

THE HOLD SHORT

A

14 OCT -20 OCT

ENJOY FLYING!



We see your determination, your late nights studying, and your unwavering focus as you work diligently towards your certificates and ratings. We're immensely proud of your dedication.

But here's a gentle reminder: amidst the rigorous training and challenges, don't forget to take a moment, look out that airplane window, and soak in the breathtaking beauty that surrounds you. Whether it's the patchwork quilt of fields below, the sun setting on the horizon, or the twinkling city lights at night, these are the moments that make all the hard work worthwhile.

Remember, flying isn't just a skill to master; it's a profound experience meant to bring sheer delight and a sense of freedom. You're up there because it's exhilarating, because it's liberating, and because it's downright fun! So, take a deep breath, savor the sensation of flight, and let the sheer joy of being in the sky fill your heart.

Here's to the thrill of the journey, the wonder of the skies, and the pure, unadulterated fun of flying!

REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- Sunday Sectional Class! October 22nd, 1pm in the large upstairs conference room.
- Don't forget about the **FREE** Monday night study group too! Every Monday, 6pm-8pm.
- We will be taking sunshades out of the aircraft as we start to cool. No, you are not losing your mind, they are just not there.
- Watch for wing covers and frost. DO NOT put the flaps down with the wing covers on.
- The Silver Springs Regional Airport runway will be closed October 23, 2023 through November 2, 2023 for maintenance to the runway and taxiway.

B**14 OCT -20 OCT**

GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT

Hold onto your headsets because we've got some seriously cool news to share! Our very own Trey Casini has just reached the pinnacle of awesomeness – he's now a Certificated Commercial Pilot! Give him a high-five, a fist bump, or a round of applause – whatever suits your celebratory style. Trey's also your go-to guy for all things ground instruction being GBA's in house AGI. It's like he's got an aviation encyclopedia in his brain, and he's not afraid to use it! Now, let's talk about that hair. I mean, come on, we've all seen it – it's practically a superpower of its own. We secretly suspect that his hair holds the key to his flying prowess. After all, good hair is essential for a successful flight, right? We love to tease Trey about life, his impeccable hair game, his multiple names, and he takes it all in stride. He's not just an outstanding pilot; he's also the best sport in the office. A big round of applause and a pat on the back also goes to Trey's CFI, the one and only Chazz Sandoval! Great job Chazz!

Trey, we're incredibly proud of your achievement. Your dedication, hard work, and, of course, your fabulous hair have all contributed to this success. Now that you're officially a commercial pilot, the sky's the limit – quite literally! We couldn't be happier for you!!



**TREY CASINI –
COMMERCIAL**



**JURGEN HIRT –
PRIVATE**

Hip-hip-hooray for Jurgen Hirt, our newest GBA private pilot! Today's weather might be beautiful, but Jurgen's achievement just made it even sunnier! Maneuvering around Northern Nevada showing off his skills was a breeze for this guy! Jurgen is used to pressure and multitasking. He isn't your average pilot. Nope, he's a full-time student at UNR, juggling the complexities of double majoring in economics and finance while serenading the world with his bassoon skills in the UNR orchestra and Reno Philharmonic. Is there anything this guy can't do? Major kudos to his CFI, Ryan Mill, who must have some serious pilot magic up his sleeve. Jurgen didn't just learn to fly; he soared through the skies with style, grace, and a touch of musical finesse. Jurgen, your ability to rock the skies, handle complex numbers, and play beautiful music is nothing short of legendary. We're absolutely thrilled for you and can't wait to see where your high-flying, bassoon-playing adventures take you next!



JADEN PROTAIN – PRIVATE PILOT

Break out the golf claps because we've got a hole-in-one achievement to celebrate – Mark McConnell has finally taken a swing at solo flying! After a round or two on the golf course and some world travels, he traded his golf club for a pilot's yoke at KRTS, runway 26. As his patient CFI, Chazz Sandoval, watched on, Mark proved that he's not just a master of the fairways but of the runways too! Now, we know Mark has a knack for putting things off but with a bit of friendly nagging, he managed to tee up his flying dreams. And let's not forget that ground school, Mark – consider it your rough patch on the course to becoming a seasoned aviator! Despite Mark's reputation as a golf aficionado, he puts his heart into learning how to fly. Balancing a bustling business and the lure of the golf course is no easy feat, but Mark managed to chip away at his flying goals. A huge shoutout to Chazz Sandoval, who served as Mark's caddy through this entire process. Your patience deserves a round of applause – or should we say, a round of birdies? Mark, you've proved that with the right drive (pun intended), even the most enthusiastic golfers can spread their wings and take flight. Now that you've soloed, it's time to trade the golf greens for the blue skies. Here's to more solo flights, fewer bunkers, and many more birdies on and off the golf course!

Congratulations are in order for GBA's very own high-flyer, Jaden Protain, who is now officially a Private Pilot! Talk about turning a regular Thursday into a soaring success story! Jaden, the self-proclaimed Swiss army knife of our team, pulled out all the stops during the checkride, proving he has all the right tools for the job – literally and metaphorically! Despite having a need for speed, Jaden embraced the leisurely pace of the trusty C172, finding joy in the scenic route. I mean, who needs a Ferrari when you can have the skies as your playground, right? Jaden, your journey from aspiring aviator to licensed pilot is nothing short of inspiring. Now that you've earned your wings, get ready for the thrilling adventures, the endless blue skies, and of course, the epic tales you'll gather along the way. Also, awesome job to Jaden's flight instructor, Chazz Sandoval, whose guidance clearly made all the difference. Cheers to your newfound wings Jaden!!



MARK MCCONNELL – PRIVATE



**PAUL GRADY –
PRIVATE PILOT**

Two awesome achievements today + both golfers
= two posts with golf puns 😊

Grab your putters and get ready to celebrate because Paul Grady has scored a hole-in-one in the aviation game – he's officially a Private Pilot! Today, Paul proved he can handle the C172 with the finesse of a golfer sinking a crucial putt, meeting all the private pilot standards and leaving us all in awe. Right after acing his flight, he dashed off faster than a speeding golf ball to catch his tee time – now that's what we call a swing and a soar!

A huge round of applause and a tip of the hat to Paul's incredible caddy, oops, I mean, flight instructor, Nate Morin! Your coaching clearly made all the difference, guiding Paul through the hazards and ensuring he reached the aviation green in style. Paul, you've mastered the art of balancing your love for golf and aviation, proving that your skills on the green translate seamlessly to the skies. Now that you're officially a pilot, may your flights be as smooth as a well-groomed fairway, and may your golf games always be par for the course. Save the birdies for the golf course though!