



Mark Baker

President & CEO

Mark R. Baker is a longtime general aviation (GA) pilot and only the fifth president in the 80-year history of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), the world's largest civil aviation organization.

A native Minnesotan, Baker earned his pilot certificate in his twenties and has logged more than 10,000 hours of flight time in aircraft ranging from light seaplanes to turbines and helicopters.

Baker believes strongly in making general aviation accessible to more people and has welcomed numerous friends and family members, including his father, son, and two sons-in-law, into the pilot community.

Prior to his appointment at AOPA, Baker served in numerous senior executive roles, including chief operating officer at Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, president and CEO of outdoor outfitter Gander Mountain Company, and chief merchandizing officer and executive vice president for The Home Depot.

A graduate of the University of Minnesota, Baker has also served on numerous corporate boards, and has taken leadership roles with several nonprofit organizations.

In conjunction with his role as president and CEO of AOPA, Baker is chairman AOPA's Political Action Committee, chief executive officer for the AOPA Foundation, president of the International Council of Aircraft Owners and Pilots Associations representing pilots in 73 countries, and publisher of *AOPA Pilot*, the world's largest and most influential aviation publication.