

News and Events at the Parlin Field Airport, Newport, New Hampshire February 2010

Airport Closed for Winter Carnival Events

Parlin Field airport will be closed for ski joring events during the Newport Winter Carnival February 10 – 14, 2010. Pilots should check NOTAMS for exact closure dates and times. The ski joring venue, which consists of courses, ramps, jumps, and fences, will be constructed adjacent to runway 18/36. The airport will be closed prior to the actual events due to construction activity and will remain closed for a short time after the events so crews can remove obstacles and restore the runway and obstacle free zone to a safe operating condition.

Ice is Nice!

Local pilots **John Merriman**, **Rick Kloeppel** and **Russ Kelsea** flew to Alton Bay (B18) on Wednesday,



January 13 to land on the ice runway. John made the trip several times in years past, but it was a new experience for Rick and Russ. The ice surface was sandpaper rough in many

places with patches of packed snow. Those conditions provided adequate traction, so landing and taxiing were uneventful. Recent reports indicate the ice runway is clear and smooth, with many aircraft operations each day during favorable weather conditions. The ice runway was featured in the January issue of AOPA Pilot magazine and on



the AOPA website. Runway conditions can change rapidly and the runway may be closed at any time. Pilots planning to fly to Alton Bay should always check NOTAMS immediately before flight and call for current conditions.

Edmonds Aircraft relocates to Parlin Field

Louis Edmonds recently announced that his aircraft maintenance business, Edmonds Aircraft Services, will relocate to Parlin Field. Previously, Edmonds Aircraft operated at Boire Field in Nashua. Mr. Edmonds plans to hold an open house at his new maintenance hangar sometime in February or early March, after the transition from Nashua is complete.

Aeronautical Fund (HB1506) “Ought to Pass”

On February 4th, the New Hampshire House Ways and Means Committee reported that House Bill 1506 *ought to pass* as amended. The vote was 10 to 8. The minority filed an inexpedient to legislate report.

[House Bill 1506](#) proposes to establish an aeronautical fund to be used for maintenance and improvement of airports in New Hampshire. Currently, revenue from aircraft registration, 75 % of operating fees, and fuel taxes are deposited into the State's General Fund. Under [RSA 422:36](#), the remaining 25% of operating fees (about \$250,000) are returned to the airports from which those fees were paid. Larger airports receive the nearly all of these funds. Smaller airports, such as Parlin Field, receive about \$400 per year.

As amended, HB1506 would deposit revenue from fuel taxes into a dedicated aeronautical fund. These taxes generate \$200,000 to \$400,000 per year, depending on the economy. The Bureau of Aeronautics would distribute these funds to airports under a competitive 80/20 grant program.

The availability of grant money is essential for the continued operation of Parlin Field. Paved runway 18/36 will need complete reconstruction within the next 5 years – exactly the kind of the maintenance expense the aeronautical fund is intended to address.

Parlin Hangar Restoration Fund

Long-time airport volunteer, **Jim Callum**, is looking forward to starting restoration work on the Parlin Field Hangar this Spring. The first step will be to clean out the interior hangar space so we can begin to remove the old “farm-mix” asphalt paving from the perimeter of the foundation. Once the foundation is cleaned-up, we can fabricate steel to reinforce the structural uprights. Eventually, all the old asphalt paving inside the hangar will be replaced with a new concrete floor, the center roof panels will be replaced, windows reconditioned, a new hangar door installed, and general paint and clean-up finished. Much of the work will be labor intensive, so anyone willing to help is welcome to participate.

The Parlin Field Hangar Restoration Fund has received nearly \$7,500 in contributions from more than 40 groups and individuals. Based on current estimates and anticipating considerable volunteer labor, the fund needs nearly \$18,000 to complete the basic planned restoration. Charitable contributions made to the Town of Newport, Parlin Field Hangar Restoration Fund may be tax deductible. The Town can provide IRS documentation if required.

Upcoming Events

Feb 11 - 15 Airport CLOSED for Winter Carnival events. Check [NOTAMs](#) for exact dates and

times.

- Feb 18** Airport Advisory Board meeting. 6:30 PM. Operations Building.
- Apr 17** National Aviation Safety Stand Down.
- Jul 10** [Comanche Fly-In](#). Rain date Jul 11.
- Jul 17** Taildragger Fly-In. Rain date Jul 18.
- Aug 7** Aero Club of New England Fly-In. Rain date Aug 8.

About Parlin Field

The Parlin Field airport is owned and operated by the Town of Newport, New Hampshire. It 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.

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