

March 2008
Volume 3, Issue 3

Skyraider Sentinel

Skyraider Aviation, Inc • 303-926-0114 • info@skyraideraviation.com • www.skyraideraviation.com

Skyraider Aviation Welcomes New Club Members!

- Craig Simmonds
- Dave York

This Month in Aviation History



Lady Mary Bailey

March 9th, 1928... On this date, English aviatrix Lady Mary Bailey embarked on what became the first round-trip flight between London and Cape Town, South Africa flown by a woman. She reached Cape Town on April 30th after a journey of 8,000 miles.

Lady Bailey was considered something of a free-spirit in her day. The norms of marriage and motherhood didn't particularly suit her, and as part of her determination "to get away from prams", she devoted most of her energies after 1926 to flying higher, longer and faster than any other woman of her time.

"The facts are that flying satisfies deeply rooted desires. For as long as time these desires have hungered vainly for fulfillment. The horse, and later the motorcar, have merely teased them. The upward sweep of the airplane signifies release."

— Bruce Gould, 'Sky Larking,' 1929.

Checkride Tips

When you're ready for your sport pilot practical test, be prepared for some of the tricks your examiner may use to throw you off. Some of these could result in an *instant failure*.

Dropped pencil: As you're performing a maneuver, the examiner suddenly drops his/her pencil. A quick "oops, can you get that for me" could result in you failing your checkride. Never take your eyes off of the task at hand.

Dead batteries: If you have an electronic E6B, do NOT leave the ground without plenty of extra batteries. If you don't have a backup set of batteries, make sure you have a manual E6B, and that you know how to use it.

Seatbelt: When you're taking your checkride, you are pilot-in-command. Your examiner is a passenger under your command. Remember to give your "passenger" a pre-flight briefing including a reminder to fasten seatbelts, and to keep hands and feet clear of controls.

Check brakes: The first thing you need to do once you've started your taxi is to check the brakes.

Landing strip just behind you: When you're flying you should always be thinking about an emergency landing spot. Often an examiner will simulate an engine failure just after passing a

perfectly good airport or dirt landing strip. If you weren't paying attention you may have missed the perfect spot to put the plane down.

Failed GPS: Your examiner will almost certainly turn off the GPS at some point. Make sure you know your position and that you're ready to go with a chart and plotter.

(Most tips courtesy of flypatchfly.com)

Upcoming Events

- April 5th – Snow Buster Fly-In; Erie Municipal Airport; More Info at: <http://www.eaa.org/calendar/eventdetail.aspx?id=578>
- April 8th – 13th – Sun 'n Fun; Lakeland, Florida
- May 17th – Erie Town Fair/Airport Open House; Erie Municipal Airport
- June 7th – Rocky Mountain Metro Airport Open House; Metro (formerly Jeffco) Airport
- June 27th – 29th – Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In/Air Show; Front Range Airport
- July 28th – August 3rd – EAA Airventure; Oshkosh, WI