

## AERO REPORT 2019

By Dr. Michael Erb, IAOPA SVP

IAOPA participated in the International Aerospace Exhibition AERO in Friedrichshafen. The German, Austrian and Swiss AOPA's exhibited together at the IAOPA joint stand, and traditionally also the Association of German Female Pilots (VDP). The trade fair appearance was also increasingly supported by the AOPA USA, whose president Mark Baker made his first trip to AERO. The focus was on exchanging information with members, advertising to attract new members, and discussing matters of importance to our members with other associations, companies and authorities.



IAOPA General Secretary Craig Spence presented the activities of the Air Safety Foundation at EASA conferences, IAOPA Europe CEO Michael Erb participated in two podium discussions on "flying without flight controllers" and collision avoidance in airspace "E". IAOPA's ICAO representative Frank Hofmann also came from Canada, as well as many other AOPA colleagues.

A highlight of the show was the IAOPA stand party on Thursday afternoon, in which over 200 guests from the industry participated.

A very positive surprise was the election of AOPA-Germany as "the best representation of interests for pilots" by the readers of the flyer magazine.

The 27th AERO started with a record: 757 exhibiting companies from 40 countries. According to many exhibitors, the spirit of the attendees was very high. World premieres and innovations were the focus of attention, and the highly specialized supporting program was met with a great response among the trade visitors. After four days, the AERO came to an end with a very positive result. 32,100 trade visitors and therefore a good three percent more (2018: 31,100) came from Europe, overseas, Asia and from Australia / New Zealand to Lake Constance.

All major general aviation companies were present at Lake Constance. On Lake Constance, the novelties are in the focus of the professional world and the media, an exceptionally highly qualified professional audience (60 percent pilots) with a foreign share of about 60 percent came to the fair with great interest and expertise.

The next AERO will take place from 1 to 4 April 2020 at the exhibition center in Friedrichshafen. Further information at [www.aero-expo.com](http://www.aero-expo.com).

## MAKE YOUR SUMMER PLANS FOR A FLYOUT

The days are getting longer; the trees are all green and summer flying time is upon us. What better way to enjoy the summer than to explore places to fly, people to meet, and experiences to behold. Several IAOPA Affiliates in the European Region are organizing activities that offer all of that, and more.

### AOPA Slovenia

AOPA Slovenia, in association with the Aerodrom Portoroz and Go Portoroz Travel, has announced the 1<sup>st</sup> International Aircraft Pilot Forum & Pilot Golf Championship, October 10-13, 2019. Located in Stria, the largest peninsula on the northeastern part of the Adriatic Sea, the region connects Slovenia and Croatia and is the home to crystal clear sea, beautiful natural landscapes, picturesque ancient towns, and charming villages and medieval castles. The program includes a full day forum focused on items of interest to general aviation pilots, and the 1<sup>st</sup> International Pilot Golf Championship held at Golf Adriatic in Croatia. For full details of the program including cost and sign-up form visit the [event website](#).



### AOPA Portugal

Join AOPA Portugal for the Portugal Air Summit by air, that will take place in 30-31 May and 1-2 June 2019. Come and fly to Ponte de Sor in Portugal and be a part of the biggest ever Fly-In in Portugal.

The Portugal Air Summit 2019 assures to get everyone mesmerized with their eyes in the sky.

One of the Europe's largest aeronautical summit will include an excellence airshow program with several displays and roaring engines with ARC - Air Race Championship, a unique air race in the world, with the fast and thrilling Extreme class.



But the event will certainly not be as exciting without the massive participation of the general aviation community. That's why we are inviting all aviators to cross the border, fly the skies of Portugal and participate in the Fly-In Portugal Air Summit, making it the biggest ever in Portugal! For more information contact [AOPA Portugal](#).

## AOPA Italy

AOPA Italy announced their next Flyout, Discover Elba, is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup>, at Elba Island. First day of fall, but usually still summer in the Mediterranean. What really makes Elba famous and renowned are its clear and blue sea and beautiful beaches. The extraordinary richness of its landscapes, both land and marine, turns the island of Elba into a unique destination in Tuscany. For more information or to sign up contact [AOPA Italy](#).



## **AERIAL TOUR OVER THE GREAT WALL**

*By Claire Shangguan, AOPA China*

The hum of the Robinson 44 filled our ears as we ascended above Badaling Airport, an airport located 70 km away from Beijing city center. Soon, we merged into the rugged wilderness. Below us was the Great Wall, China's most famous landmark and one of the world's most astonishing man-made sight. It snakes as far as my eyes could go, rising and falling along the mountains until disappearing into the horizon.

What makes this section special and unique is that it has been left untouched for hundreds of years.

Completely unrestored, the wall here zigzags up a craggy mountain pass. Hovering above one of the watch towers, we could see some crumbling ramparts and steps covered by weeds, a sight both haunting and beautiful. A hike along these knife-like trails would take quite some courage and stamina. For me, an aerial tour is just perfect.



Then the copter banked, and over the intercom the pilot, an elegant lady who has flown helicopters for 7 years, reminded us that we were about to enter the beautifully restored section of Badaling Great Wall, which is said to be the only man-made sight visible from space. I looked at what appeared to be a set of curving, squiggly lines. But then, as I watched, the lines were gradually dotted with colors and started to come to life. Tourists in red, green and purple outfits crowded on this well-preserved section, waving towards us. They point their phones and cameras towards our helicopter. Somehow, we became part of the scenery for their sight-seeing.

I have climbed the Great Wall on foot twice, with unforgettable, strenuous experience. The steepness of the hike is always rewarded with the spectacular view at the end. However,

when seen from a bird's-eye perspective, the familiar landscape suddenly became completely new, with colors, patterns, and geographical features you'd never known to exist until you are way up in the air. I suppose this is what the famous poet meant when Su Shi wrote "the true face of Lushan is lost to my sight, for it is right in this mountain that I reside."

Thanks to one of AOPA-China's member companies, now the service is widely open to all AOPA members. We also expect the flightseeing trip in Ju Yongguan Great Wall and Mu Tianyu Great Wall stands to be accessible in the months to come. For more information contact AOPA China.



## AOPA AIR SAFETY INSTITUTE RELEASES NEWEST SERIES: WEATHER OR NOT

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Air Safety Institute (ASI) has released *Thunderstorm Challenge*, its first video-formatted course in a new *Weather or Not* safety course series, sponsored by SiriusXM Aviation.

*Thunderstorm Challenge* engages the course taker to fly a scenario and make decisions along the way to continue the flight or divert when faced with threatening weather. Choices lead the user down a flight path and subsequently to an outcome that's based on their decisions. Their choices can end well or not so well. At each outcome, users are provided explanations based on their thought process while being given advice on how to make the best and safest choice.



They are also offered the option to try other flight paths to experience the results of different decisions.

The scenario is accompanied by a short chapter on thunderstorm avoidance strategies, resources, and a 10-question quiz.

"This is a way to put pilots in real-life scenarios to test their decision-making skills," said AOPA Air Safety Institute Senior Director Paul Deres. "We want pilots to understand the consequences of their decisions, so they are prepared to come to the appropriate conclusion when faced with difficult weather decisions before or during a real flight. We look forward to guiding them through the process by offering this course," said Deres.

Check out [Weather or Not: Thunderstorm Challenge, sponsored by SiriusXM Aviation..](#)

## **FREEDOM TO FLY - BOOK DOCUMENTS HISTORY OF AOPA, GENERAL AVIATION**

In 1939, a small group of Philadelphia businessmen came together with a mission: to give a united voice to what was then called “miscellaneous aviation.” The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association was born.

Packed with photographs of pilots’ most beloved aircraft and inspiring stories of aviation pioneers, *Freedom to Fly: AOPA and the History of General Aviation in America* tells the story of general aviation through the lens of its biggest advocate. Learn about the triumphs and tragedies that defined generations of pilots from the editors who bring you *AOPA Pilot* and *Flight Training* each month.



For 80 years, AOPA has fought to keep pilots flying when war, technological advances, economic booms and busts, and politics threatened our access to the skies. Today, as the largest aviation community in the world, AOPA still works to make flying more affordable, safer, and more fun. Travel back in time through 288 glossy pages, full of the amazing photos you've come to expect from AOPA photographers and historic images from our rich archives.

This special commemorative edition is issued for AOPA's eightieth anniversary. For international orders call +1-301-695-2000 then select option #1, or if the receptionist answers, ask for Member Services. AOPA business hours are, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (UTC minus 5 hours) time, Monday through Friday.

### **LINK TO IAOPA EUROPE NEWSLETTER**

Read the latest information on what IAOPA affiliates are doing in Europe. AOPA's in every part of the globe are making a positive difference for general aviation and there is simply not enough room to publish all that is being done to keep you flying. For the latest updates on what is going on at IAOPA Europe check their website at <http://www.iaopa.eu/>



### **SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOUR MEMBERS**

*Nothing can keep existing members, and attract new members, like reminding them of the great work that IAOPA affiliates, and IAOPA, are doing on national, regional, and international levels to keep them flying. Great work is being done in all parts of the globe to advance the interests of general aviation, and the best way to share that message is to make sure that this newsletter gets to as many members, and non-members alike. So, I encourage you to publish this on your website, send on via email to your members, and do what you can to help spread the word.*

*Our focus with the e-News is to let the world know what IAOPA Affiliate around the globe are doing to keep general aviation flying. Each affiliate of IAOPA is encouraged to submit stories that we can post in e-News to share your successes so that others can benefit. Stories should be directed to the Secretary General, contact [IAOPA HQ](#) if you need additional information or have any questions.*