

THE HOLD SHORT

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18 JAN - 24 JAN

TRAFFIC! TRAFFIC!

You've all been there. The all too familiar "non-towered airport". These important airports in our national system often get referred to as "uncontrolled" airport but remember they are anything but. True, there won't be a tower controller telling you what to do as you get set up for landing but they are, certainly, controlled - by you and the other pilots that use them!

Remember that the best practice of when to make your first call up to a non-towered airport is when ten miles out. That call can simply be something along the lines of "XYZ traffic, Skyhawk, 1234, ten miles to the west, 7,500, to land XYZ." Before that first call, you should have already listened to the AWOS and have a good idea of what runway you'll be using. It's also smart to listen to traffic and determine what runway they are using then follow the leader. As you get closer, make another call at five miles with your position again and, this time, add how you intend to enter the pattern. "Will enter on the 45 to left downwind runway 08" or "will overfly midfield and enter right downwind for 26". You know the drill. Then, at about 2-3 miles, start making the standard pattern calls - downwind, base, final.

Two important things to consider, also. Here, we often are on with ATC until less than ten miles from our destination. No big deal. Just make the calls as soon as you are able. Just remember, when you can make the calls early, it's best to do so. The other thing is to talk with other pilots in the pattern! No, it isn't necessary to ask what they had for breakfast, but think about how tower controllers at KRNO notify you of traffic here. At non-towered airports, it is very helpful to let other traffic know you do or do not have them in sight. Rely on your eyes out the window, not your technology. Remember that at non-towered airports, not everyone has ADSB or even a radio!

Take the time to practice smooth entry and exit from non-towered traffic patterns. Review Chapter 8 in the Airplane Flying Handbook for the long and detailed version of airport traffic patterns!

REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- Watch for wing covers and frost. **DO NOT** put the flaps down with the wing covers on.
- In the event of frost formation on your aircraft, you and your CFI will be put to work in helping remove it. Please make sure you have a line technician or a CFI helping you with frost removal. Teamwork is crucial here!
- **Please pay attention to your parking at the end of the day.** A parking map will be posted on top of the locker. If you have questions interpreting the map, please let me know and I'll answer your questions.
- **Please report any anomalies before flying** and any issues or damage immediately after the flight to ensure safety and airworthiness.

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GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT



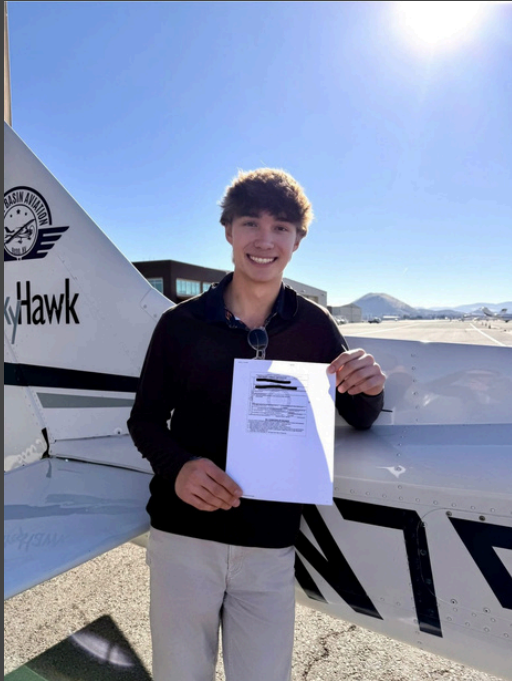
TAYLOR BROWNING – PRIVATE

Taylor Browning is officially flying high—literally! Fresh off earning his private pilot's license, this Lyon County firefighter-paramedic has taken his passion for adventure to new altitudes. Now, in addition to saving lives on the ground, he's navigating the skies with style and precision. Earning his wings is no small feat, and Taylor is soaring with the same drive and determination that fuels his firefighting career. When he's not in the cockpit, Taylor's carving up the slopes on his skis or cruising through life in his RV, proving that his love for adventure doesn't have any limits—whether it's on land or in the air. Whether he's piloting a plane, skiing down a mountain, or navigating the open road, Taylor's got one speed: full throttle. A huge congratulations to Taylor for reaching this incredible milestone, and a special shout-out to his CFI, Eric Harned, for helping him reach new heights. Here's to always aiming higher, both on the ground and in the sky!

If there's one thing we've learned about Brendan Gomez during his training, it's that he's the human embodiment of a golden retriever — adventurous, cheerful, and always up for a good time. Whether it's going on spontaneous adventures, soaking up the sunshine, or perfecting the art of making breakfast (he's a waffle connoisseur, after all), Brendan brings an undeniable energy to everything he does. Today, we're thrilled to announce that Brendan has officially earned his private pilot license! While his easygoing nature may suggest otherwise, Brendan worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this achievement possible. From mastering the nuances of flight maneuvers to staying sharp during ground lessons, his commitment to becoming a skilled and confident pilot has been inspiring to witness. Let's give Brendan and his flight instructor, Eric Harned, who helped Brendan every step of the way a huge congratulations on this incredible accomplishment! Brendan, the sky is all yours now. We can't wait to see where your adventurous spirit takes you next. Congratulations!



BRENDAN GOMEZ – PRIVATE



**ZEUS WESLEY—
PRIVATE**

Today, the skies bowed once again to the thunderous talent of Zeus Wesley, who has officially earned his private pilot license! Like the Greek god Zeus, known for commanding the heavens, Zeus Wesley has proven himself a master of the skies. His journey to this milestone has been nothing short of legendary, marked by determination, hard work, and of course the incredible support of the Reno Air Race Association scholarship. Balancing school, flight training, and personal life is no small feat, but Zeus tackled each challenge with the grace of a true Olympian. From mastering the written exam to skillfully flying the airplane, he has shown unwavering dedication to his craft. With every flight, Zeus has harnessed the power of the winds, earning his place among the aviation elite. A thunderous congratulations goes out to Zeus and his flight instructor, Shane Smith, whose expert guidance has been instrumental in shaping this exceptional pilot. As Zeus soars into this new chapter, the horizon holds endless possibilities for him. Let's give a sky-high round of applause to this incredible achievement—Zeus Wesley, pilot of the heavens, is officially ready to rule the skies!