



# JACKSON HOLE AIRPORT STAFF UPDATE

September 2020

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## Employee of the Month



Derek Hadfield, Operations Maintenance team member, was awarded September's Employee of the Month. He is committed to the greater good of the Airport and ready to take on whatever challenges are coming, including volunteering for additional assignments. There have been times that Derek has worked deep into the night to get a job finished, and he regularly demonstrates a can-do attitude along with the People Helping People spirit. Congratulations Derek!

## Community Outreach



Recently, local Boy Scouts have been completing activities toward becoming Eagle Scouts and have assisted the airport with two great projects. One project was to build a new bike shelter that can house passenger bicycles along with the e-bikes for staff that the Airport recently purchased. Currently the shed is located in the parking lot by Hangar One and was designed so it can be moved if needed during the winter months. A special thanks to Peter Tan, Ray Lilly, and Derek Hadfield who assisted the scouts with this project.



You may have noticed that the seating benches inside and outside the terminal were recently missing. The other scout project was to brand those benches with local ranch brands. This provides them with additional character and local

flavor. If you have any questions on the ranch names associated with each brand, a roster will be available on our web site and at the Host desk. Thanks go to Chance Grimmert, Chase Jackson, Ray Lilley, Peter Tan, and Wayne Steinert among others who assisted the scouts on this project.

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## Environmental Initiatives



Paul Walters recently made a presentation to the Board and had great news to share regarding our recycling efforts. Since 2018 the Airport has increased its diversion of product waste from 18% to 38%. In short, we've more than doubled the amount of waste we recycle in just 2 years! Jedediah's restaurant alone composted over 5 tons of waste between June 2019 and June 2020. In the past year, the Airport voluntarily participated in the Good Traveler program for carbon offsets related to employee air miles and road miles; and as a result, over 1,133 metric tons of carbon have been offset - equivalent to the annual emission of 230 cars!

In addition, the Airport has purchased two e-bikes for staff use in traveling around the airport campus. For now, the e-bikes reside in the Fire House, but they will eventually be stored in the new shed built by the Boy Scouts. If you would like to use an e-bike, a helmet is even provided. You will find laminated operational instructions in the saddlebags of each bike if you have an interest in using one on airport.

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## Our Latest Fire Truck



If you looked out a window toward the end of last month you would have seen ARFF 3 departing Jackson Hole Airport for the last time, heading to the Crowell Fire Department in Texas. We recently purchased a pre-owned Striker fire truck that came from Burnsville, South Carolina, and traded ARFF 3 as part of the purchase arrangement.

A key advantage to having a second Striker is that we will now have two similar trucks that will allow ARFF personnel to benefit from the same training, and it will also ease maintenance efforts.

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## Getting to Know John Eastman



John Eastman is a man who is drawn to start-ups, but having just celebrated his 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with wife Annette, he also knows what it's like to be part of something special on a long-term basis. Growing up in Central Illinois along with two older brothers, a high point of John's youth was a family vacation to Jackson Hole when he was 7, and his first chance to see the mountains. Today he takes full advantage of the outdoor and healthy lifestyle available, and loves to hike, play tennis, and swim.

John took a gap year between high school and college and was selected to be part of Up With People, a singing and dancing group that travelled the world, and ended up performing for the Pope. He spent 6 months in Italy and speaks the language well.

When that year was over, John attended Southern Methodist University where he earned a JD degree along with an MBA in Health Law. Upon finishing school, he worked in Dallas and is a licensed attorney in both Texas and Wyoming. Ten years later he headed to Wall Street and in 1990 moved to Jackson Hole. He has focused on guiding several start-ups in the health care arena, specializing on making it easier for users to get clinical data along with enhancing workflow processes. Today John serves as the General Counsel for a health care IT company in Montreal. A highlight of his career is co-founding a company that made it possible for consumers to get clinical lab blood testing results without needing to see a doctor.

John is the proud father of 2 daughters who were influenced by his travels (along with his wife originally being from Ireland), and both are living abroad. One is working for the Four Seasons in London, and the other is in school in Dublin. Pre-COVID, John was often seen at the airport, as he headed out for professional travels or to visit his children.

Being intellectually curious has been a thread throughout John's life, and a motivator in drawing him to the Jackson Hole Airport Board. He has served on our Board for 8 years and enjoys the ongoing challenge of staying on top of issues the airport needs to address, along with the variety of disciplines requiring knowledge to make good decisions.

Looking toward the future, John has always felt a special affiliation for children, and as time requirements for work are able to make room for other endeavors, he would like to be part of an organization or facility that helps at-risk children succeed in life.

In addition to serving on the Jackson Hole Airport Board, John has been active in several professional and community organizations, including serving on St. John's Hospital Board, and as Commissioner for the County Board for Historic Preservation. We are fortunate to have his considerable and varied experience as a voice on our Board as well.

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## Airport Funding Update

The coronavirus pandemic has created a challenging environment for activity forecasting and financial budgeting. Fortunately, the airport has been the recipient of two significant financial awards which will help us to meet our operational needs throughout the duration of the pandemic while simultaneously continuing our capital program. Because this money has been authorized through the federal government there are restrictions on how it can be spent. The first of these was the CARES Act funding in an amount of \$16,474,000. This money can only be spent on airport operations and debt service expenses or pre-approved capital expenses. We anticipate using this funding as a bridge between operating revenues and expenses for the next 2 years until air travel and its associated revenues recover.

The second federal award came in the form of two grants to begin work on the runway reconstruction project. This money can only be used to reimburse eligible expense related to the runway project. These grants total approximately \$28.5 million of the roughly \$40 million projected for the runway project. We will continue to work with the federal and state to seek additional funding sources for this important project.

We are very excited about these awards from the FAA which will allow us to continue to operate the airport at the level expected by our travelers while continuing to move necessary projects forward.

## A Gift for the Airport



The family of E. Ralph Hostetter recently donated in his memory a bronze statue entitled "In the Wake of Mountain Morn" by Grant Speed. Mr. Hostetter was a long-term fan of aviation and the Jackson Hole Airport, and this sculpture used to be on display at the airport in its early years. Today the statue proudly sits in the Board room and everyone is welcome to come get a close-up look of this beautiful figurine that fits in well with other artwork at the Airport.

## Triannual Academy Awards – Best Actor & Actress JH Airport Full Scale Exercise 2020



The exercise was a success, and we could not have done it without our volunteers and acting crew. Thank you for participating! If your name is listed below, please See Connie or Natasha at the Host Desk to receive your prize.

**Best Actress:** Ginger Eva

**Best Actor:** Brian Stone

**Best Supporting Actress:** Wendy Jordan

**Best Supporting Actor:** Michael Nash

**Honorable Mentions:**

Peter Baker  
Melissa Bates  
Phil Bollman  
Kyle Carmichael  
Stan Karichner  
Kathy Larson  
Mary Moulton  
Rose Robertson  
Gina Van Slyke  
Jordyn Sperl  
Joanie Tidwell