

## News and Events at the Parlin Field Airport in Newport, New Hampshire October 2010

### Open House Features Food – Fun – Facts

The Parlin Field Open House, held on Saturday, September 18, attracted an enthusiastic crowd for a pancake breakfast hosted by **Heath Marsden** and family, airport tours, and Young



Eagles flights for youth ages 8 through 17. Many of the attendees complimented the new concrete floor in the historic Parlin Hangar. The floor is one part of an overall hangar restoration project performed by volunteers and funded by donations from pilots and others interested in preserving the historical features at Parlin Field.

This year's Open House focused on helping people understand airport facilities and operations. Several



volunteers provided facts about the airport. They explained that the airport is owned by the Town and receives revenue from various sources, including

ground rent and property taxes from the four privately owned hangars, fuel sales, rent from aircraft stored in the Parlin hangar, rent from aircraft tied-down on the grass, and rent from the Lil' Red Baron restaurant. Revenue from these sources is adequate to pay for routine maintenance and daily operations of the airport. In effect, the airport is nearly a break-even operation. The Town enjoys the benefit of having an

airport at almost no cost to the Town.

Capital investment in airport infrastructure is another matter. The municipal portion of property tax on privately owned hangars is directed into the Town's airport capital reserve fund, but this fund is not currently adequate to meet immediate needs for runway rehabilitation. Efforts are currently underway to find sources of revenue to meet long-term infrastructure needs. Investments in infrastructure pay dividends to the Town of Newport and surrounding communities through economic benefits generated by the airport.

### Pilots Donate Flights for Youth

During the Open House on September 18, local pilots **John Merriman, Terry Callum, Rick Kloeppel, and Will Dismukes** gave free airplane rides to 32 young people from the Newport area. The rides were



conducted under the Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) Young Eagles program. Pilots took their passengers on a tour south to the wind turbines, then northeast over Lake Sunapee before

returning to Parlin Field. The flights are intended to inspire youth to explore new opportunities and expand their horizons, and hopefully generate interest in learning about aviation. Each participant received a certificate and will have his or her name entered in the "world's largest logbook" at EAA headquarters in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

### Flight Instructors Conduct Workshop

Local flight instructors **Rick Kloeppel, John Merriman, and Russ Kelsea** conducted a CFI Workshop dealing with pilot/controller deviations and runway incursions on Wednesday evening, September

22. The Workshop is one in a series of workshops created by the Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team. The Workshops are designed for certificated flight instructors and are intended to improve quality and consistency of flight instruction and to increase aviation safety. John Wood, FAA Safety Team Program Manager at the Portland, Maine Flight Standards District Office asked the trio to conduct the workshop as an experiment to determine interest in hosting workshops in areas other than the seacoast region of Maine and New Hampshire.

### **Great Weather for *Run What Ya' Brung***

Saturday, September 25 brought dry weather, light winds, and moderate temperatures – perfect for the radar run sponsored by the Ambulance Attendants Association. Spectator and show cars covered the airport infield and tie-down areas. Organizers enjoyed a nearly constant stream of participants who ran their cars to determine top speed over the runway's quarter-mile course. Local pilot **Jim Callum**, with help from several others, hosted a pancake breakfast for organizers and participants. The airport was closed by NOTAM, and airport officials monitored the UNICOM frequency during the event to remind pilots of the airport closure. *Run What Ya' Brung* is a major fund raising event that benefits Newport's ambulance services.

### **Report Quantifies Airports' Economic Impact**

The Granite State Airport Management Association (GSAMA), working through the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) conducted a survey of New Hampshire's twelve airports that are not part of the National Plan of Integrated Airports System (NPIAS). These twelve non-NPIAS airports do not receive federal funds. Parlin Field is one of the non-NPIAS airports.

Dr. Lon L. Smith at East Tennessee State University analyzed the survey data using conventionally

accepted methods. Dr. Smith conservatively estimates an annual economic impact of about \$245,000 in direct revenue, visitor spending, and employment from Parlin Field Airport. In addition, Dr. Smith estimates annual revenues of \$329,000 in statewide taxes generated from the twelve airports.

GSAMA presented Dr. Smith's report to the NH House subcommittee studying HB1506, a bill dealing with aeronautical funding in New Hampshire.

### **Upcoming Events**

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

- Oct 6** Chill & Grill, 6:00 pm, Recycled Pilots Hangar or Lil' Red Baron.
- Oct 7-10** American Bonanza Society Service Clinic at Edmonds Aircraft Service.
- Oct 10** Newport Fire Department DHART Procedures Training. 9:30 AM.
- Oct 19** Airport Advisory Board, 6:30 pm, Operations Building.
- Oct 20** Chill & Grill, 6:00 pm, Recycled Pilots Hangar or Lil' Red Baron.

### **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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