

THE HOLD SHORT

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13SEP - 19SEP

WHY COMMUNITY MAKES BETTER PILOTS

Flying isn't meant to be a solo sport, even when you're the only one in the cockpit. The fastest way to grow skills (and keep them) is to plug into a community that studies together, flies together, and holds each other to a higher standard. Community turns "I think" into "I know," nerves into reps, and questions into checklists you can trust. When you learn alongside other pilots, you get more than tips and tricks. You get accountability ("did you brief the NOTAMs?"), perspective ("here's how I flew that crosswind"), and the kind of hangar-talk that actually makes you safer (debriefs, not tall tales). It's the difference between cramming alone and training like an aviator, predictable, thoughtful, and repeatable.

Two easy ways to plug in this month:

- Bob's Instrument Ground School – Perfect whether you're instrument-curious or actively chasing the rating. You'll get structured lessons, real-world procedures, and a study group that keeps you on pace.
- Richard's Ground School Supplement – Short, targeted sessions that tighten fundamentals and turn recent lessons into muscle memory. Great for students and renters who want sharper decision-making and cleaner comms.

Bring your questions. Bring your POH. Bring a friend. We'll bring the whiteboard and the "aha" moments.

Ready to level up with your squad? Call 775-856-3655 or email goflying@greatbasinaviation.com to grab a seat. Seats are limited!

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.**

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GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT

GOOOAAAL! Cassidy Bell soloed!!

If you've ever been greeted by the friendliest face in the GBA office, you already know Cassidy Bell, but don't let that sweet smile fool you. Today she laced up for her biggest match yet and soloed Runway 17L at KRNO in N752DW, a true one-player breakaway to the net.

On the pitch and in the pattern, Cassidy plays box-to-box: D-1 soccer standout, miles-for-breakfast runner, MBA brain, and now pilot, reading the field, keeping her head on a swivel, and making crisp, purposeful moves. She widened the touchline on downwind, set up a perfect cross on base, and finished on final with a top-corner landing. Call it a captain's performance: composed, disciplined, and clinical in the last 100 feet.

Originally from Dallas (and a loyal Cowboys fan), Cassidy clearly knows her footballs, both kinds, but today was pure soccer poetry: patience in the build-up, precision in the approach, and a calm finish when it counted. She's a force to be reckoned with, and this solo is only the first goal in a very long season.

Huge congratulations to Cassidy, and to her CFI Cory Kleidosty for the perfectly timed assist. First solo in the books. Scoreline: Cassidy 1, Nerves 0.

CASSIDY BELL— SOLO

Today we celebrate a huge milestone—Maile has officially completed her very first solo flight! Maile, who comes to us from Las Vegas, has always been a high achiever on the ground and now in the sky. When she's not training, she's hard at work as a mechanical engineering intern at SNC and pursuing her dream of becoming an aerospace engineer. But what makes Maile especially inspiring is how much she gives back outside the cockpit. She's been deeply involved in extracurricular clubs and community organizations—from volunteering with FIRST Robotics to touring a nuclear reactor with the American Nuclear Society. Her dedication, teamwork, and curiosity know no bounds. On top of that, Maile has spent twelve years playing piano, mastered Taiko (Japanese drums), and is also skilled in Hula dancing. Whether it's music, science, or aviation, she pours herself fully into everything she does. A big congratulations also goes out to her instructor, CFI Andrew Spanier, whose guidance and support helped prepare Maile for this unforgettable day. Soloing isn't just about flying an airplane alone—it's about trust, growth, and courage. Maile, you've proven that you can rise to any challenge, and your journey in aviation is just beginning. We can't wait to see where the skies take you next!



MAILE TSUCHIYAMA-SANDO— SOLO



**SANDDON SHERWOOD-
KOPKO- CFI**

Huge congratulations to Sanddon for passing his CFI check ride! What makes this milestone even more special is that Sanddon has been with us at Great Basin Aviation since day one, from private pilot all the way through earning his Certified Flight Instructor certificate. Watching his dedication, perseverance, and growth as a pilot has been nothing short of inspiring, and we couldn't be prouder to see him reach this point. Outside the cockpit, Sanddon is a personal trainer who loves lifting heavy weights, and he's brought that same drive, discipline, and passion to his flight training. Just like in the gym, he's been racking up the reps, one flight at a time, building the foundation that got him here today. A big shoutout as well to Bob, his instructor, whose guidance and mentorship have been instrumental in Sanddon's journey. Bob's expertise and support helped shape Sanddon into the pilot and instructor he is today. We're excited to see Sanddon step into this new role as a CFI and begin sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm for aviation with the next generation of pilots.

A huge congratulations to Kiera Grange on passing her CFI checkride!

From day one, Kiera has shown that persistence and discipline are the cornerstones of her journey.

Whether she's training for triathlons, perfecting her swimming, or putting in the countless hours of study and flight time, she approaches every challenge with determination and focus. That drive has carried her all the way to earning her Certified Flight Instructor certificate—a milestone that proves just how dedicated she is to chasing her dreams.

Her ability to balance being active, disciplined, and passionate about aviation is a true example for others. A big shoutout to her instructor, Danny, for his mentorship and support throughout this journey.

We couldn't be prouder of you, Kiera. Your persistence and passion are proof that when you stay committed to your goals, the sky is truly the limit. Here's to inspiring future aviators and all the incredible adventures ahead!




KIERA GRANGE- CFI

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GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT

CHECK OUT INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING GROUND SCHOOL SUPPLEMENT COURSES:



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.

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.




NOVEMBER

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:

GBA OFFICE, 775-856-3655
COFLYING@GREATBASINAVIATION.COM