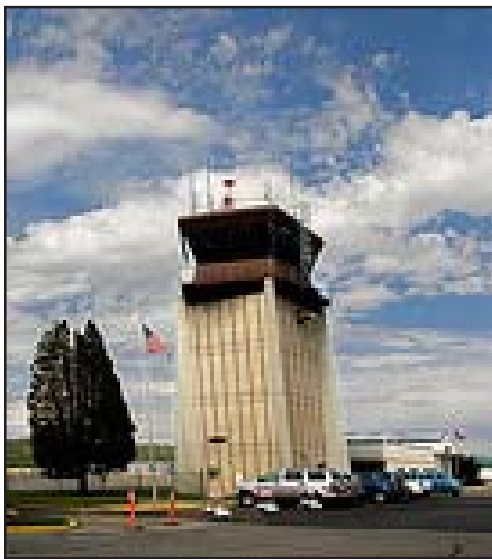




# SPOKANE FLYER

OCTOBER 2009

## Felts Tower controllers highlight our next meeting



### NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

WEDNESDAY  
October 21, 2009

6:00 P.M.

Marie Callender's Restaurant  
2111 N Argonne Rd.

Special Guests:

Doug Hutton and Celia Johnson  
Felts Field Tower Controllers

"Meet the faces behind the voices"

## Vets fly high on 18th annual Fall Foliage flight

WPA thanked the Veterans of the Inland Northwest with the 19th annual "Fall Foliage" flight from Felts Field. It was the largest recorded turnout- eight pilots, 26 Vets, two PT's, three kids, and four active US Air Force volunteers were flown in seven aircraft for approximately 6,200 pilot/passenger-miles. This year's organizer, Geoff Scott, humbled by enthusiasm and willingness of those involved said; "I had simply asked Fairchild Base Command Chief Nordell if anyone flew civilian aircraft, or were willing to volunteer to help out. We had 16 inquiries within a week!" This unique inclusion led to an abundance of ground-support allowing pilots to simply focus on flight.



WPA's Mike Eller accepting a plaque from the VA's Pam Wicks in appreciation for his 18 years serving our Vets with the Fall Foliage flight.

The ground crew from WPA were Duane Lukan with chairs, Suzie Scalera and Cassandra Beth with food, Jesse opening the doors (thanks, Western Aviation) and in come the vets!"

Pilots Tom Morris, Jerry Baur, Blake McKinley, Dave Dufour of Spokane Airways, Mike Eller, Paul Vietsze, and Mike Scalera, eyed weather forecasts calling for wind-gusts and three-mile visibility later in the day, but the conditions, once aloft, proved about the best fall has to offer. "Awesome flight" said veteran 'Chris.' "This is a lot better than any of those military flights I've been on. You have WINDOWS!" Tom Morris, concurring on the common frequency said; "Our passenger beverage service unfortunately had to be terminated due to some moderate chop at 6,500, but, the views are spectacular."

Special thanks Subway for the tasty food and Mike, for the solo guitar while vets, active personnel and pilots exchanged stories in a unique bridging of time and generations.

To top off the day, Veterans Administration's Pam Wicks presented Mike Eller with a special plaque commemorating his 18 years of involvement and compassion for our area's veterans. It was a truly well-deserved moment of honor for a man who has given so much back to these veterans.

He smiled and accepted the award, only to immediately bound back into the air with an appreciative group of AF volunteers-for his THIRD flight of the day.

Catch more photos on the web at: <http://picasaweb.google.com/geoff945/WPAFoliageFlight#>



**Washington Pilots Association  
Spokane Chapter  
2009 Board of Directors**

**PRESIDENT**

Tom Morris 924-5544  
tzmorris@comcast.net

**PAST-PRESIDENT**

Gary White 891-6473  
gcwhite1@earthlink.net

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Duane Lukan 892-9142  
dlukan@asisna.com

**TREASURER**

Marion Heale 624-1092  
dispatchgal@earthlink.net

**SECRETARY**

Carolyn White 891-6473  
gcwhite1@earthlink.net

**DIRECTORS**

Marc Ruggiero 892-1539  
pruggi@peoplepc.com

John Townsley 328-3228  
highflight@q.com

Al Gilson 922-4259  
alcessnapilot@comcast.net

Jerry Baur 893-1961  
j.baur@f5.com

**Spokane Flyer**

is published 12 times per year by the Washington Pilots Association, Spokane Chapter. We welcome articles and photo contributions that may be of interest to pilots in the Spokane area and the Inland Northwest.

**Editor**

Al Gilson  
alcessnapilot@comcast.net

Chapter general meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month except August and December.  
Board meeting are held on the 1st Wednesday of every month.

**Join or Renew On-line, Today!**

**Go to: [wpaflys.org](http://wpaflys.org)**

**President's Message: Tom Morris**

Fall has arrived, and you would think things would be slowing down a little. NOT! We had a great general meeting Sept 16 and learned about high altitude effects from Maj. Pete Sherman and Tech Sgt. Becky Hale, both from Fairchild AFB. It is amazing how much more goofy you can get without an adequate supply of oxygen. Our October 21st speakers are Doug Hutton and Celia Johnson, both from the tower at Felt's Field.



John Townsley is working at making this a Wings Event for us, if possible.

Geoff Scott did a great job putting together the Annual Vet's Fall Foliage Flight. Geoff organized support from volunteers at Fairchild AFB that wanted to honor our Vets and help out in duties surrounding our event. This was the largest turnout ever with I believe 26 rides being given. We left Felts headed toward Bayview Id., crossed Lake Pend Oreille and headed up the Clark Fork River to the Bull River Canyon. Once in Montana with the mountains clearly above our altitude, it was breath taking. We did find an occasional bump, but overall, the route back over Troy Mt., Bonners Ferry and Sandpoint Id. made it all worth while. This event truly means a great deal to our Veterans, and it was an honor to be able to give back a little to those who have given so much for us. Thanks to everyone involved, Geoff Scott, Susie Scalera, Duane Lukan, Fairchild AFB volunteers, eight pilots and donated planes. The flight was topped off by a lunch arranged by Susie. A **BIG Thanks** goes out to Western Aviation, who generously donated their facility to make this event possible. Remember to use the businesses that continually supports our events.

Also, on the 26<sup>th</sup> several members flew down to the Columbia Crest Winery near Patterson. See page 4 for their story.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> Blake McKinley held a Youth Aviation Adventure event at the EAA building. There were 65 Boy Scouts from all over our region. The Scouts were working for their Aviation Merit Badges. There were nine stations of aviation related learning material they completed to be awarded the Merit Badge. This was the first of this kind of event to be held in our area. Most of the work and planning was done by Blake McKinley

Next on the growing list of things to get done are the WPA Scholarship Applications. Applications are now posted on the website. The deadlines for the applications are October 31. Please help get the word out.

Thank you everyone, for a busy and successful month of events.

Tom Morris

**CHICKEN WINGS**

BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER



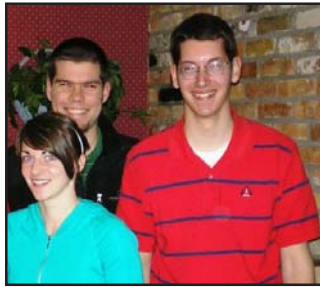
Through special arrangements with Michael and Stefan Strasser, we are pleased to have the Chicken Wings comic strip in Spokane Flyer. For more strips, products, and offers, check out their website at: [www.chickenwingscomics.com](http://www.chickenwingscomics.com)



## 2009 WPA/Spokane Chapter Student Scholarships

One of the WPA/Spokane Chapters primary mission is to further the education of aviation students. We do that through our annual student scholarship program.

Flight students and Airframe & Powerplant students can receive funding from the Chapter to be used to defray some of the costs of their training.



Join our 2008 scholarship winners Becky, Klaas, and Andrew. Apply today!

The application process for \$500 scholarships is now open for flight training students and aviation academic students, (including A&P students).

Download and fill out one of the applications (or both, if taking academics and flight training) and submit by October 31, 2009.

Go to the Chapter website at: [www.wpafllys.org/Chapters/Spokane/school.htm](http://www.wpafllys.org/Chapters/Spokane/school.htm).

### WSDOT Airport Handbook meeting

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation Division is in a comment period on the State-Managed Airports Handbook. The handbook documents policies, performance measures, and guidelines for the maintenance and operation of the 17 state-managed airports. A public meeting will be held in Spokane on Thursday, October 15th from 4pm to 6pm. The meeting is at the WSDOT offices in Spokane, 2714 N. Mayfair.

## Scouts earn Aviation Merit Badges at Felts

by Blake McKinley

On Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> the WPA-Spokane Chapter, with the support of the EAA-Chapter 79, hosted the first Youth Aviation Adventure program held in the Northwest! This program



was offered to the Inland Northwest Council-Boy Scouts of America. There were sixty Aviation Merit Badges earned by Scouts representing twenty-one Troops.

During this event the participants rotate every twenty minutes through nine stations designed to expose youth to the realm of aviation while meeting the requirements of the Boy Scouts of America Aviation Merit Badge. To pull this event off there were twenty volunteers who helped by checking in the Scouts and the associated paperwork for the merit badges, station instructors, and group hosts who were responsible for getting their group of Scouts from station to station. The stations covered Pre-Flight Inspection, Aviation in the Know game, Power Plants, Airport Operations, Careers in Aviation, a Glider Kit Activity, Instrument Panel, Certificates and Ratings, and Aerodynamics. Even though the day was the coldest that we had experienced to that point of the Fall, all the Scouts and the volunteers sported big smiles and remained enthusiastic for the four hours that it took to rotate these Scouts through the stations.

There seems to be a great deal of interest from the Inland Northwest Council for another event. Next year we will plan to host another event in the late Spring. We are planning to talk with the Girl Scouts to offer this program to them in a format that would meet the requirements of their Aviation Merit Badges. In addition, there has been interest in offering this program to the Aviation Explorers program.

Finally, a sincere thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out with this program!

## End of Season Sale!

TOYS



25% Off!

Hawaiian Shirts



30% Off!

SPOT



\$99.95!



5505 E Rutter Ave. Spokane, WA  
509-534-7371



### Regal Aviation Insurance (ID)

a division of BC/F Enterprises, Inc.



Autumn Wade-Pederson

1110 W. Park Place  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
E-mail: [autumnw@regalavn.com](mailto:autumnw@regalavn.com)

208-676-1229  
877-676-1229  
FAX 208-676-8638



## Spokane Chapter

P.O. Box 11911  
Spokane, WA 99211

### WPA SPOKANE CHAPTER FLY-OUT REPORT: Columbia Crest Winery

Originally up to four aircraft had planned to fly out to Patterson, Washington to visit the Columbia Crest Winery on Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup>. The day dawned clear with light winds, and all but two aircraft had cancelled. Of the remaining two, one of the parties of four was under the weather and not feeling well. Ultimately, “plane pooling” made more sense. So at 10:00 Dave Lucke departed Felts Field with Carolyn and Gary White aboard as passengers in his C-182.

The flight was smooth and severe clear. However, head winds slowed the C-182s progress to 100 kts or slightly below at times. The Columbia Crest Winery airport is about 40 nm SW of Pasco. The runway is paved and about 4000 ft long.

Once the aircraft was secured and the picnic lunch was in hand, we walked the ½ mile or so to the winery. We met our host, Vanessa and were preparing to participate in a “self-guided” tour. Dave noticed a sign stating that a guided tour would begin in about an hour, so instead we picked up the picnic lunch and moved outside. We found a beautiful setting by a pond, under a willow tree in the shade and enjoyed a fantastic lunch with a great view of the Columbia River and the activity as trucks pulled in with the fresh grape harvest. This weekend was the “Catch the Crush” where special discounts were offered on selected varieties of wines.

The tour was very informative and the scale of the operation was amazing. The tour was about an hour long, with most of it spent underground in the storage/aging facility. The underground portion of the winery encompasses 20 acres of temperature and humidity conditioned space. We saw everything from the “select” varieties (all hand produced and oak barrel aged) to the more contemporary stainless steel tanks two stories high. The facility seemed to stretch forever. Following the tour, it was “tasting time”. Dave volunteered as the “designated pilot”, and Carolyn and I sampled some of the finished product. With a substantial discount, we loaded up purchases into a van and were driven to the airport for the flight home.

Once established in cruise at 7500 ft, the headwinds now tailwinds really gave a nice push. Ground speeds of 175 kts appeared and towns appeared and disappeared quickly. As Ritzville neared, it was apparent to the SSE that a lot of freshly tilled soil was being picked up by the winds. Clouds of it were moving into Spokane, reducing visibility as we sailed along. Felts Field ATIS was reporting winds 250 at 15 with gusts 28, temperature 27 and altimeter 30.00. Landing on runway 21L, Dave put the Cessna down like a butterfly with sore feet, chirp, chirp, and chirp. General aviation made the trip a pleasure, not an endurance run on the ground and a great time was had by all.



**SPOKANE AIRWAYS**  
FLIGHT CENTER

**YOUR FULL SERVICE FBO AT  
SPOKANE INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT  
(GEG)**

#### FUEL

100LL and Jet A

#### FLIGHT TRAINING

#### AIRCRAFT RENTAL

Including a Cessna 172RG with a Garmin 430

#### MAINTENANCE

#### CHARTERS

509.747.2017

www.spokaneairways.com  
customerservice@spokaneairways.com

*“Serving the aviation community for 4 decades...It's what we do best!”*