



PILOT PROFILE

Corey Gerulis

My first experience in Aerobatics was in a Great Lakes airplane when I was in college in the 80s. I had the bug, but I was pursuing an airline career I didn't have the money to do aerobatics.

In 2003 I met Doug Vayda at Sun n Fun and he showed me the Extra 300L. After being introduced to the Extra 300L I went to Mesa Arizona and flew the 300L at an aerobatics school and really enjoyed it.

In 2004 at Sun n' Fun, I watched Walter Extra do an airshow performance in a brand new 300L and that night Doug Vayda invited me to a dinner with Walter.



I was so impressed with Walter's air show in the 300L I knew I had to purchase one. My wife said I couldn't have an Extra unless I paid cash for it (no financing). It took me 14 years to save up, but I paid cash for a 2005 300L in 2018 and dove head first into aerobatics.

I met a local aerobatic enthusiast Steve Johnson who lives in my area, and he introduced me to Steve Grohsmeyer who has a practice box just north of where I practice.

Both Steve's have helped me so much in preparation for my first contest which was supposed to be in the Spring of 2020. I had planned on doing four or five contests then going to the nationals in 2020, but all were canceled due to the Covid-19.

In July 2020 I had an opportunity to buy an Extra 330SC from Doug and I had a buyer for my 300L so I made the move to the 330SC. Patty Wagstaff had flown my 330SC in previous seasons.

I decided to skip the Sportsman category and do my first contest in Intermediate after practicing Intermediate at two aerobatic camps last summer. Steve Johnson setup a four day camp with Sergei Boriak who taught me so much about Aresti and competition flying. Then a month later Steve Johnson asked me if I wanted to train with the US Advanced Aerobatic team in Union City Tennessee with Rob Holland as the coach (they had a couple guys who couldn't make it so they had room). Rob taught me some great techniques that I will use forever.

My goal for the 2021 season is to do four or five contests and then the Nationals in the fall.

I'm trying to fly three to four times a week in preparation for my first contest the Snowbird Classic contest in March.