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ILLINOIS AVIATION HALL OF FAME

The Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame inducts candidates with distinguished records of long-term service to the aviation community. This year's inductees include Roy Beisswenger, Chris Collins, Melvin Lynch, Harold Neumann and Al Palicki. The Greater Midwest Rotorcraft Club will receive the Spirit of Flight Award.

The 2018 Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame banquet and induction ceremony will be held May 24 at 6 p.m. at the Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center in Springfield. For hotel information, visit www.ilavhalloffame.org. For banquet reservations call Tom Cleveland at (815) 748-8102.

2018 SPIRIT OF FLIGHT AWARD RECIPIENT

Greater Midwest Rotorcraft Club

The Greater Midwest Rotorcraft Club, Popular Rotorcraft Association Chapter 18, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017. The club's founding members were drawn to rotorcraft by Dr. Igor Bensen's revolutionary version of the gyrocopter. Bensen's plans and kits, which were advertised in Popular Mechanics in the mid-1950s, created a renaissance in home-built aircraft. The Popular Rotorcraft Association provided a forum for discussion of manufacturing methods, training and safety issues.

The founders of the Greater Midwest Rotorcraft Club wanted to create a regional resource where flying enthusiasts could find guidance as they built and learned to fly their aircraft. Until 1972, gyro enthusiasts had to teach themselves how to fly, since there were no two-place trainers or certified flight instructors for gyros. The club's first trainer was a two-seat, towed gyro glider. Since its inception, the club has helped hundreds of members learn to fly rotorcraft, and more than half of its current members are also fixed-wing rated.

The club participates in many airport events, hosting pancake breakfasts and cookouts on its own or jointly with the local EAA chapter. They have also partnered in charity air shows and the Lansing Good Neighbor Parade and Cruise Night.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KEN W. MARTIN

Since I last wrote to you, our valued Illinois Aviation readers, the Division of Aeronautics has been busy with a number of issues that will have lasting impacts on aviation in Illinois.

First and foremost, we've been continuing work on legislative language to bring Illinois into compliance with federal requirements in 49 U.S. Code 47133 mandating the use of aviation fuel tax revenues for airport capital and operating expenses. The Federal Aviation Administration granted Illinois an extension through June 30, 2018, to pass this legislation, which will provide critical additional revenues for our aviation system.

We are also currently reviewing the provisions of the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018," which took effect March 23, 2018. The Act extends funding for FAA programs and the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) through Sept. 30, 2018. Funding provided by the Act includes $3.35 billion for the AIP, as well as an additional $1 billion in discretionary funds for aviation projects across the nation. Our objective is to obtain a significant amount of this discretionary funding for Illinois airports.

Finally, in May 2018, we expect to hear about the success of our application for the president's Unmanned Aircraft System Integration Pilot Program. We are excited about the prospect of being part of this innovative project to open doors for the expanded use of UAS equipment in the U.S.

In closing, I am pleased to announce that I have accepted the position of deputy director for the Division of Aeronautics and look forward to improving aviation throughout the state of Illinois.

Wishing you clear skies and exciting travels!

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2018 ILLINOIS AVIATION HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Roy Beisswenger is based in Greenville, Illinois, where he has operated Easy Flight, a powered parachute training school, since 1993. His school became an early model for the standardization of ultralight training. Beisswenger was instrumental in helping the FAA and EAA develop the Sport Pilot Rule, under which he become one of the FAA's first designated pilot examiners for the sport pilot program. In addition, he was the first to earn the designations of sport pilot and certified flight instructor-sport pilot for powered parachutes.

Before the sport pilot program began, Beisswenger assembled aircraft from kits and serviced them for his school and customers. In 2006, he became a repairman of light sport aircraft maintenance with designations for airplane, powered parachute and weight shift control aircraft, and is a designated airworthiness representative for those same categories of aircraft.

Beisswenger is also involved in industry organizations. He serves as an at-large director for the North American Powered Parachute Federation and a board member of the U.S. Ultralight Association. He served as president of the Illinois Ultralight Advisory Council, which conducts one of the largest sport aviation safety seminars in the United States on an annual basis.

As the U.S. delegate to the committee of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale pertaining to microlight activity around the world, Beisswenger has helped set competition and record setting policy for the sport on a worldwide basis.

Beisswenger has written for many ultralight and light sport aircraft magazines. His articles have appeared in UltraFlight Magazine, Ultralight Flying! and the EAA Experimenter. He wrote part of, and helped edit, the FAA's Powered Parachute Flying Handbook. He now writes and edits the monthly Powered Sport Flying magazine.

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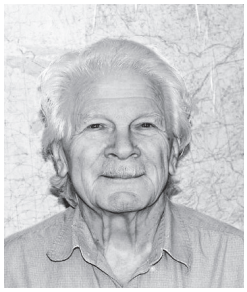
Chris Collins has been a tireless advocate for southern Illinois aviation. Graduating from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale in 1992, Collins earned his private pilot's certificate in 1999. He was deeply involved in Mt. Vernon's EAA Chapter 1155 prior to becoming airport director, and he helped organize the annual Salute to Veterans and fly-in at Mt. Vernon Airport.

Since joining Mt. Vernon Outland Airport as director in 2005, Collins has worked with the Chamber of Commerce and Mt. Vernon tourism office to bring events to the airport and keep the airport involved with the local community. As a result, the Mt. Vernon Airport has hosted numerous community events and aircraft conventions, including the Midwest LSA EXPO, which it has held since 2009.

In 2016, the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce awarded Collins the Friend of the Chamber Award. In 2015, he received the Governor's Volunteer Service Award, and in 2014, due in part to his efforts as a board member, the Jefferson County Hall of Honor Memorials and Monuments was selected as a Governor's Hometown Project.

Collins is active in many organizations. He serves EAA Chapter 1155 as secretary and Young Eagles coordinator. He has given more than 300 Young Eagles rides. He was an organizer and board member for the Balloon Fest at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport from 2014 through 2016. He has made two trips to Haiti by plane to deliver supplies to missionaries. He is also a Jefferson County Hall of Honor and Museum board member, YMCA board member, Lion Club board member, 4-H leader and Flights for Christ board member.



Melvin Lynch has been a flight instructor, charter pilot, A&P mechanic with inspection authorization and dedicated advocate for general aviation in northwestern Illinois for more than 45 years.

In 1962, Lynch was instrumental in elevating the Monmouth Flying Club from an airplane owners group to a flight training organization dedicated to providing affordable flight training to area residents. While working full time as an aviation mechanic for Jet Air Inc., Lynch provided free instruction in club aircraft during his off-duty hours. Due to Lynch's efforts, hundreds of people were exposed to aviation and went on to earn their certificates. Many of those people have since pursued careers in aviation as pilots, mechanics and airport managers.

Lynch and the Monmouth Flying Club were so successful at providing flight instruction that the club's Cessna 150 went through three engines, finally becoming unairworthy in 2009. Over the years, Lynch performed the maintenance on the club Cessna 150 without compensation. He worked with several other people to secure non-profit 501c(3) status for the club and helped facilitate a grant to enable the club to obtain a replacement Cessna 172 that the club owns to this day, as well as an additional trust to maintain it.

Lynch has been instrumental in keeping the Monmouth Airport open by volunteering his time in a variety of functions for many years.

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ILLINOIS AVIATION CONFERENCE

The 2018 Illinois Aviation Conference is May 23-24 at the Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center in Springfield. Featured speakers will include Timothy Obitts, National Air Transportation Association; Peter Bunce, General Aviation Manufacturer's Association; and Rebecca MacPherson, FAA Regional Manager. As in years past, outstanding airports and heliports will be honored at the IDOT awards luncheon.

The Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame banquet and induction ceremony will follow the conference on May 24. For conference details and reservation forms, visit **www.illinoisaviation.org/conference.html** or call (217) 789-6252.

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Harold Neumann, a farm boy from Geneseo, Illinois, was an aviation pioneer during the Golden Age of Flying. He learned to fly in 1926 in Moline and honed his skills in a Jenny that he kept in a hangar on his parents' farm. In 1928, Neumann traded the Jenny for a Travel Air. He entered his first air race the following year at Kewanee.

Neumann's reputation as an outstanding airman grew, and by 1933 he was flying for Benny Howard, the Chicago-based designer, manufacturer and racer. In 1935, he flew two of Howard's planes in the 1935 National Air Races in Cleveland, taking both the Thompson Trophy and the Greve Trophy. He was further awarded the Collier Trophy for outstanding aviation accomplishments and named "Air Race Pilot of the Year."

In 1936, Neumann temporarily put aside show flying and accepted a position with TWA. During his 30 years there, he rose from his beginning position as a DC-2 copilot to captain, flying the DC-3, Constellation and Boeing 707.

Following his retirement from TWA, Neumann became active in the International Aerobatic Club, sharing his skills and techniques with younger IAC members at local, regional and national meets. He competed and won IAC competitions well into his 80s. He also served as a contest judge.

Neumann was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame in Hammondsport, New York, in 1971 and the International Aerobatic Club Hall of Fame in 1998. He passed away July 5, 1995, at the age of 89.

NAME THAT AIRPORT

Due to space limitations "Name that airport" has been omitted from this edition of the Illinois Aviation Newsletter. We will resume the column with the Summer 2018 issue. Correct answers from Winter 2017 issue will be announced at that time.

Al Palicki joined Priester Aviation in 1979 and became an important contributor to the company as it grew and developed Palwaukee Airport (now Chicago Executive Airport) into a premier general aviation airport.

In 2001, when the Priester fixed-base operation was sold to Signature Flight Support, Palicki coordinated the transfer of Priester Aviation's Line Service Department to Signature. Today, he is the Signature Flight Support Chicago Executive General Manager.

Palicki actively represents aviation and the airport to the community, extolling the importance of general aviation and the airport to surrounding neighbors. He participates in several community organizations, serving as an Economic Development Board Member and Associate Member of the Chamber of Commerce. He is also a Board of Police and Fire Commissioner, serving his fifth term after being appointed to the position by four different mayors.

For more information on the inductees and Spirit of Flight award recipients, please visit the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame website at **www.ilavhalloffame.org**.

FAA UPDATES

The FAA will end their DUATS (Direct User Access Terminal Service) contract in May. Pilots are encouraged to use the flight service website, www.1800wxbrief.com. After registering with the website, pilots can get weather briefings, check NOTAMs, file flight plans and more. The website even includes a list of upcoming events as well as tips and resources for pilots.

The FAA has updated Advisory Circular 90-66B, Non-Towered Airport Flight Operations. The AC is a summary of non-tower airport operations and guidance. It also includes references to the governing FAA publications. The updated AC incorporates operations of unmanned aircraft at non-towered airports. www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/advisory_circulars

The FAA is expanding the drone airspace authorization program. The program, known as LAANC (Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability), facilitates approval for small drone operators to fly in airspace controlled by an air traffic facility. Starting at the end of April, the program will be incrementally deployed to approximately 500 airports, including airports in Illinois. www.faa.gov/uas

FAA Order JO 7350.9J, Location Identifiers, explains the process for assigning identifiers. It also contains a complete list of all airport and navaid identifiers in the U.S. www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 19, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
2018 TBM Avenger Salute to Veterans
Illinois Valley Regional Airport, Peru, IL
tbmreunion.org

May 20, 7 a.m. – noon
60th Fly-In Drive-In Pancake Breakfast
Canton Ingersoll Airport, Canton, IL
(309) 647-2072 • ingersollairport@cantonpark.org

May 23-24
Illinois Aviation Conference
Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center, Springfield, IL
(217) 789-6252 • Rob@cook-witter.com

May 24, 6 p.m.
Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame
Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center, Springfield, IL
Tom Cleveland (815) 748-8102 • tcleveland@cityofdekalb.com

June 3, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Olney-Noble EAA Pancake Breakfast
Olney-Noble Airport, Olney, IL
(618) 843-8325

June 10, 7 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
EAA Chapter 1414 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast
Poplar Grove Airport, Poplar Grove, IL
1414.eaachapter.org

June 17, 7 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Father's Day Fly-In Breakfast
Marshall County Airport, Lacon, IL
(309) 246-2870

June 23, 9 a.m. – 12 noon
Annual Safety Program
Marshall County Airport, Lacon, IL
Barry Logan (309) 246-2870

June 24, 7 a.m. – noon
Annual Fly-In Drive-In Pancake Breakfast
Macomb Municipal Airport, Macomb, IL
(309) 833-3324

June 24, 8 a.m. – 12 noon
EAA Chapter 790 Annual Pancake Breakfast
Lake in the Hills Airport, Lake in the Hills, IL
Tom Solar (847) 468-9437 • tomsolar@sbcglobal.net

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.

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