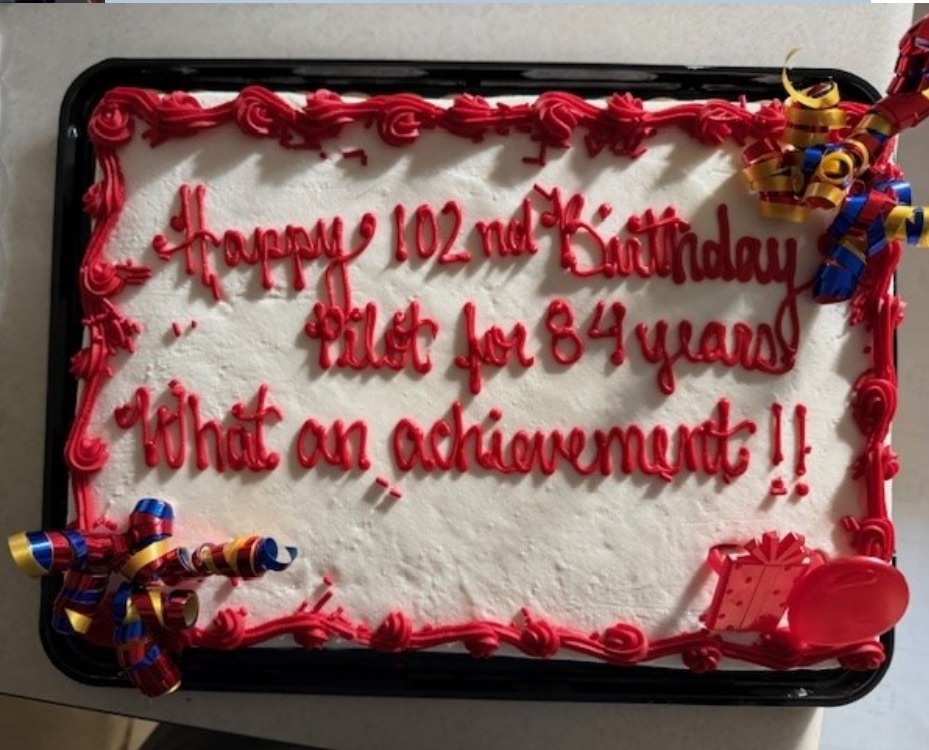


CPA FLIGHT LINES

MARCH 2026

WALT BARBO celebrating 102 the way we all hope to celebrate 102 – flying an airplane!



From the history books: Walt Barbo flying the iconic Centurion in the Colorado Rocky Mountains

President's Corner

by Andy Holmes



Dear Members of the Colorado Pilots Association,

March is an important month in the aviation community. Along with the arrival of longer days and the promise of spring flying, it is also home to Women in Aviation Week—an opportunity to recognize the history, achievements, and future of women in aviation. On behalf of the Colorado Pilots Association, I want to express our support for this effort and for organizations

such as the Colorado Ninety-Nines.

Women have been part of aviation from the very beginning. In the early years, pioneers like Harriet Quimby and Bessie Coleman broke barriers. In the decades that followed, women continued to push forward into every corner of aviation—flying air races and aerobatic shows, instructing students, commanding aircraft, serving in the military, and flying in space. Organizations like The Ninety-Nines, founded in 1929 with Amelia Earhart as its first president, created a network to help women succeed in an industry where they were dramatically underrepresented. The Ninety-Nines mentorship and advocacy continue today through scholarships, outreach, and community building.

Colorado has its place in the history of women in aviation. One notable figure is [Emily Howell Warner](#), a Colorado aviator who became the first woman to fly for a scheduled U.S. airline and later the first woman airline captain at a US airline. Her professional persistence helped open doors for countless women; the progress we see today is built on the determination of individuals who refused to believe the cockpit door was closed to them. Colorado's aviation history also includes many other remarkable women whose contributions extend to nearly every corner of aviation: [Elizabeth “Betty” Haas Pfister](#), [Betty Clark](#), [Donna Myers](#), [Doris Millie Langher](#), and [Carol Rymer Davis](#) to name a few. Together, these women aviators and many more represent the depth and diversity of women's contributions to aviation in Colorado.

Despite the progress of the last century, aviation has plenty of room to grow. Today, women make up about one in ten pilots in the United States. The number of women entering flight training continues to increase – 17% of new student pilots in 2024, up from



10% in 2015. I believe this is a sign that outreach and visibility matter. Events such as Women in Aviation Week give women and girls an opportunity to experience aviation firsthand through aviation-related career events, discovery flights, and community outreach activities.

General aviation plays a vital role in supporting and encouraging women to become pilots. Representation matters and for some pilots-to-be, the moment that sparks their future in aviation is seeing someone like them at the controls of an aircraft. While airlines and corporate flight departments often represent the visible face of aviation to the public, the true gateway into the world of aviation begins at the local airport. Flight schools, flying clubs, instructors, and volunteer organizations are where people first discover aviation and where a supportive culture can make all the difference. When those spaces are welcoming and inclusive, all of aviation benefits.

Colorado has an especially vibrant aviation culture, and we should be proud of the many women who are part of it: student pilots, private pilots, flight instructors, backcountry aviators, airline pilots, mechanics, engineers, and aviation leaders. Their contributions strengthen our airports, our flying clubs, our flight schools, our hangar talks, our aviation organizations, and the wider aviation community.

I encourage our members to support local events, connect with organizations supporting women in aviation, such as the Colorado Ninety-Nines and Women in Aviation International – Mile High Chapter, and continue to foster an aviation culture that welcomes women. By doing so, we help ensure the skies remain within reach to everyone with the passion and determination to pursue flight.

See you this Saturday, March 7, 2026, from 10:00AM to 2:00PM at Wings Over The Rockies – Exploration of Flight for the Colorado Ninety-Nines Women in Aviation Event.

Fly Safe,

Andy Holmes

President

Colorado Pilots Association



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NOTICE:

Submission deadline for the April 2026 issue is March 20.
Format all articles with 0.5" margins

Email your article to newsletter@coloradopilots.org.

HAVE 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.



CPA NOTAMs

Celebrate Women In Aviation

The Colorado Pilots Association proudly supports Colorado Ninety-Nines and **Women in Aviation Week** and invites our members and the aviation community to join the Ninety-Nines for a special event at Wings Over the Rockies – Exploration of Flight located at Centennial Airport on **Saturday, March 7, 2026, from 1000 to 1400**. This event will highlight the **past, present, and future of women in aviation**, offering a chance to explore aviation history, enjoy family friendly activities, and connect with fellow aviators. Aviation Panel from 12pm to 1 pm and Meet & Greet from 1pm to 2pm. Come out, show your support, and celebrate the incredible contributions women continue to make in aviation.

CPA Seeks Airport Support Network Volunteers

Do you know who your AOPA ASN (airport support network) representative is? If not, check the AOPA [website](#). Introduce yourself and see if they need any help on projects. If you don't see an ASN for your airport, consider becoming a volunteer. CPA's connection to AOPA to get you started is Keith Serkes, our Backcountry Committee Chair. CPA works together with AOPA to develop an ASN at every airport in Colorado. If you're interested in becoming an ASN, contact Keith at Cessna185@att.net.

Here is a list of Colorado airports where we need your help:

Airport	ID	Airport	ID
Fremont County Airport	1V6	Craig-Moffat Airport	CAG
Wray Municipal Airport	2V5	Lake Meredith Seaplane Base	CO1
Brush Municipal Airport	7V5	Westwinds Airport	D17
Julesburg Municipal Airport	7V8	Meeker Coulter Field	EEO
Dove Creek Airport	8V6	Holyoke Airport	HEQ
Springfield Municipal Airport	8V7	Kit Carson County Airport	ITR
Eads Municipal Airport	9V7	Holly Airport	K08
Cuchara Valley At La Veta Airport	07V	Southeast Colorado Regional Airport	LAA
Kenney Reservoir Seaplane Base	13R	Lake County Airport	LXV
Haxtun Municipal Airport	17V	Monte Vista Municipal Airport	MVI
Walden-Jackson County Airport	33V	San Luis Valley Regional/Bergman Field	ALS
Blake Field	AJZ		
Colorado Plains Regional Airport	AKO		



COLORADO PRACTICE AREAS OVERLAY UPDATE

In the interest of safety and as a service to our membership, the Colorado Pilots Association publishes a ForeFlight overlay map highlighting specific areas of concentrated flight training activity, which includes practice box names. The parameters for this overlay are developed collaboratively by regional flight schools. CPA compiles information provided by the flight schools, develops and distributes the .kml file through our website to ensure broad access and enhance situational awareness and contribute to safer skies. Get the most recent overlap [map](#).

ADVOCACY ALERTS

Longmont, Boulder, Centennial, Meadowlake

The Colorado Front Range Airports have no shortage of activity that demand the time and effort of our dedicated volunteers who monitor, report, and collaborate with our partners in advocacy. The Colorado Pilots Association has been involved in active advocacy at several front range airports, including partnership building with AOPA, boots on the ground at council meetings, communicating with our elected officials, and more. It may seem a bit cliché, but there is strength in numbers, and CPA needs our members to engage with issues affecting their home base airport and surrounding airspace, but also across the state. An issue affecting an airport a few hundred miles or even 20 miles away will someday likely have an impact to your home base airport. Check out [CPA Aviation Advocacy](#) for details.

ANNOUNCING 2026

Mountain Flying & High-Elevation Airport Operations Course

Originally developed by the Colorado Pilots Association in 1986, this course taught by Colorado pilots who live and fly the mountains for business and recreation, has evolved into one of the premier safety training courses of its kind. Accident statistics demonstrate that pilots without the knowledge and skills needed for safe flight over mountainous terrain find themselves in situations beyond their capability. This course is designed to improve your knowledge, skills, and capability. Register for the June 27, 2026, Mountain Flying course [here](#). Register for the August 15, 2026, Mountain Flying course [here](#). Register for the September 19, 2026, Mountain Flying course [here](#).



Colorado Aviation Events – March 2026

For some of the links to function, you must be signed into your Colorado Pilots Association account

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

Monday, March 2, 2026, from 1830 to 2030

SheltAir, 9107 Rocky Road, Broomfield, CO 80021

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

Join us before the meeting at Cherry Cricket - Broomfield for Social Hour from 5pm to 6pm, located at 1280 E 1st Ave, Broomfield, CO 80020.

Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable

Wednesday, March 4, 2026, from 1830 to 2000

7565 South Peoria, Englewood, CO 80112 or GoToWebinar

Soaring with the 99s @ Wings Over the Rockies – Exploration of Flight, KAPA

Saturday, March 7, 2026, from 1000 to 1400

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

Information and Tickets [here](#). Enjoy a local food truck – *Uptown and Humbolt*.

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

Wednesday, March 11, 2026, from 1700 to 1800

RMMA Terminal, Second Floor, 11755 Airport Way, Broomfield, CO 80021

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

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

Thursday, March 12, 2026, from 1500 to 1700

7565 South Peoria, Englewood, CO 80112

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

Breakfast Fly-In @ Wings Over the Rockies – Exploration of Flight, KAPA

Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 0930 to 1230

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

Information and Tickets [here](#). Fly in or stop by.

KCOS Helicopter Days

Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 0800 to 1800

Arapahoe Flight Club, 1430 Aviation Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80916

Information and Book a Tour [here](#).

Racing the Legendary P-51 (lecture event) @ WOTR – Exploration of Flight, KAPA

Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 1100 to 1400

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

Information and Tickets [here](#).

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

Monday, April 6, 2026, from 1830 to 2030

The Hangar, 7565 South Peoria, Englewood, CO 80112

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

Join us before the meeting at Two Penguins for Social Hour from 5pm to 6pm, located at 13065 E Briarwood Ave, Centennial, CO 80112.



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Colorado Aeronautical Board Approves \$9 Million in State Airport Funding

The Colorado Aeronautical Board (CAB) approved more than \$9 million in State and Local Colorado Discretionary Aviation Grant (CDAG) funding to support aviation infrastructure improvements at airports across the state during its January 27, 2026 meeting.

The first round of 2026 CDAG awards will provide \$9,064,332 in state funding to 20 Colorado airports, leveraging an additional \$3.5 million in local matching funds. Combined, these investments will support \$12.6 million in critical aviation projects statewide.

Funded projects focus on maintaining and improving airport safety, reliability, and operational efficiency. Grant awards include investments in pavement maintenance, airfield snow removal and maintenance equipment, aircraft rescue and firefighting (ARFF) equipment and facilities, airfield lighting and navigational aids, unleaded aviation fuel infrastructure, and other essential airport improvements.

[A comprehensive listing of each airport grant can be found here.](#)

Project funding by category includes:

- Pavement Maintenance: \$3.6 million
- Airfield Snow Removal, Maintenance, ARFF Equipment & Storage: \$2.9 million
- Airfield Lighting, Navigation Aids, and Weather Systems: \$795,375
- Aviation Fuel Infrastructure and Unleaded Fuel Projects: \$492,300
- Airfield Pavement Construction and Rehabilitation: \$475,000
- Other Airport Improvements: \$700,000

“These grants help ensure Colorado’s airports remain safe, reliable, and economically viable,” said Todd Green, Deputy Director of the Colorado Division of Aeronautics. “Strategic investments at the local level strengthen the statewide aviation system and support communities across Colorado.”

“Colorado’s regional airports play a critical role in our local and rural economies, supporting business and tourism. Investments into safe infrastructure ensure that our airports are safe for travelers, equipped for weather conditions, and operable to help Coloradans and visitors alike utilize airports across the state for years to come,” said Governor Polis.

The approved State and Local Grant Program advances the goals of the 2020 Colorado Aviation System Plan, which emphasizes safety and efficiency, access and mobility, and economic and system sustainability.

In addition to the funding approved this month, the Division anticipates presenting the Federal Match Grant Program for Colorado Aeronautical Board consideration in April 2026. That program is expected to provide approximately \$7 million in additional state funding, bringing total anticipated aviation grant investments for 2026 to nearly \$16 million.



Colorado Aeronautical Board Approves \$442,422 in Aviation Education and Workforce Development Grants

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Division of Aeronautics is pleased to announce that the Colorado Aeronautical Board (CAB) has officially approved \$442,422 in grant funding to support 15 organizations through the FY2026 Aviation Education and Workforce Development Grant Program.

These grants are designed to support organizations that focus on aviation education and help develop the essential talent pipeline required to support future aviation system needs within the State of Colorado. This year's funding aligns with the goals set by the Division's Strategic Plan, which emphasizes enhancing statewide initiatives that provide value to Colorado's airports and aviation stakeholders.

The program saw significant interest this year, with 21 applicants requesting a total of \$939,795.58. To remain within the approved budget, Division staff worked closely with applicants to refine project scopes and focus on key initiatives.

The final approved awards support a diverse range of aviation education and workforce development programs, from high school ground schools and drone soccer programs to advanced flight simulators and aircraft maintenance technician training.

While the Colorado Division of Aeronautics is providing \$442,422 in funding, the total impact of these projects is matched by local contributions, bringing the total investment in Colorado's aviation future to \$564,561 for the 2026 grant cycle.

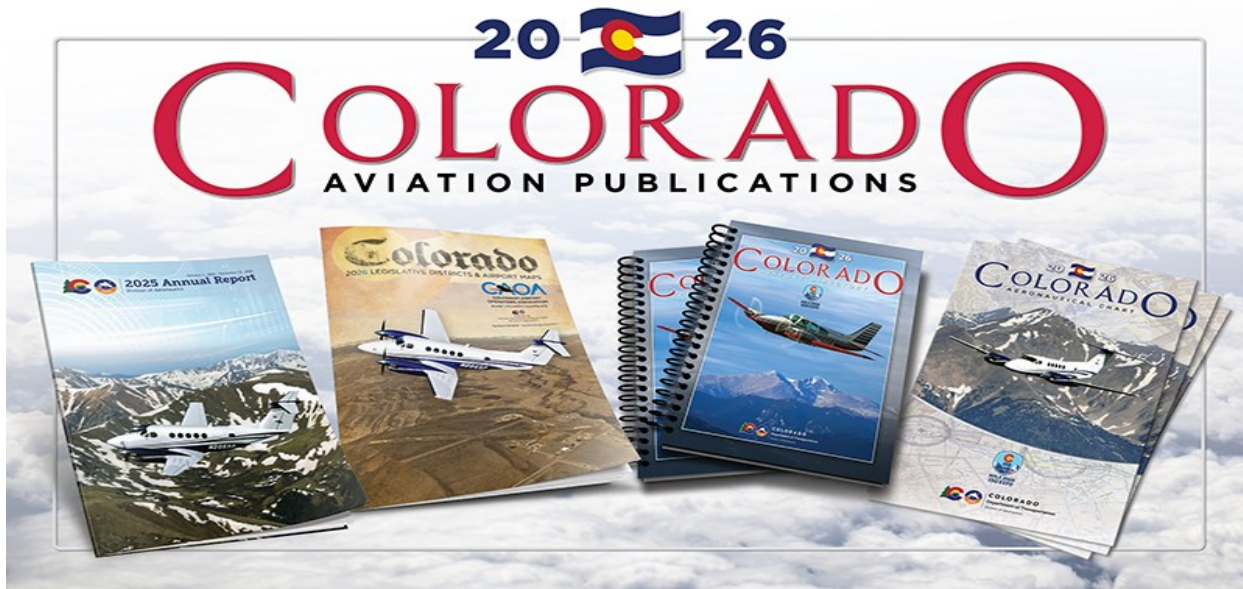
[A comprehensive listing of all Aviation Education and Workforce Development Grants can be found here.](#)

Division is Still Accepting 2026 Unleaded Avgas Transition Grants

For 2026, the Division has allocated \$1.5 million of funding for projects supporting the transition to unleaded aviation gasoline (avgas) as provided for in HB24-1235, which was signed into law in May 2024. In December 2025, the Colorado Aeronautical Board approved a longer application window for the \$1.1 million of unleaded avgas transition funds that are still available in 2026. This will provide the opportunity for airports to avail themselves of this funding this year, rather than waiting for the 2027 grant cycle.

Airports interested in securing unleaded avgas transition funding this year have until March 1st to submit applications to the Division, so that the CAB can consider these grant awards at their upcoming April 15th regular meeting. Please reach out to your Division planner for more information if your airport is interested in this funding opportunity!

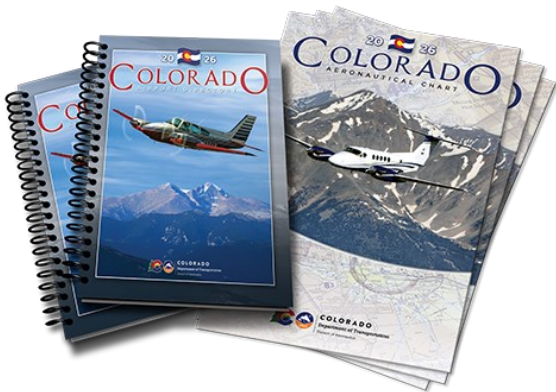




The Division of Aeronautics is happy to announce the release of the 2026 Colorado aviation publications, including the Colorado Airport Directory, Colorado Aeronautical Chart, and the 2025 Division of Aeronautics Annual Report.

2026 Colorado Airport Directory & Aeronautical Chart

Hard copies of the Colorado Airport Directory and Aeronautical Chart will be available at airports around the state very soon.



Here are some other ways to get your hands on a copy:

Order your copy on the [Division's website](#).

Free copies are available at our office located at the [Colorado Air & Space Port](#).

Request an electronic copy of the 2026 Colorado Airport Directory by emailing Shahn.Sederberg@state.co.us. Please include **"REQUEST: PDF Version of 2026 CO Airport Directory"** in the subject line

The 2026 Colorado Aeronautical Chart introduces the second phase of ten Colorado Mountain Pass VFR GPS waypoints. The Colorado Airport Directory now features 25 updated aerial images, along with revised noise abatement procedures and expanded information on alternative aviation fuel availability—updates that are also reflected in the Aeronautical Chart.



2025 Annual Report

The 2025 Division of Aeronautics Annual Report highlights a year of strong aviation activity across Colorado and the resulting investments in airport infrastructure, safety, education, and emerging technologies.

Covering January 1 through December 31, 2025, the report details funding distributions, statewide aviation initiatives, and major programs, including the Colorado Discretionary Aviation

Grant Program, Airport Capital Improvement Program, and efforts to transition to unleaded aviation fuels. It also explores advancements in sustainability, workforce development, and next-generation aircraft technologies, showcasing the Division's continued commitment to a safe, efficient, and innovative statewide aviation system.



Download: [2025 Aeronautics Division Annual Report](#)



2026 Colorado Legislative Districts & Airport Maps

Explore another valuable information source from the Colorado Division of Aeronautics. Get the most recent list of Colorado Legislators and the Colorado airports situated within their respective districts.

Download: [2026 Colorado Legislative Districts & Airport Maps](#)



FROM THE LINE



CPA MEMBER ARTICLES

The Ten Fly-In Commandments, By Bob Kinney

Revised Clearance, By Bill Marvel

Talking to Yourself, By Tom Slavonik

Centenarian Flies His Centurion, By Walter Bell



Engage with CPA

CPA is a volunteer-driven organization, and our effectiveness depends on members who are willing to get involved. There are several meaningful ways you can help strengthen aviation advocacy in Colorado:

- **Join a CPA Committee:** Our committees focus on airport issues, airspace and ATC, backcountry access and mountain flying, safety and education, scholarships, member outreach, fly-ins, and activities and community events. Whether you have experience or simply a willingness to help, your perspective matters.
- **Support CPA Financially:** Donations directly support advocacy efforts, educational events, scholarships, and outreach that protects and promotes pilots and general aviation across the state. Every contribution helps amplify our voice.
- **Attend Monthly Board Meetings:** CPA Board meetings are open to members and provide an opportunity to stay informed, ask questions, and engage directly with leadership on current issues.

Your time, expertise, and support make a real difference. Contact us [here](#) or send an email to an Officer or Chair.



The Ten Fly-In Commandments

Bob Kinney, Past Chairman
CPA Fly-in Committee

Take a moment to read through the planning process hosts go through ([How to Plan a Fly-in - Colorado Pilots Association](#)). The task can be monumental! It'll give you an appreciation for what your event host has done.

Register as early as you can. Send your event registration as soon as possible after registration opens. This helps the host with early planning and allows him/her to make accurate projections as to the number of rental cars needed, accommodations required, etc. Even though the host probably would make every attempt to help you out, please don't contact him/her after the registration deadline to request a late registration. To expect this person to squeeze one or two more folks into the program late in the process is unfair and quite often, a lot of work.

Offer your help. The host can almost always use assistance with planning and managing the Fly-in. If you have prior experience attending or hosting a Fly-in, you're even more valuable. Rental cars need drivers. Happy hours need organizing. There are many details that need attention that you can help with. If you offer and your help isn't needed, it's not because you're not appreciated but probably because your host just has all the bases covered and wants you to enjoy your time.

Be on time! This is a big one. The greater the number attending, the more important punctuality is. When you're asked to meet for a tour, hike, dinner, or the ride back to the airport for the flight home, be on time! Making the group wait for one or two delinquent people is rude and it can be costly. If restaurant reservations are cancelled because of a late arrival or an additional wait time charge is assessed by the tour bus driver who had to wait for one late person, it can destroy a Fly-in budget. Close management of finances is a must for event costs to remain affordable.

Rental cars have needs too! If you're called on to drive one of the rental cars at a Fly-in, please keep all fuel receipts and turn them in to the Fly-in host immediately at the end of the event, preferably before departing on the homeward-bound flight. Write your name and address on the receipt to ensure you get reimbursed by the CPA for your fuel expenditure. It's also important that you retain the rental company paperwork and give it to the Fly-in host. Once again, write your name on that paperwork so the host can keep track for accounting purposes.

Be courteous. That sounds like a "gimme," but hosts have had to deal with participants who are rude to tour operators, bus drivers, hotel/motel personnel and even hosts themselves. Remember, not everything goes as planned at events like this. The host is trying his/her best to reconcile problems. If you can help in a positive manner, then do. Otherwise, chill! For crying-out-loud, don't complain! If pillows are too hard, let the hotel know but understand it isn't the host's fault. It's also not the host's fault that the weather isn't perfect, the restaurant has slow service, the rental car isn't running right, or your Teddy bear has an eye that's popped off. One grump in the group can ruin the experience for everyone.



Be patient. The Fly-in host is trying to “herd” scores of people to their proper destinations for events. They’re trying to meet tour schedules. They have any number of volunteer drivers to deliver to car rental agencies. They’re trying to track incoming aircraft to ensure someone isn’t sitting at a small airport in the middle of nowhere with a mechanical problem. Overall, these folks have taken on a huge responsibility and patience by all really helps. It doesn’t help, however, when part of the people jump into a rental car and “head out” on their own. Folks get lost that way and guess who gets the blame? You’re right. . .the host.

Say Thanks! That’s right. It’s simple but is so darned important. Profusely thank the members who hosted your Fly-in. They did it because they recognized the opportunity to share something special with their flying friends and they accepted the challenge and quite often, the extra expense. All they really want to see is smiles on the faces of their CPA flying family.

Host a Fly-in. You’ll be much more empathetic to the plight of those who have gone before you. You’ll have the opportunity to share a special destination with the rest of us and probably have a kick doing it.

You’re the Colorado Pilot’s Association! Always present yourself as a representative of the CPA in a manner that makes us proud.

Come fly with us. If you’ve never been on a CPA Fly-in or haven’t done so in a number of years, it’s time to see what you’ve been missing. In the past few years, Fly-in planning and execution has grown to an art form. Yes, occasionally things go wrong, but more often than not, good hosts have done their homework, and you add to your list of life experiences thanks to the Colorado Pilot’s Association. You’ll have a great time. I guarantee it!

**Is your membership expiring soon?
Support General Aviation in Colorado!**

**Renew Your
Colorado
Pilots
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Online**

<https://coloradopilots.org>

**Questions or Having Trouble, please contact
membership@coloradopilots.org**



Fly-in Program Change!**“Prepare to copy revised clearance...”**

Bill Marvel, Fly-in Committee Chairman

After the January 10 Fly-in planning meeting earlier this year, Bob Kinney and I got together to talk about spicing up the event. Fly-in planning has evolved from the early days when several local members got together at one of their homes and hashed out the flying season on their own. Because this was all coordinated in advance and among only a few member hosts, the destinations were easily kept secret until the events were later revealed.

This worked well but given the Association's growth, widespread membership and increased number of Fly-ins, that procedure gave way to the annual January meeting at Rocky Mountain Metro. These work well and at one time featured the surprise “Christmas in January” rollout of events that were still unknown to most until they were revealed at the meeting. A problem was that some of the more complicated events required pinning down details well before that meeting. This left the possibility that two hosts might show up to announce their events only to find out they were on the same date. That meant one of them must then change all prior arrangements for hotel, car rentals, tours, etc. to a different date and all that work had to be redone. Ouch!

Additionally, no one, including me, has made any effort to “hide” the upcoming year's destinations, or host names, from others. With today's communications, information shared with one can spread overnight, if not within an hour. Thus, there is little surprise at the January planning meeting since most attendees have already heard of many event locations.

There's a solution that retains both the excitement of that day and the social get-together aspect of this meeting. For next year's events, I will ask hosts to contact me as soon as they have decided to plan a Fly-in. But the only information I'll want is their preferred date. Nothing about event location or activities should be given to me or anyone else. That date will then be blocked for them so no one will inadvertently plan another event for the same time. And to further preserve event anonymity, I will not even reveal host names. When the **FLY-IN ROLLOUT MEETING** then takes place in January, the only information shown on the whiteboard will be the event dates because not even I will know the locations. When hosts then come forward to brief their events, it will again be Christmas in January when we finally learn what's inside all the wrapped packages and who sent them. And that's a wrap! Or maybe an unwrap?

Talking to Yourself...

by Tom Slavonik - CFI/CFII/MEI/IGI

They say talk is cheap. As a kid growing up, I heard time and time again, “don't talk to yourself - people will think you're crazy!” Buying into that philosophy was easy for a while; at least until I began my journey training to become a Pilot. Yet truth be known, those seeds planted so long ago were still alive and well inside my brain housing. It certainly lends credence to the Principle of Primacy that states: What We Learn First, We Learn Best.' I finally figured it out after becoming a Flight Instructor realized, “hey, after all I've been told, I'm really not crazy at all!” Now, looking back on a pile of Flight Instructor hours, I've realized my challenge has become teaching others to not only talk to themselves, but to others as well. Guess what? Easier said than done! So, you're probably saying to yourself right now, sure, you expect me to believe that? Why am I reading this? This guy must be nuts! Hold the phone for just a second. Before you recommend I commit myself to the local sanitarium, please allow me to explain. PEOPLE DON'T LIKE TALKING ANYMORE! So, what the heck happened? Technology happened, cell phones and texting, tablets and EFB's, social media and DM's, blogging, etc. Starting to get the picture?



It's a much bigger problem than you might think. Just watch a family of four take a seat at a local restaurant. Out come the cell phones, down go the heads, and the thumbs start flailing away. Not too much going on in terms of conversation. It's equally as frustrating dealing with this as a Flight Instructor. Allow me to explain:

- * Reduced calls to Flight Service in lieu of a Self-Briefing.
- * Getting Primary Flight Students to "talk their way through a maneuver."
- * Pilots silently going through:
 - (a) Pre Takeoff Checklists
 - (b) Pre Landing Checklists
 - (c) Briefing an Instrument Approach Procedure
 - (d) Call Outs on the Final Approach Course
 - (e) What to do After Going Missed on an Instrument Approach (the 5 C's)
 - (f) Announcing Intentions to ATC or on CTAF while 10 miles out.
- * Lastly and perhaps most important, debriefing themselves (and the CFI) following a lesson and discussing important takeaways and lessons learned.

Before you get too upset with me let me just say this is not a universal problem; some folks do this very well (after being made aware of it's apparent importance). So how do we fix this? One Student at a time. If you're a CFI and reading this, you know what you have to do. Talk to your student's, take the time to get to know them, establish a solid relationship and demonstrate genuine concern and take a personal interest in their success in terms of becoming a safe and proficient Pilot. Student Pilot's (of all varieties), consider this if you will: a Designated Pilot Examiner (DPE) needs to know what's going on inside your "ketawba" (brain housing). If you don't talk they will be left with no other choice but to question everything you do IT'S THEIR JOB! So, you see, talk is not so cheap after all.

Psychology Today Magazine has this to say about Talking to Yourself: "Talking to yourself is a **normal, healthy, and often beneficial cognitive habit used for processing emotions, organizing thoughts, improving focus, and boosting motivation.** It acts as a tool for problem solving and self-regulation. While generally harmless, excessive or disruptive self-talk should be monitored if it interferes with daily life. "Do ya think?" Perhaps that last thought closes the loop with respect to my aforementioned "crazy person" characterization.

Allow me to conclude this article by interjecting the following Benefits of Self Talk:
Once again, compliments of Psychology Today Magazine (sorry, I'm just a CFI and not a Psychiatrist)

- (1) Improved Cognitive Performance: Verbalizing tasks can help YOU and ME to focus, remember instructions, and solve problems faster. "Just think of the Pilot in Command implications there!"
- (2) Emotional Regulation: Talking out loud helps manage emotions, reduce anxiety, and improve self-awareness. "I don't know about you, but methinks we could all use a little bit more of that. Especially in Single Pilot IFR; even driving on the Interstate!"
- (3) Learning and Memory: Speaking aloud aids learning new skills and retaining information. "Couldn't have said it better myself!"

So, there you have it folks. "Say what you think and think about what you say, and don't forget to take the time to kneel down and pray." Especially before your next flight!
Fly safe y'all!



Centenarian Flies His Centurion

By Walter Bell

What do most pilots want to do on their birthday? Go flying of course. Walt Barbo has been flying on his birthday for many years so why not fly on his 102nd birthday? This year It took a little more preparation. He needed to find a CFI he was comfortable flying with so he called Bill Dunn who for many years has taught the CPA Mountain Flying course and asked if he would mind flying along. Bill agreed and the flight was set for late morning. Unfortunately, the gusty winds came up and at first delayed, then canceled the hour-long flight. Walt taxied the Centurion up to the terminal to meet the gathering crowd of lunch bunch pilots who were planning to have a lunch/birthday party after viewing the flight. A few minutes after he had shut down, the wind diminished to some extent and Walt became emboldened to fly. His daughter said, “go for it” and he and Bill headed for the airplane. Lunch was placed on hold, and the spectators took up viewing positions A few minutes later the T210 was trundling down the runway. The takeoff looked good and after a high-speed pass and landing, the flight was completed. It looked like the pilot of 84 years still had his piloting skills intact. After handshakes and many compliments to the obviously pleased Walt Barbo we moved into the restaurant for lunch and birthday cake.

ON THE HORIZON



CPA FLY-IN NEWS & LISTINGS

REGISTER NOW:

Phoenix Arizona – April 10-12, 2026

- Hosts, Vince & Kay Otto
- Registration form in February Flight Lines

Redline Propeller Tour – April 25, 2026 – Akron, Colorado

- Host, Frank Niehus
- Registration form in February Flight Lines



Abilene, Kansas – May 2-3, 2026

- Hosts, Bob & Shawn Kinney

Memphis, Tennessee – May 20-23, 2026

- Hosts, Bret Heidkamp & Loree Schwartz

Spirit Engineering – Scheduled for October 12th – Grand Junction, Colorado

- Host, Bill Marvel

Upcoming! Grand Canyon

If you haven't done so already, mark your calendars for our first ever CPA trip to the Grand Canyon. It's set for June 17-19 with details and registration forthcoming in the April Flight Lines issue. Spectacular views, especially on arrival or departure overflights through one of the corridors, are a part of the trip. We'll also be seeing awesome sights from the ground on a famous Desert View drive to the south rim.



Abilene, Kansas

May 2-3, 2026

Event hosts: Bob & Shawn Kinney



President Eisenhower's Library & Museum

K78: 370 n.m. from the Denver area



Saturday: Arrive: 10:00 a.m. CDT
FBO: Abilene Flying Service
No fees
Cash discount for fuel
Bring your own rope/straps for tie down.

10:30 a.m.: Depart for lunch at Joe Snuffy's Old Fashioned Grill.

12:00 p.m. We'll head straight to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library & Museum in downtown Abilene. Cost: Seniors \$12; Standard \$15

3:00 p.m.: Hotel check-in. Holiday Inn Express room rate is \$159 per night (Rates normally \$179 - \$199 per night). Ask for the CPA room rate. There is a 24 hour cancellation on the rooms at the Holiday Inn Express. Please call 785-576-9933 for reservations by April 15.

3:30 p.m.: We hope to have time to make a quick trip to the nearby Russell Stover chocolate shop. This is one of Russell Stover's largest U.S. facilities. Yes, we can satisfy both our chocolate and ice cream cravings there.

4:30 p.m.: Happy hour at the hotel. BYOB (No snacks this time)

5:45 p.m.: Depart for our incredible chicken dinner at the Brookville Hotel. We're told this meal is not to be missed. This is a short walk from the hotel.

Sunday: Departure following breakfast. Time to be announced. Enjoy your flight home.

Registration deadline is April 15. Sign up early. The cost is only \$20 per person for transportation.

Event hosts: Bob & Shawn Kinney 303-887-3328 or twinlake1@aol.com if questions.



Memphis, Tennessee

May 20 – 23

Join us for a one-of-a-kind fly-in to the city known as the "Home of the Blues & Birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll, Elvis, BBQ and civil rights!

So much to see and do that this fly-in is a little longer than usual with 3 nights at the Hyatt Centric – Beale Street. Limited rooms have been set aside at a discounted rate of \$179 a night. Book your room before April 20 by calling the hotel directly at (901) 444-3232. Please reference CPA for the discounted rates if you call, or just use this booking link:

<https://www.hyatt.com/events/en-US/group-booking/MEMCT/G-CPA1>





Since the flight is a bit longer than most we've done, plan your arrival at General DeWitt Spain Airport (M01) for no later than 2pm. There are no landing fees with the purchase of fuel, which is considerably less expensive than here in Colorado! To fill your bellies upon arrival, we will have Gus's World-Famous Fried Chicken for lunch. After a quick check in at our hotel, we'll head over to the "South's Grand Hotel," the Peabody, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. There we'll see the world-famous mallard ducks walk in the grand lobby. Afterwards, it's off to our first taste of Tennessee BBQ at Rendezvous restaurant.

On Thursday we begin our morning at Memphis' oldest café, the Arcade Restaurant, for breakfast. Founded in 1919, it has attracted movie makers, artists, writers, celebrities such as Elvis and been a part of scenes from several movies. Next on the agenda is the National Civil Rights Museum.

This museum is so touching and emotional because it stands in the exact location of the Lorraine Motel, where Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated. See his hotel room, his car and stand in the trajectory of

the bullet that ended his life. The museum contains so many artifacts, films, and phenomenal exhibits that there just isn't enough time to absorb it all.

Once done there, we head to Central BBQ for a casual lunch and then a free afternoon to possibly explore other museums like the Blues Hall of Fame, Rock 'n' Soul or even the legendary Sun Studios known worldwide as "The Birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll". For dinner we're heading to BB Kings for some blues and food.

Our last full day will take us to Tupelo, the birthplace of Elvis, for a self-guided tour of Graceland. See the incredible lifestyle of the King of Rock 'n' Roll including his gold records, iconic jumpsuits and classic cars. And to top it off, our special admission will include a tour of two of his private jets. We will once again have an opportunity to compare BBQ afterwards with lunch at Vernon's Smokehouse on the Graceland property.

Please complete the registration form and return it with your payment by April 1. Included in the registration fee of \$290 per person:

1. Welcome lunch
2. Admission to the National Civil Rights Museum
3. Admission and self-guided tour of Graceland and Elvis' private jets
4. Lunch at Graceland
5. BB Kings cover charge
6. Transportation to/from the airport and all events.

The registration does not include:

1. Aviation expenses
2. Hotel room



3. Meals other than those included above.

For additional information please contact Bret Heidkamp at (406) 570-9310 or Bret@Crosstac.com or Loree Schwartz at (305) 586-8160 or LoreeSchwartz@gmail.com

Grand Junction Spirit Engineering Trip Set for ***Saturday, October 10***

Bill Marvel, Fly-in Committee Chairman

The tour of Spirit Engineering, announced in February's Flight Line issue, is now set for Saturday, October 10. Due to the company's busy production schedule prior to Oshkosh, we were unable to set an earlier date, so nothing about this trip appears on either the website or Flight Lines Fly-in Preview pages. It's one I'm making up as we go as needed to fit into both CPA's Fly-in and Spirit's production schedules.

What I need now from those wishing to attend is an email with your contact information, how many will be in your group and if you plan to fly in for the tour and return home the same day or if you prefer to stay overnight here in GJ. Some may wish to just drive. By that date, afternoon flying across the high country should be good again as opposed to typical afternoon buildups over the mountains during summer months. Because of the proximity of Grand Junction to many members, driving, flying and staying overnight are all options and I need that information from you for logistics planning.

I will be contacting all attendees later with more information. But first, I need to know who's coming! I'm at flyins@coloradopilots.org so please contact me ASAP with the requested information.

For clarification, not one of these photos is AI generated! All are real and yes, this is also a real factory that is producing this real S-LSA, ASTM certified aircraft at a fly-away price of \$69,500. Furthermore, to avoid any erroneous assumptions, I want to also clarify that although I've known Spirit Engineering owner Steve Wood for almost 20 years and have been aware of this project since its inception, I have no financial involvement whatsoever with the aircraft, factory or any other aspect of this remarkable achievement. My only goal is to help bring interesting Fly-in events to my fellow CPA members so you can expand your knowledge, flying experiences and aviation friends. See the local TV news link below:



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*Price does not include checkride cost. Packaged price includes up to 20 hrs ground and 15 hrs flight time. Any additional training needed will be an additional cost. While we have a very high success rate, this program requires a significant amount of study time and a preparation before class date.





Fly-in Registration Form

WANT TO GO BUT NO AIRPLANE AND JUST NEED A RIDE?
Complete only this yellow section and mail the form to the Fly-in host address below

Name: Phone: () Email: # Seats

PILOTS FLYING OR DRIVING TO THIS EVENT, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTION

Which event are you registering for?		Abilene, KS May 2-3	
First Name		Last Name	
Are you a CPA Member?		Yes	No
Address:			
Cell Phone:			
Email:			
Emergency contact name and phone of someone not traveling with you:			
Aircraft type:		N number:	
Is anyone traveling with you?		Yes	No
If so, their first and last names			
Do you have an available seat? If so, how many?			
Cost per person: \$ ____ 20 ____ times total number in party ____ = \$ ____			
Anyone on a first CPA Fly-in?		Yes	No

Please send a check for the above amount, if any, **made out to the Colorado Pilots Association**, to the Fly-in host:

Bob Kinney (303) 887 3328 twinlake1@aol.com
8401 I 76 Service Road
Henderson, CO 80640-7801





Fly-in Registration Form

WANT TO GO BUT NO AIRPLANE AND JUST NEED A RIDE? Complete <u>only</u> this yellow section and mail the form to the Fly-in host address below			
Name:	Phone: ()	Email:	# Seats

PILOTS FLYING OR DRIVING TO THIS EVENT, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTION

Which event are you registering for?		Memphis, TN May 20-23	
First Name		Last Name	
Are you a CPA Member?	Yes	No	
Address:			
Cell Phone:			
Email:			
Emergency contact name and phone of someone not traveling with you:			
Aircraft type:	N number:		
Is anyone traveling with you?	Yes	No	
If so, their first and last names			
Do you have an available seat? If so, how many?			
Cost per person: \$290 times total number in party _____ = \$ _____			
Anyone on a first CPA Fly-in?	Yes	No	

Please send a check for the above amount, if any, **made out to the Colorado Pilots Association**, to the Fly-in host:

Loree Schwartz (305) 586-8160 loreeschwartz@gmail.com
1151 Wyndemere Circle
Longmont, CO 80504



Stay up to date with Colorado aviation events here:

<https://bit.ly/COAEvents>



Check Out the Latest Colorado Pilots Association Board Minutes

Log in to <https://www.coloradopilots.org>

select CPA Member Benefits, then select Meeting Minutes

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LinkedIn

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