



NRRA News Spring 2023

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



This airport means business!
Proudly serving the New Richmond area since 1964

At least it didn't come down all at once

I reported in the last newsletter that the winter of 2022-2023 had the makings of the worst ever. Final snow tally for the season was over 100 inches or roughly twice the normal amount. Overall consensus by pretty much everyone in the region: Yep. It was the worst ever.



Arguably the worst storm of the season happened on Friday, March 31st and Saturday, April 1st. That storm had everything. Heavy rain, thunder and lightning, hail, freezing rain, and

then heavy snow. The wind was gusting over 35 knots and caused blizzard conditions. Due to the lack of any inbound or outbound aircraft and the incredibly dangerous conditions, we decided to wait this storm out and attack it in the early, early morning hours rather than do our normal continuous plowing in an effort to keep the airport open. Because how bad could it be? Big mistake on my part. At the storm's end early on the 1st, a punishing 14.2 inches of incredibly heavy snow was sitting on the airport grounds forcing a temporary seven hour airport closure.

The snow was too heavy to plow with the normal fleet of three single axle dump trucks. A Cat 950 loader was used to open up a path in the north and south hangar areas. We're not talking a Cat 950 with 16' pusher plow. No, no. It was the Cat with its regular

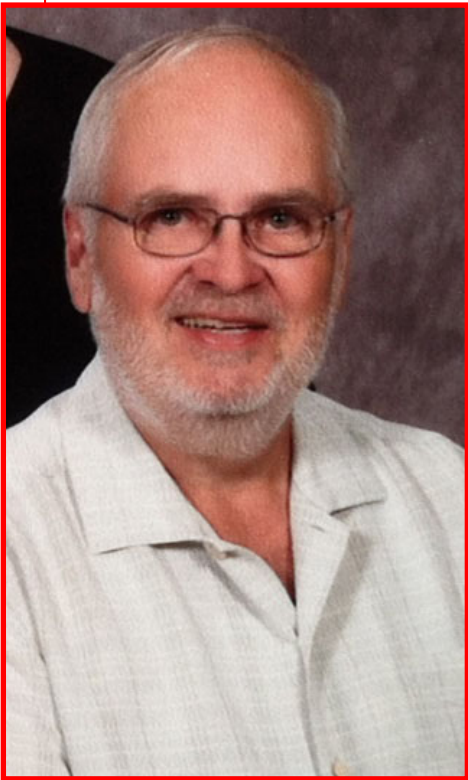


An airport maintenance vehicle was buried on the north ramp during the storm.



bucket. The snow was too heavy for the pusher even with 250 hp and 22 tons of yellow machine.

The Oshkosh snowblower was used to clear the runway and taxiway, as in the *entire* runway and taxiway. I think I made 20 passes back and forth blowing tons and tons of snow nine feet wide at a time. Normally, we plow the snow to the runway and taxiway edges and use the blower to relocate the snow from there. Not this time. That was a first. And it was ugly. The airport was open and usable again by noon thanks to the incredible help from the airport paid and volunteer staff. Many, many thanks for your efforts.



Long time airport employee and my dad, David (Dave) Demulling passed away on April 27, 2023 following a short stay at the St. Croix Health Center in New Richmond. He turned 76 years old last month.

Dave grew up in New Richmond and graduated with the class of 1966. He served in the US Army and completed tours in Vietnam and Germany in the late 1960's.

Starting in the 1970's, he worked for Metropolitan Transit in the greater MSP area as a fabricator keeping their fleet of buses in operation. He took an early retirement at the age of 57 in the spring of 2004 after 34 years.

Thankfully, he started his second career right here at the airport, first as an airport volunteer for six months and then as a part time employee. He spent countless hours mowing, plowing in his favorite 1985 International plow truck known as Big Red, and performing all types of airport maintenance and improvements. He was an expert metal and fabric worker and could repair almost anything. I can state for certain he single handedly kept our aging fleet of snow removal and mowing equipment going. He even managed to teach me how to weld. I'll never have it down as good as he did it though.

Not many sons have the opportunity to tell their dad to get out there and mow the grass on a daily basis. I'm glad I did. Paybacks . . .

After 13 years of working together at the airport, he was forced into his second retirement due to health issues, many of which were brought on by Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam decades ago. Although he was slowly losing his mobility due to Parkinson's Disease, he still actively followed the airport and listened in on the airport common traffic advisory frequency on his scanner at home day and, much to mom's dismay, at night.

Dave is survived by wife Mary, sons Mike and Shawn, and grandchildren Christian and Alex.

A celebration of life will be held in the hangar bay of the business aviation terminal, 625 W Hangar Road, Hangar 11-12, on Wednesday, May 17th from 4-6 pm. Everyone is welcome.



Drone image of the airport snowblower moving snow away from the runway edge.

New Richmond Fly-In and Car Show - Mark Your Calendars

It's been a long time since the airport held a fly-in breakfast event. Way too long.

Thanks to our friends at Johnson Motors here in New Richmond, the airport is holding what will hopefully be the first of many fly-in events in the years to come.



The fly-in is scheduled for Saturday, May 20th from 7:30 to 11 am in the Wings of Wisconsin corporate hangar 11-13 on the north ramp at the airport. All proceeds from the event will go towards the VFW Freedom Park Project located on the west shore of Hatfield Lake. Breakfast is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids ages 3-10.

Local aircraft, race cars, vintage automobiles, and fire trucks will be on display. I'll even bring out the airport crash fire rescue truck. For a \$200 donation to the VFW project, I'll even let you shoot the 750 gallon per minute roof mounted water cannon. Because I know you'll ask . . . Yes you can use the air horn and siren too. We hope to see you there! Volunteers are needed. Contact Mitch Campeau at 715-781-4680 if you can help.

New Powerline Markers

Contractors for Xcel Energy are rebuilding the electrical transmission lines (69,000 volts as I recall) located approximately 1,500 feet southeast of the threshold to runway 32 this spring.

The transmission lines connect the electrical substation located across from Warner's Dock in New Richmond with another electrical facility located about a mile and a half east of the airport. Originally, the lines were in the



right of way for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad line that ran through the area and were in place well before the airport opened up for operations almost 59 years ago.

Part of the project includes replacing the sun faded orange powerline markers that were installed in the 1970's (along the final approach path) and early 2000's (along the final approach path to Hatfield Lake) with new orange, yellow, and white markers.

The markers should be fully installed this week.

Meet New CFI Riley Koosman

Local pilot and very recent graduate of the flight program at Minnesota State Mankato, Riley Koosman, will be offering flight instruction at the airport beginning this month. Riley is a single-engine CFI and will be operating out of the East Metro full service FBO located on the north ramp.

Riley joins current instructor Nate Hartigan. Together they have your flight instruction needs covered. Both Riley and Nate have good old eighty-echo, a Cessna 172N available for training.

You can contact Riley at 715-294-0146 or rileykoosman@gmail.com.

Nate is available at 651-271-5039 or nathaniel.w.hartigan@hotmail.com



Everyone Loves a Cook Out. Especially if it's at an Airport.

It's a tradition. Every Wednesday, June through August, a cook out lunch is held in the hangar bay of the business aviation terminal on the north end of the airport. This year's first cook out is scheduled for June 7th at noon. We typically get anywhere from 25 to 70 people in attendance. After this winter, that first brat is going to taste sooo good. We hope to see you there!

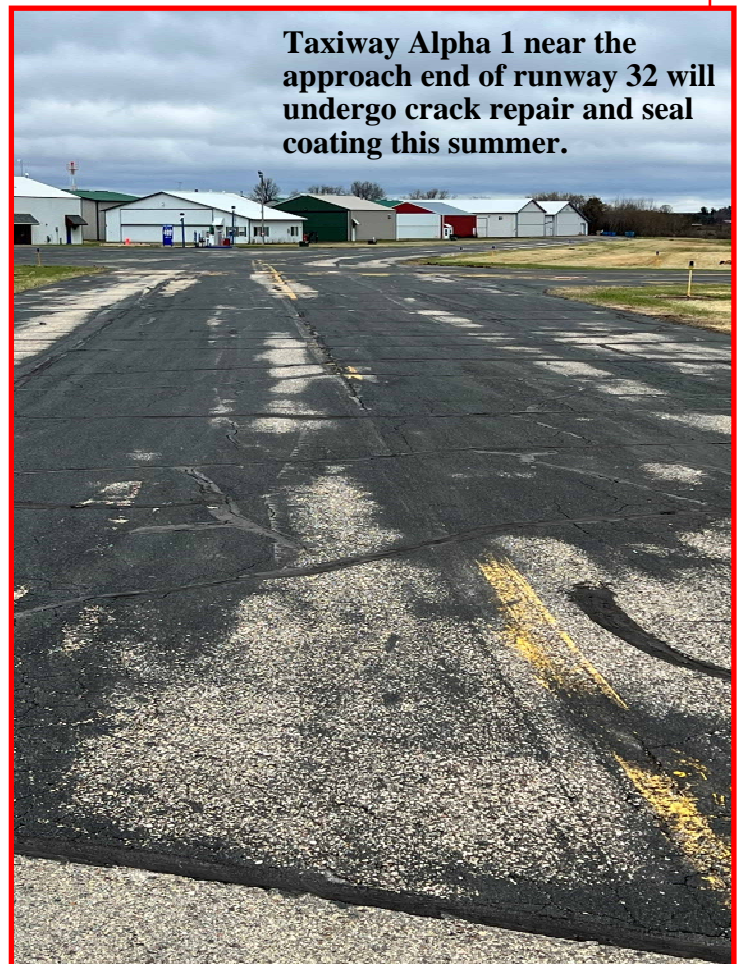
Summer Projects

This summer, the airport will have three projects underway. They include the south hangar area reconstruction project, the airport master plan, and a new project that just came our way a few weeks ago - the pavement rehab of taxiway alpha (parallel taxiway to runway 32) plus the connecting taxiways between taxiway alpha and the runway, and the taxiways between hangar rows 11 and 12 and 13 and 14.

The timing on the south hangar project is still to be determined. The plans are nearing the 95% mark and should be coming our way for review in the second week of May. I'll send out an informational update to airport users as soon as I learn what the timing will be and the impact those users may experience. I'll do my best to stay just this side of too much information.

The pavement rehab project will involve significant crack repair seal coating.

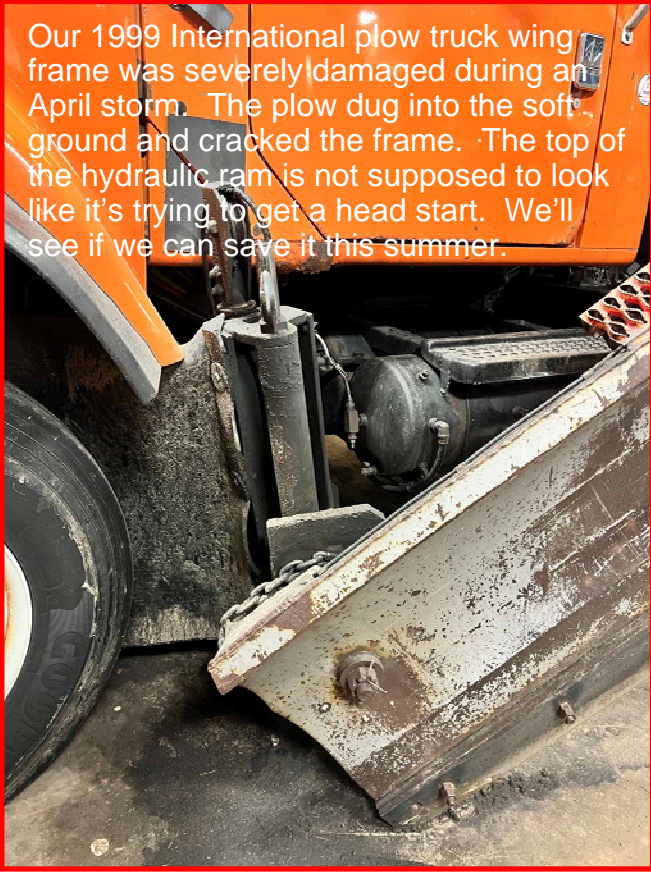
Lastly the airport master plan project is just getting kicked off. The scope of work is being finalized and actual work on the project should begin this month.



The DAR

Daily Airport Randomness

Our 1999 International plow truck wing frame was severely damaged during an April storm. The plow dug into the soft ground and cracked the frame. The top of the hydraulic ram is not supposed to look like it's trying to get a head start. We'll see if we can save it this summer.



Not a good first impression. The entrance road on the south end of the airport is calling it quits after last winter. This pavement will be replaced this summer.

Below is the aircraft deicing truck. It was the only vehicle that could travel from the north ramp to the south ramp during the storm on April 1st. It almost made it. It ended up getting severely stuck near the self service fuel pumps. So close.



Hangar Space - To Build

The north hangar area (rows 11 through 20) are now fully leased or has leases pending. There is room for a corporate hangar south of hangar 11-20. The airport is accepting proposals.

NEW!!! Five 100' x 100' hangars or larger are available to build in the northeast hangar area immediately and starting later this month, seven 60' x 60' spaces.

Hangar Space - To Buy Nothing at the moment

Hangar Space - To Rent - Business aviation hangar 11-13 (pictured below next to East Metro Jet Center), has room for business aviation aircraft (Call Greg at 715-529-7063)

Office Space - To Rent - 1 office in the business aviation terminal (Call Mike at 715-760-5055) and 2 offices in hangar 11-14 are available (call Barry at 612-747-7008). \$350 per month each. Space for an aviation business is available in hangar 11-18 (Call Mitch at 715-781-4680).



A few last things -

- The ground communications outlet (GCO), used by flight crews to communicate from the ground with air traffic control, is out of service. The unit was shipped to the manufacturer for repairs. I expect the unit to be back in service by mid May.
- East Metro Jet Center manager Robert Rice attended the National Air Transport Association FBO Success Seminar in New Orleans last month. The seminar presented information on sustainable aviation fuel, FBO infrastructure, and customer service.



MOGAS

- MoGas has contacted departure. Sorry, but it was going to be a money loser. East Metro Jet Center has offered ethanol free, 91 octane fuel available for sale for the past 3 years. The fuel was delivered from a 2,000 gallon truck. Unfortunately, the truck was due for a very expensive filter replacement as well as a state re-licensing and inspection this year. East Metro was the only provider of MoGas in the Twin Cities Metro area.
- The 5,000 gallon jet refueler was recertified by state officials last month. The truck was found to be in tolerance and was returned to service. This truck was placed into service hours before the first aircraft started flying in for the Super Bowl back in 2018. It can deliver single-point jet fuel up to 300 gallons per minute or over-wing at a respectable 40 gallons per minute.
- Contractors were on site to inspect the airport's automated weather reporting station (AWOS) in late March. The AWOS is accessible via an access road off of State Highway 65 on the east side of the airport. Airport personnel spent several painful hours plowing the access road to allow the contractors to gain access. That was probably the least amount of fun I've ever had here at the airport. One star out of five. Would not recommend.



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- The airport is hosting a regional Wisconsin Airport Management Association meeting on May 10th. Airport managers and other airport personnel from Northwestern Wisconsin will meet in the business aviation terminal and review airport employee recruiting, airport construction projects, aircraft fueling, storm water issues, and airport inspections.
- The airport took delivery of new snow removal equipment in mid February. A New Holland T-8, 350 hp tractor with 20' plow was delivered and put into use later that month. The airport also received a runway sweeper attachment and snow blower attachment. The equipment was funded primarily by the FAA with the State of Wisconsin and airport each picking up 5% shares. After the snow we received last winter (I even saw some flurries on April 30th), I hope we don't have to use the equipment for a very long time.



- Locally based NDTs changed hands this winter. NDTs employes a significant number of people at the airport. The new owners indicated they will be growing the business locally. We're proud to have them here at NRRA!

Airport Business Directory:

FBO Services:

East Metro Jet Center - eastmetrojetcenter.net . Full and self service FBO services

New Richmond Airside Rental - Car rental for pilots and pax - A service of East Metro Jet Center

Aircraft Detailing:

Tyler Vizenor - supercleanaircraft.com - Aircraft cleaning, waxing, and ceramic coating

Aircraft Maintenance:

Indianhead Airways Nick Jilek - nick.jilek@smcltd.com

New Richmond Aero - NRAero.com

Aircraft Parts and Services:

NDT Solutions (NDTS) - ndts.com

Prototype Machine - PTMachineinc.com

Aircraft Sales:

Eagle Air - eagleair.us **NEW!!**

Elevated Aircraft Sales—elevatedaircraft.com

Avionics:

Perceptive Avionics - perceptivavionics.com

Top Flight Avionics - topflight@centurytel.net

Flight Instruction:

Mike Demulling Flight Instruction - Mike@NRairport.com

Nate Hartigan - nathaniel.w.hartigan@hotmail.com

Riley Koosman - rileykoosman@gmail.com

Hangar Space:

Wings of Wisconsin - wingsofwisconsin.com

Local Fuel Prices

100LL

**\$4.99 at the pumps or
add \$.50 for truck service**

(National average \$6.41)

Jet A

\$5.49 for truck service
(locally based aircraft pricing available)
(National average \$6.07)

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

Thank you

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Previous issues of NRRR News are available on the
airport website.