

THE RITE FLYER

MARTIN AIRFIELD

GAMI Unleaded Avgas Approved For GA Piston Fleet

By Kate O'Conner



In a first for the aviation industry, the FAA has approved supplemental type certificates (STCs) for the use of General Aviation Modifications Inc.'s G100UL 100-octane unleaded avgas in all general aviation piston aircraft. GAMI co-founder George Braly stated that the fuel will initially be produced in small batches while the manufacturing and distribution infrastructure is established. Although pricing for G100UL has not yet been determined, Braly noted it will cost "slightly more" than 100LL until production volume increases.

"This is a big day for the industry," said Braly. "It means that for a lot of our general aviation communities, and especially for a high fraction on the West Coast, relief is on the way. And it means that our industry will be able to go into the future and prosper and provide the essential infrastructure for this country for everything from Angel Flights to critical training of our future airline pilots."

As previously reported by *AVweb*, the new STCs come after significant controversy surrounding the approval process including [unanticipated delays](#) and [additional reviews](#). GAMI received its first STC for G100UL in July 2021 and STCs for [around 600 additional engines](#) the following October. The company began work on G100UL in 2009.

Braly said the expanded STC covers all of the spark ignition engines (including airframes) in the general aviation fleet. If field experience reveals any oversights, the FAA has agreed to allow amendments through Designated Engineering Representative signoffs.

G100UL will require an STC, which Braly said will be available through a web store the company is setting up. Prices haven't been established yet, but he expects them to be similar to those charged for the Petersen autofuel STCs, which typically vary by horsepower between \$130 and \$500, but

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Calendar Items to share

Fridays	10:00 a.m. Coffee Club, Martin Field Pilot's Lounge,
May 20	EAA 219 Pancake Breakfast (KPDT) 8-10 a.m. at the Clubhouse
May 27	Hermiston EAA 1639 (HRI) last Saturday Breakfast 8-11 a.m.
June 17	Desert Aire (M94) Fly-in for breakfast, 7:00-11:00, support our local airport fundraiser
June 17	Grant County Airshow at Moses Lake (KMWHL) watch for more information



G100UL *continued*

more for some engine models.

Production details remain to be determined. GAMI has a production distribution agreement with Avfuel to manufacture and distribute G100UL. Avfuel says it will engage with any refinery qualified to manufacture the fuel. Avfuel's Craig Sincock said last year that developing the market will take several years. Initially, Braly said, California Aeronautical University in Bakersfield, California, has agreed to be a launch volume customer for G100UL. Fuel components will either be shipped in and blended or a finished fuel will be shipped from a refinery in Texas by rail.

G100UL's approval culminates nearly 13 years of research and testing that began shortly after the EPA announced gathering research on leaded fuel emissions near airports. It's widely believed that the EPA will announce a finding of endangerment on leaded avgas before the end of the year. It's unclear if this would bring other players into the 100-octane unleaded fuel market. Swift fuel has been selling 94UL for several years and the University of North Dakota had adopted it as its sole piston fuel. Swift is working on its own 100-octane unleaded fuel.

Braly credits AOPA's Mark Baker with pushing the FAA to remove barriers to the expanded STCs for G100UL. Although he was not openly vocal, Braly said Baker worked behind the scenes to encourage the FAA to complete the project.

*Co-authored with Paul Bertorelli.
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Editors' Note: GAMI announced during a recent interview that it has received STCs to produce G100UL 100-octane unleaded avgas in all general aviation piston aircraft. The news was followed by press releases from EAA, AOPA, and others, though GAMI itself did not issue a press release.



Celebrate
the Young Eagles
30th Anniversary

The Young
Eagle Rally
hosted by

EAA Chapter 604 is just around the corner. Our date is June 10th this year in conjunction with EAA's 30th Annual International Young Eagle Rally. Registration is now open at [Young Eagles Day - Registration System](#). Send this link to family and friends with youth ages 8-17 interested in experiencing aviation in the seat of a GA aircraft. All volunteers will be needed to pull this off. We expect 150 registrations and can use lots of ground support. There will be a work day on Friday to clean and pre-set the venue. Saturday morning we will need helping hands at 7:30 to finish setting things up. Pilots meeting will be at 8:30 and first flight after the meeting. We will conclude by 3:30 p.m.

MAINTENANCE CONTINUES AT TWO OREGON USFS AIRSTRIPS



RAF supporters spent a day July 9 on repairs and maintenance at both Rager Guard Station airfield in Oregon's Ochoco National Forest, and Big Rock Flat airfield in the Umatilla National Forest.

"These two Forest Service aviation assets provide pilots with opportunities to access remote back-country areas in Central Oregon," RAF Oregon Liaison Richard Mayes said. Visitors to Rager can see historical buildings built by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Mayes started working on safety and reclamation projects at Rager in 2020, using an RAF grant to organize volunteers and the use of donated equipment to mow the 2,800-ft strip, clear brush, repair the runway surface, install a windsock and pole, and clear an aircraft parking area. Volunteers also constructed a stone fire ring near a donated picnic table in the camping area.

The recent work was completed at both airstrips in order to prepare a current report to the USFS, and to update entries in the Airfield Guide. For current listings, see [Rager](#) and [Big Rock Flat](#).

"The RAF collaborates with USFS Region 6 and the responsible District Rangers to maintain a number of backcountry airfields in Oregon," Mayes added.

Submitted on July 9, 2022

RAF Mission Statement:

"The Recreational Aviation Foundation preserves, improves, and creates airstrips for recreational access."

General Meeting Minutes April 10, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 by President Jim Edwards. He asked everyone to introduce themselves. We had several guests including three candidates for the Ray Scholarship award our committee is working on. Travis Chiarson gave a brief report on our current scholarship recipient, Meredith, and then introduced the three new candidates. Meredith is on her National Guard rotation currently and will schedule a check ride when she returns.

Scholarship Committee: Jim discussed forming this committee to manage additional scholarship and to raise funds for future locally sponsored scholarships. Our goal is to be able to support education in all aviation fields. We also discussed a memorial scholarship in Torch Davis's name.

Eagle Flights Coordinator: Andrea Moore has gathered material and is looking for pilots to be mentors and offer first flights to interested adults. Bill Herrington gave the report on behalf of Andrea.

Our Second Annual Fly-in is taking shape and will be held April 22 from 10:00-2:00. Members who will be helping with setup should be here by 9:30 a.m. Notices were send to all area EAA Chapters and sever FBO's.

Bill Herrington announced the word day at Little Goose airstrip for May 21. Fly over if you can or drive if the weather is bad. Bring shovel and rakes and whatever you think will help with the cleanup. For more information please talk to Bill.

Don Gibbard reminded all to volunteer for the Young Eagle Rally. It takes the whole Chapter to make for a great local event and we get great publicity doing this.

Projects were discussed before we broke for refreshments and a discussion on Controlled Flight Into Terrain.

Don Gibbard, Secretary



WPA Fly-Out: Saturday, July 10 from 11-2 at Pasco Tri-Cities Airport (PSC)

Aircraft Parking: Pasco Aviation Museum Ramp
Pasco Aviation Museum | 4022 Stearman Avenue, Pasco, WA 99301
\$10.00 cash per person, includes museum admission and
lunch

RSVP requested so we know how many lunches!

Fly Washington Passport Program

Mission

The Fly Washington Passport Program encourages pilots and aviation enthusiasts to explore Washington's public-use airports. Beyond motivating pilots to fly, this program supports general aviation airports, area businesses, tourism, and provides flight planning, safety, and educational opportunities. The program relies on the voluntary participation of Washington's public-use airports, pilots, aviation enthusiasts, and sponsors. **The ultimate objective for this program is to increase aviation economic activity and enhance general aviation visibility.**



Participants, using an official Fly Washington Passport Program booklet, collect "passport stamps" at enrolled public-use airports. Any licensed pilot from any state, and their passengers, may participate. Participants will earn levels of recognition and prizes as they explore the airports of Washington State.

[ABOUT \(flywashington.org\)](http://flywashington.org) for more information

2023 REFRESHMENTS

JANUARY	Ray Banks
FEBRUARY	The Chiarsons
MARCH	Matt Haris
APRIL	Jim Edwards
MAY	Andrea Moore
JUNE	Larry Moore
JULY	
AUGUST	Bill Herrington
SEPTEMBER	Don Gibbard
OCTOBER	
NOVEMBER	Blaise Szallasi
DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS PARTY



The Northeast Oregon Aviation Foundation (NEOAF) is sponsoring a fundraiser dinner banquet with live music at the Joseph airport at 5:30 pm on Friday, July 7, 2023. The Banquet will feature a live auction and a silent auction will begin at the banquet. Banquet tickets are available online at: <http://wallowacountyflyin.com/>

Beginning on Saturday morning, July 8, there is a pancake breakfast from 7 am to 10 am with the airshow starting at 8 am after the Colors are presented by VFW and the National Anthem is sung by a local musician. Admission and breakfast tickets are available at the gate. Along with several professional airshow acts, there will be a STOL (short take-off and landing) demonstration, a static display of numerous aircraft spanning decades of aviation and an interactive educational kiosk for students. Aviation merchandise will be available for purchase.

General Aviation enthusiasts, as well as the public, are invited to join in the fun day of aviation activities. This fundraiser supports a county-wide high school aviation and aeronautical sciences program coordinated with Treasure Valley Community College of Idaho.

MARTIN FIELD AND EAA FLY-IN



Our second annual Fly-in at Martin Field was successful with 11 planes and close to 40 guest and members served hamburgers and hot dogs. The weather was perfect for the event which allowed pilots from La Grande and Pendleton Oregon, Chelan, Richland, and a few I failed to identify. We visited in the lawn and made new friends. We walked the flight line and saw some nice airplanes. We even got to watch Charlie Miller make several landing before he came by for a bite of lunch and a plate full of critique!



Thanks to Jim and Tim for the cooking and everyone for pitching in and helping make this a great spring kick off to flying.