

## Instructor Recognized for Commitment & Passion



James "Jim" Albers was honored last month for his dedication to Epic Flight Academy and enthusiasm for educating students. Having given over 5,000 combined hours of flight and ground instruction, including 2,000 stage checks, Jim is a very talented and sought after instructor.

Born and raised in Moline, Illinois, Jim always dreamed of becoming a pilot, and he made those dreams come true in 1999. Since then, Jim has earned up through his CFII rating and has been sharing his wealth of knowledge with students at Epic for over 9 years.

## Garbage Truck Pull - Winning Team Gets Aerobatic Flight Time

Epic Flight Academy has partnered with Patty Wagstaff, nationally ranked aerobatic pilot, and WastePro to offer a garbage truck pull competition. The winning team gets to split 10 thrilling hours of aerobatic flight time with Patty Wagstaff.

The competition is being held on Sunday, October 23rd at Epic around 1pm after the presentation of the Billfish Bash awards and aviation scholarship.

Get ready to show off those muscles and register your 5-person team today: [www.epicflightacademy.com/2016-aviation-event](http://www.epicflightacademy.com/2016-aviation-event)

## Discovery Flights Allowing Friends & Family to Take on the Skies

Whether you are an existing student or simply a newsletter reader, Epic Flight Academy offers a wonderful opportunity for people to experience the joys of flying and see the beautiful sunshine state from the air.

Discovery flights are available to anyone, and may even be given as a gift, which is the perfect idea for that friend or family member who has always wanted to explore flight training.

Typically scheduled based on 30 minutes to an hour of flight time, the experience, guided by one of Epic's flight instructors, includes an introduction to pre-flight preparations and basic flight maneuvers.

For more information about scheduling a discovery flight, give us a call: (386) 409-5583 ext. 330

## Upcoming Billfish Bash & Inaugural Aviation Scholarship

Epic's Billfish Bash fishing tournament kicks off on Friday, October 21st and will be occurring simultaneously in three different locations: New Smyrna Beach, Cape Canaveral, and St. Augustine. The tournament, which continues on Saturday the 22nd, is being hosted in conjunction with Epic's first local scholarship contest.

Open to high school students in Volusia County, the \$20,000 aviation scholarship will be awarded to the applicant that shows the most ambition through their essay responses and video application.

The scholarship will be presented by New Smyrna Beach Mayor Jim Hathaway on Sunday, October 23rd at an aviation event hosted at Epic Flight Academy. Featuring plane rides, food, music, vintage aircraft, a garbage truck pull competition, the appearance of Patty Wagstaff, and much more, the event is open to the community and will run from 11am - 3pm.

For more information about the fishing tournament: [www.epicflightacademy.com/billfish-bash](http://www.epicflightacademy.com/billfish-bash)

For more information about the scholarship: [www.epicflightacademy.com/volusia-county-aviation-scholarship](http://www.epicflightacademy.com/volusia-county-aviation-scholarship)

For more information about the aviation event: [www.epicflightacademy.com/2016-aviation-event](http://www.epicflightacademy.com/2016-aviation-event)

### DID YOU KNOW?

In 1987, American Airlines saved \$40,000 simply by serving one less olive in each first class salad. A little bit goes a long way!

**Congratulations to all of our Epic students that have passed their checkrides on the 1st attempt!**

### Private Pilot

Kiravatch Akrapreede (9/9/2016)  
Daniel Aguilar Medina (9/12/2016)  
Vimal Shingadiya (9/26/2016)  
Mustafa Sadeo Jabbar Niyazi (9/28/2016)

### Instrument Rating

Mueataz Fahmi Saeed Al Dubai (9/1/2016)  
Suleyman Volkan Micoogullari (9/22/2016)  
Burak Askin (9/27/2016)  
Yahya Riyadh Mohammed (9/28/2016)  
Abdulaziz Ali M Alzaydany (9/29/2016)

### Commercial Single-Engine

Thibault Jacques Jean Francois Huchon (9/8/2016)  
Ali Absulwhab Hamid Hindi (9/30/2016)



### Commercial Multi-Engine

Samuel Lastra Santiago (9/1/2016)  
Theodore James Hewitt II (9/1/2016)  
Alejandro Franco Jimenez (9/6/2016)  
Carlos Santiago Cano Rodriguez (9/8/2016)  
Simon Alejandro Blandon Betancur (9/9/2016)  
Minh Duc Tran (9/12/2016)  
Juan Diego Londono Rua (9/15/2016)  
Juan Diego Martinez Salazar (9/22/2016)  
Marco Magnani (9/22/2016)  
Royers Mauricio Sepulveda Sanchez (9/26/2016)  
Mohamed Abdelraham Hassan Baleela (9/27/2016)  
Myrah Yakop (9/29/2016)  
Trong Duc Nguyen (9/30/2016)

## Privatization of Air Traffic Control System Continues to Spark Debates in Aviation Industry

Several of the front-runners in the U.S. airline industry voiced their support for privatization of the air traffic control system earlier this month. Though certainly not the first time this idea has been brought to the table, CEO Doug Parker of American Airlines and CEO Gary Kelly of Southwest both stressed their controversial opinions about the need for change.

Parker and Kelly, backed by the National Air Traffic Controllers Association and Rep. Bill Shuster, chairman of the Transportation Committee, proposed that privatization will speed up the process of necessary equipment upgrades and rid the industry of the funding instabilities that have led to mass furlough of air traffic controllers. Critics of the idea, including Delta Airlines CEO Richard Anderson, believe that privatization will shift too much power to airlines and that the private setup seen in other countries will not be as effective in such a complex airspace.

While dozens of countries around the world have been pleased with the impacts of turning to privatization of their air traffic control systems, this debate seems to be far from over in the U.S.

### Staying Connected

Looking for a way to stay updated in between the monthly newsletters?

Check out our social media pages for frequent posts about our school, graduates, and the latest happenings in the aviation industry.



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