



# Employ Florida BannerCenter Aviation & Aerospace

VOLUME 2 NO. 2 | SPRING 2010



## Our Mission

The Aerospace Resource Center is the Employ Florida Banner Center for Aviation & Aerospace. It is a statewide, industry-driven resource for aviation and aerospace workforce education and training.

## Aviation & Aerospace Advisory Council

The Council is made up of industry leaders in the State of Florida to provide direction towards implementation of Banner Center industry education and training objectives.

## Key Dates

### Aviation & Aerospace Advisory Council Meetings

#### Thursday, March 4, 2010

via conference call/webinar.  
9:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

#### Friday, April 16, 2010

At Sun n' Fun in Lakeland, FL & via conference call/webinar  
2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

### Focus Group Meeting

#### Thursday, February 18, 2010

Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa & Walton Counties  
109 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Shalimar, FL 32579  
8:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

## Program Manager Update

By Tom Baine, Program Manager

As we move forward towards the end of this third year, the Employ Florida Banner Center for Aviation and Aerospace, also known as the Aerospace Resource Center (ARC), has made considerable inroads towards its goals in developing and delivering its products and services throughout Florida. We have active training being delivered in the Miami-Dade, Brevard, and Duval areas, and are reaching out to industry and educational partners elsewhere in the state to broaden the reach of the ARC and its training to further the successes of the aerospace industry in Florida.

We are working hard to bridge aerospace training gaps with industry-driven curricula. With this goal in mind, we have recently completed three aerospace focus groups with industry, education, and workforce experts in South, Central, and Northwest Florida. With a wealth of data in hand, we are currently in the process of developing more curricula to fill in industry workforce gaps.

During a recent trip to Okaloosa County in Northwest Florida, we were graciously given a tour of the school district's CHOICE Aviation Institute at Choctawhatchee High School. I must say that we were very impressed with the facility, with aircraft hanging from ceilings and a full-size replica of the Wright Flyer hanging in one of the classrooms. We were even more impressed with the administrators, instructors, and especially the students, all of whom were clearly passionate about the future of aviation here in Florida. The feature story in this newsletter expresses the spirit and enthusiasm of this remarkable institution.

As we look forward to the completion of our third contract year and the anticipation of our fourth year, the ARC remains focused on the education and training needs of aerospace industry occupations which are vital to the growth of the aerospace industry in Florida. We will continue to work with and create new industry partners as we spread our wings and increase our reach throughout the state.

## Banner Center Staff

**Gene Milowicki**  
Director

**Tom Baine**  
Program Manager  
BC Coordinator

**Judy Rice**  
Program Coordinator  
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## Visit us online at:

To learn more about the Aerospace Resource Center (ARC), an Employ Florida Banner Center for Aviation and Aerospace, go to our web site at: [www.aerocenter.org](http://www.aerocenter.org) or contact us at [info@aerocenter.org](mailto:info@aerocenter.org).

## Feature Story

### Okaloosa County School District's CHOICE Aviation Institutes

Contributed by Leo Murphy, Director of the CHOICE Aviation Institute (edited from full article published in *The AutoPILOT* December/January 2007).

Choctawhatchee High School Principal Cindy Gates' vision of an aviation learning community is a sparkling reality in this small Fort Walton Beach, Florida community. Nestled between two Air Force bases with dozens of aerospace manufacturers nearby, an introduction to a career in aviation was a natural fit with Okaloosa County School District's award-winning CHOICE (Community High Okaloosa County Institutes for Career Education) program.

Created two years ago under the leadership of Superintendent Don Gaetz, School Board Chairperson Cindy Frakes, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Frank Fuller, and Workforce Development Board Executive Director Mary Lou Reed, CHOICE has been declared a model for career education by the US Department of Labor and the state of Florida. The CHOICE model provides a structure for reforming high school education to ensure that graduating students are prepared for immediate employment, movement into post-secondary training, or college.

In collaboration with Dr. Robert Owen of the Aeronautical Science Department at the with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Daytona Beach campus, the school district renovated several classrooms to full electronic classroom standards and built facilities for an aviation maintenance training program. Brought on as the first Dean of the Aviation Institute was retired Naval Aviator Leo Murphy, who recently served as Director of the US Navy's Aviation Training School at Naval Air Station Pensacola. Over a period of several months, Gates, Murphy, and Owen put together a first of its kind program that has since been replicated in several schools in Florida and Illinois.



**Aviation maintenance is just one component of the aviation curriculum at Choctawhatchee.**

Over 300 students in one classroom, donated airplanes and a seaplane fill other classrooms, and a fully restored World War II-era Link Trainer in the hangar awaits young flight students.

A leading supporter of the aviation institute has been Fort Walton Beach's Experimental Aircraft Association Choctaw Chapter 108 which has flown several hundred students without charge through their Young Eagle program. "The look on their faces when they return from the first airplane flight in their life is worth all of the time and effort we put into this program" related Murphy. "Their eyes will be forever focused upward."

For more information, visit [www.choiceinstitutes.com](http://www.choiceinstitutes.com) or call 850-833-3614.



## The ARC Welcomes Judy Rice as Our New Program Coordinator

By Tom Baine, Program Manager

I would like to introduce Judy Rice as our new Aerospace Resource Center Program Coordinator. She has a lifetime dedication for the aerospace industry, adding a wealth of experience and expertise to the ARC Team.

Ms. Rice has extensive experience within the aerospace industry with numerous awards recognizing her many accomplishments. She serves on many national boards and has worked closely with the U.S. Department of Education. Judy's extensive past experience in formal education provides a clear understanding of the learning process.

Judy was responsible for development and project management as Executive Director for the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA). While at EAA, she created the world's largest youth educational component to an air show. She is also widely recognized for her work with McGraw Hill on the EAA Aviation Charter School curricula.

As Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Deputy Director of Education/Outreach, Ms. Rice lead 18 staff and countless volunteers across the nation bridging the gap between educators, the Air Force, and volunteers. As Careers in Aviation President/CEO, a non-profit scholarship organization, she brought industry and education together providing scholarships for aerospace career students.

Judy's most recent employment as an EFM Career Specialist, lead her to discover the Banner Centers during a Workforce Investment Act training seminar. She has her instrument rating, commercial pilot certificate, advance ground instructor certificate, and is the proud owner of a Grumman AA-1A Yankee.

Please join me in welcoming Judy to the ARC Team!

# Scholarship Spotlight

## Readin', Writin', and Rutans

By Kelly Hall, *Celebrity Scholarships*

There are many ways to support education, especially in this challenging economic climate. What better way than to approach the two most innovative and creative brothers in aviation?

Dick Rutan has experienced a lot of adventures. He flew around the world non-stop and unrefueled in the Voyager in 1986, he flew around again in his Long EZ in 1997, he set a world record for distance in the EZRocket, and has recently finished building a Berkut, with plans to capture even more world records, and to re-capture some he's lost along the way. Other adventures can be viewed at [www.dickrutan.com](http://www.dickrutan.com).

Burt Rutan, airplane and spaceship developer, is arguably one of the most prolific aviation and space designers – ever. His unique and creative designs have solved many challenges, and he's not done! His fascinating aircraft have been featured on magazines – from aviation magazines to Popular Science to Entrepreneur Magazine. ([www.scaled.com](http://www.scaled.com)) He is not only an amazing designer of aircraft, spaceships, motherships and even his own pyramid shaped home, he is a champion in furthering education. His wife, Tonya, spearheaded 'Rocket Boosters' –a group that raised over a quarter of a million dollars for local charities after the success of SpaceShipOne.

When Celebrity Scholarships, Inc. (CSI) was first formed just 18 months ago, Dick was happy to accept an Honorary Board Member position to lend his name to help raise funds. In addition to attending many events on behalf of CSI, he has been gracious in donating unique, autographed items for them to sell on Ebay.

But by far, the most innovative and creative participation by Burt has come with Rutan Rocket Fuel, a delicious, out of this world, hot sauce. The birth of that project came when Bill Ingram, of Just Chili, attended the Rutan Bros. Birthday Bash. His t-shirt from the party didn't fit, and when he returned it for a different size, he included some of his hot sauce and a quick note that jokingly said, "Tell Burt if he would have used this, he would have gotten another 10K feet." At that moment, Rutan Rocket Fuel was launched.

CSI ([www.celebrityscholarships.com](http://www.celebrityscholarships.com)) partnered with the Mojave Transportation Museum (MTM) and in an instant, Rutan Rocket Fuel was a fundraiser for both of these non profits. These two charitable groups were able to share the start up costs and move forward quickly to produce the product with the help of Ingram, who walked them through every step. Burt was kind enough to lend his name and support of this unique idea.

At a street fair fundraiser, CSI sold a hundred bottles of Rutan Rocket Fuel in just a couple of hours. A simple drip on a chip to allow patrons to taste this hot sauce led to instant sales, and a few sales of 'fire extinguisher' (water).

With the funds raised from the sales of Rutan Rocket Fuel, CSI is granting scholarships (reviews in May, awards in June) to students, and 'adopted' a kindergarten classroom and donated \$1K worth of copy paper, educational toys, and puzzles, CD's and more! The MTM ([www.mojavemuseum.org](http://www.mojavemuseum.org)) has plans of building a museum structure on the Mojave Air and SpacePort. It has been said that Burt builds spaceships out of composites, and the MTM will build a museum out of hot sauce!

With the power of the internet, there have been orders world wide – as far away as Germany! Yes, it's a small world...unless you have to fly around it...or out of it.



By Lynda Meeks, *President*

Girls With Wings, Inc., is a nonprofit organization encouraging more girls to develop an interest in aviation through early introduction and participation in specialized presentations in educational and aviation based venues, as well as through our website, [www.GirlsWithWings.com](http://www.GirlsWithWings.com).

Our goal at GWW is to nurture self confidence and motivate young girls to pursue various aviation careers later in life with community outreach and public awareness efforts. The GWW program offers fully rounded demonstrations, with a short version of "everything" a pilot needs to know in order to complete a flight, to schools, Girl Scout groups, career days, etc.

This interactive presentation incorporates various aeronautical products, and begins with a talk where I ask the girls if they think they could ever figure out what a pilot does, to which they invariably reply "no." After showing them navigation charts, demonstrating the methods of communicating with ATC, and playing a game explaining what the flight instruments do, I remind them that they told me they never thought they would be able to figure it out. My mission is to illustrate that they can comprehend anything, achieve any feat, and even fly a plane if they want.

Perhaps their future is not in aviation, but this still is a fantastic tool to help them to understand the true meaning of this lesson: doing what they love may require hard work and study, the results of which can be rewarding.



## Obama's New NASA Policy Opens Up Space Market

(Source: *Inc. Magazine*)  
Contributed by Edward Ellegood, ERAU

SpaceX, PayPal founder Elon Musk's upstart aerospace company, last week began piecing together the first version of a new rocket that could someday launch American astronauts into the stratosphere. This is spacecraft on a shoestring: To avoid costly, custom-made parts, the 900-person, eight-year-old company relies on refurbishments of those already on the shelf. Among them: An Apollo-era 125,000 gallon liquid oxygen tank (price tag: \$86,000, the price of the scrap metal). As a result, the estimated cost of one of Musk's launches is a relatively affordable \$100 million.

It's all part of Musk's plan to usher in the era of low-cost space travel – well-timed, because last week's NASA 2011 budget request included a \$6 billion boost over five years to privatize human space flights. SpaceX's isn't the only ride NASA can pimp – the new space policy opens up healthy market competition. Dulles, Virginia's Orbital Sciences is building its own rockets under a separate NASA contract. On Feb. 2, NASA also announced \$50 million in awards to support the commercial spaceflight efforts of five other companies.

Colorado's Sierra Nevada Corp was the big winner, picking up \$20 million to develop its seven-person Dream Chaser craft. Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos's Blue Origin won \$3.7 million to develop a launch escape system and build a crew-carrying module, and Paragon Space Development Corp. won \$1.4 million to perfect its environmental control and life support air vitalization system. Other winners: Boeing, which picked up \$18 million for its own seven-person space capsule, and the United Launch Alliance, a Boeing-Lockheed Martin joint project, which received \$6.7 million to develop a way to monitor the health of unmanned rockets that could be recycled to launch manned spacecraft. (2/17)

## Training and Curriculum

### Association Seeks Presenters for St. Paul Conference

By David McAlister, Member Services Coordinator, UAA

Each year, the University Aviation Association seeks presenters for its Fall Education Conference. UAA is a non-profit, membership organization representing collegiate aviation, whose members include colleges and universities offering aviation degrees, as well as high schools, educators, students, aviation companies, and a wide range of other aviation professionals.



UNIVERSITY AVIATION  
ASSOCIATION

The UAA Fall Education Conference is a densely packed annual event, consisting of professional paper presentations, education sessions, professional development workshops, student poster sessions, best practices and research roundtables, as well as industry tours of aviation institutions and companies. The Conference offers the ideal environment for academic professionals to compare information and best practices with colleagues from across the country. Equally important, it allows educators and industry representatives, working together, to ensure that graduates enter the aviation field equipped with current and relevant knowledge and skills.

UAA is now seeking Education Session and Professional Development Workshop presenters for its 2010 Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota, to be held October 5-7. Proposals for Education Sessions should relate to this year's conference theme, *OPPORTUNITY—Changes in the Air*. Proposals are welcomed on all segments of the industry—air traffic control, flight, maintenance, management, operations, etc. Submit Education Session proposals in the form of a 200-word description of the proposed Session, along with the names and contact information for the presenters, via e-mail to Dr. Guy Smith, UAA Meeting Planning Chair, at [ypsilon@earthlink.net](mailto:ypsilon@earthlink.net) AND [smithabc@erau.edu](mailto:smithabc@erau.edu) by February 28, 2010.

Two Professional Development Workshops will be delivered on Tuesday, October 5. Past workshop topics have included institutional fundraising, writing for publication, grant writing, development of collegiate aviation safety programs, and preparing tenure and promotion portfolios. Please submit a 100-200 word Workshop proposal to Professor Don Petrin, UAA Professional Development Committee Chair, [dapetrin@purdue.edu](mailto:dapetrin@purdue.edu) by February 28, 2010. Be sure to include the name(s) of the presenter(s) and contact information.

For more information on the University Aviation Association and the Fall Education Conference, please see our Web site, [www.uaa.aero](http://www.uaa.aero).

## FAA AVSED Will Provide Regional STEM Workshops for Educators

By James Brough, FAA National Aviation & Space Education Mgr.

The industry is growing and changing however, our aerospace workforce is decreasing. Retirements from the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) labor force are likely to become more significant over the next decade. Twenty-six percent of all STEM degree holders in the labor force are age 50 or older, and among STEM doctorate holders in the labor force, 40 percent are age 50 or older. This adds up to a critical shortage of trained aerospace professionals.

Educators are working to improve STEM education, but resources are scarce for training. In an effort to address these concerns and increase the workforce pipeline, FAA's Aviation and Space Education (AVSED) Program is actively working and developing new partnerships. By collaborating with industry and educational organizations, FAA is providing support and training.

This year, the FAA AVSED Program is working with the National Coalition for Aviation and Space Education. This partnership, along with local sponsors including Experimental Aircraft Association, American Institute of Aeronautics, and Astronautics National Air and Space Museum, will co-sponsor five regional educator workshops across the country designed to provide STEM programs and resource information.

There will be many hands-on activities and information on exciting new STEM programs for schools, and new ideas will be shared. These workshops are tailored to provide educators with the tools they need to develop and teach cost effective STEM programs. Educators will leave these workshops with new approaches and resources to support them, and graduate credit is available for these trainings.

For information on the workshops including location and times go to <http://www.ncase.info/>

# The National Coalition for Aviation and Space Education (NCASE)

By Kenneth Cook, President

The National Coalition for Aviation and Space Education (NCASE) represents government, industry, and labor united to promote aviation education activities and resources, increase public understanding of aviation, and support educational initiatives at the local, state, and national levels. NCASE has recently started a name change from its former name NCAE, the National coalition for Aviation Education, to better reflect its support for both aviation and space related education.

Members of NCASE are aviation and space-related groups, organizations, agencies, and businesses recognizing the importance of aviation education. Educational projects contribute toward an informed and interested public, which is a vital factor in the continued well-being of the aviation industry. There are currently more than 40 NCASE member organizations.

The aviation and aerospace industry offers a multitude of challenging careers for pilots, engineers, scientists, mechanics, teachers, researchers, designers and other professionals. Aerospace-related opportunities will increase in manufacturing, air traffic control, air safety, sales, search and rescue, agriculture, government, technology, and in the legal and political arenas. Useful career resource materials are available directly from NCASE members.

Aviation and space studies provide highly motivational subject areas for children. The wonders of flight along with new and exciting technological advances challenge their imaginations. Teachers who use aviation and space education in their classes can favorably influence large numbers of students over a long period of time.

And enthusiastic young people tend to have a multiplier effect as they actively share their interest in aviation with family and friends. Aviation activities used in the classroom or for clubs or youth groups can serve as a catalyst to motivate young adults to seek careers in the industry. The teaching resource materials listed on the NCASE web site are offered directly by NCASE members.

The web site also offers information regarding aviation camps and space camps, upcoming aviation and space events, and scholarships and awards. NCASE does not sell or distribute materials itself, but serves as a central referral resource for its member organizations. To receive specific information or to locate a career resource or teaching resource materials please contact the members listed on the NCASE web site directly.

Visit the NCASE web site [www.aviationeducation.org](http://www.aviationeducation.org) for further information provided by the NCASE member groups. For information on becoming a member, see the [About NCASE](#) section.



## Air Force Talks Airspace When It Comes to New UAS Mission

(Source: *Grand Forks Herald*)

Based on comments given at this week's public hearings on the Air Force's proposal to restrict large blocks of airspace over eastern North Dakota for the new mission of unmanned aerial vehicles, private pilots want as little changed as possible.

Full article available [here](#).

## "Pilot-Optional" DA42 To Fly This Summer

(Source: AVWeb)

Test flights are set to start this summer of a Diamond DA42 that will be modified to fly in a "pilot optional" configuration. [Aurora Flight Sciences](#), of Manassas, Va., is creating the Optionally Piloted Vehicle prototype, called the Centaur, for a variety of scientific and military applications.

Full article available [here](#).

## Deployed Global Hawks Surpass 30,000 Combat Flying Hours

(Source: ASDNews)

One of the largest unmanned aerial systems operating in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, the RQ-4 Global Hawk, surpassed 30,000 combat flying hours and 1,500 combat sorties Feb. 10 here.

Full article available [here](#).

## FAA Seeks Comment on Pilot Certifications

(Source: FAA)

As part of the FAA's Call to Action to enhance airline safety following last year's Colgan Air accident in Buffalo, NY, the FAA today asked for recommendations to improve pilot qualification and training requirements.

Full article available [here](#).

## USAF Thunderbirds Return to Sun 'n Fun in April

(Source: Sun 'n Fun Web Site, 12/09)

The United States Air Force (USAF) Thunderbirds military jet team announced today that the SUN 'n FUN International Fly-In & Expo has been selected as a general aviation event venue on their 2010 Thunderbirds appearance schedule. The announcement was made today at the International Council of Airshows (ICAS) Convention currently underway in Las Vegas, NV. The 2010 SUN 'n FUN International Fly-In & Expo will be held April 13 – 18 on its campus at Lakeland Linder Regional Airport in Lakeland, Florida.

"SUN 'n FUN is honored and excited to hear that the world recognized military jet team – the Thunderbirds – has included our event on their 2010 schedule," said SUN 'n FUN President and CEO, John Burton.

Full article available [here](#).

## Unlimited Free Private Tutoring For All Students With Parents in the U.S. Military

By Kara Froman, Client Services Manager

U.S. Military service members and their dependents around the world can now work with a live professional tutor online 24/7 to get help with homework, studying, and test prep, the minute they need it, thanks to a Department of Defense (DoD) funded contract with Tutor.com.



"Providing 24/7 academic and career support for military families during a time when so many parents have a deployed spouse has been an important and well-received benefit for Marine Corps and Army families," said Tommy T. Thomas, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Military Community and Family Policy. "We are pleased to expand this program to all U.S. military families and provide peace of mind that their children are never alone when it comes to learning – there is always a certified, professional tutor available to help."

Bart Epstein of Tutor.com, an instrument-rated volunteer pilot for Angel Flight, NASA, and AOPA/ASF (and recent nCASE speaker) reports that a nationwide effort is underway to inform all military families that there is no longer any need for students to struggle, remain stuck, or become frustrated with their homework, because the award-winning Tutor.com program allows covered students to connect right now, with no appointment required, to an expert tutor for live one-to-one help with algebra, chemistry, earth science, essay writing, calculus, biology, and much more.

Epstein notes that teachers, principals, and administrators should take particular note of the program's simplicity, stating, "If your school serves military families you need only point them to [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military). Unlike most other federal programs, schools do not need to fill out any forms, generate any reports, apply for any grants, or do anything...other than spread the word."

Epstein notes that in addition to Tutor.com being available at no charge to all military families it is also available to at no charge to employees of major companies such as Intel, Random House, AT&T, and to residents whose school and/or library may subscribe to the Tutor.com service. (Families not covered by an existing program may subscribe to Tutor.com directly at [www.tutor.com](http://www.tutor.com).)

Tutor.com has become so popular and successful for two key reasons, says Epstein. "The first is that our expert tutors are rated thousands of times every day, by the students they serve. Tutors know that maintaining highest ratings from students is hugely important." The second is that because Tutor.com has completed more than five million tutoring sessions, "we may not know which particular students are going to show up this afternoon for help with their algebra homework, but have so much data now that we can accurately forecast how many students are likely to show up each hour of the day in each subject and grade level."

More details, including eligibility specifics, may be found at [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military).

## New Educational Initiative Works to Inspire with Space Exploration

By Brad Cheetham, Project Manager



The newly created WeWantOurFuture.org has unveiled the most ambitious student-run grassroots space exploration educational initiative to date. The project, entitled the "We Want Our Future" initiative, aims to collect more than 100,000 postcards from young students around the country, depicting what each student imagines as the future of space exploration. The project will merge technical dreams with artistic expression.

The student-lead team at WeWantOurFuture.org (WWOF) plans to use space exploration to inspire K-12 (kindergarten-high school) aged students. Development has begun on a video presentation and outreach package that will describe exploration through the ages and culminate with information about space exploration today. Emphasis will be placed on the importance of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Participants will be inspired and empowered by this presentation to dream big about the future and how they can be a part of it. The participants will then be asked to depict their visions for the future of space exploration on the front of a 'post-card' and subsequently provide an age appropriate description or response on the reverse side of the card.

When asked about the program, former astronaut Joe Tanner said, "The imagination and vision of our youth will determine the greatness of our future." This initiative plans to encourage the imagination of our youth in regards to space exploration. The post-cards, which the WWOF team hopes will number more than 100,000, will be assembled together and used to send a cohesive message to the nation as well as government officials.

In order to make this project a success we need your help. The future of space exploration depends not only on the actions of today, but also the education of the leaders of tomorrow. This initiative will inspire future generations while reminding our current leaders that America is a nation born of exploration and a nation whose prosperity relies on continued exploration. To reach our goal of more than 100,000 youth participants from all across the country we need help from teachers, youth leaders, parents, volunteers, and sponsors. We encourage you to sign up at [wewantourfuture.org](http://wewantourfuture.org), donate, and spread the word! All gifts are tax-deductible and any amount can make a difference: every dollar helps us reach one more child. Also, the initiative can be followed on twitter @WeWantOurFuture or Facebook page.

Contact Details: Matthew Cannella, WeWantOurFuture [media@wewantourfuture.org](mailto:media@wewantourfuture.org) <http://WeWantOurFuture.org>



Do you want to see your ATC service diminished? The nation's air traffic controllers don't either. Visit [www.localairportsmatter.com](http://www.localairportsmatter.com) to find out about the FAA's plan to remove radar facilities from airports across the country. Air traffic controllers are concerned because no stakeholders have been included in this process -- neither consulted nor collaborated with to make the best possible

product for the National Airspace System. To find out more about this plan and what you can do to get a say in the process please contact Alex Caldwell at [alex@localairportsmatter.com](mailto:alex@localairportsmatter.com) and visit the website at [www.localairportsmatter.com](http://www.localairportsmatter.com).

## Encouraging Our Students by Making Sense of Science

By Lonnie Schorer, Author

Inspired by 6000 children's questions about space, The *Kids to Space* project is ready to launch a new book for children in grades 2-4. ***Kids to Space Club: Are we there yet?*** features five young friends who aspire to go to space and form a club to investigate everything they will need to know. The story is illustrated by 94 children's imaginative drawings paired with 94 kids' questions and experts' answers.

The questions cover the gamut of topics ranging from "Will it ever be safe for babies, toddlers, young children and the elderly to travel to outer space?", and "What is the effect of space travel on Earth's environment?" to "What are the most critically important materials, provisions and supplies that we absolutely need to bring with us when we go into space?" and "Is it hard to adapt to floating? Is it cumbersome and hard to get around? Can you get around by practically swimming through the air or do you get around by pulling yourself along the insides of the spaceship? Is it like flying like a bird or swimming like a fish, or both?" This book will help teachers and parents introduce aerospace concepts in simple terms, in an easy to understand, enjoyable way.



American Library Service chose *Kids to Space: A Space Traveler's Guide* to publish in Braille. The photo is of a student at the St. Louis Science Museum using the *Kids to Space: A Space Traveler's Guide MOON* chapter in Braille for a live link with NASA.

For a link to ***Kids to Space Club: Are We There Yet?*** (grades 2-4) and to ***Kids to Space: A Space Traveler's Guide*** (all ages) and ***Kids to Space Mission Plans: An Educator's Guide*** (grades 5-8), please go to <http://cgpublishing.com/ForKids.html> and click on the book covers.

## Florida Aviation Trades Association (FATA) Conference in Northeast Florida, June 14-16, 2010

By Paula Raeburn, Executive Director

Those of us who work in general aviation are very good at telling our peers what a wonderful industry it is and how important it is to the economy and our communities. Too often when we mention general aviation to non-aviation folks, we get that glazed-over, deer in the headlights stare or they assume we are the airlines. With the press not always portraying General Aviation and community airports in a positive light, it is imperative we explain who we are and what we do.



The Florida Aviation Trades Association will hold their 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Trade show at the Renaissance Resort, World Golf Village, June 14 – 16, 2010. [Beyond the Runway, Why general aviation means business](#) is the subject for a breakfast session to which we are inviting business people from the St. Augustine and Jacksonville area to join us. A panel of area business leaders who are involved in general aviation will share their insights to the potential positive impact general aviation can have on their businesses. All area business leaders are invited and there is no charge but a request for a RSVP from those who do plan to attend is needed. For more information about our meeting and the program, visit our website, [www.fata.aero](http://www.fata.aero) or click here to see more about [Beyond the Runway](#).

The Florida Aviation Trades Association was founded in 1946 by industry leaders who had a vision and wanted to promote and protect aviation in Florida. Our mission continues to provide a common voice for general aviation, act as a resource center for our members and promote our industry.

Interested in a career in aviation? Visit us on the web at:



[www.aerocenter.org](http://www.aerocenter.org)