

QUARTER 1 2023

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The official e-newsletter of the
Illinois Aviation Museum

Starting April 2023 IAM will be distributing the newsletter quarterly. In it you can find the following information: Airport News, Curator's Corner, Education, Featured Article, Museum Calendar, Restoration, President Remarks, and Volunteer Spotlight along with special events. This first issue is longer as we catch up.



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THANKYOU

The board members and volunteers of the museum would like to say thank you and good luck to Nikki Salvatore. We are honored and grateful to have worked with such a talented young lady. Good luck in your new adventures.



The Annual CAVALCADE of Planes



At Bolingbrook's Clow International Airport
Sponsored by the Village of Bolingbrook

June 3rd & 4th

Event Activities from 10:00am to 4:00pm

Featuring:

- Pre-purchase tickets online only
No Tickets at the Door
- Various Planes on Display from Multiple Manufacturers
- Warbirds on Display
- Military Displays
- Planes for sale - New and Used
- **RIDES AVAILABLE:** Helicopter, Stearman, and WWII - AT6
Purchase on site
- **RIDES AVAILABLE:**
JW Aviation Airplane Rides
Purchase on site
- Outside Vendors & Local Organization Entrance Tent
- Food & Refreshments
- Cavalcade Canteen Beer Garde
- Tickets \$5, Under 5 - free

Sponsorships Available



VISIT
www.cavalcadeofplanes.com

OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:
www.facebook.com/cavalcadeofplanes

FOR UPDATES ON EVENT ACTIVITIES
and to PURCHASE TICKETS.



www.cavalcadeofplanes.com • www.bbclowairport.com • www.illinoisaviationmuseum.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

100's of volunteer positions need filling. Please consider giving a few hours of your time to continue making this event a success. Volunteers get free access, a t-shirt, and lunch. Contact exec@illinoisaviationmuseum.org or register today.

2nd Quarter Calendar of Events

**MAY 29 - MEMORIAL DAY PARADE,
COME WALK WITH THE MUSEUM IN THE PARADE!**

April 8 - Young Eagles Starts, register April 5th

April 9 - Easter Sunday - Museum will be closed!

April 20 - FFAST Seminar Owner Operated Maintenance

May 13 - Young Eagles, register May 10th

May 18 - FFAST Seminar - Owner Operated Maintenance

June 3rd & 4th - Cavalcade of Planes

June 10th - Young Eagles, register June 7th



IAM Board Meeting First Wednesday of every month @ 6:30pm

Museum Hours Saturday and Sunday 10am - 2pm

visit our [calendar](#) for more info.

RESTORATION UPDATE

PEDAL PLANES: The AT-6 Pedal Plane is completed, and the Corsair is under construction. These will be added to the current fleet which includes a P-51, a Pitts, and a P-40. Soon we're going to need ground control.



The museum has been enlisted to complete the build of a Pietenpol. This project is progressing with cockpit restoration, replacement of aileron cables, and designing and building the instrument panel. Stay tuned for further updates.



Education

This quarter saw typical PSI testing, whether for private pilot, mechanics or drone we are thankful for the continued interest in general aviation. In January the Boy Scout Troop 35 started to meet at the museum. February was rather busy with the museum having a couple tours and a ballooning seminar. March held the seminar for pilots learning about the Lewis University Tower and a STEM day!

Home School Group
Tour 2/24



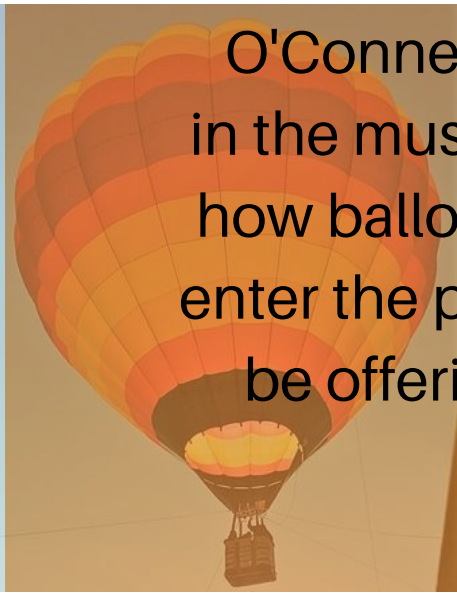
Very full house for the New Tower at Lewis seminar. We have been informed to please call in with all information on first contact.



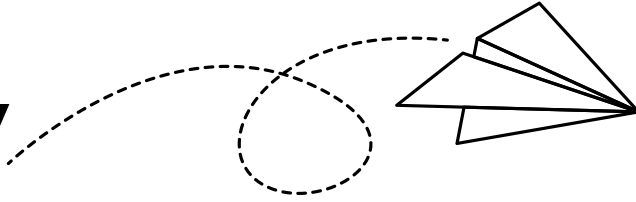
Check the [calendar](#) for monthly FFAST presentations - open to the public

O'Connell Ballooning held a seminar on Feb.26th in the museum presenting history of ballooning and how balloons operate. They allowed participants to enter the partially filled balloon and basket. They will be offering tethered balloon rides starting in the Spring.

Register [here](#) if interested!



STEM DAY



Saturday March 18th the museum hosted The Bolingbrook STEM Association for their Aviation Fundamentals Saturday Morning STEM Session; it turned out to be a spectacular event!

A big Thank You to all the attendees, as well as the Museum Board Members and Volunteers who worked hard for a fun filled day. We look forward to our continued collaboration with future STEM events. Following are some comments from participants.

Saeed commented, "I enjoyed this camp greatly, because of the mix between fun and education"
Jonathan S. wrote, "A very fun and educational 3 hours where we learned more about aerodynamics and had great experiences."
Isaac R. wrote, "learning about how planes fly was pretty cool, especially with the drone demonstration. Flying the wooden planes was fun: I enjoyed trying to make them fly better."
"Today was pretty awesome, and I'm glad to have seen familiar faces." - A. Joshua P.
Soleil said, "At first, I was nervous, cause I didn't know anyone here, but after a bit I started having a lot of fun! I even got to fly a drone after the others left. 10/10 would do again!"

Today was Fun!

I had fun!



Airport News

Joe D. is consulting with engineers regarding phase 3 & 4 of the North and South Apron Replacement.

Spring Cleaning will take place in April & May!

April 15 - Airport Budget Review and Presentation for next fiscal year to the village board.

Cavalcade will again be the first weekend in June! The airport is open, this is not a wavered event.

Keep an eye out for the new pavilion coming soon outside Charlie's Restaurant!

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

During the week of March 20, training was held in the museum for the Bolingbrook Fire Dept. This training was to advise first responders of potential additional safety risks when approaching an aircraft incident or accident. There were six sessions over three days coordinated by Bolingbrook Battalion Chief Dave Butcher and instructed by Joe DePaulo, Bill Miller, and Wayne Brazinski with assistance from Zook Williams.

At Chief Butcher's invitation, several other Fire Departments from the surrounding area attended the training, these included Naperville, Plainfield, Romeoville, Lockport, and Lemont. Naperville FD also brought their impressive foam fire suppression trailer and provided training on it as well.

The aircraft training sessions involved a presentation by Joe, Bill Miller and Wayne after which the class was separated into two groups. One group went to the foam trailer for a briefing while the other was taken outside to observe critical areas on actual high and low wing aircraft. Specific critical safety concerns were addressed including fuel systems, electrical systems, engine fires, interior fires, and ballistic parachutes. We received many thanks and genuine appreciation for this view into the potential risks along with a request for additional sessions in the future. A big thank you to Museum staff for the setup and tear down effort!



Art Contest Winners!

Back in November the museum held an Aviation Youth Art contest, winners were notified in December and prizes distributed through January. Thank you to all who submitted artwork making our first contest a success.

There is certainly a lot of talented students out there. **CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!**



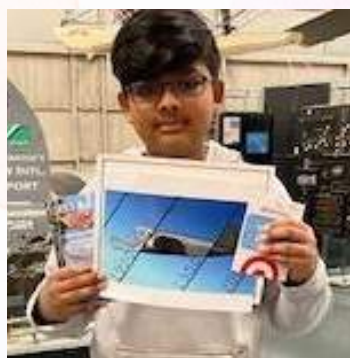
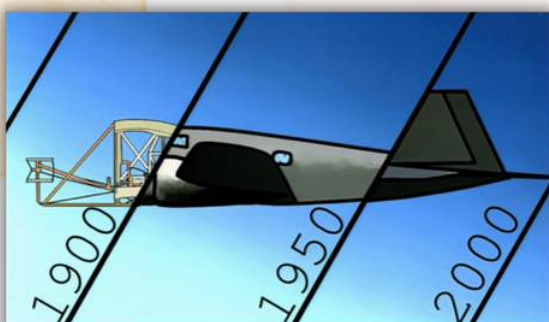
**Andrew Aranda 8-11 year old
Community Favorite
The Winning of WWII**



**Rishov Kantamneni 8 - 11 year old
IAM Board Favorite
Evolution of Aviation Then
and Into Future**



**Lauren Petrosius 12 - 15
Community Favorite
Untitled**



**Aaron Jai Anand 12 - 15
IAM Board Favorite
Flying Through Time**

March being National Women in History Month

Jan Lindsey wrote:

Women in Aviation

There are currently over 32,861 pilots employed in the US. With percentages of female pilots growing annually, currently documented as 71% male and 29% female. Some early female pioneers who set examples for today's aviators are as follows.



Blanche "Betty" Stuart Scott

Betty is presumed to be the first woman to fly in 1910. Born April 8, 1885 in Rochester, NY, she was at first infatuated with the automobile, driving at the early age of 13, she later drove across the entire US. She next took flying lessons and, although perhaps by accident, flew to a height of 40 feet while practicing taxiing to become accredited as the first woman to fly solo. She later became a professional stunt pilot with the nickname "Tomboy of the Air" and the U.S. Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp honoring her achievements ten years after her death in 1970 at the age of 84.



Ruth Bancroft Law

Ruth was born May 21, 1887. She was inspired to fly by her brother, a parachutist movie stuntman. She was refused lessons from Orville Wright because he thought women weren't mechanically inclined, which made her more determined to fly. She set many aviation records after earning her pilot's license in November of 1912. Her husband Charles Oliver ended her "dangerous" career in 1922 by quoting to a newspaper, much to her surprise, that she was retiring.



Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman

Bessie Coleman's dream was to fly. Being a woman and African-American, from a household of 13 children in East Texas, she was denied admission to US flying schools. Born January 26, 1892, she worked as a manicurist in Chicago to save money to go to flight school in France. She was the first African-American woman in the world to receive a pilot's license in 1921. She came back to America and thrilled audiences in stunt flying shows. She perished when as a passenger, she was thrown from her Curtiss Jenny airplane in 1926 and is buried in Blue Island, Illinois.



Amelia Mary Earhart

Amelia Earhart, an American aviation pioneer and author, was born July 24, 1897 in Atchison, Kansas. Perhaps the most well known female aviator, she was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932 for which she received the Distinguished Flying Cross. She set many aviation records and was an early supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment. She was also instrumental in forming The Ninety-Nines, an organization for female pilots. Last seen in Lae, New Guinea, she and her navigator Fred Noonan disappeared July 2, 1937 (declared dead January 5, 1939) on a circumnavigational flight of the globe.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT JIM MATESKI



How long have you been a part of IAM?

I have been a part of IAM about 18 months. I was first a member of EAA here at the airport for 2 years and decided to join the museum. Shortly after joining I started doing docent work.

Why do you like volunteering at IAM? I like to educate people and talk about aviation. I enjoy when young people get excited about aviation and think about aviation as a career.

What are your responsibilities at the museum?

I am one of the museum docents and I also help with various museum projects, the latest being organizing the library.

Do you have any favorite memories at the museum?

I enjoy helping during the Young Eagles flights. At Cavalcade as a safety monitor, I was helping to direct the spectators from the route of the Helo Wagon and all the taxiing aircraft.

What is your favorite aircraft, and why?

T-38 Talon - I was able to fly supersonic (above Mach 1) during USAF pilot training. As a WWII history buff, one of my favorites is the Douglas A-26 Invader where I had the opportunity to be in the cockpit as inflight observer during Maverick Missile Testing.



Curator's Corner:

Jim is doing a wonderful job organizing the library. Feel free to come check out a book.



**"The Baron's Last Words"
WWI Diorama - is on
loan for our collection**

From the President



Hello Everyone!

I am so excited to be letting everyone know about what has and will be happening here at the Illinois Aviation Museum. We had our annual meeting in January in which we went over everything from 2022 and held our annual election. 5 board members were retained, as were the officers. I invite anyone who is interested in getting involved at the museum and might be interested in helping us on the board, we invite you to reach out. We are very much in need of a few younger people to help guide and run the museum as our future actually depends on it.

We have already had a lot of progress this year. The Pilot Interview Display is almost finished, and the software side is finished. We can't wait for everyone to check it out. I have seen it and I have to say, it is very impressive. Both bathrooms were remodeled and now sport a nice ceramic tile floor and new paint as well as a baby-changing table in the women's restroom. There are also updates of some existing displays in the works. Lots of things on the walls getting changed. We also have 3 flight simulators online and ready for the future aviators.

They get a 5-minute flight and that seems to be just about their attention span. LOL

The Tri-plane replica DR1 was finished at the end of last year, and our restoration team is now working on giving the T2 and T33 a fresh coat of paint as well as working on rebuilding JWA's Pietenpol aircraft. It's quite the project that has had a lot of interest in it. We really don't mind it taking time as it is being used as a teaching aircraft. How to rebuild a fabric aircraft, rebuild an engine etc.

Our ever-popular pedal plane fleet has grown by 2. Come out and check out the corsair and the T6. They are outstanding. We also will be having in the near future another balloon event in the museum. Put on by the pilot of the REMAX balloon, he offers insight to the history of ballooning as well as just a lot of information about ballooning. You may even be able to get inside the balloon for a great photo op. Watch our Facebook page for more information for a date.

Some of the events we have already this year are:

- A KLOT Lewis tower presentation that was attended by approx. 125 people of all ages and backgrounds giving all great information regarding the newly opened tower control at Lewis.
- A STEM event that was hosted by our museum working with the Bolingbrook STEM association. We had approx. 40 kids aged 11-13 who came, learned and enjoyed aviation. And they ate some good pizza too!
- Interviewed Art Leach with members of Kelch Museum. We collaborated with Kelch to interview Art, as he will be 103 in May, and was a Hellcat fighter pilot based on the USS Yorktown (which is now a museum in South Carolina). He certainly had some amazing stories and after editing, he will be added to our displays. He is what a HERO really is.

We have been working on an ever-changing strategic plan for the last 5-6 months. Hopefully we will have it finished soon. It is key to our success, but requires a lot of work by our directors as well as many volunteers.

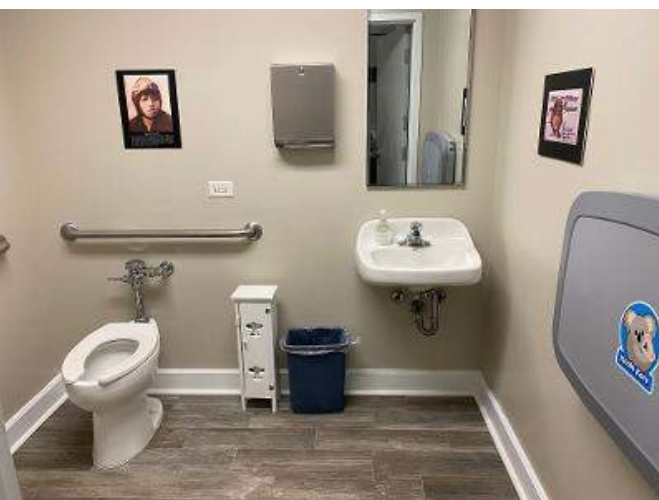
Some of our upcoming events are the Naperville Memorial day parade in May. If you like taking a walk on a Monday morning, come join us. We, of course have Cavalcade of Planes in June and the Bolingbrook 4th of July celebration at the Bolingbrook Golf Club.

All this brings to mind our greatest need, Volunteers. If you, a family member or friend or co-worker have any interest in aviation, please out and lend a hand. It really is very satisfying and rewarding. Plus, you get to hang out with some very cool airplanes. Now, if you can't volunteer, you can help in other ways. We are in constant need of donations. Creating and updating displays is very expensive and every little bit helps. You can make donations very easily on our website. Just click on the donate button. Know that it will be put to good use, as we are an entirely volunteer run 501C(3) Charitable organization.

Thanks and we'll see you soon.

Larry Greenwich

President, board of directors



THANK YOU

Sponsors

Directors

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- Arzania 'Zook' Williams - Vice President
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- Bill Anderson - Secretary
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- Wayne Brazinski
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See your logo or name here by sponsoring an artifact or project for 2023. 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

THE McMILLAN
PRIVATE PILOT

KEITH BARTON
1948 - 2017

JOE MAHAR SR
PRIVATE PILOT
1935 - 1988

You can help!

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

Donate your Plane

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



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

Click [here](#) for more information.

Donate





**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**



**WE
NEED
YOU**