

Guest Column: ICAO Flight Plans

By: Gaylen Lerohl

VFR Flight Plans are not required in the U.S. but when a flight plan is used, the FAA will soon require the use of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) flight plan form. The FAA continues to delay implementation of the mandatory use of the Form 7233-4 so use of either Form 7233-1 or 7233-4 is acceptable today for domestic flights. International flights and DVFR among others however require the use of the ICAO format.

The most comprehensive guidance for completing the ICAO form for both VFR and IFR flights is found in AIM 5-1-9 supplemented by various FAA documents. Most of the information required on the ICAO form is similar to what is entered on the Domestic form but is often expressed differently. Guidance on completing the form has been seeping out over a period of a few years so you will find some inconsistencies among sources.

In addition to detailed guidance in the latest revisions to AIM, these FAA publications can be found on-line: FAA International Flight Plan Filing and Simplified Guidance for United States Domestic Flights Using the ICAO Flight Plan Format. For IFR flights using ADS-B equipment, google Filing ADS-B Capability in an ICAO format Flight Plan for a flight in U.S. Airspace. To find your "Type of Aircraft" go to ICAO Doc 8643, Aircraft Type Designators. Use the search box to find your airplane's ICAO identifier.

Using the ICAO form for VFR flights is pretty basic but be aware of the differences in expressing information on the two forms. As one moves up the sophistication ladder and more elegant navigation and surveillance equipment is available, more information is required on the form to enable ATC to fully utilize your equipment. The ICAO form accommodates reporting advanced navigational and surveillance capabilities. To alert ATC to this equipment on a particular airplane, the ICAO form must be used.

Eventually the drive for efficiency will dictate discontinuing the domestic form. Filing services DUATS, FltPlan.com, Foreflight and others are capable of saving your aircraft codes making filing easy. Keeping a completed template in your flight bag for reference can also be a time saver. Mandatory use is coming – might as well learn it now.

Gaylen is a Certified Flight Instructor operating out of Alexandria's Chandler Field. He has experience in both civil and military aviation spanning several decades. He is also an active homebuilder and has built several aircraft of his own.

Runway Condition Codes from page 1

RwyCC	Braking Action
6	Uncontaminated
5	Good
4	Good to Medium
3	Medium
2	Medium to Poor
1	Poor
0	Nil

Featured Pilot



Neil Hammer is a retiree with a background in mechanical engineering, who most recently worked at SunOpta. Neil was introduced to aviation at the ripe age of 6, when his father's bush pilot cousin took him up for a ride in his Cub. Neil got his Private license in 1979 in Lake Elmo, MN and flew for a decade before getting out of aviation. He picked it back up again in 2010 and purchased a Piper Dakota shortly after. Since then, he has completed his Instrument Rating and has upgraded to a Columbia 300. He's a member of EAA Chapter 702, national EAA, AOPA, and is an avid FAA Wings user.

Featured Student



Patrick Lovrien is a 17 year old 11th grader at Alexandria Area High School, who has ambitions of going to college for commercial aviation or engineering. Living near the airport, Patrick became interested in aviation from watching airplanes fly overhead, as well as attending air shows with his family. He says his first solo during the summer of 2016 was the most exciting part of his training, while rescheduling due to inclement weather is the least enjoyable. After receiving his license Patrick wants to share flying with many of his friends and family. He is a member of national EAA, AOPA, and is an active runner and cross country skier.



Civil Air Patrol reappeared on the scene at Chandler Field in 2016 after an absence lasting a few decades. The Alexandria "Big Ole" Squadron meets every Thursday night at 7pm in the Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) building at the Alexandria Airport and is led by 1st Lt Alan Scott.

The Civil Air Patrol provides a great platform for adults and youth alike to contribute to their community in a variety of ways. The squadron is actively looking for new member and cadets. Those interested can contact Alan at cap.sm.scott@gmail.com.

Alexandria's Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 702 has its first meeting of the new year on Tuesday, January 17th at 6:30pm in the Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) building at the Alexandria Airport. The meeting will be conducted by President Ken Ryan and newly elected Vice President Matt Good, and will include a presentation by local flight instructor Gaylen Lerohl. They are also planning a waffle feed for local airport users on January 28th, beginning at 7am. All are welcome to attend. For those interested in joining, you can attend a monthly meeting or contact Ken Ryan at n3131b@gmail.com.



Chandler Field Times

January/February 2017

UNICOM: 123.0
AWOS: 118.375
Center: 126.1
FSS: 122.6

Editor's Notes:

By: Kreg Anderson

Welcome to the first ever edition of the *Chandler Field Times*! The *Chandler Field Times* is a bi-monthly newsletter for the community that makes up Chandler Field here in Alexandria. With regular updates from airport management, local organizations including the Experimental Aircraft Association and Civil Air Patrol, as well as guest columns, we hope to keep you well informed of the happenings around Chandler Field. This is a newsletter FOR YOU. If there is anything you would like to see covered, or have any ideas for additional material, please let me know! My contact information is on the next page. As always, I wish you blue skies and tailwinds!

Airport Manager's Corner:

By: Todd Roth

Effective October 1, 2016, airports are required to report runway conditions using a new scale. To date, runway conditions have been reported as good, fair, poor, or nil. However, from now on they'll be reported using a Runway Condition Code (RwyCC), and fair has been replaced with medium. The RwyCC is reported via a Field Conditions (FICON) NOTAM for each third of the runway. For example, 5/4/5 means the first third of the runway is "Good", the middle third is "Good to Medium", and the final third is "Good". Airport operators have a Runway Condition Assessment Matrix (RCAM) that they use to determine which RwyCC to report. Airline pilots have their own version of RCAM which tells them whether or not they can land based on each code. Life is simpler for GA pilots; we just need the table above and our common sense. (*see next page for table*)

Events Calendar

1/12, – Airport Commission Mtg, 12pm, FBO Conference Room
1/17 – EAA Meeting, 6:30pm, SRE Building
1/19 – CAP Meeting, 7pm, SRE
1/28 – EAA Waffle Feed, 7am, SRE
1/26 – CAP Meeting, 7pm, SRE
2/2 – CAP Meeting, 7pm, SRE
2/9 – Airport Commission Mtg, 12pm, FBO Conference Room
2/9 – CAP Meeting, 7pm, SRE
2/16 – CAP Meeting, 7pm, SRE
2/21 – EAA Meeting, 6:30pm, SRE
2/23 – CAP Meeting, 7pm, SRE
2/25 – EAA Social Event, TBD

Trivia

Alexandria is well known throughout the aviation community as the home of Bellanca Aircraft, which developed the Super Viking line of aircraft between the 1960s and 1990s. What many people don't know is that for a few years there was a second aircraft manufacturer present in Alexandria. What company was that, and what model of aircraft did they produce?

If you know that answer, write it on a piece of scratch paper and enter it into the drawing box on the FBO counter for your chance to win an Alexandria Aviation stocking hat!

Editor: Kreg Anderson | 320.760.7175 | kreg94@rea-alp.com

Airport Manager: Todd Roth | 320.492.6652 | alexav@rea-alp.com

Guest Column: Gaylen Lerohl | 320.491.0241 | gaylenlerohl@gmail.com

Support your local businesses!

Alexandria Aviation – 320.762.2111 | www.alexandriaaviation.com

Weber's Aero Repair – 320.763.4066

Alexandria Aircraft – 320.763.4088 | www.bellanca-aircraft.com

CVI Unmanned – 320.808.8505 | www.cvi-unmanned.com

LifeLink III – 612.638.4900 | www.lifelinkiii.com