



*Advancing Aviation - Advancing New York!*

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Contact: Angelina McGrath, Executive Director  
Email: [info@nyama.aero](mailto:info@nyama.aero)  
Phone: 518-687-2241

### NEW YORK AVIATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE EMPIRE STATE'S AIRPORT COMMUNITY AT ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

More than 150 attendees celebrated the New York Aviation Management Association's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the organization's 2016 Fall Conference, held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Happaage, Long Island, from September 13-15.

"It was a success by every measure," newly elected NYAMA President John DelBalso said. "We had informative panel sessions, a series of compelling speakers, engaging exhibitors, and so much more. We even had excellent weather for our two outdoor events: a golf outing and a trip to Fire Island. The conference was the perfect exclamation point to four amazing decades of dedicated work by NYAMA's volunteers, and a great way to usher in NYAMA's next 40 years."

The annual conference is the premier aviation industry event for New York's aviation professionals, bringing together representatives from airports throughout the state, and the businesses and communities that rely on them. This year's featured guests and speakers included:

- New York State Senator Phil Boyle, Co-Chair of the New York Legislative Aviation Caucus
- New York State Senator Thomas Croci, whose Senate District includes Long Island MacArthur Airport
- Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone
- Islip Town Supervisor Angie Carpenter
- Airports Council International-North America President and CEO Kevin Burke
- FAA Regional Administrator Carmine Gallo
- FAA New York Airports District Office Manager Evelyn Martinez
- NYS DOT Aviation Bureau Acting Director Gerardo Mendoza
- Southwest Airlines Director of Commercial Planning Carter Ganss

New York Aviation Management Association  
1450 Western Avenue, Suite 101 Albany, New York 12203  
Phone: 518-687-2241 Email: [info@nyama.aero](mailto:info@nyama.aero)

The conference's luncheon was highlighted by a gathering of seven NYAMA past presidents, including one of the organization's co-founders, William F. "Bill" Shea. The 2016 Phil Brito airport development Project of the Year Award was presented to C&S Companies.

A new slate of officers and board directors was elected at the annual Business Meeting. In addition to President DeBalso, the new NYAMA Executive Board includes Vice President Lee Weitz, Treasurer Christina Callahan, Secretary Grant Sussey, and Immediate Past President Jeremy Martelle. The remaining new or re-elected board members are David Hickling, William Hopper, Andrew Moore, Greg Topping, Michael Hall, Chad Nixon, Shelley LaRose-Arken, and David Taillon.

New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's congratulatory letter to NYAMA recognized the "valuable contributions" NYAMA has made since 1976, and applauded "all the dedicated and conscientious individuals in attendance who proudly serve travelers to and from our great state each day."

The conference was co-hosted by Long Island MacArthur Airport, Republic Airport, and Sheltair Aviation. Platinum sponsors were AECOM and Mapco Auto Park. Gold sponsors were C&S Companies and CHA Companies. Silver sponsors were Albany International Airport; Hi-Lite Airfield Services; Long Island MacArthur Airport; McFarland Johnson; Passero Associates; Republic Airport; Sheltair Aviation; Stantec; and Syracuse International Airport. Bronze sponsors were ABM Parking; AvPorts; Buffalo Niagara International Airport; Departure Media; Greater Rochester International Airport; Long Island Business Aviation Association; National Business Aviation Association; Parabit Systems; and Watertown International Airport; Additional sponsors and exhibitors were Axion Specialty Products, Ennis-Flint; Lamar Airport Advertising; Nodify Inc.; Tracy Road Equipment; Sixel Consulting Group; Shumaker Consulting Engineering and Land Surveying; and Zodiak.

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*Editor's Note: For more information about NYAMA visit [www.nyama.aero](http://www.nyama.aero)*