PIE is bustling with activity. Reaching over 1 million passengers in 2013 was only the 4th time in our history. A major factor was Allegiant Air’s addition last year of seven new non-stop destinations.

Allegiant, who also recently announced year round service to Cincinnati, has indicated they will continue to grow our market with new destinations, perhaps as early as this fall. It is important to plan for their future growth as we strive to be your easy and convenient Tampa Bay airport; therefore, developing our terminal and overall landside facility is important.

After completing our terminal renovation project in 2010 which focused on Gates 2-6 expansion and adding our first passenger loading bridges, we now turn to the renovation of Gates 7-10. The gate area will be renovated to increase seating by over 50%, and includes new concession space, restrooms, and a larger security checkpoint. The design for this project will be underway shortly with construction starting in late 2015.

Our growth has led to national recognition with PIE receiving the top small airport “Annie” award by Airline Network News & Analysis (anna.aero), a website “dedicated to outstanding airline network planning intelligence and genuine number-crunching analysis.” The 4th US ANNIE Awards digs deep into the data to reveal the winners in seven airport categories and four airline categories. It was “a convincing win for St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport, which not only wins the US ANNIE in this category thanks to passenger growth of 17.5% in 2013, but also passed the one million passenger mark, by handling 1,017,049 passengers last year.” Allegiant Air also received an “Annie” for “biggest increase in number of US airports in its network” (tied with Southwest Airlines).

Locally, at the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce’s Annual Dinner, I was honored to receive the “Tourism Person of the Year” award. I accepted this award on behalf of the entire airport staff that work hard to promote and present a friendly and convenient airport to our visitors. Thank you to the Clearwater Chamber for their recognition of the work we do. You are great partners and fantastic supporters of PIE!

More to come….Noah

**Director’s Highlights**

Welcome Cincinnati to the Allegiant/PIE lineup! Starting May 15th, flights will begin twice weekly (Sundays and Thursdays). Allegiant now serves 32 non-stop destinations from PIE and has its first two Airbus 320’s based here (with more to come). 2014 is shaping up to be another excellent year with a 17% 1st Quarter increase (9% in March).
Airport Terminal “Ops Wing” Renovation
On April 15th, the “Ops Wing” portion of the terminal will be closed for a four-month renovation. During this time offices will be relocated as follows: Tenants Quantum Aviation and Republic Parking will be located on the second floor of the Terminal Annex building (14695 Airport Parkway, adjacent to the terminal (east side); in the terminal, TSA will be in offices 101-102, Airport Sheriff and Operations Supervisors will be in Bag Claim west office, and Airport Badging, IT Coordinator, Operations Director, Public Relations, and Airport Properties will be in Offices 103-104.

Airfield Taxiway Rehabilitation
The airport will begin rehabilitation of its airfield taxiways in three phases beginning late summer/early fall through 2017. The last rehabilitation of our taxiways was almost 25 years ago and extensive coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration for airfield requirements and funding has been ongoing. Phase I Project bidding is currently underway.

Real Estate Development - For information about airport development projects and leasing, please contact Airport Properties Director Bob Humberstone at (727)453-7820, bhumber@fly2pie.com.

National Aviation Academy (NAA) Expands at Airport
The airport leased NAA an additional 2.2 acres of land adjacent to their existing facility at PIE to accommodate vehicle parking and future building expansion. NAA provides a broad aviation maintenance education by giving students both the knowledge and hands-on experience needed for certification in airframe, powerplant mechanics and avionics. In addition, NAA recently launched a wholly-owned subsidiary, National Aviation Aircraft Services (NAAS), which maintains the aircrafts for NAA’s new professional pilot training. NAA currently employs over 200 people nationally with over 120 employees and over 600 students located in Pinellas County.

Hertz Leases Airport Land for new Vehicle Service Area
Hertz is one of six car rental company brands that operate in our terminal. Their new one acre vehicle service area is located in the Airport Business Center and was leased to accommodate their continued growth at PIE.

April is Aviation Appreciation Month

At the recent State Summit in Tallahassee, Governor Rick Scott presented a Proclamation to the Florida Airports Council (FAC) recognizing April 2014 as Aviation Appreciation Month. During the FAC State Summit, FAC President Tom Jewsbury stated “On behalf of the 19 commercial service and 110 general aviation airports throughout Florida, FAC would like to sincerely thank Governor Scott for recognizing the importance of our industry by proclaiming April 2014 as Aviation Appreciation Month. We are honored that the Governor has taken this opportunity to acknowledge the significant roles and economic impacts the aviation industry contributes to Florida’s economy. Governor Scott continues to play a key role in promoting aviation and taking an aggressive stand to help attract new aviation and aerospace businesses and job opportunities to airports throughout the state.”
**Airport Operations**

**New Public Address and Flight Information Display System in Development**

Multi-user Flight Information Display System and Visual Paging System (MUFIDS/VPS) Update – The airport completed the project scope and the contract is scheduled to go to the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners for approval on May 20th. Construction will likely start in early July and last approximately six months.

**Noise Affairs Update**

For information about noise affairs, visit www.fly2pie.com/noise. For questions, contact the Noise Affairs Office at (727)453-7877 or email noiseaffairs@fly2pie.com. Airport Noise Abatement Task Force (NATF) meetings are held quarterly in the Airport Conference Room #234 at 3:00 p.m. Upcoming meetings are July 16th and October 15th.

**Airport Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) to hold full-scale emergency drill April 15th**

On April 15th, the airport will hold its tri-annual full-scale emergency exercise as required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The interagency drill simulates an emergency incident, in this case involving a bomb detonating on a passenger aircraft on the airfield. The staged event will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude by noon. The exercise provides the opportunity for the airport and numerous agencies to assess their emergency response capabilities and coordinate emergency planning.

**Flight 2014 - Centennial Celebration of the World’s First Scheduled Commercial Flight**

January 1, 2014 marked the 100 year anniversary of Tony Jannus famous first scheduled commercial passenger flight from St. Pete to Tampa. Locally, a joint council of organizations combined to create Flight 2014 to commemorate the historic event. A replica built by Kermit Weeks of Fantasy of Flight was on display at the St. Petersburg Museum of History (photo) and Ed Hoffman Jr. recreated the flight in a “mullet skiff” taking off from the Vinoy Basin (photo). Pinellas County Commissioner John Morroni welcomed guests to the event (photo) and Airport Director Noah Lagos spoke of the importance of this “first” on the aviation industry. Additional events commemorating the centennial are planned throughout the year and information can be found at www.airlinecentennial.org or www.tonyjannusaward.com.
St. Pete-Clearwater International continues to be the home for West Central Florida Honor Flights and will host flights on Tuesdays May 6th, May 27th, and June 24th. The public welcome home receptions are in our baggage claim facility and begin at approximately 8:30 p.m. Honor Flight provides for free parking for all to attend the reception. For more information about the Honor Flights, contact info@honorflightwcf.org or call (727)498-6079.

Celebrate Pi(e) Day a sweet success!

On 3/14 (the internationally recognized “Pi” day), the airport celebrated by dishing out over 1000 individual pies. Our airport staff and volunteers served passengers and guests in hold rooms, bag claim, and curbside thanking them for choosing PIE!

Pie to Host WWII Veterans Honor Flights on May 6, May 27, and June 24th

St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce staff stops by to enjoy the PIE Day Celebration. PIE will host the Chamber’s Visitors Promotions Council on May 15th.