

Blue Sky News

Congratulations to former instructors Charlie Hager and Kristen Frerichs; Charlie for getting hired by John Deere to fly their Citation 10 and Gulfstream, and Kristen getting hired at Pinnacle, a regional also known as Northwest Airlink. Onward and upward ☺ Welcome to some new club members!! Jamil Abdur-Rahman and Mike Ruffatto, both working on their private certificate. Bob Hammond, controller and glider instructor, is close to his CFI airplane checkride and hopefully do some CFI-ing for Blue Sky! Mark Kenney, Amy Hepner and new member Mike are keeping the 152 busy. New member Jamal, Pat Shroba, Clint Claiborne, Steve Highland, Jay Ruffner, Ion Soltan, John O'Connor, Hank Boerema and Randy Huizenga kept the 172 warmed up! Instructor Mike Bernier flew his grandparents and brother to Gulf Shores, AL in the 172XP (No, he didn't take Croc, his pet alligator). Stefano came out for some Citabria flying, and joined Brian Laite with Instructor Nick, Cindy, Bruce and Curtis for lunch at Bloomington. If you have not been there you have to give it a try. Easy in and out, less than an hour away, and outstanding food. Warren Roddey, Sue Anders, Art Fletcher, and George Lorenz are also enjoying some tailwheel flying. Look for some friendly weather and come on out!!

Update on HB1726

Thank you everyone who voiced their support for the Illinois House bill that would prohibit windmills from being placed close to small private airstrips to force their closure.

Unfortunately the word has it that it will be tabled indefinitely until the some in the majority party jump on board. The wind industry has a tremendous amount lobby power, so this is an uphill battle. The next best avenue is to petition your county board members. They have the power to allow windmills, which is a zoning special use, to be placed in their county. If you are interested in pursuing this route I can help you with this, as I hope to do so in my county.

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Mark your Calendar

**EAA Chapter 95
Open House**

May 21st

Morris Airport

Come out and enjoy a day at the airport! Bring friends and family! More info in next month's newsletter...

DON'T BE A DIPSTICK!!



Alrighty folks! We here at Blue Sky have decided to form a new club, the Dipstick Club, made up of the unfortunate renters that like to make sure that oil cap will never come off in flight..... The problem is, sometimes it won't come off at all! More often than not it takes pliers to get the darn thing off and, after repeated over tightening, leads to loosening the filler neck from the block causing an unsightly leaky mess. Not sure how tight is too tight? First just use tip of your thumb and index finger until it just starts to get snug. Then try to take it off. Can it be done with the tip of the finger and thumb without much trouble? After the engine warms up it will tighten up more. This filler neck is not under pressure, so don't worry that the dipstick will fall off or unthread during flight. Also, have an instructor or a mechanic show you what to look for on our "dipstick simulator" (thank you for creating it, Nick) right in the office. So, take it easy on that dipstick, the mechanics and the next pilot that flies after you will thank you for it ☺