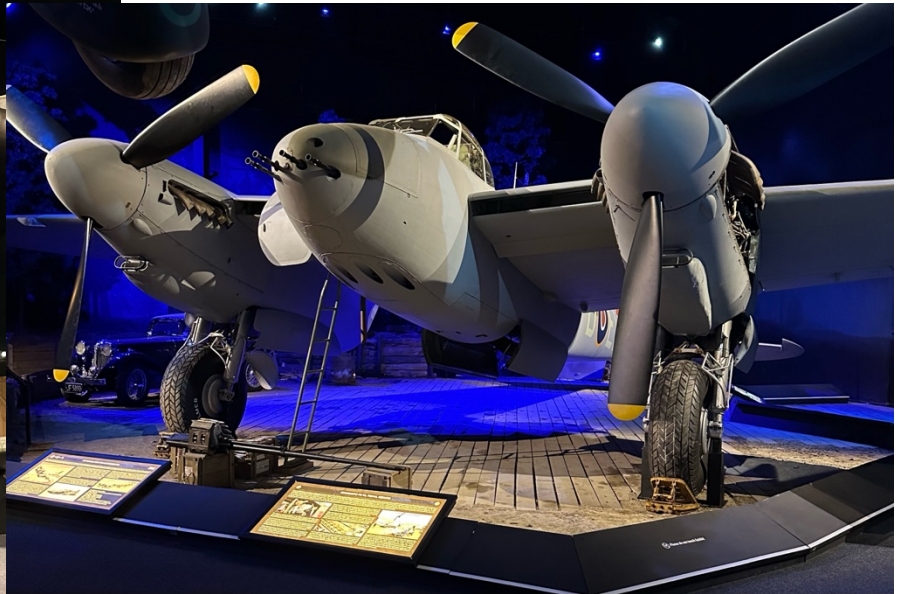


CPA FLIGHT LINES

FEBRUARY 2025



A few of the exhibits at Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre in Marlborough, New Zealand.

Many of the aircraft in the museum are restored, maintained, and still fly today. If you're ever in New Zealand, this museum was an unexpected gem. They also host an annual Classic Fighters Omaka Airshow.

Photo credits: Andy Holmes (February 2024)

President's Corner

by Adrian Nye



At the January board meeting we again discussed the CPA Directory. We took the web version offline last year and did not print the paper edition. The reasons were two-fold. Most important, there is concern that the information could be used by airport opponents to target members, either in lawsuits or worse. The directory is only accessible to members, but we believe we have a few members that are not pilots (some joined during the HB24-1235 controversy), and at least one pilot who spoke up as an airport opponent. The second issue is that we never specifically asked for or got permission from each member to publish their information. Although that is not required by state or federal law for our size organization, it is required

in larger non-profits and has become standard practice. The bottom line is that there are risks and benefits for participation; it makes sense for each individual to be able to make their own choice.

The board decided to implement an opt-in policy. All members will start opted out. Once we are technically ready, you will receive instructions on how to opt-in, which will allow you to control which elements of your personal information are visible to other members through the online directory and eventually the paper directory. Assuming enough members opt in after a couple months, we will then publish the paper directory containing only the same information that is visible online.

Last year we created a Social Committee for social events. It never took off for various reasons. In the meantime, I've realized it wasn't named correctly and was too limited in scope. We really want it to organize events of educational or social nature, that don't involve actual flying somewhere (which is covered by the fly-in committee). Things like visits to air traffic control facilities, aircraft-related businesses, and the like. It would include purely social occasions, such as our annual holiday dinner. This month we plan to re-christen this committee "Group Activities" and re-launch it into a more successful future. We have a potential new leader for this committee Chris Kilker (subject to board approval), who has been a valuable contributor to the Education committee. Look out for events to be announced in future newsletters and by email.

This March there are two national aviation events coming to Denver for the first time. One is the Redbird Migration 2025, March 4-5 at Wings Over the Rockies Centennial location. This is one of the premier conferences for the flight training industry and of interest to all pilots.

The second is the Women in Aviation International conference, March 27-29 at the Gaylord Rockies resort which is near DIA. CPA will be sharing a booth at the WAI conference with Colorado Department of Transportation aviation division. We are looking for volunteers to work brief shifts at the booth, ideally those who already have paid registration to the conference. Contact president@coloradopilots.org if you would like to volunteer. We're lucky to have both conferences so close by and during what's usually a slow flying season due to weather.

Hope you have a good month.

Adrian



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NOTICE: Submission deadline for the March 2025 issue is February 20.

Email your article to newsletter@coloradopilots.org.



CPA NOTAMs

Work Continues at KBJC

Be Alert for FAA NOTAMs regarding runway closures as they improve the stormwater basin between the parallel runways. Work is scheduled to continue through February.

36th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference

The high-profile conference event is coming to Denver for the first time and is scheduled for March 27-29, 2025, at Gaylord Rockies Resort and Conference Center. The Colorado Pilots Association will be co-exhibiting with the Colorado Department of Transportation, much the same as we did at Oshkosh 2024.

2024 Annual Report - Colorado Division of Aeronautics

The Colorado Division of Aeronautics has published its 2024 Annual Report. Check it out [here](#) to read more about important programs and projects funded by and administered through the Division. Also available are the 2025 Colorado Airport Directories and Aeronautical Charts. You can request a mailed copy or download an electronic copy [here](#).

HAVE CO AVIATION RELATED INFORMATION FOR GA PILOTS?

Contact the CPA Newsletter Editor at newsletter@coloradopilots.org to have the information featured in the monthly Flight Lines CPA NOTAMs.



CO Aviation Events Brief – February 2025

CPA – Monthly Board of Directors Meeting-ALL MEMBERS WELCOME TO ATTEND

Monday, February 3, 2025, from 1830 to 2030

The Hangar, 7565 South Peoria, Englewood, CO 80112

In Person, or CPA website link or at <https://bit.ly/CPABoardMeeting>

WOTR – Wings Aerospace Exploration Parent/Family Info Night

Tuesday, February 4, 2025, from 1800 to 2000

Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight, 13005 Wings Way, Englewood, CO 80112

Exploration of Flight Museum Ticket Required. Details and Registration [here](#).

Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable

Wednesday, February 5, 2025, from 1830 to 2030

7565 South Peoria, Englewood, CO 80112 or GoToWebinar

Webinar Registration [here](#)

Breakfast Fly-In – KAPA

Saturday, February 8, 2025, from 0930 to 1230

Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight, 13005 Wings Way, Englewood, CO 80112

Registration not required. Fly in or stop by to check out the museum and enjoy a local food truck.

Jefferson County Airport Advisory Board ([link to Agenda and Minutes](#))

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, from 1700 to 1800

RMMA Terminal, 11755 Airport Way, Broomfield, CO 80021 (Flatirons Room)

Registration not required. Virtual Meeting link [here](#)

Arapahoe County Public Airport Authority ([link to Agenda and Minutes](#))

Thursday, February 13, 2025, from 1500 to 1700

7565 South Peoria, Englewood, CO 80112

Registration not required. Virtual Meeting link [here](#)

WOTR – Wings Aerospace Exploration Parent/Family Info Night

Monday, February 24, 2025, from 1800 to 2000

Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight, 13005 Wings Way, Englewood, CO 80112

Exploration of Flight Museum Ticket Required. Details and Registration [here](#).

HAVE AN AVIATION RELATED EVENT?

Contact the CPA Webmaster at webmaster@coloradopilots.org and the CPA Newsletter Editor at newsletter@coloradopilots.org to have your event published on our website calendar and in the monthly Flight Lines Aviation Events Brief!



New Board of Directors @ KGWS

Originally published by KGWS Sumer Airpark, republished with permission



Thank you to everyone who came out for our Annual Membership Meeting. We had close to 50 people in attendance and well over 50 votes including proxies. We currently have over 90 voting members, and it's encouraging to see so many engaged and wanting to be involved.

Yesterday we had the transition meeting between the Interim Board who spearheaded KGWS Sumer Airpark and the new Board of Directors who will continue to carry the torch. What an incredible group of individuals we have serving our aviation community!

If you see these folks around the airfield, be sure to give them a high five and show your gratitude.

New Board of Directors for KGWS Summers Airpark

Eric Strautman, President
Alan Arnold, Vice-President
Joe Mueller - Secretary
David Merritt - Treasurer
Erin Zalinski - City Council Liaison
Hector Brown
Chris Lehrman

We have an exciting year ahead as we continue to grow and operate KGWS as the best little airport in the Rockies. We will be working on an Airport Layout Plan, hosting Young Eagles Rallies, doing pavement reseal/repaint, restarting our EAA Chapter, having an Aviation Expo and more. It really is the community that makes this place so great - if you want to get involved, get in touch ;)

Support our Corporate Members



Become a Corporate Member, [click here!](#)



2025 Fly-in Preview

by Bill Marvel, Fly-in committee chairman

Finally, here they are! Welcome, members to the tentative 2025 slate of CPA Fly-in events, which were developed at the January 11 planning meeting at Rocky Mountain Metro airport.

This is a preliminary look at the Fly-ins for this year. Details are being worked out by the various hosts now. Finalized information for each, along with registration forms, will be forthcoming in future Flight Lines issues. Watch for them there! Every event will appear twice – once as a brief reminder in the issue sent three months prior to the event date and then again two months prior containing details and registration information. Look at the selection below, choose the ones you might wish to attend and mark those dates on your calendars now!

IMPORTANT: If you find one of interest, be certain to contact the event host right away to be placed on the planning and priority list. Many trips are well attended, and some have attendance limits. Don't put this off or you may wait too long. When the registration forms appear in Flight Lines, members will register to attend, and hosts will try to accommodate everyone. But if there are more registrations than can be accommodated, hosts will use that priority list to determine who goes!

The Nucla trip is highly unusual. It is being sponsored by a local Nucla resident who is not a CPA member and not a pilot but loves the beauty and camaraderie of her small town where people don't have to lock doors, and the surrounding terrain is red rock canyons and mountains. Her B&B is wonderful. She hosted a great event last year for us and is doing another this year with a different program.

NOTE: Every registration form will contain space for members without airplanes to request a seat and those with airplanes to list any seats they have available. Hosts will then put the two together.

April 26 – Akron, CO (KAKO). Visit the Hayes Aviation aircraft painting facility. See demonstrations of every aspect of the process from control surface removal to paint stripping, metal and fiberglass surface preparation, filling imperfections, masking, spraying primer and different topcoats on sample aluminum and fiberglass coupons. Learn about different topcoats like clear, metallic flake and whatever else is the latest. See examples of good and poor paint application (like runs, dry spray and orange peel) and what causes them plus control surface balancing when needed. Lunch at the airport provided by Hayes Aviation. Host Bill Marvel (310) 293 2013, rv8tor@msn.com

May 30-June 1, Durango, CO (00C, Animas Airpark). Arrive at Animas Air Park (00C) and stay in downtown Durango. Enjoy an e-bike ride along the river with a picnic lunch or take some time to explore the train museum and browse the downtown shops. Dinner at the Bar D Chuckwagon. On Saturday, take a scenic drive to Silverton for breathtaking views, a Gold Mine Tour, and lunch. Return to Durango for dinner. For those interested, you have the option to arrive a day early to enjoy mountain biking, road biking, and/or a visit to the Durango Hot Springs. Host Colleen Leppert (602) 692 0807, colleenleppert@mac.com



June 13-15, Hot Springs, SD (KHSR). First CPA trip to this destination. Stay at the fully remodeled Hot Springs lodge at \$129 a night. Visit Wind Cave National Park, Moccasin Hot Springs, Mammoth site indoor excavation, World Fossil Museum, Fall River Pioneer Museum, Badlands Traveler back country aircraft facility, 30 NM flight over Mt. Rushmore, group dinner, Whiskey River Tap Room with 20 beers on tap and Two Cows Creamery with 84 ice cream flavors. You'll be busy with these many options! Host Bill Marvel (310) 293 2013, rv8tor@msn.com

June 21-22, Kremmling, CO (20V). FLY or DRIVE to Kremmling, a short flight or drive from Denver. Enjoy a float trip on the Colorado river on a sunny, warm June afternoon. Viewing wildlife, natural beauty, hot springs, passing by cliff jump sites and playful rapids will be a memorable half-day on the river. Our raft trip will be followed by our usual happy hour then a short walk to a local restaurant. We have 10 rooms reserved at the Allington Inn & Suites for the great price of \$124/night. After breakfast, a short flight or drive back across the mountains to home. Host Jan McKenzie (970) 568 6411, jan.mckenzie99@gmail.com

June 25-27, Coeur d'Alene, ID (KCOE). Visit charming lakeside Coeur d'Alene Idaho. We will stay in the historic Blackwell Inn in downtown Coeur d'Alene, just blocks from the gorgeous Lake Coeur d'Alene. We will enjoy a boat tour of the lake and then, of course, our Happy Hour on the gracious veranda of the Inn before dinner at a nearby brew pub. The next day includes lunch and a tour of the famous 'Bird Aviation and Invention Museum', time to explore downtown shops and parks, and a group dinner near the Inn. Host David Ladd (303) 915 5877, Dladd765@yahoo.com

July 3-6, Butte, MT (KBTM). Join us for a 3-night trip to Butte, Montana (1 of the 2 cities recognized as a National Historic Landmark). Activities include **Butte's Freedom Festival** with a 4th of July parade, fireworks, music and food, the **World Museum of Mining** including an underground mining tour, **Old Butte Historical Adventures** where you'll see the underground **Hirbour Barber Shop** and hidden prohibition illegal drinking establishment, below ground level city jail where Evel Knievel served time, and the elegant **Rookwood Speakeasy** featured on the History Channel including the underground sidewalks, and **Lewis and Clark Caverns Tour** to name a few. Host Kevin Condroski (303) 466 4801, kevin@condroski.com

August 22-24 Sheridan, WY (KSHR): Visit beautiful Sheridan, Wyoming which sits on the east foothills of the Bighorn Mountain Range in Northern Wyoming. Attractions we'll enjoy are the Trail End State Historic site which is a 14,000 sq. ft. mansion that you will thoroughly enjoy; Kendrick park's Ice Cream Stand; Forrest Mars' (of M&M and Mars Bars candy fame), Brinton Art Museum (built in 2015), and adjoining ranch house. See works by Remington, Russell, Audubon and Hans Kleiber. Finally, the downtown Mint Bar and dinner at Eaton's Ranch (oldest dude ranch in America), round out our stay in Sheridan. Note: The fabulous Sheridan Best Western Hotel is our base of operations at only \$109 per night. Host: Bob Kinney at 303-887-3328, twinlake1@aol.com

September 12-14, Alamogordo, NM (KALM). Visit White Sands National Park, Pistachio Farm Tour, Tularosa Museum of Space History, IMAX theater and planetarium, Toy Train Museum and White Sands Missile Range Museum. Highly unusual, this national park is enclosed within the restricted area of the White Sands Missile Range. Group dinner, happy hour and ice cream! Host Bill Gust (719) 482 6810, garbona@msn.com



September 26-28, Nucla, CO (KAIB). Take a step back in time to 1894, when a group of like-minded families decided to escape tyrannical landlords in Denver and formed the Colorado Cooperative Company. They then headed over the Rocky Mountains to Southwest Colorado to build their utopia. Throughout the area you will visit old ditch camps, and the historic town of Pinon. Retrace their steps over 9 years as they collectively carved out an 18 mile mostly hand dug irrigation canal from the San Miguel River to the Town of Nucla on Tabeguache Park. Visit the Cottonwood Syphon that was once the largest trestle in the United States. Following the river, you will visit the headgate of the Colorado Cooperative Company and learn about the hardships of the colony and the natural disasters that continually threaten the canal's operation. This Fly-in event is a spectacular celebration of what people can accomplish when they work together. Host Aimee Tooker (970) 428 7750, vestalhousenucla@gmail.com

October 10-12, Hutchinson, KS (KHUT). CPA returns to Hutchinson, KS after 8 years. After arrival at KHUT and lunch at the Airport Steakhouse, our trip will take us 650 feet UGL (under ground level) to explore some of the over 150 miles of tunnels that make up the Strataca Salt Mines. We'll enjoy an aviator happy hour at a local brewery, and ice cream at Bogey's (famous for its 101+ flavors of ice cream shakes). The main event is the Kansas Cosmosphere, a world-renowned space museum, where you can see one-of-a-kind exhibits, such as the Apollo 13 Command Module – Odyssey, Liberty Bell 7, Gemini X, a rocket gallery, SR-71 Blackbird, and so much more! We'll enjoy group dinner at Carriage Crossing in the nearby quaint Amish community of Yoder and it's all but certain your host will pick up the donuts for the early risers from the popular staple, Daylight Donuts. Host Andy Holmes (719) 330 4185, andy@holmesaviation.net



AOPA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Don't miss these scholarship opportunities. Check out the myriads of scholarships available through AOPA. Scholarships are available for High School Students, Teachers, Primary Training, Advanced Training, Aviation Maintenance, Flight Dispatchers, FBO Managers, Airport Managers, and Aircraft Engineers.

Application Deadline: February 7, 2025, at 1159 EST.

Eligibility: AOPA Members

One Application covers all eligible scholarships.

Apply [Here!](#)



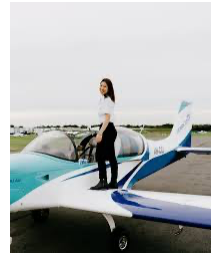
CPA 2025 Scholarship Program

Soar to New Heights with the 2025 CPA Pilot Training Scholarship Program!

The Colorado Pilots Association (CPA) is proud to announce the opening of applications for our **2025 Pilot Training Scholarship Program**. This year, we're awarding **four scholarships** to deserving Coloradans with a passion for aviation.

Why Apply?

Earn your Private Pilot's License: Two scholarships, up to \$5,000 each, will be awarded to students aged 16-22 selected through a competitive application process.



Advance your Skills: Two \$5,000 Emily Howell Warner Scholarships will be awarded to support female pilots with Private Pilot certificates or higher pursuing their Instrument Rating, Commercial Certificate, or Multi-Engine Ratings.

Born in Denver, Emily Joyce Howell Warner was the 1st woman captain of a scheduled US airline. Her career has been recognized by multiple halls of fame, including the [National Aviation Hall of Fame](#) and [National Women's Hall of Fame](#). Her pilot's uniform is on display at the [Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum](#). CPA is pleased to offer two scholarships in her honor.

Wings Over the Rockies Partnership: CPA is an official scholarship selection partner with Wings Over the Rockies. As such, we can recommend one individual for a Private Pilot or Glider training scholarship awarded through Wings Over the Rockies.

When you access the WOTR scholarship application (see link below), selecting CPA as the entity that directed you to this scholarship opportunity effectively doubles your chance to receive an award! *Please note: WOTR has an earlier application deadline: [February 14, 2025](#).*



How to Apply:

Applications are now open through **March 31, 2025**. Each applicant will need to submit an Essay and a Letter of Recommendation from their Certified Flight Instructor.

Apply:

- **CPA Scholarships:** [CPA Scholarships](#)
 - Requires membership to CPA and must be logged into CPA account (student membership is free)
- **Wings Over the Rockies Scholarship:** [WOTR Scholarships](#)

Stipulations:

- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be Colorado residents.
- **Flight Training Location:** Training must be completed at a Colorado flight school.
- **Partial Funding:** The scholarship may not fully cover the cost of training. Awardees are responsible for any remaining balance.

Selection Process:

1. **Application Review:** Initial evaluation of the online application form, essay, and CFI letter of recommendation.
2. **Academic Achievement:** Preference may be given to applicants who have completed ground school and passed the Aeronautical Knowledge Exam.
3. **Interview:** Selected applicants will be interviewed, either in person at Rocky Mountain Metropolitan or Centennial Airport, or virtually.

Key Dates:

- **January 1:** CPA Application period opens.
- **March 31: CPA Application period closes.**
- **April 15-30:** CPA Interviews conducted.
- **May 15:** CPA Awardees announced.
- **May 31:** CPA Funds released to awardee's flight school.

Spread the Word!

Help us reach deserving candidates! Please share this announcement with interested students and encourage them to apply. ***Thank you for your support in making this program a success!*** For questions, please reach out to the CPA Education Committee at: scholarships@coloradopilots.org



Wings' Flight Training Scholarships

Now Open!

Do you know a Colorado student with dreams of soaring through the skies? Wings Over the Rockies™ is thrilled to offer flight training scholarships! The funds have been generously provided by the Ray Foundation and offer students an opportunity to work towards Private Pilot Certification in gliders or single engine airplanes.

This incredible opportunity not only help students achieve their dream of becoming a pilot, but also builds leadership, discipline and a passion for aerospace.

Applicants must be Colorado residents aged 15-19 and dedicated to completing flight training.

The application period closes on February 14, 2025!

Share this opportunity to help a deserving student take their first step toward a future in aviation.
Apply [Here!](#)



2025 Federal Grants to Colorado Airports

The following are grants awarded for 2025 to Colorado Airports through the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – Airport Infrastructure Grants – Round Two:

CO	Buena Vista	Central Colorado Regional	AEJ	Expand Apron, Rehabilitate Apron, Reseal Apron Pavement	\$556,000
CO	Burlington	Kit Carson County	ITR	Reconstruct Taxiway	\$187,484
CO	Canon City	Fremont County	1V6	Rehabilitate Taxiway	\$145,000
CO	Colorado Springs	City of Colorado Springs Municipal	COS	Improve Terminal, Reconstruct Terminal Components	\$5,864,040
CO	Cortez	Cortez Municipal	CEZ	Expand Apron	\$585,000
CO	Durango	Durango-La Plata County	DRO	Expand Terminal, Reconstruct Terminal	\$4,084,060
CO	Erie	Erie Municipal	EIK	Rehabilitate Apron, Rehabilitate Taxiway	\$104,403
CO	Limon	Limon Municipal	LIC	Reseal Taxiway Pavement, Reseal/Resurface Runway Pavement	\$328,625
CO	Montrose	Montrose Regional	MTJ	Reconstruct Taxiway	\$3,368,181
CO	Pagosa Springs	Stevens Field	PSO	Reconstruct Parking Lot	\$511,244
CO	Pueblo	Pueblo Memorial	PUB	Construct/Expand Hangar, Rehabilitate Taxiway	\$1,654,000
CO	Telluride	Telluride Regional	TEX	Construct Apron, Construct Taxiway, Install Wind Cone/Segmented Circle	\$2,618,463



FROM THE LINE



CPA MEMBER ARTICLES

Centerline column – Emergencies and Crisis Rehearsal, by Andy Holmes

2025 CPA Fly-In Committee, by Bill Marvel

Angry Homeowner Email & Response, by Adrian Nye



Digitize Old Flight Lines?

I have received donations of two extensive libraries of paper Flight Lines issues, one from Walt and Terry Barbo and the other from Gretchen Jahn and Karl Sutterfield. I believe we may have just about every issue ever published, throughout the CPA's 52-year history.

There are many details to work out, such as what format it should be in, how it will be viewed online, and whether it needs to be digitized in a way that is searchable (using OCR) as text or just scanned into another digital format. The choices affect the potential costs. **If you have expertise in this area please reach out to:** president@coloradopilots.org.





EMERGENCIES AND CRISIS REHEARSAL

The sheer joy of flying, the convenience of flying, the uniqueness and freedom of flying in the USA, the camaraderie pilots share, and the safety of flying are among the many reasons we all love general aviation flying. Flying, though, is a serious responsibility that demands our respect and preparation. Emergencies occur. Are you mentally prepared?

My practice is that before every flight, I review an emergency procedure and appropriate checklist(s) in an imagined and often evolving scenario. Having served as a law enforcement officer for 11 years, I frequently engaged in this type of mental rehearsal when I wasn't busy going from one call-for-service to the next. I knew it as crisis rehearsal, where I visualized different scenarios and my response. Some level of creativity is beneficial to keep these scenarios fresh and relevant, but it's the repeated practice of mental imagery that develops our muscle memory and response. This rehearsal will reduce anxiety when an actual event occurs and allow for clearer thinking when needed most – during emergencies or abnormal situations.

While it is invaluable to regularly practice emergency and abnormal procedures in the plane, it's not something I drill every time I fly. I do, however, take a moment before each flight to visualize a scenario and decide how I would respond. My hope is that if a similar situation occurs in flight, I will have already considered it multiple times, allowing me to spend less time processing information and developing a plan and more time executing the plan.

It's important to include your senses in this visualization process—what you expect to hear, see, feel, or smell. Our senses can be overwhelming, so it's crucial to address this aspect, ensuring that your mind has some exposure to these experiences before an actual emergency or abnormal situation arises. Additionally, a vital characteristic of crisis rehearsal is the scenario always concludes with a positive outcome. We train to success, not failure!

Many professions use mental imagery and visualization to enhance their performance; pilots should do the same. Whether you're a 40-hour student pilot or a 14,000-hour airline transport pilot, there are always scenarios and situations for which you can better prepare, simulate mentally, or practice with chair flying or static flying in the plane.

While crisis rehearsal may not guarantee a perfect response to an in-flight emergency, living to share your experience with other pilots is perfect enough.

Remember, preparation is never a waste of time. Your life, the lives of your passengers, and the lives of people on the ground may depend on it someday.

Next month: PAVE, IMSAFE, & BEYOND...

Photo Credit: reproduced with permission of Boldmethod, runway 30R @ KB/C



The 2025 CPA Fly-in Committee

by Bill Marvel, Chairman

One of the questions I asked several years ago when I started out in my current CPA position was simple -- who else was on the “committee” besides me? As sometimes happens in organizations, especially during transitions from one manager to another, it turns out this concept had been very loosely defined. After thinking about it for a while, I realized there was a better way to define the committee and its membership.

As you know, each year a group of CPA members voluntarily steps up to run our annual Fly-ins. Some are “repeat offenders” doing this year to year and others are new. These great folks do the deep dive into planning the events we all enjoy and, in my view, constitute the Fly-in Committee. After all, we’re working together as a group under a single chairman and with individual responsibilities and specific goals. Collectively, we create the slate of events for any given year, present them to membership and then, one by one, make them happen. In the process, there is a great deal of back and forth involving problem solving, schedule conflicts, procedural questions, advertising/publishing and the like. So that’s the long answer to the question of who constitutes the committee – it’s me as chairman and the various Fly-in hosts as participants for a given year.

I’d like to introduce this year’s hosts and publicly thank them for stepping forward as committee members doing the work needed for the rest of us. They are Bob Kinney, Bill Gust, Colleen Leppert, Andy Homes, Jan McKenzie, Aimee Tooker, Kevin Condroski and David Ladd. If you happen to see any of these folks, give them a pat on the back and say thanks. They’re the ones who **MAKE THINGS HAPPEN!**



Typical Angry Homeowner Email and Response

by Adrian Nye

Here is an email CPA received from Brenda, a homeowner east of Castle Rock:

The homeowners in Elbert County that have been unwilling made subject to your Three Towers training box demand that you close this box immediately. The noise from these planes is disturbing us in our homes, yards, shops, decks & patios. We have pilots performing stall out maneuvers over & near our homes. We have pilots flying under 1000 feet above our area that is now considered high density. Have them fly their maneuvers over your homes for hours on end 7 days a week & see how annoyed you & your neighbors get. Make them use the flight boxes out over nothing. The only thing they will annoy & disturb there are weeds, wildlife, maybe some cattle & dried up deer & cattle feces. You can close this box & you know it. One of the idiot flight schools doing stall outs over my home crashes on my property, you will get sued as we have complained about these issues & you will not do anything about it.

Note that this is the first time I've heard from Brenda and none of Elbert County is high density according to FAA charts. Here is my response to Brenda:

Hi Brenda,

I know noise is unpleasant and having no control over it is frustrating. I am annoyed by a neighbor that insists on revving his muscle cars at 11 PM. Unfortunately, that is legal.

But I do want to make sure you realize a few things:

1. Most importantly, CPA has no control whatsoever over where individual pilots go or where flight schools tell them to go. We don't even have any good way to suggest they change behavior, since fewer than 1 in 20 Colorado pilots are our members.
2. CPA did not define the practice area boxes including the three towers box. We distribute a map layer that shows the areas, but the flight schools get together to determine the practice area boxes and always did. We try to keep it up to date with what the flight schools tell us is current practice.
3. The whole reason for the training boxes, and why we make the map layer available, is safety - to enable flight instructors to tell each other (over the radio) where they are flying, so that there is less chance of a mid-air collision. As you may know several mid-air collisions have happened in the Denver area, so this is a serious risk.
4. In your area, nobody tells pilots to fly in a certain box, where to fly or where not to fly, other than the FAA and Air Force Academy. In general, every pilot looks for the least busy area



regardless of practice areas, also considering the high cost of going further out. So, the practice area boxes do not concentrate traffic. It is just a fact of life that since there is a major airline pilot shortage and pay has gone way up, there are more people training to be pilots. There is more traffic everywhere, including over my house.

5. The FAA is the only entity that has any authority over where pilots go. If you feel your area is congested and there are pilots flying under 1000 feet, you can complain to the FAA FSDO (Flight Standards District Office) in Denver. Another thing you can do is identify the aircraft N number (using ADSB exchange) and then determine who owns the aircraft and call them to ask politely that they not fly over a certain location (or fly higher). You could also try to meet with the leadership of the flight schools at Centennial if there is a consistent pattern of flying too low over a congested area.

I know you'd rather hear that I could fix it somehow, but I can't, sorry. If you are part of a group I hope you'll forward this message to them so that they understand the problem better and understand that practice areas aren't the cause of it, or the solution.

Sincerely,
Adrian Nye
President
Colorado Pilots Association



ON THE HORIZON



CPA FLY-IN LISTINGS

Hayes Aviation in Akron, CO (KAKO), by Bill Marvel



Paint Shop Trip Upcoming

by Bill Marvel, event host

Kee in mind the one-day Fly-in to Hayes Aviation in Akron, Colorado (KAKO) that's scheduled for April 26. This is the first CPA event of the 2025 flying season.

They will be taking us through a tour of their painting facility, from disassembly to stripping existing paint to surface preparation, damage restoration, masking, priming, painting and then reassembly. Along the way we'll see examples of good and bad paint applications (problems like orange peel, runs and dry spray and what causes them), surface preparation like filling dents/irregularities and watching them spray paint, both primer and topcoat, onto sample coupons of aluminum and fiberglass. They will also show us examples of different types of available top coatings like clear, metallic flake and whatever else the latest happens to be. We'll also see how they balance control surfaces prior to reassembly.

And, of course, questions about any of it, including the important element of cost in today's world, are all welcome. This will be an up-close and personal tour of something not many of us have ever seen and yet might be in our future.

Hayes Aviation will provide lunch for us right at the airport as part of the trip, so bring your appetite. The next issue of Flight Lines will contain more detailed information along with the registration form, so be sure to look for it. And be advised there is no registration fee for this event, so your only cost is getting there and back.

If you don't have access to an airplane and want to fly there, the registration form contains a provision for this exact situation. Be sure to look for it!





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