

Skyraider Sentinel

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Skyraider Aviation Welcomes New Club Members!

- Bill Besnard
- Robert Colquitt
- Scott Maiwald
- Michael Marcus
- Mary McGrane
- Doug McKinnon
- Gary Stinson
- Don Swayngim
- Rick Whitson
- Cory Wilks

This Month in Aviation History



Boeing KC-135A
Stratotanker

August 31st, 1956...
On this date the Boeing KC-135A Stratotanker made its first flight. The Stratotanker was developed to refuel strategic bombers, but was later called into service to refuel tactical fighters as well. In its over 50 years of service, the KC-135 served in conflicts from Vietnam to Desert Storm. Now increasingly supplemented by the larger KC-10, cost studies suggest the KC-135 could remain in the US military inventory until 2040, meaning some could still be flying when they are 80 years old!

“And if flying, like a glass-bottomed bucket, can give you that vision, that seeing eye, which peers down on the still world below the choppy waves — it will always remain magic.”

— Anne Morrow Lindbergh, “North to the Orient” 1935

New Kid on the Block

On August 9th, Skyraider Aviation added a third airplane to its Centennial Airport fleet of Light Sport Aircraft. The brand new PiperSport arrived after completing a nearly 18 and ½ hour journey over two days. The two-person crew (Barbara Marx and Brent McGibbon) faced thunderstorms, low ceilings, fog, and every other type of summer weather imaginable on their epic trip home. Fortunately with its NEXRAD satellite weather uplink and 3-axis autopilot, the PiperSport made the journey manageable.



New PiperSport at Skyraider Aviation

Piper Aircraft, Inc of Vero Beach, Florida introduced the PiperSport earlier this year. The aircraft is being produced in the Czech Republic under a licensing agreement with Czech Sport Aircraft. Formerly known as the Czech Aircraft Works *SportCruiser*, the aircraft is gaining greater notoriety under the Piper brand. Skyraider Aviation is the first flying club in Colorado to offer the

PiperSport to its students and pilots. The airplane is available now for only \$99 per hour. Contact us today to schedule a flight!

So Many Events... So Little Time

This August, like so many in the past, was full of aviation events. Skyraider club members and aircraft could be seen out and about nearly every weekend this month. Some of the highlights included the 2nd annual *Spirit of Flight Day* at Erie Municipal Airport, The Erie Air Fair, and the Colorado Sport International Air Show at Rocky Mountain Metro Airport.

September and October look to be great months as well for flying opportunities. A couple club members are planning to fly to Steamboat Springs for the annual *Wild West Air Fest* over Labor Day weekend. Later in the month (September 11th and 12th) a number of us will be flying to the *National Radial Engine Exhibition* in Akron, Colorado. Then in October, we'll be tagging along on a Colorado Pilots Association Fly-In to Los Alamos, New Mexico.

So, if you are a current club member, and want to break the monotony of flying in the practice area, go ahead and sign up for one of these trips. If you're not a club member... what are you waiting for? Come join the fun!