

CPA FLIGHT LINES

April 2026



Views from the Flight Deck



President's Corner

by Andy Holmes



As we move into the heart of the flying season here in Colorado, there's a sense of renewed energy across our community. Warmer days, longer daylight hours, and improving weather windows bring more aircraft—and more pilots—into the skies. With that comes both opportunity and responsibility.

This month, I'd like to highlight a few important developments affecting our aviation community, along with a timely reminder about safety as activity increases statewide.

Longmont Airport Advisory Board Dissolution

Many of you may have seen recent developments out of Longmont regarding the dissolution of the city's Airport Advisory Board. This is an unfortunate step for local aviation advocacy and community engagement. Advisory boards have historically served as a vital bridge between airport users and municipal leadership, providing expertise, fostering dialogue, and helping ensure that aviation interests are thoughtfully represented in local decision-making.

The Colorado Pilots Association believes strongly in collaborative engagement and the value of informed aviation voices at the table. Situations like this underscore the importance of staying involved at the local level. Whether through formal boards, public comment, or community outreach, pilot participation matters. We will continue to monitor this situation and support efforts that promote constructive dialogue and the long-term vitality of Colorado's airports.

Northern Colorado Regional (KFNL) Runway Construction — Starting June 1

Looking north, significant construction is set to begin at Northern Colorado Regional Airport (KFNL) on June 1, 2026. This project will widen the primary runway from 100 feet to 150 feet—an improvement the airport sought to better accommodate a broader range of future aircraft operations.

During construction, pilots should expect operational impacts. Most notably, during Phase 1 & Phase 2 (scheduled as June 1 through November 9, 2026), runway 15/33 will be reduced to 3,750' and during phase transitions there will be runway closures. This is a substantial change that will affect takeoff and landing performance calculations, especially during the summer months when density altitude is already a critical factor here in Colorado. Additionally, the airport will have limited operational hours during construction – currently scheduled as 0600-2000 local with bi-weekly extended hours to accommodate nighttime operations.

Please plan ahead:

- Review performance data carefully before operating into or out of KFNL
- Expect changing airport environment conditions and check NOTAMs thoroughly prior to each flight
- Be prepared for adjusted taxi routes, construction traffic on taxiways, and possible delays

This is a great example of why disciplined preflight planning is so essential—particularly during periods of airport construction.



Join Us at the Centennial Airport Runway 5K — June 6, 2026

On a more celebratory note, the Colorado Pilots Association is excited to support and host a booth at the Centennial Airport Runway 5K on June 6, 2026. This is a fantastic event that brings together pilots, aviation enthusiasts, families, and the broader community in a unique and memorable way—right on the runway.

If you're planning to attend, please stop by and say hello. Events like this are a great opportunity to connect, share stories, and introduce others to the world of general aviation. We're proud to be part of it and to continue building strong ties with our Colorado community.

A Seasonal Safety Reminder

As flying activity increases, so too does the importance of maintaining a sharp focus on safety. Colorado presents a unique operating environment, and the transition into the summer season brings several key considerations:

Density Altitude Awareness

With rising temperatures, density altitude will quickly become a dominant factor—even at lower elevation airports. Aircraft performance can degrade significantly, and margins shrink faster than many pilots anticipate. Take the time to run the numbers, lean for best performance, and have a clear abort plan before every takeoff. And remember a legal load/weight is not always a safe load/weight.

Runway and Airspace Congestion

Expect busier patterns, especially on weekends and during favorable weather. Maintain strong situational awareness, make clear and concise radio calls, and don't hesitate to seek clarification of an ATC instruction.

Preflight Discipline

Don't let standards slip as we get back into a more active rhythm of flying. Resist the temptation of complacency. A thorough preflight inspection, careful weather briefing, and a thoughtful go/no-go decision remain foundational to every safe flight.

Hydration & Pilot Performance

Hydration is often overlooked. Dehydration causes reduced cognitive performance. The brain is made of 75% water and is highly sensitive to dehydration. A hydrated brain is a happy brain. Hot flight decks and long flights are a recipe for fatigue, irritability, attention loss, short-term memory impairment, diminished ability to process information, and slow reactions. Drink more water.

Currency and Proficiency

If it's been a while since your last flight—or your last high-density altitude operation—consider flying with an instructor or another experienced pilot. A short refresher can go a long way in sharpening skills and confidence.

Weather Wise

Colorado's summer weather can evolve quickly – especially in the mountains and along the front range.

- Afternoon thunderstorms build rapidly and can outpace forecasts.
- Outflow boundaries can create sudden wind shifts and gust fronts far from a storm.
- Outflow boundaries can act as a mechanism of lift and rapidly generate new storms.
- Watch out for virga – produces strong downdrafts and potential for dry microbursts.
- Expect convective turbulence (thermals) below 10,000' to 12,000' AGL.



As always, thank you for being part of the Colorado Pilots Association and for the role each of you plays in supporting safe, vibrant, and accessible aviation across our state. Whether through advocacy, mentorship, or setting a good example in the flight deck, your engagement makes a difference. Fly safe, stay engaged, and I look forward to seeing many of you out at the airport.

Andy Holmes

President, Colorado Pilots Association

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NOTICE:

Submission deadline for the May 2026 issue is April 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

Northern Colorado Regional (KFNL) construction begins June 1

Beginning June 1, 2026, Northern Colorado Regional Airport (KFNL) will undergo a major runway construction project to widen Runway 15/33 from 100' to 150'. During Phases 1 and 2 (June 1–November 9), the runway will be shortened to 3,750 feet with periodic closures during transitions. Airport hours will also be limited (currently 0600–2000 local, with occasional extended hours), and pilots should expect changing taxi routes, construction activity, and delays. Careful preflight planning, including thorough NOTAM review and performance calculations, will be essential.

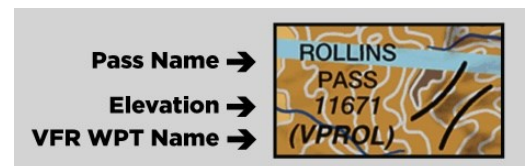
Centennial Airport Runway 5k – June 6

The Centennial Airport Runway 5K is a unique community event that gives participants the rare opportunity to run or walk on an active runway at Centennial Airport. Scheduled for June 6, 2026, the event brings together aviation enthusiasts and the local community while offering a memorable, up-close experience on the airfield. It's a great way to promote aviation awareness, connect with the public, and celebrate one of Colorado's busiest general aviation airports. CPA will be hosting a booth at the event. Register [here](#).

Colorado Mountain Flying Passes

It's the time of year where more pilots will find their way to Colorado to enjoy mountain flying. As a reminder Colorado Mountain Passes have been charted, now 20 in total, and a 'Special Notice' is now published in the Chart Supplement.

For more information about flying in Colorado mountains and landing at high altitude airports, check out 'Mountain Flying' on CPA's website and get your free [2026 Colorado Chart and Airport Directory](#) from CDOT – Division of Aeronautics.



Colorado Ninety-Nines Scholarship Opportunities

The Colorado Chapter of the 99s announces scholarship opportunities. Applications are due April 30, 2026. Information and Application available [here](#).

CPA Membership Directory Opt-In

The Colorado Pilots Association values the protection of your personal information. In January 2025, the board decided to change to an **opt-in** directory. This means, if you would like **any** of your information shared and accessible to other members of the Colorado Pilots Association via a membership directory, you **MUST** opt-in to participate and have your information made available to other members.

The OPT-IN process is simple and takes about 1-2 minutes of your time, where you can choose which items of personal information you'd like accessible in the membership directory. You **must** be logged in and follow the instructions [here](#).

CPA Mountain Flying and High Elevation Course Registration

[Register](#) for the CPA Mountain Flying and High Elevation Airport Course. 2026 course dates are June 27, August 15, & September 19.



Support our Corporate Members



ALTIVATION
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CESSNA PILOTS
ASSOCIATION



Become a Corporate Member for \$100, click [here!](#)



Colorado Aviation Events – April 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, 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 Alpha Charlie's for Social Hour from 5pm to 6pm, located at 6631 S Peoria St, Centennial, CO 80111

RANUM INNOVATION CAMPUS TOUR

April 14th, 2026 1PM to 3PM

Have you ever thought of the Next Generation of Aviation Pioneers how they're learning, come join the classroom at the Ranum Innovation Campus, see how the Aviation Engineering pathway provides high school students with practical learning experiences in aerospace. This pathway equips students with industry-recognized credentials, including FAA Part 107 (drones), Autodesk Fusion 360, and IPC-J-STD-001 soldering. The program prepares students for careers as pilots, aerospace engineers, or drone experts. Additionally, students have the opportunity to earn college credits.

[Registration required, 12 spots available](#)

DENVER ARTCC TOURS

May 14th, 2026 9:30AM to 12 Noon

June 16th, 2026 9:30AM to 12 Noon

July 9th, 2026 9:30AM to 12 Noon

Have you ever thought who's watching us when we're up there flying enjoying the day when we're outside the terminal area, who's providing that flight following? It's the Air Route Traffic Control Center, ARTCC! ARTCC is a facility that provides air traffic control service to aircraft operating on instrument rules and VFR flight planning within controlled airspace, primarily during the enroute phase of flights. The centers are also responsible for issuing IFR clearances and monitoring IFR flights nationwide.

[Registration required, 8 spots available for each tour](#)

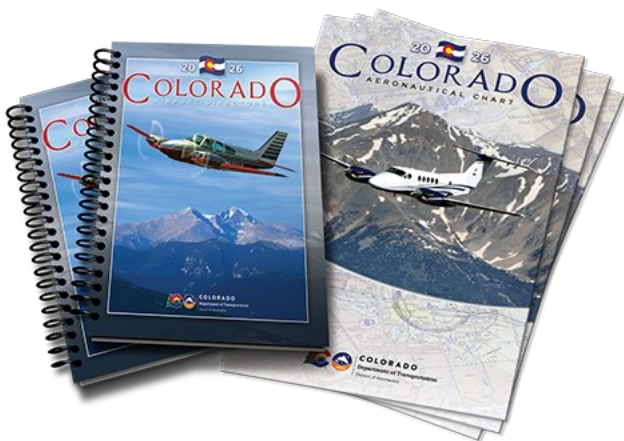




The Division of Aeronautics is happy to announce the release of the 2026 Colorado aviation publications, including the Colorado Airport Directory, Colorado Aeronautical Chart, and the 2025 Division of Aeronautics Annual Report.

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

Stunning news on Experimental Homebuilts, By Bill Marvel
CPA Scholarship Winners Announcement

Stunning news on Experimental Homebuilts!

Your ticket to “affordable” flight?

Bill Marvel, the RV-14A guy

Before that stunning news, some background. Several years ago, I wrote an article for the April 2021 issue about building your own airplane at home. Since then, I’ve become aware of several other CPA members who have gone the route of either building one or buying an existing, flying homebuilt airplane. Brian Garrett, Vince Otto, Scott Fifield, Robert Venohr, and more recently Adrian Nye have joined the club, and I am certain there are many others who I don’t know.

What prompted this article is my yearly insurance renewal which requires reporting logged flying hours over the past 12 months. This year I flew 181 hours compared to 205 last year, including two trips to Oregon, one to New England and one to New Orleans. I never flew this much when we owned certified aircraft.

Yes, part of the reason was the change from working to retired, which on the plus side freed up more time. But the flip side was that it also reduced our income level, which we all know plays a huge role in this flying business. Seeking a less expensive way to fly posed a new challenge. And building our own airplane (eventually 3 of them over the years) solved it. The cost of flying dropped *dramatically*.

The April 2021 article covers building an aircraft and the resulting performance benefits. This time around I am going to focus more on buying an existing one, a more practical approach for a lot of people. I’ll talk about maintenance and inspections specifically and something related that a lot of people, including A&P mechanics, simply don’t know.



CASE I: It's common knowledge that if you build an airplane, you are the manufacturer and can perform maintenance, modifications and all inspections entirely on your own and sign it off yourself. That alone is a huge money saver.

CASE II: Less well known is that if you buy an existing experimental aircraft someone else built, you cannot do the annual condition inspection, but you can do *everything* else. Read that again – what many do not realize, including A&P mechanics, is this -- aside from the annual condition inspection itself, **anyone can do anything on an amateur built (i.e., experimental) homebuilt.**

In CASE II, only the builder or any A&P (IA not required) can perform the actual condition inspection. The inspection itself takes only a couple of hours. The time-consuming part involves disassembling and reassembling the aircraft so the inspection can be performed. Included in that non-inspection prep work are routine maintenance items like oil and filter changes, spark plug cleaning, changing brake linings, changing tires and tubes, compression check, lubing wheel bearings and the like. Even if you pay an A&P to do the actual inspection, if you know how, you will likely be allowed to do much of that grunt work yourself as it is time-consuming and frankly boring for most mechanics. Boring or not, their hourly rate does not change when they have to do it...

Why is that important? Unlike with a certified aircraft, where the IA inspector and/or some other certificated mechanic must do any required work before they can release the airplane for flight, with an experimental aircraft that's not true. If the A&P inspector finds discrepancies, you are free to have him cure them if you wish but you can do it yourself instead. Clearly, you must know how but like anything else in life, it's only a matter of learning, and that knowledge is *valuable every single year!* If the inspector finds discrepancies he will give you a written list of them and the inspection is done. You can complete those items yourself but then the inspector must approve your work and return the aircraft to service afterwards. This fact is not well known but is a huge money saver for someone willing to learn how to do things. With an experimental (homebuilt) aircraft, even if you didn't build it, you may not have to pay someone to do what you are able to do yourself.

CASE III: *Here's where that stunning revelation in the title rolls out!* Last year new FAA rules were approved which allow the buyer of an existing homebuilt aircraft to inspect, maintain, alter, modify and sign off the aircraft the same as if he had built it. All that's required is a two-day class. For that option, the aircraft must qualify under the new "light sport" rules, and many homebuilts do, including most of the very common RVs. An example of how much this can save occurred with a friend of mine who bought his completed RV and had his condition inspection done by a local shop. For that small, two-seat experimental aircraft (an RV-6A) with a few minor but irritating discrepancies, the bill came to a whopping \$7300, mostly due to labor. The inspection itself, the only thing required, was \$1500. Of course, I'll acknowledge that the higher price does save a lot of sore back muscles, bruised and battered arms, hands and knuckles since getting older is not conducive to curling up like a snake while trying to get to some things that need to be repaired. Your call on that! The owner has now completed the two-day course and future annuals for him will be a couple of hundred dollars for oil, filter and maybe some inexpensive automotive spark plugs (it has electronic ignition), etc. Do you have any idea how far \$7000 worth of avgas can take you?

In summary, buying a used homebuilt can give you the performance and economy we enjoy in our airplane -- 165 KTAS on 8 gallons an hour and annuals that cost a small percentage of the normal hit. **Owning a certified aircraft, unless you need the capability (deice, two engines, more seats, pressurization, weather radar etc.) can overwhelm owners in costs and reduce the amount of flying many can afford.** The operational cost reduction has allowed us to fly a great deal compared to our certified aircraft in the past. And knowing how to do maintenance work saves a huge amount of money. Although aircraft value has increased considerably across the board, homebuilts included, shopping around will turn up the right deal for you. And since many have basic panels, adding full IFR capability with the latest electronics is a viable option because you can do it yourself as time and money allow. **One caution** -- be sure you have someone knowledgeable about the aircraft type, and preferably a person who has already built one, inspect it thoroughly before you sign



on the dotted line. And make sure this pre-purchase inspection does NOT involve whoever has maintained the aircraft in the past. That person will never see what he has overlooked previously.

Because of that one rule change in Case III, owning an airplane you can afford to fly has just been made available to lots of people at a substantially reduced cost. If this appeals to you, it's time to get serious and start looking.

CPA Announces 2026 Scholarship Winners

Get ready to celebrate the future of aviation! The CPA Education Committee is thrilled to announce the winners of our 2026 Scholarships. This year marked a historic milestone for our program, as we set new records for engagement with 25 applications for the Walt & Terry Barbo PPL Scholarship and another 25 for the Emily Howell Warner Female Advanced Ratings Scholarship.

Walt & Terry Barbo PPL Scholarship: Maya Seganakis



Maya Seganakis, a 16-year-old student at Regis Jesuit High School, is this year's Private Pilot License scholarship recipient. Maya manages to maintain an impressive 4.14 GPA while relentlessly pursuing her aviation dreams. With 30 flight hours and three years of ground school already under her belt, she is well on her way.

Maya's discipline extends far beyond the cockpit. She successfully balances her rigorous academic and flight schedules with a part-time job and a deep commitment to community service. Whether she is volunteering with the Key Club, Special Olympics, or the National Western Stock Show, Maya finds great reward in assisting local seniors. Her ultimate goal is to join the Air Force ROTC in college and compete for a pilot slot upon graduation.

Emily Howell Warner Scholarship: Erika Whitesides

Erika Whitesides is the 2026 winner of the Emily Howell Warner scholarship. A 28-year-old Utah native, Erika moved to Colorado specifically to immerse herself in flight training. Since earning her Private Pilot License in December 2025, she has moved at full throttle; she is currently preparing for her Instrument check ride this May, with plans to begin her Commercial rating immediately after.

Erika is a versatile professional who owns a web design agency and works as a part-time bartender, yet she has already become a fixture in the local aviation community. From helping Chris Kilker organize the CPA BBQ to volunteering at the Women in Aviation (WIA) conference and supporting the 99s Poker Run, her presence is felt across the state. With a background teaching English in Nepal and Mexico, Erika aims to combine her love for instruction with a mission to mentor students who may not see themselves represented in the flight deck.



Fostering the Future

The Colorado Pilots Association is deeply committed to fostering the growth of our pilot community. We believe the vitality of aviation hinges on attracting bright, diverse, and driven individuals into our ranks. This year's winners exemplify the very best of Colorado's aspiring aviators.



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

**Renew Your
Colorado
Pilots
Association
Membership
Online**

<https://coloradopilots.org>

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

ON THE HORIZON



CPA FLY-IN NEWS & LISTINGS

REGISTER NOW:

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

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

Abilene, Kansas – May 2-3, 2026

- Hosts, Bob & Shawn Kinney



Memphis, Tennessee – May 20-23, 2026

- Hosts, Bret Heidkamp & Loree Schwartz

Longmont- June 13, 2026

- Hosted by EAA Chapter 648

Grand Canyon – June 17-19, 2026

- Host, Jan McKenzie

Lincoln, Nebraska – July 9-12, 2026

- Host, Bill Marvel

Spirit Engineering – Scheduled for October 10th – Grand Junction, Colorado

- Host, Bill Marvel



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



LONGMONT FLY IN

Saturday, June 13, 2026 • 8 am – Noon

Vance Brand Airport • 229 Airport Road • Longmont, CO



FEATURING

**Pancake Breakfast • Educational Booths
Aircraft Displays • Silent Auction • Door Prizes**

**All proceeds benefit EAA Chapter 648 Youth Education & Scholarship Fund.
Chapter 648 is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.**



EAA648.org/flyin

info@eaa648.org



Grand Canyon National Park

June 17-19, 2026

A Geologic Wonder, the Grand Canyon is one of the most spectacular examples of erosion



anywhere in the world, a mile deep canyon unmatched in the incomparable vistas it offers visitors from both north and south rims. The Park encompasses 278 miles of the Colorado river and adjacent uplands. Fly into Grand Canyon National Park airport (KGCN), 409 nm southwest of KAPA, on Friday, June 17, landing by 11a.m. The airport elevation is 6609 feet with a 9000-foot-long runway. The FBO waived the landing fee, however the state of Arizona has a \$5/night tiedown fee. We will drop our luggage off at the hotel on the way to Grand Canyon Park. Bring your National Park pass; we

only need one per car for entrance to the park. After lunch, we will take the short walk to Yavapai Point along the Rim Trail, stop at the Yavapai Geological Museum, then jump on the free shuttle for the Hermit Road drive (listed as a must do).

Then, we head back to the hotel for check in. There are 15 rooms reserved at the Red Feather Lodge for \$185/night. The rooms include a small refrigerator and microwave. Please use the link below to visit the hotel website directly and book your room.

Use 1197 as the group code and 21079842 as the password.

<https://book.rguest.com/wbe/group/2162/redfeatherlodge/auth>

**Last day to reserve a room is
MAY 16, 2026**

We will enjoy the famous CPA Happy Hour with a presentation of a midair collision over the Grand Canyon many decades ago with charts showing their routes and even the cockpit views each aircraft would have had of the other prior to the collision.

Saturday, after breakfast at the hotel, there will be a choice of the South Kaibab Trail hike to Ooh Aah Point or the easier grade Bright Angel Trail. We will exit the park by taking the Desert View Drive with several stopping points and ending at the Desert View Watchtower (pictured on the next page).



The afternoon will be spent in the Historic District, exploring buildings constructed over 100 years ago. Saturday night we will have a group dinner and enjoy regional Arizona cuisine.

Flying over the canyon on Wednesday and Friday mornings will be part of a great experience. Few people see the Grand Canyon from the air as well as on the ground. Put these days on your calendar!

Registration is \$85 for rental cars and gas and **must be received in the U.S. mail no later than June 10, 2026.**

Please contact Jan McKenzie with any questions.
970-568-6411 Jan.mckenzie99@gmail.com



Upcoming – Lincoln, NE!

Hosted by Bill Marvel, Fly-In Committee Chairman

Heading your way for mid-July is our first trip ever to Lincoln, NE, scheduled right between the 250 year July 4th celebration and Oshkosh. Mark your calendars for July 9-12 (three nights) for an array of events including airplanes, cars, candy, more airplanes, ice cream, the old town Haymarket area of Lincoln, an entertaining group dinner and an unusual lunch location.

The registration form and Flyer containing trip details will be forthcoming in the May Flight Lines issue.



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:

[Local aeronautical engineers revolutionizing the aviation and aircraft manufacturing industry](#)



New CPA Logo Merchandise!



With a bit of luck, a CPA member attending one of our ten different Fly-ins this year will come away with the latest in CPA logo clothing. In the past we've given away mostly baseball hats at our events, since they are "one size fits all" and thus easy to allocate. But so many members have them that this year we've expanded the envelope to include these new vests, to be awarded to one lucky winner at each event. We have five in large and five in medium but only one per event due to their higher cost.

The vest shown is modeled by Bob Kinney along with a matching CPA baseball hat. Bob volunteered because Tom Cruise wasn't available... But to win this you must show up at one of the trips! All of the 2026 Fly-ins are on the website and also in the February issue of Flight Lines.

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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 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?		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





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?		Grand Canyon June 17-19	
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: \$ __ 85 __ 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:

Jan McKenzie (970) 568 6411 jan.mckenzie99@gmail.com
40697 Remington Road
Ft. Collins, CO 80524-9063



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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