

May 17, 2010

Banyan Participates in Bahamas Gateway FBO Seminar



Bahamas representatives recently presented a *Flying to the Bahamas* seminar for Banyan teammates. Photo left to right: Leonard Stuart, BMOTA aviation manager, Pablo Garcia, Banyan customer support rep., Jon Tonko, Banyan line service manager, Donna Munroe, Grand Bahamas promotions coordinator, Bill Garghill, Banyan director of customer support, Nancy Bouvier, Banyan director of marketing, Chloé Foster, Banyan social media coordinator, Jeannie Gibson, BMOTA manager, Diana Poore, Banyan customer support rep., Earl Miller, BMOT general manager vertical markets, and Bruce Woodrell, Banyan concierge.

Fort Lauderdale, FL - Recently several Banyan teammates participated in a Bahamas Gateway FBO Seminar hosted by The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism – Aviation Division (BMOTA).

“We appreciate Greg Rolle and Leonard Stuart of the BMOTA, for arranging this seminar. It provides our teammates with exciting information that we can share with our customers about flying to the islands and all the wonderful activities available to them,” said Ms. Nancy Bouvier, Banyan’s director of marketing.

Leonard Stuart, Donna Munroe, Jeannie Gibson, Earl Miller, and Leah Donawa represented the Bahamas at this seminar.

BMOTA's aviation specialist, Mr. Leonard Stuart, presented detailed information on flying to the Bahamas, including Bahamian airports of entry, U.S. Customs facilities, required documentation, and BMOTA group fly-ins.

Grand Bahama Island Promotion Board's promotions coordinator, Ms. Donna Munroe, spoke about the wide variety of activities on Grand Bahama, including bone and deep sea fishing, horseback riding on the beach, and Grand Bahamas' six ecosystems. She also covered transportation services, hotel accommodations, and information about Club Grand Bahama (an all-inclusive island vacation).

BMOTA's manager, Ms. Jeannie Gibson, covered information about Nassau and Paradise Island as well as information on the Arawak Cay Fish Fry, Fort Charlotte, Ardastra Gardens & Zoo, Junkanoo, the marching flamingos, and the Straw Market.

Bahamas Ministry of Tourism's general manager of vertical markets, Mr. Earl Miller, presented information on boating, fishing and diving, ports of entry for boaters, entry procedures for boaters, fishing tournaments, and regattas. In addition, he talked about the boating flings which are organized groups of boaters lead by a pilot boat and captain to various island destinations.

Ms. Leah Donawa wrapped up the seminar with a traditional Bahamian meal of peas and rice, fried grouper fingers, rosemary chicken, and other dishes.

"The seminar is wonderful. All the speakers are experts in their field and their enthusiasm is contagious. They definitely create a Bahamas experience when presenting. I can almost hear and feel the vibrations of a Junkanoo band, feel the sand on my toes, and taste that delicious conch salad," said Ms. Bouvier.

About Banyan:

Banyan at FXE was appointed an official *Gateway FBO to the Bahamas* last year and works along side the BMOTA in many events and activities. Recently Banyan hosted the first Bahamas Day to help educate pilots on how easy it is to fly to the Bahamas. In addition, Banyan participates in the Bahamas familiarization trips and has a number of gateway specialists working in customer service. These specialists have first hand knowledge about flying to the islands as well as information on documentation requirements, island destinations, activities and accommodations.

Banyan provides free Bahamas documentation kits to pilots, customs and immigration information, safety and survival gear rentals, and 24-hour fuel and ground support. United States Customs is also available from 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. For more information visit the Banyan Bahamas pages at www.banyanair.com.

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