

JETSTREAMS

AHART AVIATION SERVICES

AHART AVIATION SRVC

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May 2007

The Private Pilot ground school is well underway and the students are benefiting from a smaller class size. There are still open seats so if you need a refresher feel free to retake the course. There are also several other ground schools being offered in the next couple of months here at Ahart, for a full list see page 2 of JetStreams.

The local chapter of the 99's puts on a semi-annual "pinch hitter course" that is very popular for spouses, partners and friends of pilots. It is designed to inspire confidence in the passenger and to demonstrate ways that they can assist the pilot during the flight as well as what to do in the event of an emergency (and the lunch buffet is worth the \$45 all by itself!). For more information please see our website.

Happy and safe flying,

~Lysa Wollard

April Achievements

James Johns

Solo

Jerry Nemier

Michael Martini

Solo

Randi Coon

Chia Hao "Shaq" Chang

Solo

Lysa Wollard

Tyan-An "Porter" Pai

Solo

Steve McEachern

Art Shehan

Solo

Nick Beesley

S.E. Bae

Solo

Nick Beesley

Stephen Jackson

Solo

Randi Coon

Laksh Kumar

Solo

Tim MacHugh

Puneet Dhawan

Solo

Tim MacHugh

Siddhanth Luthra

Solo

Tim MacHugh

Sachin Malik

Instrument

Neal Beurman

Siddharth Bhatia

Instrument

Neal Beurman

Mathew Horstman

Private

Brian Dreger

Justin Shapiro

Commercial—SEL

Keith Breton

Chris Pita

Commercial—SEL

Derek Sellers

Brandon Bartel

Private

Nick Beesley

**FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR OF THE
MONTH:
Tim MacHugh**

New Summer Hours, effective May 1st

Monday thru Friday 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Saturday and Sunday 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Summer Weather Patterns

by Terry Lankford

With the coming of May and June Winter weather patterns change into the Summer season. Summer weather transition to Winter during November and December. Occasionally, weather from one seasonal pattern overlaps into the other, especially during the transition months.

In the summer season the Aleutian low weakens and moves north, as does the main storm track. The Great Basin high disappears and a thermal trough forms over the desert southwest extending towards the northern California coast. Moisture from as far away as the Gulf of California and even the Gulf of Mexico can, at times, move all the way into the desert southwest, and occasionally as far north as eastern Oregon and Washington, and Idaho.

Sea temperatures along the Pacific coast are lower than further off shore and advection status is a persistent feature near the coast. Heating of the land areas cause lower pressure inland, resulting in a sea breeze during the day and evening. Stratus moves on shore and filters into the valleys. Ceilings are generally IFR to MVFR, with mountain slopes and higher passes obscured. (The coast between Arcata and Crescent City has some of the most persistent and frequent summertime stratus.)

Typically, the stratus moves onshore with the afternoon sea breeze and then 10 to 20 miles into the coastal valleys. The stratus dissipates back to near the shore around mid-day or early afternoon.

The persistence of the coastal marine layer depends on its depth and the pressure gradient. Stratus can penetrate well into coastal valley and California's Central Valley, and the eastern Los Angeles Basin—at time all the way into the deserts—with the coastal areas remaining overcast throughout the day.

In urban areas visibility is often restricted due to haze and smoke. Subsidence around the eastern portion of the Pacific high causes impurities as well as moisture to be held near the surface, underneath the temperature inversion. Especially in the late summer season, thermal heating does not break the inversion to allow

vertical dissipation; nor does weak circulation permit horizontal dispersion. Visibilities can remain in the one to four mile range—a real problem for the VFR pilot. (This is most prevalent in the Los Angeles Basin due to the higher, surrounding mountains.)

In the mid to late portion of the summer season air mass thunderstorms develop over the higher mountains, deserts, and plateaus. Although, upper level lows occasionally move in from the southwest affecting the coastal mountains, sometime all the way into northern California. Cloud bases are usually high. These storms bring steady, heavy rain, and occasional thunderstorms. Conditions usually spreads from south to north.

Summertime fronts are usually weak, approaching from the northwest. With their moisture dissipated in Washington and Oregon, they tend to be dry. They frequently only cause drizzle along the northern coast. Weak fronts, and most importantly the passage of upper level troughs, help to set off summer thunderstorms. When moist tropical air is lifted by a cold front, severe thunderstorms can develop. Although infrequent, lines or clusters can occur. They most often develop along California's coastal mountains, the Sierra Nevada, and the mountains of Arizona, Utah, and Nevada.

Tornadoes are rare for the west coast states and the intermountain region—except for the high plains. They are usually weaker than their plains and east coast cousins. They are most often spawned by late spring thunderstorm.

Tropical Storms develop during the mid to late portion of the summer season in the warm tropical waters off the west coast of Mexico. Occasionally, they reach Southern California. Since their energy comes from the ocean, they dissipate rapidly over land. Their moist, unstable remnants can be carried north and inland to affect central California and the southern part of the intermountain region. Analysis of these southerly disturbances was first studied in the 1930s. Because they approached from the southeast, they were called "Sonoran" storms, after the Mexican state of that name.

May and June Activities at Ahart Aviation

- BFR Ground School—Taught by Terry Lankford, Saturday May 5th 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
\$45.00
- Commercial and Flight Instructor Test Prep—Taught by Fred Abrams, Friday May 18th to Sunday May 20th 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
\$450.00 (books and materials included)
- Companion Flying Seminar—Hosted by the local 99s Saturday, June 2nd 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
\$45.00 (lunch included)



LVAA

Pancake Landing Breakfast

(To benefit the LVAA Youth Pilot Scholarship Program)

Livermore Terminal

May 5th, Saturday

8:30 AM to 11:00 AM

\$8.00 per adult

\$5.00 per child 10 and under

Menu

Pancakes

Bacon

Scrambled Eggs

Coffee