On July 15, 2016, President Barack Obama signed into law an FAA authorization extension that included 3rd class medical reform. However, the medical reform is not yet in effect. The FAA will need to enact regulations for the medical reform. Their current plan is to issue the final rule by January 2017, but that will not be the implementation date.

The FAA has 180 days to create and enact the regulations. Pilots will not be allowed to fly under the reform until the FAA has completed its rulemaking, or one-year after the law was signed – whichever comes first. (If the FAA does not complete its rule-making within one year of the bill signing, the reforms automatically go into effect.)

The 3rd class medical reform is actually a number of reforms. First, the pilot must have had a valid medical issued within 10 years prior to July 15, 2016. A special issuance medical is acceptable. If the most recent medical was denied, suspended, revoked or withdrawn, the pilot will need to obtain a new medical certificate before they can operate under the reform. Pilots who have never held an FAA medical certificate, such as Sport pilots or Student pilots, will also need to obtain a medical certificate before they can operate under the reform. Note: Sport pilots may still fly light sport aircraft with a valid driver’s license.

Pilots will need to visit a state-licensed physician once every four years, and take a free, online course - covering aeromedical factors - every two years. The physician does not need to be an FAA Aviation Medical Examiner – it can be your personal physician.

The FAA plans to create a checklist for you to take to your physician. Your physician will need to certify they have performed an examination and they have discussed all the items on the checklist. This will include any medications you may be taking. Your physician will need to certify that they are not aware of any conditions you have that may prohibit you from safely operating an aircraft. You will not need to send a report to the FAA, however you’ll need to make a note of the visit and include the checklist in your logbook.

Pilots flying under the new rules will be allowed to operate aircraft that weigh up to 6,000 pounds and have up to six seats, including the pilot seat. They must fly below 18,000’ MSL and at speeds up to 250 kts. Pilots may fly VFR or IFR. However, these reforms do not apply to CFIs or pilots operating for compensation or hire. They must still hold a valid FAA medical certificate.

**3RD CLASS MEDICAL REFORM – COMING SOON**

**ADS-B DEADLINE 1-1-2020, ARE YOU READY?**

Credit for picture: Picture Source: FAA.gov
I was recently asked what I would like to see Aeronautics accomplish in the upcoming year. After giving the question a bit of thought, I realized we really need to expand on some things we are already doing, and we need to look at moving into new areas. That being said, I have three areas I would like to focus on:

1. Increasing our public outreach. This means more programs for our flying public and for those who support the infrastructure – our airports.
2. Implement more innovative technology. There are so many new technologies available these days that will help us reduce costs, enhance safety and provide better service. We need to take advantage of them.
3. Maximize use of available funding, and look proactively for other funding sources. It goes without saying, more funds means more airport improvements.

We’ll highlight our progress in these areas in future newsletters and on the IDOT website.

In addition, we are announcing a new award that recognizes distinguished service to the Illinois State Aviation System. The award, the Illinois Professional of the Year, will be presented at the Illinois Public Airport Association Conference in the fall. Nominations may be made by any Illinois airport official, local or federal government official, airport consultancy, industry partner or by Aeronautics staff. The nomination package can be found on the IDOT website under Quick Links at http://www.idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/local-transportation-partners/airport-sponsors/index.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events or at the airport.

**UPCOMING SEMINARS**

**CHICAGO AVIATION EXPO - IFR/VFR and Companions Seminar**, Saturday, January 28, 2017

Seminar topics will include a variety of IFR and VFR subjects and will offer WINGS credit for the Basic Knowledge tasks. Separate sessions will be held for instrument rated and non-instrument rated pilots, so attendees can choose which topics are of interest to them.

**Schedule:**
- Registration and Refreshments: 08:00 - 08:45
- Opening Remarks in the IFR Room: 08:45 - 09:15
- Morning Seminars: 09:15 - 12:05
- Lunch Break: 12:05 - 13:30
- Afternoon Seminars: 13:30 - 15:30

**Location:** Holiday Inn Itasca, 860 W. Irving Park Road, Itasca, Illinois.

**Fees:** There is no charge for this seminar.

**Parking:** The Holiday Inn has a large parking lot. The overflow parking area is the industrial park lot immediately to the west of the Holiday Inn.

**Refreshments:** Morning coffee and donuts, and a buffet lunch will be available for purchase in the Holiday Inn dining room.

Vendor displays provide an opportunity for participants to explore new aircraft types such as sport aircraft, gliders, and technically advanced aircraft and to view or purchase the latest pilot supplies. Vendor inquiries are welcome, contact Mary Lou Erikson, Chicago Area Chapter 99s, (847) 340-2725 or flylou@aol.com.

This seminar is sponsored by the Chicago Area Chapter Ninety-Nines, IDOT Division of Aeronautics, and the FAASteam. For more information contact Madeleine Monaco, Chicago Area Chapter 99s IFR/VFR Seminar Chairman: (847) 431-1847 or 99mjm@sbcglobal.net.
Northern Illinois IA Renewal & Maintenance Seminar, Thursday, February 16, 2017
One full day of seminars will be offered, which qualify for IA renewal and AMT credit for mechanics. Pilots are welcome. Vendor exhibits will provide an opportunity to explore new products and services.

Schedule:
- Registration Opens: 7:00 AM
- Seminar Begins: 7:45 AM
- Program Ends: 5:00 PM

Location: Holiday Inn Itasca, 860 W. Irving Park Road, Itasca, Illinois.

Parking: Free parking is available

Fees: There is no charge for this seminar

Vendor Information: Contact Bob Bejna (630) 543-9213, email: kb9fur@aol.com.

Sponsored by the IDOT Division of Aeronautics, FAA DuPage FSDO and FAASTeam. For more information contact William Borah, FAA DuPage FSDO: (847) 294-8724, email: William.Borah@faa.gov or Carol Para: (217) 785-4989, email: Carol.Para@Illinois.gov.

Annual Safety & IA Renewal Seminar, Thursday, March 9, 2017 NEW LOCATION
One full day of seminars will be offered which qualify for IA renewal and AMT credit for aviation mechanics. Pilots are also welcome.

Schedule:
- Registration Opens: 7:00 AM
- Seminar Begins: 7:50 AM
- Program Ends: 5:00 PM

Location: Northfield Inn Conference Center, 3280 Northfield Dr, Springfield, Illinois.

Parking: Free parking is available

Fees: There is no charge for this seminar

Vendor Information: Vendor space is available but limited. Contact Carol Para (217) 785-4989; email Carol.Para@Illinois.gov.

Sponsored by the IDOT Division of Aeronautics, FAA Springfield FSDO and FAASTeam. For more information contact Springfield FSDO (217) 744-1910; or Carol Para: (217) 785-4989; email: Carol.Para@Illinois.gov.

Illinois State Ultralight and Light Plane Symposium, Saturday, February 25, 2017
A mid-winter meeting for all of those interested in light aircraft, ultralights, paramotors, gyroplanes, trikes, and powered parachutes. The focus will be a series of aviation presenters. Aviation-oriented vendors welcome! Free admission.

Schedule:
- Pre-Event Social: Friday evening February 24th, 2017
- Registration: 8:00
- Event begins: 9:00

Location: Bond County Memorial VFW Post 1377, 204 4th St, Greenville, IL 62246

Vendor Information: contact Roy Beisswenger (618) 664-9706, or email roy@easyflight.com. Details will also be available on the event website: www.safety-seminar.com

Date for Set-up for Vendors: Friday afternoon, February 24, 2017 after 4:00PM (Also available immediately before the event Saturday Morning)

DOWNTOWN AIRPORT TENANTS FORM USERS ASSOCIATION WITH THE GOAL TO IMPROVE AND PROMOTE THE AIRPORT
Pilots, business tenants, and customers of St. Louis Downtown Airport have joined together to form a not-for-profit users’ group to promote and improve the airport and increase communications between airport management and its many diverse customers.

“Most airports have a very small management staff with a myriad of operations and management tasks to accomplish,” said organization president, Kurt Sutterer, who has 28 years’ experience leading multi-million dollar aviation businesses. “Our members literally bring hundreds of years of combined experience from a wide variety of aviation disciplines that not only includes aircraft operations, but also finance, business development, and project planning. We believe we can be a tremendous asset to our airport.”

For additional information contact the Association President, Kurt Sutterer at 314/406-501 or kurt@sutterer.us.com.
Illinois Aviation

PREVIOUS NAME THAT AIRPORT – ILLINI AIRPORT

There were a number of correct answers for the last “Name that Airport.” Steve Adkisson, Kirk Banner, George Beckerman, Chuck Classen, Tom Frasca (he better have guessed it right!), Sam Funk, Michael Payne, Larry Philyaw and Larry Stephens correctly answered Illini Airport from 1967.

Larry Stephens reminisced “I took an airplane ride into that airport one time when I was a kid. I just remember how narrow that runway was. It was like landing on a sidewalk. I recall it had a bit of a hump in the middle, too. Years later, after the new runway was built, I got my private pilot license at the 141 school there.”

Kirk Banner remembers his checkride… “When I had my private pilot checkride with Tom Gordon in spring 1978, the TV antennas next to a couple of those trailers gave me a scare! Winds were 220 at 25 and gusting, and the BE-19 floated and didn’t touch down until we were past runway 28. As I recall, Runway 4-22 was 1600 x 300! I called the go-around, and Tom said "No, you’ve got this." Of course, he was right. Shortest landing roll I’ve ever experienced in a fixed-wing aircraft.”

We are not certain when the airport was first established, but in 1941, Louis Dyson, owner of Illini Airport, applied to the Illinois Aeronautics Commission (predecessor to the Division of Aeronautics) for a license to become a Commercial Airport. At that time overnight hangar rent was $1.00/night and 73 octane fuel was available. A taxi ride to town cost 50 cents. Weather reports were available “In town by phone.” The field was an “all way field” meaning aircraft could land any direction. The east-west width/length was approximately 570’ X 2600’; north-south was 1300’ X 1300.’

The new airport layout would consist of three sod runways. A copy of the application was also submitted to the Civil Aeronautics Authority, predecessor to the FAA. The application included the $2.00 licensing fee. The license was granted Sept. 15, 1942. Illini Airport continued to operate as a Commercial airport until 1990. During that time the airport provided flight training for the G.I. Training Program (G.I. Bill). The configuration of the airport changed as buildings were constructed near the airport, and in 1955 the layout was changed to two runways: 4/22 and 10/28.

July 1, 1980, Rudolf “Rudy” Frasca purchased the airport so it would not “go the way of many other airports and be closed.” Illini Aviation took over flight training and incorporated the Frasca simulator. The following year, the airport name was changed to Frasca Field. At one time consideration was given to constructing a 4000’north-south runway to attract business jets. However that did not happen. Instead runway 10/28 was replaced with a new 4000’ runway 9/27, and the turf runway 4/22 was re-aligned to a 18/36 heading. The headquarters for Frasca International was also moved to the airport.

In 1990 the Division of Aeronautics issued an Airport Certificate to Frasca Air Services for a General Utility Airport. Frasca Field continues to operate under this Certificate.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ROBERT WERDERICH and the Illinois Aviation Academy

Robert Werderich, President of Illinois Aviation Academy, recently received the Regional Flight Instructor of the Year award for the FAA Great Lakes Region. This award recognizes individual aviation professionals for their contributions to aviation, education, and flight safety.

In addition, the Illinois Aviation Academy received the Outstanding Flight School Award as a part of AOPA’s 2016 Flight Training Excellence Awards.

Congratulations to Bob and the Illinois Aviation Academy. We are proud to have you as part of the Illinois aviation system.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 28, 8:00AM – 3:30PM
Chicago Aviation Expo IFR/VFR and Companions Seminar*
Holiday Inn Itasca, Itasca, IL
Madeleine Monaco (847) 431-1847 • 99mjm@sbcglobal.net

Feb 16, 7:00AM – 5:00PM
Northern Illinois IA Renewal & Maintenance Seminar
Holiday Inn Itasca, Itasca, IL
William Borah (847) 294-8724 • William.Borah@faa.gov

Feb 25, 8:00AM
Illinois State Ultralight and Light Plane Symposium
Bond County Memorial VFW Post 1377, Greenville, IL
Roy Beisswenger (618) 664-9706 • roy@easyflight.com

Mar 9, 7:00AM – 5:00PM
Annual Safety & IA Renewal Seminar
Northfield Inn Conference Center, Springfield, IL
Carol Para (217) 785-4989 • Carol.Para@illinois.gov

* These Seminars qualify for WINGS Credit

TRIVIA

NAME THAT AIRPORT

Do you know the name of the airport shown in this picture and the approximate timeframe when the picture was taken? If so, send an e-mail to DOT.aero@illinois.gov so we can congratulate you. Those who provide the correct answer will have their names published (with permission), along with the correct answer, in the Spring 2017 edition of Illinois Aviation.

VIEW COMPLETE CALENDAR OF EVENTS: www.idot.illinois.gov/about-idot/stay-connected/multimedia/index

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ILLINOIS AVIATION is published quarterly by the IDOT Division of Aeronautics. Comments, suggestions and submissions should be direct to Linda Schumm, Bureau Chief of Aviation Safety, 1 Langhorne Bond Drive, Springfield, IL 62707 (217) 785-8516, or e-mail to dot.aero@illinois.gov.