THE HOLD SHORT

A **17OCT-23OCT**

SUMMER HABITS, WINTER WAKE-UP CALL

it's time to get Summer flying out of your head! your rouTine needs an update when the temperatures drop. cOlder air changes how the airplane performs, and a little extra Planning goes a long way.

Before you arrive, check the forecast and adjust Your expectations. getting ready for a cold-weather flight may take longer than your summer preflight, and that needs to be part of your schedule.

allow exTra time for preheating when required, removing wing covers, and checking for frost. tHe airplane doesn't care that you're running behind. neither does the enginE.

your aircraft's poh should be your first stop for cOld-weather guidance. Follow the published procedures instead of relying on a Familiar summer habit. review startIng techniques, warm-up guidance, and operating limitations before you need them. the correct proCedures, and a little extra time, can save frustration.

Frost isn't something to ignore because the sun is coming out. a cold mOrning deserves a thorough inspection, and a clean wing Remains essential for takeoff.

Your airplane may climb better in cOlder, denser air, but that doesn't erase winter's challenges. frost, visibility, and rUnway conditions still deserve your attention. Review the whole picture before booking that 0600 flight. think about mid-morning, midday, and afternoons. the winds will soon not be a factor.

Give yourself room to slow down. Brief the weather, know your aircraft's procedures, and Allow time for the airplane to be ready.

Slow is smooth, especially when it's cold. Weather changes, your Airplane responds differently, and summer shortcuts need to stay in summer. Go into the season prepared.

REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- We've been told our reminders are getting repetitive… so check these out: ALL NEW! Fresh reminders, fresh reading material, and absolutely no excuse to say, "I've already read that."
- Join our CFI-led study group Mondays from 6–8 p.m.! **We're taking October 26 off,** so mark your calendar. Contact the office for details!
- Watch for wing covers coming soon! Place your bets: who's going to be the first to lower the flaps with the covers still on? Let's keep that one hypothetical though…covers off before flaps down!
- A thorough preflight has its rewards. So does a thorough read. Want to play a game?

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GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT

Evan Ledbetter is probably going to be humble about this, so we'll handle being obnoxiously proud for him. HE SOLOED! Huge congratulations to Evan on his FIRST SOLO at KRTS, taking N495SP off Runway 26 and officially making Cory watch from the ground!

That empty right seat represents a whole lot of work: lessons, studying, practice, corrections, and learning to trust the skills you've built. Evan earned this moment, and watching him take this step toward his dream of becoming an airline pilot gives us plenty to celebrate.

If you've spent any time around Evan, you know he's humble, always pleasant, and an incredibly good sport, which is convenient, because we have absolutely no intention of leaving him alone. He says his favorite quality is his patience. After putting up with this crew, we consider that thoroughly demonstrated.

He's also quick to help others and brings the kind of attitude that makes him a pleasure to have around the school. We give him a hard time because he's fun to tease, but today we want to make sure he hears this part loud and clear: we see your effort, Evan, and we're proud of you.

Huge congratulations also to his CFI, Cory Kleidosty, for helping Evan build the skills and confidence to reach this milestone. There's a lot of work behind that solo endorsement, and this is a moment worth celebrating for both of you.

Enjoy this one, Evan. You earned every bit of it, and we're excited to watch you keep going. Your commercial aviation dreams just got a little closer!

Evan Ledbetter - Solo

SCROLL DOWN FOR DETAILS ON UPCOMING SUPPLEMENTAL CLASS

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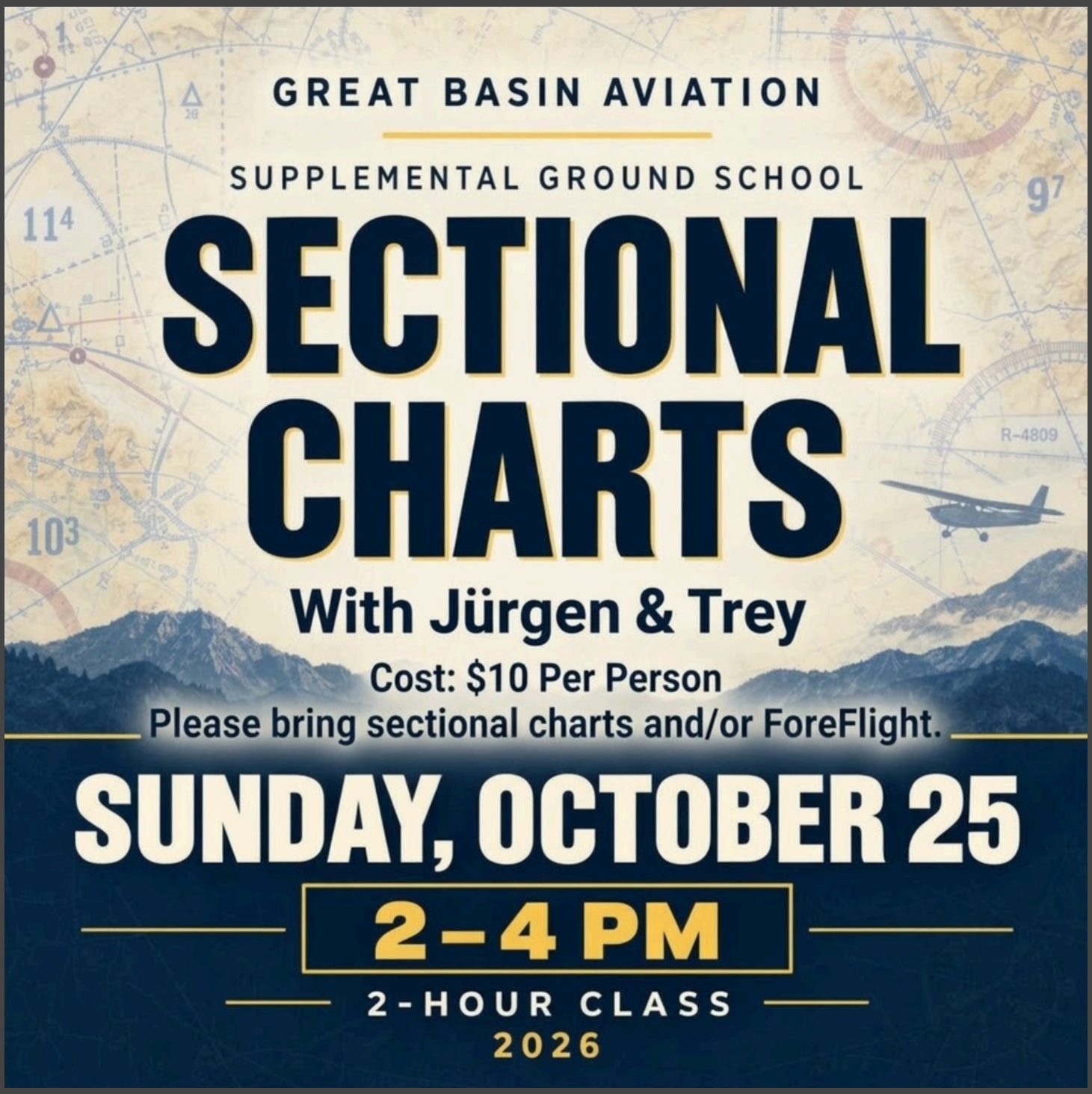
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