

CPA FLIGHT LINES



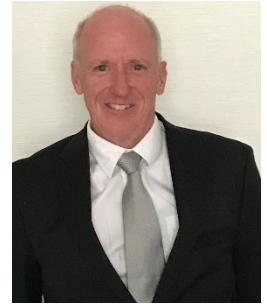
Mike Beckhoff

Busy day at Walden-Jackson
Airport



Unusual Attitudes

Marty Brophy, CPA President



We are continuing this summer of our discontent, at least for those of us who don't like 95-degree days and afternoon thunderstorms. Our area of northeast Fort Collins was hit by a massive hailstorm at the end of July that damaged roofs, broke windows, beat up plants, etc. We had hail the size of tennis balls, judging by the divots in our roof shingles!

But the Lander, Wyoming fly-in went smoothly, so that was one good thing! By all accounts, a great time was had by all, so it was an excellent job by Adrian Nye setting up this fun event.

Unfortunately, we could not attend as we were out of town finally doing a long-planned and twice-canceled trip to Iceland. What an incredibly beautiful place that is, with fjords, glaciers, volcanoes (one near Keflavik airport started erupting a few days after we left), geysers, hot springs, and something like 10,000 waterfalls. It also has uncrowded roads, relatively easy non-stop flights from DIA, and welcome cool temperatures, with highs of about 55 degrees most days. And, at around 65 degrees north latitude, it doesn't ever truly get dark in the summer. I had planned to rent a plane and fly there with a CFI out of BIRK, the Reykjavik city airport, but alas the weather did not cooperate. If anyone has plans to go there, a CFI contact to get up in the air with in a C172 is thordurviggo@gmail.com.

Three \$2,500 scholarships were awarded in July by our Education Committee headed by Jeff Hinkle. Gitanjali Rao from Boulder will use hers to complete glider training and start on her private pilot. Nick Cirincione, who teaches Ground School at the Peterson Space Force Aero Club, received our CFI scholarship. And Amanda Wilson of Rocky Mountain Flight School received the Emily Howell Warner Scholarship to work towards her instrument rating. Congratulations to all our excellent winners! And thanks to Jeff and his committee members for all their work!

We are coming up on the annual elections for our 4 officer positions of President, VP, Treasurer, and Recorder. We have candidates for 3 of those, but no one yet for the VP position. That is largely a training job to assume the president's post next, so no prior experience is required, though you will have things to work on yourself, too. Contact me if you would like more information or would like to run for an office or volunteer as a committee chair. Or if you have ideas to share or ideas for new committees or just want to say "hi."

And save the date of Saturday, November 12! That is our annual meeting at KBJC, so a nice weekend flight for many of us. We will meet in the upstairs conference room in the terminal building and be done in time for lunch with new friends.

Watch your e-mail for Webmaster Brian Garrett's weekly bulletin about all kinds of Colorado aviation activities. And, as always, let me know if you have any ideas on how we can improve the CPA experience for our members. Or if you want to chat, or volunteer to help the CPA make flying fun for all and keep the skies open for recreational fliers! You can e-mail me at president@coloradopilots.org with inputs.

Cooler days, CAVU, blue skies and tailwinds!



Stuff Happens...

(or how did I get here anyway?)

By Bill Marvel, Fly-in Committee Chairman

Strange thing occurred in late December 2016 when Marti and I winged our then RV-8A back to Colorado after spending Christmas with relatives in Florida. The weatherman, so very kind to us on the way down and most of the way back, went on break. He left behind a cold front across Oklahoma and running a long way east and west that completely blocked our path.

Looking ahead on the iPad for a haven in the storm, we found an airport in a small town we'd never heard of – Weatherford, Oklahoma. That was as far to the northwest as we were going to go, and it looked like a definite two nights there. The FBO people were wonderfully friendly, a hangar was inexpensive and given the holiday time frame, there was no demand for the courtesy car. All good!

What next? Why not just ask the FBO folks where to stay, what to see and do, where to eat – the usual drill. They know their area well in addition to all the pros and cons. What we found was just delightful – a Smithsonian quality aerospace museum named after astronaut Tom Stafford (his home town was Weatherford), a couple of Route 66 museums down that highway in each direction, a full-size windmill blade (huge!) on display at a local park, a bar/restaurant 100 yards from the hotel and a very old, converted farmhouse-to-a-restaurant a few miles away with a view of the western horizon that looked like you could see it all the way from the North pole to the South. And an ice cream store...

Suffice it to say we had a great time there and did not forget the location. We were CPA members of several years standing and had attended a couple of Association fly-ins. But we had never paid any attention to how those fly-ins occurred – they were just announced to the membership, and off we went to them. Once back home from the Florida trip, I eventually got around to contacting “CPA Management” to let them know of this great find that would make a super weekend event destination for members at some future date. After all, “CPA Management” consisted of a bunch of well-connected souls with great expertise in this stuff and they would be all over the opportunity I had put in their collective laps. That’s the way it happens, doesn’t it?

Well, maybe not. No one contacted me and Weatherford did not get adopted a year later during the January 2018 planning meeting by any of those members who planned fly-ins. I was puzzled. This was a great place, not all that far away, had lots to see and do and wasn’t very expensive. Hmmm – I wondered what would happen if I just ran it myself? I’d never done anything quite like that but as I mentioned, had been on a couple of trips and had an idea how they worked. Plus, they were a lot of fun! I called then Fly-in Chairman Bob Kinney to talk about it. He was very helpful and pointed me to some good reference material on CPA fly-in planning. In the process, I learned this seemingly magical event planning wasn’t done by a select group of members with carefully-honed, unique skills, but by fellow members just like me. And they merely picked locations of their own choosing and planned a CPA fly-in there. As a result, for the next January planning meeting Marti and I flew the RV to Denver and I made the presentation. Bingo – Weatherford was on the schedule for 2019!

I started with two of the most useful inventions ever created – a pencil and a pad of paper. Hotel, rental cars, group dinner, museum information, etc., each topic on just one page at a time. I jotted down costs, names and phone numbers, operating hours and all the little details needed to make this thing happen. I created a schedule of what we were going to do each day, and when. Several months ahead of time, Marti and I made a test run back to Weatherford just to meet the key players, shake hands, get a feel for everything and in general, put our “ducks in a row.” I did not want anything to fall through the cracks if I could prevent it.

Fast forward to the event itself in July 2019. We had a very good turnout -- and what a great group of friendly members participated! Everyone had a good time. That pad and pencil I used had steered us on course all the way and I could not get over how smoothly the event went. That’s not to say things could not have gone sideways due to something beyond my control, but this time at least, not a squeak.



This was an eye opener to me because I realized planning a CPA fly-in was a lot of fun, an interesting challenge and very rewarding! By plan, I was the last airplane out to make sure everyone got headed home OK. I can't tell you how satisfying it was to watch those planes depart, knowing I had taken a group of CPA members, mostly strangers to me at the time, and given them these experiences they would not have had otherwise. It wasn't quite as satisfying as building an airplane, but definitely a hoot!

That Weatherford experience led to my hosting a series of Spaceport/Trinity Site fly-ins and to eventually accepting the responsibility of taking over Bob Kinney's position as Chairman of the Fly-in Committee. That allowed him to become involved in other areas of CPA management where his expertise was needed.

And that's the story of the subtitle -- how I got here...

The point? "CPA Management" and fly-in hosts are not special people who do what no one else can. They are just members like you and me who have chosen to step up and make something happen. Older members of any organization don't stay forever, and their jobs need to be done by new faces. Just like me, there are those of you out there who have a deep interest in aviation. We always need new people to pick up the ball and run with it. That applies to event hosts as well as to CPA management folks. Case in point – Adrian Nye had never even attended a CPA fly-in but on the weekend of July 8-10, did a great job of hosting the Lander, WY event. It can definitely be done and only the person you see in the mirror can make that decision.

I can certainly use your interest and enthusiasm in hosting a future CPA event. And I'm always available at flyins@coloradopilots.org. Reach out and touch me!

First time fly-in, Scott, having fun with the lead animal at the Kit Carson Carousel on August 13th. Picture by Rich Barclay



1700 miles, 15 flying hours and 5 destinations in 7 days

By Frank Ladonne

Since this trip occurred just before retiring to Colorado, we felt it would likely be our last opportunity to see the some of the high points of sightseeing that are a convenient flying distance from Chicago. So, we each made our list of “must sees” and what emerged was this eclectic list:

- The Jack Daniel’s Distillery in Lynchburg, Tennessee
- Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee
- Biltmore Mansion in Asheville, North Carolina
- The Naval Air Museum in Pensacola, Florida
- The Space Center in Huntsville, Alabama

Okay, I hear the laughing. If you don’t like our list, go buy a plane and make your own damn list!

For those who are still with us, Saturday morning at 5:00am, we launched from Waukegan, Illinois and flew south past the Chicago skyline just as the sun was rising in the East.

There was an even more remarkable and rare sight than the glorious sunrise over Chicago; Jolene smiling at 5:00 in the morning!

By 9:30, we were on the ground at Tullahoma airport, being marshalled into our parking spot on the ramp and our rental car was driving up to meet us. By 10:00 we were driving to Lynchburg, home of Jack Daniels. For those of you who know me well, you’ll of course know that I’ve been doing my best to support the residents of Lynchburg for the past 35 years through the purchase of their product. (It’s just not in my heart to see poor Tennesseans starve).

So, we drove from Tullahoma to Lynchburg to see where this elixir is produced. Jack Daniels started his distillery in 1875 at the age of 25 years old. His product was, and continues to be, very popular and in 2013, they shipped over 11 million cases (apparently there are other good-hearted folks who can’t bear to see Tennesseans starve).



Jack Daniels himself died at the age of 61. His demise started about five years before. He came to work one morning and tried to open the safe in his office (he had trouble remembering the combination). After several tries, in frustration, he kicked the safe. This resulted in a badly bruised toe which, in turn led to an infection. Over the next several years, the infection spread leading to the loss of the toe, the shin, the leg and eventually his death in 1911. Our tour guide cheerfully showed us the safe.

Lynchburg itself is somewhat underwhelming. It consists of a very nice town square formed of buildings selling virtually anything you might care to imagine emblazoned with the Jack Daniel’s logo. (We took home our fair share; remember, if not for us and our boundless charity, those poor starving Tennesseans.)

The next morning, we returned to the airport and flew to Knoxville where again we were marshalled into our spot and our rental car drove up to meet us. After a brief respite (I’ve been all the way to the back of our plane and have yet to find the rest room), we drove to



Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, home of Dollywood – Tennessee’s answer to Disney World.

Now, before the inevitable snickers start, let me just say, I admire Dolly Parton (and no, not for why you think)! I have found that for any of us who live long enough, a legend begins to develop about us. Like all legends, it is always based in some truth. Like most legends, generally the legend takes on a life of its own and is much grander and much more interesting than the truth. Many of us begin to embrace or just tolerate the legend without bothering to correct because, as Theodore Geisel once so eloquently put it, “Those who mind don’t matter and those who matter don’t mind.” To paraphrase, those who believe the legend don’t matter and those who know the truth don’t pay any mind to the legend.

A famous coat, and a song to go with it...

So, it is with Dolly. She has embraced the legend that has surrounded her, having once famously proclaimed, “It takes a lot of money to look this cheap.” The truth, while not as grand or interesting is that she is a wholesome, down to earth person who never ever forgot her roots. She is a person of character, integrity and morals and this comes through in her museum.



The Coat of Many Colors

One of the most touching and defining stories is told in her song “Coat of Many Colors.” It tells the story of when Dolly was a little girl and getting ready to first go to school. Her family was so poor that she had no coat to wear. A friend gave them a pile of cloth scraps that her mother began to sew into a coat. As she sewed, her mother told Dolly the story of Joseph and his coat of many colors, from the Bible. Dolly wore that coat to her first day of school and all of the other children began to laugh and make fun of her. As she tells it:

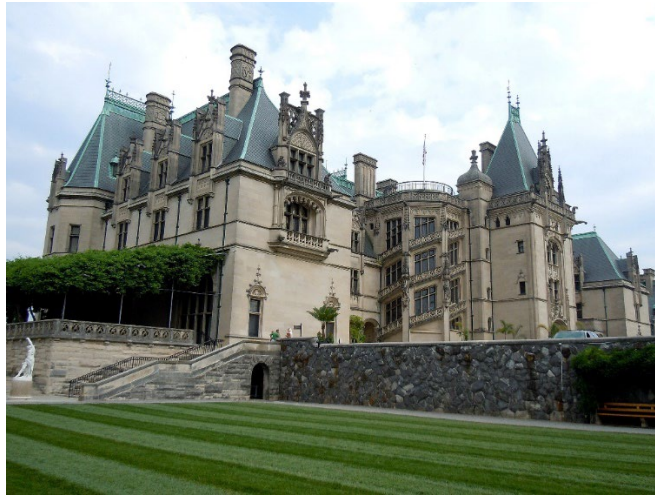
*And oh, I couldn't understand it, for I felt I was rich
And I told them of the love my momma sewed in every stitch
And I told 'em all the story momma told me while she sewed
And how my coat of many colors was worth more than all their clothes
One is only poor, only if they choose to be
Now I know we had no money, but I was rich as I could be
In my coat of many colors my momma made for me*

And THAT’S who Dolly Parton really is.

Dollywood is a wonderful place. Go, if you get the chance.

The next morning, we drove to Asheville, North Carolina (wasn’t far enough to make sense flying). Asheville is known for Biltmore mansion and gardens. Biltmore was built by George Vanderbilt, grandson of Cornelius Vanderbilt. Now being from the East Coast, we have toured many Vanderbilt estates: Newport, Rhode Island; Hyde Park New York; Centerport, New York. The house in Asheville is the largest and grandest of them all. Built between 1889 and 1895 it is the largest privately owned house in the United States, at 178,926 square feet of floor space and featuring 250 rooms. It took us virtually the entire day to tour the house and gardens.





The next morning, we drove back to the airport and flew to Pensacola, Florida, home of the Blue Angels and the National Museum of Naval Aviation.

Now, if you've been paying attention, you'll have noted that each place where we land, we are met by a line person holding two orange batons and guiding us into a spot to park our plane and then another line person drives our rental car up to the plane so we can unload our luggage.

Upon landing at Pensacola International, I was pleased (pleased doesn't begin to do it justice) to see that our "line person" was a perky blond young lady dressed in a pair of "Daisy Dukes" and a SNUG tee shirt PROUDLY proclaiming her association with Pensacola Aviation. At the risk of TMI, what was going through my mind were two thoughts:

"Jolene, could you park this plane, this young lady would like me to follow her" and

What more effective way to say, "Welcome to Pensacola, Florida!"

(I'd post a picture of the line person but "my co-pilot" had some issue with taking the picture.)



The Naval Museum of Naval Aviation

The Naval Museum of Naval Aviation is not to be missed.

The museum was amazing. There is literally every plane the Navy has ever flown, many cockpits to sit in, and many full motion flight simulators (been there, done that, and been sick the rest of the day). I think if I could afford to buy the fuel, an F-4 Phantom just might be my next vehicle. Jolene picked out her own. Perhaps we could have "his and hers" or would that be TOO decadent?

The next morning, we flew to Huntsville, Alabama. (I thought of bringing my own line person but, alas, the party pooper co-pilot objected.)

As you're driving from the airport along the expressway wondering where the US Space and Rocket Center is, you soon see a replica of the massive, 363-foot-tall Saturn V rocket.



Question answered.

Again, spent the day touring the museum. Amazing stuff.

The next morning, as we pulled into the FBO parking lot to leave for home, we passed a T38 on the ramp. I happened to run into the pilot in the men's room and I commented, "Pretty cool plane you have." His response was priceless: "Actually, it's not my plane but I sure do appreciate your paying your taxes and letting me fly it."

We launched back for Chicago and ran into the first clouds we saw all week long. Coming up from mid-Indiana on, we were in and out of some tall cumulus clouds. Not a bad ride and very impressive views.

Just a fabulous vacation. Again: 1,713 nautical miles, 15 flying hours, 5 destinations in 7 days!



Kelly airpark pancake breakfast.

On July 9th we had again another great success, the weather gods were with us but it was a hot day. We had over 45 aircraft fly in and served close to 400 people. It seems like everyone enjoyed using our NEW runway and as always, the pancakes were awesome. By the pictures you can see that we have a lot of drive in's also, friends, neighbors, and relatives.



Colorado Pilots Association Gear

Visit Lands' End for all your CPA apparel. Perfect for pilots and non-pilots alike. Head on over and get your Colorado Pilots Association Sway today.



Christmas in July—CPA Style!

Set aside the evening of December 4, 2022 to join your CPA friends to celebrate the holiday season. It's been a couple of Covid-interrupted years since our last holiday bash. Let's put that all behind us and get re-acquainted. This year's get-together will be at the Bison Grill at the Buffalo Run Golf Course Club House. Mark your calendars now and watch for registration info later this year. Contact Bob or Shawn Kinney at 303-887-3328 with questions.

Want to help your CPA? Got a great idea that you just know will be awesome? Let us know! Contact Marty at:

President@coloradopilots.org



Landing in Lander

by Adrian Nye

The Lander Wyoming Fly-in July 8-10 turned out great and a good time was had by all. I went hiking there a decade ago, and it's still as I remember it. Lots of good food, interesting history, nice people, and right next to the beautiful Wind River range. And only 2 hours away by plane. I recommend it!

Lander having no car rental facilities, six of the pilots were kind enough to land at Riverton to pick up cars, then drive the 40 minutes to Lander to pick up the pilots that landed there. And the reverse when leaving on Sunday. Also Brent & Susan Rognlie drove the 5+ hours from Denver due to issues with their planned airplane.

Priceless car rental provided the 6 cars and did everything over the phone with nobody from CPA signing anything - how's that for hospitality? They had the 6 cars ready at the FBO when we landed.

We had 6 first time fly-in participants. All 24 people arrived on time Friday morning at both airports, thanks to near perfect flying weather. Wyoming is often windy, but not on this day. I was surprised to see everyone waiting at the Lander airport when I got there. I had told everybody they could leave for lunch car by car, but a meet & greet happened instead. Just goes to show, CPA fly-ins are more about people than they are about places. Everyone wanted to meet the other participants. It was a perfect chance for everyone to get acquainted. Then we drove over to Lincoln Street Bakery, which made some excellent sandwiches with their fresh baked bread.

The afternoon was free, so some people walked around town, and some went out to Sinks Canyon state park to view the Popo Agie river, which is an impressive whitewater river, disappear into the ground and emerge 1/4 mile later. Where it emerges there are tons of giant trout.

It was a hot day but cooled down just enough for a shady happy hour around the pool at the Inn at Lander. Everybody brought tasty snacks. I brought some home-made sourdough bread. Nobody fell into the pool, surprisingly. About half the group later had dinner at the hotel restaurant, and the first day came to a close.

Due to predicted very hot weather Saturday, we tried to leave at 8 AM for the hike, but didn't quite make it due to breakfast taking a little longer. Most people left for the hike, and a few stayed behind to visit the weekly Lander Farmer's Market and to do a scenic drive to Red Canyon. The original plan was to drive the Loop road, but that's single-lane gravel with hairpin turns so they decided against it.

The hike started out with a "warm up" in the wrong direction! I had been here ten years prior, but apparently didn't remember. Lacking signs I thought the widest trail must be the right one, but not so. Everybody was a good sport about it, and we got on the right track headed up the Popo Agie river. It has intense whitewater that doesn't let up for miles, flowing strong even in July. After almost 2 miles and 642 feet of climbing we arrived at a multi-level cascade that is Popo Agie Falls. The locals slide down part of it to swim in the 40 degree pools - not me!

After the hike we headed back to town to Middle Fork restaurant, another Lander gem. I for one was happy to be off my feet in the shade, eating good food.

After lunch most of us headed over to Museum of the American West, but it turned out to be closed for a wedding. Sometimes serendipity is your friend. Right next door is the Fremont County Pioneer Museum which turns out to be even better, and it's air conditioned! I got lucky with that.

After a little break back at the hotel we all jumped in the cars again for the 15 mile drive to Hudson WY (population 400) to visit Svilar's Steak House. Larry Earnshaw remembers going to this steak house over 40 years ago so it's been around awhile. Our host and waiter were interesting characters, serving and entertaining us well. We had some fun giving away CPA ball caps and ate huge plates of Prime Rib and roast beast.

Sunday dawned perfect flying weather again and everyone made it home safe.

This was the first CPA fly-in I have organized. It turned out to be the first I attended as well. That wasn't the plan, but the Page fly-in got cancelled due to weather. I would tell other members to go ahead and host a fly-in, it's rewarding and not hard. I got great support and advice from Bill Marvel and the participants were helpful and not demanding. Herding these cats turned out to be surprisingly easy. It was a pleasure getting to know some of the members.



If you invite them, they will come

By Penny Rafferty Hamilton, AOPA Airport Support Network Volunteer for KGNB.

The Colorado bluebird sky and abundant sunshine with a light wind straight down the runway had all of our volunteers at Granby/Grand County Airport (KGNB) in Colorado in Rocky Mountain high spirits for the 2022 pancake breakfast and fly-in July 2.

As I briskly walked from the Emily Warner Field Aviation Museum to the packed hangar for pancakes and silent auction shopping on the 12 tables filled with donated items and gift certificates, my mind flashed to the Kevin Costner classic film “Field of Dreams.” Remember the line, “If you build it, they will come?”

It struck me that my community was thrilled to be invited to their airport to enjoy the upbeat atmosphere and watch 52 general aviation airplanes land and takeoff. Plus, they could allow their children to actually touch a real airplane and talk to a pilot.



The high and imposing metal airport security gate was thrown open. The Civil Air Patrol cadets and other volunteers greeted the steady flow of cars as they passed to the secure parking area.

As I walked around the airport, I passed a young family enjoying their outdoor breakfast. The young child told his mom that these were the best pancakes he ever had in his whole life — all five years of it.

We invited local reporters and gave them a free pancake breakfast as well. They did not mention if the pancakes were the best they ever ate, but I spied one returning for seconds.

About 2,000 people of all ages lined the taxiway. Some people even brought lawn chairs to enjoy seeing the many colorful airplanes in the taxiway parade. Children were literally jumping for joy and waving to the pilots and passengers as another airplane would pass them.

Those pilots and passengers must have felt like royalty at the Queen’s recent Platinum Jubilee!



After 1,300 pancake breakfasts were cooked, the last plane took off, and enough scholarship money was raised to send eight students to the EAA Air Academy and give four higher education aviation scholarships for aviation maintenance and aerospace engineering, our volunteers were tired — but thrilled — with the successful event.

Yes, it did take months of planning, but we are already planning for our 2023 community pancake breakfast and fly-in.





Josh Meader

Citation Latitude resting for the evening

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Colorado Pilots Association
PO Box 200911
Denver, CO 80220-0911
(303)367-0670