



**MARCH 2012  
AIRPORT NEWS  
VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2**

**AIRPORT EVENTS**

**Mar. 1: Gateway Area Ultralight Assoc. Mtg.**  
Hgr. 2 rear at 7 pm

**Mar. 6: EAA Chapter 64 Mtg.** Hgr. 2 rear at 7 pm

**Mar. 11: Daylight Savings Time Begins!**

**Mar. 24: Scout Aviation Day** at the Museum, Hgr. 2

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 Firefighters On-Duty**  
Every Day 0800-2100  
(Other times by request)  
618-337-7478 or 410-0188  
Call "Rescue" on 121.8  
Dial 911 for emergencies

For Airport Administration after hours, contact the firefighter on duty.

**MARCH 24th—SCOUT DAY AT THE MUSEUM**

A Scout Aviation Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at our Greater St. Louis Air & Space Museum where 120 Boy Scouts will take Young Eagle flights and work toward their aviation merit badge. EAA Chapter 64 members and flight instructors from St. Louis University's Parks College will also support the event.

**MAY OPEN HOUSE & FLY-IN**

The dates are set—May 19-20—and planning is underway for an open house and fly-in on our west ramp hosted by our Greater St. Louis Air & Space Museum, our local EAA Chapter #64 and our Gateway Area Ultralight Association.

**ULTRALIGHT / LSA SAFETY SEMINAR**

The FREE Illinois Ultralight/Light Plane Safety Seminar is back at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. This popular program covers a broad range of subjects and features a variety of ultralight, engine manufacturer, and accessory displays. See [www.safety-seminar.com](http://www.safety-seminar.com) for more information.

**NEW EXHIBITS AT THE AIR MUSEUM**

The Greater St. Louis Air & Space Museum recently received new exhibits—a full-sized cockpit reproduction of Lindbergh's famous *Spirit of St. Louis*, on loan from the Missouri Historical Society, and two gliders from Carol Bell. Also, thanks to the generosity of Barnes and Noble bookstores, the museum's library and technical publications are now neatly organized on new shelving that looks great!



**RENOVATIONS**

The dust has been flying while a complete renovation is underway that will include a new comfortable lounge area, work stations for pilots to plug in their iPads, a new coffee bar, and a conference room overlooking the field. Expect a "reopening" party in the spring.

Doug Keck recently joined the team bringing 30 years of aircraft maintenance experience as the new chief mechanic and new fuel pricing is in place with discounts to KCPS-based customers.

Watch for more changes coming soon!



**100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PARACHUTE JUMP**

March 1st marks the 100th anniversary of the first successful parachute jump from an airplane and it happened over the parade grounds at Jefferson Barracks, near St. Louis, Missouri. The public is invited to attend a commemoration ceremony in Jefferson Barracks building #24 and a parachute jump onto the parade grounds at 1 pm on Thursday, March 1st to mark the occasion.

The jumper will be 82-year-old Lew Sanborn from Imperial, MO, who is considered to be the "father" of the sport of skydiving. Mr. Sanborn is a pilot who has been jumping out of airplanes for 64 years... and he's still jumping! He made his first jump in 1948 as an 18-year-old in the 82nd Airborne Division. He has jumped all over the world and holds USPA Skydiving Level D License #1 and many world sky-diving records.

He was the first person to film another jumper in mid-air, photographed the cover of *Sports Illustrated*, and filmed the Academy Award-nominated movie, "A Sport is Born." He opened the world's first commercial sky-diving school in 1957 and has led the way in developing new skydiving training methods.

For more information about Mr. Sanborn, check out the following link:

- [www.parachutehistory.com/men/sanbornl.html](http://www.parachutehistory.com/men/sanbornl.html)

View a 10-minute YouTube video filmed by Lew Sanborn in 1960 at:

- [www.youtube.com/watch?v=h63RL7G7oQ0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h63RL7G7oQ0)

A reprint of the 1912 *New York Times* news article about the first jump can be viewed at:

- <http://flight26.org/Berry-jump2.pdf>



The Airport Administration Office is located in the Fire Station at 6100 Archview Drive, Cahokia, Illinois 62206-1445

Office Hours: 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Mon.–Fri. (Closed most holidays) Phone (618) 337-6060

The Airport Operations Center operates from 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily Phone (618) 337-7478

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## **ILLINOIS HOUSE BILL 4444 DESERVES YOUR SUPPORT**

AOPA recently spoke out loudly and clearly against Illinois House Bill 4444 that would double registration fees paid by aircraft owners and pilots. The bill was introduced Jan. 27th, is backed by the state's Division of Aeronautics, and was referred to the House Rules Committee. Under the proposed bill, pilots' registration fees will increase beginning 2014 from \$10 to \$20 and aircraft registration fees go from \$20 to \$40, for a two-year registration cycle.

I'm firmly against new taxes and increased fees especially when they impact my flying, but these fees have remained the same for over 20 years. The proposed increase will cost a pilot who owns one aircraft an additional \$15 per year. That's only \$1.25 per month! No one knows who proposed the fee increase. The negative publicity and emotion the increase has generated will far outweigh any benefits the \$73,000 in additional revenue will create. That's right—the proposed biennial fee increase will generate a total of only \$146,000 over a two-year period! That won't buy much or pay many bills.

**NOW, FOR THE REST OF THE STORY. THERE'S MUCH MORE TO THIS BILL THAN A FEE INCREASE.**

Where do your aviation fuel taxes go? They go into the Aviation Trust Fund to pay for airport improvements funded by the FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP.) Our newly resurfaced and widened runway 12R/30L, the PAPIs, and the new runway lighting system were 95 percent funded by this mechanism. \$53 million in Illinois airport improvements will be funded by this method in 2012 and \$163 million is planned for 2012 through 2014.

As a "block-grant state," Illinois manages all those airport construction projects for the FAA and is paid one percent of the total project cost to oversee them. Where does that one percent go? Into the state's highway fund. That's right, your aviation fuel tax money is disappearing into the highway system!

Here's the good news: In addition to increasing those pilot and aircraft registration fees, the bill immediately transfers \$6.3 million from the highway fund into a state aviation fund used to construct additional airport improvements AND it ensures the one percent AIP management fee always goes into that state aviation fund rather than into the highway fund. Those funds will be used to supplement the 95 percent AIP project funds by an additional 2-1/2 percent and will also fund additional airport projects that cannot be funded with FAA funds. The FAA typically only pays for airport infrastructure projects inside the airport perimeter fence but state aeronautics funds can be used for airport roads, parking lots, and other needed improvements located outside the fence. Later this summer we will be repaving Archview Drive and the parking lot in front of the airport fire station with partial funding from this state aeronautics fund.

I don't like being nicked and dined to death and I'm typically against fee increases. However, in this case, the \$1.25 per month this bill will cost me is a very small price to pay to recover the aviation fuel tax I've already paid and will continue to pay and it will put them to their intended use—funding much-needed airport improvements statewide.

I believe HB4444 deserves your support.

## **ARE YOU A FORMER MILITARY PILOT ?**

A very small fraction of people have ever served our country wearing military pilot wings. In 1921, Brigadier General Billy Mitchell urged the creation of the Order of Daedalians to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism, the love of country, the memories, sad and pleasant, of the American pilots who fly our country's airplanes and to further cement their ties of comradeship.

Daedalian membership is open to all US military pilots, both past and present, of powered heavier than air craft (fixed-and rotary-wing.)

The 26th Gateway Flight, headquartered at Scott AFB, is the local flight of this fraternal and professional order who come together to share the common bonds of service, dedication, professionalism and sacrifice. The Gateway Flight typically meets bi-monthly at a variety of locations with speakers and programs that support the purposes of the Daedalians and interests of the members.

All past and present military pilots of heavier than air craft are welcome. For more information, visit [flight26.org](http://flight26.org) on the web or call Woody Almind at 618-229-7662 or via e-mail at [John.Almind@scott.af.mil](mailto:John.Almind@scott.af.mil).

## **AIRCRAFT & HANGAR FINANCING AVAILABLE**

Regions Bank now has new financing options available to help you purchase that aircraft or hangar you've been longing to own. They offer competitive rates with longer terms and can even finance older aircraft (up to 40 years old.) They even offer refinancing if you currently hold a loan on your aircraft or hangar at higher interest rates or shorter amortizations. (Sorry, they are unable to finance experimental aircraft.)

For more information on these great new financing options, contact Greg Malone in Regions' Aviation Financing Division at 618-316-8912.

## **CURRENT AIRPORT FILE INFORMATION IS NEEDED**

For many reasons, airport administration is required to maintain an accurate listing of aircraft based at the airport. The most important reason is that the amount of airport improvement grant funds available to us is partially based on the number of based aircraft. We also occasionally have queries from law enforcement and FAA safety officials looking for missing aircraft or their owners.

We do not share the information with the IRS, TSA, FBI, CIA, AOPA, EAA or anyone else. Other than for emergency notifications, we only share the aggregate information such as the total number of aircraft and the numbers of singles, twins, and jets for grant calculation purposes.

Diane Earhart is the gatekeeper for gate cards, insurance documentation, and other tenant information. If she asks for information, please share it with her.

If you have a gate access card and your insurance records or driver's training record is not current, your gate card will be locked out of the system and you will lose your access privileges. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep our records up to date.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY, LET DIANE KNOW BY E-MAIL AT:**

**[dsearhart@stlouisdowntownairport.com](mailto:dsearhart@stlouisdowntownairport.com)**