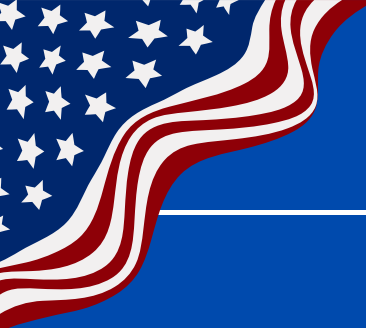




SUMMER 2026

HANGAR 1

The official e-newsletter of the
Illinois Aviation Museum

*Happy
Birthday
America*



Look inside and see what has been happening with the museum this summer, including Cavalcade, Alison's licensing, parades, tours, airport construction and more.



See what a simple breakfast at the airport can become-

[Page 7](#)

Cavalcade 2026

If you came or took part in Cavalcade this year, you may find yourself in pictures. Thank you to the photographers who posted their photos.

[Page 8](#)



Click picture to enjoy a video by Bolingbrook's very own Mike Carpanzano



Museum President's Message

Get an update as to what has taken and will take place with the museum.

[Page 10](#)



SUMMER 2026 MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

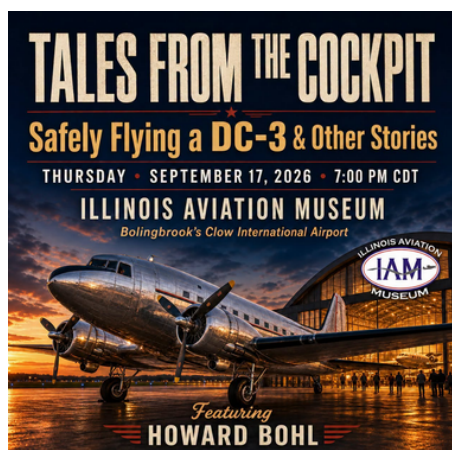
Have you ridden Groundbound?



IF YOU HAVE TAKEN A RIDE ON GROUNDBOUND YOU KNOW WHAT FUN IT IS. PEEK INSIDE TO SEE WHERE GB HAS BEEN AND WHERE IT WILL BE SO NOT TO MISS OUT!

[Page 5](#)

Have you seen what takes place at the museum?



The museum hosts FAAST seminars, movie night, storytime, Haunted Hangar and more.

Click here to see what's coming

[Page 4](#)

Have you taken a tour or had an event here?



Did you know the museum also offers tours to school groups, senior groups, or any group interested in aviation and that you may be able to hold an event here? Contact Bill for further information.

[Learn More](#)



NOTAMS: NEWS YOU CAN USE



There is plenty taking place around the airport at any given time, see what's happening with construction Phases 1 & 2, hangar 2, EAA, etc.

[Page 6](#)



You can be part of the airport

Did you know you can have a commemorative brick laid in the patio outside Charlie's? The museum offers commemorative bricks.

[Learn More](#)



Come Volunteer!

There are a number of volunteer opportunities at the museum, contact Larry for more information.

Pictured: Brian, Lexi, and Bill, three generations of volunteers; thank you, Anderson Family!

Thank you, all volunteers, donors, members, sponsors, Board of Directors and the Bolingbrook Chamber.

HAPPENING

HERE AT THE ILLINOIS AVIATION MUSEUM

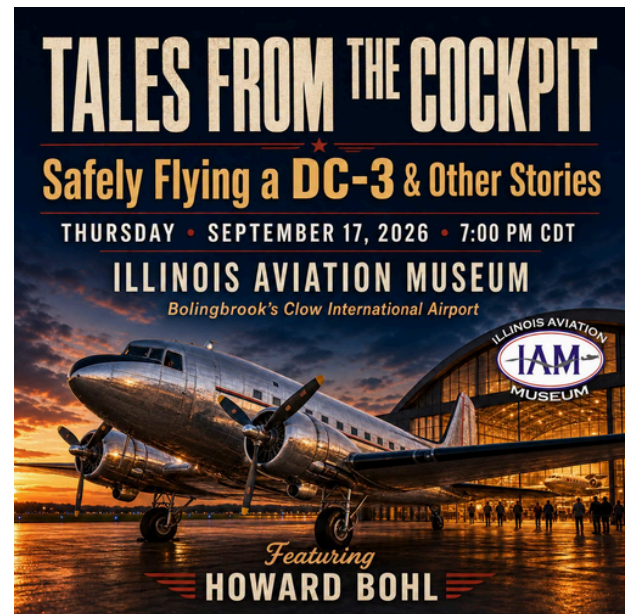
FAAST SEMINARS:

FAA Safety Team Seminars coming to IAM
September 17, 2026 - Tales from the
Cockpit Seminar

~~October 15, 2026~~ - None, Haunted
Hangar setup

November 19, 2026 - Cold Weather
Operations

December 17, 2026 - Understanding
Airspace

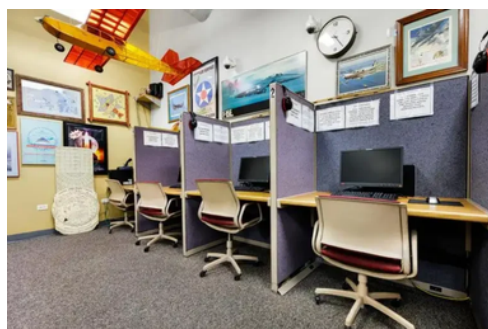


**SAVE THE DATE –Saturday October 17– plan to be thrilled and chilled at
the Museum's Haunted Hangar**



PSI Test Center

The Illinois Aviation Museum
is proud to offer all FAA
written exams through our
PSI exam center. Get info
[here](#).



Museum Calendar of events
can be found [here](#).

[Tour/rental
info here](#)

GROUND-BOUND GETS AROUND

**Round, round, get around, I get around,
Yeah, get around, round, round, Ground-Bound around**



Groundbound takes part in Village Parades, the Village Picnic, Taste of Bolingbrook, Cavalcade, 4th of July at BBCC, iFest, Taste of Pakistan, Joyfest, and more



**I'm gettin' bugged driving up and down this same old strip
I gotta find a new place where the kids are hip.
So do like the Chick-fil-A cow and take a ride!**

'I Get Around'



Groundbound will make an appearance at the following, hope to see you!

1. Taste of Pakistan Aug, 29, time TBD
2. Pathways Parade September 13, 12pm -?, volunteer to walk
3. Joyfest September 19, 3:00pm - 7:00 pm

Want to help load passengers or walk the parade? To volunteer contact Larry [here](#).



Clow International Airport News

New taxiway is underway, Phase 1 will be completed late August, with striping and painting then on to Phase 2 for September, total completion expected in October. The new taxiway has been increased to 75 feet wide.



Hangar 2, a.k.a. "The Annex", flew the Fairchild up to Oshkosh. Bob Coon stated, "We were happy to fly the Fairchild up to Oshkosh this year. Many people surrounded the plane as we shiut down. The first four gentlemen that I spoke with were all from Great Britain. How about that.

Work continues to progress on the Stinson L-5. We are hoping to get the fuselage covered before cold weather sets in. Drop in and see the progress every Saturday."



Hangar 3, EAA461, Young Eagles program has been in full swing since May. If you know any kiddos ages 8-17 who would like to experience a small plane ride, check out the chapter website here. Flights are the 2nd Saturday of the month, weather permitting. All rides need to register. Check this [video](#) to learn more.



Alison's Story

People always laugh when I tell them my aviation career started because I was looking for breakfast.

Back in 2022, I stumbled across Charlie's Restaurant while searching for somewhere new to eat. At the time, aviation was not part of my life at all. I grew up around Lake Erie, knew more about boats than airplanes, and worked in office administration with zero aviation experience. But after finding Charlie's and spending more time around Clow Airport, I came across an article about aviation maintenance and became curious. That curiosity ended up changing the entire direction of my life.

I figured if I wanted to know whether aviation maintenance was something I could actually do, I should learn from people who had spent their lives doing it. That search led me to the Illinois Aviation Museum, where I walked in one day and simply asked if I could volunteer. From day one, the people at the museum made me feel like I belonged. I had never picked up many of the tools everyone else seemed so comfortable using, but nobody cared that I was starting from zero. Instead, they taught me.

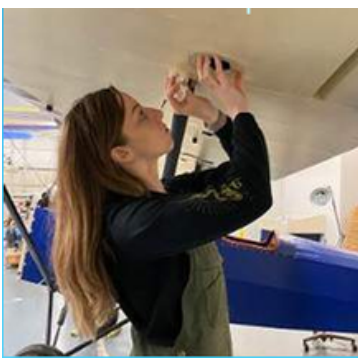
A huge part of that journey was working alongside Dan Christine. Most days, my role could probably best be described as following Dan around and asking him a million questions. He patiently explained concepts, showed me techniques, and helped build my confidence piece by piece. Alongside Dan and others at the museum, I worked on projects I never would have imagined myself doing—including building a pedal plane complete with lights and decals. Seeing kids enjoy something I helped create was one of the first moments where I realized aviation maintenance wasn't just interesting to me—it was something I genuinely loved. Thanks, John.

The museum gave me more than technical skills. It gave me mentors, community, and proof that I was capable of learning something completely outside of my comfort zone.

That experience pushed me to take the leap and enroll at Lewis University to pursue my degree in Aviation Maintenance Technology and work toward my Airframe and Powerplant licenses. Balancing school, work, volunteering, and studying wasn't easy, but every time things got difficult, I thought about the people at the museum who believed in me before I fully believed in myself.

Today, I'm proud to say I earned my A&P certification and started my career as an airplane mechanic with Boeing. Looking back, it's incredible to think that one random search for breakfast led me to Charlie's, which led me to the museum, which led me to mentors like Dan, which led me to aviation becoming my career.

Not bad



CONGRATS!



CAVALCADE 2026

The Cavalcade opened with the National Anthem sung by the Bolingbrook HS Merigold Singers and a parachute flag drop by members of SKY DIVE CHICAGO.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this another successful Cavalcade, the number of volunteers it takes is astounding, thank you to each and every one of you! Here are a few photos to capture the day.

Photos by: [Rob Olewinski](#), [Paul Hrdlicka](#), [Randy Bearden](#), and [Eric Weinberger](#), click the names to see more.

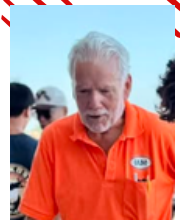
Watch the Skydive Chicago video [here](#).
You can even hear the National Anthem.



More Cavalcade



Board President Message



As summer begins to wind down, I want to take a moment to thank everyone who has helped make this another busy and rewarding season at the Illinois Aviation Museum.

From the Cavalcade of Planes to our appearances at community events throughout Bolingbrook, our volunteers have worked hard to introduce thousands of people to the museum and its mission. These events give us an opportunity not only to display aircraft and aviation artifacts, but also to share the stories behind them and inspire the next generation of pilots, mechanics, engineers, and aviation enthusiasts. Education continues to be one of our most important priorities. Through our hands-on exhibits, STEM activities, cockpit experiences, flight simulators, and special programs, we are working to make aviation history something visitors can experience—not simply observe. Seeing a young person climb into an aircraft, try a simulator, or begin asking questions about how airplanes fly reminds us why this work matters.

We have also continued looking for new ways to serve families, schools, and community organizations. Plans and ideas are being developed for additional educational programs, youth activities, special events, and partnerships that will help us reach more people while providing additional support for the museum. None of this would be possible without our volunteers. The Illinois Aviation Museum is an all-volunteer organization, and every exhibit repaired, visitor greeted, event staffed, floor swept, aircraft moved, and project completed happens because someone chooses to give their time and talent. Much of that work takes place quietly and behind the scenes, but it is what keeps the museum moving forward.

As we head into the fall, we are looking forward to another season of activities, including our popular Haunted Hangar, while continuing to improve our exhibits and develop new opportunities for visitors of all ages. There is always more work to be done, but there is also a great deal for which we can be proud.

Whether you volunteered, attended an event, became a member, made a donation, brought your family to the museum, or simply helped spread the word, thank you for being part of the Illinois Aviation Museum.

Together, we are preserving aviation history, expanding educational opportunities, and helping inspire future generations.

Larry Greenwich
President
Illinois Aviation Museum

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meijer



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Take a Timeout for a Good Time

See your logo or name here by sponsoring an artifact or project.
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

JOE MC MILLAN
PRIVATE PILOT

KEITH BARTON
M9020
1949 - 2017

JOE MAHAR SR.
PRIVATE PILOT
1935 - 1988

FOR OUR HEROES
CAPT. B. WATERS
CAPT. B. WATERS

Donate your Plane

Finished flying? Donate your plane
and get a tax write-off
Contact Joe [here](#)



You can help!

**the museum operates solely
through volunteers and
donations, please consider
donating your time or resources.**

**Sponsor an upcoming project or
adopt an artifact for a year!**

**Click [here](#) for
more information.**

Donate

