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Dear ASN Volunteer,

Hello, my name is Dawn Veatch and I am AOPA's new Senior Director of Government Affairs – Airport Advocacy. I know your time is valuable but I would like to take just a few minutes today to introduce myself and our new ASN/Airports team. In June, you received a letter from our Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Jim Coon, providing you with an update on putting together a strong team to better serve you and our members.

As Jim mentioned, we are committed to the ASN program and airport advocacy. We believe you are the cornerstone of our advocacy efforts in helping to keep general aviation strong and protecting our freedom to fly.

I started in July in this position and bring almost 40 years of experience with general aviation and the FAA and I am very excited to work with you in your capacity as an ASN volunteer. I am a pilot and hold an ATP, single engine, multi-engine, DC-9 Type rating, CFI-I and sea plane ratings.

Jared Esselman is our Director, State Government Affairs. Jared served in the United States Air Force, is an active pilot, and has a background in state and local advocacy where he leads our team in developing strategies and working with state legislatures across the country.

Adam Williams is our Manager, Airport Policy. Adam has been with AOPA since 2011. Previously, Adam worked in AOPA's Pilot Information Center (PIC) prior to joining the ASN team. His responsibilities include, among others, the day to day execution of protecting our general aviation airports. Adam is also a pilot and has a great background in airport issues and programs.

Jeremy DeLaTorre is our ASN Staff Specialist. He supports the daily operations of the ASN program and will work closely with ASN volunteers.

We also have seven Regional Managers across the country that will support the ASN program and our efforts in local communities and states. You can find more information about them on our AOPA website.

We have several initiatives that we are working on including a redesign of our website both in look and content. We plan to reenergize our interactions with you by creating forums, chat rooms, webinars, access to our entire Government Affairs team, and up-to-date information and content to help us be more effective and prepared.

We will have a new ANS News Letter and all AOPA Fly-Ins will have an ASN booth located in the AOPA Village.

These are just a few things we think are important to keep you better informed on the issues that are important.

The new talent that Jim has assembled and the focus on the ASN program comes with new ideas and energy and we are very excited about the future and look forward to meeting you.

As we get settled, we'll be communicating with you more often. We can't protect our airports and our freedom to fly without you – and we know that.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me at asn@aopa.org with any questions or ideas you may have. We appreciate your patience during this transition period and we look forward to working with you to create a program that's stronger and more effective than ever.

Again, thank you for all you do on behalf of AOPA and the entire general aviation community.

Sincerely,

Dawn RH Veatch
Senior Director, ASN & Airport Advocacy