

Dunlap Airport

February 14, 1946

AIRPORT GROWTH MOST GRATIFYING

The Dunlap Airport is well on its way to being one of Dunlap's most outstanding businesses. Recent developments, together with improvements planned for the immediate future, will make it possible to furnish citizens of the Dunlap community with the most modern transportation service available, it was announced this week by Manager J. L. "Vern" Weber.

Most recent advancement made by Weber Flying Service, operators of the airport, is the employment of a full-time flight instructor, who will be on duty each day at the airport.

Flight Instructor George McKinley, recently from Army Air Forces service, where he served as a flight training instructor, has flown in excess of 3,000 hours since 1937. His experience with the War Training Service qualifies him to instruct future fliers in all phases of training planes. He has flown 2,400 instruction hours.

Since his arrival a week ago today, Mr. McKinley has been working with approximately 12 to 15 flying students. He hopes in the near future to start night classes in flying instruction covering fundamentals of flying, navigation, radio and other subjects required for advanced licenses. There are no requirements, other than physical fitness, for securing a student license.

Weber Flying Service has been adding to its stock of planes as rapidly as they can be purchased. It is planned to keep on hand a permanent complement of two training planes, a cruiser, seating three, and a sedan, seating four passengers. This will make it possible to provide sufficient facilities for instruction and charter trips anywhere people want to travel. When the larger planes arrive it will be possible to accommodate groups of people wishing to fly together.

Weber Flying Service will also be agent for the manufacturers of the famed Piper Cub, who furnish their product in three models the two-seater trainer, the three-seater cruiser, and the four-seater sedan. Free dual flight instruction will be given the purchaser of any model, it was announced.

Less than one year old, the Dunlap Airport is already a thriving business. Owned by Pioneer Flying Service, Inc. the port is leased to Weber Flying Service an operator. Buildings constructed in the past year alone represent an investment of \$6,000. The 2,500 foot runway is large enough to accommodate a twin engine DC 3 passenger plane. The airports proximity to the town has already made Dunlap, though not yet located on any of the air maps, a favorite stopping place for transient aircraft. One of the best small-town airports in Iowa, the Dunlap airport has a bright future in the "Age of Flight" just ahead.

May 2, 1946

WEBERS BUY THE DUNLAP AIRPORT

A deal was made last week in which Peter Weber and his sons, Harvey and Vern, expect to soon become owners of the Dunlap airport.

A meeting was called of the stockholders, of which there were some 43 in number, and it was decided to sell to the Webers. The legal part of the deal is now in progress and it is hoped that it will be completed in such a manner that they might still go by the present name of Pioneer Flying Service.

Several improvements have been made on and about the field. The field itself has been made wider and work will soon commence on keeping three runways clipped short, one of them to run in a slightly northwesterly direction to be 1850 feet in length. Another will be southwest and northeast which will be about 1900 feet long. In addition to these two runways, there will also be one running full length of the field, the same direction as the field lies, to be 2980 feet long.

The road leading into the airport has been moved over next to the Illinois Central track and all the grounds around the buildings have been cleared. A fine hangar capable of housing 12 planes, and a modern shop comprise the buildings.

Vern and Harvey Weber will be in charge of the airport and besides doing some flying, they will operate a modern shop for the servicing and repairing of planes. Already their knowledge and skill in this line is becoming known to fliers for many miles around for they have already had overhauling work from more than 80 miles away. They have the only up-to-date shop between Council Bluffs, Sioux City and Des Moines. They also stock most of the parts usually needed in repairing or overhauling a plane.

Maurice Jensen, local instructor, a former instructor in the service, is kept busy with students, and his has about 17 at the present time, and is taking passengers up for rides and making charter trips.

At the present time there are 8 local planes owned by people here which is quite a record for a community like ours, and shows that the people here are certainly abreast of the times when it comes to flying. One fine thing about the airport is that it is partly inside the city limits and within easy walking distance up town. Most fields are out from a mile to three or four miles.

This community should certainly be proud of its airport and equally proud of its management and from all indications it is just starting on a most prosperous era.



July 17, 1947

AIR SHOW

Thursday
Friday
Saturday

JULY 24-5-6

Dunlap City Park

FREE
Air Show
Weber Airport--Dunlap
Thursday, Starting at 2:00 P.M.
Stunt Flying
Landing and Racing Contests

A real show waiting for you in this event featuring planes in slow rolls, snap rolls, loops, spins and thrilling, gravity-defying air stunts that are bound to excite.

We have what's new in aircraft for you featuring light planes in spot landing contests and races. You know many of these fliers. Come out and see them, bring us to the winners.

Airport Open at 1:00 P. M. for Inspection and Rides.

July 24, 1947

WEBER LEASES DUNLAP AIR FIELD TO S. HANNEMAN

New Building to be Constructed Soon

A business transaction was completed the first of this week in which Sheldon Hanneman leased the Weber Airport and took over active management of flight operations.

J. L. Weber, who had been in complete charge the past few weeks after taking over the interests of his brother, Harvey Weber, will remain at the airport in charge of maintenance and repair work.

Under the new arrangement Hanneman will be in charge of all flight instruction, chartered flights, passenger rides and other plane activities.

Plans are now going forward for the immediate construction of a new building at the airport. Mr. Hanneman said, which will house a lunch room, a classroom and office space.

Hanneman is well known in Dunlap having lived here and attended school before entering the service. Recently he has been living in Omaha but he and his family have now moved to Dunlap where they are making their home.

He comes to his new work here well qualified having been employed in Omaha by the Omaha Aircraft Co. During his years in service he piloted a dive bomber fighter plane in the European theatre. His plane was shot down over Germany when on duty and he was a prisoner of war for 13 months until he was liberated in the Bunsau drive April 30, 1945. He received his discharge from the service on December 10 of that year.

To start off activities at the airport Hanneman has called an open meeting for all pilots, students and air enthusiasts at the field Wednesday evening, July 30.

Announcement

I Have Leased The
Flight Operations
Of The
Weber Air Service



I wish to announce that I have leased the Flight Operations of the Weber Air Service and will be in charge of all flying instruction, and plane operations. All students will continue their lessons without interruption and new students will be gladly enrolled. I wish to extend a personal invitation to all air enthusiasts to drop in to get acquainted and make this your Air Headquarters. See me about special club rates on flight time.

Sheldon Hanneman

You're Invited to A
Special Meeting
At the
Airport
Wednesday Evening
July 30--8 p.m.

We will hold a special meeting at the airport for all pilots, students and air enthusiasts. Come down and see what we have in store for you.

Available At All Times...
Private Flight Instruction
Chartered Plane Trips
Passenger Rides
Hangar Space
Plane Repair Service

Dunlap Flying Service

Sheldon Hanneman, Flight Operations Phone 256 J. L. Weber, Maintenance

December 9, 1948

Santa Will Visit Dunlap Youngsters Via Air Dec. 23

Lions Plan Treats and Free Picture Shows

Santa Claus has Dunlap on his list for pre-Christmas calls it was announced this week by the Dunlap Lions club who are instrumental in bringing him to town.

He will arrive in town by airplane about 1:30 Thursday afternoon, Dec. 23, it was rumored. According to present plans his airplane will set down at the Weber Airport early that afternoon. He will be met by a sleigh, or car, if there is no snow, and transported uptown. Youngsters and their parents are invited to be at the airport and witness his arrival.

Tentative plans are to bring Santa to the Christmas tree on main street where he will have treats for all the kiddies who are on hand to greet him. Following that the youngsters will be entertained at free shows at both theaters during the afternoon. More definite announcements will be made next week.

September 11, 1947

DUNLAP AIRPORT APPROVED FOR G. I. TRAINING

Veterans Can-Fly Free Under Federal Program

The Dunlap airport under the management of Sheldon Hanneman has now been designated as flight training center under the G. I. bill of rights program sponsored by the government.

Final approval came Wednesday of last week when Harry Tressell and a Mr. Cannon, federal inspectors from Des Moines, were in Dunlap to give final okay to the field. Following their inspection that day the field was approved as an auxiliary unit.

Manager Hanneman said this meant that any veteran, whether man or woman, is eligible for free flight training. All that is necessary, he said, is that the G. I. get a medical okay from his doctor and bring his discharge or a copy down to the airport. From that time on, he said, it is just a matter of routine procedure until the veteran can start flight training. There are no special tests or examinations to be passed.

The appointment of the field here marks the first one in Harrison county to receive government approval for the training program. To date, no field in Crawford county has received such approval. Hanneman said, though there are some in Carroll and Shelby counties.

As part of the improvement in the facilities at the field to pass final inspection, a cement floor is being laid in the hangar and runway markers have been made and put in place.

Source: The Dunlap Reporter

July 24, 1947

NINE PLANES GO ON BOOSTER TRIP FOR CARNIVAL

Nine Ships Take Off Only Eight Return

Something new was inaugurated in Dunlap when a cavalcade of planes took to the air to advertise the Dunlap Lions carnival and air show.

The air show, first event on the program for opening day, starts at 2 o'clock today (Thursday) followed by stage shows at the Dunlap City park Thursday and Friday evenings at 8 o'clock.

The air show and stage attractions are free events provided by the Lions club in connection with the Davis Carnival company which is located at the park this week.

Clyde Michaels of Council Bluffs will do stunt flying in a Stearman plane over the Dunlap airport and a representative from the Lang Flying service will also demonstrate aerobatics in a Luscombe plane.

Prize events for local, experienced and amateur airmen are also scheduled calling for races and spot landings. Fourteen separate stage acts are being provided at the park during the two evenings.

Plan Air Tour
When volunteers for a booster trip were light the Lions decided to advertise their air show and carnival by air. A public address system installed in one plane did the announcing while advertising bills were dropped over surrounding towns.

Fourteen towns were visited via the air route including: Defiance, Earlring, Panama, Fortsnouth, Woodville, Logan, Magnolia, Pugh, Moorhead, Soldier, Ute, Charter Oak, Denison and Dow City.

Nine planes started out in the air armada to put the bills on the surrounding communities, but only eight returned.