



Ed Rosenberg
Editor

Woody Lesikar
Publisher



Airplane Crashes That Should Not Have Happened

There are a startling number of airplane crashes involving women, over the past three years. This is somewhat perplexing but maybe there is a reason behind this that needs to be explored further. Statistics vary, but more or less, there are approximately 60,000 female pilots in all categories (of flying) which makes up about 29.3% of all pilots. This includes both Airline Pilots and student pilots. That is compared to the 70.7% which are men.

In the last few years aircraft crashes have claimed the lives of several women, tragically due to pilot error. These include the following well publicized crashes:

April 14, 2022, near Idaho Falls: Chelsea Infanger, age 30, was killed when she went below the decision height on an approach, hit a building's smoke stack in a Cessna 208 Caravan and died.
October 10, 2022, near the Newport News-Williamsburg Airport, Virginia, when Oluwagbohunmi Oyeboode, 18 died during a solo training flight while pulling up too steeply during an initial climb.
July 30, 2023, near Lake Winnebago in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Devyn Reiley, 30 years old, killed while piloting a World War II North American T6 aircraft, while maneuvering at slow speed, spinning into the Lake.
August 29, 2023, near Claresholm, Alta, Canada, a 24 year old woman in a Cessna 152, died after a crash during night flight.
October 24, 2023, near Atlanta, Georgia, Chloe Veal and her companion, seriously injured in a Piper when she supposedly ran out of gas.
December 8, 2023, near Pulaski, Tennessee, Jenny Blalock, age 45, killed when her Beech C33 Debonair crashed after several unusual roller-coaster maneuvers.

Several of these show a disturbing trend and its' not just because they are women. What we are seeing is a continuous "show off" type of individual who is more interested in social media attention and getting "likes" (and therefore money), for exhibiting their behavior while flying a plane. With cameras mounted in and around the entire plane, these and many more individuals are exhibiting dare devil type of flights, including Trevor Jacob, 30, who crashed his Taylorcraft while conducting an "on purpose" stunt.

This is the result of a new age of Social Media attention and the ability to mass broadcast directly to the general public your personal stories. It has become a cesspool of who can get the most "Me! Me! Me!" social attention the fastest with a complete disregard for safety and without any fear of the consequences. This is very unsafe and the statistics clearly show this disturbing trend growing.

Recently we had one social media personality (Name Withheld) that expressed an interest in being based here at IWS. After discussions with staff and others, as well as a review of this individual's social media accounts, we declined to accept his/her application for use of our airport. This may seem odd at first, but it kind of reminds me of a few years ago when we were asked by the film crew of "Airplane Repo" if they could film their reality TV show here at West Houston Airport. We respectfully declined that request. We don't want to be an airport that is shown as having poor security, deadbeats, or bad hombres. The damage done by this sort of media attention is bad, all the while the star actor is always portrayed as the "good guy!"

Unfortunately, there are going to be more crashes like this by attention seeking individuals who want to become social media "influencers" and are legends in their own minds.

I personally believe that flying can be fun, exciting, and rewarding, but it is also a serious business and an emphasis on safety should never ever be neglected.

Best to you for the upcoming year!
DRILL BABY DRILL!

Woody Lesikar
Airport Manager/Publisher

Ed Rosenberg
Editor

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RUNWAY 15

"As The Beacon Turns" CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**For More Information contact Woody Lesikar at
281-492-2130 Woody@westhoustonairport.com
www.aerovillas.com
or
www.westhoustonairport.com**

January, Dr. Ed Oppermann will talk about surviving a midair collision!!

Fourth Tuesday evening of the month.

Contact Susan Haas at flyingpyrs@gmail.com for more information!!

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Contact Brandon Carr, aviation@carrfam.us, once registered

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99's MEETING

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website www.ninety-nines.org. Carol Brackley—carolav8@att.net

CHECK FOR OPERATIONAL HOURS:

COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE (CAF) Museum open first and third Saturday of the month 10am-3pm. Meetings 3rd Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Contact email for tours and flight information at rides@houstonwing.org or the hangar at 281-579-2131, info@houstonwing.org. Volunteers and donations welcome.

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COMING SOON: New Helicopter Tour Company!

Fuel Price Comparison for December

JET A	High	Low	Avg	AVGAS (100LL)	High	Low	Avg
Southwest Region	8.98	3.69	5.63	Southwest Region	9.25	3.84	5.88
West Houston Airport	5.58*	3.49*	4.53*	West Houston Airport	5.95*	3.99*	4.97*

*Price Indicates With Weekend Discount But Without The Volume Discount For Jet Fuel Purchase

Published on AirNav.com



For Sale!!

AIRPLANES:



1982 Conquest I N425SX — Low Engine Hours, Great Plane!

1955 F35 Bonanza! 6500 TTA, 600 SMOH, Upgraded!!

2003 Cessna 172S N624TA For Sale in a Leaseback Program, Pays for Itself!

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1979 Cessna T210 — Enroute!

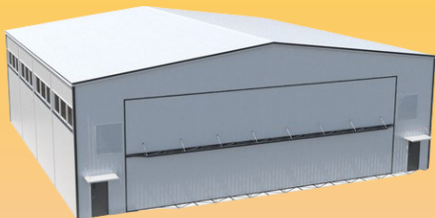


1979 Cessna 182Q — Very Nice!

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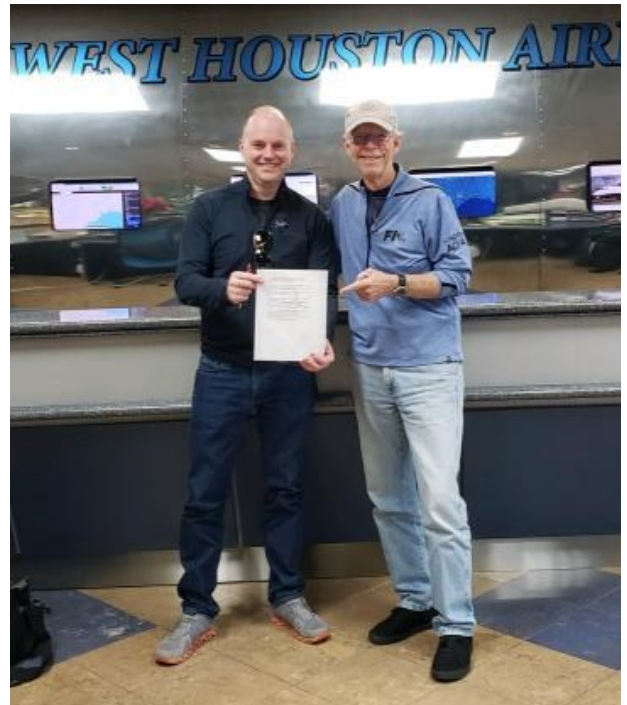
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CONGRATULATIONS!



First Solo!
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(12/06/2023)
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First Solo!
Madalyn DeAyala
(12/04/2023)
CFI: Chris Powers

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Line Technician, Customer Service Representative, Certified Flight Instructor

Answer to the December “Question

of The Month”: What aircraft was manufactured with a pneumatic flap system and has retractable landing gear but no gear switch? This particular aircraft was designed to operate the controls without cables and it has a tubular construction.

Answer: The Mooney M20 has a Pneumatic Flap System, has a manual retractable landing gear, and “Pushrods” for operating the controls



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Question for January:

What determines the size of the “N” numbers painted on a U.S. Registered Aircraft?

Answer:

send your answer to
Woody@westhoustonairport.com

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Sunday	Closed

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Fax: 281-647-9899
Email: outlawav@aol.com
Contact: James Wurman Jr.

Bugatti Model 100 Racer

(By Ed Rosenberg)



The Bugatti Model 100, designed by Ettore Bugatti for the 1939 Deutsch de la Meurthe Cup Race, was an unfinished purpose-built air racer halted by the outbreak of World War II. Engineered by Bugatti and Louis de Monge, it showcased cutting-edge technology for the time, resulting in multiple patents. Featuring a unique twin-engine setup driving contra-rotating propellers, a distinct 120-degree v-tail, retractable landing gear, and primarily wooden construction, the aircraft was discreetly concealed on Bugatti's estate during the war. After Bugatti's death in 1947, its construction remained incomplete until a restoration effort was made in 1971, leading to its display at the EAA Aviation Museum.



The Airport Terminal has a Bulletin Board for Patrons to post their flight gear for sale—including headsets, portable GPS's, tow bars, etc. Feel free to utilize it!



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A.I.C Incorporated	281-492-2585	B-3
Pale Orb LLC	512-363-9417	G-2

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publication here.*

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Sky Aircraft Interiors	Aircraft Upholstery	Hangar #1 White West	281-682-4454	jenni@skyaircraftinteriors.com
Dr. Victor Arellano (Pilot) FAA Medicals (by appt. only)	15410 Ridge Park Dr., Houston, Tx 77095	281-855-2244(o)	281-460-2247(m)	www.tmauc.com
Dr. Fakhri Kalolwala MD (Pilot) FAA Medicals (by appt. only)	16125 Cairnway Dr, Houston, TX 77084	832-786-8195		www.aqeeqinternalmed.com
Fast Freddy Mobile Detail	Aircraft Detailing	T-Hangar F2	281-330-9813	www.fastfreddymobiledetail.com
VT Aviation Academy of America (AAA)	Flight School	Hangar #2 East side	281 562-7195	www.vt-aaa.com
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WEST HOUSTON AIRPORT TEAM

AIRPORT CONTACTS: P.O. Box 941789, Houston, TX 77094-8789, 18000 Groschke Rd., Houston, Texas 77084

Phone: 281-492-2130, Fax: 281-492-7028 email: info@westhoustonairport.com

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RICH WHITNEY, Compliance and Safety Officer, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm Mon thru Fri; rich@westhoustonairport.com *x22

RENEE STRIPLING, CFO renee@westhoustonairport.com *15

DON EUTON, AOPA Airport Representative, 281-391-7310,

doehe@consolidated.net

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Bill Heiam, President, West Houston Airport

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JOSE *8
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MATT
DYLAN *3

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