

CHOCK TALK

Newsletter of the Blue Sky Flying Club, est. 1957

Note from the Editor

Ah, Fall. The kids are back to school, the trees are turning colors, it's once again comfortable to be outside... and climb performance (and those pesky cylinder temps) is starting to get better!

We've also got some upcoming events in the fall: the fall Wash-and-Wax is coming on Oct. 5, and we're trying something new for breakfast, so sign up with Chris Stochholm for what looks to be a really fun morning.

Also, the annual banquet is coming - details are on page 3. This is a huge event for the club and a great chance to meet up and make new plans, so sign on up!

Hope to see you at these events and around the patch!



IFR Trivia

As of July 2024...

- ...there were 4156 IAPs to LPV minimums and 742 IAPs to LP mins.
- ...there are 667 airports with ILS approaches.

MOSAIC Most of us are steeped in the ways of Private Pilots, and maybe Commercial, Instrument, CFI, or even ATP. But we're relatively ignorant on the meaning and significance of *Sport Pilots*.

Sport Pilots enjoy somewhat limited privileges. A Sport Pilot cannot fly at night, and can only fly a Light Sport Aircraft (LSA) — meaning a non-helicopter or non-powered-lift aircraft that meets the following standards:

- Max weight less than 1,320 lbs. (1,430 lbs. for seaplanes)
- Max speed of 120 kts.
- One engine with fixed-pitch (or ground-adjustable) prop
- Max two seats
- Fixed landing gear (except for seaplanes or gliders).

But many other countries are more lenient in these restrictions; consequently, the market has responded with numerous innovative and inexpensive light aircraft.



Now, there's a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) known as "MOSAIC" (Modernization of Special Airworthiness Certification). It's a 300-page document and if you care to read it, it's published [here](#). The recent FAA Reauthorization Act requires that action be taken on it within 24 months... so by May 2026 at the latest. The final rule could be published next year.

There are **huge** changes proposed by MOSAIC. It's not set in stone yet but these are a few things that are proposed:

- Increase the max takeoff weight to 3000 lbs.
- Increase the max cruise speed to 250 KTS
- Increase the max number of seats to four
- Allow variable pitch prop and retractable gear
- Night privileges.

(Continued on pg. 2)

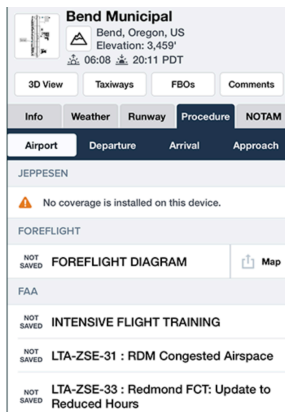


CHECK LTAs We've all heard to check NOTAMs before a flight. But how about checking LTAs?

Letters to Aircrews (LTAs) are cousins of NOTAMs. The FAA publishes LTAs to inform pilots about local ATC procedures, discuss potential conflicts in busy airspace, and to highlight other safety-of-flight issues. For example, how a particular TRACON facility handles VFR practice approaches, or VFR arrival and departure procedures at busy airports, or to alert you to potential hazards, such as glider and towplane operations.

LTAs aren't typically included in a standard preflight briefing. But fortunately, they are now readily available in ForeFlight. On the main information page for an airport, select the Procedures tab and scroll down past the airport diagram and other charts.

Each LTA starts with "LTA" - go figure!



MOSAIC (continued from page 1)

Yes, you read that right: while the Dakota's stall speed is too high and the Skylane is too heavy, *the Skyhawk might qualify as a light sport aircraft!*

There are many other changes discussed (remember, it's 300 pages long!) including pilot training, medical requirements (BasicMed for night), maintenance regulation, etc. It's far too deep to get into here and, frankly, I don't want to try to learn it all (brain might pop), but those in the know are speculating that it will lead to a wave of new and capable airplanes to pop up on the fish-finder.

FALL WASH-N-WAX

Saturday, October 5 9:00 a.m. (rain date: Oct. 6)

Come one, come all!

Club brings the breakfast — you bring yourselves!

(...and your families, cleaning supplies, and other FUN STUFF to share!)



Weather Updates

The phone number for Solberg's weather recently stopped working. Instead, check online here:

<http://www.digiwx-n51.com/Mobile/Default.aspx>

Other airports that use DigiWx can be checked just by changing the airport code in the URL. For instance, check Blairstown's weather here:

<http://www.digiwx-1n7.com/Mobile/Default.aspx>



Lightning Round!

Bite-sized updates from the Board and beyond:

Board Changes take effect on Sept. 30. This marks the end of Brian Moor’s tenure as a Board member. When you see him, be sure to thank him for his years of service and leadership!

ScheduleMaster Profiles need to be updated — it’s insurance time again and we need everyone’s profiles up to date for accurate review. In particular, confirm your Biennial Flight Review and Annual Proficiency Check dates, which should both be to the *end* of the relevant month. Medical and BasicMed must also be up to date.

Congratulations to Chris Stockholm, who successfully completed his Flight Instructor check ride on Sept. 4. Way to go, Chris!

Reminder to check the latest changes to the Operating Procedures about “miscellaneous flying.” Read it here.

Member Anniversaries in the past two months:

1 year: Nicholas Falcicchio

10 years: Andrea Fiocchi, Abe Nemani, and Wael Hassan

20 years: Ron Joffe



Annual Dinner - Save the Date

Our Annual Dinner will be held on Friday, Nov 8 at the Somerville Elks Club (375 Union Ave. in Bridgewater).

The cocktail hour will be from 7:00-8:00; the dinner and speaker presentation will be from 8:00-11:00. Cost will be \$75.00 per person (less than 1 hour in the air!) and there will be a cash bar.



Our speaker this year will be Ed Nagle, who will give us the history of Solberg airport from its beginnings in 1939 to its place in the aviation world today.

We encourage all new members to attend since this is where you get the best opportunity to meet your fellow pilots. If you have friends who are not members but might want to attend, they’ll be welcome as long as space permits.

More specifics have been shared by email, but stay tuned for any updates — and RSVP to Stan Winkler!

Next Membership Meeting

Monday, October 7, 7:30 p.m.

Calvary Bible Church

144 Readington Road

Note: We are now meeting in Room 131 upstairs Hybrid meeting with a virtual option via Discord/CTAF

Presentation: TBD

Fuel Prices (ranked in order of price)

Central Jersey	\$5.30
Sky Manor	\$5.33
Solberg	\$5.79 (Must use the Phillips card)

It’s your money! Spend it wisely!

“Nobody who has not been up in the sky on a glorious morning can possibly imagine the way a pilot feels in free heaven.” 3
-William T. Piper