Business Spotlight: GAT

GAT Airline Ground Support Inc. was formed as a branch of a fixed-based operation in Mobile, Alabama in 1963, to provide aviation ground support. Since that time GAT has developed a successful business relationship with airports and major air carriers across the United States.

In response to customers’ request, GAT provides a broad range of support services including ramp operations, cabin services, skycap, cargo, airport customer service, aircraft and GSE maintenance, janitorial, security services and baggage delivery services.

Today, GAT provides a varied combination of these services in 28 locations across the United States. GAT’s management philosophies include a high degree of owner involvement, innovative and successful safety strategies, and operational responsiveness.

GAT is extremely proud to join the aviation community at Syracuse Hancock International Airport.

Walking the Runway

This month’s employee spotlight shines on Dan Ryan. Mr. Ryan joined the Department of Aviation in 2010 as a temporary employee helping out in the security office. He was soon promoted to Dock Inspector and most recently was named Assistant Security Coordinator. He has kept his Dock Inspector duties which includes supervising the unloading of daily deliveries and inspecting all items that are necessary for the operation of Delaware North Companies. Dan’s daily responsibilities related to security include processing threat assessments and fingerprints, training and badging all airport employees as well as contractors. The Terminal Security and Access Improvement Project has kept the security office extremely busy. Dan enjoys interacting with the airport community on a daily basis. When Dan is not at the airport he enjoys golfing, Syracuse basketball, Notre Dame football and reading about American history. If you see Dan in your travels at the airport, introduce yourself and say “hello”.

Deputy Commissioner John Carni is sworn in

On November 15, 2011 John Carni was sworn in as Deputy Commissioner of Aviation for the City of Syracuse. Mr. Carni has been with the Department of Aviation for over 21 years and started with the department as an Information Attendant in 1990. He has held various titles over the years including Community Service Officer, Airport Security Officer and prior to his appointment of Deputy Commissioner, he was the Airport Operations Officer. Mr. Carni has worked alongside five Commissioners including the current Commissioner of Aviation, Christina Reale, and he feels fortunate to have had that experience and learn from each of them. John enjoys the relationships that he has developed with the airport community and hopes to only strengthen those relationships in his new role. Congratulations John!!

Happy Holidays!
Construction Corner

Below is an update on the Passenger Terminal Security and Access Improvement Project:

- United, Continental and Delta ticketing offices have been relocated to temporary locations
- Connection of the new terminal addition gas main piping to existing gas main piping completed
- Demolition of ceilings in vacated North Terminal airlines ticketing offices
- Demolition of electrical and mechanical systems in Central Terminal area
- Installation of new sanitary and storm sewer piping and structures

Be sure to check out the Construction Corner section of the Flyer monthly for all construction related updates.

Community Events

Stop in and visit the Erie Canal Museum for the 26th Annual Gingerbread Gallery. When you visit the museum during the Gingerbread Gallery, the delicious aroma of ginger and candy will waft through the air, leading you to the second floor gallery. Each year the Erie Canal Museum transforms into a festive 1800’s street scene with over 40 gingerbread creations on display in storefront windows. These sweet creations are made locally by professional and amateur bakers. This event runs until January 8, 2012 and is located at 318 Erie Boulevard East. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily and admission is $5.00 for adults, $4.00 for seniors and $2.00 for children under age 12.

The Department of Aviation is collecting Mittens, Hats and Gloves during the month of December. Items donated will be distributed to area families in need.

Providing internship opportunities to high school and college-level students has been the backbone of the Department’s aviation education program. The experience the students gain working with Department provides a good understanding of not only aviation management, but also public relations, project oversight, and airport planning. The enthusiasm, creativity, and skills they bring to the Department has helped us, among other things, create a system to organize all project documentation, and this newsletter. This month we would like to feature Carolyn Cioffa, who joined the Department while a senior at the University of Albany. As a communications major, Carolyn spent her time working with Facilities Engineer Ray Borg and created a filing system for the Passenger Terminal Security & Access Improvement Project. Carolyn also wrote her Masters Thesis on “Meeting Talk: An Examination of the Talk Performed During Meetings within a Federal Department”; an insightful observation on how we communicate with each other during meetings. Ms. Cioffa recently graduated from the University of Albany with her Masters in Communications, and is now preparing to pursue her Ph.D. We would like to thank Carolyn for her contributions to the Department and wish her the best of luck.

Celebrate!

We would like to wish a very Happy Anniversary/Birthday to all of those individuals celebrating in December!

Happy Anniversary:
Karen Kimball 12/97 (14 years) DNC
Luigi Pascarella 12/98 (13 years) DOA
Jeff Kunsman 12/05 (6 years) DOA
Theresa Smith 12/05 (6 years) DOA
Miguel Ortiz 12/06 (5 years) DOA
Theresa Annessi 12/07 (4 years) DOA
Jerry Bowles 12/08 (3 years) DOA

Happy Birthday:
Kim Davis 12/10 DNC
Cynthia Summerford 12/10 DNC
David Radder 12/13 Delta
David King 12/15 DNC
Karen Grime 12/22 DNC
Laurie Sabel 12/22 DOA
John Murphy 12/27 DOA
Gale Evans 12/28 DNC
Linda Smith 12/31 DNC
Bob Townsend 12/31 DOA

Do you have any errors, updates, suggestions or info for next month?
Would you like to join our mailing list?
If so, please contact us at mcintyrej@syrairport.org!