



*Reno-Tahoe Aviation Group
Aviation Safety Seminar
12/13/23*

I. Call to Order

RTAG Educational Programs Director Joe Rajacic called to order the Aviation Safety Seminar of the Reno-Tahoe Aviation Group at 6pm on December 13th, 2023, at CAP Headquarters, 2890 Vassar St., Reno, NV 89502. Refreshments were served from 5:30pm.

II. Roll Call

A roll call was not conducted. The following officers and directors were present.

Karen Inda - President
Mark Stiving - Vice-President
Tom Dyer - Treasurer
Karla Werning - Director
Michael Cleveland - Director
Joe Rajacic - Director
Trygve Inda - Director

III. Presentation 1 - FAA Safety Topic (Joe Rajacic)

- A. Introduction - Joe's qualifications and career
- B. Next Month Highlight: Overview of Local GA Accidents with Larry Cheek
- C. Safety Management System (SMS)
 - 1. Every airline has one of these.
 - 2. FAA wants GA pilots to know about what it is, etc.
 - 3. FAASafety.gov has more info.
 - 4. *SMS Matters* Video
 - 1. Provides resources for detecting problems ahead of time
 - 2. It is a framework consisting of policy, risk management, safety assurance, and safety promotion.
- D. How many attendees have an aircraft equipped with TKS?
 - 1. Only one raised their hand.
 - 2. For every square feet of snow on a wing, that's 50lbs of extra load.
 - 1. This is a negative G load, not positive Gs (such as during steep turns)
 - 3. Foreflight Icing Demonstration - Avoid Icing!
 - 4. "Wet Wing" TKS
 - 1. A pump pushes antifreeze/alcohol fluid through thousands of little holes on the leading edge
 - 2. Wet wing TKS is an anti-icing system. It's ineffective if ice has already built up



3. TKS takes approximately 2 minutes to start working

IV. Presentation 2 - Washoe County Search and Rescue (WCSAR)

A. Introductions

1. Farley Justis - Treasurer of WCSAR
2. Joe Petralia - WCSAR Officer
3. Darrel Billings - Training officer with WCSAR
4. This presentation was not given on behalf of the sheriff's office. These are individuals representing themselves.
5. Auxiliary Deputies for the Sheriff's Office

B. Technology Available for Pilots (Farley)

1. ELTs

1. 1973 - US Congress required ELTs to be installed in all registered US aircraft
2. Very effective when they activate - saving thousands of lives - but ELTs activate only 25% of the time
3. Latest technology only activates 20-25% of the time
4. 406 MHz replaced 121.5 MHz
5. 121.5 was deprecated in 2009
6. 93% of activations are false alarms
7. Most GA aircraft carry 121.5 ELTs - *not* 406 MHz
8. 121.5 is *no longer* monitored by satellite
9. ELTs give pilots a false sense of security but usually don't work

2. Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs)

1. Garmin In-Reach
2. SPOT X
3. SpiderTrax
 1. Tracks your location as soon as your plane takes off
 2. SpiderTrax contacts Search and Rescue agencies if your signal stops

iii. Garmin Watches and Apple Watches - some let you send an SOS

iv. These allow you to get an SOS signal out immediately via satellite

v. Each are around \$300

1. They require a monthly service subscription

C. Go Packs (Joe)

a. Go Packs enable you to survive long enough to be found by Search and Rescue

i. Called "24-Hour Packs" or "48-Hour Packs"

b. You should have one of these whenever you are flying over a remote area

i. It should have enough equipment to enable you to survive for 24-72 hours.

c. What should it include?

i. Shelter - Warmth



- 1. You can become hypothermic in as little as 60F
- 2. Space Blankets, wool socks, gloves
- ii. Medical Needs
 - 1. Tourniquet
 - 2. Wound Bandages
 - 3. Quick Clot and Safety Pins
 - 4. Personal Medications
- iii. Tools
 - 1. Pens, Pencils
 - 2. Sewing kit
 - 3. Safety Pins
 - 4. Multitool
 - 5. Knife
 - a. Air Force survival knife
 - 6. Backpacking stove
- iv. Signaling - such as a PLB
 - 1. Bright colors
 - 2. Any units of three - fires, piles of visible rocks
 - 3. Build something that is obviously NOT natural
 - 4. Signal mirror or CD
 - 5. Whistles
- v. Food
 - 1. LifeStraw for water (water filter)
 - 2. Toilet Paper is nice to have
 - 3. Instant Coffee
 - 4. Water, in a crash-resistant container
- vi. Fire Starters
 - 1. Candles are an easy way to start fires
 - 2. Chapstick is highly flammable
 - 3. Stormproof matches
 - 4. Bic lighters are not great - not reliable in some situations
- vii. Things to keep your morale up
- viii. 4x6 Nylon Tarp
 - 1. Windbreak, shelter
- ix. Two contractor trash bags (50 gal)
 - 1. Can be a ground cloth to keep moisture away
 - 2. Rain ponchos
 - 3. Also can be a windbreak
- x. Small Saw - cuts branches to build shelter
- xi. Consider bringing a handgun, like a .22 LR
 - d. This is a personal insurance policy
 - e. Example Kits



- i. Should be small
- ii. Should be able to carry it on your person
 - 1. Some of this kit should be in your pocket when you fly. Think knives, flashlights, chemlights, etc.
- f. Redundancy is a good thing
- g. Bring a "Meal Ready to Eat" (MRE) - can buy at an army surplus store
- h. Bring Gatorade - keeps you hydrated, gives you salt, and the bottles are robust
- D. First Aid and Trauma Care (Darrel)
 - a. Example Go-Bag from the Navy
- i. This is hooked on his belt when he flies
 - b. First Aid is about "Stopping the Bleeding"
- i. Chances of survival are drastically higher if you can stop bleeding and keep airways open
 - c. Bring a comprehensive first aid kit and get training
- i. Basic first aid kit with 1 day's worth of medications
 - 1. Diabetes, heart meds, etc. This goes in your pocket!
- ii. Get a "Trauma Kit" - search this online
 - 1. Designed for hunting, rural areas, gunshot wounds, etc.
 - 2. You may not get shot, but you may have a piece of metal from your aircraft hit you in the chest, etc.
 - 3. Get a kit that is sufficient for at least half of the souls on board your plane
- E. General Advice from Darrel
 - a. Rules of 3
 - i. 3 seconds at an unusual attitude
 - ii. 3 minutes without air
 - iii. 3 days without shelter in harsh environments
 - iv. 3 hours without a shelter in subzero temperatures
 - v. 3 days without water
 - vi. 3 weeks without food
 - vii. 3 layers when you are sleeping
 - 1. Over your head
 - 2. Underneath you
 - 3. Crawl into something
 - viii. 3 ways to
 - 1. Start a fire
 - 2. Get/filter water
 - 3. Keep these things in 3 different places, bags, etc. If you lose one, you haven't lost them all.
- ix. HAM Radio operators - pre-program repeater frequencies that are enroute
 - 1. In an emergency, you do not need to be a licenced HAM operator
 - b. Ahead of time, discuss waypoints with someone who is not in the plane.



- i. As you fly, text with your Garmin InReach (or similar device) whenever you pass those waypoints.
- ii. Example: "I just passed point A. Expect B in x minutes."
 - c. Find a basic "go bag" and then add necessities to it.
 - d. Darrel teaches first aid, CPR, and "stop the bleed" courses

VIII. Adjournment

Karen adjourned the meeting at 7:20pm.

Minutes submitted by Jack Woods.