



**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
College of Aviation

[View in browser](#)

July 2022 Newsletter

## **Just Another Jam-Packed Month of July**



Hello Aviation Alumni and Friends,

After a month's hiatus, we're back with your monthly newsletter and College of Aviation updates! Hopefully, your summer is off to a great start.

To kick this month's email off, we wanted to give a huge shout-out to all the companies, alumni, faculty, staff, and students who helped support our annual golf outing. Through all of your generosity, we were able to raise over \$35,000 AND give out a \$5,000 scholarship to [Yewon Lee](#), who was also this year's WMU Presidential Scholar. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! We've already got plans for next year, so stay tuned!

Our alumni feature this month is Alex Toger, who graduated from the WMU College of Aviation in December of 2017. Currently with Endeavor Airlines, reminisce with him as he shares memories of working at the CoA, taking classes, and proudly representing Bronco Hockey as a Lawson Lunatic. Click the link below for the full story. Don't forget, scroll all the way down for additional stories of College of

Aviation students, faculty and/or staff.

**ATTENTION Brandon Beers!** You are May's winner. Remember, in each newsletter, there is a way to register for a prize each month. Make sure you increase your chances by playing each month. Congratulations to Adam Turner for playing and winning in May! Brandon, please contact [tom.thinnes@wmich.edu](mailto:tom.thinnes@wmich.edu) and I'll get your gift shipped out to you ASAP.

## News, Events and Save the Dates!

- **EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI**

- Are you planning on attending the worlds largest airshow? If so, make sure to stop by the Western Michigan University booth located in Aviation Gateway Park, look for all of the Brown and Gold!
- Dates: Monday, July 25 to Sunday, July 31
- Did you know AirVenture has a [job fair](#)?
  - Dynamic Aviation (Hangar A Booth 1059) will be offering one on one meetings to complete onsite and mock interviews, resume reviews, and more. If you are interested please [click here](#) to set up an opportunity at EAA.
  - FYI – Aviate has changed its requirements – ANY graduate of the Aviation Flight Science degree is now eligible to apply to Aviate. Stop by and talk with them at Oshkosh or visit their [website](#) for more info.

- **WMU Aviation Alumni Reunion and Get-Together**

- **DATE CHANGE: Friday, Sept. 30 and October 1**
  - Due to challenges with the schedule, we have had to modify the dates slightly – sorry about that! Here is the tentative schedule. **Registration details will be in the next newsletter.**
  - Friday, September 30
    - College of Aviation Social – 5 – 8:30 p.m
    - Tour the new Aviation Education Center
      - Hang out, reconnect, enjoy a beautiful night outside at the College of Aviation firepit!
      - Hors d'oeuvre and soft drinks provided
  - Friends and Festivities – Approx. 9 p.m

- o Gather together for some laughs, levity and libations
- o Location TBD
- Saturday, October 1
  - Tailgate
    - o Location and Time TBD (Game time has not been announced)
    - o Burgers, Brats and Hotdogs
  - WMU Football verses New Hampshire
    - o Time TBD
- Room Blocks will be available at the Hilton Garden Inn/Home 2 Suites and the Delta Hotel Conference Center (Marriott)

Thanks for being great supporters! Please let us know how you are doing.  
Send updates to [tom.thinnes@wmich.edu](mailto:tom.thinnes@wmich.edu)!

Go Broncos!

Tom Thinnes  
Western Michigan University  
College of Aviation  
Recruitment, Marketing and Outreach

Thanks for making it to the end! Now that you're here, fill out the registration form to enter into the July prize give-away. [Click Here!](#)

**Take Offs and Touchdowns with Alex Toger – Flying High as a College of Aviation Alumni and Current Endeavor Air Pilot**



Alex Toger is the epitome of "Once a WMU College of Aviation ambassador, always one," even though the higher-education chapter of his life is years in the rear-view mirror.

Being one of the program's "welcomers" and "introducers," the December of 2017 recipient of a degree in aviation flight science says the ambassadorial experience taught him "how to deal with and answer questions that might not always have the desired response while giving tours and sit-downs."

Four-plus years later and a member of Endeavor Air's cadre of pilots, Toger is still playing that recruiting role in his professional life -- as many of his fellow alumni and peers end up doing once they leave the Western campus. "Aviation is such a small community," he says, "and keeping it growing and sustained is crucial. I always try to be a resource for anybody asking about the program, and this is long after my recruitment days as an ambassador. I try to keep in touch with my old students and offer advice if they need it as well, whether that deals with airline-specific stuff or if it is related to being a certified flight instructor."

[Read More](#)

- [From Sun 'n Fun to Air in Alaska – Chris Desmond's Aviation Aspirations](#)  
[Continue to Soar](#)
- [Meet Aviation's 2022 WMU Presidential Scholar - Yewon Lee](#)

**MAKE A GIFT**

## So that all may learn

Donations made today are an investment in providing unique opportunities for students and pave a pathway for generations to come, ensuring that 'all may learn' at WMU.



[College of Aviation](#) | [University Advancement](#)

[1903 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo MI 49008-5403](#)

[Give Now](#) | [WMUalumni.org](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Your Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)