

# THE HOLD SHORT

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25 MAY - 31 MAY

## MAINTAINING SITUATIONAL AWARENESS IN THE FLIGHT PRACTICE AREAS

At Great Basin Aviation, the safety and success of our students and pilots are our top priorities. One of the key components to achieving this is maintaining excellent situational awareness, especially in our flight practice areas. Here are some essential tips to ensure you're always aware and prepared during your flights.

1. Stay Vigilant in the Practice Areas- When flying in practice areas, it's crucial to maintain a high level of situational awareness. Continuously scan for other aircraft, both visually and on your instruments, and keep an ear on the radio for any relevant communications. Remember, practice areas become busy, and staying alert is your best defense against potential conflicts.
2. Monitor Adjacent Airports - Situational awareness extends beyond just your immediate vicinity. Be mindful of adjacent airports and their traffic patterns. Monitoring their frequencies can provide valuable information about traffic that may be transitioning into or out of your practice area. This is particularly important for nearby airports with significant traffic, as their traffic can unexpectedly enter your practice space.
3. Communicate Clearly - Effective communication is key to maintaining situational awareness. Always make clear, concise radio calls and listen attentively to other pilots. Announce your position, intentions, and movements accurately to ensure others in the area are aware of your presence and plans.
4. Use Your Instruments - Leverage all available technology to enhance your situational awareness. Use your transponder, ADS-B, and any onboard traffic information systems to keep track of other aircraft. These tools are valuable in helping you maintain a clear picture of the traffic around you.
5. Stay Flexible - Even with the best planning, unexpected situations can arise. Stay flexible and be ready to adjust your flight plan as necessary to maintain safe separation from other traffic. Always have an alternate plan in case your intended practice area becomes too congested.

By staying vigilant, communicating effectively, and using all available resources, you can maintain excellent situational awareness and ensure a safe, productive flight in the practice areas. Let's all do our part to keep the skies safe and clear.

## REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- If you would like to be part of the Study Group or Pilot Sharing What's Apps, please contact the office and we will add you.
- Airline Pilot Info Gathering will be on Friday, June 28th. RSVP to [goflying@greatbasinaviation.com](mailto:goflying@greatbasinaviation.com)



## SCOTT DUNNING – PRIVATE PILOT

Scott Dunning is a Private Pilot! Scott's journey to becoming a private pilot has been nothing short of inspiring. Today, he took off into the afternoon heat, determined to show the examiner he knew his stuff. A thermal here, some crazy winds there...no big deal. Scott's got those private pilot skills! He's managed to juggle full-time (+) work and dad duties while soaring through his flight training. As we mentioned in his last write-up, Scott is no stranger to traveling. But now, instead of buying a ticket, waiting at security, sitting next to the "talker," and enduring someone kicking his seat from behind, he can fly himself! No more airplane peanuts and cramped seats for Scott! Even though he's already finished ground school for his Instrument Rating and is eager to get going, he's taking a well-deserved moment to breathe, celebrate with his family, and maybe even enjoy a flight where he does not need an endorsement. Keep an eye out – you might see his name in the Pilot Connect group soon! Huge congratulations to Scott on his well-earned achievement. Awesome job as well to his CFI, Grant Muzzio!

Congratulations to Andrew Spanier on earning his CFII! Andrew, our instructor with the perfect locks, now has an extra fancy acronym on his business cards! Not too bad for a flight instructor by day and accountant by night. If you've attended the Monday night study groups he leads, you already know and love (or kinda like) him – and if you haven't, you're missing out on some top-notch aviation wisdom (and probably some excel spreadsheet tips). Andrew has been with Great Basin Aviation from the beginning, and his story is one of determination and perseverance. He was working full-time as an accountant, helping out on the line on weekends, and leaving some DNA on a flap edge, he was here any free moment he had. And look at him now – living the aviation dream, teaching all of you, whether it be in ground or flight, and looking good while doing it! His story inspires us all, proving that with hard work and passion, you can truly soar to new heights. Huge shoutout to Andrew and a big thanks to his CFII, Richard Brong, for helping him achieve this milestone. We can't wait to see what's next for Andrew – maybe another acronym or two?



## ANDREW SPANIER – CFII

# HAILEY SPIRIT WEEK!

*Monday,*  
June 3rd

## Pajama Day



*Tuesday,*  
June 4th

## Crazy Sock DAY



*Wednesday,*  
June 5th

## Hat Day



*Thursday,*  
June 6th

## DUNDER MIFFLIN DAY

The  
Office



*Friday,*  
June 7th

## PATRIOTIC DAY!

