

# Illinois Aviation

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## ILLINOIS AVIATION HALL OF FAME

Candidates are inducted into the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame in recognition of their long-term service to the aviation community in Illinois. This year's inductees include Stephen Davis, Robert and Ruth Frantz, Keith Mueller, Earl Outland, and Doug Powers. The Vintage Wings and Wheels Museum and EAA Chapter 1414 will receive the Spirit of Flight Award. Congratulations to our awardees and inductees. For photos and more information about the recipients, see our online newsletter at <http://www.idot.illinois.gov/about-idot/stay-connected/multimedia/index> (click on newsletters).

The 2019 Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame banquet and induction ceremony will be held at 6 p.m., May 7, at the Holiday Inn & Suites in East Peoria. Reservation and hotel information can be found at [www.ilavhalloffame.org](http://www.ilavhalloffame.org) or by contacting Tom Cleveland at 815-748-8102.



### 2019 SPIRIT OF FLIGHT AWARD RECIPIENT

#### Vintage Wings and Wheels Museum/ EAA Chapter 1414

The Poplar Grove Vintage Wings and Wheels Museum and EAA Chapter 1414 are two organizations that have a history of working together to support general aviation.

The museum was chartered in 1997, and soon acquired a 1938 hangar from Waukesha Airport in Wisconsin.

The hangar was disassembled stone by stone and moved to the north end of Poplar Grove Airport, where it was reassembled and renovated to become the main museum building. The museum showcases aviation, automotive and bicycle history from 1903 through 1938.

EAA Chapter 1414 was founded in 2005 and now has 114 members. The museum and Chapter 1414 work together on fundraising, restoring aircraft and holding aviation events. They jointly funded construction of a shared, multiuse hangar for restoration projects and events, such as monthly pancake breakfasts and Young Eagle rides.

In 2001, the museum founded a program for teenagers called Youth Exploring Aviation. It became Post 76 of the Boy Scouts of America Learning for Life Program and welcomes boys and girls ages 15-21. The teens are involved in joint Chapter 1414/museum aircraft restoration projects, as well as flights, field trips, aviation lectures and mini classes.

Together, the museum and Chapter 1414 serve the airport and the community by offering lectures, movies

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and safety seminars, as well as hosting vintage car meets, aviation events and pancake breakfasts.

We commend Vintage Wings and Wheels Museum and EAA Chapter 1414 for their efforts in aviation education, youth mentoring and preservation of our aviation heritage.

## 2019 ILLINOIS AVIATION HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



### Stephen Davis

Stephen Davis is a successful businessman with over 30 years in the construction industry and serves as president of the DuPage Airport Authority in West Chicago, Illinois. He has accomplished much in his tenure with the DuPage Airport

Authority, but there is a greater achievement that the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame recognizes with this award. Davis is founder and guiding force for Tuskegee Next, a charitable organization dedicated to carrying on the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen by training and mentoring young pilots from at-risk backgrounds.

Tuskegee Next was founded in 2014 with the goal of providing 100 Chicago-area students the opportunity to obtain their pilot license by 2025. Davis partnered with Illinois Aviation Academy, a flight school located at DuPage Airport, Tuskegee Airmen Chicago "DODO" Chapter and many other supporters to carry out this mission. Illinois Aviation Academy provides the flight instruction, while members of the other organizations provide mentoring, fundraising and organizational support.

Since 2015, Tuskegee Next students have participated in a summer program where, in addition to learning how to fly, they gain exposure to career opportunities within the aerospace industry and learn about leadership, teamwork, citizenship, diversity, military service and the importance of education. Davis oversees this program and provides motivational support and guidance to the students. As of September 2018, 32 students have entered the Tuskegee Next program, 31 have soloed and 27 have earned their pilot certificate.

A talented fundraiser and organizer, Davis works with government and industry partners to generate support for Tuskegee Next. This year, the inaugural Red Tail

Ball at DuPage Airport attracted 330 guests who ate and danced the night away while honoring the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and investing in future pilots.

We salute you for your contributions to aviation in Illinois, and for your work with Tuskegee Next.

### Robert and Ruth Frantz



Bob and Ruth Frantz were known throughout the Chicago-area aviation community for their dedication to a variety of aviation organizations.

Together, they owned a variety of aircraft, from a Bamboo Bomber to a Piper Arrow. They enjoyed fly-in events, proficiency air racing and many other flying activities.

They were staunch supporters of a variety of aviation organizations, including the Illinois Pilots Association, United States Pilots Association, North East Pilots Association and Chicago Area Chapter Ninety-Nines. Both held a variety of offices in those organizations at local and national levels. In addition to leadership roles, both could often be found working at events and safety seminars, doing the mundane tasks that make those events possible.

Bob and Ruth were deeply involved in proficiency air racing, as participants and at the organizational level. They raced the Illi-nines Air Derby and the Ninety-Nines Chicago Area Chapter Air Meet for many years, often winning or placing in the finals. Bob oversaw the scoring for both races for many years.

Bob passed away in November 2014, and Ruth passed in March 2018. Their infectious smiles and helping hands are greatly missed by the organizations they supported and the Illinois pilots who knew them.

We salute them for their years of volunteer service for aviation organizations in Illinois.

### Keith Mueller

Keith Mueller is a flight instructor, mechanic and educator. He has flown as a corporate pilot and served many hours as a flight instructor. Mueller's career as a mechanic began at Ozark Airlines, which merged with

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Trans World Airlines and then American Airlines. He retired from American as central regional manager for aircraft maintenance and engineering in 2015.

Mueller was an assistant chief flight instructor with the Belleville Area College Aviation Program in the

1980s. He later became the part-time coordinator for that program until it was discontinued. Belleville Area College became Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) and Mueller, while still working at the airlines, became the part-time Aviation Program coordinator. He developed the Aviation Pilot Training Program, the Aviation Management Program and, later, the Aircraft Dispatcher Program for the college.

In addition to Mueller's significant accomplishments with the airlines and SWIC, he has a long history of volunteer service in the aviation community. He has promoted aviation to local school districts, teachers and students in St. Clair, Madison, Randolph and Monroe counties. In 2017, he was a planner and participant of a STEM Aviation Day at MidAmerica Airport that was attended by over 200 local teachers. He is a member of EAA Chapter 64 and participates consistently in their Young Eagles program. He provides leadership in the Greater St. Louis Flight Instructor Association, and volunteers at the Greater St. Louis Air and Space Museum. He is always a willing mentor to young adults interested in aviation.

We salute you for your contributions to the aviation program at SWIC, your mentorship efforts and your devotion to the aviation community.



### Earl Outland

Everett Earl Outland was airport manager at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport in southern Illinois in the post-World War II years and was part of a team that had the vision and skill to develop the airport from its modest beginnings into a municipal airport

with airline service.

Outland began flying in his 20s and operated the Mt. Vernon airport before entering the Air Force, where he

served as director of training for the Air Transport Command. After his honorable discharge from the service in 1946, Outland returned to Mt. Vernon as airport manager. He provided sales, flight and instructional services. In 1955, Mt. Vernon voters approved an airport authority and the first paved runway was built, followed shortly by a paved crosswind runway. In 1956, Outland moved to Abilene, Texas, and managed the airport there for three years.

In 1959, Outland again returned to Mt. Vernon as airport manager. He and Chester Lewis, Mt. Vernon's city manager, had a larger vision for the airport. This was before interstate highways were built, when Mt. Vernon was a relatively isolated community. Outland's vision was to win approval from the Federal Aviation Agency and persuade Ozark Airlines to establish regular air service at Mt. Vernon.

In 1962, Outland's dream was realized when Ozark introduced daily commercial service to Mt. Vernon Airport. The airline activity was directly responsible for making Mt. Vernon a transportation center in southern Illinois and influencing the location of Interstates 57 and 64 near Mt. Vernon.

Outland passed away in 1966 at the age of 53. The Jefferson County Board honored him by renaming the airport Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

We salute him for his efforts in developing Mt. Vernon Airport and support of the Mt. Vernon community.

### Doug Powers

Doug Powers has shown that sometimes events in life go full circle. His interest in aviation began as a Boy Scout when he won a flight in a Piper Tri-Pacer out of Ravenswood Airport located just off the end of what is now Chicago O'Hare Airport.

Later in life, he founded Aviation Explorer Post 9 at Palwaukee (now Chicago Executive) Airport.

Powers enrolled in the flight/maintenance program at the University of Illinois Champaign and received his Commercial Pilot certificate and Airframe Mechanic certificate. He became friends with some of the air traffic controllers at the Champaign Tower, took the entrance test and became a controller trainee at

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O'Hare. Over the years, he worked both tower and TRACON at a number of facilities, including O'Hare. Later, Powers became a manager, and then worked as a branch manager, in the FAA Great Lakes Regional Office. Finally, he served as the FAA Regional Runway Safety Program manager for two years.

Powers had always enjoyed giving career presentations at local high schools and encouraging young adults to consider careers in aviation. With his background as a pilot, controller and mechanic, he was able to steer youth into a variety of career paths.

In 1995, wanting to work more directly with young people, he started Aviation Explorer Post 9 at Palwaukee Airport. He became the first post advisor, a position he continues to hold to this day. Powers has used his connections in the aviation industry to help his explorers gain a wide variety of experience and leadership skills. He has truly given back much to scouting and the aviation community.

Many of Post 9's explorers have gone on to attend university aviation programs. They have become military pilots, airline pilots, aeronautical engineers, air traffic controllers and mechanics. Post 9 Explorers also demonstrate their sense of duty to their community by marshalling Young Eagle flights, supporting Aviation Explorer Base Camp at Oshkosh each year and working at airport events. Some of these youths have also returned to serve at the Explorer Post in leadership positions after college.

We salute you for your work with the air traffic control system, your efforts in mentoring our youth, and the development and continued support of Explorer Post 9.

For more detailed information on the inductees and Spirit of Flight recipients, please visit the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame website at [ilavhalloffame.org](http://ilavhalloffame.org).

## NAME THAT AIRPORT

The last "Name that Airport" seems to have been a bit challenging. There were only two responders who knew the airport depicted was the Effingham Airport from 1969. Congratulations to Tom Baker and Lindell Hardt. Baker reminisced that "The picture was taken before I was old enough to start learning to fly. My father told me that in 1967 when he started flying his homebuilt, a highly modified Stits Playboy dubbed the Baker Special, that runway 9-27 had not been extended past the taxiway to the East yet. I have memories of an exciting flight in a Maule in the mid 1970s, and the extension had been built by then. By the time I started flying in 1978, runway 1-19 had already been built. Around 1983 or '84, runway 11-29 was put in service, and runway 9-27 was closed and turned into a taxiway."

Honorable mention goes out to **Robert Bejna, Jerry Spear, David Borger** and **Bill Viste**, who had the correct airport, but were a bit off on the year. Borger brought up an interesting bit of history about the airport. He noted that the land on which the airport is located was formerly the location of the Poor Farm and Poor Farm Cemetery. A bit of research shows that, in the late 1800s, the Poor Farm was a place for those who were less fortunate. The Poor Farm remained in operation until 1945, when the land was reassigned for the airport.

## ILLINOIS AVIATION CONFERENCE

The 2019 Illinois Aviation Conference will be held May 8 - 9 at the Holiday Inn & Suites in East Peoria. Once again, the outstanding airports and heliports will be honored at the IDOT awards luncheon. The Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame will take place May 7. Conference details and reservation forms can be found at [www.illinoisaviation.org/conference.html](http://www.illinoisaviation.org/conference.html), or by contacting 217-503-6434.

## ADS-B – WHY BOTHER?

The deadline for equipping your aircraft with ADS-B for flight into controlled airspace is quickly approaching.

Many aircraft owners have waited, hoping the prices would come down. There are many lower-cost options, but it is unlikely anything new will be introduced before the deadline. There are those who are hoping the FAA will delay the deadline, but the FAA has stood firm on the January 1, 2020, date.

The benefits of equipping your aircraft with ADS-B go beyond flying in controlled airspace. Recently, IDOT

Aeronautics was flying an aerial photography mission to observe the spring flooding. There were other planes in the area. With a mix of high-wing and low-wing aircraft, all circling in the same area, it was difficult to maintain a visual of all the aircraft. Fortunately, all were equipped with ADS-B. The situational awareness provided by ADS-B made it possible for everyone to operate safely in the confined area.

Enhanced safety, additional situational awareness with traffic displayed and free weather information make ADS-B advantageous for everyone. Why are you waiting?

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### May 7

#### Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame

Holiday Inn & Suites, East Peoria, Illinois  
Tom Cleveland 815-748-8102 • groverdkb1@comcast.net

### May 8-9

#### Illinois Aviation Conference

Holiday Inn & Suites, East Peoria, Illinois  
217-503-6434 • Rob@cook-witter.com

### June 2, 8-11 a.m.

#### EAA Chapter 1304 Fly-In, Drive-In Breakfast

Olney-Noble Airport, Olney, Illinois  
Keith Baumann 618-599-5156

### June 15, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

#### WingsFest\*

Whiteside County Airport, Rock Falls, Illinois  
Drew Wilkins 815-626-3750  
airmail@whitesidecountyairport.com

### June 16, 7-11:30 a.m.

#### Father's Day Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Marshall County Airport, Lacon, Illinois  
Barry Logan 309-246-2870  
manager@marshallcountyairport.com

### June 16, 7-11 a.m.

#### Fly-In/Drive-In Father's Day Pancake Breakfast

Geneseo Airport, Geneseo, Illinois  
Doug States dougsstates@gmail.com

### June 16, 8 a.m.-Noon

#### Pancake Breakfast Fly-In & Drive-In

Schaumburg Airport, Schaumburg, Illinois  
Bob Brandt 847-274-3193 • cessna1801954@yahoo.com

### June 17, 6-8 p.m.

#### Annual Safety Seminar\*

Marshall County Airport, Lacon, Illinois  
Barry Logan 309-246-2870  
manager@marshallcountyairport.com

### June 30, 7 a.m.-Noon

#### Fly-In/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast & Open House

50th Anniversary of Macomb Municipal Airport  
Macomb Municipal Airport, Macomb, Illinois  
Kelley Jones 309-833-3324 • macairport@logonix.net

### June 30, 8 a.m.-Noon

#### EAA Chapter 790 Annual Pancake Breakfast

Lake in the Hills Airport, Lake in the Hills, Illinois  
Tom Solar tomsolar@sbcglobal.net

### July 12, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

#### WINGS Friday\*

Coles County Airport, Mattoon, Illinois  
Carol Para 217-785-4989 • Carol.para@illinois.gov

\*Presentations qualify for WINGS knowledge credits.

VIEW COMPLETE CALENDAR OF EVENTS: [www.idot.illinois.gov/about-idot/stay-connected/multimedia/index](http://www.idot.illinois.gov/about-idot/stay-connected/multimedia/index)



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