

Flying 2020



8/27/2020 - Today's flight would take us to Western WI. As we woke this morning there were some low clouds and ground fog. Flyers were Paul Buss, Steve Krueger, Lyle Banser, Brian Krueger, Mike Riley, and myself. Earlier I received a call from Mike that something has come up and he would not be joining us. Brian Krueger also would be delayed until later and would catch up along the route.

Paul Buss flew to my place and because conditions had improved we departed for Eau Claire. Soon after we were airborne we heard Lyle and Steve had departed Merrill. Some low ceilings seemed to be to the north, but south was clear. As we monitored Eau Claire tower it was clear that lower clouds and lower visibility were moving in. At 30 miles out the decision was made to divert to Black River Falls airport. Paul and I turned as did Lyle and Steve, we arrived at BRF within minutes of each other and today's stamping trip was on!



*Paul Buss, Dan Marlenga, Lyle Banser,
Brian Krueger, Steve Krueger*

Next stop was Necedah airport and with no one around it was just a stamp and go. On to Adams County Legion Field in Friendship WI. I was first in and did a go around to runway 26 - grass, to chase some birds away. We all taxied up and took on fuel. There were some nice local guys there to greet us and shared some stories of the airport and of local flyers. There were also two Ag Sprayer operations busy on the field. We watched them reload and go, then it was our time to turn and burn!

Arrival at Mauston - New Lisbon Union airport was pretty standard, and after collecting our stamp it was off to Bloyer Field in Tomah

WI. John Glynn from our chapter lives in a house right at this airport. We took a photo of our group and texted it to him with the caption, "Guess where we are?" Our next stop would be Sparta - Fort McCoy airport. There are two sides to this facility, Fort McCoy base with its own flight ops and the GA ramp on the other side of the field. We got word while on the ground that Brian Krueger was on his way to meet us. After a short wait we heard the hum of his RV-6 and another flyer would join the adventure.

We departed for the La Crosse Regional Airport. We did a long downwind and

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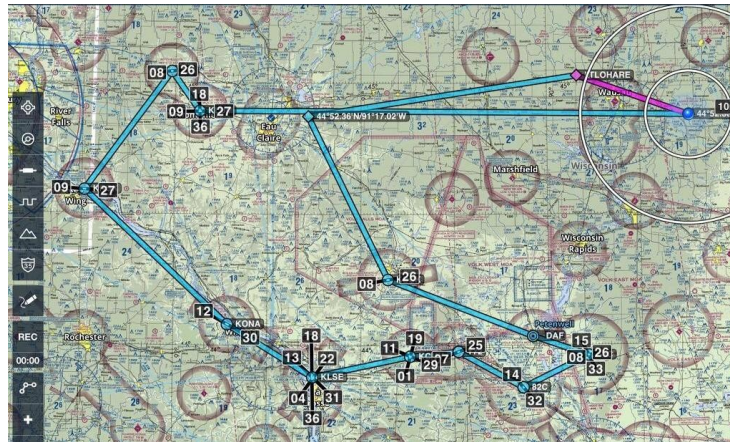
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final for runway 36 in order to follow a commuter landing at La Crosse. We borrowed a car from the nice folks at Colgan Air and headed into town for lunch. They suggested a place on the river, so we sat in a nice air conditioned restaurant to recharge our batteries. We had been tracking some showers that were on our route as we headed north west up the Mississippi. The showers would pass by the time we reached Winona MN. A few of us took on fuel and then off to Red Wing Regional Airport. This is an airport listed as a Minnesota airport, but is located on the WI side of the river. Flying the Mississippi is so neat, seeing backwaters, large and small boats and the locks and dams.

Boyceville Municipal was our next stop. We taxied to the hanger to collect another stamp and what a treat to see interior, the home of High Road Aviation. A nice couple was getting ready to take off in their Piper. They



showed us a rebuilt Cub they had in the hanger along with a few other projects. They also have a large trailer used

to deliver airplane kits for the Rans Aircraft Co. Stamp-n-go then on to Menominee Regional Airport where we



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took on fuel for the long ride home. We all departed to our respective home bases and chatted about our day as the sun was setting at our backs. All arrived safely; I had 7.4 hours on the Hobbs.

Beautiful views along the Mississippi, reasonable weather, light winds, and good friends to share it with! Wow what a great day of flying. Stay tuned for our next installment of "The greatest flying summer of my life!"

Humbly Submitted,

Dan Marlenga



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