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**COLUMBIA AIR SERVICES TO HOST
BEEHCRAFT PILOT PROFICIENCY PROGRAM**

LAKELAND, Florida - Columbia Air Services, a Fixed Base Operator (FBO) located at the Lakeland Linder Regional Airport (KLAL), has announced that it will host a Beechcraft Pilot Proficiency Program (BPPP) clinic February 10-12, 2012.

BPPP is a model-specific pilot training at which both new and experienced Beechcraft pilots sharpen their skills and knowledge over an intense two and a half day course. Training clinics are held each year at 12-14 airports throughout the United States. Registration is open to pilots of all Beechcraft models, including Bonanza, Duke, Travel Air and Baron.

“We chose Columbia Air Services for our Lakeland program for a variety of reasons,” stated Mick Kaufman, BPPP program manager. “First and foremost, the incredible Columbia Air Services staff has gone out of its way to ensure that all attending pilots will enjoy the course and their visit to Lakeland.”

Columbia Air Services is a full service FBO, providing a wide range of services including pilot supplies, catering, comfortable lounges and rental car service.

Kaufman noted that, on average, a typical BPPP clinic attracts more than 75 pilots and their respective aircraft. Pilots train with instructors who have thousands of hours and teaching experience.

Each BPPP clinic offers four levels of study: Initial Course for first-time attendees; Recurrent Course for returning pilots; Cockpit Companion Course for those who are frequent passengers of Beechcraft pilots; Ground School Only for those considering the purchase of a Beechcraft.

BPPP began in 1983 and consists of over 50 instructors. The organization has conducted nearly 300 clinics in more than 25 cities since its inception. BPPP is affiliated with the American Bonanza Society (ABS) the premier association of Beechcraft enthusiasts with more than 10,000 members who own, fly or have a sincere interest in Bonanza, Baron and Travel Air aircraft.

To register for the BPPP clinic at KLAL, as well as all other BPPP clinics, visit www.bppp.org or call 970-377-1877.

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