



Grass Roots Flyer August 2021



A “Stanton Legend” has left us:

In Loving Memory Of



Clarence Marshall Hines
August 5, 1924 ~ June 26, 2021

Clarence Hines is as well-known as Stanton Airfield itself. It’s no wonder since his impact was huge over the 40+ years he was active here at Stanton. He was the manager for Triangle Aviation, taught many people to fly, was a mechanic, hauled skydivers up to altitude and towed gliders.

Clarence and Marilyn built their home in Stanton and raised four children. Marilyn passed away in 2017. Clarence continued to keep an eye on Stanton from his home next to the airfield until recently.

Clarence enlisted in the Army and served in the infantry during WWII. He received the Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars for his combat during the war.

Stanton Airfield was NOTAM-closed for two hours during church and cemetery services in honor of Clarence. Hank Geissler flew a Super Cub over Stanton during the graveside service in special recognition of Clarence.

Volunteer program at Stanton reconstituted:

Stanton’s history is full of volunteers performing various duties in the building and on the grounds. This program has been crucial to keeping expenses to a minimum. For more information, call or email us at 507.645.4030 or synairportmanager@gmail.com.

New Instrument-rated Pilot:



Eberhard Engel passed his instrument check ride on July 23rd. Jarrett Croy was his Stanton CFI.

New Tail Wheel Endorsements:



Douglas Learmont – CFI Paige Rudnick



Doug McKinney – CFI Jay Biggs

...one more Tail Wheel...



Jim Kaufman – CFI Steve Fischer

...And – a new Glider Solo...



Greg Guider – CFI Steve Fischer



Not just for airplanes and gliders:

Stanton is routinely a site used by ultra-lights, drones and powered parachutes.

Please give us a courtesy call to check for any issues or restrictions on flight.

“Flight of Three” – enroute to Oshkosh:



Thank You Mike Brochman & Bolander Construction:



You may not have ever noticed the satellite dish on the southwest corner of the main building, but it was part of the AWOS weather system here at Stanton that is maintained by State DOT-Aeronautics. The dish was on a pole and anchored in the ground by this huge chunk of concrete (2' X 4').

Efforts to remove the pole and concrete by Stanton volunteers were unsuccessful. The State had converted over to an online system and no longer used the dish. Mike Brochman, Bolander Construction, was called in to help. Mike was also called upon, you might remember, for moving the sign out by the mailbox.

In addition to removing the very heavy chunk of concrete he also took it away to a crusher.

Stanton thanks Mike Brochman and Bolander Construction for helping us open up our site line along the west side of the building where the satellite dish had been standing (note black dirt in grass).



Airport Manager's Report:

On behalf of the entire Stanton Airfield community, we thank Phil Schmalz, Dick Andrews and Bob Cole for their contributions while serving on our Board of Directors. Their varying time served and efforts to keep the Airfield viable for all the types of flying here have not gone unnoticed. We wish you all the very best and we hope to see you around the Airfield often.

As some of you may know, our UL 94 pump has been in and out of service for the past couple of months. After a long wait time for parts and a couple of service calls, it's back online. Thank you for your patience.

The flight school has had a very nice increase in glider training this summer. Our CFG, Steve Fisher has carried the load with Hank Geissler doing the bulk of the towing. On the powered side, our CFI's Jay Biggs, Paige Rudnick and Jarrett Croy are working to keep up with the demand, as evidenced by the photos in this newsletter.

As mentioned in multiple past issues, our shop remains over-booked with work. To date we have opened well over 200 work orders for various maintenance issues. Toby Hanson and I do have some part-time help now with two apprentice mechanics working towards their A&P license. More on these two individuals in next month's issue.

As you know, the Annual Father's Day fly-in had to be cancelled again this past spring due to COVID. We have had ongoing dialog with the Cannon Falls Lions Club about trying something this fall in conjunction with Northfield's "Defeat of Jessie James Days". The financial variables and workload issues with the event have forced us to defer to next spring. We hope to bring a fly-in back to Stanton as soon as practical.

As a reminder to all SYN-based customers, please give us as much notice as possible when you're planning to fly so we can assist you with access to your aircraft.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

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