



CoAAA News- January 2017

The purpose of the Colorado Agricultural Aviation Association is to serve its membership in legislative concerns, education of pertinent issues, and to promote technical programs to enhance the betterment of Agricultural Aviation and its related activities.

2017 Calendar of Events

NAAA & NAAAREF Spring Board Meeting

Date(s): February 17, 2017 -
February 18, 2017 **Time:** All Day **Location:**
400 Courthouse Square Alexandria, VA, 22314
Event Website: <http://www.agaviation.org>

Spring Board Meeting

February 24, 2017 @ 9:30 am - 11:30 am
[Front Range Airport](#), 5200 Front Range Pkwy
Watkins, CO 80137 United States+ [Google Map](#)

Rocky Mountain Unmanned Symposium

March 7-8, 2016
Wings Over the Rockies Museum
rockymountainunmanned.org

Fall Board Meeting

September 28, 2017
6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
La Junta, CO

Operation S.A.F.E. Fly-in

September 28 - September 29, 2017
La Junta Municipal Airport (30267 1st Ave
La Junta, CO 81050, United States+ [Google Map](#)

Winter Board Meeting

November 13, 2017
5:00-7:00 p.m.
Embassy Suites Hotel
4705 Clydesdale Pkwy
Loveland, CO 80538

CoAAA Convention and Trade Show

November 14-16, 2017
Embassy Suites Hotel
4705 Clydesdale Pkwy.
Loveland, CO 80538

2017 Officers and Board of Directors

President- Matt Reck
Vice President- Kyle Scott
Secretary/ Treasurer- Elizabeth Parker
Past President- Sam Rogge

CoAAA Board Members

Leonard Felix
Darrel Mertens
Don Koenig
Brady Coen
Adam Tucker
Neil Wicke
Dusty Brailsford
Caleb Patterson

Executive Director- Jessica Freeman

2017 Scholarship Application

Scholarship Applications must be postmarked no later than June 1, 2017. Application available at [CoAAA Scholarship Application](#)

The Colorado Agricultural Aviation Association Scholarship will be awarded annually. Any persons submitting a resume application to the Colorado Agricultural Aviation Association will be eligible for this award. Candidates should demonstrate a genuine interest in agricultural areas such as agronomy, research, or ag law that promotes or supports the Agricultural Aviation Industry. Non-traditional students are also encouraged to apply. Letters of recommendation will be accepted along with the resume application but are not required.

The Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior or any persons using the funds for continuing education in the agricultural aviation industry. This scholarship is worth One Thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and is payable to a school or

**Renew Your 2017 CoAAA Membership
today!**

Membership dues are the primary way that the CoAAA raises funds to continue safety advocacy work and legislative representation for all members of the aerial application community and related low altitude flight industries.

The CoAAA is a pilot centric organization with our primary goals set to protect and promote pilot safety and a secondary goal to protect and promote other vital contributors such as vendors and agronomists to the aerial application industry. Voting Members play a vital role in shaping the future course of the CoAAA.

We encourage each business to fill their two voting memberships first and encourage all members of the industry to participate in the CoAAA.

[Renew/ Join CoAAA](#)

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flight operation of choice. The CoAAA Board of Directors may vote to vary the amount or award more than one scholarship on an annual basis.

Renew Your NAAA Membership

The National Agricultural Aviation Association (NAAA), founded in 1966, represents approximately 1,900 members in 46 states. NAAA supports the interests of small business owners and pilots licensed as professional commercial aerial applicators who use aircraft to enhance food, fiber and biofuel production, protect forestry and control health-threatening pests.

NAAA provides networking, educational, government relations, public relations, recruiting and informational services to its members and the aerial application industry as a whole.

[NAAA Website](#)

[2017 NAAA Membership Form](#)

2016 CoAAA Convention Was Once Again A Success

Attendees of the 2016 CoAAA Convention were able to gather continuing education credits, visit with nearly 30 industry vendors, and reconnect with acquaintances. Several special guests including Senator Jerry Sonnenberg, Jay Paul Brown, NAAA 2016 President Brenda Watts, David Ulane Director of CDOT Aeronautics Division, Constantin Diehl from UAS Colorado, and AUVSI Rocky Mountain region president Allen Bishop joined the convention at different times throughout the event.

The CoAAA celebrated a successful year with at the annual banquet. Mr. Leonard Felix from Olathe Spray Service was presented the 2016 CoAAA Service award. Mr. Felix has been and serving on the CoAAA Board of Directors since 1977, as well as representing aerial applicators for the past 21 years on the Pesticide Advisory Committee (PAC). Mr. Bill Banister was presented with the CoAAA Lifetime Achievement award for his role as a longtime Colorado aerial applicator and mentor in southeastern Colorado.

The banquet was ended with a special presentation from Mr. Mark Geist. Mr. Geist told his first hand account of survival during the 2012 attacks in Benghazi Libya. The audience was riveted by the true life account of the events that took place during the 13 hour battle in Benghazi. Upon recovering from the attacks Mr. Geist and his wife founded the [Shadow Warriors Project](#), a non-profit dedicated to supporting contractors and their families during times of crisis. At the conclusion of the banquet Mr. Geist sold signed copies of the book, 13 Hours in Benghazi, using the proceeds to support the non-profit foundation Shadow Warriors Project. CoAAA members.

Thank you to all who were able to attend! We look forward to seeing you at the 2017 Convention next November!

Thank you to our 2016 sponsors: **Bayer, Jet A USA, Crop Production Services (CPS), Winfield United, Air Tractor, Dupont, Neal Aircraft, Hardy Aviation Insurance, Helena, North Star Aviation, Queen Bee Air Specialties, Syngenta, Sky Tractor, AgroCulture Liquid, Transland, Alligare LLC, Kugler, Pickett Equipment, Ag Spray Equipment, and Chem-man.**



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