

RAF Developing Backcountry Airstrips - Mike Purpura - Chicago 99s Aviation Expo 2026

Event Details

This seminar will discuss backcountry aviation. How new airstrips are developed and managed. Operating from these strips can be challenging due to runway conditions, terrain, wildlife, displaced thresholds, and limited space for ground operations. The RAF will provide an overview of how these strips come into existence and how to use various resources to make sure you have the most up-to-date information about these airstrips.

Sat, Jan 31, 2026 at 11:00 CST

Hilton Chicago/Northbrook

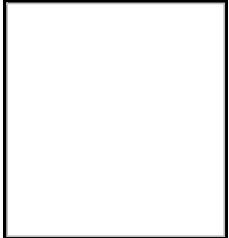
2855 Milwaukee Ave

Northbrook, IL



Contact: Michael Baraz

(630) 781-8890



After the Navy, **Mike Purpura** built a land-brokerage career, bought a Cessna 170B to reach remote ranches, and found aviation was the real game changer. He has flown his 170B throughout the U.S. and as far north as Tuktoyuktuk, NWT,

Canada. He is a rated glider pilot, a board member of Windy City Soaring Association, and a member of AOPA and the Illinois Pilots Association

The Hilton Chicago/Northbrook is located south of Palatine Road (Willow Road) on the east side of Milwaukee Avenue.

Michael@Baraz.us

Select #: GL03141094

**Lead Representative MICHAEL
BARAZ n/a**

A message from the National FAASafety Team Manager

Earn your WINGS to get a chance to win a prize. Go to <https://www.wingsindustry.com/WINGS-Sweepstakes> for more info. Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GASafety/>

Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GASafety/>

Sign up for the FAA's safety services at www.faa.gov!

The FAA Safety Team (FAASafety Team) is committed to providing equal access to this meeting/event for all participants. If you need alternative formats or services because of a disability, please communicate your request as soon as possible with the person in the "Contact Information" area of the meeting/event notice. Note that two weeks is usually required to arrange services.