

## News and Events at the Parlin Field Airport, Newport, New Hampshire July 2009

### Guy Alexander receives Master Pilot Award



Long time friend of Parlin Field, Guy Alexander, Sr. (left, in photo) received the FAA Master Pilot Award at a ceremony in Lebanon, NH on June 16. John Wood, FAA Safety Team program manager, presented the award to Guy. The Master Pilot Award recognizes

individuals with more than 50 years of pilot experience.

### Major Repairs on Runway 18/36

On April 27, pilots landing on runway 18 discovered a small hole in the pavement near the south end of the runway. Initial examination revealed a three foot diameter cavern under the eight inch diameter hole in the pavement – an obviously dangerous situation in which more pavement could collapse at any time. Since a concrete box culvert exists under the runway at that location, everyone suspected a failure of the culvert. As a temporary safety measure, pilots filled the cavern by hand, and airport management closed the south 600 feet of runway 18/36 until further evaluation and repairs could be completed.



After consultation with Town officials, the airport hired a contractor to excavate the runway over the culvert to determine an exact cause of the failure. The excavation showed that significant

gaps existed between the culvert sections, and that ground water and earth fill could pass easily through these gaps.

The contractor excavated the width of the runway, sealed the gaps with a flexible membrane, and back-filled and compacted the trench over the course of

several days. The entire runway was closed during this process to protect not only pilots and aircraft, but work crews and their equipment.

The paving contractor completed work on June 24, and the full-length runway was opened on June 26. Only the south 600 feet of the runway were re-paved – the turn-around at the south end has not been re-paved and is in poor condition due to frost heaving. Runway markings will be painted at a later date.



### Stetson ends term as Airport Manager

Dean and Maura Stetson concluded service as airport managers on June 30. During their 9 year tenure the airport has changed dramatically, with significant growth and many improvements. Dean has stated many times that he remains a strong supporter of the airport and is committed to its continued success.

### Grill & Chill

Pilots and friends of Parlin Field gather at the Recycled Pilots hangar at 6:00 PM on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month to enjoy an informal cookout.

Everyone is welcome to participate. Recycled Pilots provides the grill – everyone brings their own food, drinks, and tableware. Some folks bring a little extra to

share, but extra goodies are optional. Typically, there are flying activities, weather permitting.



## Upcoming Events

- July 1** Grill & Chill 6:00PM, Recycled Pilots hangar.
- July 11** Comanche Fly-In.
- July 11** *Around the World Flight*, a presentation with the pilot, Carol Ann Garratt, to benefit ALS research 7:00PM. Peter Crowell's hangar.
- July 15** Grill & Chill 6:00 PM, Recycled Pilots hangar.
- July 18** Taildragger Fly-In and EAA 740 BBQ. Breakfast at 8:00 AM, FAASeminar at 9:30 AM and BBQ at 11:30 AM. Rain date 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Aug 22** Parlin Field Open House. Young Eagle flights, antique car show.

## New Airport Manager



Effective July 1, 2009, Russ Kelsea is the new airport manager at Parlin Field. Russ holds a commercial pilot certificate with instrument rating (ASEL) and flight instructor certificate (ASE). He owns a 1965 Piper Cherokee 180, which is based on the field, and has been actively flying since 1990.

Russ is a graduate of Stevens High School in Claremont, NH and attended the University of New Hampshire and Iowa State University, earning Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Soil Science. Prior to his retirement from Federal service in 2006, Russ enjoyed a successful 35 year career with the United States Department of Agriculture, working in New Hampshire, Minnesota,

Colorado, and most recently Nebraska.

In his spare time, Russ volunteers as an FAA Safety Team Lead Representative, working with John Wood at the Portland, Maine Flight Standards District Office.

## Medical Airlift



Parlin Field provides essential landing facilities for emergency medical airlift services. The Parlin webcam captured this image on Friday, June 6,

at about 7:30 am, when the DHART helicopter landed at Parlin Field to accept a patient transfer from a local ambulance service.

## About Parlin Field

The Parlin Field is owned and operated by the Town of Newport, New Hampshire. It is a community airport that enjoys support from pilots, tenants, stakeholders, and the community at large. It does not receive Federal funds.

## Contact Information

Airport Manager (Russ Kelsea)

Town of Newport

15 Sunapee Street

Newport, NH 03773

Parlin Field: 603-863-1220

Home: 603-664-7650

Mobile: 402-943-6884

Email: [russ.kelsea@alumni.unh.edu](mailto:russ.kelsea@alumni.unh.edu)