

Iosco Flying Club

February 1, 2026

Well, another year has begun and another IFC Banquet is in the history books. Thanks to everyone who helped organize and make the evening a success. There was a great turn out, with 46 members and flying enthusiasts in attendance.

The notable part of the evening was the change of guard, with Jay Samuals stepping down from his 7 year term as Club President, and my mysterious and somewhat choreographed nomination as new IFC President. I'm not sure how everyone got together to plan that, but it certainly appeared rehearsed. The nomination by Marv, a speedy second by Fred, and being put to a vote by Pete with an almost immediate vote of approval by the members present seemed to happen in a flash. With some trepidation, I accept the opportunity to lead the Club and appreciate knowing you all trust me not to screw up too badly! Thanks Jay for all your hard work and dedication the last 7 years as President, as well as everything you do to keep the airport up and running.

For those who may not know me.....I was born and raised in Au Gres. The summer after graduating high school I started flight training at James Clements airport in Bay City with plans to attend Western Michigan University in the fall. I was enrolled in the commercial aviation/ flight training program with plans for an airline or corporate flying career. After flying through the summer, fall, and winter, I passed my checkride in the spring. Less than a year later, in March 1996, I had joined Iosco Flying Club and was checked out in 67Q. Looking back through logbooks makes you realize how time flies!!

Upon graduation from Western I had earned my instrument rating, started multi-engine training, and was one cross country away from my Commercial checkride. Well then.....a fork in the road (or maybe a construction zone detour!) and I lost my medical. I came home to work with my dad in the building business, met a girl, started a family.....and life kept happening. After 10 years of waiting, jumping through hoops, and "timely" FAA responses, I was able to get my medical back and start flying again. I have been flying for fun ever since, enjoying every moment in the air I can get away with! My wife Rebecca, and daughters Marley (15) and Laken (13) are tolerant of my flying habit, and are even willing participants on occasion. Marley and Laken had their first flights in 67Q before they could walk. Although they are both busy with their own interests, they still enjoy flying with me. I found it's ok to bribe your kids (breakfast, lunch or Starbucks anyone???) especially when I get to fly! Whether it's a short scenic flight or an adventure to someplace new, every flight makes a new memory and something to look back at and remember.

Here's to a New Year, New Flights, and New Memories!

GO. FLY!

Ethan Buchanan, IFC President
Ethan.Buchanan17@gmail.com
989-387-6939