

# THE HOLD SHORT

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25 NOV - 01 DEC



## WHEN WEATHER HAS YOU GROUNDED

We get it – the weather can be a bit unpredictable, but that doesn't mean you have to hit pause on your aviation journey. When the clouds decide to steal the show, it's time to shift gears and embrace Plan B.

Here's the lowdown: Instead of throwing in the towel, consider booking a ground session, hop into the sim, or snag a conference room for some intensive study time. You already had that aviation itch, so why not scratch it with a productive alternative?

Not only will it keep you engaged and focused, but investing in your knowledge during these grounded moments will pay off in the long run with your progression. We're cruising into that time of the year where conditions can change at the drop of a hat. Be the pilot who's always prepared with a Plan B! Stay engaged, stay focused, and keep those aviation dreams soaring high.

## REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- Please make sure to be early if you are the first flight of the day. We need that hangar space! preflight and be ready to go at start time. Also, oil needs to warm. Watch your oil temps! Do not take off unless you are in the green.
- Don't forget about the **FREE** Monday night study group too! Every Monday, 6pm-8pm.



## GRANT WHITE – SOLO

What a beautiful day for some flying, and what an even better day to solo! That's right everyone, Grant White, aviation fanatic and secret chef who's on par with Gordan Ramsey, soloed this morning at KRTS on rwy 8 with his instructor, Alex Spencer, watching from the sidelines! After kicking out Alex, Grant made his way to the busy KRTS traffic pattern and handled the pressure with a cool and calm domineer. As if his cooking skills weren't already impressive, Grant put the cherry on top when he buttered all of his landings with incredible finesse. Thinking he could walk into the office without saying a word, Grant was surely proven wrong as Hailey uncovered the truth and proceeded to scold him and his instructor on their deceit... nothing gets past the GBA crew 😊. When Grant's not flying, you can find him at home cooking up a storm, hunting, fishing, or enjoying a big plate of Mexican food. Grant has been working diligently to get to this point in his training, and it's easy to say that that hard work has finally paid off! Huge congratulations to Grant and his instructor, Alex Spencer, on this amazing accomplishment! Now go celebrate, Grant! Next step is checkride prep 😊.



## JAY LYNCH – PRIVATE

Tis the season for weather and postponed checkrides! But even in the face of multiple storms, plane shuffles, and cancellations, pilot extraordinaire, Jay Lynch, never lost his drive and successfully earned his Private Pilot certificate today in N328ME! After a tumultuous morning of swapping planes, Jay made sure to keep his cool and maintained a positive attitude. When he finally heard those wonderful words, "You passed!" Jay couldn't remove the smile plastered on his face all afternoon. Nothing can scare this thrill-seeking UPS driver, if it's not airplanes, then you can find Jay seeking his next adventure by shredding the tracks on his dirt bike. With the holiday season in full swing, you'll want to be sure you're extra nice to Jay this season, since he'll be delivering all the nice kids their presents in his brown uniform during the busy winter. It's been a privilege watching Jay push through his training, and now he can finally relax and take his wife flying with him. Amazing Job to Jay and his instructor, Nathan Morin, on this incredible achievement!



## NICK SUNDSTROM – SOLO

Not a bad way to end a Tuesday... Nick Sundstrom just earned his solo wings – and not just for his double-jointed thumb skills! This airborne extraordinaire tasted the sweet freedom of solo flight at KRTS, runway 08, in the one and only N328ME. Coming all the way from enchanting Bucharest, Romania, Nick isn't just here for the flight training at GBA – though that's definitely a perk. When he's not dodging Hailey's motivational ground school reminders, Nick is out there, scaling rocks, shredding slopes, and giving gravity a run for its money. And here's the kicker—Nick can now celebrate this awesome milestone with his favorite meal: a burrito. So, not only can he defy gravity, but he can also tackle a burrito the size of a small aircraft! Big shout-out to his CFI and fellow outdoor enthusiast, Ryan Mill, for keeping up with this high-flying, double-jointed maestro. Nick, here's to more solo flights, gravity-defying escapades, and maybe even a few thumb-wrestling championships, all celebrated with a burrito in hand!



## DAN NEWTON – COMMERCIAL

Breaking through the clouds and making waves in the sky, Dan Newton is now a Commercial Pilot! Between today's storm cells and moments of sunshine, Dan, our full-time hydrologist, proved he's not just mastering water, land, and sky in his day job. Today, he demonstrated that he can navigate the friendly skies with finesse and within commercial standards, plus, does this guy know his FAA regulations. Amidst the turbulence of hard work, dedication, and countless hours, Dan's achievement shines as brightly as a sunlit river. Dan, you've successfully added 'cloud surfing' to your hydrology toolkit! Here's to conquering new horizons and making a splash in the aviation world. Congratulations on earning your Commercial Pilot wings! Major kudos as well to his CFI, Greg Rudman, for being the co-pilot on this hydrological flight.