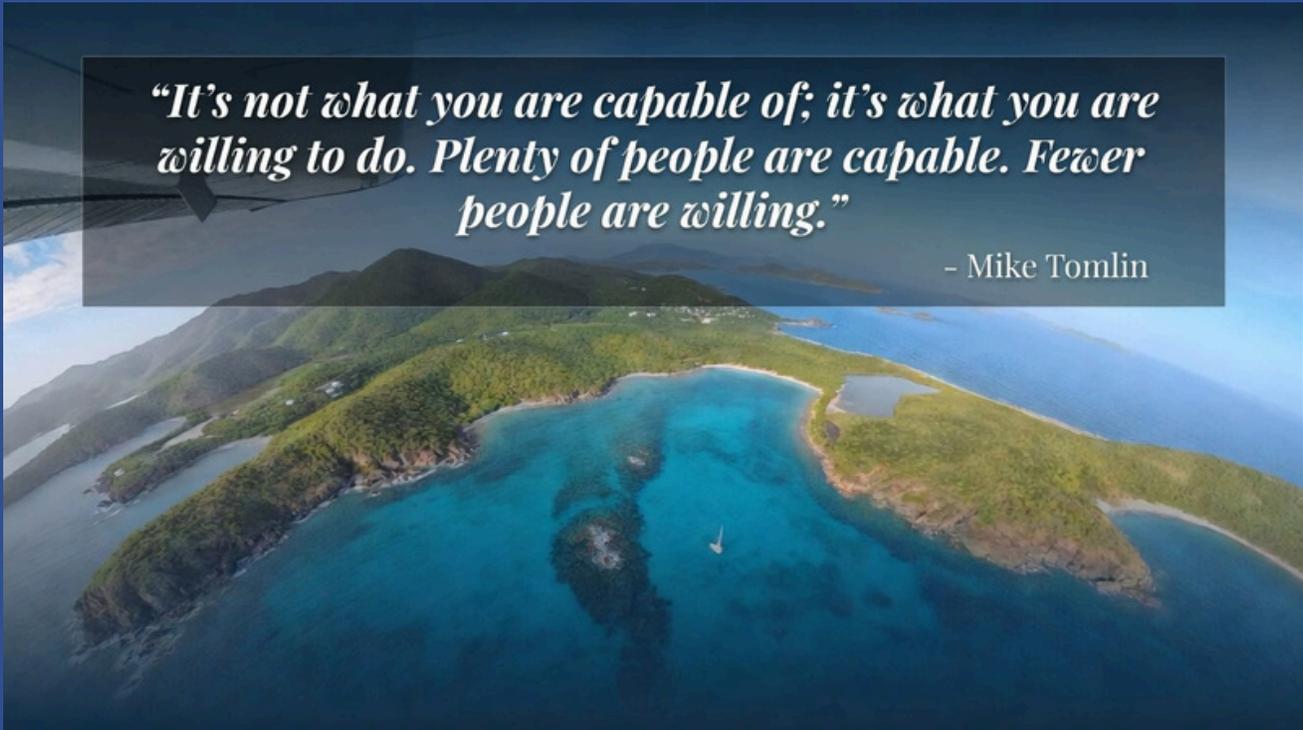




Into The Sky Monthly Newsletter

*“It’s not what you are capable of; it’s what you are willing to do. Plenty of people are capable. Fewer people are willing.”*

- Mike Tomlin



Salt Pond Beach, St Johns, USVI

## February 2026 Stats

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Flights: 9  
Miles Flown: 1,608  
Hours Flown: 12.52  
Airports Visited: 6

Welcome to the March 2026 edition of the Newsletter!

Congratulations to [hxxxxxs@gmail.com](mailto:hxxxxxs@gmail.com) who won the Yeti rambler this month. Check your email, let me know which you want and I'll get it shipped out. Also, [rxxxxxg@gmail.com](mailto:rxxxxxg@gmail.com) check your email, I'd love to send you a t-shirt.

February had a couple of the best flights ever. The first was surprising a friend for his birthday and taking him for his first ever Mooney flight. The second, to keep the flying streak alive, was in a Piper Warrior out of St Thomas and touring the US and British Virgin Islands. Those are going to be tough to top! Kathy's Corner is on page 4. If you don't subscribe yet it's free to sign up, I never send spam or sell your information, and you just might get a t-shirt or Yeti rambler.

It took renting a plane and flying when we were in St Thomas but the weekly flying streak continues! I keep getting asked how long I will keep it going, and my response is "Until something gets in the way!" Week 80 is in the books.

- Week 73 (February 1-7) After a wonderful trip to CO and ID it was time to go home. It started out doing a pre-flight inside a heated hangar, I think I can get used to that! We checked off a new airport stopping at Milford, UT (KMLF) for fuel.
- Week 74 (February 8-14) On Valentine's Day we checked off another airport, flying up to Woodlake, CA (O42) to meet some friends for lunch and take him for a flight in our Mooney. He's been looking at planes and interested in Mooneys so figured we should give him a ride.
- Week 75 (February 15-21) This was perhaps the Greatest Burger Run ever! Through my Mooney Flyer articles I made a friend down in San Diego. We hadn't met in person, but his son thought it would be a great birthday present if I could fly down and take his dad for a flight. How could I say no? Kathy and I flew down to Gillespie (KSEE) and to say he was surprised is an understatement. We had a wonderful time meeting Randy and his family at brunch. Then I took him and his son up and then turned over the controls to let Randy fly us around the San Diego area. You can catch the article in the April Mooney Flyer or later in April on my blog and here when the April newsletter is published.
- Week 76 (February 22-28) We were going to be in St Thomas for a week on a work trip. It would go from a redeye flight on the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>. How could I keep the weekly streak alive? I found a Piper Warrior to rent in St Thomas and we took an awesome CFI along with us for a two hour sightseeing flight of the US and British Virgin Islands. It was amazing! I am completely hooked on renting planes on vacation to go "flightseeing." The write-up is in progress and will be in the May Mooney Flyer, on my blog and in the May newsletter.



# Featured Article

## Chasing Snow

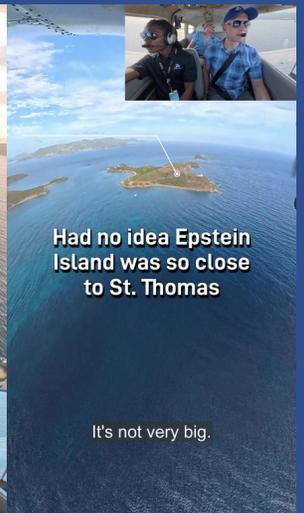
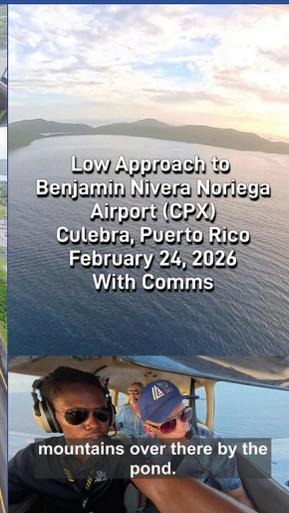
What do you do when the snowpack in the Rockies is dismal? Well, if you have a Mooney you fly to CO for a day of skiing. Then you load up your gear and fly to ID to spend an amazing day with your son and daughter-in-law at Grand Targhee!

Read about the whole adventure on my blog.

[Read more...](#)



## Instagram Flight Highlights



# Kathy's Corner

## Diary of a Viral Video

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On a quiet Sunday afternoon, it started.

“Hey honey, come look at these numbers,” Richard called out. He had posted the reel from when we were on our flight out of St. Thomas – the one that passed right above Epstein Island. It had already racked up more views in a few hours than he usually gets in a whole week.

He almost didn't post it. He wasn't sure anyone would care. To us it was surprising and strangely fascinating – we had never realized exactly where the island was until we flew directly over it. It felt a little surreal.

“This is nuts,” he said later that afternoon when it passed 100k views. By the time we went to bed that night, it had crossed 400k. The next day the updates kept coming.

“640k views – up from 260k just three hours ago. This one might break a million!”

By 10:30 a.m. Monday, the reel had already generated 108 days of total watch time, with an average view duration of 25 seconds.

It was fascinating watching the stats evolve. First, it hit two days of watch time, then two weeks. The snowball kept rolling faster and faster downhill. Every new update left me stunned – it was so much fun experiencing the whole thing from behind the scenes with him.

Like most reels, it eventually lost its initial explosive momentum and settled into a slower, steadier climb. Right now, it sits at 5.5 million views with an average view time of 25 seconds. That's a crazy amount of time!

It adds up to roughly **2.3 million minutes**, or **38,300 hours**, or **1,596 days** – the equivalent of **4 years and 135 days** of continuous watching.

And that doesn't count the 8.2M views from another big account that reposts viral videos and asked to be able to share it. Over 13.7M views and counting...