

THE FLYER

EAA CHAPTER 304
3600 WILDWOOD
JACKSON, MI 49202



January 2020



The Flyer

Jackson Chapter **304**
Experimental Aircraft
Association

**Jackson
County
Airport**



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2019 Holiday

gathering at

Knight's Steak House & Grill



Photos by Ken Shuman

Reynolds Field Outstanding Service Award

Dianne Weems receives the award from John Feldvary the Chair of the Airport Board on December 18th. Weems recently sold her Airport Restaurant & Spirits



There will be no January EAA 304 Meeting

See you all in February

Useful Website Links

EAA National Site <http://www.eaa.org/eea>
 Jackson County Airport <http://www.co.jackson.mi.us/232/airport>
 Solo Aviation <http://www.soloaviation.aero/>
 Skyway Aviation <http://www.skywayjxn.com/default.htm>
 Lumen Christi Aviation Club <http://www.304youthaviation.weebly.com>
 Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) <http://www.aopa.org/>
 MDOT Aeronautics <http://www.michigan.gov/aero>
 NOAA National Weather Service <http://www.aviationweather.gov/adds/>
 Federal Aviation Administration <http://www.faa.gov/>



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your *Flyer* Editor:
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EAA Chapter 304 MEETINGS

Jan 1st

No January Meeting

Feb 5th

6:30 p.m. Chapter House Regular Meeting

Mar 4th

6:30 p.m. Chapter House Regular Meeting

Check out the EAA Chapter 304 Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/EAA-Chapter-304-624715834287473/>

Check out the new Website

<https://eaa304.org>



Juan Zapata
Airport Manager

2019 in review

Photos by Joan Feldvary

2019 has been a very successful year for the airport. All county owned hangars have been 100% occupied all year long. This is great because our airport revenue sources are hangar rents, land leases, fuel flowage fees, landing fees and commercial operating permits. To continue

growing our revenue source we have to continue developing available airport property to allow additional aeronautical and non-aeronautical leases, build additional aircraft hangars, and revise our rates and charges to produce more revenue while staying competitive in the airport market.

Some of the highlights for 2019 were:

*We ended all types of farming on airport property. This one change improved the levels of wildlife activity on the airport while allowing us to comply with Blackman Township zoning ordinances for light industrial.

*We hired Debbie Thompson to replace Julie Williams as administrative assistant. She has been a great addition to the airport team!

*Four of our local pilots, including the chair of the board, got awarded the highest honor for pilots that the FAA awards – the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award.

*The Airport Restaurant & Spirits saw a change in ownership. After many years at the airport, Dianne Weems decided to retire and sell the restaurant. The new owner, Tony Riddle has started to remodel the restaurant and we expect many changes in the future, including the addition of a restaurant patio in 2020.

*We entered into a 3-P (private public partnership) with Jackson Executive Transport to redevelop the aging hangar 204. The hangar should be completely redesigned by September 2020.

*We finally received, and approved, the update to the airport layout plan. This gives us a good picture of future development areas on the airport.

*We designed, and redesigned, bided, and awarded the terminal apron project. In September the FAA finally awarded the money for the project, which is now scheduled to begin in May of 2020. One benefit resulting from this delay is that the redesign of the apron gave us the room to add a patio to the restaurant. The patio section of the restaurant is expected to open by September 2020.

*We were able to replace the control tower roof and HVAC system. The roof job is done but is still awaiting final inspection. The HVAC should be running by the end of the week.

*A new private hangar is being built, and because of our competitive land leases, we are hopeful to get one or two more in 2020.

*Private hangars were inspected. A result of the inspections is that several hangars are being updated and repaired, as required by the lease agreements.

*We had to replace a plow on one of the pickup trucks, and major repairs were required of the on the Oshkosh plow truck and the John Deere tractor. Airport personnel are doing a great job of maintaining, and when able, repairing our aging equipment.

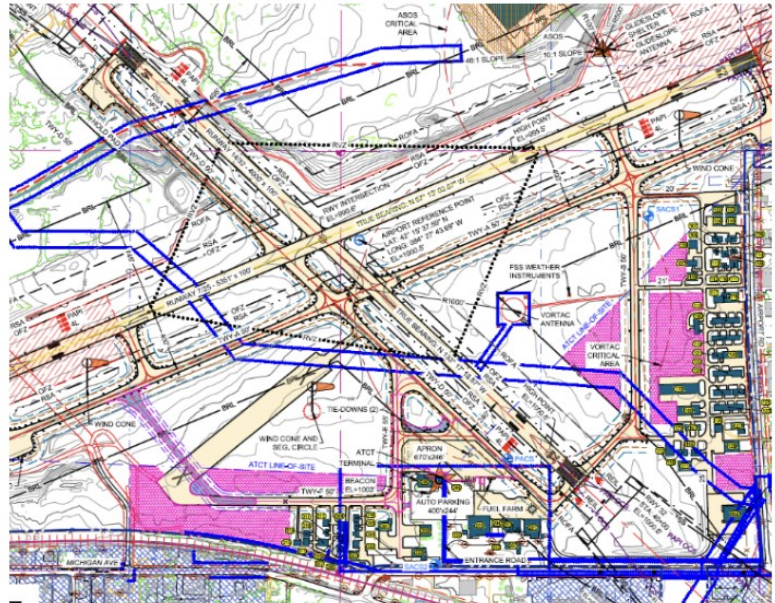


Come Flying It's Awesome

JXN 2019 Update from Juan Zapata—expanded coverage

We had another successful year for 2019. All county-owned hangars were 100% occupied for the whole year. 100% hangar occupancy is great because we are maximizing our rental revenue for the airport. Airports have very limited sources of revenue – in the case of Jackson, we rely on revenue from hangar rentals, lease payments, fuel flowage fees and landing fees to help us operate the airport. 100% hangar occupancy also means that we can start looking into the possibility of future hangar development at the airport.

ALP Update - We were also able to get our Airport Layout Plan (ALP) updated to reflect not only existing conditions at the airport but also shows us the possible future layout of the airport. The diagram below reflects future configuration changes. A proposed addition is the extension of taxiway "F" all the way to taxiway "A". The proposed future corporate hangar development will be on the west side, and the extension of taxiway "F" will allow for easier and faster traffic flow.



Crane Spotted on the Airport –

No, not the Sand Hill type, but the MetalType! We were able to get a new roof and HVAC system on the control tower building. The roof was 1970's vintage, with many patches, and the HVAC was a 1985 model. Our new roof should keep the third floor and the air traffic controllers dry for many years to come!

Terminal Apron – The terminal apron project had some delays that prevented reconstruction to start as originally scheduled in 2019. The new construction start

date is May 26, 2020, right after the EAA's Pancake Breakfast & Fly-in. The delay was beneficial for us in that, because of the redesign requirement, we will now be able to add a patio to the airport restaurant. By September 2020, we expect to open up the new patio with outdoor seating! The diagram shows the expanded apron area. The project will take 90 days so please plan ahead if you are based on the west side of the airport.





Jackson Air Triathlon – We had the inaugural Air Triathlon this last July. We had a small group participate, but it gave us a good idea on what few items to improve on – expect tougher clues in 2020! Some of the other noteworthy events

The airport restaurant changed ownership. I am sure by now you have seen all the exciting changes happening in the **APRON RESTAURANT**. If you have not, it is time to stop by and check out all the changes that Tony and Sarah are undertaking inside the Apron.



New private hangar construction is once again taking place. We are hopeful that, as hangar owners start to update their hangars, that other future tenants will be interested in building at Jackson, and empty hangars will start to sell.

We are also hosting the award winning display by Jackson **College's Heritage Center**. If you are a WW II history buff, you need to stop by and check out this display. The Heritage Center volunteer students really did a terrific job in recovering some of the local WW II aviation history that was nearly lost.



2020 should be another terrific year for JXN.

Thank you for your continued support.

New Name & Owner

The new name & awning of the restaurant located at the airport.

Apron Restaurant & Spirits

Watch for more changes as the new owner, Tony Riddle, says there are more in store including a new patio for dining.



Meet your new Secretary – Greg Mears

Starting in 2020, we will have a new Secretary, Mr. Greg Mears. As Greg is relatively new to our group, John and I asked him to say a little bit about himself, and his plans for EAA 304. Greg turned 65 this past October and had the pleasure of a retiring on his birthday. He has worn a lot of hats in his lifetime, many of which he hopes will help EAA 304.

Greg hails from Dearborn Heights Michigan, however his career has taken him and his family all over the Midwest. (including 11 moves over 13 years across 4 states) He landed in Jackson in 1987 and decided to stay. His resume includes many roles including Automotive Service Technician, Retail Store Management 22 years, and IT Specialist for 21 years. A Lansing Community College graduate in 1998, his focus was on Information Technology, with a special focus on System Design, Marketing, and Communications. In 1998 he was hired by the State of Michigan and eventually rose to a Senior Programmer/Analyst position. In 2011 he was promoted to a special role as an IT Specialist providing specialized IT support for several State agencies. He held this role from 2011 until his retirement this past October. During this time, Greg was key in developing improved internal customer service programs. He was recognized 3 times With Chairman awards for outstanding customer service.

Greg has also been involved in various organizations including the Yankee Air Force Museum, (1987-1990) where he used his retail skills to help the gift shop become profitable. When he wasn't doing that, he made use of his mechanical skills assisting with the restoration of the "Yankee Lady"

He has held leadership positions with several local organizations including the State's SECC program. (A charity run by State employees) Greg recently celebrated 40 years of marriage to his wife Ruth. He has two children. A daughter Teresa, and son Kevin. His family has had a long friendship with our family, including a partnership in our computer store from 1998-2007.

As for his future with EAA... Greg has always had a thing for aircraft of any kind, especially Warbirds. His goal as Secretary is simple.

Utilize his Management, Organizational, and IT skills to help modernize our chapter

Assist in providing greater outreach to the community through our website, YouTube Channel, and Facebook sites.

Assist our leaders in growing our membership, and increasing volunteerism

Please help us welcome him and success in his new role with us. Greg and I manage our web page and he can be contacted any time through the Secretary website email. secretary@eaa304.org



submitted by Joan Feldvary

Calling All Pilots – Manned and Unmanned



The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on January 13, 2020, will launch improvements to the way it tests all applicants for an FAA airman certificate for all certificated pilots (including drone pilots).

One of the most important changes is the requirement that all applicants obtain an FAA Tracking Number (FTN) by creating an Integrated Airman Certification and Rating Application (IACRA) profile prior to registering for a knowledge test.

- The FTN allows the applicant and any certifying officer the ability to pull up airman information in a consistent format, leaving little room for errors associated with an applicant's name. Previously, name inconsistencies could lead to returned files and lengthy delays

in the certification process.

- IACRA is the web-based certification/rating application that guides the user through the FAA's airman application process.

The FAA will host four webinars beginning next week to explain the new testing system, including the FTN requirement. Please select one of the dates below to register for a Webinar.

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 – 10:00 a.m. EST Wednesday, January 8, 2020 – 3:00 p.m. EST

For more information about the new testing system, please visit [Airman Certificate Testing Service \(ACTS\)](#).

Webinar Format:

- Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis.
 - Webinar sessions are hosted in audio and visual format via GoToWebinar.
- You must download the GoToWebinar software on your computer, smartphone/tablet app.
- On the day of the webinar you can access the session via the join link in your confirmation email, or using your 9-digit Webinar ID.

You are encouraged to read the [GoToWebinar How-To Guide](#) ahead of the webinar.

Questions about the webinar or the test? Please email AirmanKnowledgeTesting@faa.gov.

Award Given

at the Airport Board meeting December 18th.

John Feldvary, the Airport Board Chair presented to a representative from Jackson College the Reynolds Field Contributor Award.



I think I'll just be Flying Today

JANUARY 2020

Jan 1st No Chapter meeting— Happy New Year

Happy
New Year

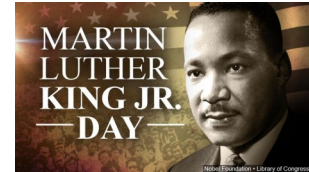
3rd Festival of Sleep Day

5th National Bird Day



7th Old Rock Day

13th Make Your Dream Come True Day



15th Airport Board Meeting 9a.m. EAA304 Hanger

20th Martin Luther King Holiday



23rd National Pie Day



25th Chinese New Year's Day

25th Women's Aviation Career symposium 2020 Lansing, MI

FEBRUARY 2020

2nd Ground Hog Day



5th EAA Chapter 304 Membership Meeting



8th Boy Scout Day



12th Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

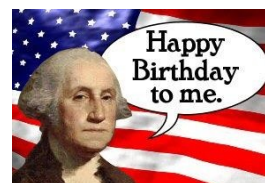


14th Valentine's Day



18th President's Day

19th Airport Board Meeting 9a.m. EAA304 Hanger



22nd George Washington's Birthday



29th Leap Day

* Check out the Michigan Calendar at michigan.gov/aero

**EAA Chapter 304
3600 Wildwood
Jackson MI,49202**

The Flyer

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Issues will be emailed before the end of the month

Deadline for submission of articles is the 20th of the month to be included in the next ***Flyer***.

Email to lindafurgason@gmail.com



EAA Chapter 304 meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at
EAA 304 Sport Aviation
Center
3600 Wildwood Ave.
Jackson, MI 49202
unless otherwise published
Everyone is welcome

Thank you to this month's The Flyer contributors:

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From the Editor, Linda Furgason