

February 2007

CONNECTIONS

BARKLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY



Photo by Jim England



Changes at Midwest Aviation

Airport neighbor Jim England has been taking pictures of people, places, and things at Barkley Regional since the 1970's. A look through one of his photo albums revealed the top picture of Midwest Aviation in the mid '90's. At that time, the FBO had an office building plus an almost completed hangar.

As of next week, Midwest will add another box hangar to its properties. The 18,000 square foot structure will be used as a community hangar to serve several customers. Ten planes will be stored in the hangar immediately with plans to add eight more later.

The facility is gas heated, well lit, and has drains for washing and detailing planes.

According to Steve Colson, General Manager of Midwest Aviation, providing hangar storage is important during storms, especially hail and high winds. Keeping the planes out of the sun in the summer protects their paint and keeps the value up on airplanes, also.

Following a final inspection and some minor concrete work next week, the new hangar will be put into use.

Mesaba To Become NWA Subsidiary

Mesaba Airlines, a subsidiary of MAIR Holdings, Inc., has signed a stock purchase and reorganization agreement with Northwest Airlines under which Mesaba would become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Northwest Airlines, Inc.

Currently, Mesaba operates as a Northwest Jet Airliner and Airliner partner under service agreements with Northwest Airlines. The airline serves 72 cities in the United States and Canada. Barkley Regional is one of those airports.

The stock purchase and reorganization agreement is part of Mesaba's Plan of Reorganization filed at the end of January with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Minnesota. The Company has also filed its related Disclosure Statement with the Court.

Mesaba intends to exit from Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection by spring.

In addition to the stock purchase and reorganization agreement, the Plan of Reorganization (POR) addresses the treatment of creditor's claims and assumes the new agreements with Mesaba's labor groups and certain vendors and suppliers.

Restructuring Progress

Mesaba's comprehensive restructuring plan reduces costs by \$68 million a year, secures its core business with Northwest for 49 Saab 340s and positions the company for future growth opportunities. As a result of its on-going restructuring initiatives, the company has achieved reductions in its fixed costs, vendor costs, aircraft and engine leases, and labor costs.

Plan Highlights

Under the Stock Purchase and Reorganization Agreement with Northwest Airlines, all of the existing equity securities of Mesaba will be cancelled and terminated. Northwest has agreed that Mesaba has an allowed \$145 million unsecured claim in the Northwest's Chapter 11 case in exchange for 100 percent of Mesaba's new common stock to be issued on the effective date of the Plan. The \$145 million claim has been sold to Goldman Sachs to fund the plan distributions to the remainder of the sale proceeds being distributed to MAIR Holding, Mesaba's parent.



NWA Flight Schedule

Arrivals

Flight 3209	10:56 a.m.
Flight 3075	4:03 p.m.
Flight 3264	8:36 p.m.

Departures

Flight 2747	6:30 a.m.
Flight 3073	11:50 a.m.
Flight 3167	4:50 p.m.

Taking A Look On The Inside



“It’s like finding the needle in the haystack” is the way Doug Smith described the capabilities of the new forward looking infrared (FLIR) handheld camera. Smith, who is the Director of Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting, and the Barkley Fire Fighters use the infrared to locate extreme temperature variations.

Finding a person at night or in a fire setting is made easier by the FLIR. “It’s the same process the cameras on police helicopters use to locate individuals,” Smith said.

The camera is palm sized and weighs less than three pounds. Its instant “on” capabilities make it invaluable in emergency situations.

FAA requires a FLIR to be on airport fire trucks for inclement weather driving. The addition of the handheld infrared makes finding fires hidden in walls and people less difficult.

TSA To Add AMBER Alert

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has announced it is partnering with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to provide AMBER Alerts at 450 airports across the country.

The AMBER Alert program is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies, broadcasters and transportation agencies that activates an urgent bulletin in the most serious child abduction cases. The goal is to instantly galvanize the entire community in the search for and safe recovery of the child.

TSA will distribute AMBER Alert messages through the communications system of the National Transportation Security Operations Center (TSOC). As soon as NCMEC is notified that an AMBER Alert has been issued by law enforcement, the TSOC will relay that information to TSA departments at airports.

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Barkley Regional Airport Authority

PO Box 1131

Paducah, KY 42002

270-744-0521

www.barkleyregional.com

