

Why Flight Expo? Why This Mission Matters to Me

Years ago, someone asked me,
***“Why do you invest so much time into
Flight Expo?”***

They wanted to understand. Here’s why:

When I first began flying, it was rare, almost unheard of, to see a 14 year old girl taking flight lessons. It was a Christmas gift from my parents, and one I’ll never forget. Continued on page 4 & 5.

Mission Matters: Why Flight Expo?

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Flight Expo Inc. Announces 2025 Pilot Scholarship Winner

Celebrating Future Aviators: Meet Our 2025 Scholarship Recipient!

Flight Expo is proud to announce the 2025 recipient of the **John & Patty Sandberg Pilot Scholarship Davin Salonek!** Davin will receive a \$500 award to support his continued pilot training and fuel his passion for flight.

A student at Buffalo High School, Davin stands out for his strong work ethic, drive, and love for aviation. Growing up in a family of five, he's developed a deep appreciation for discipline and perseverance. Qualities that shine through both in his academics and his flight training. His dream of becoming a pilot runs deep, and he's even considering a future in military service to combine his passion for flying with a commitment to serve.

We were inspired by every application we received this year. Each one a testament to the bright future of aviation. To honor that spirit, we’re offering a **free flight lesson** to all applicants who were not selected. Your dedication and enthusiasm for aviation do not go unnoticed. We’re excited to support your journey in any way we can.

To all aspiring aviators: be sure to explore more scholarship opportunities on our website. We're here to help you take the next step, whether it's your first flight or your fiftieth.

Let’s give Davin a round of applause as he climbs higher in his aviation journey.

We’re cheering him on every step of the way!



Flight Expo Aviation Adventures

Aviation Adventures Summer Camp — Now Boarding! For Incoming Kindergarten–5th Grade Students

Get ready for takeoff! Flight Expo is thrilled to partner with **ISD 477 Community Education** to bring young explorers an exciting **Aviation Adventures Summer Camp**, a hands-on journey into the world of flight!

Camp Dates:

Monday, August 18 – Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Location: Princeton Municipal Airport (A&D Building)

Cost: \$59 per student



P.O. Box 155

Zimmerman, MN 55398

Through interactive lessons and creative activities, campers will:

Explore the Science of Flight – Learn how airplanes fly and discover fascinating aircraft.

Build a Paper Glider – And test your design!

Sit in a Real Aircraft – Climb into the cockpit of a single-engine airplane!

Plus, our daily themed adventures include:

Pilot for Hire – Learn about famous aviators and choose your favorite to “hire” as your pilot.

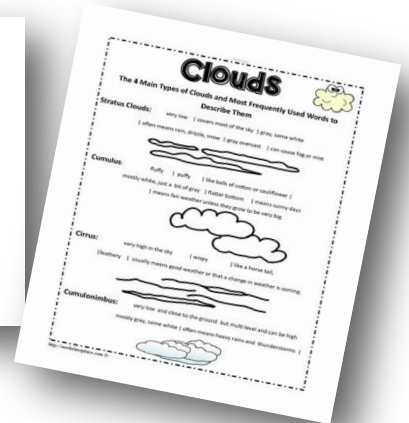
Choose Your Destination – Map out a real flight route and calculate distances using a flight scale.

In-Flight Meal Service – Explore healthy snacks perfect for fueling high-flying adventures.

“Weather” or Not to Go – Discover how pilots use weather data to make safe flying decisions.



<h1>Flight Plan</h1>		<input type="checkbox"/> FAA USE ONLY		<input type="checkbox"/> STPOCHOR <input type="checkbox"/> PILOT BRIEFING		<input type="checkbox"/> VNR		TIME STARTED _____		SPECIAL INITIALS _____	
		1 TYPE 2 AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION		3 AIRCRAFT TYPE 4 SPECIAL EQUIPMENT		5 FILE NUMBER 6 PILOT'S NAME		7 DEPARTURE POINT 8 DEPARTURE TIME		9 CLOSING AIR FORCE	
10 VFR 11 IFR 12 DATE				13 KTS		14 PROPOSED 15 ACTUAL					
Route Flight											
16 DIRECTION (Name of airport and VFR)											
		17 EST. TIME ENROUTE 18 HOURS 19 MINUTES		20 REMARKS							
21 FUEL ON BOARD 22 HOURS 23 MINUTES		24 ALTERNATE AIRPORT(S)		25 PILOT'S NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER & AIRCRAFT'S HOME BASE 26 DIRECTION CONTACT TELEPHONE (OPTIONAL)							
				27 NUMBER AIRCRAFT							
28 COG OF AIRCRAFT				29 COG, AIRCRAFT PILOTS. AIR PILOT 01 explains plan for 4th flight plan to operate under instrument flight rules in controlled airspace. Pilots to be used must be a civil pilot and to be issued 10,000 ft or above instrument clearance and to be a pilot. The flight plan is recommended as a good operating practice. Note that this is for requirements concerning flight right rules.							
CLOSE ESTIMATE FLIGHT PLAN WITH _____										FSS ON ARRIVAL	



Ready to enroll?

Registration is FULL but you can join the Waiting List!

Register at Princeton ISD 477 Community Education:

Community Education - Princeton School District 477

Building Update

Cleared for Takeoff: Building the Next Chapter at Flight Expo

Big things are happening at Flight Expo! As our aviation programs continue to gain altitude, it's clear we've outgrown our current 40x50 workshop. To keep pace with student interest and aircraft restoration projects, we're planning something bold: a brand-new **60x70-foot hangar** built specifically for hands-on training in welding, fabric work, wiring, and more.



We're Already Rolling!

Thanks to a generous in-kind donation, we now have the materials for in-floor heating which is a big step toward creating a space that's welcoming year-round. Fundraising and community partnerships are gaining momentum, and we're so encouraged by the support we've seen so far.

This hangar isn't just a building. **It's a launchpad for students pursuing careers in aviation and STEM.** With your help, we'll inspire and equip the next generation of pilots, mechanics, and innovators.

Want to get involved? Opportunities to support the project are just around the corner!



JOIN US FOR THE
PRINCETON PARADE on
THURSDAY,
JUNE 5, 2025
at 6PM!

Princeton Lions Airport Brunch

Join us on Sunday, June 8, 2025 from 7:30am-Noon

All you can eat brunch:

Eggs, Hash Browns, Pancakes, Kielbasa, OJ, Milk & Coffee

After you eat brunch, visit Flight Expo on the Ramp for a fun and education experience. See the S2F, Mobile Cockpit, and Cubby up close!



Mission Matters: Why Flight Expo? Cont.

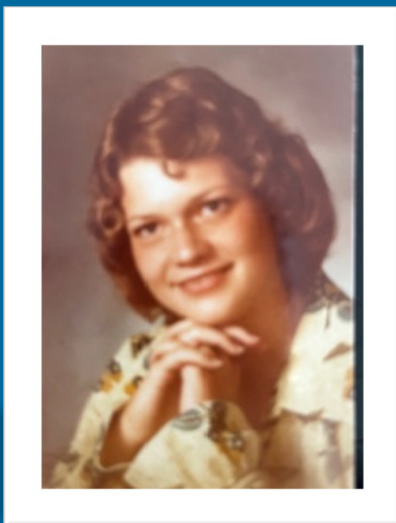
This was the early 1970's and aviation was still very much considered a man's world. I trained mostly on Saturday mornings, when the local "men's group" would hang out at the airport and tease me for needing a cushion to reach the rudder pedals. But I didn't let that stop me.

I soloed on my 16th birthday; the same week I got my driver's license. The following summer, after turning 17, I was determined to pass the written test for my Private Pilot's license. It was tough. There were no structured classes back then, just grainy microfilm played in the back of a hanger. It was painful, frustrating, and lonely.

Then life changed. My family hit some turbulence of its own, and I had to put my dream aside. I got married and had a wonderful daughter. But the desire to fly never left me. After a 10-year break, my dad found a flight school in Florida that offered a structured, intensive course. I took a leap. I passed the written with a 92% and soon after earned my Private Pilot's license in Shelbyville, TN. Two years later, **I earned my Instrument rating.** In June 1991, I even **passed the Commercial written test**, my Father's Day gift to my dad, who already had everything.

But that fall, everything changed.

On September 25, 1991, **my father was killed in the crash of the Tsunami, an aircraft he'd helped create.** All my dreams came to a screeching halt. I reached out to his aviation friends, hoping someone would help pick up the pieces and keep going. **No one opened the door.**



I know what it feels like to want something so deeply, but be held back by responsibilities, finances, and the absence of emotional support.

Twelve years later, my husband, Duane Kruse, became my biggest champion. He believed in me and helped me reconnect with instructors and get back in the air.

That's why I do what I do.

Flight Expo is more than an organization; it's a mission born from experience. I know what it's like to be young, ambitious, and overlooked. I know what it means to struggle, to step away, and to try again. That's why I pour my time, energy, and heart into helping young people find their place in aviation, whether they want to fly, fix, or simply understand.



**Because when you've walked the hard path yourself,
you're uniquely equipped to clear it for others.**

Join us in Changing Lives, One Dream at a Time

If this mission speaks to you, please consider a gift, becoming a partner,
or reaching out to see how you can help.

Let's lift others the way someone once lifted us.



Ever Dreamed of Taking to the Skies?

Experience the thrill of flight with a **1-hour discovery flight** alongside a **certified flight instructor**! Whether you're curious about becoming a pilot or just want to check "fly a plane" off your bucket list, this is your chance.

Offered by Flight Expo Inc.

Contact us at flightexpoinc@aol.com to book your flight!

Adventure awaits—take the first step today!



Treat your plane today with our
CorrosionX treatment at these **GREAT** prices:

Light Single Engine Aircraft: \$295.00
Most Single Engine Aircraft: \$325.00
Light Twin Engine Aircraft: \$395.00
Medium Twin Engine Aircraft: \$450.00



venmo



P.O. Box 155
Zimmerman, MN 55398

www.flightexpo.org
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