



March 1, 2024	Iosco Flying Club	Since 1962
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A couple of years ago I came across a free app called What3Words. An engineer became frustrated with locating people through addresses and GPS coordinates, set up a grid of three meter squares across the world. (Three meters is a little less than 10 feet square). So there are 57 trillion of these across the world. Each three meter square was assigned a unique sequence of three random words from the dictionary.

For example, the intersection of our runway and taxiway is feelers.comprehend.highlights. This app is becoming popular, and even has been incorporated with our own 911 center. This app could be a life saver for pilots. Imagine making a forced landing somewhere in northern Michigan and trying to guide help to you. If you are fortunate enough to not be injured, you would need to walk to the nearest road and find an address, which only gets the help in the general area. I saw in the local paper that Bill Deckett has been training his firefighters in the use of this app. You may want to give it a try.

For the annual fly-in, I am again trying to have a Coast Guard MH60 on the field. Last year I went direct with the pilot, which in the end failed. This year I'm communicating with the Public Information Officer and hopefully we'll have better success. Although, in the end, last year low ceilings kept many aviators and Flight Care from attending, and would have also prevented the Coast Guard from attending as well. Hopefully, more favorable weather will be on our side this year.



Last year we were a little short staffed for the fly-in, where we were unable to get relief for the cooks, and we used non-members for much of the vehicle and aircraft parking. Please consider setting aside Sunday, July 14th to help support the club in this worthwhile event. Please encourage your family members to assist as well. If I receive confirmation from the Coast Guard, I'll make sure it is well advertised, which will generate a nice turnout.

During the annual inspection of N60160, it was discovered that the engine heater was defective. The plane did not have heat throughout the winter, which wasn't a huge issue as the weather provided few flying days for at least three months. Pete Mapes recently purchased an oil pan heater and donated it to the club. On February 21st, Coleen flew the C150 up to Oscoda to have it installed. Darryl Powell and I flew up in N3567Q to assist with the install. Thank you, Pete and Darryl for stepping up and helping out the club.

Our MDOT Inspector has not yet returned to view the removal of our tree obstructions. Our provisional license is set to expire on February 29th. I am confident there were enough trees taken down to lift the restriction. There were five large brush piles on the field as a result of the tree removal. In January, Darryl Powell and my wife assisted in burning all five brush piles while we had an adequate amount of snow on the ground. So we should be all set for another flying season.

I called to check on the status of the 26 PAPI light control panel in mid-December and learned that it is still with the manufacturer. On a positive note, St. James Electric was on the field in January and February to replace two defective motion sensors. We now have both light poles on the ramp operational.

“A true pilot must of necessity pay attention to the seasons, the heavens, the stars, the winds, and everything proper to the craft if he is really to rule a ship.” — William Shatner

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