

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Aviation and aircraft manufacturing play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the operation of our businesses and farms. The State of Arkansas has significant interests in the continued vitality and health of general aviation, aircraft manufacturing, airline industries, educational institutions, aviation organizations, community airports, and airport operators; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas has 90 public-use airports, 8 commercial airports, 3,028 registered general aviation aircraft, and 8,161 registered pilots. According to the Arkansas Airports System Plan, projections show that, by the year 2025, the number of aircraft based within the State will surpass 3,600 and aircraft operations will exceed \$2.8 million; and

WHEREAS: General aviation in Arkansas accounts for \$494.5 million in annual economic activity, and airports employ approximately 5,400 people, producing a payroll of \$133.4 million. The total economic impact value exceeds \$1 billion, about \$376 per capita; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas is home to 18 charter-flight companies, 43 repair stations, and 5 flight schools operating 43 aircraft and supporting 72 jobs. In addition, there are nearly 80 fixed-based operators in the State; and

WHEREAS: Many businesses and communities depend upon general aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists, and visitors to our State; and

WHEREAS: Organizations, including the Arkansas Airport Operators Association, the Alliance for Aviation Across America, the National Business Aviation Association, the National Association of State Aviation Officials, and the National Air Transportation Association, recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation in Arkansas and throughout the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Bob McCaslin, Mayor of the City of Bentonville do hereby proclaim August, 2013 as “**General Aviation Appreciation Month in Bentonville**”, and I urge my fellow citizens to join me in acknowledging the vital role aviation plays in our area.

Given this Fifteenth day of August, 2013, in Bentonville, in the great State of Arkansas, in the United States of America.




Bob McCaslin, Mayor
City of Bentonville