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McMahon-Wrinkle Airport & Industrial Park



Recent Airport Activity

Welcome to the first edition of our brand new airport newsletter! This newsletter is a combination of ideas and information that we hope our local aviation community will find interesting and useful. If you have information that you would like to contribute, please contact Kelly at the Airport Terminal and we will do our best to include your stories, photos, comments and information.

Recently, we have had a great deal of military aircraft landings. The US Army helicopter crews have been flocking to the Big Spring Airport

thanks to the wide, open space of our airport facility and the great tasting barbeque that's being provided by Jack Perry of Lone Star Aviation, and the nice folks at Hog Heaven!

We have also had ongoing use of the airport by regional Air Force trainer pilots using the field for practice touch & go landings and flying the patterns.



Isn't it great to see this facility still being used to support our troops?!

Recent Landings & Aircraft Photos



In the Cockpit...

*George, a new retiree hired on as a greeter at Wal-Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 10 or 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really tidy, clean-shaven, sharp-minded and a real credit to the company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies.

One day George's young boss called him into the office for a talk: "George, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic. You do a great job, but you being late to work so often is becoming quite bothersome."

"Yes, I know boss, and I am working on it." George said.

"Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear. It's odd though... I know you recently retired from the Air Force. What did they say if you came in late there George?"

"Well, they usually just said, 'Good morning, General, could I get you some coffee, sir?'"

Pilot's Briefing



Flight planning: make the call.

By Wayne Dawson

West Texas is a great place to fly. We are fortunate to enjoy lots of favorable weather and few airspace restrictions. However, as we all know both the weather and airspace restrictions can change quickly. We've all been taught flight planning skills. But in this relaxed atmosphere it is easy to be complacent, particularly if we only plan a short sightseeing flight, or a trip around the patch for a couple of touch and goes. When I consider flying, I always make two telephone calls before leaving home. My first

call is to the Big Spring Automated Weather Observation System, AWOS (432) 263-3842. This is the same information you receive when you listen to 118.025 on your aircraft radio. The AWOS provides me with the current weather conditions and activities at the field. In this way I can anticipate which runway will be in use, crosswinds, and sky conditions. Actually, if you make this call several times in the hours before your flight you can get an idea of how weather conditions are trending at the field. The second call I make is to Lockheed Martin Flight Service (800) 992-7433. I ask for a

Standard Briefing. This briefing provides the current and forecast weather information I need for my route of flight.

In addition I receive pertinent Notice to Airmen, NOTAMs and Temporary Flight Restrictions, TFRs. This puts me on top of the weather and any recent changes in airspace restrictions. With this information I'm ready to head for the field. Making these calls will help you prepare for a great day of flying.

* Wayne Dawson holds a Commercial Pilot license with Single and Multiengine Land; Instrument Air-

plane; Glider ratings as well as a Ground Instructor; Advanced Instrument license. He currently flies an RV7A which he completed building in 2007 and now hangars here at Big Spring.

Words of Wisdom

"Man must rise above the Earth—to the top of the atmosphere and beyond—for only thus will he fully understand the world in which he lives."

~ Socrates

Coming up in the next issue... "Director's Notes" & other new, exciting, and informative news!

Bad Attitudes!

- On January 31, 2011, approximately 1525 Pacific standard time, a Cessna 172, N6922A, sustained substantial damage when it impacted terrain while maneuvering near Glendora, California. The flight instructor and the private pilot receiving instruction sustained serious injuries. The pilot/owner was operating the airplane under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the local instructional flight, which had originated from Brackett Field (POC), La Verne, California, at 1432. A flight plan had not been filed. The Glendora Police report stated

that they received a call that an airplane was observed on the side of the mountain. Rescue teams were sent to the area, and because of the steepness of the terrain, a helicopter was used to evacuate the two injured occupants. The rescue team reported that the airplane was severely damaged.

- On January 30, 2011, about 1345 eastern standard time, a Cessna 172P, N55212, sustained substantial damage when it impacted the terrain after a partial loss of engine power during the initial climb after departing from run-

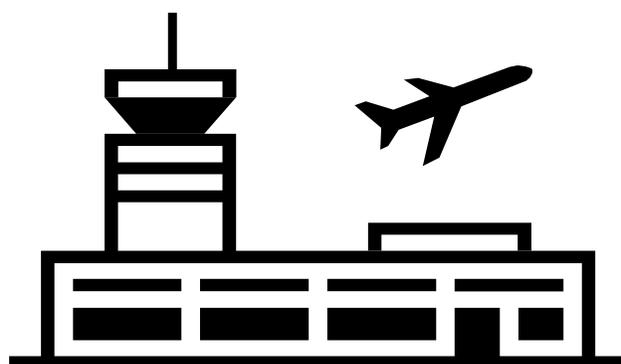
way 08 (3001 feet by 70 feet, asphalt) at the Lawrence County Airport (HTW), South Point, Ohio. The pilot received serious injuries and the passenger received minor injuries. The 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 personal flight departed HTW at 1335 en route to Logan, West Virginia. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed.

Airport Projects

The Big Spring Airport is currently underway with the planning process for upgrading the terminal ramp area and taxiways in order to accommodate larger, heavier aircraft. While we already have the newly refurbished runway 17/35, our ramp and taxiway surfaces need to be re-vamped in order to handle the loads as

well. We are very excited about this addition to our already impressive capabilities and look forward to many large aircraft landings in the future!

Also, we are still looking at upgrading our existing fuel farm in order to provide self-serve fueling capabilities.



Reference:

Information in the “Bad Attitudes” section of this newsletter is courtesy of the National Transportation Safety Board:

<http://www.nts.gov/nts/Response2.asp>

Safety Committee

The new year means a fresh start for our Pilot's Safety Program. We are working on creating a program that will enhance pilot safety while also providing a platform for pilots to share their experience and expertise on all things aviation related. This newsletter will serve as a supplement to the Pilot's Safety Program, and

will be sent out quarterly to help fill in the gaps when there is not a Safety Meeting planned.

We hope to have all of our local pilots involved and we look forward to a new year of safe flying!

McMahon-Wrinkle Airport & Industrial Park

3200 Rickabaugh Dr. West
Big Spring, TX 79720
432-264-2362
432-264-2367 Fax

We're on the web!

www.mybigspring.com/pages/airport

UPCOMING AIRPORT ACTIVITIES:

Prairie Dog Fly In Breakfast—June 11th ... Don't Miss It!!!

If you would like to make comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter, please call 432-264-2362 or send an email to: kgrant@mybigspring.com

We would love to hear from you!

Fixed Base Operator:

Lone Star Aviation

Phone: (432) 264-7124

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Call Out: (432) 935-1238

Terminal Hours of Operation

Monday through Friday

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Big Spring McMahon-Wrinkle Airport, owned and operated by the City of Big Spring, is a general aviation airport. The airport, which occupies approximately 2,200 acres of land, operates two runways: Runway 17/35, which measures 8,802 feet in length and 100 feet in width; and Runway 06/24, measuring 4,601 feet in length and 75 feet in width. Aviation activities that occur at the airport on a regular basis include agricultural spraying, corporate use, flight instruction, and recreational flying. The airport has hosted annual fly-ins and air shows, and maintains the Hangar 25 Air Museum. In 2007, the airport hosted the Hang Gliding World Championships. The Big Spring Air Terminal is over 4,000 sq. ft. with a conference room, passenger waiting area, courtesy car and airpark office. The Pilot's Lounge includes weather monitoring and flight planning capability, wireless internet connection and concessions.