



MEETING AGENDA

July 13, 2016



Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting Attendance: 14 attendees

Introduction of Guests and CFIs

Michael Barnett, CFIA, Instrument and Charter Pilot

Jeff Lehner, a CFIA, Instrument at KCXO

Safety Topic: Autopilot Failure in IMC

IFR Tip of the Month:

Mike Schwartz, Aviation Safety Inspector and active CFI- “The best advice I can give pilots is to know the automation in their aircraft and practice with it regularly. The worst thing that can happen is to be flying in the system and have something occur which leads to the inevitable question: “Why did I do that?” The second piece of advice is to establish and maintain high minimums. A typical GA pilot might use 500 foot minimums when deciding whether to fly. New pilots might maintain 1000 foot minimums until they get some practical operational experience in the system. The published minimums are for pilots who routinely operate under IFR and maintain proficiency to the level required to safely descend to minimums. Most GA pilots do not fly enough to maintain that level of proficiency.” *September 2015 FAA Safety Briefing: All things IFR*

Meeting discussion:

A flight from KVRB to KFDK turned stressful when the pilot began having autopilot issues above a cloud layer and knowing that the destination weather was at minimums. Many issues were discussed for the next hour and a half. Some of the topics were centered around the following:



Internet Sites to Benefit Your Flying



1. Was the autopilot recently maintained
2. Might the issue have been caught if the autopilot were checked on the ground at preflight
3. To continue or not to continue based on the level of proficiency
4. Flying within your personal safety envelope
5. Was it an autopilot issue at all, could it have been bad input from a vacuum or pitot static or electrical system
6. WAAS vs Non WAAS does it make you safer
7. Other possible issues/solutions/mitigating factors

Reminder for those members of EAA 302 about signing up if planning on going to Air Venture at Oshkosh, WI.

Next Month's Meeting Topic: To be determined

