

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

College of Aviation

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December 2022 Newsletter

Touching Down from 2022, and Taking Off with 2023!



Hello Aviation Alumni and Friends,

Welcome to December and Happy Holidays to each and every one of you. As the clock ticks closer and closer to the end of 2022, it's a great time to reflect on the stories and successes of our alumni and students. Check out the links below to read about the people we have highlighted over the past year:

- [The WMU College of Aviation Alumni Blog](#)
- [The WMU College of Aviation General Blog](#)

Unfortunately, we end the year with some sad news. Earlier this fall, we lost one of our faculty members. Mark Matteson was a Master Faculty Specialist in our Technical Operations program. Mark was a FAA Certified Airframe and Powerplant mechanic with Inspection Authorization, who taught our electronics and avionics courses. But more than that he was widely known as the most knowledgeable Aviation Maintenance expert at the college. His knowledge on all different specialties, parts, pieces, inspections, and performance measures were

unsurpassed. He will be missed.

For the end of the year, we are highlighting Michael Carnarvon, a 2015 alumnus of the Aviation Management and Operations program. After a variety of experiences, that include stops at Northern Jet Management, Westchester County Airport, and the Wayne County Airport Authority, Carnarvon is currently working at the Michigan Department of Transportation's Office of Aeronautics. Check out the story below for the full details! Don't forget, scroll to the bottom of the email for additional stories on College of Aviation students, faculty and/or staff.

While I'm often referred to as less of a "Giver" and more of a "Grinch," I wanted to remind you of the alumni and friends discount on any purchases at [Captain Dave's Aviation Emporium](#). When checking out, use the promo code: "CoAThanks" and receive a 15% discount on your purchases. I'll keep this offer open until the end of the year! At the very least, email me and I'll send you some College of Aviation swag.

ATTENTION ASHLEY LUCAS! You are November's winner. Remember, in each newsletter, there is a way to register for a prize each month. Make sure you increase your chances by entering each and every month. Ashley, please contact tom.thinnes@wmich.edu and I'll get your gift shipped out to you ASAP.

News, Events and Save the Dates!

- **SAVE THE DATE – The 2023 WMU Aviation Golf Outing**
 - Monday, June 12, 2023
 - [Register now and save \\$20](#)
 - *Enter in the Promo Code: "EarlyBird203"*
 - *Promo Code valid until December 31, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.*
- **SAVE THE DATE – Aviation Outlook Day**
 - Friday, April 7, 2023
 - *If you know of companies that may be interested in hiring Broncos, please connect them with tom.thinnes@wmich.edu*
- **SAVE THE DATE – WMU Aviation Fly-In: Hosted by Alpha Eta Rho**
 - Saturday, April 8, 2023

Thanks for being great supporters! Please let us know how you are doing. Send updates to tom.thinnes@wmich.edu!

Go Broncos!

Tom Thinnes
Western Michigan University
College of Aviation
Recruitment, Marketing and Outreach

Thanks for making it to the end! Now that you're here, enter this month's prize drawing. [Click Here!](#)

Michael Carnarvon's Carnival of Aviation Careers – Culminating at the Michigan Office of Aeronautics



If anybody could assess -- say from an overview of 10,000 feet -- the impact of aviation on the vitality of the state of Michigan, it would be Michael Carnarvon.

That's because the 2015 alumnus of the Western Michigan University College of Aviation is currently the supervisor of the facility-inspection and licensing unit of

the Michigan Department of Transportation's Office of Aeronautics. And he brought to that position some dynamic perspectives gained working for Northern Jet Management in Grand Rapids, the Westchester County Airport 30 miles north of New York City, and the Wayne County Airport Authority that operates the Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run airports.

Carnarvon was almost destined to be a Bronco in his higher-education pursuit even before learning about Western's renowned aviation program because the university runs deep in his family. "My father pursued a degree in business at Western," he says, "while several uncles and cousins on both sides attended as well."

While none of his kin had a background in aviation, the world in, around and above airports had always piqued his interest. It was during his student days at Riverview High School, located 15 miles south of Detroit in his home Wayne County community of 13,000 folks, when he stumbled upon the College of Aviation's web page while researching what Western had to offer. Such a deal -- following in his family's footsteps while in pursuit of a career he really wanted.

Read More

- [Making it in Aviation Maintenance: Maria Sackrider Soars](#)
- [Western's College of Aviation donates vintage aircraft to Hooligans Flight Team](#)
- [Calling all Bronco fans to join us at the Great Lakes Invitational](#)
- [Congratulations and welcome to our newest WMU alumni](#)

So that all may learn

MAKE A GIFT

Donations made today are an investment in providing unique opportunities for students and pave a pathway for generations to come, ensuring that 'all may learn' at WMU.



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