# Yuma International Airport



#### Welcome aboard, Ryan!

Yuma International Airport is thrilled Ryan Jarvis has accepted the General Manager position for Piedmont Airlines which performs operations for American Airlines at Yuma International Airport. The former Station Manager was Tofuola Clark who recently accepted the Station Manager position in Knoxville, TN. Ryan has a great team to work with, and his positive energy and dedication to customer service falls in line with the airport's efforts to en-



hance customer experience. Ryan graduated from Ithaca College with a Bachelor of Science in Finance and a Bachelor of Science with Distinction in Theatre Arts Management. Ryan first began his career at Princess Cruises in Anchorage Alaska and joined Piedmont Airlines in 2012. Ryan has worked in many different positions including supervising, training, and as station support for Piedmont Stations across the country. His most recent position was the Interim General Manager in Durango, Colorado. Regarded by peers and passengers as knowledgeable, concerned, and committed to customer service excellence, Ryan continues to aspire to ensure the highest quality and safest travel to the customers who travel to and from Yuma with American Airlines.

### 'Treating' Passengers

Our passengers are the most important part of the airport for us, so we do our best to make them feel comfortable and enjoy flying out of our airport. In appreciation of their choice to "Fly Yuma", airport staff hand out complementary snacks to our passengers on daily flights. This small gesture and sincere interaction has been incredibly well received and appreciated. The Yuma International Airport team takes pride in being a smaller airport and does its best to make our passengers feel comfortable and appreciated while taking a little stress out of a long day of traveling.



#### **TSA Remodel**

The TSA office adjacent to the airline ticket counter within the airport terminal underwent a transformation allowing for additional office/training space and necessary upgrades such as the HVAC, telecommunications, plumbing, electrical, fire protection and hardware.

The \$179,423 construction contract was awarded to Yuma contractor, LPC Construction Inc. and was designed by a Yuma architectural firm, Architecture West and was completed in 60 days, just in time for the holidays.



# December 2016 Letter from Airport Director

## Gladys Wiggins, C.M., MBA

Whether flying out, gathering information, or on the airfield, I am proud to say and know our airport has the most friendly and helpful staff who strive to meet the needs of all customers as well as being willing to help one another. Your feedback reflects highly on our excellent team and we look forward to serving our community throughout the years to follow. As the years fly by, the airport wishes everyone a great end of the year wrap-up and a wonderful start to a new year! Thank you for allowing us to be of service to you! Looking forward to seeing you in the terminal, on the airfield, or out in the community.

#### **Important Dates:**

1/9-YCAA Board Mtg @ 4pm

1/17 — AZ Aviation Day @ the Capitol

2/14 — YCAA Board Mtg @ 4pm

3/14 — YCAA Board Mtg @ 4pm

#### 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.

## **Aviation Happenings Around Town**

#### Yuma Airport Continues Hunt for Another Airline in 2017

While Yuma International Airport currently offers its passengers commercial air service through American Airlines with service from Yuma to Phoenix; we will continue our pursuit to attract another airline throughout 2017.

Yuma International Airport meets with members from the surrounding communities, fields phone calls, emails and customer comments from customers requesting additional route/airlines and offer great suggestions and recommendations. Feedback from our existing and potential passengers is extremely important to us. Our team compiles and uses this information to plan for the annual JumpStart conference, held in June 2017, which is our opportunity to meet with the airlines and talk about advantages of commercial air service in Yuma.

We have been watching airline schedule loads at other airports similar in size to ours. If we compare to a market like Flagstaff, we are doing about the same. Some markets, like Santa Maria, Inyokern, Modesto, etc. have lost their scheduled service with United (which was their only service), and they are now being served by airlines like Mokulele or have no service at all."

2016 marked a year of enhancements throughout the Yuma International Airport's terminal, and included American Airline's installation of kiosks, offering mobile boarding capability and arrival of the CRJ700 (70 seat aircraft) which includes six (6) first-class seats to improve our passenger's experience as they travel from Yuma to Phoenix. The airport team has received so many compliments about the improvements from passengers and guests. We appreciate everyone's consideration to Fly Yuma to help us achieve our goal in 2017!

#### **Civil Air Patrol**

Yuma's Civil Air Patrol Cadet program teaches young people (ages 12 to 18) military customs and drill. The cadets wear military uniforms and grow through the ranks, learning leadership skills and character development. They are each given six orientation flights in the Squadron's airplane where they take control and are given instruction by the pilot. The Cadets take part in community services such as the "Wreaths Across America" ceremony honoring the grave sites of those who have served in the military and most recently participated in this year's Veteran's Day parade.

The squadron meets every Wednesday evening at their hangar at Yuma International Airport, 3590 S. Fortuna Avenue, Hangar F6. Meetings start at 6:30pm.

For more information please visit the national web site at www.gocivilairpatrol.com and the local squadron web site at www.Yuma508.webs.com.





### **Welcoming Iwakuni Mayor Fukuda**

On October 23, 2016 Yuma International Airport was honored to welcome Yoshihiko Fukuda, Mayor of Iwkuni, Japan as he and his associates arrived in Yuma. Mayor Fuduka was here to visit Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 121 and observe the F-35B Lightning II at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma. Mayor Fukuda's visit to MCAS Yuma allowed him to observe first hand, the characteristics, capabilities and properties of the F-35B prior to the scheduled basing of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 121 at MCAS Iwakuni. Mayor Fukuda was able observe the noise levels generated by the F-35B and other potential impacts of the F-35 aircraft on the local Japanese population surrounding MCAS Iwakuni when it is stationed at MCAS Iwakuni. When VMFA-121 arrives in Iwakuni, they will be the first F-35B squadron to be stationed in Japan.





### **Community Outreach**

#### Winter Visitors' Bash

In early December, the Airport participated in the annual Welcome Back Winter Visitor's Bash hosted by the Yuma Sun and held at the fairgrounds. Agencies and vendors throughout the community met with and welcomed our winter guests, sharing laughs and information about the services available within our agencies as well as fun events coming up in 2017. The airport team had a great time!





#### Yuma Youth Leadership

Yuma International Airport works closely with community partners providing tours and presentations about the economic impact aviation plays within our community and state as well as career opportunities within the aviation industry. The airport team recently had an opportunity to meet with and talk to high school students involved in the Yuma Youth Leadership program. That provided civicleadership training and an understanding of the workings of their local government and community. Through a series of theme days, plus a retreat, students gain leadership skills to apply in their schools and community. Government leaders, business professionals, and nonprofit leaders present community and leadership topics and organize field trips. The program day topics include; Law & Law Enforcement & First Responders, Business and the Economy, Media & the Arts, Human Services & Nonprofits, Health & Medical, Government & Elected Officials and Agriculture. The program is free of charge for students.

Every person is faced with unique obstacles and possibilities throughout his or her life. What makes someone a leader is how they manage them and leverage those experiences to positively influence others.





#### Rio de Cerveza

Yuma International Airport proudly sponsors a variety of community events throughout the year. This year the airport sponsored the fourth annual Rio de Cerveza Brew Fest hosted by the Yuma Visitor's Bureau. Guests from around the nation and community gather together to enjoy food, live entertainment, and a variety of brews. The airport raffled off a pair of coveted tickets to the event.



#### **Airport and General Aviation Socials**

The holidays bring about the spirit of giving, loving and appreciation for one another.

As everyone 'gears up' for the holidays, the airport team shared the holiday spirit and celebrated the year's accomplishments with our volunteers, team members within the airport agencies and our General Aviation community to enjoy each other's company, good laughs, good food and beautiful music.













