



New Garden Flying Field

Jon Martin

2015 has proved to be a very busy summer at New Garden Airport.

In June, the local EAA Chapter 240 celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a fly-in including visitors and presentations from EAA National, FAA, Township Officials, Flight School and past presidents of the Chapter. Over 200 members and family came out to the airport to celebrate this important date. The EAA Chapter 240 is a local chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association promoting aviation from homebuilts to modern aircraft. For more information on the EAA Chapter 240 please visit <http://www.eaa240.org>.

The airport kicked off the event season by hosting the [Chester County Balloon Festival](#) on June 19-21st. This was the first year the Festival was held at New Garden Airport and it proved to be a great event to share aviation with thousands from the area. Attendance reached 13,000 over the weekend festival to see attractions including hot air balloons, airplane and helicopter rides, several varieties of food, live bands and a lot of family fun. Make plans to attend next year's Chester County Balloon Festival @ N57 on June 24-26, 2016.

In July and August, New Garden Airport held the 7th year of the [Future Aviators Summer Camp](#). This year we continued to increase our attendance numbers with a total of 152 registered campers for the summer. This summer we attracted campers from not just the local area but also California, Virginia, and Arizona. During EAA Air Venture in Oshkosh Wisconsin, Jon Martin, Aviation Director was invited to attend a meeting with VP's from EAA National on exploring ways to increase national support of youth aviation programs across the US and look at ways EAA can expand interest in these existing programs, such as, Future Aviators.



August 22nd & 23rd, New Garden held its 44th Annual Air Show. The weather was perfect and crowds were large. This year we had onsite the Lockheed Electra used in the movie Amelia, as well as many WWII aircraft such as a P-51 Mustang, B-25, TBM Avenger, and Advanced and Primary Trainers. Greg Koontz and the Alabama boys performed as well as Matt Chapman, Jason Flood, Kevin Russo, Jerry Wells and Scott Francis.



September 11-13, New Garden ended the aviation event season hosting the Giant Scale R/C Air Meet, which attracted many people onto the airport exposing them to model aviation. The Airport also ran a Boy Scout Aviation Merit Badge program alongside the R/C Air Meet. Several Scouts had an opportunity to camp out over the weekend and work with the flight school to receive their Aviation Merit Badge.

You may have noticed new construction at the airport while driving by the entrance. This is our new east end hangar development project. New Garden Airport received Pennsylvania's first Multi Modal Transportation Grant to construct the site work, stormwater basins and first hangar row consisting of seven individual t-hangars and two box hangars. These new hangars will bring additional aircraft owners to the airport, increasing monthly revenues and fuel sales to continue the self-sustaining nature of the airport.

Last week the FAA announced New Garden Airport was successful in competing for discretionary funding for our runway project. No additional funds will be distributed until the State passes the budget, but once this is completed, the airport will be ready to start on this much needed project. In total, the airport will be awarded close to 6 million dollars to bring the runway up to standards, reconstruct the runway and remove approach obstructions. We look forward to seeing the progress on this exciting project.

For additional airport information please contact Jon Martin, Aviation Director, 610-268-2619.