

THE HOLD SHORT

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6SEP - 12SEP

PATTERN ENTRIES: PATIENCE, PICTURE, AND THE PROPER 45

Pattern entries look simple on paper and get messy in the wild, which is why our mantra stands: be patient, think outside the box, keep your eyes moving, analyze the scenario, and communicate early. We're correcting a trend we've seen lately, pilots overflying the runway, then "circling back" for the 45 to downwind way too tight to the pattern. A recent flight track from a GA aircraft out at KRTS was a near miss: the pilot turned inside the flow with the belly to the downwind traffic coming right at them. That picture is dangerous, and it's fixable.

If you choose to overfly and circle back to enter the downwind, build space first. Overfly midfield with appropriate vertical separation (minimum of 500 feet above pattern but more is fine also), then continue straight ahead and extend 2-3 NM before turning back. Use the GPS if you need to help with the distance. Then, re-enter on a true 45° to midfield downwind, not a quick hook inside the pattern. Aim at the middle and announce! At Stead, the crop circles are about three miles north of the airport make an ideal spacing reference, go out there, slow down, set up the picture, and then join. In Carson, it is "C" hill. Call your plan early and clearly on CTAF (e.g., "Crossing midfield, extending north three miles to re-enter on the 45 to left downwind Runway __," followed later by "Three north, 45 to left downwind Runway __"). Also remember that sometimes direct-to-downwind is the better choice. If the overhead is busy or the 45 will wedge you into traffic, don't force it, take the clean, visible intercept to downwind and brief it on the radio. Cross at pattern altitude when you are going to enter direct to downwind. Whatever the entry, keep the pattern in sight and choose the turn that doesn't hide traffic under your wing. Communicate well and report when other traffic is in sight! If spacing isn't working, fix it outside the flow with an extension or a 360 away from traffic, not with tight pivot turns inside the stream.

Bottom line: slow down, buy yourself time, and make your plan obvious to everyone around you. Predictable beats precise-but-rushed every time. Build the space (2-3 NM), aim for midfield on a proper 45 when appropriate, communicate like a pro, and choose the entry that's safest for today's picture.

REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- Need some study buddies? Don't forget about Private Pilot Study Groups on the 1st and 3rd Monday, 6pm-8pm. Instrument Ground School help, those will be the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6pm-8pm.
- **Check out the new time logs in the binders. Renters and/or CFI need to sign that the post flight checklist is completed.**
- **Get ready to elevate your aviation skills with our upcoming in-house, lecture-based Instrument Ground School classes, led by the phenomenal CFI/CFII, Bob Bennett! Here are the details: Dates: October 14 - November 20 (6 weeks), Every Tuesday and Thursday night, 6pm-9pm. Cost: \$500 (includes books). Location: Atlantic Aviation. Requirements: Basic Foreflight subscription for electronic charts Space is limited, so don't delay! Reach out ASAP to the GBA office (775-856-3655, goflying@greatbasinaviation.com) to secure your spot as enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis.**



TROY COOK- PRIVATE

Huge congratulations to Troy Cook on earning his Private Pilot License today! This is a huge milestone and a true testament to Troy's dedication, persistence, and willingness to put in the hard work to achieve his goals. This accomplishment reflects months of discipline and determination, a challenge Troy is used to as a business owner himself.

Outside the cockpit, Troy is a man of many skills, from blacksmithing, carpentry, welding, and commercial fishing to truck driving and ski coaching. He's not afraid to get his hands dirty, and he brings that same grit and determination to everything he does. He's also an explorer at heart, always chasing the thrill of seeing new sights. Whether it's from the cockpit, on skis, a snowmobile, or out on a hiking trail, Troy lives for the adventure. As a business owner and now a licensed pilot, Troy continues to prove that hard work and adventure go hand in hand, and that the sky is only the beginning.

Troy's journey proves that with hard work, a love for adventure, and the courage to take on new challenges, the sky truly has no limits. A special shoutout as well to his CFI, Lucas Murphy, for guiding him on this journey and helping him reach this achievement! Every great pilot has a great teacher behind them, and today they both share in this achievement. Congratulations again, Troy, the sky is yours!!

Congratulations to Jeremy Ellison, Reno's newest Private Pilot! For months, we thought Jeremy was a ghost. Why? Because we never saw him but the plane flew. While the rest of us were still fumbling for coffee and unlocking the office, Jeremy had already been here, grinding away at his training before heading off to tackle work and family life. Turns out he wasn't invisible, he was just outworking the rest of us.

Balancing flight training is tough. Balancing flight training while being a dedicated dad and professional? That takes a whole different level of discipline. Jeremy showed us all how it's done: he carved out the time, showed up prepared, and made every lesson count.

Now, let's not overlook his questionable taste in pizza toppings. Yes, Jeremy is that guy who proudly orders pineapple on his pizza (🍍) And while we'll save the "hot fruit debate" for another time, one thing's for sure, his work ethic is just as bold as his menu choices.

Jeremy's story is proof that if you want something badly enough, you don't make excuses, you make it happen. All while staying humble, coachable, and focused on what matters. Major kudos also to his CFI James Morgan for being the steady hand guiding him through this journey.

Jeremy, we're proud of you. Your kids have a dad who just proved what determination looks like. Way to go, Private Pilot Ellison!



JEREMY ELLISON- PRIVATE



**JACOB HULSIZER—
INSTRUMENT**

Big congratulations to Jacob Hulsizer on passing his Instrument Rating checkride! Jacob continues to prove that hard work and discipline pay off, whether in the air or on the ground. If you know Jacob, you know he's never one to do things halfway. From the moment he started training, he's brought his trademark energy and determination into every lesson. Outside of flying, he keeps busy with fishing, snowboarding, and following his favorite team, the Chargers. As a die-hard Chargers fan, Jacob knows how to "bolt" through challenges, "charge" into new opportunities, and keep his eye on the end zone. Just like his team, he's powered up for success and ready to take on any IFR conditions that come his way.

We're proud of Jacob's work ethic, dedication, and passion for flying. His determination, enthusiasm, and love for chasing his dreams set him apart, and we can't wait to see where he'll go from here. This milestone is just another step toward an exciting future in aviation. We also want to congratulate Andrew Spanier, Jacob's CFI, for successfully guiding him through this journey.

Critical Hit: Josh Gilmore Levels Up to Commercial Pilot! Roll initiative for applause, because Josh Gilmore just completed the ultimate boss battle, the commercial checkride, and scored a Nat 20. Our line-tech extraordinaries (keeper of the ramp, vanquisher of belly grime, and occasional caster of the Golf Cart Donut spell) proved he's not just a pretty face sprinting across the flight line, he's a bona fide Commercial Aviator.

Here's the part the whole party already knows: Josh is the teammate you always want in your adventuring group, steady hands, quiet leadership, and clutch saves when the quest gets weird. He's the first to pick up a side quest, the last to leave the dungeon, and the one who keeps morale high with equal parts humility and humor. That same character showed up in the cockpit: ACS maneuvers like well-timed spell slots, communication that would make any tower bard sing, and professionalism that rolls a reliable 20 every time.

By day, Josh is the Ranger of Refuel and Paladin of Pavement, herding arrivals, dispatching departures, and keeping the realm (ahem, ramp) lawful and orderly. When the quest marker lit up, he swapped chocks for checklists and crushed the commercial, chandelles, lazy eights, and a power-off 180 right on the treasure tile. Consider this an official multi-class: Line Tech → Commercial Pilot. Same hustle, new proficiency bonus. A huge well played to his party wizard, CFI Greg Anthenien, for masterfully DM'ing the campaign and guiding our hero through every trap, trial, and turbulence hex.

Raise your d20s (and maybe a donut) for Josh. He's proof that when you prep like a pro, keep your party tight, and stay humble, you level up, and make the whole guild better while you do it. Onward to the next quest! 🍀



**JOSH GILMORE—
COMMERICAL**

D**6SEP - 12SEP**

GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT



MONK WENT FLYING!

Monk went flying!! ✈️ That's right, after decades of helping build the world from the ground up, we finally got Monk off the ground accompanied by Chief CFI Richard. If you haven't had the privilege of meeting him, Monk is in our office every Thursday from noon to 4pm. He's a retired engineer who literally left his fingerprints on America. From Boeing facilities, iconic LA hotels, 1/2 of San Francisco, and even the original Reno MGM. This guy knows steel! He's also a huge community volunteer, a U.S. Marine and a Vietnam Veteran, a man whose lifelong commitment to service continues to inspire. Monk has been both an Honor Flight honoree and an escort, honoring his brothers and sisters in arms while keeping their stories alive.

These days, Monk channels that same grit and passion into aviation. Seeing him take flight is just another reminder that you're never too seasoned to chase new adventures. Stop in on a Thursday to say hi, but fair warning: stick around too long and you might find yourself roped into helping him with his ground school.

Here's to Monk! Proof that legends don't just stay on the ground, they take to the skies. 🇺🇸

Next up, we get Noreen airborne 🙄 She just does not know it yet.

**CHECK OUT INFORMATION ABOUT
UPCOMING GROUND SCHOOL SUPPLEMENT
COURSES ON THE NEXT PAGE!**

**First class on September 20th
held 1pm-3pm**

GROUND SCHOOL SUPPLEMENT COURSES



**\$50 PER
CLASS (2HRS)**
INSTRUCTOR WILL SIGN
OFF TRAINING IN YOUR
LOGBOOK

SEPTEMBER

9/20 - AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

The Aircraft Systems class teaches how key systems, engine, electrical, fuel, and control function, preparing you to identify and manage potential issues for safer flight.



10/04 - AERODYNAMICS

This class covers how these planes fly: lift, drag, thrust, and weight, helping you understand airflow, stability, stalls, and maneuvering for better control and efficiency in flight.

10/18 - AVIATION WEATHER

This class teaches you how to interpret METARs, TAFs, charts, and weather patterns, helping you make informed decisions for safer flight planning and in-flight adjustments.

OCTOBER

11/01 - AIRSPACE

This class covers airspace classes, chart recognition, communication and equipment requirements, plus the weather minimums every pilot needs to know.

NOVEMBER 11/15 - CHARTS AND FLIGHT PLANNING

This class helps you master sectionals, airspace, and chart symbols, ensuring you can navigate safely and efficiently in all flight environments. This class will also cover route selection, fuel calculations, airspace considerations, and weather analysis, ensuring you can plan safe, efficient, and well-prepared flights.



12/06 - EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

This class prepares you to handle engine failures, system malfunctions, lost communications, and in-flight emergencies, ensuring quick thinking and confident decision-making in critical situations.

12/20 - CHECKRIDE PREP

This class helps you master oral exam questions, flight maneuvers, and scenario-based decision-making, ensuring you are confident and well-prepared for your checkride.

DECEMBER



MORE INFO:

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