



NRRA News

August 2019

A mile of road
gets you a mile.
Our mile of
runway gets you
anywhere.



Another newsletter so soon? It is August you know and an incredible amount of things occurred over the last two weeks.



Wow. Just wow. A Russian made Antonov AN-2 made a MoGas fuel stop at NRRA on Wednesday, July 31st, just in time to catch the end of the lunchtime cookout. The aircraft was traveling west bound after spending the week at the EAA convention in Oshkosh. Couple of stats on this beast of an airplane - It was made in 1987. It can carry 12 passengers, it has a 60' upper wing, it has a max gross weight of six tons, and it has a ridiculous stall speed of 26 knots. The 1,000 hp motor will allow you to cruise at a leisurely pace of 120 mph for about 4 hours until empty. This aircraft landed in the grass between the taxiway and runway near the approach end of 14 when it arrived. It seriously used less than 500' during the rollout.

Discover Wisconsin

Production crews from the nation's longest running tourism show are making a stop at New Richmond Regional Airport this weekend. TV show Discover Wisconsin is featuring the city of New Richmond and New Richmond Regional Airport on an episode to be aired in 2020.



The Discover Wisconsin crew was also onsite back in April shooting footage during the record setting Packer Tailgate event. This time, they'll at least be able to see some green grass and a lot less snow removal equipment. They'll be shooting footage around the airport and they'll be hopping a ride with me in the 172 for some aerial footage around New Richmond. The USA Nationals at Cedar Lake Speedway will also be featured along with the rooftop patio at Champs Bar and Grill in downtown New Richmond.

Discover Wisconsin can be seen locally on Fox Sports North and on Apple TV, Roku, YouTube, and the rest. Go to discoverwisconsin.com to check out what they've been doing since 1986. It's amazing!

FLY THE MARCHETTI S-211!

FAA-APPROVED PROGRAM WITH FORMER FIGHTER INSTRUCTORS

Fly with us in Denton, TX, (near DFW International) or check with us about our upcoming travel schedule.

All you need is a pilot's license!

MILITARY JET SKILLS FOR ANY AVIATOR

- TURBINE HIGH PERFORMANCE INTRO
- UPSET PREVENTION/RECOVERY UPRT
- FULL CHECKOUT AND S-211 FAA RATING
- JET SOLO & RENTAL
- FORMATION MANEUVERING



S-211TRAINING.COM

CONTACT CHRIS KOELZER
817.676.4403 OR FLY@S-211TRAINING.COM



Talk to me Goose

Any pilots around this great airport with a bucket list? Anyone looking for a once in a lifetime kind of flight? Here's your chance.

Starting this weekend and continuing for the next several days, this aircraft, a Marchetti S-211, is available for training flights out of NRRA to pilots of all levels. All you need is a private license or better.

We've got horsepower. Check. We've got thrills. Check. Oh yeah. This will be cool.

Former Marine F/A-18 fighter pilot/instructor and now Stillwater resident, Chris Koelzer, is temporarily basing the S-211 at NRRA.



A standard training sortie is 60 minutes and runs a respectable \$2,250. One of the more popular offerings is an upset recovery & unusual attitude training session. Stalls, touch & go's, and all sorts of aerobatic maneuvers are on the table as well. This is no simulator. It's the real deal.

The S-211 is equipped with a modern Garmin glass instrument panel and is powered by a single Pratt & Whitney engine.

Contact Chris at chris@vicaviation.com or 817-676-4403. I can assist getting you set up as well - mike@nrairport.com



Dick Rutan preparing for his 8.1 hour, non-stop flight to Mojave, CA on Tuesday morning in N268DK.

World famous aviator and Vietnam war hero Dick Rutan made another stop at NRRA this week in his speedy Berkut experimental aircraft.

Dick has made about a dozen visits to New Richmond over the years due to his consulting work with New Richmond-based Engineered Propulsion Systems, manufacturer of diesel engines for the aviation sector.

In 1986, Dick, along with Jeana Yeager, flew the Voyager aircraft unrefueled, non-stop around the world in a little over 9 days. That would be just a shade under 25,000 miles. In an aircraft with no first class seating.

He's an amazing pilot. We look forward to seeing him again after Oshkosh next year.



Rutan Voyager

Flying Cowboys

NRRA hosted a flight of nine aircraft traveling from Oshkosh last Saturday. The group was headed back to their home bases, primarily in the west and northwest US and used NRRA as a MoGas and avgas fuel stop and for a bit of aircraft maintenance. The aircraft included Carbon Cubs, a Cessna 170 and 180, and some very non-stock, experimental aircraft. Pilots Trent Palmer and Jonas Marcinko have an impressive YouTube following numbering a quarter million plus.



These guys were awesome. If you're into back country bush flying, you already know who these guys are. If you're into short takeoff and landing aircraft (STOL), same for you. They have a huge cult following and were the talk of Oshkosh this year. Long story short, one of the guys had a catastrophic engine failure en route to Oshkosh. There's YouTube video of this, but he calmly reported while flying over southern Wyoming "My engine just quit. I'm going to set it down on a road." He did. Then he had his brother fly a new engine from Elko, NV in a Cessna 206. He also landed on the very same road. They field swapped the engine on that gravel road and caught up with the group about 18 hours later. Because Oshkosh.

The crew had a bunch of good things to say about us on a recent YouTube post with over 50,000 views as of Friday morning.

Watch it here: <https://youtu.be/k6vqSHxol4c> We hope they make it back to see us next year!



More Oshkosh related aircraft stopping by



North American B-25 made a precautionary landing due to an oil leak while en route to Oshkosh. One hour worth of repairs and they were back in the air.



A massive storm just brushed the airport on Friday, July 19th. The storm caused extensive damage in Polk County, just north of the airport. Lots of shear and rotation were occurring above NRRRA.



Speaking of storms . . . This pup ran off from an airport neighbor's house and decided to spend the day with us on Saturday the 20th. Too much thunder. Can't blame him. Thanks to the crew at EPS for dropping him off with us and the users on the New Richmond missing pet page on Facebook. He made it home a few hours later.



A Wisconsin National Guard UH-60 made a fuel stop at NRRRA last week. The crew dropped off a major general (2 star) in Polk County to survey the damage and the storm recovery efforts being provided by Guard members.

Willie Webster

Longtime aviation maintenance tech, Willie Webster of Medford, WI, passed away July 18th at the age of 69 while on vacation in Alaska. Willie operated an aviation maintenance business at NRRRA from the mid-1990's until the mid 2000's on the south end of the airport.

Ground Communications Outlet (GCO)

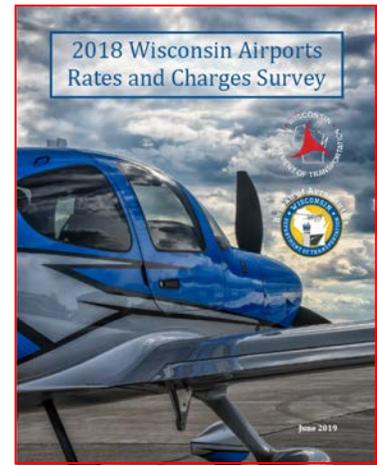
This happens way too much. The communication device that allows communication between Minneapolis Approach Control and pilots on the ground at NRRRA looking to obtain or cancel an IFR clearance, took another lightning strike last month. I'm guessing this was lightning strike number 10 since it was put into service in the 1990's. Who doesn't love the smell of burning wires? We had a bunch. It was immediately shipped out for repair. It is due back in service early next week.

Speaking of IFR clearances, things are changing. Back in the day, the only way to get a clearance at New Richmond was the old phone booth located on the south ramp. It typically took a 10 minute call to flight service then a ridiculously quick run up and departure to make your void time. The GCO took the phone booth out of the equation. Cell phone coverage is probably going to take the GCO out of the equation soon as well. The FAA is publishing phone numbers at nearly all airports that allows direct communication with the appropriate air traffic control facility. No more going through flight service. To get a clearance at NRRRA, contact MSP Approach at 612-726-9086. If you're operating single pilot, calling the phone number probably makes more sense than using the GCO.

Where we stand

The Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics (BoA) released their annual rates and charges survey. Under Wisconsin law, airports are required to report certain statistics to the BoA. Here is a link to a summary: <https://wisconsin.gov/Documents/doing-business/aeronautics/resources/rates-chgs.pdf>

Couple of interesting things . . . NRRA is one of only 13 airports in Wisconsin to sell MoGas. This attracted about two dozen aircraft headed to or from Oshkosh this year. The hangar land lease rate is in the middle of the pack and NRRA, by far, has the most number of hangars in the state.



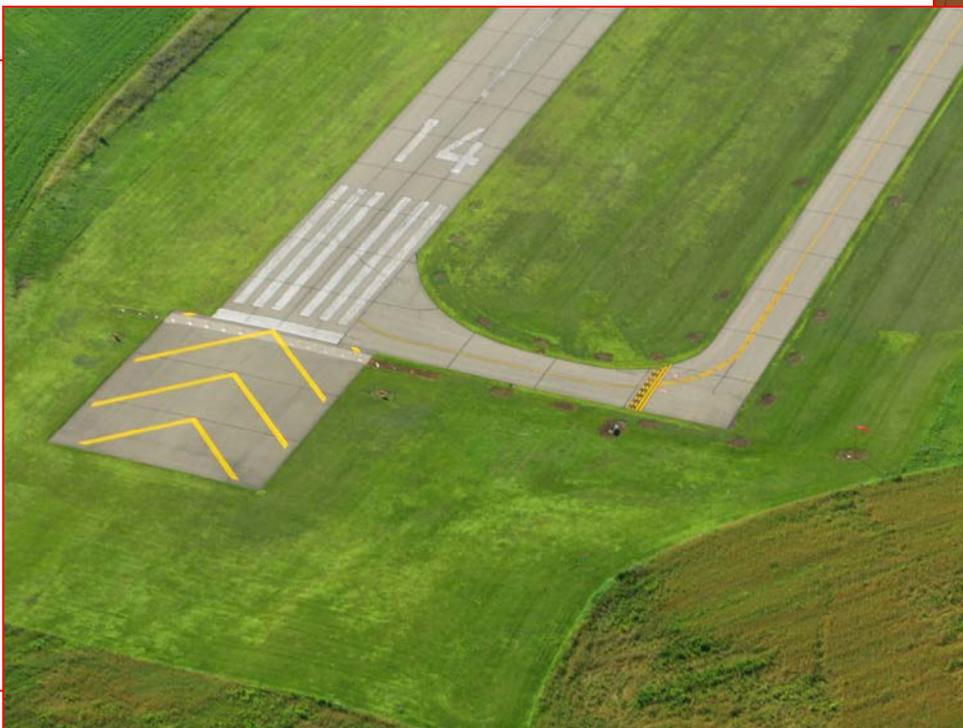
Only four more

We had another great turnout for the Wednesday cookout this week. I hate to say it, but we only put these on through August. Try and make it out to the airport. It's worth the trip. Everyone is invited.

We are very high tech

Problem. The north end of the airport has fantastic Internet speed. The south end, it doesn't even qualify as awful. 3 megabits per second would have been marginal in 1995.

Solution. Microwave it. The good Internet is now transmitted via microwave link roughly 1 mile from the north end to the south end of the airport. This allowed an expansion of the airport security camera system and, for the first time ever, wi-fi capability in the airport maintenance buildings. The airport security gate system is also on an independent microwave system which has been in place since 2004.



Pavement Work

The yellow taxiway and blast pad stripes were repainted last month.

Next up is the repainting of the red and white runway identification boxes near each runway entrance. Next week, we'll start on the white stripes on runway 14-32.

Thanks to fast drying paint, no runway closures are planned.

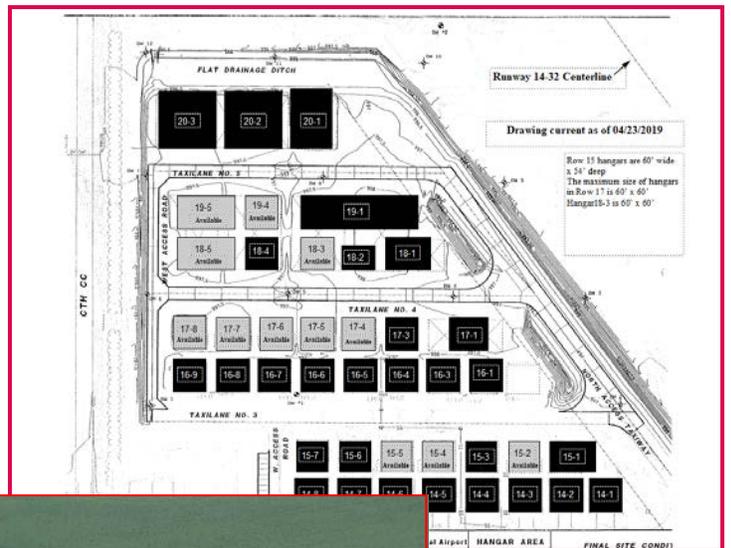
Hangar Space - To Buy

Hangar sales are pretty rare. Only a couple change hands each year. So here is your opportunity. **Hangar 9-3**, located on the south end of the airport, is up for sale. The hangar currently houses a couple of seaplanes. The hangar is 70' wide x 60' deep x 16' sidewalls. It has a bathroom, private well and septic, heated hangar bay and heated office area, 5,000 lb hoist for float install/removal. Contact Paul Peterson at 651-336-2041.

Hangar 6-1 is also for sale on the south end of the airport. The hangar is listed with Applegate. More information can be found here: <https://www.loopnet.com/Listing/111-Airport-Rd-New-Richmond-WI/9022577/>

Hangar Space - To Build

Hangar lots are available in rows 15, 17, 18 and 19 on the north end of the airport. Row 18 has a couple of south facing spaces available. Contact me at mike@nrairport.com if you're interested in a spot. Typically, a lessee is required to begin construction within 6 months of signing a lease. The hangar should be substantially complete within 12 months. The lease rate is still an affordable \$.10 per square foot per year.



Daily Airport Randomness (DAR)



A few last things -

- An airport commission meeting is planned for August 22nd here at HQ
- The security cams on the south end of the airport picked up a black bear trying to exit through the south gate around midnight on July 24th. Don't worry, he was pretty small. He was also denied.
- The water tower that was located on the St. Croix County property southwest of the airport was removed earlier this summer. For aircraft landing to the northeast on runway 4, the water tower was a familiar site. Recently, the water tower served as a mount for several antennas for St. Croix County emergency services. It was replaced by the red and white radio tower pictured on the right.
- The avgas truck and MoGas truck underwent their annual certification and calibration last month. The jet trucks are done each January.
- The airport is hosting over 100 kids next Wednesday as part of the library's summer program. This particular event will have an interactive exhibit in the hangar bay of the business aviation terminal. The exhibit will demonstrate the relationship between the Earth, moon, and sun.



- Activity level - I was giving a flight lesson earlier this week and there were three other aircraft in the airport traffic pattern and one inbound. I haven't seen that since the mid 1990's. July fuel sales for avgas were up 20% over the same month last year.

Local Fuel Prices

100LL

**\$4.09 at the pumps or add
\$.25 for truck service**
(National average \$5.07)

Jet A

\$4.21 for truck service
(locally based aircraft pricing available)
(National average \$4.67)

MoGas

\$3.60 for truck service
(National average \$3.93)



**That's all for now
Hope to see you at the airport!**

Thank you

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