
PILOT MAKERS ADVANCED FLIGHT ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

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SPRING FLYING!

As spring begins to stir and the Utah Valley anticipates a shift in weather patterns, aviators across our region prepare for heightened flight activity. With training programs revving up and enthusiasts eager to take to the air, it's crucial to emphasize the importance of weather awareness.

Utah's diverse terrain and dynamic microclimates present unique challenges for pilots. While forecasts offer valuable insights, they often fail to capture the nuanced reality of local conditions. Therefore, maintaining a mindset of continuous weather monitoring and flexibility is essential for safe flying.

In the spirit of spring's renewal, keep current on understanding aviation weather. By honing our ability to interpret atmospheric cues and staying attuned to real-time updates, we enhance our safety margins and seize opportunities to explore the wonders of flight amidst Utah's breathtaking landscapes.

As we operate within the bustling Provo Airport, home to growing commercial traffic and increased flight operations, it's imperative to underscore our commitment to security at Pilot Makers. Adhering rigorously to Provo Airport security and local TSA regulations is non-negotiable. Ensuring the thorough securing of all entrances and exits isn't just a routine, but a fundamental aspect of safeguarding our facilities and the aviation community. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact an office staff member here at Pilot Makers so we can keep you informed and safe."

AVIATOR SECTION

In response to the surge in aviation activity in Utah Valley, key members of local aviation such as UVU, Provo Tower, Spanish Fork Airport Board, Pilot Makers, and local flight schools have joined forces to address safety concerns collaboratively. While formal safety procedures are underway, here are some essential suggestions to enhance safety awareness:

1. **Area Familiarization:** Take the time to acquaint yourself with current training procedures and the intricacies of local airspace, including the locations of training areas.
2. **Radio Proficiency:** Ensure mastery of radio procedures, given the multiple communication channels between Provo, Spanish Fork, Heber, and Nephi. Clear and effective communication is crucial for safe operations.
3. **Traffic Awareness:** Remain vigilant, especially during peak training when traffic activity escalates. Stay informed about traffic patterns and proactively anticipate and respond to potential congestion.

While these suggestions mark the initial steps toward safety enhancement, the collaborative efforts of the Utah Valley aviation community are poised to develop comprehensive safety protocols. Let's unite in prioritizing safety and nurturing a culture of support and awareness as we navigate Utah skies together.

As spring ushers in the 2024 aerobatic season, it's time to join the excitement with our local aerobatic enthusiasts, closely associated with IAC Chapter 139. Whether you're keen on learning aerobatics or eager to compete, now's the perfect opportunity to get involved with Pilot Makers Aerobatic Team.

If you are passionate about aerobatics and want details about local aerobatic events, meetings, or competitions, contact **Tayla Funes** at **1-801-866-9691**. Tayla is your dedicated point of contact, ready to guide you through the exhilarating journey of aerobatics with our closely-knit aerobatic community.

Embrace the thrill of aerobatics this season and unlock your flying potential with our passionate aerobatic team!



FLYING FOR MORE THAN JUST THE END GOAL

As many of us started our journey in aviation, we had some form of motivation that drew us to it. For some, that was a prestigious and high paying job at an airline while others had their eyes on flying fighter jets past the speed of sound. Whatever the motivation may have been, it caused us to bite the bullet and invest so much time and money into flying.

The process of learning to fly can be very challenging for most people. It's a firehose of new information which to many feels like learning a new language, and in a way it really is. Learning how to actually control the airplane is just a fraction of what flight school demands. At times, it can get pretty frustrating repetitively flying the maneuvers and studying the ground. Losing sight of your motivation can only make it more challenging.

I think the most important part of aviation, whether you're just starting or have been involved for some time, is to learn to love and enjoy the process and progress that you will make along the way. Keeping sight of your primary motivation is just as important as finding new motivators as you continue to learn and grow. It is commonly said that "a good pilot is always learning", and there is a lot of truth to that.

In the training environment, this may look like leaving the practice area and flying somewhere you've never been for a "\$100 hamburger" (though today's rates might make that saying just a little obsolete). There's a lot of joy in getting out of the airplane and into an FBO, or taking a courtesy car out for lunch. Aviation is all about seeing things from a new perspective, and flying to new places is the best way to experience that.

The flight instructors role is not only to inform students how to fly, but more so how to become both professional and passionate aviators. While it's just as important to get a student from where they are to where they want to be, every step along the way should be a memorable and enjoyable experience. There are so many different aspects of aviation filled with opportunities for both new and seasoned aviators to branch out to. The future airline pilot may find interest in mountain flying on a pair of big bush wheels, while the fighter pilot may become invested in vintage aircraft restoration. There are so many opportunities out there to find experiences like these which may strike your interest.

Attending flying events such as airshows, fly-in breakfasts, aviation seminars and workshops bring great opportunities to meet and get to know other pilots, learning about their background and hear stories they've brought along the way. Many pilots own aircraft with a rich history and love to talk about it. Who knows, they might even take you flying! So get out there, meet new people, and learn to love aviation for more than what first met the eye. There's so much love and culture here, and if you focus too hard on just one thing, you might just miss the rest of it.

