

**In This Issue:****Don't Worry -- We're Still Here!****Authority Board Members****Appointed****AVL Sponsors Butterfly Exhibit****New Art Exhibit Open****Don't Worry -- We're Still Here!**

While it is true the air travel industry is facing some difficulties with higher gas prices -- right alongside your average American driver --Asheville Regional Airport is still going strong.

Despite an article released by the Business Travel Coalition that included AVL on a list of 100 at-risk airports that could potentially lose flights or even shut down as a result of the gas crunch, Asheville Regional Airport is not in danger of closing.

While we're on the topic of gas prices, we just want to remind you to compare the actual cost of travel when choosing between AVL and another airport. With gas prices at close to \$4.00 in Western North Carolina, it can be a cost-saver to fly out of AVL instead of making the trek to Charlotte or Greenville. And don't forget to factor in wear-and-tear on your vehicle, parking charges -- and what will you do if your flight is cancelled? Plus, when you fly out of AVL you are supporting your local economy, and local jobs.

You can check the lowest fares from Asheville to any destination in the world at [www.flyavl.com](http://www.flyavl.com). You can book your flight, hotel and rental car all in one place. And check out the new *Airfare Watchdog* application we just added to our site that allows you to see low fare specials from Asheville to a variety of cities.

So when you're ready to travel, remember your local airport -- AVL could save you time *and* money.

**Authority Board Members Appointed**

Last week, Buncombe County appointed a new member, and the City of Asheville re-appointed a member, to the Asheville Regional Airport Authority

(ARAA) Board.

Jeffrey Piccirillo was appointed by Buncombe County to serve a four-year term. Mr. Piccirillo is the Executive Food and Beverage Director at The Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa and has more than 30 years' experience in the hospitality industry. Jeffrey holds a Certified Food & Beverage Executive certification from the Educational Institute of the American Hotel/Motel Association, as well as various other culinary certifications. He is currently a member of Leadership Asheville, the AB-Tech Hospitality Advisory Board, and several other organizations.

Asheville City Council also re-appointed Brownie Newman to serve a four-year term on the ARAA Board.

The Asheville Regional Airport Authority Board has overall financial and policy-making responsibility for the airport and is comprised of seven members. Three Airport Authority members are appointed by the Asheville City Council, three by Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, and the seventh is appointed by the six as the At-Large member from Buncombe or Henderson County. Authority meetings are currently held on the second Friday of the month and are open to the public.



#### **AVL Sponsors Butterfly Exhibit**

Asheville Regional Airport is the proud sponsor of *The Beauty of Butterflies* exhibit at the WNC Nature Center for the second year in a row.

Visitors to the Nature Center can enjoy the Butterfly House, which is open daily from 10:00am -

4:30pm, until September 5th. The 40-foot hoop house is home to hundreds of butterflies, moths and flowering plants, and visitors of all ages can experience nature in a focused environment.

For more information, visit <http://wildwnc.org/>



#### **New Art Exhibit Open**

Today marked the opening of the sixth *Art in the Airport* exhibit at Asheville Regional Airport. The new exhibit, which runs through November 4, 2008, showcases the artwork of eight local artists.

On display in the gallery in the main area of the terminal are 21 original pieces, including graphite on gessoed birch/fir panels, oil paintings, metal/copper, and carving on aluminum.

"*Art in the Airport* is a great program for our community, showcasing local talent and educating passengers about the artistic culture of the region," says David N. Edwards, Jr., Airport Director. "We have received many compliments on the program, and the sale of artwork from each exhibit speaks

to the success of the gallery as well.”

The *Art in the Airport* gallery is located on the pre-security side of the airport terminal and is open to the public during the airport’s hours of operation.

Art in the Airport spotlights the work of local artists on a rotating basis, with exhibits lasting approximately 120 days. The application deadline for the next exhibit is October 3, 2008. Interested artists may visit <http://www.flyavl.com> or e-mail [art@flyavl.com](mailto:art@flyavl.com) for more information.

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