pacoima Rotary Club at Whiteman: 6:00 pm @ WHP Rocky's
- 4 - EAA Chapter 49 at Fox: 7:30 pm @ WJF Terminal Building
- 5 - PEMA at El Monte: 6:00 pm @ EMT Terminal Building
- 5 - CAP Squadron 35 at Whiteman: 7:00 pm @ WHP CAP Trailer
- 6 - Civil Air Patrol at El Monte: 7:00 pm @ EMT Terminal Building
- 6 - Brackett Pilots' Association: 7:30 pm @ POC Pilots' Lounge
- 8 - Fox Airfield Open Hangar Day (all day)
- 9 - Whiteman Display Day: 10 am-2 pm
- 10 - Pacoima Rotary Club at Whiteman: 6:00 pm @ WHP Rocky's
- 11 - SGV Remote Control Association at El Monte:  
7:00 pm @ EMT Terminal Building
- 12 - FAA Safety Seminar at El Monte: 7:00 pm @ EMT Terminal
- 12 - CAP Squadron 35 at Whiteman: 7:00 pm @ WHP CAP Trailer
- 12 - Latin American Pilots' Assn at Whiteman: 7:30 pm @ Rocky's
- 13 - Civil Air Patrol at El Monte: 7:00 pm @ EMT Terminal Building
- 13 - Brackett 99s: 7:30 pm @ POC Pilots' Lounge
- 15 - Compton Airport Users Meeting: 1:00 pm @ CPM Admin Bldg
- 16 - Brackett Antique Aircraft & Auto Display:  
10:00 am – 2:00 pm @ POC Transient Parking Lot
- 17 - Pacoima Rotary Club at Whiteman: 6:00 pm @ WHP Rocky's
- 19 - PEMA at El Monte: 6:00 pm @ EMT Terminal Building
- 19 - FAA Safety Seminar at Brackett: 7:00 pm @ POC Pilots' Lounge
- 19 - CAP Squadron 35 at Whiteman: 7:00 pm @ WHP CAP Trailer
- 20 - Civil Air Patrol at El Monte: 7:00 pm @ EMT Terminal Building
- 20 - Whiteman Airport Association Meeting: 7:00 pm @ Rocky's
- 23 - El Monte Vintage Airplane & Auto Display:  
9:00 am – 1:00 pm @ EMT Center Field
- 24 - Pacoima Rotary Club at Whiteman: 6:00 pm @ WHP Rocky's
- 25 - SGV Remote Control Association at El Monte:  
7:00 pm @ EMT Terminal Building
- 26 - CAP Squadron 35 at Whiteman: 7:00 pm @ WHP CAP Trailer
- 27 - Civil Air Patrol at El Monte: 7:00 pm @ EMT Terminal Building
- 27 - Pomona Valley Pilots' Association at Brackett:  
7:30 pm @ POC Pilots' Lounge
- 31 - Pacoima Rotary Club at Whiteman: 6:00 pm @ WHP Rocky's