

**Experimental Aircraft Association 1643 Inc.,
an Illinois Not for Profit Corporation
Newsletter October 3, 2023**

TO ALL MEMBERS OF CHAPTER 1643:

October Chapter Gathering

The October Chapter Gathering is set for October 14 at 3:00 pm in the upstairs conference room at the Stearman Community Center. Bill Hurley will lead a discussion regarding the FAA Modernization of Special Airworthiness Certification (Mosiatic) and how every member can have a voice in this significant initiative by the FAA by timely submitting comments to the FAA. Further information is set forth below.

Board of Directors Meeting

The October Board of Directors meeting will be held October 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Galesburg Airport Advisory Commission

The next Airport Advisory Commission is scheduled for October 19, 2023 at 3:00 pm in the Jet Air conference room.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had nothing new to report. The current balance of funds on hand is \$6,996.38.

Young Eagles

Whiteside County Young Eagles Event

Unfortunately we have been notified that the Young Eagles event at the Whiteside County Airport for the Blackhawk Area Council of Boy Scouts has been cancelled. Thank you to any pilots from our Chapter who had offered to help fly Young Eagles for the event.

Member Reports

No report

New Members

No report.

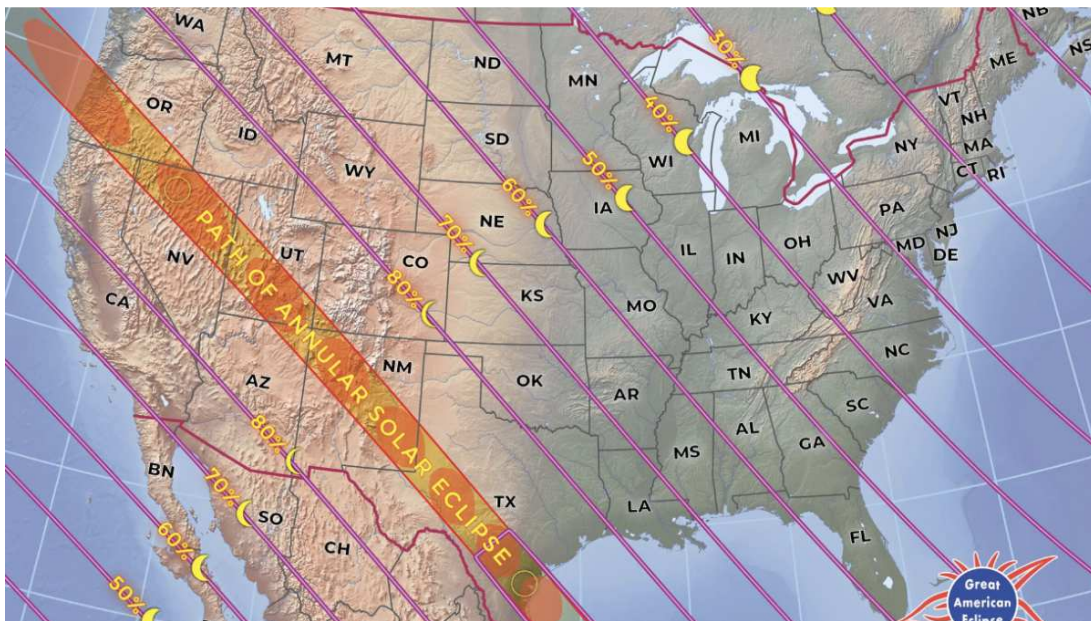
Holiday Party

The Board of Directors is researching Holiday party options following the generally well received party last year at Cherry Street. The likely date is the second Saturday in December which would coincide with the normal Chapter Gathering date although later in the day. Look for further information to be forthcoming from the Board of Directors.

Events of Interest

Annular Eclipse - October 14th

On October 14th look to the sky between 10:37am and 1:22pm to see the Annular Solar Eclipse. The peak of the eclipse will be at 11:58am for our area with about 50% of the sun blocked. The Annular eclipse occurs when the moon blocks the sun at its furthest point away from earth, which creates a "ring of fire" effect for the areas in its path. Also, be sure to mark your calendars for a total solar eclipse that will pass near our area on April 8, 2024. Please use proper eye protection, such as eclipse glasses when looking at the eclipse.



Harrel Timmons Retirement

Harrel's retirement and 85th birthday party was held at Jet Air September 23, 2023. The event was well attended by family, friends and chapter members. Congratulations to Harrel and thank you for all your efforts over the years to promote the Galesburg Aviation Community.

DC-3 Airplane tours and Membership Rides

As part of Harrel's Birthday Celebration the Flagship Detroit Foundation had its DC-3 at the Galesburg airport on September 22-23, 2023. Members of the Foundation were treated to a free ride in the oldest flying DC-3 in the United States. What an experience to check out what was once the premier form of air transportation. I had the opportunity to ride in the jump seat, for a modest additional fee, and was impressed with the coordinated crew effort required to fly take off and land the DC-3 in the crosswind that day. Wow.

FAA Mosaic

As mentioned above, the FAA has given us all a chance to have a voice in the future of general aviation, particularly the "sport pilot" option which current rules enable.

Mosaic stands for "Modernization of Special Airworthiness Certification". It proposes a dramatic expansion of what is known as the "Sport Pilot" program which has been a dramatic success in many forms. While the terms of MOSAIC are too extensive to discuss in this newsletter, the changes are dramatic. Among other things, it eliminates the weight limitation on light sport aircraft, replacing it with a limitation based on an aircraft's V1 speed being a maximum of 54 knots or 62.14 mph. It also allows for four seat aircraft although occupants are still limited to a pilot and one passenger. Aircraft with flaps, constant speed props, and retractable landing gear would now be eligible to "sport" pilots, as long as the aircraft's V1 is 54 knots or less. So Cessna 150 & 172s could be flown by a sport pilot. Even my Cardinal C-177 could qualify, with STC vortex generators installed as its current V1 is 63 mph or 54.746 knots (Unless the final rule increases the V1 limitation by one knot) There is much, much more in this proposed rule change which would benefit general aviation.

As part of its rule making process, the FAA has opened a comment period on the proposed rule. The comment period allows anyone to comment for or against the proposed rule, or to make proposed modifications to the proposed rule. So this gives us all a chance to be heard about where we want the future of general aviation to go. What an opportunity!

That said, your chance to participate in the process ends when the comment period ends. The FAA recently extended the comment period from October 23, 2023 to January 22, 2024. Your comment must be in by that date or it will not count! On September 15th, Flying magazine published an article stating that only 389 pilots had commented by that date. Hopefully the pace of comments will move forward. Notably the volume as well as the content of comments is considered by the FAA. The last thing we want to happen is to create an impression pilots don't care. Now is the time to be proactive.

There are a number of good articles online from authoritative sources, ie., Flying, AOPA, and EAA which provide good information on MOSAIC. Read some, get some information and get your comments in before January 22, 2024.

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