From Yuma to the World and Back!

Traveling Documents

There are some changes to travel ID requirements and the Airport wants to share this information with you to avoid any problems. TSA recently addressed the status of REAL IDs and will continue to accept air traveler’s driver licenses and state-issued identification cards from all states until Jan. 22, 2018. MVD will have the Voluntary Travel IDs available for Arizona residents to purchase by April 1, 2016. The cost for the Voluntary Travel ID is $25.00. Current Arizona license and ID card will be valid for boarding commercial aircraft until September 30, 2020. Additional information and Frequently Asked Questions from ADOT can be found by visiting http://azdot.gov/mvd/driver-services/arizona-voluntary-travel-id/faq.

Starting January 22, 2018, passengers with a driver’s license issued by a state that is still not compliant with the REAL ID Act (and has not been granted an extension) will need to show an alternative form of acceptable identification for domestic air travel to board their flight. Passengers with driver’s licenses issued by a state that is compliant with REAL ID (or a state that has been issued an extension) will still be able to use their driver’s licenses or identification cards.

Starting October 1, 2020, every air traveler will need a REAL ID-compliant license, or another acceptable form of identification for domestic air travel. Travelers are encouraged to check the REAL ID compliance status of their state on the DHS website, http://www.dhs.gov/real-id-enforcement-brief.

Air Carrier Service to Yuma

One of Yuma International Airport’s top priorities is to encourage another air carrier to provide service for our passengers. The Airport Authority met with several air carriers earlier this month to discuss optional routes and destinations. The airport will have another opportunity to meet with airlines in June. Coming soon will be a survey seeking your help to identify what locations you are most interested in traveling to so the airport can focus on those airlines. We appreciate your continued support and choice to Fly Yuma!

Suderman Breaks Record

Airshow performer Spencer Suderman broke his own 81-turn inverted record set in 2014 by performing 98 consecutive inverted flat spins in a modified Sunbird S-1x biplane on March 20, 2016 above the restricted area of the Barry M. Goldwater Range. He began his attempt at 24,600’ feet msl and recovered at 2,000’ in just under 3 minutes. Guinness Book of World Records has made it official and Spencer feels confident that his record is safe for awhile as technology isn’t yet advanced enough to lift a pilot and airplane to the altitude needed to kick the plan over and spin more than a hundred times.

Important Dates:

5/10—YCAA May Board Mtg at 4pm
6/14—YCAA June Board Mtg at 4pm
6/15—GA Social at Million Air from 5:30-7:00
6/22—Rib Cook-Off from 5:30-7pm Airport Terminal

Hangars/T-Shades:

Our hangars and t-shades are full but we are accepting applications that can be found on our website, www.yumaairport.com, click on General Aviation.
Celebrating Yuma’s General Aviation

Aviation Maintenance FBO—Skylancer Aviation

The Yuma based Aviation Maintenance (FBO), Skylancer Aviation, has partnered with Havasu Air Center to complete IFR and VFR certifications as well as GPS updates. Skylancer Operations Manager Todd Obele, shares “We have completed these services on seven Yuma based aircraft and are eager to help save Yuma’s pilots time and money by providing these and other aircraft maintenance services right here in town.” Skylancer Aviation is also a licensed aircraft dealer and can provide sales and acquisition services. “We just finished an annual which included updates on a very nice 1968 Cessna 150. This aircraft is for sale at Skylancer Aviation.” Todd also shared “In late January 2016, we continued the restoration on the Mig 21U. The Mig started and ran flawlessly! We are eager to see that bird in the sky in 2016!” The Airport encourages our local pilots and their flying friends to give Skylancer Aviation an opportunity to provide the services many fly out of town to have performed. Airport Director Gladys Wiggins added, “For many years, our flying community requested the airport team attract another aviation maintenance company, and the airport was fortunate that the owners of Skylancer wanted to open up their business in Yuma. Our hopes are as the year goes on, the existing and expanded services Skylancer offers will attract more local and maybe even out of town pilots. It is the choice of the aircraft owner and pilot, and the airport team understands. However there is nothing more convenient than using the services on the airfield where your aircraft is stored.”

Introducing A & P Mechanic Mr. Paul Pink

Mr. Paul Pink is a full-time mechanic at Skylancer Aviation and has been an (A&P) since 2008. Paul is experienced in testing and troubleshooting all facets of airframe repairs and power plant evaluation and repair. Paul is taking appointments for annuals and any other service repairs you may need. Give him a call at (928) 341-7989.

Veterans Airlift Command (VAC)

Local business owners and avid general aviation pilots Joe and Annie Fisher are even busier these days expanding their community service and appreciation for others. While attending a Citation Jet Pilots Association meeting in Houston, TX, Joe and Annie Fisher visited Universal Weather and Aviation Inc. During their visit they participated in a presentation about the Veterans Airlift Command (VAC) and the wonderful things they do for our veterans with severe injuries. These veterans often times have difficulties traveling on commercial airlines for multiple reasons. The VAC provides free air transportation to post 9/11 combat wounded service members and their families for medical and other compassionate purposes through a national network of volunteer aircraft owners and pilots. Joe and Annie Fisher have flown several Missions for VAC and are always amazed at the positive attitude and outlook of these veterans who have been through so much some have lost multiple limbs or suffered many hardships, and they understand they will deal with the consequences for the rest of their lives. It is an honor to serve those who have served our country and given so much of themselves for America. For more information on how you can become involved, please visit http://www.veteransairlift.org/.

Airport Support Network Volunteer Ken Scott

Mr. Kenneth Scott is the Airport Support Network Volunteer (ASN) for the Yuma International Airport. He is a representative of AOPA to help Protect, Preserve, and Promote our Airport. Mr. Scott earned his Industrial Technology degree in from Arizona Western College and retired from Yuma Proving Ground where he held the position of an Engineering Technician, testing Military Vehicles, Safety Officer for his division, and Safety Course Control Officer for the entire Automotive Group. He is an active member of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), where he is an active Board Member. He is a former member of the Civil Air Patrol, where he actively searched and patrolled the borders. Mr. Scott has been flying since 1995 and holds Single Engine Land (SEL), Multi Engine Lane (MEL), Instrument Flight Rules (IFR), and Complex / High Performance Ratings. He holds both Private and Commercial ratings.
Construction Projects at YCAA

Jet Blast Apron Rehab

Yuma contractor, DPE Construction, began rehabilitating the existing asphalt apron at Yuma International Airport late March. The project is located in the Southwest portion of the airport’s Defense Contractor Complex adjacent to Taxiway F and the airport’s jet blast deflector. This $2.1m project is through the grant funding of the Arizona Department of Transportation Multi-modal Planning Division Aeronautics Group. Construction oversight was awarded to the project’s engineering consultant, Huitt-Zollars.

The project includes demolition and removal of the existing infrastructure which was a combination of concrete and asphalt, grade or over-excavate the dirt underneath, and place concrete in its place. The airport installed an OxBlue camera which monitors the construction site progress with a link to the airport’s website, www.yumaairport.com, allowing the public to watch the project as it is completed.

The Airport’s focus is to extend the infrastructure of the airport for many years into the future and the newly rehabilitated apron will increase our capabilities to support additional heavy aircraft users from research, testing, and development to mission training in our region.

Taxiway H1 Rehabilitation

The YCAA solicited Statements of Qualifications for Professional Services for the design of the Taxiway H1 Rehabilitation project which is scheduled to begin in FY16 for the Airport. The Airport plans to award the contract by the end of April but no later than the middle of May.

The planned funding source for the project will be by the FAA and ADOT Airport Capital Improvement Program. The project includes the rehabilitation of surrounding ramp areas, taxi-lane approaches, access road approaches, pavement markings, signage, and drainage systems. Apron work includes, but is not limited to, concrete and asphalt rehabilitation, apron expansion, drainage facilities, safety areas, fencing and security, associated lighting, signage and pavement markings when applicable.

Both FAA and ADOT agencies are currently reviewing the Selection Committee’s recommendation for the Professional Services.

Transportation Security Administration Remodel

The YCAA is soliciting construction bids for the expansion of TSA’s office area which is adjacent to the airline ticket counter. There was a great turnout of talented contractors at the pre-bid meeting. The expansion will consist of a new store front, HVAC improvements, plumbing and other upgrades allowing the team to maximize the use of their footprint. Bids for the TSA Expansion are due April 26th.
Kiosks Up and Running
The installation of American Airlines kiosks at Yuma International Airport was completed at the start of the year and are up and running!! They can be used to check in and print boarding passes, however if you are checking your luggage you will need an American Airlines Agent to assist you with your baggage. As always, please be sure to arrive at the terminal at least 2 hours prior to your flight. With the kiosks in place, we are hoping to cut down check in time and make it easier for passengers. They airport is always interested to hear your experience and learn what we can do to make it our Airport a wonderful place for our community.

Seating and Charging Stations
Our airport team continues to work hard to make our airport a comfortable and relaxing environment for our passengers. The airport added new seating areas and additional charging station by the airline ticket counters. The goal of this look was for passengers to feel at home while they wait for the security screening. The charging stations are located next to the ticket counter for your convenience and to charge your devices before a day of traveling. We hope you enjoy these areas as much as we enjoyed putting them together. These are not the last of the small in-house improvements to be completed in the airport terminal. Our passengers can expect to see additional seating options in the baggage claim areas and on the second floor to include additional charging stations and airfield viewing areas.

West End Restrooms
At the end of 2015, the airport renovated the East End restrooms within the airport terminal embracing Yuma’s early years of commerce dating the art piece displayed today around 1850-1875. Our talented team then went to work to design and construct the renovation of the West End restrooms blending Yuma’s rich agricultural history with softer touches to make it feel more welcoming. We’ve had so many of our passengers tell us they’re the best restrooms they’ve ever seen in an airport. In the past weeks, there were several comments made where friends or passengers have even taken photos of them to share with others! We appreciate the awareness and consideration of our community to be mindful and help us take care of the improvements we’re making throughout the terminal.
Community Outreach At YCAA

MathCounts Competition
The airport was proud to coordinate and participate in this year’s MATHCOUNTS competition where students from Centennial, Crane, Woodard, St. Francis, Dateland, Calvary Baptist and Ron Watson Middle Schools within Yuma County participated. There were a number of local engineering firms, Yuma County, City of Yuma, and YMPO employees as well as our retired Engineers from various organizations who contributed to the coordination and success of the MATHCOUNTS competition. The MATHCOUNTS competition have written and oral rounds, as well as individual and team components, consisting of fun and creative problems that promote critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. The objective of MATHCOUNTS is to engage middle school students of all ability and interest levels in fun, challenging math programs, in order to expand their academic and professional opportunities. MATHCOUNTS provides students with the kinds of experiences that foster growth and transcend fear to lay a foundation for future success The MATHCOUNTS Competition Program provides the extra incentive and the perfect atmosphere for students to push themselves to achieve more in mathematics. It is the belief of the MATHCOUNTS Foundation that all children are capable of seeing the beauty and joy of math, whether they come to us already passionate about math, or intimidated by it. Great job to all the middle schools, students and coaches who participated and thank you to the wonderful volunteers who help make this competition a success every year.

Kofa High Hospitality Management
Customer service is our number one product and follows behind safety as a priority. So when asked to give a presentation and VIP airfield tour to students enrolled in Kofa High School’s Hospitality Management Career and Technical Education course, we jumped at the opportunity! The Airport along with the concessionaires at the airport had a great time sharing experiences/advice and exposing them to a variety of careers where hospitality is taken very seriously.

Chamber Mixer
It was such an honor for our Airport team and volunteers to host the Yuma County Chamber of Commerce Mixer for the month of February! Special thanks to all our local businesses and community partners for coming out to have a great time.
The restaurant located in the airport terminal, Hapa’s—A Taste of Hawaii, catered the event and did an awesome job filled with their Aloha spirit! Hapa’s looked fabulous and the food was delicious. Hosting the Chamber Mixer at the Airport was a great opportunity to bring Yuma’s business professionals into the airport and re-acquaint them with the services available and to showcase the progress of the various beautification projects throughout the terminal!

High School STEM Night
The Airport was thrilled to participate in Cibola and San Luis High School’s Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) nights! Each school had a great turnout and the Airport appreciates the opportunity to meet students and talk about careers in aviation and aerospace as well as the other associated professional careers. Hats off to the coordinators and especially to the students and parents who came out to learn about career options and Yuma based companies. Both high schools had great booths filled with lots of useful information for high school students to help them get on the right track for their future. The Airport is excited about participating in future events and look forward to next year!