

The Flight Line

Jackson County Airport – Reynolds Field Newsletter
Jackson, Michigan

Editor: Julie Williams

March 2020

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Jackson County Airport Board

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Visit our Website!

www.co.jackson.mi.us/airport

From the Airport Board Chair

2019 was a busy year at the Jackson County Airport. We continued our upward trend in operations, exceeding 43,000 takeoffs and landings for the year. We had another safe year, with only a couple of minor incidents. Thank you all for helping us maintain our excellent safety record. We hosted the first Jackson Air Triathlon; the Jackson College Heritage Center erected an exhibit in the Terminal Building entitled "Going Home" detailing the lives of three local WWII Pilots; and there was a change in ownership of the Apron Restaurant when Dianne Weems retired after 25 years of operating the restaurant. We welcomed Anthony Riddle, as the new owner of the Apron Restaurant.

The Apron Reconstruction Project was pushed back to 2020. The new start date is May 26, 2020. As always, it is a pleasure to serve you on the Airport Board as its Chair. Thank you for that honor.

*John Feldvary, Chair
Airport Board*

Capital Improvements

After years of experiencing major construction projects at the airport, 2019 was a relatively slow year for Capital Improvements. The main project that was planned for 2019, the reconstruction of the terminal apron, had to be postponed to 2020 because of some design issues that popped up during the planning stages of this project. The delay in this project ended up being beneficial to us as the redesign of the terminal apron resulted in pushing the apron twenty five feet further away from the terminal building. This extra space will allow a patio area to be added to the restaurant, which will allow the restaurant to start serving customers outdoors in September.

Extreme weather conditions in 2018 exposed some issues with our Control tower roof. These issues required emergency repairs, and funds were approved in 2019 to replace the roof and HVAC system. McDonald Roofing and Ajax Heating & Air Conditioning braved the winds and cold of November and completed the job just before the end of the year. Now we have a much more energy efficient HVAC System and a roof that will last for many years.



Roofing materials being dropped off



*We say Good Bye to the 1980's
Vintage HVAC system.*

2019 Airport Board Awards

The Jackson County Airport Board strives to recognize annually those organizations, groups or individuals who have made contributions or given of their time to improve Jackson County Airport – Reynolds Field.

The Airport Board presented a Letter of Appreciation to the JXN Air Triathlon Committee whose members included Harold Burke, John Eiler, Mark Johnson, Ben Jordan, Allan McCardell, Charlie Moore and Ken Schuman, for their innovative work implementing and organizing the first ever Jackson County Airport Air Triathlon on July 13, 2019. The JXN Air Triathlon involved pilots solving clues on a scavenger hunt taking them to various airports in Michigan. As the pilots solved clues, they collected poker cards to be used later in a poker run. The event also tested individual pilot skills as they took part in an accuracy landing competition. All prizes were donated by members of the JXN Air Triathlon Committee. The event brought several pilots in to Jackson to compete in this free event.



JXN Air Triathlon Committee with John Feldvary and Amy Guerriero



Liz Storey from the Jackson College Heritage Center accepting award from John Feldvary and Amy Guerriero.

The Reynolds Field Contributor Award went to the Jackson College Heritage Center, a place of inspiration, dedication and service where volunteer students donate their time to collect and share the inspiration stories of Jacksonians whose sacrifice and courage helped shape American History. Their work on the exhibit highlighting the history of Zenneth Pond, Elwood Bailey, and William Maher, WWII pilots who trained at the Jackson County Airport-Reynold Field, is facilitating a whole new generation in learning and experiencing the history of these pilots as well as the important role Reynolds Field had in training military pilots during WWII.

The recipient of the 2019 Reynolds Field Outstanding Service Award is Dianne Weems. Dianne has been involved at the airport since 1984, first as an employee of the restaurant, and later as owner of The Airport Restaurant & Spirits. Dianne embraced the airport family as her family by welcoming thousands of hungry customers to her restaurant, and giving flight to the aviation dreams of hundreds of children excited to be at the airport. Dianne’s tremendous dedication to the Jackson Community and her many philanthropic contributions makes her a valued member of the Jackson County Airport.



Dianne Weems with John Feldvary and Amy Guerriero.

Jackson County Airport A Moment in History



Professor Diana Agy, Director of the Heritage Center, and students from the Jackson College Heritage Center, erected an exhibit in the Airport Terminal Building, "Going Home: A Story of Courage, Sacrifice and Friendship".

The exhibit details the lives of Elwood Bailey, Zennth Pond and William Maher, who formed a friendship while learning to fly at the Jackson County Airport. All three young men set off to join the war together, serving as pilots in WWII, with only one of the three young men returning after the war.

The display is an attempt to show how important it is to remember those who have made sacrifices and is especially true of our veterans who didn't come home.



1928 Ford Tri- Motor

Ford Tri-Motor Appearance

August 20-23, 2020

Thanks to the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) chapter 304, the Jackson County Airport will once again be hosting a Ford Tri-Motor on August 20-23, 2020.

There were 199 Ford Tri-Motors, produced from 1925 to 1933, revolutionizing air travel with its enclosed cabin. The EAA owns two of these historical aircraft.

The Ford Tri-Motor was not only flown by Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart, but made the first commercial flight from the United States to Mexico.

JXN Aviation Services Directory

Food and Catering

The Apron Restaurant & Spirits

517-783-3616

[https://www.facebook.com/The Apron Restaurant & Spirits/](https://www.facebook.com/TheApronRestaurant&Spirits/)

Aircraft Maintenance and Repair

Jackson Aero

517-780-0343

<http://www.freewebs.com/jacksonaero/index.htm>

Aircraft Fueling and Ramp Services

Skyway Aviation

517-787-2460

<http://www.skywayjxn.com/>

Car Rental

AVIS-Budget

517-782-8218

<http://www.avis.com/car-rental/avisHome/home.ac>

Pilot Training and Education

JCC Flight School

517-787-7012

<http://www.jccmi.edu/FlightCenter/>

Aviation Clubs

EAA Chapter #304

<http://eaa304.com/>

Aero Investors Flying Club

<http://www.aeroinvestorslc.com/>

2020 Airport Board



Members from left to right: seated are Tom Davis, John Feldvary, Commissioner James Shotwell, Jr. Standing are, Commissioners Rodney Walz and Phil Duckham. Not pictured: Mike Overton, County Administrator.

Meet the 2020 Airport Advisory Council

The Airport Advisory Council (AC) is charged by the Airport Board to assist the Airport Manager and Airport Board with research and feedback on new proposals or periodic review of existing policies, rules, and standards. Airport Advisory Council members are appointed by the Airport Board and meet in a public meeting forum with a published agenda. Recently the council reviewed and updated Airport Rates and Charges, Ground Lease requirements, Aviation Related Repair Services and Non-aeronautical Use of Hangars. Advisory Council members are from a variety of backgrounds and experiences and the 2019-2020 council members are:

Alan McCardell, Chair	Community Member Pilot
Heath Beasley, Vice-Chair	Community Member, Pilot
Robert W. Smith, Secretary	Community Member
Carl Boylan	Community Member Corporate pilot
Harold Burke	Aero Investors Flying Club & pilot
Tom Cubberly	Community Member Pilot
Mike Witsaman	Midwest Air Traffic – JXN Tower Manager
Mark Johnson	Corporate pilot
Jack Koch	Community Member
George Race	Community Member Pilot
Ben Jordan	Skyway Aviation Pilot

The Airport Advisory Council meets at 9:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, except during the summer months of June, July and August, in the Airport Administration Conference room. This group of volunteers assists greatly in the achievement of the Airport's goals and objectives.

Jackson's Flight Plan

For 2020 our major infrastructure project is the terminal apron reconstruction project. This federal/state/local project is scheduled to start on Tuesday, May 26 and will involve reconstruction of the terminal apron, and sections of taxiway E and D. This 90-day project will be divided into two phases to minimize the impact to airport users. The first phase will involve the west section of the ramp and taxiway E. All aircraft based on the west side of the airport will need to use taxiway F and the runway 6-24 segment to get in and out. On the second phase of construction, the east segment of the ramp will be closed, and self-serve fuel will not be available.

Another project for 2020 will be pavement maintenance as we do crack sealing repairs to runway 14-32. This should only require temporary closures of the runway while crack sealing is being conducted.

We're also continuing to assist Jackson College and Jackson ISD (Intermediate School District) in getting their aviation program restarted. Now is a great time to enter a career in aviation and we need to make sure our kids are being introduced to aviation careers early on.

We will continue to work with hangar owners to get 100% compliance with federal Grant Assurances and ground lease terms. Expect more visits from the airport manager as we work towards this goal. Thank you for continuing to support our airport.



Airport Restaurant

The Apron Restaurant & Spirits

In October 2019, Dianne Weems, longtime owner of the Airport Restaurant & Spirits retired and Anthony Riddle, a local resident who wanted a piece of Jackson history, purchased the restaurant, changing the name to The Apron Restaurant & Spirits.

The Apron Restaurant, visited by local residents and those flying into Jackson County Airport, is a unique place to enjoy a great meal while enjoying the view of the airport.

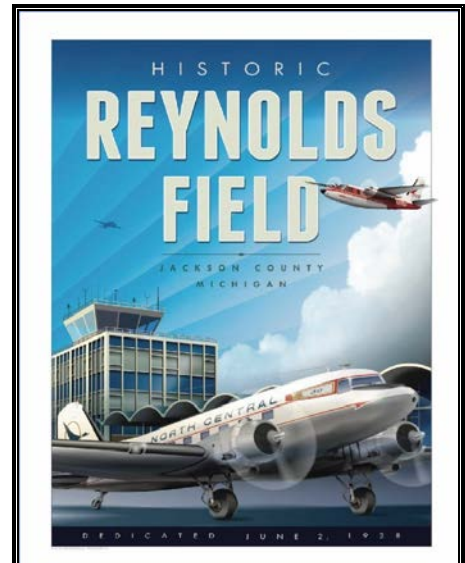
Tony and Sarah have made major changes to the restaurant including a new menu and extended hours. Additionally, after the Terminal Apron construction is completed, the restaurant will be opening an outdoor patio area.

Take time to visit and see what's been going on inside The Apron Restaurant & Spirit.



Historic Reynolds Field Poster

In 2017, Anthony Hurst commissioned and funded creation of this 14"x20" poster by Ann Arbor artist Chris Bidlack. Mr. Hurst, President of the Hurst Foundation, has a long history with Jackson County-Reynolds Field as a long time hangar and aircraft owner based at JXN. Mr. Hurst donated a limited quantity of these posters to the Airport with all proceeds donated to the Aviation Heritage Park fund. To purchase one of these limited prints, contact the Airport Admin office at 517-788-4225. The cost is \$20 for the standard poster and \$30 for an artist signed poster. Many thanks to Anthony Hurst for his generous poster donation and creative idea to commission the project for the Airport.



WRIGHT BROTHERS MASTER PILOT AWARD

In 2019, Robert Jordan, Nihl Story, Bryan VanWagner and John Feldvary were presented the Wright Brothers "Master Pilot" award, which is the most prestigious award the FAA issues to recognize pilots who have exhibited professionalism, skill, and aviation expertise for at least 50 years while piloting aircraft as "Master Pilots".

What's Up...

JXN Social Media

Want to connect or keep up with the Jackson County Airport, please check out our Facebook page and follow us on Instagram:

<https://www.facebook.com/JacksonCountyMIAirport/>

<https://www.instagram.com/jacksoncountyairportmi/>

For more detailed information on Airport happenings & policies, continue to use our website at:

<https://www.co.jackson.mi.us/232/Airport>



Rainbow over JXN

2020 Airport Events Calendar

APRIL

April 17th – 18th Jackson County Annual Tree Sale

MAY

May 24th EAA Pancake Breakfast
May 26th Apron Construction

JUNE

June 4th – 7th NASCAR @ MIS
June 11th – 13th Blues Festival

JULY

July 17th – 19th Faster Horses @ MIS

AUGUST

August 6th – 9th NASCAR @ MIS

DECEMBER

December 16th Airport Board Awards & Holiday Open House