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News and Events at the Parlin Field Airport in Newport, New Hampshire April 2012 – A Look at History

First Flight at Parlin Field

The first airplane landed at Parlin's Field in 1920, nearly a decade before the field was developed as an airport. Bob Fogg, a notable figure in New Hampshire



PILOT BOB FOGG OF CONCORD, N. H. PASSENGER CARRYING - \$10.00 FOR 10 MINUTES PARLINS FIELD - NOW NEWPORT AIRPORT

aviation history, piloted his Curtiss Jenny to Newport and offered rides at \$10 for 10 minutes. At a dollar a minute, adjusted for inflation, today's 20 minute scenic ride would be somewhere in excess of \$500!

Of course, Pilot Fogg offered a unique and novel adventure, not unlike today's opportunity to ride in a classic warbird such as a P-51 or B-17, so maybe the price wasn't that expensive.

The Original Airport

Parlin Field was established in 1929 as the Albert N. Parlin Field, Inc., a privately-owned airport existing at the site of the current day Parlin Field. At that time, the airport consisted of one turf runway, a hangar, and a residential building. All three still exist today. The original turf runway is shorter now, but in the same location. The old hangar was recently renovated, and the residential building is now known as the Lil' Red Baron restaurant. The Town of Newport acquired the airport in 1937 and has operated Parlin Field as a municipal airport since that time. A comparison of aerial photos taken at various times shows the changes to Parlin Field through the years. In 1930, Corbin Road extended straight through from the covered bridge, parallel to the turf runway, to the road



Parlin Field, October 1930. Looking West.

that would eventually become Route 10. Few trees existed along the Sugar River in 1929, and many other areas around the airport were open pasture.



Parlin Field, about 1960? Looking North.

In the years just prior to 1950, the Corbin Road was rerouted to accommodate an improved north/south runway, and by the 1960's the north/south runway had been extended about 400 feet to the north, 800 feet to the south, and repaved, taking the runway to the edge of the Sugar River. A second southern extension in 1993 extended the runway across the old Sugar River channel.

The Airport Today

The current day Parlin Field preserves the original structures and turf runway, as well as extensions to the paved runway that were added over the years. The airport leases town-owned ground to individuals who built privately owned hangars. The airport also offers



Parlin Field, 2011. Looking Northwest.

community hangar rental in the original hangar and maintains a state-of-the-art, self-serve facility for dispensing aviation gasoline.

Upcoming Events

Visit the Parlin Field website for more information on events at <u>www.newportnh.net/index.php?nav=228</u>

- Apr 4 Chill & Grill, 6:00 PM, location TBA.
- Apr 6 Easter Eggstravaganza, 11:00 AM, turf runway.
- Apr 14 New England Aviation Exposition, Daniel

Webster College, Nashua, NH.

- Apr 17 Airport Advisory Board, 6:30 PM, Operations Building.
- Apr 18 Chill & Grill, 6:00 PM, location TBA.
- Apr 21First Responder Safety, 9:00 & 10:30 AM,
Recycled Pilots Hangar (tentative).
- **Jul 14** Piper Comanche Type Club Fly-In, rain date Sunday the 15th.
- Aug 1112th Annual Airport Open House (tentative)

About Parlin Field

The Parlin Field Airport is located about 2 miles north of town at 14 Airport Road. The Airport is owned and operated by the Town of Newport, New Hampshire. Parlin Field is a community airport that serves the entire Lake Sunapee Region. The airport enjoys

support from pilots, tenants, stakeholders, and the community at large. It does not receive Federal funds.

Contact Information

Airport Advisory Board

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