

THE HOLD SHORT

A

30AUG - 5SEP

COOLER WEATHER, LONGER FLYING DAYS

As summer winds down, we're heading into one of the best flying seasons in northern Nevada. Those crisp, clear mornings we all love aren't going anywhere, but now we get the bonus of flying comfortably throughout the day.

When temperatures drop, density altitude improves dramatically. In the summer, high DA means aircraft don't perform at book values, longer takeoff rolls, shallower climb rates, and reduced overall efficiency. But as we shift into fall, cooler air is denser air, and our airplanes love it. Shorter takeoff distances, stronger climb performance, and engines that run cooler and smoother are just a few of the benefits. It's one of those times of year where the numbers you see in the POH actually feel like what's happening in the cockpit.

The lower temperatures also mean more predictable winds and fewer thermals compared to the heat of summer afternoons. That adds up to less turbulence, a smoother ride, and more consistent conditions for training. Plus, the visibility across the Sierra and desert valleys this time of year is unbeatable, crisp horizons, deep fall colors, and sunsets that seem to stretch forever. For students, this is the ideal season to hit milestones. Whether you're preparing for a first solo, logging cross-country time, or polishing maneuvers for a checkride, the extended windows of stable weather make planning and flying so much easier. No more rushing to get flights in before noon, this is the season where afternoon and evening flights are just as good, if not better.

So while we'll keep enjoying those calm morning flights, get ready to spread your wings all day long. Cooler weather is here, performance is back on our side, and Nevada skies are calling. See you out there, from sunrise to sunset!

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 the parking map!! Make sure you know where to park your plane when you return.
- **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.**



SHAWN TUCKETT – PRIVATE

Big congratulations to Shawn Tuckett, who just earned his Private Pilot Certificate in fixed-wing! While Shawn already holds his Commercial Rotorcraft certificate, today he officially joined the “real wings” club and traded in rotor wash for runway lights. Flying helicopters has its thrills, hovering, autorotations, and all that collective-twisting fun, but we all know life is better with a proper set of wings. In the airplane, Shawn doesn’t have to constantly juggle power, pedals, and pitch just to stay in the air. No more pretending to be a hummingbird, now he can actually cruise, trim it out, and sip some imaginary coffee in straight and level flight.

Of course, his rotorcraft background gave him great stick-and-rudder instincts, but earning a fixed-wing certificate proves Shawn can do it all. He’s conquered both the hover button-mashing world of helicopters and the smooth, efficient world of airplanes.

A huge congratulations as well to his CFI, Andrew Spanier, for guiding Shawn through stalls, slips, and landings that don’t end with skids on the pavement.

Well done, Shawn! You’ve proven you can fly anything with lift, blades or wings, but let’s face it: fixed-wing really is the way to go (at least in our biased opinion).

Before most people have even rubbed the sleep out of their eyes, Alyssa Yerick was already at the airport, preflighting in the dark and getting ready for a milestone morning. Today, Alyssa soloed Runway 32 at KRTS in N352ME! She might drag herself through the door before sunrise, but once she’s in the cockpit, her vision is sharp, her focus is clear, and she’s got the perfect prescription for success.

When she’s not flying, Alyssa is studying to be an optometrist, so it’s no surprise that she knows how to keep her eyes on the horizon. In fact, today she proved she has true aviation “20/20” spot-on landings, steady hands, and the ability to see the big picture even when the nerves kick in.

Alyssa is also a fan of line dancing, so let’s just say she knows her way around steps both on the dance floor and in the traffic pattern. Originally from Las Vegas (you know, the other Nevada), she traded flashing lights, slot machines, and bad Elvis impersonators for UNR, the sound of Lycoming engines, and the kind of odds that are actually worth betting on, three solo takeoffs and three landings.

Huge congratulations also go out to her CFI, Andrew Spanier, for the guidance and encouragement that helped Alyssa hit this milestone.

Congrats, Alyssa! You’ve officially gone from pre-dawn yawns to a logbook solo entry, and your future in aviation looks clearer than a brand-new pair of lenses. This future eye doc just gave us all something to look up to!



ALYSSA YERICK – SOLO

C**30AUG - 5SEP**

GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT



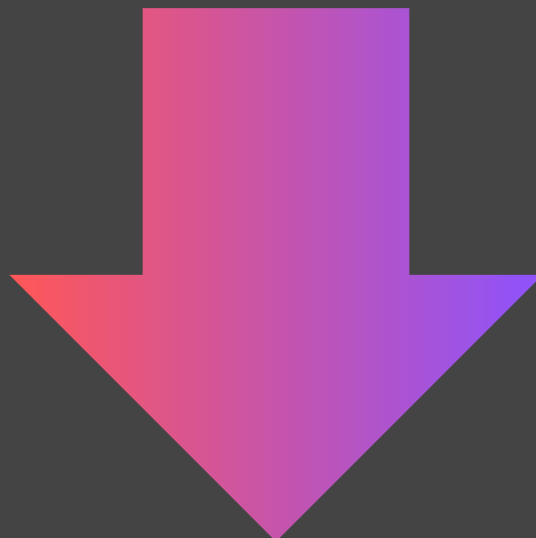
**SAM KLEM –
SOLO**

Huge congratulations to Sam Clem, who soloed today at KRTS, Runway 26 in N352ME! Sam might say he's scared of heights, but today he proved that trading cliffs for clouds is a much better view. From takeoff roll to final landing, he climbed higher than nerves could reach and showed that the cockpit is his new summit.

Sam is all about the outdoors. When he's not in the left seat, you'll find him rock climbing, skiing, or adventuring through the mountains near his hometown of Quincy. He's as comfortable on the slopes as he is in the cockpit, carving through turns and navigating new terrain with skill and confidence. And just like a good hike, his solo was all about putting one step (or one circuit) after the other until he reached the top.

With every lap in the pattern, Sam blazed his own trail through the morning skies and planted his flag at one of aviation's biggest milestones. A huge congratulations as well to his CFI, Greg Anthenien, for the steady guidance and mentorship that helped Sam trade trails and ski tracks for flight paths. Way to go, Sam! You've shown that even if heights on a rock wall make you look down, up here in the wide-open sky, the view is worth every climb.

**Check out information about
upcoming ground school
supplement courses on the next
page!**



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:

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