



CPA FLIGHT LINES



Pilots Play Cowboy for a Day in Pagosa!



The Pagosa Springs fly-in, September 13th through the 15th, featured another an opportunity to soak in the hot mineral waters of the south central Colorado. A quick flight for most folks, we had some fly-in regulars and some CPA members joining a flyin for the first time. The weather was absolutely perfect the entire weekend. Cool mornings warmed up to t-shirt weather by mid-morning.

After everyone arrived in Pagosa we stopped for some grub at the Malt Shoppe - and it is exactly as it sounds, a greasy spoon with massive twisting ice cream cones. After that everyone enjoyed a nice walk back to the hotel for a little R&R before the evening meal, oh and a quick soak in the springs at the hotel.

Dinner at the Riff Raff on the Rio - which overlooked the San Juan River off the back deck. The food was excellent and if you ever get a chance to visit them, do NOT miss the cheese curds with the honey glazed bacon bits/chipotle sauce! It is worth the trip down there JUST for that dish.

While there have been other fly-ins to Pagosa Springs over the years, this years offered a first for any CPA event - horseback riding! Most of the group saddled-up for about an hour ride through a valley just west of Pagosa Springs. The "dude" at the ranch, Dave hustled around and got everyone safely up on their horses, the entire ride was led by 10-year-old Sophie. A summer volunteer at the



ranch, Sophie had just learned to ride a horse, but she clearly was already an old pro. Following the ride we enjoyed a picnic on the ranch site and headed back for another opportunity to relax and/or soak before the evening meal at the Alley House Grille. The weather continued to be perfect as we enjoyed our meal on the deck before heading off to an evening performance at the Pagosa Springs Performing Arts Center. A professional performance of "Ring of Fire" at the Thingamajig theater capped off a very busy day. The cast put on an outstanding performance. The music was all live and the vocals were top-notch. The show was every bit as good as anything you'd see in a major metropolitan area.



By fly-in standards we could not have asked for a better weekend. The reports about the flight home came in that the winds were smooth the entire way back to the metro area and beyond. The opportunity aviation provides us as pilots is one of the things I am most grateful for.

Without aviation we wouldn't have the opportunity to come together in this way to share time together in such a beautiful place. If you're reading this and you haven't joined in on a fly-in there is opportunity for one this weekend - and if you miss that, definitely be on the lookout for the schedule for next year. *by Brian Garrett*





President's Transmission

I'm just back from three weeks in China and while I don't need a reminder to understand how lucky I am to have been born in the USA I got another reminder just the same. This trip was a real eye opener. First, the scale of the infrastructure was breath taking. Beijing is a city of 23 million people served by three airports each bigger than DIA. High rise apartment buildings, taller than any building in Denver, are counted by the hundreds if not thousands. Even in a medium size city you could insert the entire City and County of Denver and it would simply disappear. I rode the bullet train for two and a half hours at 240 mph, so smooth a glass of wine could be left unattended. The Three Gorges Dam is a wonder of civil engineering. The road system is immense, new and clogged with late model cars. On the other hand the pollution is so thick visibility is down to three miles and every landing would have to be an instrument landing. And there are cameras everywhere! And police everywhere! This is a surveillance state of an unimaginable scale. They have a dossier on everyone and everybody is tracked everywhere. And yet the people don't seem to mind. They seemed happy and unconcerned going about their daily business. I found them pleasant and engaging albeit somewhat wary, and I can see why. They have clearly bought into the bargain to stay out of politics in exchange for economic progress and they feel it has worked for them. But the picture is not so sanguine in Tibet. It has been 70 years since China invaded Tibet and the heavy hand of repression is still very much present. Even during a peaceful pilgrimage procession police in full riot gear were conspicuous in their presence and a squad of armed soldiers marched in the procession. Off a side street, riot vehicles were parked at the ready. Red Chinese flags were everywhere with one every 50 feet on the front of the buildings. Talk about in your face! No wonder the people in Hong Kong feel the way they do.



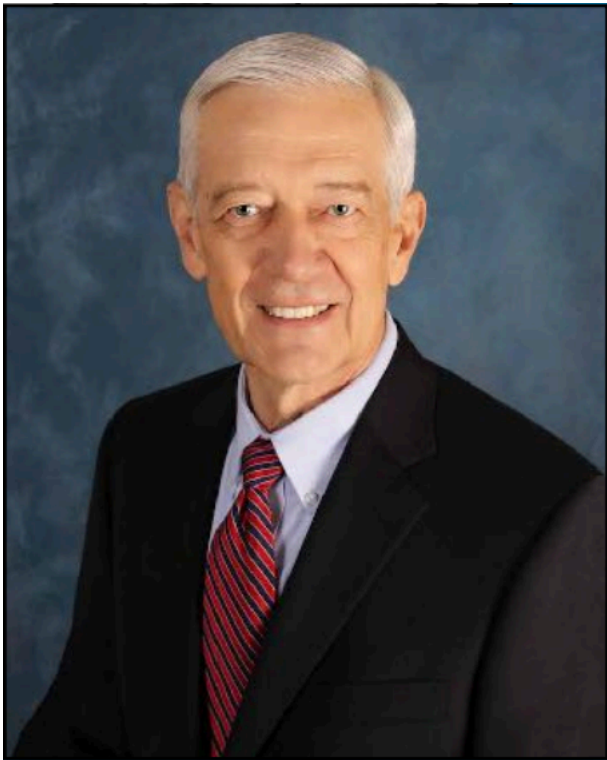
Although I enjoyed my time in China and as amazed at what I saw I felt a noticeable feeling of release as the plane took off for home. Upon landing at DIA I took the time to breathe deeply of the fresh air and marvel at the clear visibility. After weeks of rubbing shoulders with 1.4 billion people and surrounded by a forest of high rise apartment buildings Colorado Springs felt positively rural. Preflighting my plane I deliberately looked around to see no cameras, no police presence and no one looking critically over my shoulder. I didn't have to tell anybody anything as I taxied to the runway and took off. Flying west to take in the changing fall colors I reveled in my freedom and the illusion that I was alone in this beautiful world. You bet I'm thankful I was born in the USA.

Bart Jones, President CPA



Former CPA President, Inducted to HOF

CPA's very own, Gary Tobey, will be inducted into the Colorado Aviation Hall of Fame, Saturday, October 12th.



During the Vietnam conflict, Gary Tobey served as a fighter pilot, flying from carriers in the Gulf of Tonkin on combat missions over North Vietnam. After his military service, he came to Colorado to practice law and became active with the Civil Air Patrol (CAP). As Wing Commander of the Colorado CAP, Colonel Tobey set the standards to develop a first class CAP organization in our state. In 1996, he co-founded the Colorado CAP Foundation, a program to provide scholarships for young people aspiring to become pilots that would allow them to complete pilot training. Gary has been extremely effective in representing the interests of general aviation-with his legislative efforts as President of Colorado Pilots Association

(CPA) before the Colorado General Assembly, and through his years of leadership on the Arapahoe County Airport Authority.

Congratulations Gary!





Plan to Attend Our Annual Meeting - November 9th

Come and join other CPA members at 8:30 a.m. in the Mt. Evans room of the administration building of Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport (KBJC) on November 9th. Catch up with friends over a cup of coffee, before the Board formalities kick-off. New Board members will be elected, followed by an interesting presentation by Bye Aerospace.

You may recognize Bye Aerospace as the company behind the Sun Flyer 2, an electric powered trainer made right here in Colorado. This is our opportunity to get oriented to a new and exciting segment of general aviation.



Upcoming Events

October 11-13 - Cody, Wy Fly-in

October 12th -

★ **Breakfast at Gunnison Crested Butte (KGUC)**

★ **99s Let's Fly Now (KCOS)**

★ **CAHS Hall of Fame Banquet**

October 19th - Winter Weather Hazards (KAPA)

November 9th - CPA Annual Meeting



If you have a flying story to share with the Colorado Pilots community, please forward it to:

newsletter@coloradopilots.org



Other important email addresses:

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