

# THE HOLD SHORT

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09 SEP - 15 SEP

## SEE YOU AT THE RACES!!

The last few days of the Air Races are upon us and it time to revel in the thrill of the skies one more time! If you haven't had the chance to witness these races before, you're in for an incredible experience. Picture the thunderous roar of engines and the heart-pounding excitement of breathtaking aerial maneuvers. These races are a true spectacle that will leave you in awe, whether you're a seasoned aviation aficionado or simply looking for a day of high-flying entertainment.

But here's the icing on the cake - your very own Great Basin Aviation (GBA) has set up a fantastic booth at the event! It's the perfect opportunity to connect with fellow aviation enthusiasts during these last days of the races. Share your passion for flying, swap stories, and immerse yourself in the vibrant aviation community.

Round up your friends and family, and head on over to the air races for an unforgettable end to this aviation extravaganza. We'll be there, and we're looking forward to celebrating these last days of the races with you. Don't forget to swing by the GBA booth - we can't wait to see you there!



## REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- Don't forget about the **FREE** Monday night study group too! Every Monday, 6pm-8pm.

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# GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT

Congratulations to Ben Roller on successfully earning his instrument rating! It's a remarkable achievement that showcases his dedication to mastering the art of flying, even when he can't enjoy the scenic views of beautiful Northern Nevada. This rating is no small feat and is a testament to Ben's commitment to his aviation journey. We can only imagine that this former gymnast was doing mental flips up there in the sky, acing those challenging instrument maneuvers with grace. Beyond the cockpit, Ben has a taste for gyros, and we're not just talking about the delicious Greek dish. He's probably also thinking about "gyro"scopic precision while enjoying his meal! Additionally, his strong love for the outdoors complements his passion for flying. When he's not up in the sky, you might find Ben exploring the natural beauty of Northern Nevada, whether it's hiking in the mountains or taking in the breathtaking scenery. Let's not forget to give a well-deserved congratulations to his CFII, Greg Rudman. Greg played an instrumental role in helping Ben navigate this sky-high challenge with determination, expertise, and invaluable guidance. Awesome job to you both and now get going on that Commercial!



## **BEN ROLLER – INSTRUMENT**



## **KURTIS LEMAY – INSTRUMENT**

Kurtis LeMay has taken his flying skills to new heights, and he did it all while navigating through a maze of foggles and focusing on his instrument panel! It's like trying to appreciate a gourmet meal blindfolded, but Kurtis made it look easy. His dedication and hard work have truly paid off, and now he's the proud owner of an instrument rating. But that's not all! Kurtis is not your average aviator. He's a 2022 RARA scholarship winner, which is like winning the golden ticket to the aviation chocolate factory. This scholarship has given him the turbo boost he needed to accelerate his journey towards additional ratings and certificates. The aviation world better buckle up because Kurtis is on the fast track to success! Did we mention that Kurtis is also a full-time student at UNR? Balancing books and flying is no small feat, but Kurtis makes it seem like a walk in the clouds. His ability to juggle academics and aviation with excellence is truly impressive. Congratulations as well to Kurtis's CFII's, Austin White and Chazz Sandoval! Now that Kurtis has conquered the instrument rating, the sky's the limit! The aviation world better watch out because he's revving up for his commercial certificate. Congratulations, Kurtis, on your stellar achievement!



## JUSTIN COOPER – INSTRUMENT

Ending the day with a perfect 3 for 3 on instrument checkrides is no small feat, and our last but certainly not least ace is none other than the newly instrument-rated pilot, Justin Cooper! Justin, a former Marine Corps Infantryman turned electrician, is living life in the fast lane. He works full-time +, has a full-time flying schedule (he is seriously at GBA all the time), and a house full of adorable munchkins. You'd think the man never sleeps! When he's not navigating the skies, you might catch him at an exclusive tea party, hosted by none other than his beautiful daughters, hanging out with his wonderful wife, or out in the wild, hunting for that perfect trophy. Huge congratulations as well to his CFII Chazz Sandoval. Together, they've been on a high-flying adventure, proving that teamwork and a good sense of humor can conquer any aviation challenge. Awesome job Justin! May your flights be smooth, your tea parties extravagant, and your hunting expeditions... well, not too wild!

Serena Singh's solo flight is a heartwarming achievement that brings a smile to our faces. Her memorable flight took place on Runway 24 at KSPZ in N495SP, and it's a moment that will forever hold a special place in her aviation journey! Serena's journey has been marked by hard work and dedication. Despite the challenges of commuting from the Lake, she has always approached her training with unwavering determination. What stands out most about Serena is her ever-present smile; it's a reflection of her positive spirit and her genuine passion for aviation (must be all that yoga). In celebrating this milestone, Serena is probably hanging out with her beloved pup, Beans, who holds a special place in her heart. We must also recognize Serena's CFI, Kevin Marshall, whose guidance and support have been instrumental in helping her reach this significant point in her aviation journey. Congratulations once again, Serena, on this remarkable achievement that warms our hearts and reminds us of the beauty of following one's passion!



## SERENA SINGH – SOLO





## AUDREY TOPP – SOLO

Congratulations to Audrey Topp on achieving her first pilot solo in N495SP at the Silver Springs airport! Audrey's determination and passion for flying have taken her to new heights as she bravely kicked her instructor, Shane Smith, to the sidelines and soared down Runway 24. Audrey's accomplishments extend beyond the sky, as she is not only a glider pilot but also a deserving recipient of the 2023 RARA scholarship. With her background as a geologist in training, Audrey's unique perspective allows her to appreciate the breathtaking landforms Nevada has to offer from the air. Hailing from Minden, Audrey's love for adventure is perfectly matched with her affinity for \$100 hamburgers – a testament to her dedication to aviation. We look forward to witnessing Audrey's continued success and the exciting journeys that lie ahead in her aviation career. Congratulations as well to her CFI, Shane!

Congratulations to Cole Melby, who has soared to new heights by earning his commercial pilot certificate! It's an incredible achievement to reach this milestone while sharing the skies with the Air Racers over Northern Nevada. Though, we might need to find him something a bit faster than a C172 if he wants to keep up with those racers! Cole is not just a master of the skies; he's also a pro at balancing family life. When he's not soaring through the clouds, he's jet-setting with his wife and their adorable little co-pilot daughter. And let's not forget, he's a full-time hero with the Nevada Air National Guard! It's worth noting that Cole returned from a deployment just a couple of months ago with a clear goal in mind: completing his commercial pilot certificate. And look at that – he set a goal and achieved it with flying colors. When he's not up in the wild blue yonder or spending quality time with his family, you might spot Cole on two wheels, tearing up the bike lanes. Oh, and don't get between him and a cheeseburger – he takes his post-flight celebrations seriously! Awesome job Cole, for this fantastic achievement.

Congratulations as well to his CFI, Danny Britson! Keep soaring, Cole – we can't wait to see what heights you reach next! CFI? Maybe...



## COLE MELBY – COMMERCIAL