

**Whitewater Aviation** leases the airport and strives to bring in businesses and new homeowners to increase tax revenue and support our growing population. We are in a great position to do just that with the airport and aviation. Pilots are flying in clients that have interest in growing our communities.



TN DoT 2019 Aviation Impact Study analyzed the economic impact of Martin Campbell Field and found the **airport contributes \$431,000 to the local economy annually, including** an estimated \$405K on-airport impacts (jobs, construction, business tenants) and \$26K visitor spending impacts (not including real estate)



## Whitewater Aviation

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Don Campbell, youngest of the 4 Campbell Brothers.



Two brothers, Kim and Martin Campbell built their Heathcraft airplane in the late '30's. They flew out of McCaysville's "Picking in the Park." One day, their father came home to see them taking off under the power lines. He stopped them and was able to get the "Copper Company" to obtain deeded land for an airport. He then procured a bulldozer and plowed a short runway for his sons.

Kim and Martin went on to fly in WWII as bomber pilots. Martin died in 1945 as a result of a mid-air collision.

The current runway and the community hangar were built in 1965. The airport was renamed after Martin. It was an active airport for a while, but slowed and was dormant when in 2007 we saw an opportunity to turn it around to be an active transportation hub for our county.

**When we arrived, we began working with TN DoT to secure federal and state grants to bring the airport up to FAA standards.**

**We refurbished the main hangar and then added two rows of T-hangars.** Large hangars for light twins and standard-sized hangars for single engine aircraft.

**We installed a 10,000 gallon, 100LL fuel tank,** with a state of the art self-service dispenser and we strive to maintain the lowest fuel prices around!

**For pilot safety, we repaired the runway lights, added pilot-control, and received another grant to install runway approach lights.** All energy-saving LEDs.

We also have **rental cars** available on the field; as a concierge service for Enterprise.

Flying Wolf Aviation, certified and licensed for **aircraft repair**, serves the field. Now, customers can come to Polk County to vacation AND get their annual aircraft certification completed.

**About our President:** Hans van Ovost has over 30 years fixed base operation experience. He started at Fort Pierce, Florida municipal airport when it was just another non-towered airport without facilities.

Through Hans' efforts, it has become Treasure Coast International Airport (FPR), a major business and transportation hub which has brought new businesses to the local area and increased the revenue of St. Lucie County.

**The Overhill Country** is a powerful tonic in more ways than moonshine. The same sparkling creeks that make great whiskey also prove perfect for white water rafting. Dozens of outfitters arrange trips on kayaks, canoes, rafts and tubes. The Ocoee, site of the 1996 Olympic Kayak Championships draws expert and amateur white water enthusiasts from around the world. A rafting excursion on the Ocoee, under a brilliant sun, through the exposed rock faces of eroded mountains is of the film "Deliverance" without the catastrophes. The locals are quite hospitable and certainly civilized.

For nature-lovers, state parks beckon for hiking, bird-watching, camping and fishing. Although the Tennessee Valley Authority owns all the water, the fishing in the Tennessee River Gorge belongs to everyone. Fishing draws sportsmen from around the south to stay in the "resorts" that line the lake. Clean, comfortable accommodations and good country cooking make these little camps, called "resorts" by the locals, perfect for quiet family getaways. If you've ever sung along to the rollicking country song, "Nickajack Lake", you're in the right place to make your own luck above Nickajack Dam.

From Atlanta, Overhill Country is about a two hour drive (or quite less for your aircraft) to take you back a century or two...to a time before television when a free people made creative use of their free time. And the magic they made, can still be heard, felt and tasted in Southeast Tennessee.

So, what's your pleasure? Whitewater rafting? ZipLine? Biking? Horseback riding? Fishing? Camping? Hiking? Hunting? Kayaking? Shopping? Train tours in the mountains?

So many things to see and do in our Copper Basin!



Polk County Chamber of Commerce website:

<https://ocoeecountry.com/>

