



Club News April 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

By: Dave Starnes

350 at 17 – Gusting 27

The Motor City was more like the Windy City throughout the month of April. There were many opportunities to practice crosswind takeoffs and landings; and more opportunities to practice common sense by staying on the ground. It was also a month of multiple meetings and visits with the FAA and the insurance adjuster concerning the Cardinal gear failure. At this point we have been put in a holding pattern as we wait for an official quote from the aircraft maintenance facility at Flint. The good news is that the insurance company has agreed to cover the cost. There really isn't any bad news other than now we have to wait for the FAA, Cessna, and the repair shop to determine the best course of action.

This Saturday, May 5th is our spring wash & wax. We have three aircraft and four hangars to work on, so we need everyone's help. We'll start washing at 8 AM and wrap up with an early lunch BBQ.

See you at the airport.

Dave

The “new” Oakland County International Airport Terminal

Michigan’s first “green” airport terminal opened August 23 at the [Oakland County International Airport](#) (OCIA). “This terminal is the gateway to Oakland County,” said Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. “There’s a ‘wow’ factor about the terminal that will give travelers a positive impression of our region.”

The new terminal will be Michigan’s first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified airport terminal and the nation’s first LEED-certified general aviation airport terminal.

Among the OCIA’s leading-edge green technologies are:

- A living wall of tropical rain forest plants that clean the air inside the building
- Wind and solar generation of electricity
- A solar hot water heater
- Geothermal heating and cooling
- Highly efficient fluorescent and LED lighting
- Electric car charging stations
- Commuter offices
- Recycled construction materials
- And reuse of the old terminal site and basement

Other notable features include:

- A Pitts Special biplane on loan from famed stunt pilot Henry A. Haigh II and the Kalamazoo Air Zoo suspended from the terminal ceiling
- Historical documents including the nation’s first airport certificate issued to OCIA (then known as Pontiac Municipal Airport) in February, 1930, and a document commemorating Michigan’s first air tour in 1929 signed by Orville Wright
- An expanded U.S. Customs area that handles 70 passengers per flight, up from 20 per flight in the former terminal
- An outdoor area for families to watch aircraft land and take off
- And a conference center with catering kitchen
- The advanced “green” technologies combined with the historical features of the airport and general interest in aviation are expected to draw a lot of attention from area schools and other organizations. The new terminal will be open to scheduled group and school tours.



The construction of the new terminal, which began with the tear down of the old terminal building in early 2010 and finished nearly 18 months later in August of 2011, was funded by Federal Aviation Administration and Department of Energy grants; a Michigan Department of Transportation Bureau of Aeronautics grant; and OCIA airport user fees. The new terminal was completed on time and within budget.

In the course of a year, nearly every Fortune 500 company flies through OCIA. It has an annual economic impact of \$150 million on the region.

Oakland County International Airport Fast Facts

The beginning of Oakland County International Airport occurred on September 12, 1928 with the purchase of 160 acres by the City of Pontiac.

- The airport opened on November 27, 1928 and was dedicated in June of 1929 by the Pontiac Junior Chamber of Commerce in memory of Harry Joseph Brooks, Oakland County's aviation pioneer.
- The airport was part of the first Michigan Air Tour that took place June 10-16, 1929. The event was commemorated by a National Aeronautic Association of U.S.A. certificate signed by Orville Wright, Chairman of the Contest Committee.
- On February 11, 1930 the airport received Certificate No. 000001, becoming the first in the nation to receive an A-1-A rating from the U.S. government.
- The airport was transferred from the City of Pontiac to the County of Oakland on February 25, 1967. At the time the airport consisted of 482 acres. Most of the aircraft were owned by individuals, businesses and corporations in Oakland County, but few came from the City of Pontiac. The transfer thus reflected the fact that the airport already was functioning on a county-wide basis.
- Customs service became available on a limited basis in January 1990 and on a fulltime daily basis on January 2, 1996.
- At the recommendation of Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, on March 7, 1996 the Oakland County Board of Commissioners renamed the facility Oakland County International Airport.
- Oakland County International Airport is ranked as the nation's twelfth busiest general aviation airport with 119,581 takeoffs and landings and second only to Detroit Metro in Michigan (2010 data).
- More than 1/2 million passengers and pilots pass through the airport every year. More than 800 private and corporate aircraft are based here. In the course of a year virtually all the Fortune 500 companies use the airport.

From the Flight Surgeon

CFR 61.53 is the regulation which requires us to medically "self certify" ourselves each time we strap on an aircraft. It specifically requires us to stay on the ground if the pilot "Knows or has reason to know of any medical condition that would make the person unable to meet the requirements for the medical certificate necessary for the pilot operation; or is taking medication or receiving other treatment for a medical condition that results in the person being unable to meet the requirements for the medical certificate necessary for the pilot operation."

A good idea when struggling to make the decision whether to fly or not that day is to use the IMSAFE acronym (Illness, Medications, Stress, Alcohol, Fatigue and Eating). Have the phone number of a trusted fellow pilot or your AME close by so you can "vette" the intended flight by an objective source to help make the call. Two (or three) heads are always better than one. Fly safe!

Gregory Pinnell, MD
Senior AME/ Senior Flight Surgeon USAFR
www.OK2FLY.com

Dr. Scott Grant , TOPS member, can now provide examination services for your aviation medical. Dr. Grant is located in nearby Birmingham (Maple and Old Woodward). His contact information is:

**Dr. Scott Grant
Birmingham Medical
180 East Brown
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-645-1000**

Same day appointments are possible. Make sure you mention that you are a TOPS member.

Miscellaneous

Wash and Wax

**Saturday
May 5th
8 to noon**

BBQ lunch

Local Events

MAY 5 Midland Jack Barstow Airport (IKW) 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Breakfast fly-in. Pancakes, eggs cooked to order, ham, sausages and the best home-made donuts in Michigan! Children's Activities!

MAY 5 Ypsilanti Willow Run Airport (YIP) 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Annual Alpha Eta Rho fly-in breakfast. Eastern Michigan University Eagle Flight Center.

MAY 13 Napoleon Airport (3NP) 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Mother's day fly-in breakfast. All you can eat. Donations accepted.

MAY 18-20 - Pinch Hitter Course

Ann Arbor Municipal Airport (ARB) - Designed for the flying partners of pilots to be able to land safely in the event of an emergency.

Sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of the 99s. Call Rosemary Sieracki or Jennifer Phillips at 734-276-4181 or 734-419-3676. www.michigan99s.info.

MAY 19 Gaylord Regional Airport (GLR) 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Fly-in pancake breakfast/open house. Young Eagle flights.

MAY 19 Dupont-Lapeer Airport (D95) 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Pancake breakfast.

MAY 19 Parchment Triple H Airport (2H4) 12:00 p.m.

Fly-in potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to pass. Meat, drinks, table service provided. love2fly@chartermi.net

MAY 26 Plainwell Municipal Airport (61D) 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Davidson Express fly-in/ride-in pancake breakfast.

MAY 27 Lake City Home Acres Sky Ranch (Y91) 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

50th annual fly-in breakfast. Northwest corner of the airport in the big hangar. Adults \$6.00, kids 5-12 \$3.00, under 5 free. No fuel.

2012 Club Officers & Appointees...

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Skyhawk C-172 64477

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TOPS Flying Club ***(Troy Airport, KVLL)***

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club meetings with training videos,

guest speakers, etc.

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Contacts:

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TOPS FLYING CLUB
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
REVISED 03/08

LAST NAME _____ FIRST _____ MI _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ MARITAL STATUS M S SPOUSE'S NAME _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL _____ WORK _____

IN AN EMERGENCY PLEASE NOTIFY _____

PILOT CERTIFICATE TYPE _____ NUMBER _____ DATE ISSUED _____

MEDICAL CLASS _____ DATE ISSUED _____ ADDITIONAL RATINGS _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: SINGLE _____ FAMILY _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

MEMBER # _____

REFERRED BY: _____