

May 1, 2024 | Iosco Flying Club | Since 1962

The day after the solar eclipse I received an email from Pete Mapes. He said he was in Rochester, NY, which was cloudy, and he was not in a position to see the nearly once in a lifetime event. He sent me a video showing the shadow of totality from the air at 5500 feet MSL, 20 miles south of Rochester. He said, "It was very cool to watch the shadow of totality whiz by at 1500 mph. At 3.5 minutes, that put it at about 90 miles wide." The video showed him flying in complete darkness with the city lights illuminated below. It also showed the lighted horizon from 360 degrees around him. Thanks for sharing, Pete.

I received an email from MDOT Aeronautics recently, and we are moving forward to have the crack-sealing completed on the ramp and the taxiways (at least the ones in decent shape).

On April 10th, I received an unexpected call from SMSgt.Harper who is with the Air Force Reserves out of Kentucky. He is leading a contingent of Air Force, Army, Navy and Marines for a training exercise from August 4th through the 16th this summer in Oscoda. There will be a number of aircraft from all the armed forces at Oscoda-Wurtsmith airport. The reason for his call is he wanted to know if our airport would help support a training exercise where a number of personnel would be extracted by one or more helicopters and transported to our airport for deployment. I was more than happy to support their training exercise. I'll update you as I learn more. It should make for a great photo op.

In 1908, Scientific American published an article written by Wilbur Wright, titled "Flying as Sport." In this article, Wilbur discusses the joys of flying, as well as his predictions for the future of the sport.

"There is a sense of exhilaration in flying through the free air, an intensity of enjoyment, which possibly may be due to the satisfaction of an inborn longing transmitted to us from the days when our early ancestors gazed wonderingly at the free flight of birds and contrasted it with their own slow and toilsome progress through the unbroken wilderness. Though methods of travel have been greatly improved in the many centuries preceding our own, men have never ceased to envy the birds and long for the day when they too might rise above the dust or mud of the highways and fly through the clean air of the heavens."

To those of you who can rise above the dust and mud of the highways, welcome. Please share your passion of flight with others, and introduce them to our amazing club, so we can keep the club sustainable for years to come.

Fly-in volunteers so far include: Chris Zimmel, Tom Seigo, Cathy Pittsley, Jolene Grusecki, Dawn Hester, Dr. Mike Dettloff plus one, Jeremy Coiner plus two, Julie Samuels plus three, Coleen Gaydash plus four, Darryl and Lana Powell, Ted and Maggie Wazilewski, Bryan Czarneki, and Steve Smith.

Flying is a great way of life for men who want to feel like boys, but not for those who still are.

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| ■ IoscoFlyingClub | Iosco County Airport | www.Ioscoflyingclub.org |