

# Across the Country in the DA20

## Part 3

*By Gwen Graham*

**Dear Friendss,**

It's Wednesday, May 28, 7:30am. I've been in Rapid City since Sunday night patiently (or not) waiting for the weather to lift. I'm getting anxious and frustrated. 8KB and I need fly!

I awoke to rays of sunshine piercing morning fog and mist. I called Flight Service and asked for a briefing from KRAP to KBIL with the plan of moving into Idaho and eventually western Oregon within the next day or two. Bottomline -- it looks good. Ceilings around 8000, no airmets for turbulence and only a possibility of rain showers in a spot or two. Yipee!!

I used AirNav to figure some distances (much easier than trying to spread out charts and estimate.) If I can get to Coeur d'Alene (I hope that's spelled right) aka KCOE, it will be all day and about 650 nm but the DA20 trues out about 125 and winds aloft, once outside the Rapid City area, are pretty light. That means it's possible.

Now the plan is to get some breakfast (since I don't want to stop to eat until tonight), checkout about mid-morning and go to the airport. I'll get the plane preflighted and ready to go so that as soon as KRAP, KSHR (Sheridan, WY) and KBIL report VFR conditions, I can blast out of here.

I'm soooo ready to be home. :)

Wish me good weather and good tailwinds!