



Grass Roots Flyer July 2021



Airport Manager's Report

Stanton Airfield wishes all of our customers a very happy and safe "Independence Day".



We welcome all to come visit or picnic in the park and watch the flying activities this weekend as well as 7 days a week.

We're also in the process of welcoming back our volunteers who assist the paid staff and give them some needed time off. Please feel free to contact us if you're interested and we'll get you in touch with our volunteer coordinator.

With the long daylight hours of the season, we'd please ask our Stanton-based customers to try to give us a heads-up if you're coming out to fly late afternoon or early evening so we can have the hangar open and unstacked (as necessary) for your convenience.

Please see our Board of Directors' letter later in this newsletter on our recent price increases, which are necessary to keep Stanton viable as we continue to recover from last year's pandemic and to be poised for the future.



New Tailwheel Pilots:

Mike Bouma received his tailwheel endorsement on June 23, 2021 from Stanton CFI Jay Biggs.



Patrick Zenk received his tailwheel endorsement on June 12, 2021 also from Stanton CFI Jay Biggs.

We look forward to seeing both of these pilots here at Stanton often flying our fleet of tailwheel airplanes.

Where else can you get a tailwheel endorsement – choosing between a Sport Cub or a PA-11 or a PA-12 – and fly on a beautiful grass airfield that is on the National Register of Historic Places?

New Solo Glider Pilot:

James Stauffer flew his first glider solo at Stanton on June 7, 2021. Stanton's Steve Fischer is the CFI-G.



Owatonna Squadron – Civil Air Patrol Open House:



Stanton Airfield hosted the Open House of the Stanton Civil Air Patrol Squadron on June 22, 2021. The local squadron meets at Stanton and has officially adopted the airport through the MN DOT Aeronautics Division. Their open house welcomed dozens of interested students as well as their parents. The open house included several routine ceremonies such as above, for visitors to enjoy.



If you missed the opportunity to attend the open house but are interested in learning more about Stanton's CAP Squadron, go to www.stanton.cap.gov

Cannon Valley Youth Orchestra – Summer Sessions:



Stanton also played host in June to the Cannon Valley Youth Orchestra “sessions in a hangar”! Several afternoons/evenings at Stanton were filled with music.

Stanton Airfield thanks the orchestra very much for the generous donation made to our budget. We are very open to working with area organizations – especially the youth.

Price Increases - \$\$ - Stanton Board Action:

To All Stanton Airfield Customers:

At its June 22, 2021 board of directors meeting a lengthy and difficult review of Stanton finances was completed. As a result of those discussions, a new pricing plan is being put into place.

During the past 18 months we have experienced serious deficits between operational income and expenses. We do not take price increases lightly, but these deficits must be dealt with at this time in order to sustain our operations.

Exceptional customer service is our goal every day. We hope you will agree that we provide this level of service and understand that we must increase prices in order to continue providing that service.

Stanton Sport Aviation, Inc.
Board of Directors

A Great Spring for Soaring by Lou Chouinard – MN Soaring Club (MSC):

The strongest months for soaring in MN are May and June. This year, in early May, we had some of the best soaring conditions ever seen in MN. The MSC members (and one former member flying out of Stanton) were ready to take advantage of these conditions and achieved the following –

New State Records	24 (!)
FAI Badges Awarded / Legs Completed	16
SSA Badges Awarded	2

Private Pilot – Glider Rating	1
Commercial Pilot – Glider Rating	1
CFI – Glider Rating	1

In addition, one flight is in competition for a Central Region SSA Award for the Longest Downwind Dash. It has, indeed, been a great spring for soaring!



The Minnesota Soaring Club was founded in 1959 and is based at Stanton Airfield. MSC has about 60 members. We own 2 two-place gliders, 1 one-place glider, and a Piper PA-18 Super Cub. MSC is an all-volunteer organization. Our instructors volunteer their time to offer instruction to members. A number of our members own private gliders.

Once a pilot gets their license, we encourage them to start the process of earning their Soaring Society of America badges. This badge program is a system of study and demonstrated airmanship that gets progressively harder and more advanced. Once the SSA badges are earned, pilots start working on their FAI (International) badges. The ultimate goal of pursuing the badge process is to become a cross country pilot. A cross country pilot is a soaring pilot who flies beyond gliding distance back to the airport, completes a task to turnpoints they define, and then (hopefully) lands back at Stanton. If they are doing a

“downwind dash”, the pilot flies as far as they can and then lands somewhere – hopefully safely and far away from Stanton.

MSC also encourages members to pursue new state records in soaring. Records can be for distance and speed in multiple classes of gliders.

Stanton Contacts:

www.stantonairfield.com



 *Instagram* [Follow us on Instagram](#)

507-645-4030

synairportmanager@gmail.com