

STATE OF THE AIRPORT 2011 2012

2011 was a great year for “Team MVN”. The year saw a 66% increase in fuel sales (68,000 gallons up to 114,900 gallons), a 9% increase in aircraft operations, the opening of an 11,800 square feet hangar and ramp extension, an increase in based aircraft (including a record 10 multi-engine aircraft), and the return of Wilkey’s Airport Café.

Southern Illinois’ only FAA Certified Repair Station, SRT Aviation, conducted avionics testing on over 50 aircraft in addition to their exceptional airframe and powerplant maintenance work. The Southern Illinois Light Sport Training Academy (SILLSA), one of the few offerings in the Midwest, produced several new Light Sport Pilots - one coming from as far away as California. SILLSA opened a Jabiru Engine Facility and has rebuilt several Jabiru Engines. SILLSA hopes to expand into Rotax Engine rebuilds in 2012/2013.

Evans Aviation sold five new Expeditions, several new and used Jabirus, and many existing General Aviation types up to twin engine jets.

And FAA Designated Pilot Examiner Leland Widick continued to draw candidates seeking Sport Pilot to CFI ratings from Southern Illinois University, Vincennes University, the University of Illinois, Airgo Incorporated, and Part #61 institutions from across the tri-state region.

“Team MVN” welcomed two new members, Hertz and Kash Helicopter Services. Between the two new entities, four new jobs are present at the airport.

Mt. Vernon Outland Airport continues to be the place for aviation related events. The fly-in/drive-in/ride-in/walk-in breakfasts hosted on the first Saturday of each month by SRT Aviation/Wilkey’s Cafe, the St. Louis Women With Wings Aircraft Wash, the Plane & Pilot Midwest LSA Expo, the Annual KR Gathering, the Popular Rotorcraft Association Chapter #32 Annual Fly-In, and the 15th Annual Little Egypt Fly-In and Veterans Reunion produced thousands of visitors to the airport as well as the community. All events are scheduled and ready to go again in 2012 which also features the return of the Ercoupe Owners of America Club National Gathering in June.

And finally, Mt. Vernon Outland Airport was once again a welcoming gathering spot for the community over the previous twelve months. From large community events such as the Annual Salute to Freedom and Continental Tire of the Americas Family Picnic, to medium size events like the River City Racing Club RC Boat Races and Cross Country Meets (at the lake), and smaller offerings such as Chamber of Commerce Monthly Luncheons and YMCA activities, the airport was again held in high regard due to its offerings to the general public. The one of a kind Jefferson County Hall of Honor, Colonel R.D. White Veterans Museum (both located inside the Koziara Terminal), and newly constructed Jefferson County Heroes Memorial, provide a strong show of support for the United States Military and local Veterans.