Bob’s Blog
Thoughts from KBFI Airport Director
Robert I. Burke, AAE

Bob’s Blog
The “Holiday Season” has once again arrived signaling the end of another successful year for KBFI. The season is also a time of reflection and the opportunity to spend time with family and friends and be thankful for what we have. Airport Staff have again participated in community events, not only during the holiday season, but throughout the year. The Annual American Heart Association “Heart Walk” continues to be a popular staff event during October. Collections for the Georgetown Food and Clothing Bank are another popular effort. Airport staff is proud to have been a part of the Thanksgiving Meal Program which provided more than 1,700 meals to needy families.

We are participating in King County’s “Hero Program” providing internships for returning veterans. In January we will welcome Ryan Schwend, a CH47 “Chinook” pilot who returned from Afghanistan last summer. He will be working in our GIS Section on a 6-month Internship. You will no doubt see him out and about as he performs his duties.

2014 promises to be an exciting year as we finalize our Strategic Business Plan, design and commission construction of our new ARFF Station, and plan for the airport’s secure future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support during 2013 and wish you and your families a very happy holiday season and a prosperous 2014. I and airport staff look forward to our continued relationship as we begin the New Year.

Kenmore Air Express Service Expansion
Kenmore Air Express is excited to announce that beginning in March of 2014, they will begin a daily schedule of commuter service between Nanaimo, BC Canada and Boeing Field. The new service will connect the City of Nanaimo to KBFI and on to the US “National Air Transportation System” through the Express all weather SEATAC connection. Nanaimo, also nicknamed the “Hub City”, serves as a central location with easy access to the population centers of Vancouver Island. Look for more information in the upcoming months.

Kenmore Air Express will begin service to Nanaimo, B.C. in March of 2014.
Winter Reminder

On November 12, KBFI Operations hosted the annual Winter Operations Tenant Meeting. Operations staff introduced the newest edition of the Airport's Snow and Ice Plan, discussed the incorporation of ATCT briefings, and reviewed training procedures for Airport staff, which includes weekly ‘dry runs’ of snow removal equipment. Airport tenants were also invited out onto the terminal ramp to view the Airport’s latest snow broom, de-icer, and snow blower equipment.

Below is a list of the equipment we have on hand which is necessary to comply with FAA regulations and support safe winter Airport operations.

Snow Blowers:
- 2012 Oshkosh Articulated Snow blower
- 1985 Oshkosh Articulated Snow blower

Broom:
- 2012 Sweepster Western Star 4900 series 18’ front end broom

De-icers:
- 2008 Tyler/International Deicer truck 1100 gallon tank and 50’ boom
- De-icer tank tow behind 500 gallon tank w/25’ boom

Plows:
- 1982 Oshkosh with 19’ variable pitch blade
- 1984 Oshkosh with 22’ variable pitch blade
- 1990 Oshkosh 22’ variable pitch blade
- 2009 International with 11’ V blade
- 2013 MB3 18’ blade (to be delivered in December)

When adverse weather arrives, Airport Operations & Maintenance will switch to two 12 hour shifts to provide continuous airfield coverage. Snow removal procedures fall into Priority 1, Priority 2, and Priority 3 categories. Please keep in mind that clearing leasehold ramps is the responsibility of each individual Airport tenant. The Airport Operations 24-hour telephone line, (206) 296-7334 will be linked to the Snow Control desk to provide tenants with updated conditions.

Aircraft operators MUST use the designated de-icing/wash pads, and only Type 2 products for de-icing (e.g. propylene glycol). Please reference the 2013 KBFI De-icing Pad Map at [www.kingcounty.gov/airport](http://www.kingcounty.gov/airport), as well as the Policy and Overview documents should any de-icing spills occur. Please contact Airport Operations at 206-296-7334 PRIOR to conducting any de-icing of aircraft. This is especially important if there is any uncertainty if your aircraft is the appropriate size for a wash pad.

KBFI’s Sound Insulation Program

Noise mitigation programs exist across the country and are funded by Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants authorized by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and are matched by participating airports. KBFI’s program commenced in 2005 as part of the Airport’s FAR Part 150 Land Use and Noise Compatibility Study. Construction activities for this free and voluntary program began in 2008 with installation of acoustical windows and doors in qualified homes. By the end of November 2014, KBFI will have successfully completed 618 homes thereby reducing their interior noise levels by 6-23 decibels each based upon pre-and-post construction noise tests.

Over this period approximately $42 M will have been invested in the program – Almost $40 M in FAA grants matched by nearly $2 M in KBFI Airport funds.

As an important side benefit, acoustical windows and doors also reduce the amount of energy consumed within each household where sound reduction treatments occurred. Research indicates that each home treated by KBFI will benefit from an average estimated $250/year savings in energy costs.

KBFI’s program also complied with State building codes that required each treated home to have improved ventilation installed to address interior air quality and circulation.

Many of KBFI’s neighbors are first-generation immigrants and have Limited English Proficiency (LEP); KBFI provided language assistance as an integral part of its outreach effort that included translation of program materials into six languages, as well as interpreter services supporting all phases of the program. During 2013 alone, 55 homeowners requested language assistance which enabled them to communicate with construction contractors, program personnel, and architects assigned throughout the legal and construction process.

With KBFI’s location in Seattle’s oldest, interurban neighborhood which is both densely-populated and diverse, some homes were identified area-wide as meeting federal criteria as “historic places.” By agreement between KBFI, the FAA, and the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP), homes identified as potentially significant historic places are treated consistent with their architectural style and period in order to protect the original millwork trim, doors, and wood windows. By program’s end, KBFI will have treated 24 historic homes located in Georgetown (north) and Beacon Hill (east) neighborhoods of Seattle and the Allentown neighborhood of Tukwila just south of the Airport.

KBFI’s Sound Insulation Program, which will conclude at the end of 2014, represents a substantial quality-of-life contribution for families in surrounding neighborhoods.

A Historic Farmhouse in Tukwila received new doors and windows through KBFI's Sound Insulation program

KBFI’s Badge Office is Moving!

The Airport Badging office will soon be located just west of its current location through the Airport Operations door. Watch for new EXTENDED HOURS to be announced in the New Year!