

Fall 2016



Kentucky Department of Aviation

New Horizons

Introducing Todd Bloch, KDA's Deputy Commissioner

Todd Bloch joins the Transportation Cabinet as Deputy Commissioner of Aviation after spending over 31 years serving his country in a military uniform.

Todd began his military career as a combat engineer in the Army National Guard. After completing the Reserve Officer's Training Course and earning a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army. Todd was then sent to Army flight school where he became a helicopter pilot.

In addition to his role as pilot, Todd held a variety of positions that provided diverse experience in leadership and management including: chief executive of an Army logistics company, liaison to the Brazilian Army, and assignments as the director of logistics, security, and administration.

While in the Army, Todd had the opportunity to serve in several locations including: Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Germany, Hungary, Bosnia, California, and Rio

de Janeiro, Brazil. As an Army captain, Todd was with the first NATO forces to cross the Sava River into Bosnia for Operation Joint Endeavor during Christmas of 1995. After completing his service in Brazil, Todd transitioned to the United States Coast Guard.

As a search and rescue helicopter pilot in the Coast Guard, Todd was stationed in Florida, Alaska, North Carolina, and Alabama. His duties included director of training and education, public affairs, and facilities management as well as chief financial officer. Todd was awarded an Air Medal for one of his many lifesaving missions. Todd was also featured in two episodes of the Discovery Channel's *Deadliest Catch* and flew in multiple scenes in the Kevin Costner movie, *The Guardian*.

He completed his military ca-



reer as the director of aviation law enforcement training. In this role, he was responsible for developing and teaching policy and techniques for missions including airborne use of force for counter-terrorism, counter-drug, and facilities security. Concurrently, he earned a Master's degree in Leadership and Ethics from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama.

Todd lives in Frankfort with his wife Brenda and three sons, Barrett, Fletcher, and Foster.

In Honor of Veteran's Day we would like to recognize all the Veterans here at the Department of Aviation

Steve Parker

Scott Shannon

Terry Hancock

Steve Seger

Sean Howard

Danny Rogers

Chip Barker

Mitch Coldiron

Tim Amyx

Todd Bloch



We would like to thank you for your service gentleman, and let you know that you are appreciated

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Aviation is Rockin' in Kentucky! And for those of you who know me, you certainly aren't surprised that I would begin this article with such a statement! Aviation has been my life's work; aviation is not only my profession, it's my passion. But why should you care?

That's my focus in the following paragraphs.

Airports are economic development magnets. Airports are the welcome mats for our communities. Airports and aerospace manufacturing are critical components to our Commonwealth's economy. And indeed, big business doesn't come to town on a bus—it comes in town on a corporate jet!

KDA is one of four Departments in the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Our primary task is to work with cities and counties to keep our 59 public-use airports safe, efficient and competitive. Six of those 59 airports offer regularly scheduled passenger ser-

vice: Northern KY/Cincinnati, Louisville, Lexington, Owensboro, Paducah, and , as of Aug. 29, Bowling Green. The other 53 General Aviation airports support a wide variety of missions including business, tourism, medical, law enforcement, military training and disaster assistance.

We do safety inspections at each General Aviation airport every year; the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) han-

dles the safety inspections at the six passenger service airports. We also inspect and license all heliports (147) and private landing strips (120) in Kentucky. Speaking of General Aviation airports—we've just started the process of building a new one in Gallatin County. Construction is expected to begin in 12-18 months. In the triangle formed by N. KY, Lexington and Louisville, there are currently no General Aviation airports. This major gap in our state aviation system was identified over 20 years ago. This new airport will be a major plus for eco-

nomie development throughout Northern KY. All of us in the Department of Aviation would like to thank Gov. Matt Bevin, Gallatin County officials and the FAA for making this much-needed airport a reality.

May I ask for your help? If you live in a city, county or region where one of our airports is located, get to know the folks who run the airport. Let them know you understand how important that airport is to the local and regional economy. Help airport officials spread the word between and among our citizens about the value of our airports. Our fellow Kentuckians benefit from our airports even if they never set foot on a single one of them.

Airports are such important drivers of economic development—learn the facts and then help officials "romance the product"

I'd like to thank Gov. Bevin, Lt. Gov. Jenean Hampton and KYTC Secretary, Greg Thomas for all their support, their guidance, encouragement and support.

"Aviation is not only my profession, it's my passion"



Hard Working Drones



Drone Czar
Glenn Anderson

Drones, more properly called Unmanned Aircraft Systems or “UAS” are already hard at work in many industries. Just 4 years ago, drones were military technology. Today, civilian drones outnumber manned aircraft with over 500,000 registered to date. Commercial UAS are being used every day by insurance adjusters, farmers, surveyors and first responders. Small UAS are inexpensive to operate and well suited to the low and slow operations that can be hazardous to perform from manned aircraft.

Until recently, commercial UAS work had to be performed with a manned pilot on-site. The FAA released new regulations in August for small UAS weighing less than 55 lbs. The regulations created a new, simpler to obtain, “remote pilot” certificate that will increase the number of commercial operators and jump start the UAS industry.

The Kentucky Department of Aviation is buzzing with UAS activity. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has been flying UAS since November 2015 using multirotor and fixed wing aircraft built in-house specifically for surveying. I came to KDA as an engineer on staff, working full time on UAS issues.

KDA would like to remind everyone that you cannot fly a drone for any form of compensation without an FAA 333 exemption and/or remote pilot certificate. If you are flying just for fun you do not need a pilot's certificate but must register your drone and follow the Academy of Model Aeronautics Safety Code. If you don't know the rules, www.knowbeforeyoufly.org is a great web site that explains it all.

Fun Facts

1st—Aerospace products and parts are Kentucky's #1 manufactured export. In fact, we are the #2 state in America in this category—who knew!

2nd—Kentucky has the #1 high school aviation education program in America.. More than 40 of our school districts have aviation programs in which students are exposed to all aspects of aviation. (flight training , engineering, air traffic control, meteorology, maintenance). These programs are loaded with science, technology, engineering and math (STEM); so even if these students don't pursue aviation as a career, they are more college and/or career ready.

3rd—Our Commonwealth is home to two of the world's largest cargo hubs: UPS in Louisville and DHL in N. Kentucky. Kentucky's location in the U.S. is a blessing in many ways, and it's obvious UPS and DHL have studied their geography!

Homeland Security is Our Responsibility



Dear Friends and Colleagues in Kentucky Aviation,

As you may have already heard, aviation is rockin' in Kentucky! So many good things are happening at our airports and in Kentucky's aerospace industry. Our airports are a vital part of our transportation infrastructure and engines of economic development. Our airport boards have the responsibility to preserve and protect these assets.

In addition to maintaining the physical infrastructure, we are also responsible for protecting our airports and the communities they serve from criminal and terrorist threats. To do this, we are partnering with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security to support the Intelligence Liaison Officer (ILO) program which is part of the Kentucky Intelligence Fusion Center (KIFC). The ILO program enables all law enforcement, fire, and private sector agencies to designate someone to act as a point of contact between their agency and the KIFC.

This letter is a call to action! We need every one of our 59 airports to designate an ILO.

The goal of the ILO program is to establish relationships for the sharing of both criminal and terrorism related intelligence. The role of the ILO will not only be to receive and disseminate intelligence from the KIFC, but to serve as a point of contact for intelligence collection and to gather and report information relevant to these needs. Your ILO will also have, through their relationship with the KIFC, a greater awareness of what the KIFC can do to assist your airport. ILOs would also have access to our Kentucky Infrastructure Protection page within the Homeland Security Information Network.

Each candidate is required to attend a one-day training/orientation seminar to become a KIFC certified ILO. We know this is short notice, but there is an opportunity to attend this seminar on **November 15, 2016** in Frankfort at the Transportation Cabinet building. Considering how important this program is to the security of your airport and the community, I highly encourage each of you to make every effort to designate an ILO for your airport and get them to this training. Even if your airport's representative can't make this training date, have them reach out to the program administrators to schedule an alternate training date. Please review the attached documents and contact the ILO program administrator for the private sector or the Department of Aviation if you have any questions.

ILO Point of Contact:

Kayla Matola

Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources Analyst

Kentucky Intelligence Fusion Center

Kentucky Office of Homeland Security

200 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40622

Ph: 502-564-2081

Fax: 502-564-7764

homelandsecurity.ky.gov

Thank you for all the work you do for your airport, your community, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky!

Sincerely,

Todd X. Bloch

Deputy Commissioner

Kentucky Department of Aviation

(502) 564-4480



Dave Gauss Capital City Airport Manager

325-year-old oak going strong at Capital City Airport. More than a hundred years before Kentucky became a state, a small white oak seed burrowed its way into the dirt in what is now western Franklin County. The year was 1690.

Not until 1769 would Daniel Boone begin exploring the Ohio Valley, .

Today the grand old oak towers at 61 feet tall, 204 inches in circumference, 5.5 feet in diameter, with a crown spread of 84 feet.

What makes it even more incredible is that it is located in an unlikely location—the Capital City Airport. It has survived the modern era in a place that requires wide visibility and open spaces. Airport personnel have been learning the best ways to preserve the mammoth tree. Sean Howard a pilot for the state, first showed interest and started researching the tree, . From there, the administration of the airport contacted the “Frankfort tree community:, Frankfort city arborist Lorri Grueber said, to proactively protect the white oak. Grueber said, “This doesn’t seem typical for airports to want to preserve big trees. Kudos to the airport for getting on board and creating a budget line.”

Both Scott Shannon and Dave Gauss, airport management, agree that the tree is an important part of history. “We didn’t realize exactly what we had until Sean took an interest.” Capital City Airport has contacted arborists to see what is needed to help preserve the tree.