

QUARTER 1, 2025

HANGAR 1

The official e-newsletter of the
Illinois Aviation Museum



Quarter 1, 2025 covering January, February, and March.

Winter months are slower, so we use this time to clean and work on our displays. When you visit you will notice new and rearranged display cases. You will notice on our calendar scheduled events. We have scheduled events for Saturdays during open hours of 10am-2pm. These events take place in the museum put on by volunteers. We could always use volunteers please contact Larry or Chris if interested.

We continue to hold PSI testing by appointment please contact Zook at exec@illinoisaviationmuseum.org. Also tours and private events are still available; if you would like information on museum tours or renting the space, please contact Bill at tours@illinoisaviationmuseum.org.

Note: 2025 Membership dues are still \$30, please remit dues to continue receiving this newsletter.



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By: Chris O'Reilly-Christine



April, May, June

2nd Quarter 2025 Calendar of Events

April 2 - IAM Board Meeting

April 5 - Photo Day Event

April 12 - Young Eagles register [here](#)

April 20 - Easter Sunday (closed)

April 26 - Hot Air Balloon Demo

May 3 - Storytime Event

May 5 - Cinco de Mayo

May 7 - IAM Board Meeting

May 10 - Young Eagles register [here](#)

May 11 - Mother's Day

May 17 - Cookie Decorating Event

May 17 - Armed Forces Day

May 26 - Memorial Day

June 4 - IAM Board Meeting

June 7 & 8 - CAVALCADE OF PLANES

June 14 - Young Eagles register [here](#)

June 14 - Flag Day

June 15 - Father's Day

Volunteer Opportunities

Many Volunteers Needed for Cavalcade of Planes - Give 3 hours, get lunch and a t-shirt. Contact Larry [here](#).

IAM Board Meeting First Wednesday of every month @ 6:30pm
open to all members

Museum Hours Saturday and Sunday 10am - 2pm
visit our [calendar](#) for more info.

What's Happening?

Airport News



Save the Date

JUNE 7 & 8

1. Cavalcade planning is well under way. Some of the Warbirds have confirmed already, the Ford Tri-motor has confirmed, T-6 rides have confirmed, Stearman rides confirmed, R44 helicopter rides confirmed, and JWA Cessna rides too! With the new wide open apron we should have plenty of room for the warbirds and any other surprise guests. I am expecting another big event.
2. Keep your eyes open there's a new, long awaited, Airport sign on Boughton Rd.



New Signage - drive down Boughton and you'll see a new sign for the Airport "Home of the Illinois Aviation Museum" at the north end of the runway.

Curator's Corner:

Hello all, I've secured five new display cases; you'll notice two have replaced old cases by the simulators making them easier to view. The remaining three are used for a new exhibit on navigation and communication equipment used on B-17s during World War II. We'll also have new displays on Sue Nealey and Gene and Sheryl Littlefield up within the next month or so. Come on in and see how we keep working to update displays.

Best, Kyle



Museum Briefs

January saw the VTOL seminar, Jacob Reed explained to spectators about the future of Vertical Takeoff and Landings. Visit our Facebook page to watch the seminar.



In February Bill, the museum facility director hosted a small Veteran group from Story Point Senior Living



"Today we took a trip to the Illinois Aviation Museum ✈️ We learned so much about planes and had the best tour! We can't wait to come back in the summer to check out the outside!"



EVENTS: starting in March the museum has planned Saturday events through July. In March we gave away balsa planes, taught some Junk Journaling, and had a very successful STEM event. Check our [calendar](#) for future monthly events.



Jan has a collection of goodies to help with "Junk Journaling", another way to gather and organize memoires.



STEM DAY 3/29

Our STEM event was open to the public and offered stations that included: build a straw plan, Bernoulli's principle, 4 forces of flight, drone operation, simulators, and balloon virtual reality. A fun day had by all 200 plus visitors. Our youngest STEMer was Katie who enjoyed her visit and will be back!



RESTORATION UPDATE



Pietenpol



The engine on the once-airworthy Pietenpol was able to be started and ran beautifully. The engine and mount were extracted from that Pietenpol and installed on our Pietenpol. Both fit perfectly since they were built from the same plans. All linkages, i.e. throttle and carb heat, ignition switch wiring, and primer lines were connected. We will need to install the tachometer cable later since that is on back order and is not expected to arrive until May.

The existing cowl was a perfect fit, although not the same color, and only a slight modification was made to give access to the oil tank dipstick without removing the cowl. A slight modification to the aileron cables is in progress which will make it easier to maintain.

The existing tailwheel assembly was rather heavy at 10 lbs. so another similar tailwheel assembly made of fiberglass was ordered and will be installed in the next couple of weeks.

This will assist in decreasing the tail weight and bringing the CG location into required limits. In the next couple of weeks, the Pietenpol will be moved out of the museum and a trial run with the newly installed engine will take place to ensure all engine instruments are functioning normally. Check back with us in next quarter's newsletter to find out the status of getting this vintage bird in the air.

Outside Aircraft

The C45 is getting a new rudder after storm damage last year.



If you would like to donate to this or any project, please [click here](#)

The Greenwich Dictionary defines it as: a type of aircraft which delivers both fun and excitement from one or more rides around Bolingbrook's Clow International Airport. It can move horizontally; the direction of motion is controlled by the tractor pulling it. Our wagon has had a makeover and is looking fantastic for 2025.

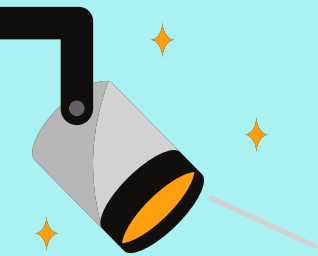


Our Bell 222 N990AA served for many years as an air ambulance before being stripped of its instruments, engine, transmission and propellers, hence the tractor propulsion.



You may remember the most famous Bell 222 was Airwolf. Airwolf is an American action military drama television series. It centers on a high-technology attack helicopter, code-named Airwolf, and its crew. They undertake various exotic missions, many involving espionage, with a Cold War theme. It was created by Donald P. Bellisario and was produced over four seasons, running from January 22, 1984, until August 7, 1987





VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT TOM MARTENS



1. How long have you been part of the Illinois Aviation Museum and how did you get involved?

I have been to many Cavalcades of Planes, so I was aware of the museum. When I retired, I was looking for an organization to help in my free time and contacted the IAM to inquire about volunteering. I have been a volunteer now for about 3 years and help in the museum answering visitor questions and working on the different exhibits with maintenance and restoration work.

2. What do you like about volunteering for the museum?

I enjoy interactions with other volunteers and visitors. It is fun to share knowledge of the aircraft and other exhibits and see the interest of our visitors. I also appreciate the opportunity to share the 'history of flight' in the Illinois and Bolingbrook area, in addition I have learned a lot of that history in talking to the other volunteers. It has been a stimulating experience in many ways.

3. How would you describe what you do for the museum?

I guess it could be described as whatever is needed. I help with the museum, the fund-raising opportunities, maintenance of the outdoor aircraft displays, etc.

4. What is your favorite memory of the museum/airport?

I remember bringing my grandson and granddaughter to the Cavalcade and seeing the excitement in their eyes as we walked around the aircraft and watched them take off and land. That was a great day, and they have returned a few times since then.

5. What is your favorite aircraft, and why?

I think my favorite is the Huey Gunship. Being of the age where Vietnam was top of the news, I find it interesting to see an actual "veteran" of that conflict and it brings home to me the sacrifices that our troops and airmen made in that era. It is a piece of history that I am proud to say has found a home in Bolingbrook to remind visitors of those men and women who served.





From the Museum President

Hello everyone and welcome to spring

We've had a very productive offseason and now we're getting ready for the summer. That, of course means the biggest event of the year for us, the Cavalcade of Planes. We have been busy reconditioning the viewing stands for our jets outside, gave the Hilo Wagon a fresh paint job, and cleaned up the interior quite a bit. We have a wonderful new photo opportunity inside our museum, our hot air balloon basket that is available for people to get in and have their photo taken with a nice blue-sky background. We have a whole season of events scheduled for the museum. Already in the books was a very successful STEM Day at the museum where we hosted more than 200 people over 4 hours and had wonderful STEM activities which the kids seemed to thoroughly enjoy. Some of the events we have coming up this month: on the 12th of April we will be in Romeoville at the library for their big STEM event and on the 26th, we will have a hot air balloon demonstration with information and coloring for the kids. They will also have the opportunity to take their shoes off and get inside an air-filled balloon, right inside the museum. Follow us on social media for more information. Some other things that we have going on: May 3rd we are doing story time at the museum for some of our younger visitors and on the 17th of May we have cookie decorating day. Look for us on May 26th in the Memorial Day parade in Naperville.

We will be at many events thru summer. Such as the Taste of Bolingbrook on May 31st, Bolingbrook's Fourth of July Celebration at the beautiful Bolingbrook Golf Course, and many more.

This looks to be the biggest, fullest calendar for the museum to date, and we do it all for you. So please help support the museum any way you can, thru volunteering, financially, or any other way. We take cash and check donations at the museum and thru the mail as well as any easy way to donate using your credit card right on our website.

Hope to see you soon at IAM. Feel free to reach out and say Hi when you're there.

Larry Greenwich, President

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**
Volunteer here.

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NOW**
Donate here!

Museum Directors

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THE PROMENADE
BOLINGBROOK

See your logo or name here by sponsoring an artifact or project for 2025.
For details click [here](#)

Purchase
Commemorative Bricks

Bricks can be laid in the courtyard of
Charlie's Restaurant, or you can give it as a
gift.

Bricks of dedication or remembrance
can be purchased on the Illinois Aviation
Museum website [here](#).

ROBERT SMITH
PRIVATE PILOT
JAN 25, 2006

KEITH BARTON
PRIVATE PILOT
1948 - 2017

FOR OUR HEROES
CAPT. JAMES
CAPT. JAMES

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through volunteers and
donations, please consider
donating your time or resources.**



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