



COMMUNITY NEWS

Airport and Community Benefit from Former Navy Pilots

BY LAUREL LIPPETT; PHOTO TOM LIPPETT



▲ Stacey and Norm Justesen: retired Navy pilots and passionate contributors to the community.

All in the Family was the title of an old TV show, but it could also be the motto of the Justesen family, one member whose vital role is safety at Truckee Tahoe Airport.

Raised in Truckee, Stacey Justesen flew with her dad Norm in his Cherokee 180 at KTRK when she was just 13, donning her dad's Navy flight suit with the cuffs rolled up. "I knew I wanted to be a pilot at age seven," says Stacey.

What she didn't know then was that she would train at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola (30 years after her dad did), become a Navy pilot and flight instructor, and fly military T34s, T2s and A4s, just like her dad.

While Stacey and her father Norm "talk Navy and flying all the time," her mother Karen, whose maiden name is "Fly," was an American Airlines stewardess and soloed her first airplane while pregnant with Stacey. Soon after Norm and Karen moved to Truckee with their six- and eight-year-old daughters in 1978, they joined the Optimist Club, the beginning of giving back to the community for the Justesen family. Karen's job as an elementary school secretary

for 22 years brought another meaningful connection to local kids and their parents. On top of that, both Norm and Karen are volunteer police officers, and Norm gives countless hours of his time and aviation experience to Truckee Tahoe Airport's annual Air Show & Family Festival. Stacey's older sister Britta, also a philanthropist, worked for Neighborhood House, a nonprofit for the homeless, and then began her career working with the World Wildlife Fund.

Encouraged to do so by her Truckee High School counselor following graduation in 1990, Stacey attended the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo. She learned celestial navigation and earned a BS in business along with a USCG Merchant Marine license, which allowed her to sail Merchant vessels.

In 1995, she joined the Navy as a student Naval Aviator. After 20 years, reaching the rank of Commander, her decision to move back to Truckee after flying C2 cargo planes onto aircraft carriers in the Pacific and Atlantic was not a hard one.

"I loved everything about the Navy," says Stacey and shares that

passion with her dad who has his own Top Gun flight training stories. Yet, unlike Norm who flew for United Airlines for 20 years, Stacey had no desire to fly commercially after her military service, and her dad's push for her to find a job at her hometown airport sealed the deal.

One of her favorite experiences was flying with Norm on his final flight as captain of a United Airlines 757 from Washington, D.C., to San Francisco in 2000. Stacey, as a military pilot, was invited to join her dad in the cockpit. She tells the story that, early in the flight, an air traffic controller responded to Norm's initial radio call, saying, "United 523, you are cleared to climb, passing through 2,000 ft., direct to San Francisco, any route that you want. Happy retirement, sir!" And every transmission from controllers that followed ended with "Happy retirement!"

Her experience as Quality Assurance Officer in the Navy qualified Stacey for the job as Aviation & Community Services Program Coordinator for the Truckee Tahoe Airport with the responsibility for aviation and ground safety, including FAA, OSHA and CAL-OSHA programs.

"In the Navy, it's very choreographed; there's a procedure for everything," she says in explaining her role here to standardize safety operations and build confidence in ramp staff to convey the requirements to local and visiting pilots.

Brought up to leave ego behind, Stacey believes that professionalism supersedes gender. She tells the story of a female student who needed more confidence flying onto an aircraft carrier, believing she was scrutinized more because she was a woman. "The only thing out there is metal and water, and the only thing that keeps you airborne is lift," Stacey said to her student. "So you don't want to hit the water; you want to put metal on metal," she said, reminding her, "You're not a girl out here. You're a professional, and you're being graded every time you fly the plane, based only on how you fly the plane."

Stacey's philosophy, that the success of an organization is determined by the people in it, was developed in the "people-oriented Navy, from that 18-year-old who is taxiing you within six inches of the side of an aircraft carrier. All your trust is in him."

As for her decision to return to Truckee and join the Truckee Tahoe Airport, Stacey says, "I love it here. If you're going to roll out of one incredible fraternity, like the Navy, your next job should be some place like this. With 23 people, you have all different characters that you would in any squadron or ship, but you still have the same fraternity. You have a skipper driving the ship and your direct department head that you will not fail. It's all the same. This place is awesome."

What else does Stacey love outside of the Navy and her job? Skiing, water and snow, and taking long hikes in the Sierra. She also enjoys hunting and gardening, and is working at becoming a better fisherman.

AIRPORT NEWS

SEASONAL TOWER TO OPERATE THIS WINTER



▲ A view of the seasonal tower on the KTRK airfield.

After its first summer in operation, the Truckee Tahoe Airport's seasonal air traffic control tower proved successful in improving Airport safety, and staff is confident that it will make more improvements to noise and annoyance in the future.

The District's Board of Directors voted to operate the tower December 15 through February 28 this winter after its initial trial period June 1 through September 15, which gave Airport staff the opportunity to evaluate the program and identify areas for potential future improvement.

The Airport first undertook the tower program evaluation in the summer of 2017 to see if it could meet specific goals of increasing safety, reducing noise and annoyance on the community, and enhancing airspace efficiency.

In that evaluation, staff concluded that the tower made quantifiable improvements to Airport safety but could be improved in addressing noise and annoyance. Part of that was attributed to the newness of the program – with the complex airspace and diverse variety of aircraft using the Airport, staff felt the tower only began to hit its stride as it closed for the season in September.

Staff is confident that, with additional time, training, familiarization and procedure development, additional reduction to noise and annoyance will be possible moving forward.

Possible improvements that could help noise and annoyance include additional instruction to airborne aircraft, tower control of altitude to reduce low fliers, and increased use of preferred runway 02/20.

During the tower operation period, noise and annoyance comments decreased by about 10 percent in spite of increases in operations, but those who did comment generally didn't feel the tower improved noise and annoyance, according to a survey of commenters.

Pilots overwhelmingly felt that the tower improved safety at the Airport, a feeling backed up by Airport statistics gathered this summer.

Overall, the summer test period of the tower was deemed a success, and the Board supported its continued use this winter. Contracting for summer 2018 is still being negotiated and to be voted on at a later date.

To learn more, go to truckeetahoeairport.com.

AT THE AIRPORT

KTRK TAKES ON LOCAL HOUSING CRISIS

The Truckee Tahoe Airport District has taken an active role in addressing the growing housing crisis in the Truckee-Tahoe region, seeking solutions to help provide more achievable housing for local residents and workers.

The District's Board of Directors has made the issue a priority, because the Airport needs housing for its employees and as a public district representing the residents of the region. Board members have formed an ad hoc committee on the subject, seeking real-world, on-the-ground solutions.

"About 145 to 150 people come to work at the Airport every day with the District and for businesses on District property," said Kevin Smith, Truckee Tahoe Airport General Manager. "The viability of the Airport is contingent on a robust housing market."

The Airport invested in a housing project near the Armstrong Tract subdivision on the Lizondo Parcel owned by local developer Rick Lee. This project will create 22 rental units with a total of 66 bedrooms using shipping containers to reduce cost. Airport staff will be given first right of refusal on the units, which would then open up to local residents working in the Airport District boundaries. Units will rent for \$750 per bedroom (\$1,500 for a two-bedroom unit), deed-restricted to

achievable levels for 15 years.

The District was also the first public agency to commit as a funding partner to the Mountain Housing Council of Tahoe Truckee. The Council

– there's a lot of energy behind it and we support what they're trying to do. We want to be involved," Smith said.

The Airport District is also working with the



▲ A rendering of the housing project being developed near Armstrong Tract by local developer Rick Lee.

is made up of area agencies, businesses and nonprofits aimed at tackling the region's housing issues. The District has pledged \$50,000 a year for the next three years and is taking an active role on the Council.

"We're excited about the work of the Council

of Truckee and other entities to identify potential projects that may be approved but are in need of some kind of assistance.

To find out more information, go to truckeetahoeairport.com.

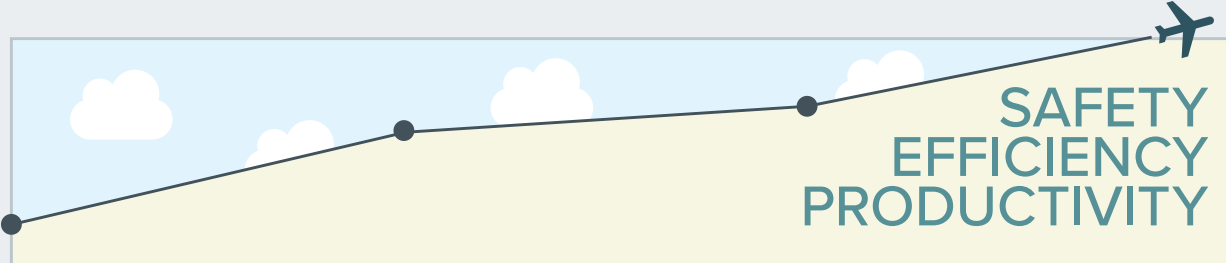


Santa Claus is coming to Truckee! Ahead of his busy holiday schedule, Santa will be making his annual visit to the Truckee Tahoe Airport. Bring your kids to the Airport at 10 a.m. on Saturday, December 9 to watch Santa Fly-In on a special plane. Enjoy hot chocolate, yummy holiday treats, and more. Visit with Santa and his elves and receive special gifts for the kids. Santa will be collecting letters, and kids will have the opportunity to share their holiday wishes with him and Mrs. Claus.

This event is sponsored by the Truckee Tahoe Airport District. Special thanks goes to the Boys & Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe, the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District, Crux Events and all the volunteers that help make this event a success every year.

For more information, visit truckeetahoeairport.com or contact Marc Lamb at marc.lamb@truckeetahoeairport.com.

THE BUSINESS OF THE AIRPORT IS YOUR BUSINESS



The Truckee Tahoe Airport District continually strives to improve safety, service and efficiency for users, and reduce noise and annoyance for local residents.

TAHOE CITY HELIPAD

The District is constructing an emergency services helipad in Tahoe City off Fairway Drive, near the west end of the golf course. The \$550,000 project is expected to be completed early December 2017.

The helipad is for EMS use only, including medivac, fire, police and disaster relief. The helipad will not be available for private or commercial operations.

The District is considering additional EMS helipad options in the Tahoe Basin (Homewood, Kings Beach) and on the Sierra Crest near Donner Summit.

FLIGHT TRACKING SYSTEMS

The District's goal is to reflect the community it serves. This includes the facilities, amenities, and infrastructure that support a healthy, safe, and community-friendly airport. In an effort to reduce community annoyance and enhance safety, the District is updating many of its systems. The first system tracks aircraft. The District currently has a system that will become outdated in 2020 when the FAA's new Next Generation Air Transport

ation System comes online. The District has been working with vendors, the FAA, Congressman McClintock, and elected representatives in Washington, D.C., to replace and upgrade our aircraft surveillance system.

The District is also developing procedures that direct aircraft to fly over areas of lower residential density. These procedures, along with the Seasonal Control Tower, may allow the District to more actively control aircraft and reduce annoyance from approach, departure and overflight. While no single initiative will eliminate aircraft noise and annoyance, it is the goal of the District to continually support new concepts that help mitigate it.

ACAT CORNER

NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS JOIN ADVISORY TEAM

The Airport Community Advisory Team (ACAT), founded in 2005, strives to develop solutions and strategies to minimize impacts of the Airport on surrounding communities. Additionally, ACAT works to generate ideas around garnering public benefits from the District.

ACAT is comprised of six local District volunteers (three community members and three pilot members) who are appointed by the Airport Board of Directors to three-year terms. They are dedicated to serving both the local community and the Airport, and in finding win-win solutions wherever possible. Recommendations from ACAT go directly to the Board of Directors on a monthly basis.

The TTAD Board recently reappointed Lisa Krueger as a Community Member and appointed Paul "Speedy" Fast as a Pilot Member.

Having worked in venture capital, private equity,

software, and nonprofit industries for over 24 years, Lisa brings a unique combination of marketing, communications, operations, strategic events, PR, development, and finance expertise to her work.

Paul is a 27-year general aviation pilot, a 26-year Air Force flight officer, small business owner, and full-time resident of the North Tahoe area. Paul's civilian and military aviation experience is matched by his passion for the health, safety and welfare of our North Tahoe communities.



▲ ACAT members Lisa Krueger and Paul "Speedy" Fast.

As president and CEO of Flight Research Associates, Paul's day-to-day job includes working closely with NASA and the FAA in supporting research and development relating to Next Generation flight and air traffic management technologies.

For additional information about ACAT, please email Hardy Bullock, Director of Aviation & Community Services, at hardy.bullock@truckeetahoeairport.com.

ACAT meets in the Airport Terminal Building, Board Room A, on the second Tuesday of every month at 9:15 a.m. Meetings are open to the public and attendance is encouraged.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Airport Studies Environmental Impacts

In an effort to better understand its environmental impacts, Truckee Tahoe Airport commissioned a Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Management Plan. At the October Board Meeting, First Environment, the consultant firm hired to perform the Inventory Study, presented its results, and made recommendations for how the District could reduce emissions moving forward.

Emissions were divided into three groups: 1) direct emissions, generated from activities owned or controlled by the Airport, 2) indirect emissions from electricity used by the Airport, plus all other indirect emissions from airport tenants, and 3) all other indirect emissions, including emissions from airport tenants and emissions generated by aircraft that use the Airport.

The results showed that direct emissions from activities owned by the Airport (nat gas heating, fleet vehicles, ground equipment, etc.) amounted to 158.60 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e) in a year – the equivalent to 33.5 passenger vehicles used in the same timeframe.

Emissions from electricity used by the Airport added up to 138.07 metric tons CO₂e – roughly the equivalent of 20.4 homes' energy use for the same period of time.

The largest amount came from items not directly controlled by the Airport, including aircraft operations defined as landings and takeoff movements to an altitude of 3,000 feet, totaling 1,873.26 metric tons CO₂e – the approximate amount of 396 passenger vehicles driven for a year.

This baseline information, calculated from 2015 data, allows the Airport District to make decisions moving forward as to the best ways it can reduce or mitigate its environmental impact. The Board of Directors has formed an ad hoc committee to focus on these issues.

The District is looking at many potential programs to reduce its greenhouse gas footprint. Operations & Maintenance is currently in the process of replacing exterior airfield lighting in hangar rows and at the maintenance facility. The new high efficiency LEDs are motion/occupancy-sensored, reducing electricity consumption. Additionally, the new lighting is shielded (pointing downward) reducing light pollution and promoting a night sky-friendly environment to maintain Truckee's renowned starry nights.

To see the complete Greenhouse Gas Inventory, go to truckeetahoeairport.com.

GHG Emissions by Scope

Scope 1: 158.60 metric tons
(direct emissions by Airport controlled activities)

Scope 2: 138.07 metric tons
(indirect emissions by Airport & on-field tenants)

Scope 3: 1,873.26 metric tons
(emissions by aircraft using the Airport)

Art at the Airport

Walk into the Truckee Tahoe Airport's main terminal building, and you'll immediately notice the captivating, eclectic and inspiring artwork hanging on its walls.

"Art At The Airport," a program now in its fifth year, was developed by local Truckee resident and artist, Carole Sesko. As coordinator and curator, Carole creatively designs the exhibit displays featuring local and regional artists. The artwork not only adds color and intrigue to the building, but also gives artists the opportunity to showcase and even sell their artwork.

Artists currently on display through January 23, 2018, include Tracy Barbutes, Peggy Herrick, Janelle Marie and Carole Sesko.

For more information on the artists, please visit truckeetahoeairport.com/guide/art-at-the-airport. Artists interested in having their work considered for a future exhibit at the Airport, please contact Carole at carole@carolesesko.com.



▲ "All Go" by Janelle Marie on display at KTRK.

ABOUT THE AIRPORT

Hours of Operation

Airport: 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Fuel: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Red Truck: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Mon. – Sat.)

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Connect with the Truckee Tahoe Airport District on Facebook and Instagram to stay up-to-date with all the latest news and events.

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Join us for Santa's Annual Fly-In

Bring your kids to the Airport at 10 a.m. on **Saturday, December 9** to watch **Santa fly-in** on a special plane. Enjoy **hot chocolate**, **yummy holiday treats**, and **more**. Visit with **Santa** and receive special **gifts for the kids**.

Event sponsored by the Truckee Tahoe Airport District. Special thanks to the Boys & Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe, the Tahoe United School District, CruX, and all our volunteers. For more information, visit www.truckeetahoeairport.com or contact Marc Lamb at marclamb@truckeetahoeairport.com.

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Truckee Tahoe Airport. Connected.