

# Fly YUMA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Spring 2019

**FLYYUMA**  
We're taking you places.

New Daily Flights from Yuma to Dallas/Fort Worth

Multiple Daily 30 Minute Flights to Phoenix

Shaded Parking, Easy Check-In & Great Food!

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*Letter from Airport Director Gladys Brown*

American Airlines began direct daily flights from Yuma to Dallas Fort Worth on March 4, 2019. To celebrate the inaugural departure flight, Yuma International Airport co-hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Yuma County Chamber of Commerce and airport ambassadors passed out special goodie bags to the passengers and crew. In true inaugural flight custom, the Yuma Fire Department conducted a Water Salute!

Flights to DFW depart early morning and return late in the evening and provide connectivity to 95 domestic cities and 42 International destinations not serviced by the current route through Phoenix.

American Airlines also increased its flights from Yuma to Phoenix Sky Harbor from four to five flights per day, giving you more convenient options!

On behalf of the entire Yuma International Airport team, I'd like to thank the Yuma community and our flying public for your continued support of our efforts to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all to enjoy!

2019 has already been filled with many successes which we are proud to share in this issue. Our team is working closely with airline network planners to consider more options in air service to/from Yuma. We are also working on a multitude of great programs and projects to further enhance safety and comfort within the airport and to promote economic development within Yuma County and our Mega Region.

Your business, support and choice to **FLY YUMA** means the *world* to us!



# YUMA AIRPORT PROJECTS

## *New Airport Leases!*

Yuma International Airport created the Defense Contractor Complex and invested in infrastructure and hangar facilities to encourage the aviation and aerospace industry to base their operations in Yuma in an effort to create jobs. In September 2018, Yuma International Airport entered into a long term lease of half of the Joe Foss Hangar with AQST Space Systems who will manufacture and assemble rockets for small satellites. In March 2019, AQST exercised their option to lease the entire hangar.

Another exciting lease assignment begins April 1<sup>st</sup>, as Guardian Flight, LLC will assume long-term tenancy of the Pappy Boyington Hangar. Guardian Flight provides medical evacuation services throughout Yuma County.

## *University Partnerships*

Yuma International Airport recently partnered with University of Arizona students to design the replacement of the airport's baggage claim belt system. The airport also partnered with Northern Arizona University students who conducted an analysis of the airport's strategic planning as their senior capstone project.



## *Multi-Use Path Extension & Entrance Sign*

The multi-use path from Pacific Avenue to South Fortuna Road has been completed and is open for all to enjoy! Yuma International Airport is working closely with Kofa High School's SkillsUSA welding students and the City of Yuma for installation of the new airport entrance sign which is slated for completion mid-April.



## *Fuel Farm Expansion*

With a strong reputation for superior service to all aviation clients, Million Air expanded the fuel farm with two additional 30,000 gallon fuel tanks. This is enough fuel for an average car to drive 900,000 miles or circle the Earth 36 times!



## *Important Event Dates:*

- 04/08/19 – Yuma International Airport Today in Yuma Radio Interview – 9:30 am on Z-93
- 04/09/19 – YCAA Board of Director's Meeting
- 05/11/19 – GA Pilot Safety Training
- 05/14/19 – YCAA Board of Director's Meeting
- 05/27/19 – Memorial Day – Airport Office Closed
- 06/12/19 – Mother's Day
- 06/11/19 – YCAA Board of Director's Meeting
- 06/13/19 – GA Social at Million Air
- 06/16/19 – Father's Day
- 07/04/19 – Independence Day – Airport Office Closed
- 07/09/19 – YCAA Board of Director's Meeting
- 08/13/19 – YCAA Board of Director's Meeting
- 08/19/19 – National Aviation Day

## *Business Development*

Economic expansion in Yuma County continues to drive economic strategies for market development aimed at four diversified industries with the highest growth potential. Aviation is one such commercial industry. The Yuma International Airport and Yuma County Airport Authority works closely with the decision-makers in the aerospace industry, government agencies, and academic institutions to promote and coordinate business development and create jobs.



# AVIATION AROUND TOWN

## *Spencer Suderman Attempts to Break Own Record*

Professional aerobatic pilot, Spencer Suderman is an air show performer and two-time Guinness World Records title holder who graced Yuma's skies mid February daring to attempt to best his own world record of 98 inverted flat spins by at least 20 more. Spencer and his team worked for over a year to customize a Pitts Special S—1C, making it considerably lighter and faster and right on track to crush the record. Upon Spencer's arrival to Yuma, he and his team enjoyed meeting aviation enthusiasts and members from the community who wished him well and helped cheer him on. On the day of his attempt, Spencer flew to 24,000' and aborted the mission after 54 turns at 14,000' due to the extreme spin rate and unexpected effects of traverse G forces. While disappointed, Spencer and his team were in good spirits during the unofficial count, knowing it was best for him to know his body and come back home safe. Spencer called the flight 'The Spin Beat Spencer.' For more information about Spencer, please visit his Facebook page, Spencer Suderman Aerobatics.



## *2019 Yuma Airshow*

Yuma International Airport proudly sponsored the annual Yuma Airshow hosted by our Aviation Partner, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma in early March. The event marked the Marine Corps 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary operating in Yuma and is now considered the United States Marine Corps' premier aviation training base. The weekend event included a Twilight Airshow the evening before the airshow which included aerial performances and a spectacular fireworks display.

Yuma International Airport invited fellow pilots, community partners, airport staff and their families to its annual Chili Cook-off and to enjoy both of the incredible events. We truly appreciate the hard work and dedication by the staff at MCCS and MCAS Yuma for another successful, and entertaining event!

The open house/airshow is one of Yuma County's largest weekend events and ranks as one of Yuma's best attractions with over 20,000 spectators. In celebration of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Yuma, Marine Corps Air Station packed the weekend with aviation performances by Ace Maker highlighting their T-33 capabilities, Yellow Thunder with their AT-6 Texans, and the unforgettable Tora Tora Tora Commemorative Air Force's recreation of the Japanese attack on Pear Harbor. MCAS Yuma performed a MAGTF Demo showcasing the incredible capabilities of the AH-1, MV-22 Osprey, UH-1 and F-35B Joint Strike Fighter.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## *Pilot Safety Training*

Yuma International Airport proudly partners with the FAA's FAAST and WINGs Safety Programs and hosts quarterly safety training for pilots throughout the southwest. We truly appreciate Fred Gibbs, Safety Program Director for the Arizona Pilots Association, who flies in from Flagstaff to provide the safety training to our pilots. Upcoming pilot safety meetings are May 11 and September 7 from 9:30 am -12:00 pm in the airport's large conference room located on the second floor of the terminal.



## *Yuma Airport Tours/Presentations*

The Yuma International Airport team is deeply involved in the Yuma community and enjoys every opportunity to educate students of all ages about aviation related programs and careers. We appreciate spending time with our friends from the Yuma Youth Town Hall, Mom's Club, Chicanos Por La Causa, Head Start as well as our community partner, Arizona Western College in support of their career expos. If you or someone you know is interested in a backstage tour of the airport or presentation to your group, give Gen a call at 928-726-5882.



## *Aviation Day at the Capitol*



The Yuma International Airport team participated in Arizona Aviation Association's Aviation Day at the Capitol to discuss the importance and economic impact the Aviation Industry has on our great State with our District and State Legislators.

## *MathCounts!*



Yuma International Airport partnered with Arizona Western College hosting the annual MATHCOUNTS Competition Series where 'Mathlete' students from ten middle schools competed in the national program that provides students the opportunity to compete in live, in-person contests against and alongside their peers. The students were extra excited that the event was held at Arizona Western College where they had the chance to be on the campus! Many thanks to all of Yuma's sponsors and volunteers who have helped plan to make this event a success for these amazing Mathletes!