

**Experimental Aircraft Association 1643 Inc. Newsletter**  
**December 1, 2021**

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF CHAPTER 1643:**

**December Chapter Gathering**

The December Chapter Gathering will be held contemporaneously with the Chapter Holiday Dinner on SUNDAY December 12, 2021 at Prairie Street Pasta in Galesburg IL and will feature a 4:30 pm cash bar and 5:00 pm plated sit down dinner. The price for each person attending will be \$20.00. A kid's selection, basically ½ of a regular meal, will be offered for \$10.00. This Gathering is open to members and their family members. Chapter members who have not already signed up are requested to contact Ellie Repp at your earliest opportunity so the Chapter knows who is attending. This will also help the restaurant stock adequate supplies and have sufficient staff on hand to make the dinner a pleasant experience for everyone.

Everyone please remember to wear your name tags.

Also don't forget a book exchange will be held as part of the Gathering. Please bring an aviation related book, in new or gently used condition, appropriately wrapped, as an exchange gift.

Any further details will be presented as they become available.

**Fly Out and Dave Wilson Presentation**

The Chapter's effort to conduct its first flyout for lunch at Rochelle IL was foiled by Mother Nature with low ceilings, rain and other nasty stuff. Hopefully the Chapter's next fly out effort will meet with more success.

However, Dave Wilson was up to the challenge and made an informative presentation about his Van's project at the regular Gathering held the same day at 3:00 pm. Thank you Dave for sharing your experience and insight with the Chapter.

**December Board of Directors Meeting**

In order to accommodate holiday planning and minimize holiday pandemonium, the December Board of Directors meeting will be held Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 4:00 pm in the board room at Jet Air. Members are always welcome to attend.

**T-Shirts**

The new T shirt order is in. Ellie intends to bring them to the January Chapter Gathering for distribution. However, Ellie says if you need it earlier, such as for Christmas, please reach out to her to make arrangements to pick up your order.

**Name Tags**

The Chapter has held off ordering the engraved name tags so as to give everyone a chance to sign up if they are interested. The order will be placed soon. They are available to chapter members at a cost of \$5.00 each. If you want an engraved name tag, please contact Ellie Repp soon. A sample name tag is shown below:

**Membership Dues**

Membership dues for 2022 should be paid prior to January 1, 2022 to maintain your active membership in the Chapter. An active chapter membership is also required to participate in Young Eagles events or other Chapter activities. Dues remain unchanged at \$20.00 for an individual membership and \$35.00 for a family membership.

## **New Members**

The Chapter wishes to welcome two new members: Dannie Gabbert and Todd McKee. To help introduce everyone to Dannie and Todd, a brief biography is submitted for the Chapter's information:

### **Dannie Gabbert**

I am completely new to the world of aviation, aside from a few flights to and from Florida. I'm wanting to get my sports license and maybe find a maintenance course to get certified. I am really looking forward to learning from all of you, and getting to know everyone.

### **Todd McKee**

As a child I lived about a mile north of Monmouth on Hwy 67 and so I grew up under the landing pattern of the Monmouth Airport and watched many aircraft throughout the years and loved watching them fly overhead. In the summer I would ride my bicycle to the park and past the airport to watch the planes take off and land, not to mention attending the annual Fourth of July Fly in Breakfast at C66. I began flying while I attended SIU-Carbondale and passed my check ride in May of 1982. Throughout the years I would fly a little bit, off and on, and as we moved with my job I would get current again, fly a few times, and then other priorities would take over. I moved back to this area about 13 years ago and joined the Monmouth Flying Club for a few years, got current again by flying with and getting signed off by Mel Lynch, flew a few more times and then other priorities took over. I have always enjoyed general aviation and I am looking forward to being a member of the local EAA chapter.

Welcome Dannie and Todd!

## **Featured Member Biographies**

As is usually the case, Chapter 1643 started with a core group of pilots and friends who saw an opportunity to expand their aviation activities and become more engaged through various activities including but not limited to forming an EAA Chapter in Galesburg. Fortunately, after a difficult start thanks mostly to the impediments of the Covid plague, the Chapter has grown to nearly 40 members and is comprised of individuals of diverse and varied backgrounds. However, the Chapter has grown beyond a group of friends and acquaintances. The Chapter wants to continue to grow and attract new members. But walking into a room full of people who you really don't know can be an intimidating experience. Using myself as an example, I am somewhat of an outsider and really don't know much about most of my fellow chapter members. I did not grow up here and only became a full time resident in the area in 2017. Knowing more about my fellow members would help me get more comfortable with them and hopefully them with me. Dannie and Todd's biographies prompted me to think it may be helpful to offer information about Chapter members, for those members who wish to share, to each other, persons becoming new members or who may be interested in becoming new members. Think about it. Next month I will offer up myself as an example to see if members have an interest in pursuing this idea.

## **FAA Action on Galesburg DME/ILS/LOC**

As most of you know, the FAA recently published notice of its intention to decommission the KGBG DME with the apparently intended consequence of eliminating the KGBG RWY 3 ILS/LOC approach. The FAA is accepting comments on this proposed action until December 21, 2021. Reprinted below is Aaron Repp's discussion about the proposed action which would appear to adversely affect all Chapter members as aircraft owners or users of Galesburg Airport. All interested persons, pilots and owners are encouraged to express their opposition to this proposed action. Aaron's message follows:

The Galesburg VOR was officially decommissioned in August of 2021 and the FAA is now looking to decommission the DME housed in the old VOR structure. With the most recent version of the ILS/LOC Runway 03 approach at the Galesburg airport, the DME is now a required component to execute either approach. With the DME decommissioned, the ILS/LOC Runway 03 approach at KGBG will be eliminated.

The ILS/LOC Runway 03 approach is the only ground based navigation approach at Galesburg, meaning, that after the decommissioning, **you MUST have an IFR certified GPS plus WAAS capabilities** to have the same landing minimums provided by the current ILS in order to land at Galesburg should IFR/IMC conditions be present. Furthermore, the ILS/LOC approach at Galesburg is the ONLY precision approach, a back-up should there ever be any issue with the Global Positioning System and acts as a foundation to basic IFR flight training and pilot currency.

Please take the time, through email/and or letter, no later than December 21st, to voice the importance of the ILS/LOC approach at Galesburg and the negative effects the decommissioning of the DME may have. A sample letter has been attached to this email along with the Proposed Non-Rulemaking study from the FAA and a copy of the current ILS/LOC Runway 03 approach.

**The following is from Phillip Wolford, President of Jet Air, Inc. and Chapter 1643 member:**

We Need Your Help!! As a user of the Galesburg Airport, we would like you to send an Email and/or Letter with your request for the FAA to not decommission the DME and to stress the importance of saving the only ILS / LOC approach into Galesburg!

The FAA is taking public comments until December 21, 2021 and they can be sent electronically or mailed; contact information is listed below.

**EMAIL:**

[9-NATL-CSA-Public-Notice-Airspace@faa.gov](mailto:9-NATL-CSA-Public-Notice-Airspace@faa.gov)

**Subject:** Airspace Study 21-AGL-369-NR, Proposed Decommissioning of GBG DME.

**NOTE:** Please include your name, physical address and email address.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS:**

Federal Aviation Administration  
ATO Central Service Center Operations Support Group (AJV-C2)  
Non-Rulemaking Case No. 21-AGL-369-NR  
10101 Hillwood Parkway  
Fort Worth, TX 76177

Comments received prior to December 21, 2021, will be considered before final action is taken on this proposal.

The letter from the FAA regarding their proposal to eliminate the DME - addition, and a sample letter to the FAA will follow in a separate e-mail.

Please let me know if you prefer this format.

**Experimental Aircraft Association 1643 Inc  
Communications Liaison:**

Bill Hurley  
[whurleylaw@gmail.com](mailto:whurleylaw@gmail.com)  
Cell: 312-316-6360