

SAFETY UPDATES CHARTING CHANGES AND BASICMED

During the FAA Aeronautical Charting Meeting in October, a recommendation was made to standardize the RP notation on VFR charts. Pilots are aware that RP followed by a number indicates right traffic for the specified runway. For example, RP 23 means right traffic for runway 23. However, RP followed by an asterisk, RP*, has led to some confusion. Many pilots thought this meant right traffic for all runways. However, it actually means “special conditions exist.” The chart legend refers you to the *Chart Supplement* to determine exactly what these special conditions are.

Future versions of VFR charts will use notations like those used for airport lighting, where the asterisk precedes the “L.” When you see *RP on the chart, be sure to look at the chart legend or *Chart Supplement* to determine what “special conditions exist” that require right traffic.

The standardization of traffic pattern altitudes comes from an Aeronautical Charting Meeting held in April, 2013. In the past, the standard traffic pattern altitude was 800 feet, and it is still 800 feet at many Illinois airports.

However, the *Aeronautical Information Manual* and recent guidance in Advisor Circular AC-90-66B, *Non-Towered Airport Flight Operations*, recommends a 1,000-foot traffic pattern for fixed-wing aircraft. In addition, the *Airport Facility Directory* (now *Chart Supplement*) was inconsistent in presenting traffic pattern altitudes.

As a result, the FAA is reaching out to airports to confirm their traffic pattern altitudes. Airports that still use an 800-foot traffic pattern are being encouraged to change to 1,000 feet standard altitude.

In the future, traffic pattern altitudes for airports with a standard traffic pattern of 1,000 feet will not be listed. Only non-standard altitudes will be published. If you’re accustomed to flying an 800-foot pattern at your airport, keep an eye out for changes in the *Chart Supplement*.

BASICMED – ARE YOU LEGAL?

Since BasicMed was signed into law in 2016, many pilots have taken advantage of the more simplified medical requirement and returned to flying. As we move into the second year of BasicMed it is important to make sure you remain in compliance with the requirements.

The comprehensive medical exam, performed by a state-licensed physician, is only required every 48 calendar months. However, **airmen must complete the online course every 24 calendar months**. For many pilots, the 24-month deadline is coming soon or may have already passed.

The Aircraft Owners and Pilot Association is a great resource for your questions on BasicMed. Visit their Fit-To-Fly page for more details: www.aopa.org/advocacy/pilots/medical/fit-to-fly-pilots



★ *HAPPY HOLIDAYS* ★

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR





**MESSAGE FROM THE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KEN W. MARTIN**

As I compose this article for our readers and friends of the *Illinois Aviation* newsletter, I'm reminded of how exciting and busy the holiday season is each year. Many of us will be shopping for gifts, enjoying celebrations and traveling throughout Illinois, or across the country, to share this time of year with family and friends. Whether we travel by aircraft, automobile, train or another form of transportation, we need to be mindful of the importance of taking all necessary precautions to keep ourselves and our family members safe. Be sure to check weather forecasts, as well as airport and road conditions, to plan accordingly for your journey. When traveling in Illinois, you can go to www.gettingaroundillinois.com to check on road construction, winter road conditions and other traveler information. Whether you are flying your own aircraft or travelling commercially, make safety a top priority. Remember, never consume alcohol when you'll be flying or driving, and always wear your seat belt.

Just a quick update on our efforts to pass legislation regarding Aviation Fuel Taxes in Illinois. As noted in our last newsletter, during the spring session the Illinois House of Representatives passed Amendment 3 to Senate Bill 0482, which provided for the creation of the State Aviation Program Fund. There was a concerted effort to have the legislation taken up by the Senate in the fall veto session, but that did not occur. The Department of Transportation will continue to work with the Department of Revenue and our legislators to bring Illinois into compliance with 49 U.S. Code 47133 mandating the use of aviation fuel tax revenues for airport capital and operating expenses.

I am excited to announce that Illinois received approximately \$166 million in Airport Improvement Program grants from the Federal Aviation Administration in federal fiscal year 2018, inclusive of funds dedicated for the O'Hare Modernization Project. The Division will be working with airports throughout Illinois administering those grant funds

for critical airport improvements.

Wishing each of you safe and memorable holiday experiences as we approach the new year!

P.S. This will be my last column for Illinois Aviation, as I have decided to retire from the Illinois Department of Transportation after 38 years with the agency. It has been a pleasure working with Illinois'

Kenneth W. Martin

2019 WINTER SAFETY SEMINARS

Since 1954, the Division of Aeronautics (then the Department of Aeronautics) has sponsored safety and training seminars for our aviation community. We also work closely with the FAA and our cosponsors to identify issues and topics of concern. Attendees are consistently pleased with the knowledge gained from the seminars.

For more information on our seminars, including schedules and how to register for WINGS credit, please visit faasafety.gov. Registration will open in late December.

CHICAGO AVIATION EXPO – IFR/VFR and Companions Seminar, Saturday, Jan. 26, 2019

Seminar topics will include a variety of IFR and VFR subjects and will offer WINGS credit for the Basic Knowledge tasks. Separate sessions will be held for instrument-rated and non-instrument-rated pilots, so attendees can choose which topics are of interest to them.

Instrument pilots can hone their chart-reading skills and get the latest information from Chicago Center controllers, meteorologists and examiners in the IFR seminars. VFR pilots can choose from seminars on air traffic control procedures, accident investigations, grass runway operations and the latest information on BasicMed. Companions and aspiring pilots have a full program, including communications, navigation, how an airplane flies and handling emergencies.

Schedule:

Registration and Refreshments • 8-8:45 a.m.
Opening Remarks in the IFR Room • 8:45-9:15 a.m.
Morning Seminars • 9:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.
Lunch Break • 12:05 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
Afternoon Seminars • 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Continued on p.3

Continued from p.2

Location: Holiday Inn Itasca, 860 W. Irving Park Road, Itasca, Illinois

Parking: The Holiday Inn has a large parking lot. Overflow parking is available in the industrial parking lot immediately to the west of the Holiday Inn.

Refreshments: Morning coffee and donuts as well as a buffet lunch will be available for purchase in the Holiday Inn dining room.

Vendor Information: Contact Natalie Berman, Chicago Area Chapter Ninety-Nines, 847-372-8956 or natalie_berman@yahoo.com.

Vendor displays provide an opportunity for participants to explore new aircraft types, such as sport aircraft, gliders and technically advanced aircraft, and to view or purchase the latest pilot supplies. Vendor inquiries are welcome.

This seminar is sponsored by the Chicago Area Chapter Ninety-Nines, IDOT Division of Aeronautics and the FAA FAASTeam. For more information, contact Madeleine Monaco, Chicago Area Chapter Ninety-Nines IFR/VFR Seminar Chairman, at 847-431-1847 or 99mjm@sbcglobal.net.

Northern Illinois IA Renewal & Maintenance Seminar, Thursday, February 14, 2019

A full day of seminars will be offered that qualify for Inspector Authorization (IA) renewal and Aircraft Maintenance Technician (AMT) credit for mechanics. Pilots are welcome. Vendor exhibits will provide an opportunity to explore new products and services. No advance registration is needed. This is a renewal year for IA, so please bring your renewal paperwork with you.

Schedule:

Registration Opens • 7 a.m.
Seminar Begins • 7:45 a.m.
Program Ends • 5 p.m.

Location: Holiday Inn Itasca, 860 W. Irving Park Road, Itasca, Illinois

Parking: Free parking is available.

Fees: There is no charge for this seminar.

Vendor Information: Contact Bob Bejna at 630-543-9213 or kb9fur@aol.com.

Sponsored by the IDOT Division of Aeronautics, FAA DuPage FSDO and FAASTeam. For more information, contact Glenn Anthony, FAA DuPage FSDO, at 847-294-8700 or 7-AGL-DPA-FSDO@faa.gov or Carol Para at 217-785-4989 or Carol.Para@Illinois.gov.

Illinois Ultralight & Light Plane Symposium, Saturday, February 23, 2019

A mid-winter meeting for all those interested in light aircraft, ultralights, paramotors, gyroplanes, trikes and powered parachutes. Speakers include Dan Johnson, Tom Milton, Greg Gremminger and Brett Lawton on topics including regulation updates, industry changes, condition inspections, gyroplanes and Rotax engines. Aviation-oriented vendors welcome!

Schedule:

Registration • 8 a.m.
Event Begins • 9 a.m.

Location: American Farm Heritage Museum, 1395 Museum Avenue, Greenville, IL 62246

Fees: There is no charge for this seminar.

For more information, contact Roy Beisswenger at 618-664-9706 or roy@easyflight.com. Details will also be available on the event website: www.safety-seminar.com.

Annual Safety & IA Renewal Seminar Thursday, March 7, 2019

A full day of seminars will be offered that qualify for IA renewal and AMT credit for aviation mechanics. Pilots are also welcome.

Schedule:

Registration Opens • 7 a.m.
Seminar Begins • 7:50 a.m.
Program Ends • 5 p.m.

Location: Northfield Inn Conference Center, 3280 Northfield Drive, Springfield, Illinois

Parking: Free parking is available.

Fees: There is no charge for this seminar.

Vendor Information: Vendor space is available but limited. Contact Carol Para at 217-785-4989 or Carol.Para@Illinois.gov.

Sponsored by the IDOT Division of Aeronautics, FAA Springfield FSDO and FAASTeam. For more information, contact M. Doyle Humphries at the Springfield FSDO at 217-744-1910, or contact Carol Para at 217-785-4989 or Carol.Para@Illinois.gov.

TRIVIA



NAME THAT AIRPORT

There were many correct answers for the last "Name that Airport." Congratulations to **Clyde Zellers, Douglas Cooke, Glenn Gibisch, David Miller, Peter Bayer, Butch Bejna, Bob Forni, Don Schumann, Steven Spector, Roy Drozs, James Binder, Maurice Caudill** and **Leon Sanger**, who knew the picture was Sanger Airport, now named Bult Field, taken circa 1968.

Leon Sanger provided a bit of history: "In 1969, the third and part of the fourth row of T-hangars were added. Part of the fourth row of hangars was moved from the nearby Wings airport. Wings airport was closing because it failed to get approval for a 5,000-foot long runway. In 2007, Jim Bult completed a 5,000-foot long runway at Bult Field, formerly known as Sanger Airport. I have many fond memories of Sanger Airport and also Bult Field."

David Miller noted that runway 5-23 no longer exists. Clyde Zellers remembers owner Paul Sanger taught him the correct way to prop an airplane when he was getting checked out to solo a Piper J-5 back in 1969. Douglas Cooke remembers that he "had to set down there due to bad weather as a VFR pilot. Had to hitch a ride into town for a hotel room and made it out the next day."

Do you know the name of the airport shown in this picture and the approximate timeframe in which the photo was taken? If so, send an email to DOT.aero@illinois.gov. Those who provide the correct answer will have their names published (with permission) in the spring 2019 edition of *Illinois Aviation*.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 26, 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Chicago Aviation Expo – IFR/VFR & Companions Seminar*

Holiday Inn Itasca, Itasca, Illinois

Madeleine Monaco, 847-431-1847 • 99mjm@sbcglobal.net

February 14, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Northern Illinois IA Renewal & Maintenance Seminar

Holiday Inn Itasca, Itasca, Illinois

Glenn Anthony, 847-294-8700 • 7-AGL-DPA-FSDO@faa.gov

February 23, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Illinois Ultralight and Light Plane Symposium*

American Farm Heritage Museum, Greenville, Illinois

Roy Beisswenger, 618-664-9706 • roy@easyflight.com

March 7, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Annual Safety & IA Renewal Seminar

Northfield Inn Conference Center, Springfield, Illinois

Carol Para, 217-785-4989 • Carol.Para@illinois.gov

**Part of Illinois WINGS Workshop.*

VIEW COMPLETE CALENDAR OF EVENTS: www.idot.illinois.gov/about-idot/stay-connected/multimedia/index



BE THE FIRST TO KNOW – USE AIRMAIL

If you wish to receive the news even sooner, sign up for AirMail at

www.idot.illinois.gov/about-idot/stay-connected/subscription-services/index#3.

AirMail is sent about two weeks before the hardcopy is mailed.