



**APRIL 2009
AIRPORT NEWS**

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 4

**CALENDAR OF
EVENTS**

**April 2: Gateway Area
Ultralight Assoc. Mtg.**
in EAA room, Hangar 2
rear at 7:30 pm

April 5: EAA Mtg, Hangar
2 rear; 7pm (6pm food)

April 15-17: RSAT (see
next column)

**April 17: Emergency
Service Golf Tournament**

The airport is open and
attended 24-hours daily.

JetAviation 618-646-8000
Ideal Aviation 618-337-3400

ATC Tower Hours 0630-2200

ATIS	121.45
CLNC DEL	118.275
Ground Control	121.8
Tower/CTAF	119.925
Tower UHF	379.3
Unicom	122.95

Airport Administration
Weekdays 0800-1630

Phone: 618-337-6060
FAX: 618-337-1597
E-Mail: director@cps.aero

(After hours, contact the
firefighter on duty or call
618-646-8262 and ask the
attendant to call the standby
airport management repre-
sentative.)

Airport Firefighters On-Duty
0800-2100 Weekdays
Dial 911 or 618-410-0188
Call "Rescue One" on 121.8

Visit us on the web at
stlouisdowntownairport.com
or cps.aero

FAA RUNWAY SAFETY ACTION TEAM VISIT

April 15-17, 2009

The FAA will conduct Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) meetings at our airport April 15-17, 2009. Everyone is encouraged to participate in these important safety events.

RSAT meetings are a key component of the FAA's ongoing efforts to improve safety and reduce runway incursions. In addition to participants from our airport community, team members represent the Runway Safety Program Office, the Airports Division, Flight Standards Division, Central Terminal Operations, Central Technical Operations, Central Service Area Engineering Services, the Airports District Office and the FAA Safety Team.

Team members observe air traffic and airport operations during daylight and nighttime conditions; meet with pilots and airport tenant operators in open and private meetings; and conduct safety seminars tailored specifically for our airport. The result of the effort is a Runway Safety Action Plan, developed and supported by the airport's key managers and customers, with recommendations and solutions to enhance surface safety.

Please take the time to participate in the following RSAT meetings:

Wednesday, April 15th

- 7-9 pm: Pilot Safety Seminar—Runway Incursion Risk Reduction, held in the banquet room at Oliver's Restaurant.

Thursday, April 16th

- 9:30 am to 3 pm: One-on-one interviews in the Airport Administration Building conference room (call the airport office to schedule an appointment)

- 1:30 to 3 pm: Safety Seminar for Drivers held in Parks College Flight Department Classroom.

Friday, April 17th

- 8:30 am to 12 noon: RSAT Public Meeting in Parks College Flight Department Classroom to review the program, the airport's runway incursion history and current situation, and to develop the Runway Safety Action Plan with recommendations for action.



LET'S PLAY GOLF!



**ST. CLAIR SPECIAL EMERGENCY SERVICES
ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Friday, April 17 at Clinton Hill Golf Course
3700 Old Collinsville Road, Swansea, IL
11:30 Lunch & Registration - 12:30 Shotgun Start

St. Clair Special Emergency Services Association is an all-volunteer not-for-profit emergency response team with highly specialized expertise and equipment for response to hazardous material incidents, technical rescue, weapons of mass destruction, and other crisis situations. Funded through private donations, your support and financial contributions are needed to successfully educate and protect the citizens of Southwest Illinois and surrounding areas during special emergency situations.

Players may register individually (\$100) or as a team (\$400). Registration includes an attendance gift, golf cart, prizes, and lunch, dinner and refreshments provided by *Big Mama's Barbecue*. Individual registrations will be matched up the day of the tournament.

Hole sponsorships (\$100) and charitable donations are gladly accepted. For more information contact Ronda at 618-274-2990 or 618-410-6422. E-mail at rsauget@comput-type.net. The flyer and registration form can also be downloaded from the airport website front page.

CARL "CHUB" WHEELER—MASTER PILOT

The FAA presented Chub Wheeler with the *Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award* in honor of his more than 50 years of safe pilot performance at a ceremony March 16th at the *Wings of Hope*.



Chub was a key leader at this airport in the 1930s, 40s, and 50s, as a flight instructor, flight school owner, and airport manager. He prepared hundreds of pilots for duty in WWII and flew with all the famous aviation pioneers. He's still at the airport frequently today as a volunteer at the Greater St. Louis Air and Space Museum.

Congratulations, Chub!



CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS

Construction is underway on our air traffic control tower's new airfield lighting control system. TGB, Inc. of St. Louis is the prime contractor on this six-week long project that will install new underground cable and ducting from the new tower to the electrical vault, wind tee and rotating beacon.

The project includes trenching in the area indicated in the aerial photo, above, and boring underneath taxiway B1, C, and runway 5.

Taxiway and runway closures will be necessary when trenching near the pavements. We anticipate closing runways 5 and 23 for one day and reducing the usable length of runway 12R and 30L to 6,000 feet by closing the first 1,000 feet of runway 12R and temporarily marking a displaced threshold for approximately a four-hour period. Runway closures will be limited to four-hour periods announced 48 hours in advance.

Construction should be completed in early May.



WHO IS THIS LOVELY LADY?

She was Virginia Tebbes Howard of St. Louis. The photo was taken during her courtship with a dashing young man who was selling tickets for airplane rides. When it was suggested she should fly with a tall slender pilot, she refused because he looked too young and inexperienced.

After turning down the flight with Charles Lindbergh, she flew with Ray Wassall. In May of 1929, she married Ray's brother, who was the man who sold her the ticket.

There's much more to the story. All these people were regulars here at our airport during the 1930s. Thanks to the Wassall family for recently donating a large collection of artifacts from that era to the *Greater St. Louis Air and Space Museum* located in our Historic Hangar Two.

There's much more to learn about the people who made early aviation history at our airport. See the Wassall collection and much more during regular museum hours, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

And speaking of history, our own living legend, Mr. Chub Wheeler, featured on our front page, was a close friend to all these people and continues to be a frequent volunteer at the museum.



THE MUSEUM NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Greater St. Louis Air and Space Museum is facing an operational crisis and is in need of your help. Donations in the form of cash or volunteer help are both needed. Either will help and both are tax deductible.

We can't allow this historic collection and invaluable educational resource to be lost. If you can help, stop by the museum or call them at 618-332-3664 Friday or Saturday between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. or e-mail Trent Duff at audrey015@centurytel.net or Sean Goding at spg459@wisperhome.com.

NO PLANE NO GAIN
Business Aviation Means Economic Opportunity
Visit www.noplanenogain.org for more information.

Breakfast at Olivers
"Use it or lose it!"