

FNL PILOT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER.

September #1 2012

9/13/2012

FNL Pilot Association Newsletter: Short and to the point. Thanks for reading it—Enjoy!

1. Pilot Refresher Meetings: Reserve these dates--**September 20 and October 18.**

How do you obtain weather information while planning a flight?? The night before...or perhaps 4-5 days IN ADVANCE of your flight. The September meeting (**Thursday 9/20/12**, 7 PM- 9 PM, FNL Modular Bldg), will focus on “**Favorite Weather Sources for Flight Planning!**” We have some in mind--one is almost “one-stop shopping!” Do you have a favorite or two?? If so, please send a reply with a URL to YOUR favorite weather planning source. We'll include as many as we can!

We plan to have a **handout** with some good sources listed and a short presentation of sources you may not be aware of (including some that can indicate several days in advance whether you can announce *your trip intentions* to the relatives!! And some that can predict icing severity--by altitude—about a day in advance).

Then **we'd like you to mention and show us your favorites.** We'll have a projector, computer, and a connection to the Internet! We'll find some interesting weather (somewhere) to look at on the screen in real time. Hopefully everyone can learn from the discussion.

Winter is coming, Fall is here. Time to dust off old skills and perhaps learn some new ones.

The October 18th meeting is still being planned at this time. Stand by, but save the date—7 PM!

2. Two planes BUSTED in the Denver TFR today (Thursday)! (Listen to Denver ATC and cringe!)

Since you read our Newsletter, you ALWAYS check trip **NOTAMS** before flying, and are aware that Mr. Obama has decided to focus on Colorado. Did you know that Michelle Obama and Mr. Biden are ALSO coming to visit in the next few weeks and they will warrant TFRs! That's the plan--perhaps not landing at FNL again (but maybe!!). So far it seems that Denver and front-range colleges are the destinations for additional speeches and fund-raising.

Listen to ATC calmly inform two pilots that there is an active TFR in the Denver area, and they have violated (or are about to violate) it--Thursday afternoon about 12:30 PM. The sound is an mp3 file from sources that monitor the airwaves in metropolitan areas (www.liveatc.net).

<http://archive-server.liveatc.net/kapa/KAPA-Sep-13-2012-1830Z.mp3>

A Cessna (November 60 Hotel) flew 30 miles right through the TFR after lunch, was intercepted by two F-16 fighters from Buckley, “established radio contact” (kind of), and was escorted “directly” to Centennial Airport. He didn't go “directly”, and didn't turn off the runway where he was told to, didn't contact ground control, and was met by “police action” under the tower. (Recording starts with him, and you can ride along as he begins to finally understand the trouble he's in!). “Seeker11 and 45” are F-16s from Buckley. “Port 5” is a security vehicle sent to the runway to chase the Cessna down and get him to follow it to “an interview” with police. (It seems such violations now result in an automatic license suspension (90 days?) for first offence, and license revocation if repeated!!)

The pilot of Pilatus 5 Whisky Hotel is trying to takeoff VFR from KAPA to go to Colorado Springs. He has to be told several times that he MUST file a flight plan (122.2), MUST squawk a specific Xpndr code, and MUST contact Denver ATC after takeoff. He balks at all of this until a supervisor (or worse??) gets on the air and sternly fills him in on the gravity of NOT doing all that if he wants to fly today! Amazing...Pilatus pilots should know TFR NOTAM rules by now. (He complied and flew!)

A written description of what happened to the Cessna as F-16s flew the intercept is here:

<http://www.khow.com/cc-common/news/sections/newsarticle.html?feed=124975&article=10416453>

Thanks to Brian Hall (former ATC traffic controller, and currently an active CFI, if not CFII by now!) for the head's up on this.

3. Jet Center offers \$0.25/gallon 100LL fuel discount to our Association MEMBERS.

100LL prices have taken a sharp price uptick in the area recently. Deb Montgomery (manager of the FNL Jet Center) is *continuing to offer a discount to FNL Pilot Association 2012 members*. This was established recently by Steve O'Hare (former manager of the FBO). Hopefully it will help us save a bit of money at the pump as we fuel up locally! Here are the rules as explained to me...

- a. You must be a paid-up Member of FNL Pilot Association this year (2012).
- b. Discount applies to any gallon amount of 100LL you buy at the FNL Jet Center.
- c. This discount only applies if you have NO OTHER discount program with the Jet Center.
 - i. Other discount programs you have will apply until they expire and continue to apply if they are renewed, thus they will exclude use of this discount while they apply.
 - ii. You need to compare other discount program offerings with this one and decide which one best fits your fueling needs for future use. (There are two existing discount programs I am aware of...both require an upfront payment which entitles you to a specific cents off discount for one year. They are then renewable for another year.
 - iii. This recent discount does not require an upfront payment...just a straight \$0.25/gallon off. But...it can't be used with any other program you may have.

4. FNL Badge and Gate Key-Card Audit: Your MUST show your Badge and Key Card at the FNL Fire Station in September (...access Audit). Just stop by during working hours or Sunday mornings--show that you still have them. You have **TWO WEEKS left** to do so or your AOA gate access will be deactivated.

Allegiant News: There isn't more than we wrote last month. It still remains a business decision made by Allegiant to pull out of FNL airport. They have done the same thing at four airports in the west recently, and it looks like Grand Junction is next. Allegiant is trying to expand in other markets and doesn't have enough flight equipment to cover all bases--it seems they are changing their route structure to achieve corporate goals. Unfortunately, no one seems to know what those goals are.

While this is upsetting on many fronts, please avoid reacting to rumors! Airport management (especially Jason Licon, airport Director) is working hard to mitigate the impact, and restore FNL's successful trajectory for all involved. City officials (including Jason) are not responsible for this decision. FAA grant funding is in place for next year (so the ramp improvement project will continue as planned). TSA will continue its presence here for several months while air carrier replacement plans are pursued, so keep watching the gate down as you enter or leave!

5. Wireless Internet Access in the hangar area. Still available, but you need to register.

A hangar owner has established a microwave Internet link to his hangar and is willing to continue to share it with other pilots using hangars. If you use that link (it's been un-encrypted to date) and want to continue to use it, please write to rw@cherryfarm.com with your wireless adapter MAC address and your request. Details will be available on www.fortlove.net soon as well (new website coming).

The signal is strongest on the east side of the T-hangar complex, *outside* your metal hangar, but if you set up some additional capability, it can be available inside your hangar as well. Bandwidth on the microwave link is "at a premium", so hopefully there will be enough available via wireless for those who want to register for its use.

6. Hangars for sale, rent, or wanted: (Two hangar rentals are wanted!)

I've been contacted by two pilot/airplane owners who want to rent hangars at FNL (separately). I know that some specific hangar information on the website is out of date, but you need to contact me if you want it changed (or removed!). The general contacts for hangar groups seem to be accurate! Check out www.fnlpilots.org. Mouse over "Hangars" and click the link that appears.

If you have a hangar for rent not listed on our website, contact me (Rancho210@comcast.net),

or Steve Smith, N1860W

steve@frig.net 635-1858 218-1660 Cell (Bonanza)

or Bob Stucklen, N8792X (C-182)

stucklen@g.com 667-4350.

And...if you know of changes that need to be made to the website listings, let me know!

7. FAA/AIM Change: Leave your lights and transponder ON when taxiing on an airport.

a. Lights: Section 4-3-23 (e, f, g)--Improve your visibility and declare intentions to others.

b. Xpndr: Section 4-1-20 (3)--Allow FAA ground surveillance observability while taxiing.

http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/atpubs/aim/Index.htm

Regards,

Howard Abraham (Newsletter Editor, on behalf of FNL Officers and Board. Feedback welcome!)

Treasurer: FNL Pilot Association

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