

Summer 2024 Newsletter



FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- **Renter's Insurance Policy Reminder:** If you are rated to fly the aircraft, please remember that a renter's insurance policy is mandatory. We cannot dispatch the aircraft unless the policy is on file. This requirement also extends to safety pilots and any buddies you take flying. If they touch the controls, they must have insurance. Remember, as per your rental agreement, you are the Pilot in Command (PIC) at all times. Please ensure you adhere to these guidelines to maintain safety and compliance.
- **Reservation Changes:** If you need to cancel or adjust your reservation, please contact the office by phone or email. As our staff members occasionally take random days off, it's important not to contact them directly to ensure your changes are properly managed.
- **Door Safety:** Please ensure that all aircraft doors are securely closed when not in use, even when you're just moving the planes around. During pre-flight checks, keep the doors closed as well. We've been experiencing too many door-related issues that could easily be avoided by simply shutting the door when it's not in use.
- **Weather Briefing:** Always get a full weather briefing before your flight. As the saying goes, "It's better to be on the ground wishing you were in the air than in the air wishing you were on the ground." Contact a weather briefer at 1-800-WXBrief and discuss your flight plans thoroughly. Don't push the limits. While it's important to learn how to navigate Northern Nevada's conditions, if you find yourself as the only plane in the sky that day, you might not have fully assessed the weather. Stay safe and make wise decisions—there's no room for ego in flying.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The time is here! Women in Aviation International (WAI) have officially opened up their scholarship window! Navigate to the following website to look at what scholarships they have available and how to apply! Scholarship applications are due by **October 11th, 2024**

- <https://www.wai.org/scholarships>



ACHIEVEMENTS

- Rob Schuermann - Solo
- Pablo Stein - CPL
- Scott Dunning - PPL
- Andrew Spanier - CFII
- Chris Pozarski - Solo
- Couper Ross - Solo
- Court Salman - PPL
- Eric Harned - CFII
- Bryson Gay - Solo
- Colin Powell - CPL
- Greg Anthenien - CPL
- Charles Burrow - CFI
- Tim Adams - PPL
- Tristan Bautista - Solo
- Scott Grady - PPL
- Levi Pence - Solo
- Makaela Wallace - PPL
- Shane McAlister - CPL
- Preston Parrish - CFI
- Andy Glenn - PPL
- Nathan Sargent - IPR
- Melissa Drapala - PPL
- Tate Neubecker - CFII
- Ava Armen - Solo
- Seth Ruff - Solo
- Grant White - PPL
- Brian Goodall - Solo
- Lukas Burton - PPL
- Derrick Craine - PPL
- Kieran Winter - Solo
- Tommy Kelly - PPL
- Kiera Grange - Solo
- Kevin Linderman - PPL
- Jennifer Carey - PPL
- Sanddon Sherwood-Kopko - IPR
- Tristan Bautista - PPL
- Avery Redmon - Solo
- Justin Fulton - PPL
- Louize Borrás - Solo
- Zachary Wilson - Solo
- Cory Kleidosty - CFI
- Cody Sbranti - PPL
- Ian Barry - PPL
- Couper Ross - PPL
- Blair McLeod - PPL
- Maks Barger - Solo
- Jason Dorn - Solo



GET TO KNOW FELLOW GBA PILOT, GREG ANTHENIEN!

Oh hey, my name is Greg Anthenien. I am 35 years old, from South Lake Tahoe and I have been flying for about 2 and a half years. I am currently a commercial pilot and I am currently working towards my CFI. All of my flight training has been at Great Basin Aviation and I love it. I was a biologist working with the National Park Service and Forest Service for about 13 years. I worked with everything from sea turtles to giant sequoia trees and I loved that too. As much as I love being a biologist and working out in nature, I have always

wanted to fly and see the world from above. Flying always seemed like some sort of unattainable goal to me and unfortunately, I didn't pursue it for a long time. However, during the corona virus pandemic, I decided it was time for something new. It was time to learn to fly. I called GBA, talked to Hailey over the phone, and she convinced me to take a discovery flight. Here I am now, working on my CFI. At first I wasn't sure I was going to do more than get my PPL and maybe instrument rating. I thought it might be a little late in life for a career change, but then I continued on to get my CPL. Now I am working to be a CFI and I know that flying is something I want to keep doing for as long as I can. I am hoping to make it to the airlines one day. Everytime I fly, I love it more than before. I am thankful to everyone at GBA, all my instructors and all the staff who work there. Everyone has been very helpful and supportive throughout my training. I am thankful for my family for supporting me through this. It has been a dream to learn to fly and I am excited to see where it takes me.



INSTRUCTOR SPOTLIGHT: JAMES MORGAN

James has always had a passion for planes, helicopters, and anything else that flies. Naturally, he chose a career in aviation. He began his flight training at Great Basin and never looked back, progressing from zero to hero. Balancing his studies and his job at Alaska Airlines on the commercial side of the airport, James is thoroughly immersed in the aviation world. In his free time, he enjoys snowboarding, golfing, camping, and hiking with his wife and two dogs.

FROM THE THRONE

Celebrating Nearly 7 Years of Success: A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Students

Jenn Fonda

As we approach our seventh anniversary, we at Great Basin Aviation want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you—our valued students and renters. Your trust, passion, and commitment have been the driving force behind our success, and we cannot thank you enough for helping us reach this significant milestone.

Running a small business in the aviation industry is no small feat, but thanks to your unwavering support, Great Basin Aviation has grown and thrived in ways we could have only dreamed of. Whether you're a student who took your very first flight lesson with us, or a seasoned pilot who rents our aircraft to keep your skills sharp, your involvement in our community has been integral to our journey.

Over the past seven years, we've had the privilege of watching our students achieve their dreams—earning their wings, advancing their certifications, and becoming confident pilots. It's been an honor to be part of your aviation journey, and we take great pride in knowing that we've played a role in helping you reach your goals.

To our renters, your continued partnership has been essential in keeping our fleet active and our community vibrant. Your dedication to maintaining high standards and your enthusiasm for flight are what make Great Basin Aviation a hub for learning and adventure.

As we look back on nearly seven years of growth, learning, and community building, we are reminded of how far we've come and how much further we can go. We are excited about the future and committed to continuing to provide the best possible experience for all of our students and renters.

Once again, thank you for being part of the Great Basin Aviation family. We couldn't have done it without you, and we look forward to flying with you for many more years to come.

Here's to seven years of success—and many more to follow!

EVERYDAY IS AN INTERVIEW

RICHARD BRONG

In aviation, as in much of life, impressions matter. For better or worse, we humans size each other up quickly. While it is prudent to explore an individual's character, talents, and skills before making a professional go / no-go decision, it is still often difficult to get beyond that first impression. Many aspiring professional pilots look at things such as flight instructing, for example, as a legitimate means to help them get the coveted 1500 hours needed for an ATP certificate. However, with a profession as important as flight instructing, many don't take the weight of what they're doing into account until they arrive at the certificate. Then, if their journey to that point was filled with unprofessionalism and lack of insight into the endeavor, they are surprised when they get turned down in an interview. Every day is an interview.

By that statement, I mean to imply that your professional aviation journey may not be known in its entirety from day one but the end goal should be somewhat solidified before you even start; at least your trajectory should be clear. To that, the required dedication, professionalism, and maturity needs to be in place well before you even start to develop your aviator skills. As a person who contracts with our instructor pool, I cannot tell you how many interested instructors come my way fresh from CFI school with chests puffed out and the assumption that they will just walk on the line and start letting someone else pay for their flight experience while hopefully making a few bucks. Wrong attitude! Aviation doesn't owe anything to anyone. On the contrary, each and every flight you take should be made as if you have a couple hundred people sitting behind you as passengers. You owe it to the profession!

The impressions made along the way count each and every day. When I was still in the science classroom, I used to talk to certain challenging students and tell them about the "book of their lives" they write each day as they go through life. Every single thing someone does or says enters a page in that book. Unfortunately, though, the book cannot be edited. Once the page is written, it is permanent. Lucky for us, we can edit what gets put onto the page before we write it because we have a brain and should use it to preflight brief what we say and do! It's important to keep a humble heart in this industry. Confidence is important, too, but arrogance is not. Graciousness works. Entitlement, not so much. Challenge yourself fully, embrace your successes and your failures, and give more than you receive. Write the aviation chapter of your book like you want it to become a best seller! Then, when you do seek out those aviation gigs... you get the point. Every day is an interview.

GBA IN THE COMMUNITY

Young Aviator Boot Camp: A Week of Epic Aviation Action!

Great Basin Aviation's First Young Aviator Boot Camp wrapped up in July and it was nothing short of legendary! Our future pilots hit the ground running, diving into aviation history, mastering the parts of a plane, and getting hands-on with aerodynamics, pre-flighting, and radio comms. They even scored a behind-the-scenes tour at Atlantic Aviation and an exclusive visit to the Reno ATC tower, where they got a firsthand look at air traffic control in action.

The action didn't stop there—our young aviators took to the skies, navigated different airspaces, and explored the inner workings of the airport during an exclusive tour put on by the airport. They rolled up their sleeves for engine maintenance, decoded METARs, and learned to handle aviation weather like pros. They wrapped up with inspiring talks from airline pros, an epic panel on airport ops, TSA, military aviation, and their final flights.

We're blown away by the grit and passion these students brought to the table. Huge shoutout to Reno Tahoe International Airport, Reno ATC, Atlantic Aviation, and our awesome guest speakers for making this week unforgettable.



GBA Summer Intern: Madisyn Coy, "Barnacle"

If you missed the wonderful Maddie Coy this summer, you truly missed out on a real treat! This amazing young lady made the journey all the way from her small town in Maine to spend her summer with us at GBA. Whether she was washing bugs off planes, organizing folders, or indulging in her Starbucks and orange cake pops, Maddie brought endless joy and laughter to our team! We loved hearing all about small town life, her take on the dating pool, the secrets she keeps from her parents, her "good" music, and her plan to get college paid for... don't ask. Now, she's off to start her senior year and continue her work as a CNA at a retirement home in Northern Maine. We're going to miss her big time!

Career Nights

We recently hosted two incredible Career Nights featuring representatives from major airlines, regional carriers, and private jet aviation. Our students had the unique opportunity to learn firsthand about the diverse career paths available in the aviation industry. These events provided invaluable insights, helping our aspiring pilots understand the various options and plan their future careers with confidence. We're proud to offer these opportunities to our flight school students, empowering them to soar to new heights!

